

News

US rejects Iraq refugee criticism

Security clearance cited as reason for delay in resettling Iraqi refugees.



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“We have left thousands of Iraqis high and dry, desperate and deserted. These people are now in flight because of our own failure”

Gary Ackerman, US Congress

“We have acted aggressively to expand our ability to offer more Iraqis refuge in the United States during 2007,” she said, but was unable to offer a precise figure on prospective admissions.

Most fleeing Iraqis have taken refuge in Jordan and Syria.

Gary Ackerman, the subcommittee chairman and a Democrat, criticised the administration for moving too slowly saying he planned to introduce legislation for safe resettlement of Iraqis facing possible persecution.

Ackerman said the number of Iraqi refugees resettled in the US was “paltry” compared with the 180,000 Vietnamese the administration had admitted in the first eight months after the Vietnam War ended in 1975.

“We have left thousands of Iraqis high and dry, desperate and deserted,” he said. “These people are now in flight because of our own failure.”

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Mariupol



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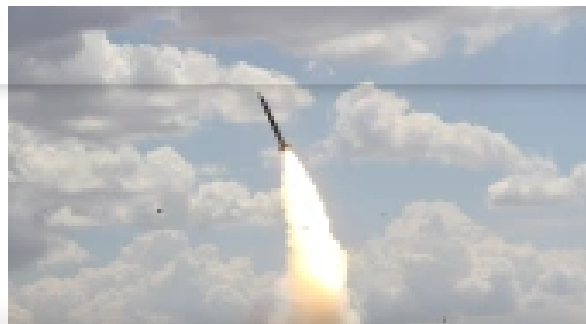
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