



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER

CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL

Maxwell AFB, Alabama

Issue No. 815, 8 June 2010

Articles & Other Documents:

[GOP Senators Likely To Approve "New START,"
Pentagon Official Says](#)

[Medvedev Hopes 'Irresponsible' Iran Listening](#)

[Envoy Disapproves Of Moscow's Stance On Iran](#)

[Russia, China Warn Against Rushing Iran Sanctions
Vote](#)

[Iran Using Dubai To Smuggle Nuclear Components](#)

[Tehran Nuclear Agreement Has Broken International
Consensus: Nuclear Chief](#)

[Bomb Concern Makes Iran "Special Case" - IAEA Head](#)

[MPs: Russia Has Never Been Iran's Friend](#)

[Clinton Warns Of Likely Iranian 'Stunt' Ahead Of UN
Sanctions Vote](#)

[Iran: Fuel Swap Deal Is One-Time Opportunity](#)

[Iran Says No Talks On Nuclear Issue If Sanctioned](#)

[Iran Says Key Nuclear Scientist Being Held In US](#)

[S.Korean Defense Chief Pledges To Deter Possible
Aggressions From North](#)

[Kim Jong-Il Reshuffles Top Leadership To Make Way
For Youngest Son At The Top](#)

[Menon Allays Fears About Security Of India's Nuclear
Assets](#)

[Evidence Points To Myanmar Nuclear Program](#)

[Myanmar Rebutts Nuclear Talk](#)

[At Nevada Lab, US Prepares Response To Nuke Terror](#)

[Between Jefferson And McKinley](#)

[Four Reasons The US Could Get Israel To Talk About A
Middle East Free Of Weapons Of Mass Destruction](#)

Welcome to the CPC Outreach Journal. As part of USAF Counterproliferation Center's mission to counter weapons of mass destruction through education and research, we're providing our government and civilian community a source for timely counterproliferation information. This information includes articles, papers and other documents addressing issues pertinent to US military response options for dealing with chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats and countermeasures. It's our hope this information resource will help enhance your counterproliferation issue awareness.

Established in 1998, the USAF/CPC provides education and research to present and future leaders of the Air Force, as well as to members of other branches of the armed services and Department of Defense. Our purpose is to help those agencies better prepare to counter the threat from weapons of mass destruction. Please feel free to visit our web site at <http://cpc.au.af.mil/> for in-depth information and specific points of contact. The following articles, papers or documents do not necessarily reflect official endorsement of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense, or other US government agencies. Reproduction for private use or commercial gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. All rights are reserved.

GOP Senators Likely To Approve "New START," Pentagon Official Says

Monday, June 7, 2010

A senior Obama administration defense official said he believes that GOP members of the Senate will ultimately determine the replacement to the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty does not place constraints on U.S. missile defense plans and give their support to the bilateral agreement with Russia, *Congressional Quarterly* reported Friday (see *GSN*, June 4).

Principal Deputy Defense Undersecretary James Miller said Republicans who have asserted that "New START" would curb the Pentagon's ability to improve its antimissile operations can trust in the actions and rhetoric of the administration.

"Our unilateral statement, our statements of policy in the missile defense review, our testimony, our budget all say the same thing -- and that is we already are improving both the quality and quantity of our missile defense interceptors, and we intend to continue to do so," Miller told reporters.

U.S. President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in April signed a new arms control treaty that would limit each nation's deployed arsenal of strategic nuclear arms to 1,550 warheads. The agreement also limits U.S. and Russian fielded nuclear delivery platforms to 700, with another 100 vehicles permitted in reserve.

The treaty has been submitted to the legislatures of both nations for ratification.

There are three areas in the treaty that Republicans have said would curtail U.S. missile defense efforts: wording in the preamble to the pact that recognizes the connection between strategic offensive weapons and strategic defensive efforts; a restriction within the pact that would bar the United States from placing interceptors in old ICBM silos or submarine-based launch tubes; and a statement by Moscow that it would weigh leaving the arms control pact should Washington increase its missile defense efforts to a threatening level.

Miller said none of these three things would realistically limit Washington's antimissile efforts. Recognizing the link between nuclear weapons and efforts to defend against those threats would not force operational changes to U.S. missile shield work, he said. "I think, at the end of the day, people say, 'Yes, that makes sense,'" Miller said.

In addition, the Pentagon has already abandoned the possibility of housing missile interceptors in converted ICBM or SLBM launchers (see *GSN*, May 19).

"I think we've presented enough information about the strategic issues and the cost issues associated with conversion to make the case that additional conversions from ICBM silos or the conversion of SLBM launchers to missile defense doesn't make sense," Miller said.

Miller said Obama's record on missile defense demonstrates that he would not back off antimissile efforts should Russia raise more warnings of exiting the treaty.

If GOP lawmakers "look at the program that we have planned and they see the administration not just rhetorically committed but committed in this program ... there will be an understanding that we're serious about both moving forward with arms control and protecting the nation," Miller said.

The arms control treaty requires support from two-thirds of the Senate, meaning some GOP votes are required. Obama administration officials who negotiated the deal are scheduled to testify tomorrow at a closed-door meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Panel Chairman John Kerry (D-Mass) has suggested that he wants to hold a committee vote on the pact prior to the August congressional recess.

The Senate Armed Services Committee has scheduled a hearing on the treaty for June 17 and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is also planning meetings on the matter (Emily Cadei, *Congressional Quarterly*, June 4).

Defense Secretary Robert Gates detailed in a May column for the *Wall Street Journal* that Pentagon officials have advised retaining as many as 420 land-based ICBMs under the new pact, along with 14 submarines outfitted with as many as 240 ballistic missiles and as many as 60 nuclear bombers, the Associated Press reported.

Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana, F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming and Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota each have 150 ICBMs. Under the treaty, those 450 surface-to-air missiles could be cut to 420 weapons. The defense secretary did not detail how the cuts would be made.

Former Air Force officer Steve Malicott said he heard from defense officials and industry sources that each of the three bases would see their ICBM arsenals reduced by 10 missiles should the treaty be ratified (Associated Press/*Greenwich Time*, June 5).

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100607_8084.php

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Sydney Morning Herald – Australia

Medvedev Hopes 'Irresponsible' Iran Listening

By SIMON STURDEE

June 5, 2010

Russian leader Dmitry Medvedev said Saturday that with the UN Security Council close to approving fresh sanctions, he hoped an "irresponsible" Iran would heed the world community.

"The situation is this: basically, an agreement on sanctions exists," the president said in Germany after talks with Chancellor Angela Merkel. "We hope that the voice of the international community is heard by Iranian leadership.

"Such expressions of irresponsible behaviour cannot be continued. What is said internationally needs to be listened to. Only this way can the most complex tasks be solved," he said.

Russia is one of five permanent and veto-wielding UN Security Council members -- along with the United States, China, Britain and France -- who the White House hopes will approve fresh sanctions as early as next week over the Islamic republic's sensitive nuclear work.

Both Russia and China have previously been more reticent than the others on sanctions, but Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Friday that "paralysing sanctions" had been purged from the new draft to take into account "the economic interests" of Moscow and Beijing.

Iran is already under three sets of UN sanctions for its refusal to suspend enrichment of uranium, which can be used as fuel for nuclear power stations and in atomic weapons.

Merkel, whose country is part of a six-nation group negotiating with Iran and who has been strident in her calls for taking a tougher line, said she expected to new resolution to be voted on soon.

"It looks as though new sanctions can be approved by the UN Security Council in the near future," she said in Meseberg, north of Berlin.

"The time has now come that if nothing changes qualitatively then such sanctions must be approved. I am happy that we can stand here today ... and say that this is a joint position including not only the EU, the US and Russia, but also from China.

"This is a big, important step from the international community."

Russia, which like Germany has close commercial ties with Iran, has become frustrated by Iran's behaviour in recent months.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad last month launched a stinging attack on Moscow accusing it of "siding with those who have been our enemy for 30 years."

"If I were in the Russian president's shoes I would be more cautious in commenting and decision making about issues pertaining to the great and strong nation of Iran."

Senior US officials have said they are forging ahead with a resolution without Brazil and Turkey, two non-permanent Security Council members that brokered a nuclear fuel swap deal with Iran aimed at forestalling sanctions.

Under the deal reached last month Iran committed to deposit 1,200 kilogrammes (2,640 pounds) of low-enriched uranium in Turkey in return for reactor fuel.

But the accord drew a cool reaction from world powers led by the United States.

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-world/medvedev-hopes-irresponsible-iran-listening-20100605-xm36.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Tehran Times – Iran

Sunday, June 6, 2010

Envoy Disapproves Of Moscow's Stance On Iran

Tehran Times Political Desk

TEHRAN - Iran's ambassador to Russia has called Moscow's stance toward Iran's nuclear program questionable.

"Lack of trust in Russia and the fact that this country has reneged on its promises prompted Iran to replace Moscow with Brasilia and Ankara to reach the Tehran agreement (on a nuclear fuel swap)," Ambassador Mahmoud-Reza Sajjadi said in an interview with Izvestia last week.

Iran preferred to reach an agreement with Russia over the nuclear fuel swap, but some events happened that impeded progress in the negotiations, most notably, Moscow did not give Iran objective assurances, he explained.

And while the negotiations were still underway, Russia encouraged the International Atomic Energy Organization to issue a strongly-worded statement against Iran, and this was another reason why Turkey and Brazil were selected to take the place of Russia, he added.

Commenting on Iran's diplomatic relations with Russia, he said, "Currently, the relationship is not that promising. (Iranian) people and officials ask why some Russian officials make remarks against Iran."

Another question is why Russia does not meet its commitments, like the delivery of the S-300 missile defense systems, he added.

Russian President Dmitri Medvedev said on Saturday that there is international agreement on imposing sanctions on Iran.

Medvedev's comments came after he held two days of talks with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin.

http://www.tehrantimes.com/index_View.asp?code=220729

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Tehran Times – Iran

Sunday, June 6, 2010

Russia, China Warn Against Rushing Iran Sanctions Vote

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russia and China are against attempts to rush a vote in the United Nations Security Council on further sanctions against Iran, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov was quoted as saying on Friday.

"We are against forcing the voting process," Lavrov was quoted as saying in Beijing by Interfax news agency.

But Lavrov also added that work on the resolution was close to completion and that the economic interests of Russia and China had been taken into account in the draft.

The White House and Western diplomats have said the Security Council is expected to vote next week on the resolution.

President Barack Obama's administration has been working for months to persuade veto-wielding council members Russia and China that they should agree to further sanctions against Iran.

Clinton, Lavrov discuss Iran

Hillary Clinton, the U.S. secretary of state, and Lavrov have discussed the new UN Security Council sanctions on Iran, the Russian Foreign Ministry disclosed on Friday.

"There was an exchange of opinions on the situation surrounding the Iranian nuclear program in the context of UN Security Council work on a draft resolution against Iran and the prospects for implementing the fuel swap for the Tehran research reactor," the Ministry said, according to RTT News.

China urges restraint in possible Iran sanctions

China said Thursday that any sanctions eventually adopted against Iran should not adversely affect the lives of ordinary citizens, the Global Times reported.

The comments from Jiang Yu, spokeswoman of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, came after the U.S. said a draft sanctions resolution targeting the Islamic republic would come to a vote in the council by June 21.

"We believe that any action taken by the Security Council must be conducive to the settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue through dialogue and negotiation," Jiang told reporters, adding that such action "should not punish Iranian people or affect their normal lives."

The spokeswoman reiterated Beijing's stance that negotiations were the best way to resolve the standoff, adding that discussion of a draft council resolution did not mean that diplomatic efforts had ended. Also Thursday, Iran's atomic energy chief said the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) misunderstood the nature of the experiments at a Tehran laboratory mentioned in the agency's latest report, according to the AP.

The IAEA said in the report that it remained concerned about the true nature of Iran's nuclear activities, and that Tehran was producing higher-enriched uranium.

"The experiments have no relation to pyroprocessing," the AP quoted Ali Akbar Salehi as saying. "We believe the agency used this false report about a process that has not yet taken place, with the purpose of influencing public opinion."

http://www.tehrantimes.com/Index_view.asp?code=220740

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Sunday Telegraph – U.K.

Iran Using Dubai To Smuggle Nuclear Components

Iran is using the Gulf port of Dubai to smuggle sophisticated electronic and computer equipment for its controversial uranium enrichment programme that are banned under United Nations sanctions.

By Con Coughlin

6 June 2010

In the latest deal, an Iranian company associated with the regime's nuclear programme has acquired control systems from one of Germany's leading electronics manufacturers. The deal was negotiated with a prominent Dubai trading company, which then sold Iran a range of electronic equipment for use at its Natanz uranium enrichment facility.

Details of the deal have emerged amid mounting concern in the West that Tehran has ended its self-imposed suspension of its nuclear weapons programme. A National Intelligence Estimate issued by US intelligence agencies in late 2007 concluded that Iran had suspended its attempts to build an atom bomb in 2003.

But a detailed assessment of Iran's recent declarations to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna has led Western officials to conclude that Iran has ended its self-imposed suspension, and has now resumed work on its military programme.

This would explain Iran's renewed attempts to smuggle banned equipment through Dubai. In the latest deal, details of which have been obtained exclusively by *The Sunday Telegraph*, high-grade German equipment including computers, controllers, communication cards and cables have been smuggled into Iran.

The equipment was sold to Iran without the knowledge of its German manufacturer by a Dubai-based intermediary using false end-user certificates for companies in Asia, even though the sale of technology that can be used in Iran's nuclear programme is banned under UN Security Council resolutions.

The equipment was delivered to Kalaye Electric, an Iranian company which is also subject to sanctions because of its close association with Iran's nuclear programme. Kalaye Electric is responsible for the procurement and development of the centrifuges that are used at Natanz to enrich uranium.

The smuggling accusations were denied by Iran, which insists its nuclear programme is entirely peaceful. Its ambassador to London, Rasoul Movahedian, added that the country had no need to import or smuggle technical components.

American and UN officials last month launched an investigation into how Iran had managed to acquire nuclear valves and other restricted components from Western companies in breach of UN resolutions. They have now extended their inquiry to Dubai, which is already under intense pressure from Washington to prevent the transfer of technology to Iran.

Last year the Dubai authorities blocked the sale to Iran by the Dubai-based company Scientech of equipment manufactured by the German electronics company Siemens, which has since given an undertaking not to supply any of the corporation's equipment to Iran.

"The Iranians are still managing to smuggle sophisticated technology through Dubai for its nuclear programme by using false certificates and unscrupulous intermediaries," said a senior UN source. "We need the Dubai authorities to be more rigorous in preventing the transfer of this equipment to Iran."

The equipment is vital for the Natanz enrichment facility, which last year experienced technical difficulties with the centrifuges used to enrich uranium.

The allegations that Iran is continuing its efforts to acquire banned electronic technology for its nuclear programme comes as Tehran attempts to avoid a new round of UN sanctions.

Iranian officials have presented the IAEA with details of a proposal to ship stockpiles of enriched uranium to Turkey as part of a deal negotiated with Brazil to resolve the international crisis over Iran's nuclear programme.

Under the terms of the proposed deal Tehran would ship about half of its 2.5 tonne stockpile of enriched uranium to Turkey. In return the West would provide Iran with processed nuclear material for its medical research reactor in Tehran.

Iran originally agreed to ship its stockpiles of enriched uranium to Russia under the terms of an agreement negotiated in Geneva last October, as part of a confidence-building measure to defuse the crisis. But the deal was blocked by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Now Tehran is proposing to send a smaller quantity of its enriched uranium to Turkey, which has only limited nuclear processing facilities.

Western officials believe Iran has only made the offer in a last-ditch attempt to avoid the implementation of a new round of UN sanctions after US President Barack Obama secured the backing of China and Russia for a new security council resolution.

Furthermore there is mounting concern among Western counter-proliferation experts that Iran has resumed its nuclear weapons programme, which was halted in 2003 following the US-led invasion of neighbouring Iraq.

Western officials have been conducting a rigorous re-assessment of Iran's nuclear programme since the CIA published its controversial National Intelligence Estimate in 2007 which questioned whether Iran still had an active weapons programme.

Following an exhaustive investigation of the reports on Iran compiled by UN nuclear inspectors working for the IAEA, Western officials are convinced that Iran has secretly resumed work on building an atom bomb.

"When you look in detail at Iran's declarations on its nuclear programme, the only logical conclusion that can be drawn is that Iran has only one aim, and that is to build nuclear weapons," said a senior Western counter-proliferation official.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/iran/7805736/Iran-using-Dubai-to-smuggle-nuclear-components.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Tehran Times – Iran
Sunday, June 6, 2010

Tehran Nuclear Agreement Has Broken International Consensus: Nuclear Chief

Tehran Times Political Desk

TEHRAN – Ali Akbar Salehi, the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) director, has said that the Tehran agreement on nuclear fuel swap has broken the international consensus on the adoption of a new sanctions resolution against Iran.

On May 17, Iran, Turkey, and Brazil signed a nuclear swap deal in Tehran under which Iran agreed to send 1200 Kilograms of its LEU to Turkey in exchange for 20-percent nuclear fuel rods to power Tehran research reactor.

“The Tehran declaration broke the international consensus against Iran led by America and Britain, and surprised the Western countries,” Salehi said on Thursday.

“They have leveled some accusations against us just because of negligence and some unintentional mistakes on our part, while such mistakes are considered natural in the case of other countries,” he said.

Salehi, a nuclear physicist, went on to say that global powers are seeking to deprive other countries of the right to nuclear fuel cycle.

UN watchdog has misinterpreted Tehran tests

Salehi also has pointed out that the International Atomic Energy Agency has misunderstood the nature of the experiments at a Tehran laboratory.

Ali Akbar Salehi told ISNA that the IAEA in its report released on May 31 made a “misinterpretation” in a reference about pyroprocessing.

He said the Tehran lab experiments deal with uranium production, not pyroprocessing.

“The experiments have no relation to pyroprocessing,” he said. “We believe the agency used this false report about a process that has not yet taken place, with the purpose of influencing public opinion.”

Salehi stressed such “mistakes” would backfire and only damage IAEA’s reputation.

He added that the lab experiments sought to produce uranium metal from depleted uranium, which is an effective shield against harmful radiation.

Salehi said Iran has plentiful stocks of depleted uranium.

Salehi said also dismissed the report that Iran had removed equipment from the Jabr Ibn Jayan Multipurpose Research Laboratory in Tehran. He added Iran would provide the IAEA with evidence at a later date.

Ali Asghar Soltanieh, Iranian’s envoy to the IAEA headquarters in Vienna already criticized the report in comments made Wednesday in the Austrian capital.

http://www.tehrantimes.com/Index_view.asp?code=220737

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

The Star – Malaysia
Monday June 7, 2010

Bomb Concern Makes Iran "Special Case" - IAEA Head

By Sylvia Westall

VIENNA (Reuters) - Iran is a "special case" because of concerns it may be working to develop an atom bomb, the U.N. nuclear watchdog chief said on Monday amid an Arab push to focus his agency's attention on Israel's presumed nuclear arsenal.

The Iranian ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency said Israel's nuclear capability was the bigger issue.

With the U.N. Security Council expected to vote on new Iran sanctions this week, IAEA Director-General Yukiya Amano highlighted Tehran's escalating uranium enrichment in defiance of U.N. resolutions demanding a halt and its failure to grant unfettered access to his inspectors and investigators.

"I also need to mention that Iran is a special case because, among other things, of the existence of issues related to possible military dimensions to its nuclear programme," he said, opening a meeting of the IAEA's 35-nation Board of Governors.

But the Iranian envoy said the Vienna-based agency should concentrate its non-proliferation efforts on Tehran's regional arch-foe Israel, which has not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and is widely believed to have the only nuclear arsenal in the Middle East.

The debate followed a month-long U.N. conference in New York to review the NPT which put Israel in the spotlight, and at a time of wider international scrutiny of the Jewish state after its high-seas raid on a Gaza-bound aid convoy.

"(Israel) is a serious security concern for the region and the world at large," Ali Asghar Soltanieh told reporters, criticising "crimes against humanity in Gaza. This sort of violation of international law plus nuclear capability is very dangerous for the security of the whole world."

ISRAEL IN FOCUS

Israel, like India, Pakistan and North Korea, is outside the NPT. The Jewish state says it cannot discuss the issue as long as many of its neighbours remain hostile to its existence. It has neither confirmed nor denied having nuclear weapons.

By shunning the NPT, Israel has not had to foreswear nuclear arms or admit inspectors to all of its nuclear sites. NPT member Iran has allowed IAEA inspectors some access but is seen by the West as an NPT rule-breaker and potential bomb risk.

Arab nations will seek to put pressure on Israel later this week when the board debates "Israeli nuclear capabilities". They want Amano to help implement an IAEA resolution urging Israel to put its nuclear sites under inspection and join the NPT.

It will be the first time the IAEA's policy-making board addresses the topic since 1991.

Amano said he will report on the resolution at the IAEA's general assembly in September, adding he had only received 17 responses on the issue so far from 150 member states.

Some diplomats said this raised the question of why it was necessary to discuss the issue now.

"We see no appropriate basis for this organisation to discuss Israel's nuclear programme," U.S. envoy Glyn Davies said, adding that the debate should wait for Amano's report.

"Unlike other countries' nuclear programmes discussed by this body, we are not aware that Israel is in violation of commitments it has undertaken with the IAEA," he said.

Developing nation votes helped push through the Israel resolution last September, the first time in 18 years of attempts by Arab countries at the IAEA's assembly.

(Additional reporting by Fredrik Dahl; editing by Mark Heinrich)

http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2010/6/7/worldupdates/2010-06-07T170625Z_01_NOOTR_RTRMDNC_0_-491021-1&sec=Worldupdates

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Tehran Times – Iran
Monday, June 7, 2010

MPs: Russia Has Never Been Iran's Friend

Tehran Times Political Desk

TEHRAN – A number of lawmakers have expressed dismay over Russia's position toward Iran, saying Moscow has never been Tehran's friend since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The comments have come in response to Russia's support for new sanctions against Iran for its nuclear program.

Almost all Iranian officials are convinced that Russia keeps renegeing on its commitments to Iran.

MP Avaz Heydarpour, a member of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, believes that Moscow has never been Iran's friend.

"Russia has never been the Islamic Republic's friend," he told Mehr News Agency.

Heydarpour added that the Kremlin has always sought to protect its own interests and pocket.

Russia has always aligned itself with the Western countries against Iran, so Iran cannot count on Russia's support, the lawmaker stated.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said at a news conference with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Saturday that "agreement on the sanctions exists."

"We hope the voice of the international community will be heard by the Iranian leadership," Medvedev said in the German city of Meseberg.

Talking to the MNA, MP Hassan Ghafourifard commented that Russia has never approved of the Islamic Revolution's principles, so friendship should not be expected from it.

"Personally, I never trusted the former Soviet Union either, before or after revolution, and after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, they (Russians) showed that they don't support this revolution," he noted.

He also criticized Russian officials for not fulfilling their commitments toward Iran.

---No flexibility in nuclear row

MP Heydarpour also suggested that Iran should not show any flexibility in the nuclear issue and should stand firm on its policies, because the West will not shift its policy toward Iran in any case.

He added that sanctions will benefit Iran in the long-term.

http://www.tehrantimes.com/Index_view.asp?code=220792

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Bangkok Post – Thailand

Clinton Warns Of Likely Iranian 'Stunt' Ahead Of UN Sanctions Vote

June 7, 2010

By Agence France-Presse (AFP)

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Sunday she expects Iran will "pull some stunt in the next couple of days" as a UN vote on tough sanctions against Tehran over its nuclear program looms.

Asked what she expects in the runup to a UN Security Council vote on sanctions on Tehran over its controversial nuclear program, Clinton said "I expect Iran to pull some stunt in the next couple of days."

Iran has in the past taken steps to "avoid being held accountable," Clinton told reporters as she waited to depart on a Latin American trip.

"I don't think anybody should be surprised if they (Iran) try to divert attention once again from the unity within the Security Council," the top US diplomat said.

"I think we'll see Iran say ...'wait a minute, wait a minute look at what we're going to do' in a bid to thwart sanctions," Clinton added. "They've consistently tried to avoid being held accountable."

Iran is already under three sets of UN sanctions for its refusal to suspend enrichment of uranium, which can be used as fuel for nuclear power stations and in atomic weapons.

Senior US officials have said they are forging ahead with a resolution without Brazil and Turkey, two non-permanent Security Council members that brokered a nuclear fuel swap deal with Iran aimed at forestalling sanctions.

Under the deal reached last month Iran committed to deposit 1,200 kilogrammes (2,640 pounds) of low-enriched uranium in Turkey in return for reactor fuel.

But the accord drew a cool reaction from world powers led by the United States.

Asked if she were worried about rotating council members and emerging powers Brazil and Turkey not backing sanctions, Clinton said: "We'll wait and see what happens, but we have the votes."

Pressed as to whether she meant for passage of new Iran sanctions at the UN, Clinton said: "Yes."

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said on Friday that his country will defend its rights even if a new sanctions resolution is imposed by the UN Security Council.

"We are standing in the face of enemies. To defend the rights of the nation, we will pull out any resolutions from the mouth" of the enemies, the hardliner said in a speech marking the 21st death anniversary of revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Last month the United States introduced a draft resolution to impose tough new UN sanctions on Iran for pursuing its controversial nuclear program, saying it had the support of the four other permanent veto-wielding Security Council members, Russia, China, Britain and France.

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/world/180398/clinton-warns-of-likely-iranian-tunt-ahead-of-un-sanctions-vote>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Iran: Fuel Swap Deal Is One-Time Opportunity

By SELCAN HACA OGLU, The Associated Press

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

ISTANBUL — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Tuesday that a nuclear swap deal brokered by Turkey and Brazil was a one-time opportunity to resolve his nation's standoff with the West, days before the U.N. Security Council is expected to vote on new sanctions.

Ahmadinejad told reporters on the sidelines of an Asian security summit that new sanctions would be a mistake and President Barack Obama stands to lose unless he changes his policies toward Iran.

The leaders of Iran, Turkey and Brazil met in Tehran last month and proposed a deal for Iran to deposit 2645 pounds (1,200 kilograms) of lightly enriched uranium in Turkey in exchange for 120 kilograms of fuel that it can use for its research reactor. The deal was meant to forestall Iran's ability to produce highly enriched uranium that could be used to produce nuclear warheads.

U.S. officials have criticized the agreement, in part because it does not stop Iran from continuing to enrich uranium. The U.S. also says the deal is a ploy by Iran to delay new international sanctions.

Turkey and Brazil, both non-permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, are now pressing for an open "political debate" on the broader Iranian nuclear issue before a vote on new sanctions.

"The meeting in Tehran created an opportunity for the U.S. administration and for its allies and we still hope that they will be able to use this opportunity," Ahmadinejad said in reference to the nuclear swap deal that was reached in Tehran and that aims to address international concerns over Iran's nuclear program. "We say that this opportunity will not be repeated."

"Unless their policies change, Obama will be the first to lose, and then the U.S. government," the Iranian president added.

The U.N. Security Council is expected to vote soon to punish Tehran for its refusal to heed demands to curb its nuclear program. The final version of the resolution, obtained by The Associated Press, would ban Iran from pursuing "any activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons," bar Iranian investment in activities such as uranium mining, and prohibit Iran from buying several categories of heavy weapons including attack helicopters and missiles.

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin told reporters in Istanbul "we have worked hard and consider that the resolution is practically agreed upon." President Dmitry Medvedev last week used the same phrase to characterize the position of the Security Council on Iran.

Russia has traditionally taken a softer stance on Iran, a longtime trade partner, than the West, and Putin called for any sanctions to be restrained.

"Russia is not of the opinion that these resolutions should be excessive and put Iran and the Iranian leadership — not to mention the Iranian people — in an awkward position that would place barriers in the way of peaceful atomic energy," he said.

Putin also announced that the Bushehr nuclear power plant, which Russia is constructing for Iran, should come online by August.

Russia signed a \$1 billion contract in 1995 for building the Bushehr plant, but it has dragged its feet on completing the project for years. Moscow has cited technical reasons for the delays, but analysts said Moscow has used the project to press Tehran to ease its defiance over its nuclear program.

Complicating the relationship further is the stalled delivery of Russian modern defensive anti-air missiles.

Russia signed a 2007 contract to sell the powerful S-300 missiles to Tehran but so far has not handed them over. Russian officials have recently commented that Moscow is unwilling to further destabilize the region by delivering the S-300 missiles, which would strengthen Iran against military intervention from the West.

Hours earlier, Ahmadinejad warned Russia against supporting new sanctions on his country.

"They must be careful not to side with enemies of the Iranian nation," he said. "They should make a choice."

Associated Press Writers Suzan Fraser in Ankara, Turkey, David Nowak in Moscow and Nasser Karimi in Tehran contributed.

<http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/iran-fuel-swap-deal-543921.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Brisbane Times – Australia

Iran Says No Talks On Nuclear Issue If Sanctioned

By NICOLAS CHEVIRON, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

June 8, 2010

Iran's president said Tuesday his country would reject talks on its nuclear programme if it was slapped with new UN sanctions as Russia signalled measures had already been "practically agreed upon".

As the UN Security Council geared up for fresh talks on a fourth sanctions resolution, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad urged Western powers to drop the measures in favour of a nuclear fuel swap deal brokered by Brazil and Turkey last month.

"I have said that the US government and its allies are mistaken if they think they can brandish the stick of resolution and then sit down to talk with us, such a thing will not happen," he told a news conference here.

"We will talk to everyone if there is respect and fairness but if someone wants to talk to us rudely and in a domineering manner the response is known already," added the Iranian leader, who is in Turkey for the summit of an Asian security grouping.

The UN Security Council was to hold new closed-door consultations Tuesday on the new sanctions after its 15 members failed to reach a consensus on a meeting on Monday.

The council's five permanent members -- Britain, France, China, Russia and the United States -- are co-sponsoring the sanctions draft and believe they have the votes to secure its passage in a vote that might come as early as Wednesday.

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said a consensus was already emerging on the new sanctions.

"We...believe that the resolution is practically agreed upon," Putin told a press conference in Istanbul, also adding that the new sanctions should not be "excessive", Russia's ITAR-TASS reported.

But he also appeared unconvinced that sanctions were needed.

"There is a need to settle a dangerous situation like Iran's nuclear programme by way of constructive talks with the involvement of all interested parties," the Interfax news agency quoted Putin as saying.

A Turkish diplomat told AFP on condition of anonymity that Ankara was trying to persuade Iran not to leave the table even if sanctions were imposed.

Ahmadinejad called on Western powers not to dismiss the Turkish-Brazilian nuclear fuel swap which he described as an opportunity that should be "put to good use". "Opportunities will not be repeated," he warned.

Tehran was still waiting for a response from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the deal, he added.

Diplomats close to the atomic watchdog said Monday they expected to hand IAEA chief Yukiya Amano a joint response from the so-called Vienna group of countries imminently.

Under the deal, Iran agreed to ship 1,200 kilograms (2,640 pounds) of its low-enriched uranium to Turkey in return for high-enriched uranium fuel for a Tehran reactor.

The United States and other world powers have given a cool reaction to the deal, saying it did not go far enough to allay fears that Tehran is using its nuclear drive as a cover for a nuclear weapons programme.

Brazil and Turkey have said they will not support the new sanctions resolution, standing behind the swap deal as an opportunity for a diplomatic resolution to the standoff.

Lebanon has also indicated it cannot support the resolution for domestic political reasons.

The US draft sanctions resolution would expand an arms embargo and measures against Iran's banking sector and ban it from sensitive overseas activities like uranium mining and developing ballistic missiles, diplomats said.

It also bars the sale of battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large calibre artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems to Iran.

It urges all states to inspect all cargo to and from Iran in their territory, including seaports and airports, when there is reasonable grounds to believe they carry banned items.

It also authorizes states to conduct high-sea inspections of vessels believed to be ferrying banned items from or to Iran.

<http://news.brisbanetimes.com.au/breaking-news-world/iran-says-no-talks-on-nuclear-issue-if-sanctioned-20100608-xtag.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

News Hosted By Google.com

Iran Says Key Nuclear Scientist Being Held In US

By Jay Deshmukh, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

June 8, 2010

TEHRAN — Iran said Tuesday it will use legal channels to secure the release of its nuclear scientist Shahram Amiri, who in a video clip screened on Iranian television channels said he was kidnapped by US agents.

Foreign ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast said the film confirmed Tehran's charges that Amiri had been "kidnapped by US and Saudi intelligence services."

In the clip, the man identified by the IRIB channel as Amiri said he was now "in the city of Tucson, Arizona" in the United States and that he had been kidnapped by US agents en route to Mecca in Saudi Arabia in June 2009.

Amiri stated that his abduction was intended to mount political pressure on the Iranian government.

The television said Iranian intelligence services had obtained the film "by special methods," without elaborating.

"These are inhumane actions and violate international laws," Mehmanparast said at his weekly press conference broadcast live on Iran's English-language channel Press TV.

"We won't allow this to happen to our nationals and through legal channels we will pursue the issue."

The man in the footage is filmed in a closed room, apparently with the use of a webcam, and wearing headphones.

He said he was "taken to a house somewhere in Saudi Arabia ... They gave me an injection and when I woke up I was on a plane headed for the US," where he was being "subjected to the worst torture and moral pressure" by his guards.

"Their aim is to make me give an interview to one of the major US television networks to say I'm an important figure in the Iranian nuclear programme and that I have asked for asylum in the United States," he said.

"I have to say that I have important documents in my possession as well as a computer with secret information," the man said, asking for human rights organisations to press for his release.

ABC news in the United States reported in March that Amiri, a nuclear physicist in his early 30s who disappeared in June 2009 after arriving in Saudi Arabia on a pilgrimage, had defected and was working with the CIA.

Iranian officials have long maintained that Amiri was abducted from Saudi Arabia by US agents while on pilgrimage to the Muslim holy places.

The ABC report said that US agents described the defection as "an intelligence coup" in efforts to undermine Iran's controversial nuclear programme.

Amiri's disappearance "was part of a long-planned CIA operation to get him to defect," ABC reported.

The Islamic republic is demanding the release and repatriation of Amiri along with 10 other Iranian nationals who it says have been "illegally detained" in the United States.

In May, Intelligence Minister Heydar Moslehi linked the case of Iranians held in the United States to that of three US hikers detained in July 2009 for illegal entry into Iran from neighbouring northern Iraq.

But Mehmanparast said the two issues were not linked.

"We have no agenda for exchange when it comes to people who have an open judicial case. The three Americans entered Iran illegally and an investigation is ongoing," he said.

"Amiri was abducted even when he has not committed any crime. He has not been given any consular visit. The three American citizens had consular visits through the Swiss embassy" in Tehran, he added.

Shane Bauer, Josh Fattal and Sarah Shourd are being held in Tehran and their mothers visited them last month.

In the absence of diplomatic relations between Tehran and Washington, US interests are represented by the Swiss embassy in Iran, while the Islamic republic's interests are represented by the Pakistani mission in Washington.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gQ5pGB2Sj72I15uJSScNebiDT6GQ>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

People's Daily China

S.Korean Defense Chief Pledges To Deter Possible Aggressions From North

June 6, 2010

South Korean defense chief pledged on Saturday in Singapore to deter any further North Korean aggressions by strengthening its military posture.

South Korean Defense Minister Kim Tae-young said at the Asian Security Summit, commonly known as the Shangri-La Dialogue, that the government will deter the North Korean threat through a robust military readiness posture, meanwhile "to pursue sincere dialogue with an open mind" in order to bring about the resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue.

He said South Korean government will closely coordinate with the international community in taking stern and resolute measures against North Korean provocations.

He said South Korea brought the "Cheonan" case to the United Nations Security Council for international sanctions, adding that South Korea is moving in a two-track approach: pursuing sanctions and dialogue.

Source: Xinhua

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90777/90851/7013793.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

North Korea Times – Australia

Kim Jong-Il Reshuffles Top Leadership To Make Way For Youngest Son At The Top

Monday 7th June, 2010

By Asian News International (ANI)

To consolidate grip on power and pave the way for the succession of youngest son Kim Jong-Un, North Korea's supreme leader Kim Jong-Il has reshuffled the regime's top leadership, appointing a new premier and promoting a key ally to a senior post in the country's top military body.

The appointment was rubber stamped by the country's parliament and is seen as a move to make way for 28-year-old Kim Jong-Un to succeed.

North Korea's official KCNA news agency said Jang Song Taek, a brother-in-law and key ally of Kim who is believed to favour a hereditary succession, was promoted to vice-chairmanship of the National Defence Commission, the most powerful organ of government in North Korea, The Telegraph reports.

Analysts said the appointment could be interpreted as a signal of Kim's determination that he will be succeeded by his son and not by any rivals from the military establishment.

"Jang Song Taek would be the most trustworthy person to Kim who can establish the foundation for succession to Jong-un. This is a signal that they will not be moving on existing power structures, no innovation or openness or reform," said Park Young-ho of the Korea Institute for National Analysis.

Other analysts said that Jang, who is expected to act as regent to an inexperienced Kim Jong-Un when Kim finally dies, said the appointment effectively made Jang the "number two," The Telegraph reports.

"Jang's dramatic rise to power, backed by Kim Jong-Il, shows that North Korea is formalising and finalising its planned father-to-son power transfer," added Paik Haksoon of Seoul's Sejong Institute think-tank.

In the second appointment, Choe Yong Rim, a senior Communist party official, was named North Korea's premier, a post that makes him responsible for economic policy at a time when the country's bankrupt economy is reeling under UN sanctions, the paper said.

<http://story.northkoreatimes.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/08aysdf7tga9s7f7/id/644606/cs/1/>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

The Hindu – India

Sunday, June 6, 2010

Menon Allays Fears About Security Of India's Nuclear Assets

By P.S. Suryanarayana

SINGAPORE: India on Saturday dispelled unusual apprehensions about its nuclear assets and spelt out the norms for extending help to Afghanistan into the future.

National Security Adviser Shiv Shankar Menon assured participants at an international conference here that they "don't need to worry about Left-wing extremism affecting the security of our nuclear assets."

He told the ninth Asia Security Summit, being organised by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies, that he was holding out the assurance as an insider with "some knowledge of this issue." He was answering questions on the Maoist militancy in India its nuclear-asset security.

In his plenary address, Mr. Menon said: "India is the only nuclear-weapon state to announce an unequivocal no-first-use commitment and to declare that a world without nuclear weapons will enhance our security." This was projected as a more substantive policy than Beijing's no-first-use principle, although China was not mentioned at all.

On the Maoist menace, Mr. Menon said: "We will combat it [Left-wing extremism] in two ways. One is, of course, the immediate law and order issue... But there is [also] a larger issue of making our growth more inclusive, so that we can remove whatever causes there might be for disaffection."

As for the "very few and small areas affected by it," Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had said that "Left-wing extremism is probably the major internal security challenge." Underlining the internal nature of the problem, Mr. Menon said: "It doesn't have the kind of external links that we have seen other terrorist challenges having in the past or the kind of external support" they received. India was "located beside the epicentre of global terrorism."

It was in India's interest to continue helping Afghanistan. "By our standards," New Delhi's current programme of assistance there was "relatively large." And, India's future role "will depend on what Afghanistan wants us to do and on the limitations of our capacity." Asked whether India might replace the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, Mr. Menon said: "I would be amazed if we did. I don't think that's our function."

Asked whether the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation could be drafted for transnational responses to new challenges, he said: "We don't need to overload it."

On energy issues, he said a sense of security "is really the key among the new dimensions of security" that India now faced. "We need to avoid the tragedy of the commons" over competitive national pursuits of security in this sector.

Asked about the recent Brazil-Turkey intervention with regard to Tehran's nuclear programme, Mr. Menon said: "Iran has the right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy... [The Brazil-Turkey initiative] tried to [recognise this] in a manner which assuaged or addressed international concerns about the nature of the programme and its peaceful nature in particular. That is an issue [over] which ultimately the International Atomic Energy Agency is probably the best judge. Whether or not the Brazilian and the Turkish initiative managed to do that, I am not so sure: on the objective evidence, not yet."

<http://www.thehindu.com/2010/06/06/stories/2010060662531200.htm>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

UPI.com

Evidence Points To Myanmar Nuclear Program

June 7, 2010

BANGKOK, June 7 (UPI) -- Myanmar's military dictatorship is working on nuclear weapons, a report by a Norway human rights and democracy group claims.

The evidence from Myanmar, formerly called Burma, is analyzed in a 30-page report by a former director of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Robert Kelley, and published on the Web site of the non-profit Democratic Voice of Burma.

Myanmar is likely mining uranium and exploring nuclear technology that is "useful only for weapons," Kelley said in his report that focuses largely on evidence from one man, former Myanmar Maj. Sai Thein Win.

Kelley, an American nuclear scientist, has worked for five years with DVB putting together the report based on documents and hundreds of photographs from Win, a defense engineer who studied nuclear and chemical technology at the Moscow Institute of Engineering Physics and the Mendeleev Institute of Chemical Technology.

Win later worked in Myanmar factories where he was part of a team making prototype components for missiles, DVB said on its Web site.

"Sai contacted DVB after learning of its investigation into Burma's military programs and supplied various documents and color photographs of the equipment built inside the factories," DVB said.

"The investigation has also uncovered evidence of North Korean involvement in the development of Burmese missiles, as well as Russia's training of Burmese nuclear technicians."

The report said that Win is a "remarkable individual" who "came out to Thailand to tell the world what he has seen and what he was asked to do." Win "can describe the special demonstrations he attended and can name the people and places associated with the Burmese nuclear program."

DVB said that Win is supplying nuclear information in the same fashion as did Mordechai Vanunu, an Israeli technician at the Dimona nuclear site in the Negev desert. Vanunu took photographs of activities in Israel that allegedly related to nuclear fuel and weapons development. The photos were published in the Sunday Times newspaper in London in 1986.

Vanunu was abducted, tried in an Israeli court and sentenced to 18 years in prison for divulging state secrets.

Two companies in Singapore with German connections sold machine tools to the Myanmar government's Department of Technical and Vocational Education.

"DTVE is probably a front for military purchasing for weapons of mass destruction; that is to say nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and the means to deliver them, largely missiles," the report said.

Win provided high-quality photos of German technicians installing the equipment and the Germans were suspicious that the machinery was for educational use because there were no schools or colleges in the area.

Kelley said the quality of the machine parts and the mechanical drawings were "poor" and "nothing we have seen suggests Burma will be successful with materials and components."

Kelley also said that if Myanmar was discovered to have a nuclear development program it should face international sanctions.

Myanmar having nuclear weapons would pose a proliferation risk in the region that lies between the nuclear powers of India and China. Many of their Southeast Asia neighbors have proclaimed the region a nuclear weapons-free zone.

Last summer an article in the Australian newspaper The Sydney Morning Herald reported that North Korea was helping Myanmar build a nuclear reactor and plutonium extraction plant as part of a program to build an atomic bomb by 2014.

Evidence from Myanmar defectors said the plant was inside a mountain at Naung Laing in northern Myanmar and close to a research reactor Russia agreed to help build at another site, the Herald said.

Last August U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton voiced concern over Myanmar's suspected nuclear ambitions at a regional security meeting in Thailand.

Indian authorities had recently detained a North Korean ship and searched it for radioactive material. The MV Mu San dropped anchor off the Andaman Islands without permission and was believed destined for Myanmar.

Most of the Andaman Islands, between India and Myanmar, are part of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Union Territory of India while a small number of the archipelago islands belong to Myanmar.

The search of the ship was done under U.N. sanctions adopted in June 2009 after North Korea's atomic test the month before.

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Special/2010/06/07/Evidence-points-to-Myanmar-nuclear-program/UPI-98681275928380/

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

AsiaOne

Myanmar Rebuts Nuclear Talk

Monday, June 07, 2010

my paper

By KENNY CHEE

The Myanmar ambassador to Singapore has told my paper that renewed allegations that the country has a secret nuclear programme were false, but experts said new evidence raises more suspicions regarding alleged nuclear equipment purchases by the reclusive nation.

When asked at the end of the three-day Shangri-La Dialogue security conference yesterday on fresh media reports on the issue, Ambassador Win Myint said they were "not true". "It stereotypes our country," he said. "If (we wanted to) know how to produce nuclear bombs, we need infrastructure and technology."

On reports that North Korea had been helping Myanmar build up nuclear capabilities, Mr Win Myint said: "Some communities and societies... stereotype our country."

Last week, Norway-based media group Democratic Voice of Burma released a report that said military-ruled Myanmar was secretly building a nuclear programme and has intentions of creating a nuclear bomb.

The report said a defector involved in the nuclear programme smuggled out extensive files and photos describing experiments with uranium and specialised gear needed to build a nuclear reactor and develop enrichment capabilities. It said Myanmar was still not close to a weapon.

United States Senator Jim Webb nixed a Myanmar trip last Thursday due to the report, according to Reuters.

Last July, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton expressed worries that Myanmar was receiving nuclear technology from North Korea and called it a threat to US allies.

Security experts say the latest nuclear allegations have raised more questions and concerns.

Mr Mark Fitzpatrick, Senior Fellow for Non-proliferation at The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), told reporters at the Shangri-La Dialogue that the latest developments on Myanmar were discussed on the sidelines and at at least one closed-door session.

The London-based Mr Fitzpatrick later told my paper Myanmar has consistently denied claims it is pursuing a nuclear programme. But he said Myanmar had imported very sophisticated machine tools which could be used for making missile parts or possibly nuclear energy or nuclear weaponry. "One of the gravest questions is what is the purpose of these...tools," he said.

Dr Tim Huxley, executive director of IISS Asia, said Myanmar has moved another notch closer to being seen as a rogue state with the new reports, and it was "courting serious consequences" for not being open.

Myanmar Deputy Minister of Defence Aye Myint was to attend the forum but pulled out last week. Asked why, Mr Win Myint said it is because Premier Wen Jiabao of China was visiting Myanmar at the same time as the conference.

<http://news.asiaone.com/News/Latest%2BNews/Asia/Story/A1Story20100607-220605.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Miami Herald
Tuesday, June 8, 2010

At Nevada Lab, US Prepares Response To Nuke Terror

By DESMOND BUTLER, Associated Press Writer

In an unremarkable building a short drive from the Las Vegas strip, government analysts hover over computer monitors, watching waves of color sweep over a map of a city.

The city is Washington, D.C. The hues represent the fallout from an imagined nuclear bomb.

It is from here, in a laboratory on the edge of the vast Nevada desert, that U.S. officials would gather some of the first critical information that could affect the lives of millions in the aftermath of a nuclear terrorist attack in an American city.

Normally concealed from the world within the high fences of Nellis Air Force Base, the doors were opened last month to provide rare tours for officials from 26 countries. A reporter from The Associated Press was also invited along.

The tours were part of efforts by the National Nuclear Safety Administration to coordinate international responses to nuclear or radiological catastrophes in the United States or abroad. The visiting countries included China, Russia and Israel.

"We have great concerns about terrorists acquiring a nuclear weapon or a dirty bomb," says Vince McClelland, who heads NNSA's office for international emergency management and cooperation. "The intent is to work with as many countries as possible to ensure they have systems and programs in place so that if something happens we can assist each other."

There is, of course, another benefit for the United States in offering its technology and expertise in an atomic emergency.

"When they request help, we know there is a problem," McClelland said.

What the visitors saw was the technology that would be used to rapidly assess any significant release of radiation in the United States, or if asked, abroad. This could be a nuclear detonation, a radiological "dirty" bomb or an accident at a reactor.

In the case of a major release of radiation the laboratory is prepared to act as a control room to collect all the information on the catastrophe.

From the laboratory at Nellis, and a similar facility at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington, analysts would assess the strength of a blast, the degree of radioactivity and the area of fallout.

In the control room, lined with monitors from wall to wall, analysts would assemble the information to help officials ranging from local mayors to the president make life-or-death decisions about how to respond, who should be evacuated and where they should go.

The first details would be known within moments. The NNSA can provide rough estimates of fallout following a detonation based on weather patterns and the apparent size of the blast.

Planes and helicopters equipped with detection devices would be dispatched immediately from Nellis or Andrews capable of reaching any part of the continental US within hours. They would transmit blast and weather data to the control rooms.

On the tour, analysts demonstrated how they would use that information to produce detailed maps of the blast, illustrating ground contamination and how much exposure to radiation people had in various locations.

They would get more data once it is safe to deploy people on the ground. Medical experts trained in treating radiation would work with local doctors. Communications specialists would set up their own network, so they won't be reliant on potentially overloaded local networks. Field laboratories can send radiation samples from the air, soil and the skin of victims to the control rooms.

At Nevis and Andrews, small teams are on call around the clock ready to ship out by plane in an emergency. Such response teams could be expanded to include hundreds of medical, radiation and communication experts with mobile laboratories if necessary.

Specialists can also assess data for clues about the perpetrators, determining the likely origin of nuclear material and design of the explosive. Nuclear data can sometimes pinpoint the material down to particular uranium mine and nuclear program.

NNSA officials emphasize the importance of speed in their response.

"We are prepared to respond to nuclear emergencies in a moment's notice 24 hours a day," says Joseph Krol, who heads NNSA's emergency operations. "Our responsibility is to provide responders with critical and timely information."

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/06/08/1668878/at-nevada-lab-us-prepares-response.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

OPINION

Between Jefferson And McKinley

8 June 2010

The newly released National Security Strategy (NSS), the first from the Obama administration, dexterously balances the "realism", inherent to genuine "Clintonian" democrats, and adherence to the core American values.

The document, released a few days ago and considered one of the key proclamations of US international policy, calls for better cooperation and "deeper partnerships" amongst nations, as well as strengthening "international standards and institutions", while promising not to impose American values on others "through force." "To succeed, we must face the world as it is," states the NSS introduction, and this has much in common with the basic Clintonian approach to establish American leadership in the world to mend ongoing problems without necessarily rebuilding the world itself.

Obama's doctrine seems to be written by a team who clearly shares these Clintonian principles. But it is not surprising, considering how many staffers previously worked with Clinton's White House. Yet, unlike Clinton, whose key task was to celebrate the global triumph of liberal democracy and retain American leadership in the world after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Obama seeks to "renew American leadership" that was heavily debilitated by the previous administration's decade-long preoccupation with the credo that "America is at war."

As evidence of change in attitude and tenor, we see how the NSS tones down or carefully passes many of the most sensitive words and topics that drew the hottest protests in the Bush era. For instance, it is said that the American people would benefit if "other people's children and grandchildren can live in freedom and prosperity." Furthermore, notice the subtle shift in wording from Bush, who had declared that nations "deserve democracy" and "freedom as the alternative to tyranny", to Obama's NSS asserting that others "could determine their own destiny, and live with

the peace and dignity that they deserve." Obama, therefore, has opted for "peace and dignity" in place of "democracy" while refraining from the use of "tyranny".

Additionally, security priorities are named without mentioning Iraq. The frontline of the fight against weapons proliferation and extremism is now Afghanistan and Pakistan. American leadership, according to the doctrine, should also be based first of all on the "power of our example" and not "an effort to impose our system on other peoples."

These narratives may be considered a key point of the doctrine - the proposal to deal with the world as it is, while not attempting to reshape it even if it does not want to be reshaped.

That is presumably the main difference from the world vision of the previous administration, with its strong commitment to change even by coercion. That is also the main difference between the "ideological" attitudes of Republicans and the "pragmatic" approach of Democrats, including the current administration that has already announced that it will interfere only in case of a threat to the US.

However, both visions sometimes fail. Neither the Iraqi campaign under Republicans, nor the Yugoslavia "peace process" during Clinton's term can hardly be judged as clear protection of American security, citizens or values, even though Clinton pointed to "genocide" in the region as an affront to humanity.

The highlights of the current document - and this is mentioned several times in different chapters - is a desire to do "a better job understanding the attitudes, opinions, grievances, and concerns of people - not just elites - around the world", and also to "act upon mutual respect and in a manner that continues to strengthen an international order that benefits all responsible international actors."

Much greater responsibility is assigned - and this idea is written in red ink - to the prominent international institutions that "play a critical role in facilitating cooperation," such as the UN does in global international affairs, NATO in global security, and the IMF and World Bank along with newly-born G20 in the world financial structure.

It may be worth supposing that this oft-repeated reference to the crucial role of institutions in international order is addressed to the world as a sign that the US does not act unilaterally anymore.

Those states and regions that play a more and more visible role, becoming new "emerging centers of influence," should not only use the benefits of the global economic and capital flows, but also take some responsibility for world affairs.

"No one nation alone can meet" the challenges posed by the complexity of the contemporary world, which is flat, interdependent, and mutually interfering. Friends and allies from North America to Asia should be engaged "as active partners in addressing global and regional security priorities". And special appeal is addressed to China, whose "responsible leadership role in working with the US" is very welcomed.

America is, thus, ready to share its responsibility with others. There are, however, two objections to this appeal. First, the US is ready to enlarge "coalition", but the suggestion comes along with the reminder that "America is ready to lead once more." In other words, it rather seems like an invitation to act under the wise patronage of one leader, which suggests certain guidelines and criteria based upon its values and vision of fairness.

The second objection is quite opposite - those who are now to play a bigger role in world affairs, such as Brazil, China or India, in fact, often do not show eagerness to be involved. As Kristin Lord, Vice President and Director of Studies at the Center for American Progress notes, "The strategy depends on other nations to share the burden of global leadership - but what if they shun this role?"

Thus far most of the new actors have tended to primarily draw more benefits, particularly economic ones from their new role instead of taking greater responsibility for world security and stability. More often they seek "gain" without "pain", and criticize the steps the US takes (sometimes to get certain concessions and "trade-offs" in order to later agree with the US position). In short, they do not want to play a bigger security role, and at the same time do not want to feel like the "token" partners.

One could say that according to the historical and political cycles, the US is now in the "realistic" phase, accepting the world as it is and demonstrating a willingness to act with others, though not contradicting its national values and interests. For example, the NSS reiterates the importance of open markets and free capital flow, a principle that the US has pushed for years, so far without success, within the Doha trade agreement, and also reaffirms its support for "the expansion of democracy and human rights abroad."

The NSS presents a realistic approach based on idealistic vision. It may be said that the document balances between the Jeffersonian vision of America as a beacon of truly free society for the whole world and the McKinley-Hay "Open Door" policy based on realistic and narrowly defined American interests for defending the nation's future prosperity.

(Views expressed in this article reflect the author's opinion and do not necessarily reflect those of RIA Novosti news agency. RIA Novosti does not vouch for facts and quotes mentioned in the story)

WASHINGTON, June 8 (RIA Novosti by Svetlana Babaeva)

<http://en.rian.ru/analysis/20100608/159341783.html>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)

Christian Science Monitor

OPINION

Four Reasons The US Could Get Israel To Talk About A Middle East Free Of Weapons Of Mass Destruction

It won't be easy, but without Israel, there can be no meaningful talks on creating a WMD-free zone in the Middle East.

By Martin B. Malin

June 8, 2010

Cambridge, Mass. -- The furor over Israel's attack on the Gaza-bound flotilla has overshadowed a more hopeful recent development.

Two days before the flotilla fiasco, a UN conference aimed at strengthening the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty endorsed a plan for ridding the Middle East of all nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons.

Eliminating all such weapons in the Middle East would seem to be an impossibly ambitious goal. In fact, it is not ambitious enough.

As planning for a 2012 region-wide conference to discuss a WMD-free zone begins, the United States must insist on linking it to a regional peace process.

Why? Because Israel, which is widely believed to possess nuclear weapons, will not abandon its most powerful deterrent while some of its neighbors refuse to establish diplomatic relations. And without Israel's participation, there can be no meaningful talks on creating a WMD-free zone in the Middle East.

Arab States and Israel have tried – and failed – to address these issues in tandem before.

In the 1990s, following the Madrid peace conference, regional arms control and security talks collapsed when Egypt insisted that Israel's nuclear weapons be placed on the agenda. Israel refused, unwilling to let go of its policy of nuclear ambiguity.

Why should we expect a different outcome this time?

First, Israel – though still reluctant to engage in any discussion of its nuclear weapons – faces a looming strategic choice. Iran's advancing nuclear capabilities are threatening Israel's nuclear monopoly. Military action against Iran may forestall Iran's nuclear development, but is not likely to prevent it.

A nuclear-capable Iran will require Israel to adopt an active, unambiguous nuclear posture – a dangerous and costly prospect that Israel would rather avoid. Israel has strong incentives to use regional security discussions to constrain Iran's nuclear development.

Second, Arab states are nervous about Israeli-Iranian tension, fearing both the rise of a nuclear Iran and the consequences of US or Israeli military action against Iran. They will support the convening of regional talks that place limits on Iran, address long-standing territorial issues with Israel, and reduce the chances of another debilitating war in the region.

Third, Iran has good reason not to spoil regional talks. Joining a regional process would present Iran with a clear chance to break free of its growing isolation and demonstrate its peaceful intentions if they are genuine. A negotiation involving Israel would also put Iran's rhetoric to a more rigorous test. And if Iran fails this test, it will face a more united regional coalition of states as a consequence.

Finally, outside powers have bigger stakes in Middle Eastern stability than they did in the recent past.

China and Russia have vital and growing energy and economic interests. France recently opened a military base in the Persian Gulf. The US has troops deployed in the heart of the region. Proliferation and war in the Middle East will affect every region of the world. The major powers understand the need for agreed-upon security rules to promote Middle East stability.

Getting the parties to the negotiating table won't mean they'll see eye to eye.

To prevent yet another failure of Middle East diplomacy, the US has a crucial role to play in the organization of the proposed 2012 conference. It must steer the parties of the region toward a process that is incremental and continuous, encouraging initially modest and reversible commitments to build confidence and security along the way. A conference to discuss a WMD-free zone is only the first step in a long process. Israel will need particular reassurance from the US to move forward.

The scope of negotiations must be broad and include not only regional arms control and disarmament, but also nonproliferation and peace-process issues. The goal should be no less than a settlement of territorial disputes involving Israel, diplomatic relations between Israel and the rest of the region, and the creation of a zone free of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. The results of negotiations must include a verification regime for monitoring compliance with disarmament commitments, and region-wide acceptance of the strongest possible safeguards to ensure that nuclear energy development in the Middle East remains peaceful.

Israeli leaders might prefer not to talk about their country's nuclear arsenal. But when pressed, they say regional peace must precede disarmament. Arab states and Iran want to see the sequence moving in the reverse order. The only way forward is to deal with both issues beneath a single negotiating framework.

Martin B. Malin is the executive director of the Project on Managing the Atom at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/Opinion/2010/0608/Four-reasons-the-US-could-get-Israel-to-talk-about-a-Middle-East-free-of-weapons-of-mass-destruction>

[\(Return to Articles and Documents List\)](#)