



# **USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER**

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Moscow Times – Russian Federation

## **U.S. Grasp of Russian Nukes Could 'Erode'**

06 September 2010

By Reuters

WASHINGTON — U.S. knowledge of Russia's nuclear capabilities will dwindle if the New START nuclear arms treaty with Moscow is not ratified, the chief U.S. negotiator argued as a Senate panel on Friday scheduled a vote on the document.

New START is one of the central planks of U.S. President Barack Obama's nuclear policy and part of his effort to "reset" relations with Moscow. Obama wants it ratified by the Senate this year. But some Republican support will be needed, and so far, little has emerged.

Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller contended that the longer it takes to ratify the new agreement, the less Washington will understand about Russia's nuclear arsenal.

Inspections of bases inside Russia stopped when the old START treaty expired in December.

"U.S. knowledge of Russian nuclear forces will substantially erode over time if the treaty is not ratified and brought into force, increasing the risk of misunderstandings, mistrust, and worst-case analysis and policymaking," Gottemoeller wrote in the forthcoming issue of Arms Control Today.

She was the chief U.S. negotiator on the treaty, which would cut the number of nuclear warheads deployed by the United States and Russia by about 30 percent.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Friday put the treaty on the agenda for its Sept. 16 meeting. New START is expected to pass the committee, which has a majority of Obama's Democrats as well as the one declared Republican supporter of the document so far, Senator Richard Lugar.

But the treaty has to have 67 votes to clear the Senate, meaning that it needs at least eight Republican supporters in addition to the Democrats.

President Dmitry Medvedev has told the State Duma to ratify the treaty just as soon as the Senate does.

In Washington, some Republicans are worried that it may limit U.S. missile defenses, while others want Obama to promise to spend more money modernizing the nuclear weapons that remain.

Republican criticism has increased as partisan rhetoric heats up before congressional elections on Nov. 2.

Gottemoeller pointed out that when the first START treaty expired last December, the United States became unable, for the first time in more than 20 years, to conduct nuclear arms inspections inside Russia.

Those inspections dated back to 1988 under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty with the Soviet Union, and had become a vital means of verifying compliance, she said in the article for the September issue of Arms Control Today, the monthly publication of the Arms Control Association in Washington.

New START provides for up to 18 on-site inspections annually, while the old START provided for 28 annual inspections, Gottemoeller acknowledged.

However, there are only half as many Russian nuclear weapons facilities to inspect as before, because some had been shut down, or were located in Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine, former Soviet republics that no longer deploy strategic offensive nuclear arms, Gottemoeller wrote.

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/news/article/us-grasp-of-russian-nukes-could-erode/414763.html>

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The Star – Malaysia

Tuesday September 7, 2010

## **Russia Signals '10 Arms Pact Ratification Up to U.S.**

By Steve Gutterman

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russia is ready to ratify a nuclear arms pact with the United States this year but the landmark treaty could face problems in the U.S. Senate, the Kremlin-backed speaker of parliament said on Tuesday.

Speaker Boris Gryzlov's comments were a fresh indication that the Russian parliament is unlikely to ratify the new START treaty signed by Presidents Barack Obama and Dmitry Medvedev in April until approval in the U.S. Senate appears certain.

"From a technical point of view there is every opportunity to complete this process by the end of the year," Gryzlov said in opening remarks at the autumn session of the State Duma, the lower house of parliament.

"However, the American Senate is operating in the conditions of an election campaign, which could affect ratification procedures on the American side," said Gryzlov, a leader of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's ruling United Russia party.

In May, Medvedev told United Russia leaders the Duma should ratify the treaty at the same time as the U.S. Senate, but not a moment earlier or later.

The treaty, which would cut the number of deployed warheads allowed to each of the former Cold War foes by about 30 percent, is the most prominent product of efforts by Obama and Medvedev to "reset" badly frayed relations.

Failure to ratify the treaty could undermine improvements in Russia-U.S. ties and hurt both Obama and Medvedev before presidential elections in both countries in 2012.

Ratification requires 67 votes in the 100-seat U.S. Senate, and Republican criticism has increased as partisan rhetoric heats up before Nov. 2 congressional elections.

*Editing by David Stamp*

[http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2010/9/7/worldupdates/2010-09-07T172045Z\\_01\\_NOOTR\\_RTRMDNC\\_0\\_-513323-1&sec=Worldupdates](http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2010/9/7/worldupdates/2010-09-07T172045Z_01_NOOTR_RTRMDNC_0_-513323-1&sec=Worldupdates)

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FARS News Agency – Iran

September 6, 2010

## **Ahmadinejad: Israel Incapable of Attacking Iran**

TEHRAN (FNA) - Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad underlined that Israel lacks the required capability to wage a military attack on Iran, but meantime, warned that any Israeli attack against Iran would lead to the annihilation of the Zionist regime.

"The U.S. and the Zionist entity will not be able to hit Iran right now. This is a wish ... Any Israeli attack against Iran means the elimination of the Zionist entity from the world map," Ahmadinejad said at a news conference in Doha.

The remarks by Ahmadinejad came after some media reports said that Israel is mulling over an attack on Iran's first nuclear power plant in the southern city of Bushehr and other nuclear installations.

Speculations that Israel could bomb Iran mounted after a big Israeli air drill in 2008. In the first week of June 2008, 100 Israeli F-16 and F-15 fighters reportedly took part in an exercise over the eastern Mediterranean and Greece, which was interpreted as a dress rehearsal for a possible attack on Iran's nuclear installations.

Meantime, a recent study by the Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS), a prestigious American think tank, has found that a military strike on Iran's nuclear facilities "is unlikely" to delay the country's program.

The ISIS study also cautioned that an attack against Iran would backfire by compelling the country to acquire nuclear weaponry.

Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen has also recently warned in Tel Aviv of the unexpected consequences of an Israeli attack on Iran, just as he did during the days of the (George W) Bush administration.

Iran has warned that it would target Israel and its worldwide interests in case it comes under attack by the Tel Aviv.

The United States has always stressed that military action is a main option for the White House to deter Iran's progress in the field of nuclear technology.

Iran has warned that in case of an attack by either the US or Israel, it will target 32 American bases in the Middle East and close the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

An estimated 40 percent of the world's oil supply passes through the waterway.

<http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=8906151358>

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Daily Star – Lebanon

## **Hit on Iran Would Spell Israel's 'Eradication' - Ahmadinejad**

*'Zionist entity hopes to revive itself through unfruitful dialogue'*

By Agence France-Presse (AFP)

Monday, September 06, 2010

DOHA: Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad ruled out an attack on the Islamic Republic over its nuclear program, during a visit to Qatar on Sunday, because any such action would result in Israel's destruction.

"Any act against Iran will lead to the eradication of the Zionist entity," he told a joint news conference in Doha with Qatar's emir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, after their talks.

Israel, the region's sole if undeclared nuclear power, has not ruled out a military strike to prevent Iran acquiring an atomic weapons capability, an ambition its arch-foe Tehran strongly denies.

"The Zionist entity and the US government would hit any country in the region whenever they are able to do so, and they will not wait to get permission. But [at the moment] they cannot," he said.

"Iran has the ability to retaliate, strong and hard," warned Ahmadinejad, whose comments in Farsi were translated into Arabic.

Iran's hardline president said the talk of war against Iran to halt its controversial nuclear program was aimed at putting psychological pressure on Iran.

"There will be no war against Iran. What could take place is a psychological war," he said.

In renewed criticism of the relaunched direct peace negotiations between the Palestinians and Israel, Ahmadinejad charged that the "decaying" Israeli state was hoping to "revive" itself through the talks.

"The Zionist entity is decaying. It is in a critically difficult state, and hopes to revive itself through an unfruitful dialogue," he said.

Ahmadinejad had on Friday said the Washington-sponsored talks were "doomed" to fail, and infuriated the moderate Palestinian leadership by slamming it as unrepresentative.

"Who gave them the right to sell a piece of Palestinian land? The people of Palestine and the people of the region will not allow them to sell even an inch of Palestinian soil to the enemy," he said at an annual pro-Palestinian rally.

Unlike other Arab states in the Gulf that have echoed Western suspicions about Iran's nuclear program and its ambitions in the region, Qatar has maintained friendly relations.

In May when the United States was pushing for a new round of UN sanctions against Iran, Qatar backed Turkish and Brazilian efforts to broker a deal that would avoid further punitive measures.

But Qatar is also a staunch US ally and hosts two American military bases.

As-Sayliyah base served as the coalition's command and control center during the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq, while the US Air Force used Al-Udeid Airbase in the 2001 war in Afghanistan and in the aftermath of the Iraq invasion.

[http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition\\_id=10&categ\\_id=2&article\\_id=119011#axzz0ymDS3qxJ](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=10&categ_id=2&article_id=119011#axzz0ymDS3qxJ)

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Reuters Africa

## **Syria Stonewalling Threatens Nuclear Probe: IAEA**

\* Syria blocks desert site visit for more than two years

\* Evidence seen at risk in IAEA nuclear probe

By Sylvia Westall and Fredrik Dahl

Monday, September 6, 2010

VIENNA, Sept 6 (Reuters) - Syria's refusal to allow U.N. inspectors access to a desert site where secret nuclear activity may have taken place is endangering potential evidence in the investigation, the International Atomic Energy Agency said.

It has been over two years since the IAEA was allowed to inspect the site, bombed to rubble by Israel in 2007. Syria, an ally of Iran, denies ever having an atom bomb programme.

"With time, some of the necessary information may deteriorate or be lost entirely," the IAEA chief Yukiya Amano wrote in a confidential report obtained by Reuters.

U.S. intelligence reports have said the site, known as either al-Kibar or Dair Alzour, was a nascent North Korean-designed nuclear reactor to produce bomb fuel.

Earlier this year the IAEA gave some weight to suspicions of illicit atomic activity at the site by saying that uranium traces found in a 2008 visit by inspectors pointed to nuclear-related activity.

"The features of the building and its connectivity to adequate cooling are similar to what may be found at a nuclear site," the latest report said.

The agency wants to re-examine the site so it can take samples from rubble removed immediately after the air strike.

Amano urged Syria to cooperate and criticised it for failing to provide documents related to Dair Alzour and making only statements "limited in detail" about it.

He also repeated a call for IAEA access to three other Syrian sites under military control whose appearance was altered by landscaping after inspectors asked for access.

#### CALLS FOR SPECIAL INSPECTION

Washington's envoy to the IAEA said last month a "number of countries" were beginning to ask whether it was time to invoke the IAEA's "special inspection" mechanism to give it the authority to look anywhere necessary in Syria at short notice.

A leading Washington-based think tank said on Monday that the time was ripe for the IAEA to make such a move with the backing of its 35-nation board of governors.

"A special inspection is necessary in order to gain a better understanding of Syria's undeclared activities, some of which may continue," the Institute for Science and International Security said.

"The sooner a special inspection takes place, the fewer opportunities Syria will have to cover up evidence about the project."

The agency last resorted to special inspection powers in 1993 in North Korea, which still withheld access and later developed nuclear bomb capacity in secret.

The IAEA lacks legal means to get Syria to open up because the country's basic safeguards treaty with the U.N. nuclear watchdog covers only its one declared atomic facility, an old research reactor.

Syria has allowed inspectors to visit the research reactor in Damascus where they have been checking whether there is a link with the Dair Alzour site after discovering unexplained particles of processed uranium at both.

Some analysts say the uranium traces raise the question of whether Syria used some natural uranium intended for a reactor at Dair Alzour in tests that could help it learn how to separate bomb-grade plutonium from spent nuclear fuel.

A diplomat familiar with the investigation said the IAEA "could not yet confirm all of Syria's statements as regards the material" the agency found. The Syria report, along with an update on the IAEA's probe into Iran, will be discussed at a week-long IAEA meeting starting next Monday in Vienna.

*Editing by Peter Graff*

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE6851YQ20100906?sp=true>

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London Telegraph – U.K.

## **Iran on Brink of Nuclear Weapon, Warns Watchdog**

*Iran has passed a crucial nuclear threshold, weapons inspectors have warned, and could now go on to arm an atomic missile with relative ease.*

By Damien McElroy, Foreign Affairs Correspondent

6 September 2010

A report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Iranian nuclear scientists had made at least 22 kilograms of enriched uranium at least 20 per cent purity, a technical hurdle that is the hardest to overcome on the way to weapons-grade uranium.

Experts estimate that 20 kgs of uranium is the minimum required to arm a warhead. The uranium would still need to have its purity raised to 90 per cent, but that is a relatively easy process.

The agency's report comes in spite of the recent imposition at the United Nations of a fresh round of sanctions against Iran and will heighten fears of an Israeli attack on Iran's nuclear plants. The prospect of an attack had receded only recently with American assurances that Tehran was more than a year away from acquiring a bomb.

The Vienna-based nuclear watchdog said Tehran had maintained its absolute defiance of international pressure to curb its programme despite the imposition of harsh sanctions in May. The IAEA has grown increasingly alarmed at Iran's behaviour and the latest report, which will be presented to the agency's governors at a meeting next week, lambasted Tehran on a series of fronts.

The country's refusal to answer questions on its attempts to make a nuclear warhead that could be fitted on to its most advanced missiles was denounced as a violation of sanctions.

The agency also rebuked the regime for its repeated failure to co-operate with weapons inspections designed to ensure that material was held securely at Iranian plants.

Iran barred two weapons inspectors from the country in June after they reported undeclared nuclear activity by scientists. It has also systematically objected to other scientists on spurious grounds.

"The agency is ... concerned that the repeated objection to the designation of experienced inspectors hampers the inspection process and detracts from the agency's ability to implement safeguards in Iran," the report said.

The acquisition of uranium will cause the most alarm however. Until February the Iranians were enriching uranium to levels of no more than 5 per cent at its plant in Natanz.

The government-funded Verification Research, Training and Information Centre, an expert body with privileged access to the IAEA, has estimated that a weapons expert could make a nuclear device from 20 kgs of 20 per cent enriched material with relatively few further obstacles.

The IAEA under Yukiya Amano, its new Japanese director general, has taken a much tougher line with Iran's obstruction of international inspections. But the agency's reports demonstrate that while the Iranian economy has suffered from sanctions the nuclear programme has not been impeded. Iran's stockpile of low-enriched uranium, the feedstock of both civilian and military nuclear programmes, has risen by around 15 per cent since May to reach 2.8 tonnes. However the number of centrifuges that refine uranium to higher levels of purity has fallen to 3,772 from 3,936.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/iran/7985438/Iran-on-brink-of-nuclear-weapon-warns-watchdog.html>

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Washington Post

## **U.N. Report Says Iran is Stockpiling Enriched Uranium**

By Greg Miller, Washington Post Staff Writer

Tuesday, September 7, 2010

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Iran is steadily stockpiling enriched uranium, even in the face of toughened international sanctions, according to a U.N. inspection report that raises new concerns about the ability to monitor parts of the nation's nuclear program that could be used to make a bomb.

Citing a broad pattern of obstruction, the International Atomic Energy Agency said Monday that it cannot confirm quantities of certain nuclear materials, has a growing list of unanswered questions about enrichment sites and disagrees sharply with Iran's recent decision to eject two inspectors.

Overall, the agency "remains concerned about the possible existence in Iran of past or undisclosed nuclear related activities involving military organizations," according to the report, including the possible "development of a nuclear payload for a missile."

The report estimates that Iran has accumulated about 2.8 tons of low-enriched uranium - material that, if further refined, could be used to make three nuclear bombs - and suggests that the Islamic republic is making headway toward uranium that is weapons-grade.

This year, Iran has produced about 50 pounds of uranium enriched at 20 percent purification levels, according to the report. Iran had not previously exceeded purification rates of roughly 5 percent. A level of 90 percent is generally considered to be weapons-grade.

Iran says its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, but U.S. and other Western officials say Tehran is pursuing a weapon.

Experts said the report, a quarterly update sent to the 35 member nations of the atomic agency as well as the U.N. Security Council, suggests that Iran is becoming more aggressive in denying inspectors answers about and access to nuclear sites.

"The thing that stands out more and more is how Iran is not cooperating, [even on] inspections under traditional rules," said David Albright, a former weapons inspector and president of the Institute for Science and International Security. While Iran has long kept aspects of its program hidden, Albright said, "what you've seen over the last year is that Iran is making it difficult for the IAEA to do its job at declared sites."

The report describes a series of recent developments at the main declared site, Natanz.

Last month, Iran informed the agency that it had underestimated the accumulation of nuclear material there and that it had mistakenly broken seals on materials or equipment.

The IAEA said that it has not been granted access to a heavy-water production plant, forcing it to rely solely on satellite imagery to assess the plant's operations. The agency said it also has been denied information about plans for new enrichment facilities that Iran has said it intends to build.

In a recent reply, Iran said that "it would provide the agency with the required information 'in due time, " according to the report. Tehran has previously argued that it is not obligated to disclose even the existence of such facilities until they are completed.

U.S. officials suspect that Iran is pushing its nuclear program as far as it can under U.N. inspections, with an aim of giving the nation's leaders the option to quickly reconfigure facilities to rush forward the production of a bomb.

Iran says, for example, that it is enriching uranium at 20 percent levels to produce fuel rods for a medical research reactor. But U.S. officials say Iran's explanation is implausible, in part because it doesn't have the sophistication to work with medically useful fuel rods.

Despite Iran's ongoing work, U.S. intelligence agencies have recently concluded that it would take about a year, even under a rushed scenario, for Iran to develop a bomb.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/06/AR2010090603598.html>

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Star Tribune – Minneapolis-St. Paul

## **Report: Iran Says It Has the Right to Bar UN Nuclear Inspectors**

By NASSER KARIMI, Associated Press

September 7, 2010

TEHRAN, Iran - Iran's nuclear chief said Tehran has the right to bar some U.N. inspectors from monitoring its disputed nuclear program, the semiofficial ISNA news agency reported.

Ali Akbar Salehi's late Monday comments were apparently in response to a report by the International Atomic Energy Agency, or IAEA, expressing alarm about Iran's decision to bar some of its inspectors.

The report followed Iran's recent decision to strip two inspectors of the right to monitor its nuclear activities after they reported what they said were undeclared nuclear experiments.

ISNA also quoted Salehi as saying Iran asked the agency to replace the two and that it has accepted the replacements.

"This is our right as well as the right of other members of the agency to choose the inspectors," Salehi said.

"Basically, all member nations select from a list provided by the agency."

While all member states select inspectors from an official IAEA list, some western nations on the agency's 35-nation board argue that because Iran has banned more than 40 inspectors over the past four years, a case could be made that Tehran is violating the agency's so-called Safeguards Agreement.

The agreement is meant to ensure that the IAEA can monitor Iran's nuclear program without impediments to make sure it is solely for peaceful purposes.

The West, led by the United States, suspects that Iran's nuclear program is geared toward making weapons. Iran denies the charge, saying the program is for peaceful purposes only.

Salehi, also the Islamic Republic's vice president, urged the Vienna-based atomic agency to steer a fair and neutral course, arguing that the IAEA's credibility depended on that.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast echoed Salehi's comments on Tuesday.

"We have the right to replace inspectors regarding their background and activities," he said.

<http://www.startribune.com/world/102330019.html>

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Los Angeles Times

## **Iran Has Enough Fuel for 2 Nuclear Warheads, Report Says**

*The International Atomic Energy Agency also reports that Tehran's efforts to master uranium enrichment at one facility could be slowing. Iran says it has 6,180 pounds of low-enriched uranium.*

By Borzou Daragahi, Los Angeles Times

September 7, 2010

Reporting from Beirut — Iran has produced more than enough nuclear fuel to power two atomic warheads if it were to further enrich its supply and disregard its treaty obligations, according to a report issued Monday by the world's nuclear energy watchdog.

At the same time, Iran's controversial efforts to master the enrichment of uranium at its production facility near the town of Natanz could be slowing or stalling, according to the quarterly report, which International Atomic Energy Agency Director-General Yukiya Amano delivered to his governing board ahead of a meeting next week.

Iran is feeding uranium into only about 43% of its 8,700 centrifuges, slightly fewer than the last reporting period, which ended in June, the report says.

The report also indicates continuing friction between Tehran and international inspectors, who regularly visit Iran's nuclear facilities. In the wake of an argument this year over Iran's rejection of two particular IAEA employees, the report accuses the government of objecting to "inspectors with experience in Iran's nuclear fuel cycle and facilities."

Iran insists its nuclear program is meant for peaceful civilian purposes only. It is a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which bars it from pursuing atomic weapons.

This month, Iran is launching a Russian-built nuclear reactor in the city of Bushehr. World powers suspect it is trying to obtain at least the capability to build nuclear weapons, which require uranium enriched to levels of 60% or higher — well above the purity level of the bulk of Iran's nuclear fuel supply.

Tehran's envoy to the Vienna-based IAEA, Ali Asghar Soltanieh, said the report confirms that none of Iran's declared nuclear materials had been diverted for military uses and "clearly shows that the Islamic Republic of Iran had outstanding progress in regard with enrichment and is continuing its activities with the highest standards," according to Iran's semiofficial Fars news agency.

Iran told the IAEA that it had produced 6,180 pounds of low-enriched uranium at its fuel production facility near Natanz, up 15% from the last reporting period. Most experts say about 2,600 pounds of low-enriched uranium can be used to produce enough highly enriched material for a nuclear bomb that could be fitted onto a ballistic missile warhead.

In addition, Iran told the watchdog agency that it had produced nearly 50 pounds of 20% enriched uranium for a Tehran medical reactor that is running out of fuel. Weapons inspectors worry that the effort, which Iran initiated after the failure of talks to swap its own fuel for medical reactor plates abroad, could bolster the nation's nuclear know-how.

The IAEA has demanded quicker and better access to Iran's nuclear facilities and plans, but Tehran says it is not legally bound to submit to the increased scrutiny required by a Nonproliferation Treaty amendment that it signed in 2003 but that its parliament never ratified.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-iran-nuclear-report-20100907.0.572622.story>

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RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency



# Iran Six May Rethink Proposals on Tehran's Nuclear Program - Lavrov

7 September 2010

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov does not rule out that the Iran Six may reconsider its proposals on resolving the issue of the Islamic Republic's nuclear program.

Western powers suspect Iran of seeking to build nuclear weapons under the guise of its nuclear program, which Tehran says is aimed at the peaceful generation of civilian energy. Senior diplomats from the Iran Six met Iranian officials in Geneva last October to discuss an agreement on a nuclear fuel swap, but the agreement eventually fell through.

"We have been maintaining contacts with the Iranian side on the basis of the position of the Iran Six, which was agreed on three years ago, but it would, most likely, not hurt to reexamine this document as part of preparations for restarting talks, to see to what extent it, in all its parts, accurately reflects the essence of the current situation," Lavrov told journalists.

The draft agreement proposed by former International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohammed ElBaradei would have seen Iran send out about 80% of its known 1.5 metric tons of low-enriched uranium to Russia, where it would have been enriched, and to France to convert it into fuel plates for the research reactor in Tehran.

The Iran Six includes Britain, China, France, Germany, the United States and Russia.

The foreign minister added that Iran should comply with all demands of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"We think that Iran should make conclusions...and begin to comply with the demands rightly made by the IAEA," Lavrov said.

International pressure on Iran increased in early February when Tehran announced it had begun enriching uranium to 20% in lieu of an agreement on an exchange that would provide it with fuel for a research reactor.

PARIS, September 7 (RIA Novosti)

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20100907/160504024.html>

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Airang News – South Korea

## S. Korea - US to Work Together to Resume 6-Party Talks

By Choi Won-young, Airang News  
September 04, 2010

South Korea's top nuclear envoy Wi Sung-lac said Friday that Seoul and Washington have agreed to work together to create an environment where the stalled six-party nuclear talks can be resumed.

After meeting with his US counterparts, including Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg and Special Representative for North Korea Policy Stephen Bosworth Wi told reporters that the two countries would maintain a two-track approach which combines dialogue and sanctions.

[Interview : Wi Sung-lac, S.Korean Chief Nuclear Envoy] "We will continue with the two-track approach and will each make an effort to resume talks."

However, Wi called it premature to return to the six-party negotiations at this point urging North Korea to change its attitude on the denuclearization process and to apologize for the sinking of the South Korean warship Cheonan.

Both Seoul and Washington hold the reclusive regime responsible for the torpedo attack that killed 46 South Korean sailors but Pyeongyang denies its involvement in the incident.

Meanwhile, an official from the Korean government said on Saturday that Sung Kim, US Special envoy to the six-party talks, will also visit Seoul this coming Wednesday.

Kim is to attend a security forum hosted by the Unification Ministry and to meet with his counterparts to further discuss the six-party talks as well as the recent US sanctions on the North.

[http://arirang.co.kr/News/News\\_View.asp?nseq=106601&code=Ne2&category=2](http://arirang.co.kr/News/News_View.asp?nseq=106601&code=Ne2&category=2)

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Financial Times – U.K

September 6, 2010

## Search On for Clues at N Korean Congress

By Christian Oliver in Seoul

Reporters at North Korea's state news agency usually specialise in tedious bulletins reciting the names of worker party officials who have paid visits to textile mills and fish farms.

From this week, however, these dreary dispatches will have unusually expectant readers as experts across the globe scour them for a name that has never before appeared in the official news media: Kim Jong-eun.

The youngest son of Kim Jong-il, North Korea's ailing dictator, is widely expected to receive his first official job at the first major congress of the ruling party for three decades, most likely to be convened this week.

A mention of Kim Jong-eun in any official capacity would effectively confirm him as his father's successor. The key question, though, is whether he inherits his father's autocratic mantle, or simply becomes the puppet ruler for a cabal of generals who must steer a poor nation wracked by food shortages and regular floods.

The evidence so far suggests that Jong-eun, who reportedly was educated in Switzerland, is already being styled for leadership. A tourist last year photographed a poster which named him as the "Young General".

Reports from defectors also say children have learned songs that praise him. And South Korean spies believe he already has a backstage role and receives key intelligence dossiers.

North Korea has announced that the first party congress since 1980 will be held early this month. At the last congress, Kim Jong-il received the party titles that anointed him as heir apparent to his father, Kim Il-sung.

The exact timing of this month's congress is unclear but Good Friends, a South Korea-based activist group which claims sources in North Korea, said it expected the congress to be concluded by September 9, the anniversary of the nation's foundation.

North Korean state media last month quoted Hu Jintao, China's president, wishing that the party summit would be a "signal success".

Kim Jong-il travelled late last month to China, his economic lifeline, and met Mr Hu. The language of his meetings suggested Mr Kim was laying the ground for a congress to refresh Pyongyang's geriatric elite, which includes many senior commanders and officials in their 80s.

"It is our important historical mission to hand over to the rising generation the baton of the traditional friendship," Mr Kim said, adding that such a smooth handover was threatened by a "complicated" international situation.

Indeed, Jong-eun, who is probably only about 27 years old, may inherit a poisoned chalice as international financial sanctions, tightened since the sinking of a South Korean warship in March, bite hard.

"The upcoming congress aims to build a team for Kim Jong-eun. An elite of some 200 to 250 people will be composed of those loyal to him," said Cheong Seong-chang, a senior fellow at South Korea's Sejong Institute.

Mr Cheong expects Kim Jong-eun to take both a powerful party role such as an organisational secretary and a military post, which would give him a stake in the two camps that are believed to compete for power within North Korea.

Still, the succession may not become immediately clear. There was similar – but ultimately incorrect – speculation that Kim Jong-eun's name would emerge last year in elections for the people's assembly.

Most analysts agree that Kim Jong-il has until 2012 to unveil his successor. In Pyongyang's propaganda, this date is styled as a turning point when the country will become a "mighty and prosperous nation".

*Additional reporting by Kang Buseong*

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/6f0cda74-b97c-11df-968f-00144feabdc0.html>

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Atlanta Journal-Constitution

September 7, 2010

## Taiwan Firm Raided After Illicit Sale to NKorea

By DEBBY WU, Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Taiwanese investigators raided a local company after it shipped banned machinery to North Korea via a Chinese firm with ties to Pyongyang's military, a Taiwanese official said Tuesday.

The owner of the Taiwanese company, Ho Li Enterprises, said that two computer-controlled machine tools used in the manufacture of engines were shipped to North Korea earlier this year, but said he was unaware he had broken the law. Huang Ting-chou said that his company's premises were raided in July by Taiwanese law enforcement officials acting on a tip from the U.S. government.

A Taiwanese law enforcement official confirmed the shipment and raid had taken place but did not discuss U.S. involvement. The de facto American Embassy in Taiwan declined to comment on the claim.

The raid took place as the Obama administration was working on a new set of sanctions against North Korea that were unveiled last month, targeting the assets of individuals, companies and organizations allegedly linked to support for its nuclear program.

North Korea has repeatedly tried to circumvent international strictures designed to stymie its production of missiles and nuclear material and other weapons of mass destruction.

Taiwanese companies are no strangers to sanction-busting attempts. In early 2009, Shanghai's Roc-Master Manufacture & Supply Company ordered pressure gauges with possible nuclear weapons applications from Taiwan's Heli-Ocean Technology Co. Ltd. Using backdated purchase orders, the Chinese company had Heli-Ocean ship them to Iran. The transaction violated international sanctions on exporting sensitive equipment to Tehran, which many in the international community suspect is trying to make nuclear weapons.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Huang said the machine tools were originally ordered "more than a year ago" but were shipped only after Ho Li's Chinese client, Dandong Fang Lian Trading Co. Ltd. in northeastern China's Liaoning province, was able to pay for them. While acknowledging that the tools ended up in North Korea, he said he had no idea how they would be used or why they would appear on any list of sanctioned items.

The North Korean machine tool deal was first reported Tuesday in Taiwan's Liberty Times newspaper.

A Taiwanese official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to deal with the press, said that the machine tool shipment violated international sanctions and Taiwanese trade laws. He did not identify the items in question or specify why they violated sanctions.

The official works for the Taipei branch of the Ministry of Justice's Investigation Bureau — roughly equivalent to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the United States.

He said that Dandong Fang Lian is managed by a North Korean national with an unspecified connection to the North Korean military, and that the machine tools had ended up in the country's Sinuiju region, across the Yalu River from Dandong. Sinuiju is the funnel for most Chinese goods entering North Korea.

"Ho Li sold two machine tools ... without reporting to the authorities that the equipment was really going to North Korea," the official said. "We became aware of the violation and when we raided Ho Li in late July we found e-mails and money transfer documents to prove our case."

Huang said that Dandong Fang Lian specializes in diesel engines and power generators, and that while he had done business with the company before, this was his first venture with them in the machine tool sector.

"I am cooperating with the government in its investigations," he said.

Neither Ho Li nor Dandong Fang Lian appears on an American list of sanctioned companies.

The Taiwanese official declined to confirm Huang's assertion that an American tip led to the raid on Ho Li's premises. The American Institute in Taiwan — the de facto U.S. Embassy on the island — said it would not comment on specific cases but emphasized it cooperates closely with the island on enforcing export controls and stemming the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

<http://www.ajc.com/business/taiwan-firm-raided-after-607978.html>

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Economic Times – India  
September 6, 2010

## **BrahMos Cruise Missile Successfully Test-Fired**

NEW DELHI: India on Sunday test-fired the supersonic BrahMos cruise missile, which has a range of 290 kms, from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur off the Orissa coast.

The missile did a steep dive while flying at a speed nearly thrice that of sound. A DRDO official said it was a user's trial by the defence forces, as part of the fine-tuning exercise.

The Brahmos-II, a result of an Indo-Russian joint venture, can be potentially used for surgical strikes, including at terror camps, without causing collateral damage. It can carry conventional warheads up to 300 kg and effectively engage ground targets from an altitude of just 10 metres. The missile is named after rivers in India and Russia — the Brahmaputra and the Moskva.

It can be launched from multiple platforms— submarines, ships, aircraft and land-based Mobile Autonomous Launchers (MAL). However, the focus is on the development of its air-launched and the submarine-launched versions.

The launch met all mission requirements. It was a 100% fantastic launch,” director of the test range S P Dash was quoted by a news agency as saying after the test.

The BrahMos Block-II variant has been developed to take out a specific small target, with a low radar cross-section, in a multi-target environment.

A regiment of the BrahMos-I variant, consisting of 67 missiles, five mobile autonomous launchers on 12x12 Tatra vehicles and two mobile command posts, among other equipment, is already operational in the Army.

The Navy has begun inducting the first version of BrahMos missile system in all its frontline war ships since 2005, the agency quoting defence sources said.

The Army is set to induct two more regiments of the BrahMos Block-II land-attack cruise missiles (LACM) designed as “precision strike weapons” capable of hitting small targets in cluttered urban environments, it said.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/BrahMos-cruise-missile-successfully-test-fired/articleshow/6503136.cms>

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People’s Daily – China

## **India to Develop Hypersonic Cruise Missile with Mach 6**

September 6, 2010

India will develop the hypersonic cruise missile with the maximum speed of 6000 km per hour to boost aerial fast strike capability, local media reported on Monday.

The hypersonic cruise missile will be developed on the basis of the present supersonic cruise missile BrahMos, and Russia will offer the technical support, the Indian newspaper the Times of India reported, citing an official's saying of the Indian Defense Ministry.

An agreement with Russia will be signed during the visit of Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to India in December, said the official.

The existing supersonic variants of BrahMos could travel at a speed of Mach 3, half that of the hypersonic versions, and the hypersonic cruise missile would have more powerful target penetration capability than those supersonic versions, the official said.

At present, only a few countries in the world are developing hypersonic cruise missiles, such as the U.S. and Russia. On May 26, the U.S. Air Force test-launched a hypersonic cruise missile carried under a wing of a B-52 bomber in the Pacific Ocean. The missile reached a top speed of Mach 6, but the flight only lasted about 200 seconds due to a vehicle anomaly.

The Indian hypersonic BrahMos cruise missile will have the same range of about 300 km as the supersonic versions. It is expected to be ready by 2016, and will arm the advanced stealth destroyers of the Indian Navy, according to the official.

As the hypersonic BrahMos version with a speed of Mach 6 is deployed, India will become one of the few countries in the world to possess such missiles of this speed, said the official.

BrahMos cruise missile is a supersonic cruise missile jointly-developed by India and Russia, and could be launched from the planes, surface ships, submarines and land vehicles. India and Russia intend to make 2000 BrahMos supersonic missiles over the next ten years, and nearly half of which are expected to be exported to some countries.

*Source: Xinhua*

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90777/90851/7131199.html>

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RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

## India Building Reactors for Nuclear Submarines

6 September 2010

Work is in progress on India's nuclear steam reactors for its first nuclear powered submarine, Srikumar Banerjee, head of the country's Atomic Energy Commission, said.

Last year, India floated out its nuclear-powered submarine, the Arihant, to be powered by a light water reactor (LWR) using enriched uranium as fuel.

In an interview with The Hindu published on Monday, Banerjee said the "nuclear steam supply system" was 100% ready.

"We are only waiting for other systems to become operational so that we can start the commissioning activity of the reactor. I really do not know when the harbor trials will be done."

The Indian Navy needs three or four nuclear-powered submarines to be a viable force.

Enriched uranium for these submarines will come from the Rare Materials Plant at Ratnahalli, near Mysore, Banerjee said.

NEW DELHI, September 6 (RIA Novosti)

[http://en.rian.ru/military\\_news/20100906/160481866.html](http://en.rian.ru/military_news/20100906/160481866.html)

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Times of India – India

## The Day India 'Arrived' on Global Stage

Tamil News Network

September 7, 2010

MUMBAI: Thirty-eight years ago, after addressing the convocation at IIT-Bombay, Indira Gandhi and Homi Sethna, the chairman of Atomic Energy Commission, flew to BARC at Trombay.

Legend goes that BARC scientists mistook Sethna's wife Gul for Mrs Gandhi and gave her the red-carpet treatment. But on that momentous day, that wasn't the biggest surprise in store for the prime minister.

After visiting various facilities at India's top nuclear weapon complex, Sethna took Gandhi to his office and pulled out from his desk a model of India's first atomic bomb. "Oh, this is what it looks like," an impressed Gandhi reportedly exclaimed. Encouraged by the initial response, Sethna tried another gambit. He sought her permission to conduct a nuclear test. Gandhi told him to keep the bomb ready and wait for the green signal. The scientists rightly sensed that it was her way of saying 'go ahead'.

After a few rough rounds of discussions where some bureaucrats opposed the defiant step, the government slated the test for May 18, 1974, and chose the Pokhran in Rajasthan as the test site. Complete secrecy was prescribed.

Days before the test, R Chidambaram, a member of the bomb-making team, took the device in an army truck from Mumbai to Pokhran, while another member, P K Iyengar, brought a component in a vacuum flask as hand luggage on a flight. On the historic day, a countdown was held for the benefit of photographers. Moments before the blast, a palpable silence fell over the room; everyone feared the test had failed. But then, the earth "rose up as though Lord Hanuman had lifted it", Raja Ramanna, described by many as the architect of the bomb, recalled in his autobiography.

The test had succeeded. Not even American spy satellites could spot it.

After the test, Sethna, covered in dust, went to a nearby field telephone operated by the army and called up the PMO. But before he could convey the news to P N Dhar, then principal secretary to PM, the telephone failed. A senior army official, then, hurriedly escorted Sethna to an army telephone exchange. This time, Sethna forgot Dhar's number. When he finally got through to the PMO, his words were: "The yield is expected to be over 10 kt. There was no venting at the site."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/The-day-India-arrived-on-global-stage/articleshow/6509473.cms>

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# **RUSSIA: New START May End With a Whimper**

Saturday, September 04, 2010

Source: Inter Press Service (IPS)

By Klomegah, Analysis by Kester Kenn

The main point, experts say, is that Russia and the U.S. have only taken weak steps to fulfil the objectives of the first strategic arms reduction treaty signed in 1991. 'Russia assigns significant military utility to its nuclear arsenal and so has less interest than the U.S. in promoting nuclear disarmament. For instance, it maintains several thousand tactical nuclear weapons in western Russia to counterbalance NATO's conventional military superiority,' Ben Rhode, a research associate for non-proliferation and disarmament at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London told IPS in an e-mail interview.

'Many in the West have said such weapons will need to be included in future arms control talks, but I don't know how enthusiastic Russia would be about this. A world free of nuclear weapons would see the U.S.'s military superiority increased, and Russia would lose one of the very few ways in which it can justify its claims to be a great power.'

The first Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START expired in December 2009. The new START agreement, signed on Apr. 8, 2010 by the Russian and U.S. presidents in Prague (and followed by the first round of negotiations in Moscow from May 18 to 20) has allowed Russia to limit U.S. nuclear forces at the expense of its own rapidly aging delivery vehicles and unattainable warhead ceilings ? each country being limited to 1,550 strategic warheads on 700 delivery vehicles.

But, Robert Ortung, a senior fellow at the Jefferson Institute in Washington, DC, told IPS: 'In order to keep the past achievements valid and in force, the two parties have engaged in updating the key provisions of that treaty. When finalised, this may have positive repercussions in the wider world.'

Beyond the agreements on nuclear weapons and Afghanistan, Ortung noted that it would be hard for the U.S. and Russia to work together because of the fundamental values underlying their regimes.

He pointed out 'Russia is increasingly authoritarian and relies heavily on official anti-U.S. rhetoric to boost its legitimacy. Through the election of Obama, the U.S. recently proved that change is possible through a peaceful political process. This is the kind of message that the Russian leadership does not want to hear or transmit on to the rest of the population.'

Tom Collina and Greg Thielmann, both senior fellows at the Washington-based Arms Control Association told IPS 'Russia can commit to President Obama's call to negotiate another treaty after New START is approved, that will cover strategic, tactical and non-deployed weapons.

The greatest challenge will be Russia's reluctance to give up its tactical weapons as it would not want to reduce its nuclear arsenal any more. And it will also seek limitations on U.S. missile defences, which the U.S. will not want to provide.' However, to make major strides toward nuclear abolition, it is also imperative to address the complicated issues of tactical and non-deployed nuclear warheads. The major obstacle here is the difficulty of verifying arms control limits in these categories.

For example, Russia has no intended use for the hundreds of nuclear warheads for surface-to-air missiles and many of Russia's shorter-range nuclear weapons have little utility in the post-Cold War era. Once Russia comes to recognise its large tactical nuclear arsenal as a liability in a world where the most dangerous threat is nuclear terrorism, it will be free to take unilateral initiatives and propose mutual arms control limits.

Last week, Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev called on all countries to adopt a comprehensive declaration for a nuclear-free world. 'This declaration would reflect the determination of all countries to move step-by-step toward the ideals of a nuclear-free world,' he said in a message to participants at a conference on International Day against Nuclear Tests.

Pavel Andreyev, RIA Novosti political commentator, observes in his comments that there is every reason to believe that a significant reduction ? let alone abolition ? of the Russian and U.S. nuclear arsenals would not serve as a positive example for other countries to follow. The idea of a non-nuclear world with today's unstable security conditions is a non-starter.

The Russian elite's lack of trust in the U.S. undermines the idea that Washington is ready to abandon its nuclear weapons. On the other hand, if Russia and the U.S. write off their nuclear warheads, it could provide additional impetus for the more threatening elements in the international community to further develop their own nuclear capabilities, Andreyev added.

For Russia, there is an additional stimulus to avoid a reduction of its nuclear capability. It is the long overdue military reform which would cut back on conventional forces, increasing the role of the nuclear deterrent.

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4471086>

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Jerusalem Post - Israel

OPINION

## **Editorial: Focus On Iran's Nukes**

*In today's geopolitical reality, Israel must maintain uncontested military superiority for the sake of regional peace.*

By JPOST EDITORIAL

September 6, 2010

It emerged over the weekend that during his low-key visit to these parts at the end of August, Yukiya Amano, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, asked Israel to consider signing the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

This was the latest chapter in an ongoing campaign, fueled primarily by Egypt, other Arab states, and Iran, to force Israel to commit itself to a nuclear-free Middle East.

Israel is the only country in the region that purportedly has nuclear warheads.

Arab countries scored a major victory with May's NPT Review Conference resolution, which ignored Iran's refusal to cooperate with the IAEA while singling out Israel for censure, though the US communicated important clarifications to Israel ensuring that Israel would not be forced to change its policy.

Amano's aversion to atomic weapons is understandable.

Born in Japan just two years after the nightmarish destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the IAEA head, like many of his Japanese peers, is haunted by "the bomb." A better suited head for an international watchdog dedicated to the utopian goal of eradicating nuclear weapons would be hard to come by.

Still, Amano's warm relations with the Jewish state, which contrast with predecessor Mohamed elBaradei's critical stance, should help him appreciate Israel's predicament.

Living in the shadow of the Holocaust, Israelis have their own historical baggage. Paradoxically, the State of Israel, conceived and created to put an end to the Jews' precarious existence, now faces its most serious existential threat. The Islamic Republic's nuclear aspirations, coupled with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's repeated calls to "wipe Israel off the map," are widely perceived by Jews as a sign that Iran is preparing to stage a new attempt at genocide. Ominous in this context is Ahmadinejad's Holocaust denial.

"I take Holocaust denial as Holocaust affirmation," journalist Christopher Hitchens recently said of Iran's leader.

"People who say it didn't happen are people who wish it would happen again."

NOW IS not the time to coerce Israel into ending its four-decade long, highly responsible policy of nuclear ambiguity, under which the Jewish state neither confirms nor denies its alleged nuclear capability, even for the sake of deterrence – such as during the Yom Kippur War, when Israel was on the verge of being overrun by the combined armies of the Arab nations.

As Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman pointed out in a July 26 letter to the IAEA, singling out Israel "seriously detracts" from efforts to stop Iran and Syria, the Middle East's "real proliferation challenges."

In fact, forcing Israel to abandon opacity could actually spark a nuclearization race in the Middle East and unravel the NPT. In March 2008 the Arab League's member states announced that they would withdraw from the treaty if Israel acknowledged it had nuclear weapons.

Nor is it likely that Israel's many detractors would accept the type of deal reached in July 2005 between India and the US, which allowed India to join Russia, Britain, France, China, and Pakistan in openly possessing nuclear arms without violating international obligations.

Israel has pledged not to be the first to introduce the use of nuclear arms in this region, and has demonstrated responsibility and restraint for decades. That should be enough.

NEITHER ISRAEL nor the democracies of the world that value freedom can afford to change the status quo at a time when all energies must be directed against Iran's push to obtain nuclear weapons. Just this week, Ahmadinejad provided additional proof that he must be stopped. While visiting Qatar, he threatened that any military attack on Iran aimed at stopping its nuclear program would result in "the eradication of the Zionist entity."

Meanwhile, Iran-supported Hamas in the Gaza Strip has split the Palestinian leadership and created an immense obstacle to the implementation of any comprehensive peace deal to which the renewed negotiating effort might lead. Iran-supported Hizbullah has destabilized Lebanon, increasing chances of a further conflagration on Israel's northern border.

The Islamic Republic is also working to undermine the fragile stability achieved by US forces in Iraq.

In this geopolitical reality, Israel must maintain uncontested military superiority for the sake of regional peace.

Iran cannot be allowed to upset the balance of power.

Perhaps one day Amano's vision of a nuclear-free world can be realized. For the time being a nuclear-free Iran should be his main concern.

<http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Editorials/Article.aspx?id=187315>

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The Australian – Australia  
OPINION

## **Fears of the Shia Island in a Sunni Sea**

By Prakash Shah and Ramesh Thakur  
September 7, 2010

THE US, no more but no less than other countries, tends to make self-centred assessments of other countries' policies.

This is one reason Washington missed the Iran factor as the most likely explanation for Saddam Hussein's deliberate ambiguity about a WMD capability. Washington may be committing a similar error with respect to Iran's nuclear motives. In projecting the threat from a potential nuclear Iran to Israel, the West keeps open the last resort possibility of a pre-emptive Israeli attack on Iran. Iranian security concerns and its quest for nuclear weapons may be aimed as much at the Sunni threat as the Israeli threat.

Like most countries, Iran's security policy is driven by multiple motives. Since Iraq was attacked and occupied after having disarmed, other countries who fear a US attack have a powerful incentive to acquire nuclear weapons to deter it. The history of Western intervention in Iranian affairs, coupled with the continuing bellicose rhetoric directed at the Iranian regime and large numbers of US military forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, mean that Tehran cannot discount an armed attack. With so many of its neighbours being nuclear armed - Israel, Russia, Pakistan, China, India - a prudent Iranian national security planner will likely recommend acceleration, not abandonment, of the nuclear program.

The aggressive Iranian posture in the Middle East is in part a reaction to its fears of being overwhelmed by Sunni countries surrounding the Shia island. True, Iraq is Shia-majority, but the years of Sunni rule under Saddam and the ambiguity of Americans in finalising the government in Iraq around its Shia majority heightened Iranian suspicions. Tehran is opposed to Taliban domination of Afghanistan, at the expense of the sizeable population of Hazaras, who are Shias.

Pakistan, the world's only Muslim nuclear power, has the world's fastest-growing nuclear arsenal. This poses two kinds of danger to Iran. The first is the possibility of Pakistani nuclear weapons falling into the hands of Taliban or al-Qa'ida, both of whom are anathema to the Iranians, as much as they are to India and the West. Iran harbours suspicions that Pakistan could be the provider of last resort of nuclear material and weapons to Sunni countries hostile to Shia Iran.

After all, Libya tried to buy nuclear weapons from the A.Q. Khan syndicate, backstopped by Pakistan's armed forces, and the same group was accused of helping the Iraqi search for WMDs.

If the Iranian pursuit of nuclear weapons is seen as a search for security in a hostile Sunni region, and not just as the desire to destroy Israel, it opens up possibilities of solutions other than the one based solely on the current approach. Countries near the Persian Gulf fear the nuclearisation of Iran as they form the first line of attack of a Iranian nuclear weapon. But they are not quite ready to publicly oppose Iran's nuclear ambitions as long as Israel has nuclear weapons. This makes it expedient for them to leave the issue to Washington. They should be brought into the dialogue process with Iran which is currently restricted to the US and EU countries, just as Japan and South Korea are integral partners in the Six Nation Dialogue process with North Korea.

If Iran is to be dissuaded from the nuclear weapons path, a realistic assessment of its threat perception is essential. It needs reassurance against Sunni hostility as much as against Israeli and Western threats of invasion and regime



change. Few Western powers covered themselves in glory in the 20th century either in their understanding of or in their influence over Middle Eastern affairs. A continued failure to grasp the security calculus behind Iran's interest in nuclear weapons will fail to check proliferation.

*Prakash Shah is a former Indian ambassador to the UN and a UN special envoy to Iraq. Ramesh Thakur is Professor of Political Science at the University of Waterloo in Canada and a former UN Assistant Secretary-General*

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/fears-of-the-shia-island-in-a-sunni-sea/story-e6frg6ux-1225914996145>

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Wall Street Journal

OPINION

September 7, 2010

## Learning From Experience on Arms Control

*Russia and the United States have made steady progress on verification since the 1980s.*

By GEORGE P. SHULTZ

The New Start treaty provides an instructive example of how, when everyone works at it, an important element of arms control treaties can be improved by building on past treaties and their execution.

I remember well the treaty on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF), as I had a hand in negotiating the treaty and in getting implementation started. Our mantra was stated almost endlessly by President Ronald Reagan, to the point that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would join in: "Trust but verify."

Reagan insisted on, and we obtained, on-site inspection of the critical elements in the treaty: the destruction of all missiles and a method of ensuring that new ones were not produced. This critical element in the treaty built on an earlier one. The Stockholm Agreement of 1986 was the first U.S.-Soviet agreement to call for on-site observation of military maneuvers. Although not as intrusive as a close look at nuclear facilities, it was nevertheless an important conceptual breakthrough. The idea of on-site inspection had been accepted and put in practice.

When the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (Start) was negotiated and finally signed in 1991, a different problem presented itself. On-site inspection of missile destruction is one thing; on-site inspection of an active inventory is something else again. You are looking at an ongoing operation. Nevertheless, the challenge was met in part by counting delivery vehicles, clearly building on the successful experience of both sides with the INF treaty.

However, the political relations between the United States and the then Soviet Union had not yet reached the level of cooperation required to count the number of actual warheads directly without concern about compromising secret design information. The result was a process of attribution derived from access to telemetry—that is, the data transmitted from flight tests of missiles. This allowed for a cap on the maximum number of warheads that could be delivered, which was the number attributed in Start.

Periodic on-site inspections of the missile sites were provided for under Start, but the experience of both sides was that this process, conducted in a fragmented way, disrupted normal operations and so was unnecessarily burdensome to both sides.

The Strategic Offensive Reduction Treaty (SORT), negotiated in 2002 under the George W. Bush administration, simply relied on the Start verification regime. In a joint declaration, President Bush and President Vladimir Putin agreed on the desirability of greater transparency, but they left it at that.

Along came the New Start treaty, signed by President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on April 8, 2010. People responsible for monitoring the original Start treaty were included in the negotiations, so operating experience was present at the table. The result was a further advance, building on the transparency measures already in place under the Start treaty. On-site inspection now allows the total number of warheads on deployed missiles literally to be counted directly.

Thus, up-close observation is substituted for the telemetry that was essential in the original Start treaty. But some cooperation in sharing telemetry information was included in the New Start treaty. This provides some additional transparency and can serve, over time, as a confidence-building measure. It is well that some telemetry cooperation will occur so that the principle is retained.

The New Start treaty, like others before it, was built on previous experience. And, like earlier treaties, it provides a building block for the future. As lower levels of warheads are negotiated, the importance of accurate verification increases and the precedent and experience derived from New Start will ensure that a literal counting process will be

available. The New Start treaty also sets a precedent for the future in its provision for on-site observation of nondeployed nuclear systems—important since limits on nondeployed warheads will be a likely next step.

The problem of interruptions in operations posed by the original Start treaty and identified by the executors of the treaty on both sides is addressed in the New Start treaty in a way that gives more information but is less disruptive. First of all, a running account in the form of regular data exchanges is provided every six months on a wide range of information about their strategic forces, and numerous inspection procedures have been consolidated.

The United States will have the right to select, for purposes of inspection, from all of Russia's treaty-limited deployed and nondeployed delivery vehicles and launchers at the rate of 18 inspections per year over the life of New Start. It is also important that each deployed and nondeployed intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) or submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) or heavy bomber will have assigned to it a unique code identifier that will be included in notifications any time the ICBM or SLBM or heavy bomber is moved or changes status. The treaty establishes procedures to allow inspectors to confirm the unique identifier during the inspection process.

The notification of changes in weapon systems—for example, movement in and out of deployed status—will provide more information on the status of Russian strategic forces under this treaty than was available under Start. Information provided in notifications will complement and be checked by on-site inspection as well as by imagery from satellites and other assets which collectively make up each side's national technical means of verification.

Having been involved in the Stockholm Treaty when a breakthrough in on-site inspection was made and when intrusive on-site inspection of key events was a main element of the INF Treaty, I am pleased to see that the building process is continuing, especially since the New Start treaty includes some improved formulations that bode well for the future. Seeing is not quite believing, but it helps. Learning is not limited to what you get from experience, but it helps.

The original Start treaty expired last December. The time has come to start seeing again, with penetrating eyes, and to start learning from the new experience.

*Mr. Shultz, secretary of labor (1969-70), secretary of Treasury (1972-74) and secretary of state (1982-89), is a fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.*

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704206804575467654209460656.html>

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