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Rigi's Arrest

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Terrorist Jundullah outfit chief Abdolmalek Rigi's arrest by Iranian intelligence agents is definitely a big catch. Tehran says its spooks were trailing Rigi for months and had seized him from a Kyrgyzstan-bound flight he boarded at Dubai after spending hours in an American military base in Afghanistan. Washington has instantly dismissed the Iranian contention as bogus. But Americans have hardly the legs to stand on with a straight face. Not so covertly, they have been funneling millions of dollars annually with full Congressional backing to Iranian dissidents for subversion and sabotage in the Islamic Republic. Jundullah is believably their creation to soften up Iran's sensitive Sistan-Balochistan province with terrorism and destabilise the state. Indeed, only a few months back Rigi's younger brother Abdolhamid the Iranians had captured earlier had confessed in the glare of cameras that their outfit had been carrying out terrorist attacks in Iran on America's orders. Arguably, Rigi was a big cog in the Afghanistan-based terrorist network that the CIA in nexus with India's RAW, Afghanistan's CDS and Israel's Mossad spy services had cobbled up to spread terrorism in select neighbouring states so as to destabilise them eventually, Pakistan being this evil axis's special target. According to various reports, Rigi was headquartered in Afghanistan where is ensconced too a Bugti scion who is authoritatively stated often toing and froing between Kabul and New Delhi to huddle up with his Indian handlers to receive instructions for intensifying insurgency in our Balochistan province. And this province horrifically happens to be Rigi's launching pad too for launching clandestine activities against Iran at his CIA masterminds' behest, for which Islamabad had not infrequently been receiving severe strictures and reprimands from Tehran. Indeed, after a terrorist Jundullah strike last year that killed at least 42 people, including seven Revolutionary Guards commanders and several tribal chiefs, there was an outcry in Iran to take on Pakistan. Rigi was reportedly not an infrequent guest of Naek Mohammad, the militant commander of South Waziristan when he was fighting against the Pakistan army with stacks of sophisticated weapons in his arsenal and

loads of dollars in his bag, a munificence whose generous source was widely believed to be the CIA's fabulous wellsprings in Afghanistan, the occupied Central Asian state that the Bush administration had entrusted to this American spy agency to administer and manage. Naek Mohammad was inexplicably bumped off by the Americans in a CIA drone attack after he agreed a peace deal with the Pakistan army. It isn't clear if Rigi was an honoured guest of Baitullah Mehsud too, who succeeded Naek Mohammad after his assassination, though he too was in possession of military weaponry and equipment not even available to the Pakistan army. For years, Baitullah suffered from no threat whatsoever of a CIA drone assault even despite his whereabouts being pointed out to the American war commanders by the Pakistani authorities. Significantly though, Afghan Taliban leader Mullah Omar threw him out of his Shura council for fighting against the Pakistan army. It remains unclear though why they took out Baitullah with drone attack not earlier but only a few months ago. Anyway, those were the times when the Afghanistan-based CIA-led evil axis of alien agencies hostile to Pakistan had densely infested our tribal region to the extent of disabling the Pakistani intelligence in the area by 2005. A development that indeed opened up the eyes in horror of a blindly cringing Pervez Musharraf to realise how his self-professed American friends had taken him for a ride with a demoniacal double crossing and had not only softened up the tribal region but our Balochistan province as well for their CIA's thuggish exploits. He started to withdraw from the American camp but only very belatedly. The hurt the CIA-led evil axis intended had been caused horrendously and not so easy reparably. The entire tribal belt was in the sway of militancy and terrorism; and Balochistan was being convulsed with insurgency and violence. And it is saddening while Iran has been so livid with Pakistan over the Jundullah's sinister activities, it has let the Indian consulates on its territory, particularly the one at Zahidan, to become the beehive of Indian intelligence operatives to abet and fuel insurgency in Pakistan's province of Balochistan. Rigi's seizure is certainly a big development. But it will neither reduce nor discourage terrorism in the region, as have some analysts prophesied. That can happen alone if the CIA-led axis of evil is shut down and Iran stops Indian diplomatic posts from being the hotbeds of intrigues and terrorism in Pakistan.