

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Treasury Targets Oil Broker Network Supporting Qods Force

August 13, 2021

WASHINGTON — Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is designating individuals and businesses involved in an international oil smuggling network that supports Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF). Senior IRGC-QF officials use proceeds from their involvement in Iranian oil exports to help fund the group’s destabilizing regional activities. OFAC’s action targets a foreign broker, Mahmood Rashid Amur Al Habsi, who has partnered with senior IRGC-QF officials and used several companies to facilitate shipments of Iranian oil to foreign customers, including buyers in East Asia.

“The IRGC-QF is using revenues from its Iranian petroleum sales to fund its malign activities at the expense of the Iranian people,” said Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control Andrea M. Gacki. “These sales rely on key foreign intermediaries to obscure the IRGC-QF’s involvement, and Treasury will continue to disrupt and expose anyone supporting these efforts.”

Today’s action is being taken pursuant to the counterterrorism authority, Executive Order (E.O.) 13224, as amended. The IRGC-QF was designated pursuant to E.O. 13224 in 2007 for support to numerous terrorist groups.

MAHMOOD RASHID AMUR AL HABSI

Omani national **Al Habsi** has facilitated the sale and shipment of Iranian oil through his companies to obscure the IRGC-QF’s involvement. **Al Habsi’s** companies have transported shipments worth tens of millions of dollars. **Al Habsi** has worked in partnership with senior IRGC-QF officials, including Rostam Ghasemi, who was previously designated pursuant to E.O. 13224 in 2019 for acting for or on behalf of the IRGC-QF, and has managed a vast network of individuals, shipping and oil companies, and vessels to sell Iranian petroleum products for the group’s benefit. As part of his oversight of shipping operations, **Al Habsi** has tampered with the automated identification systems that are onboard vessels, forged shipping documents, and paid bribes, circumventing restrictions related to Iran.

Al Habsi is being designated pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended, for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, the IRGC-QF.

AL HABSİ BUSINESS NETWORK

Al Habsi used his Oman-based company, **Nimr International L.L.C.**, to facilitate the sale and shipment of Iranian oil in support of the IRGC-QF. **Nimr International L.L.C.** is being designated pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended, for being owned, controlled, or directed by, directly or indirectly, **Al Habsi**.

Al Habsi also used Oman-based **Orbit Petrochemicals Trading LLC** to facilitate Iranian oil deals that obscure the IRGC-QF's involvement. **Orbit Petrochemicals Trading LLC** is being designated pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended, for being owned, controlled, or directed by, directly or indirectly, **Nimr International L.L.C.**

Bravery Maritime Corporation, a Liberian-registered company, is being designated pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended, for being owned, controlled, or directed by, directly or indirectly, **Al Habsi**. The Liberian-flagged crude oil tanker **Oman Pride**, which has been used to transport Iranian oil, is being identified as property in which **Bravery Maritime Corporation** has an interest.

Romania-based **Nimr International S.R.L.** is being designated pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended, for being owned, controlled, or directed by, directly or indirectly, **Al Habsi**.

SANCTIONS IMPLICATIONS

As a result of today's designations, all property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of the persons designated are blocked, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with the designated persons or their blocked property. In addition, foreign financial institutions that knowingly facilitate significant transactions for, or persons that provide material or certain other support to, the persons designated today risk exposure to sanctions that could sever their access to the U.S. financial system or block their property or interests in property under U.S. jurisdiction.

[View more information about today's sanctions here.](#)

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