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Kurds

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

9. Tehran May Deny Barzani Refuge

The Iranian Government will not grant asylum to Mulla Mustafa Barzani, leader of the Iraqi Kurdish rebels, if he should cross into Iran, according to a well-informed [redacted] [redacted] official.

against Baghdad, might become increasingly restive.

Since the revolt resumed early this month, the Iranian Government has indicated it would cooperate with Baghdad by controlling movement across the border. At the same time, it wishes to keep open lines of communication with Kurdish rebels. Tehran probably prefers to deal with Jalal Talabani or other Iraqi Kurdish leaders rather than Barzani, whom it considers more difficult to control. [redacted]

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The official states that Barzani now is just across the border from Iran, but would be denied refuge because he is considered an enemy of Iran. Should Barzani in fact be denied asylum, the Iranian Kurds, many of whom strongly sympathize with his struggle

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