

Iran's "terror" force

The United States is moving towards branding Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps as a "terrorist" organisation, subjecting at least part of the entity to financial sanctions in a new move against the Islamic republic



▶ Elite unit responsible for internal and border security, law enforcement and Iran's missile forces

▶ Formed after 1979 revolution as force loyal to ***Ayatollah Khomeini***

▶ Exists outside Iran's conventional army, with its own air, naval and land units. **Estimated strength:** 125,000

▶ U.S. claims Guard is involved in supplying ***Shia*** militias in Iraq and that U.S. soldiers have been killed by Iranian-made explosive devices

▶ Iran's current president ***Mahmoud Ahmadinejad*** was a member during 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war