



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL

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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 nuclear, biological and chemical threats and attacks. 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. Please direct any questions or comments on CPC Outreach Journal to Jo Ann Eddy, CPC Outreach Editor, at (334) 953-7538 or DSN 493-7538. To subscribe, change e-mail address, or unsubscribe to this journal or to request inclusion on the mailing list for CPC publications, please contact Mrs. Eddy, joann.eddy.ctr@maxwell.af.mil.

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Salt Lake City Deseret Morning News
January 2, 2008

Pentagon's Efforts To Fight Weapons Of Mass Destruction Flayed

Report cites too little coordination and too little central oversight

By Lee Davidson, Deseret Morning News

The Pentagon's work to combat weapons of mass destruction has been so splintered and uncoordinated that officials cannot be sure what spending is accomplishing, whether "U.S. interests are protected" or even whether America "can properly respond to attack."

That is according to a Department of Defense Inspector General report, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request by the Deseret Morning News. It was originally classified "For Official Use Only," but the Pentagon provided a declassified copy that censored sensitive information.

The report says that because of its findings, Pentagon officials are now taking steps to improve coordination of work that has been spread among 40 offices and commands.

The report is of special interest to Utah because its Dugway Proving Ground is where many defenses against biological, chemical and radiological weapons — the main weapons of mass destruction — have been tested, sometimes amid controversy about how safe those tests are.

The Inspector General reviewed Pentagon initiatives against weapons of mass destruction and issued a report on March 30 (but the Morning News obtained a copy only this month). It complained that such Pentagon work had too little coordination and too little central oversight.

It warned that "without improved management, DoD (Department of Defense) cannot be assured that planned expenditures of at least \$9.9 billion for Fiscal Years 2006 through 2011 is effectively spent, that U.S. interests are adequately protected, and that DoD can properly respond to an attack."

The report complained that the Pentagon "did not establish a lead office to adequately coordinate its WMD (weapons of mass destruction) initiatives," and instead spread various responsibilities among 40 separate offices and commands. It said those offices had only limited coordination by a loose working group.

Some of their many responsibilities included developing new defenses against such weapons; finding and seizing any such weapons abroad; assisting former Soviet nations to secure and destroy their stockpiles; and facilitating new counterproliferation treaties.

But the report said the Pentagon "managed each of these initiatives separately and did not coordinate initiatives within the responsible offices, even though all are interrelated."

As a result, it said "senior DoD officials did not receive the necessary information to understand the status of DoD actions for combating WMD."

Inspectors complained that because of splintered responsibilities and lack of coordination, annual Pentagon reports to Congress updating efforts against weapons of mass destruction did not clearly show what was being accomplished with spending.

It said if managers or Congress tried to follow the reports from year to year for 31 specific programs (on which \$917 million was spent in 2003), they could not determine "whether those programs were complete or exactly what was accomplished with the funds."

Among such programs were developing chemical and biological weapon detectors, protective clothing, protective shelters and decontamination systems — some of which have undergone testing at Dugway Proving Ground.

The report said the Pentagon, as recommended by the Inspector General, was taking new action to try to improve coordination. Several offices were appointing lead agencies to coordinate their efforts, and a new coordination committee with more power had been formed.

The report also recommended that more detailed operations plans for combating weapons of mass destruction be prepared — to allow measuring progress from year to year — and it said several offices and commands concurred with that or said such plans are being refined.

Many of the specifics, and internal debate about them, were blacked out in the censored report provided to the Morning News.

To show the importance of the topic, the report noted that a survey by Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., of experts in June 2005 estimated "a 70 percent chance of a WMD attack somewhere in the world within the next 10 years." The threat is considered increasingly high as terrorist groups have attempted to gain such weapons.

<http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,5143,695240609,00.html>

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Washington Times

January 3, 2008

Pg. 6

U.S. 'Skeptical' Of N. Korea Vow

Bolton: Told you so on nukes

By Jon Ward, Washington Times

The White House yesterday said that North Korea's delays in detailing its nuclear-weapons program have made the U.S. skeptical of Pyongyang's pledge to give up its nuclear weapons.

North Korea agreed in October to declare its full range of nuclear activities and weapons by Dec. 31, but has yet to make any announcement.

"They were a part of the agreement that established this deadline, and we don't have reason to believe that they won't, but we are skeptical, given the length of time that it's taken," said White House press secretary Dana Perino, in a morning briefing.

Later in the day, Mrs. Perino said that "as we've dealt with North Korea over the past several years, it is only appropriate that we would be skeptical."

Former Bush administration official John R. Bolton, who headed the State Department's counterproliferation office in President Bush's first term, called Mrs. Perino's comments "a shift, and a welcome one" in the White House position toward North Korea.

Mr. Bolton has been critical of the agreement reached last February, and expanded upon in October, for North Korean dictator Kim Jong-il to give up his nuclear-weapons program.

"I have faith in the North Koreans that they're going to do what they always do," Mr. Bolton said yesterday, referring to several failed deals in the past. "I don't think there's any chance they're ever going to give up their nuclear weapons."

The State Department, however, reacted positively yesterday to North Korea's failure to meet the deadline agreed to in talks with the U.S. and four other countries — South Korea, Japan, China and Russia.

State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said that the disarmament process is still "trending in the right direction," and said it is understandable that the North Koreans missed the Dec. 31 deadline because the decision to disarm is "groundbreaking."

"Everybody has a healthy appreciation for the pace at which this process moves," Mr. McCormack said. "Sometimes it moves according to schedule, sometimes it moves in what some might consider a tectonic or glacial fashion, but it does move forward. But the fact that it doesn't progress at the pace that we would perhaps desire doesn't mean that people aren't working hard to ... try to make it work."

Mr. Bolton said the State Department is "in deal-saving mode."

But the Bush administration, despite its rhetoric yesterday, might also be poised to accept an imperfect outcome, said Jon Wolfsthal, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"They're walking a fine line. They want to avoid a crisis with North Korea," Mr. Wolfsthal said. "There's some concern that because they want to keep this on the back burner they might be willing to accept less than 100 percent to keep the process going on."

Mr. Wolfsthal said that the administration has focused most on political reconciliation in Iraq and has pushed the North Korean nuclear program to the second tier.

The North Koreans have begun to receive food and oil aid as they have begun the disarmament process, but they are pressing for removal from the U.S. list of nations that sponsor terrorism.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/article/20080103/NATION/525228046/1002/NATION>

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USA Today

January 3, 2008

Pg. 12

Opposing view

A Diplomatic Charade

Unseemly talks with Kim Jong Il pose security threat to U.S., allies.

By Nicholas Eberstadt

Once and for all: Can we please stop pretending that Kim Jong Il is negotiating with us in good faith? The only surprise about North Korea's latest missed deadline — and broken promise — in the ongoing "six-party talks" is Washington's seemingly unending tolerance for this diplomatic masquerade.

Well into the fifth year of negotiations on denuclearizing North Korea, what tangible results do our arms control conferees have to show for their efforts? Only a temporary shutdown of the North's Yongbyon plutonium facility. (State Department happy-talk notwithstanding, that facility has not yet been fully "disabled," much less "dismantled.")

What about the covert uranium enrichment program, whose exposure back in 2002 triggered today's nuclear drama in the first place? Pyongyang still officially denies its very existence. Indeed, breaking pledges signed last February, North Korea has not yet even bothered to offer an accounting of its past nuclear activities to its "negotiating partners" (China, Japan, Russia, South Korea and the United States).

Our response to that violation has been, yes, a request for more talks! In the no-penalty wonderland of conference diplomacy, it would appear Kim Jong Il can blow us off whenever he wants — confident we'll always shuffle back to the table. But the unseemly charade of denuclearization negotiations with North Korea is worse than an embarrassment. It is, in fact, compromising the security of America and her allies.

During the six-party talks, the North Korean government continued to amass plutonium for weapons. Over those same years, Pyongyang went from hinting it had nuclear weapons, to explicitly declaring it possessed nukes, to test-blasting a nuclear weapon.

Viewed without illusion, these vaunted denuclearization talks with North Korea have in practice provided diplomatic cover for Pyongyang to achieve its long-desired status as a nuclear weapons state. And, by the way, any American official who thinks Kim Jong Il wouldn't dare sell his nuclear wares abroad is off in a dream world.

The Bush team apparently has no benchmarks for failure in its nuke talks with Pyongyang — so the conferencing continues. But it continues at our peril.

Nicholas Eberstadt, a researcher at the American Enterprise Institute, is the author of *The North Korean Economy — Between Crisis and Catastrophe*.

<http://blogs.usatoday.com/oped/2008/01/opposing-view-a.html>

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National Counterterrorism Center

2008 Counterterrorism Calendar

The US National Counterterrorism Center is pleased to present an interactive version of the 2008 Counterterrorism Calendar. This version of the Calendar contains many features across the full range of terrorism-related issues: terrorist groups, wanted terrorists, and technical pages on various threat-related issues. The Calendar timeline marks dates according to the Gregorian and Islamic calendars, and contains significant dates in terrorism history as well as dates that terrorists may believe are important when planning “commemoration-style” attacks.

The CT Calendar is designed for anyone concerned with counterterrorism or terrorist threats; law-enforcement, intelligence, military and security personnel, contingency planners, or simply citizens concerned by terrorist threats. The Calendar is oriented primarily to readers in the United States, but we hope that we have also made it useful for citizens of other countries.

(For calendar and associated information, please click link below.)

<http://www.nctc.gov/site/index.html>

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Washington Times

January 4, 2008

Pg. 17

Ayatollah Open To U.S.-Iran Ties

But says now not the right time

By Nasser Karimi, Associated Press

TEHRAN — Iran’s supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said yesterday he was willing to improve relations with the United States but that the moment was not right because it would make his country more vulnerable to U.S. espionage.

Ayatollah Khamenei said restoring ties with the United States now would “provide opportunity for security agents to come and go, as well as for espionage.”

“It has no benefit for Iranian nation,” state radio quoted him as saying at a student group meeting in the central province of Yazd. It would be an “opportunity for U.S. infiltration, traffic of their intelligence agents and espionage of Iran.”

Iran last year said it uncovered spy rings organized by the United States and its Western allies and detained a four Iranian-Americans, who were later released. The arrests prompted the United States to warn its citizens against traveling to Iran. It accused authorities there of a “disturbing pattern” of harassment.

The United States and Iran have had no diplomatic ties since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, when militants seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. The dispute over Iran’s nuclear program and U.S. accusations of Iranian support for armed groups in Iraq have raised tensions.

“I would be the first one to support these relations,” said Ayatollah Khamenei, who has final say in all state matters. “But for the time being, [restoring ties] is harmful and we should not pursue it.”

Washington has refused to hold talks with Iran over the issue of diplomatic ties until Tehran suspends uranium enrichment, a process that can be used to produce fuel for both nuclear energy and weapons.

But the two countries have held three rounds of ambassador negotiations on security in Iraq, breaking the 27-year diplomatic freeze.

Iran says its nuclear program is intended solely for energy production, and the ayatollah reiterated yesterday that his country would continue to pursue it to generate about 20,000 megawatts of electricity in the next two decades.

Washington’s push for a third round of U.N. sanctions against Iran was undermined by the release of a new U.S. intelligence report last month saying that Tehran suspended development of nuclear weapons development under international pressure in 2003. It was a dramatic turnaround from the previous U.S. stance that Iran restarted the program in 2005.

President Bush yesterday said that part of the reason for his trip to the Middle East this month is “absolutely” about efforts to contain Iran’s influence in the region.

Mr. Bush said that on his trip, which starts next week to Israel and Arab countries, he expects questions about the report, known as the National Intelligence Estimate.

"I will clarify to them that the NIE means that Iran is still a danger," he said in an interview with Reuters news agency. "I will remind them that a country that can suspend a program can easily start a program."

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080104/FOREIGN/618683066/1003>

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Los Angeles Times

January 4, 2008

North Korea Says It Will Boost Its 'War Deterrent'

By Times Wire Services

SEOUL —North Korea's state media warned today that the communist nation would bolster its "war deterrent" and accused the United States of plotting a nuclear war.

The main newspaper Rodong Sinmun said that the U.S. was modernizing its nuclear arsenal under its "aggression strategies."

The North Korean government often uses "deterrent," "war deterrent" or "nuclear deterrent" to refer to its nuclear weapons. A threat to bolster its deterrent usually means it thinks international powers are not treating it properly. The statement came a few days after North Korea missed a year-end deadline to declare all its nuclear programs under an international agreement.

"Our republic will continue to harden its war deterrent further in response to the U.S. stepping up its nuclear war moves," the paper said.

The government in Pyongyang has promised to abandon its nuclear ambitions in return for energy aid and political concessions.

It shut down its only functioning reactor in July and began disabling it and other facilities under the watch of U.S. experts in November.

In a separate report in its official media today, North Korea said it had slowed the pace of disablement because it did not think that other parties to the agreement had supplied aid in a timely manner.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill, envoy to the six-nation talks on North Korea's nuclear program, plans to visit the other four countries -- Japan, South Korea, China and Russia -- in the next week.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-korea4jan04,1,689054.story?coll=la-headlines-world>

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Washington Times

January 4, 2008

Pg. 17

Nuke Delay Natural, China Says

BEIJING — China, host of six-party talks aimed at reining in North Korea's nuclear program, yesterday described North Korea's failure to meet a deadline to account for its nuclear activities as a natural delay.

North Korea failed to meet a year-end deadline to make a full declaration of its nuclear programs under a disarmament-for-aid deal involving the two Koreas, the United States, Japan, Russia and China.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said the United States was eager to see North Korea's declaration but added that Pyongyang should "not sacrifice completeness and accuracy for speed."

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080104/FOREIGN/919049802/1003/foreign>

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Baltimore Sun

January 4, 2008

Osiris Wins Defense Pact For Therapy

Prochymal considered as radiation treatment

By Allison Connolly, Sun reporter

Osiris Therapeutics Inc. said yesterday that it has won a \$224.7 million contract from the Defense Department to develop and stockpile Prochymal, its adult stem cell therapy, to treat gastrointestinal damage caused by radiation exposure.

Prochymal, which is made from mesenchymal stem cells found in adult bone marrow, is in late-stage human clinical trials for other uses, including the treatment of Crohn's disease.

The government will pay Columbia-based Osiris and its partner, Cambridge, Mass.-based Genzyme Corp., \$24.7 million to develop the stem cell therapy to treat acute radiation syndrome, or radiation sickness, a potentially fatal condition that could be inflicted by a nuclear bomb or other radiological threat.

High doses of radiation in a short amount of time can damage cells in the skin, gastrointestinal tract and bone marrow and result in death within days or months. Prochymal works at the cellular level to repair damaged tissue and stimulate growth of healthy tissue.

If Prochymal is approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the Defense Department would purchase up to 20,000 doses in four 5,000-dose increments for troops and civilians, Osiris said, worth \$200 million.

Osiris' share of that would be \$170 million - a big payoff for a biotech company that has yet to be profitable. It lost nearly \$45 million in 2006 and \$32.3 million in the first three quarters of last year.

But the company has at least a year's worth of clinical trials to complete before it can even apply to the government for market approval, said Osiris President and Chief Executive Officer C. Randal Mills.

While the therapy has passed tests for safety in humans, it must undergo efficacy testing in animals.

"It's very exciting and very promising, but there is a lot of work ahead of us," Mills said.

It is the first such award for the two companies since they announced a partnership to develop Prochymal for the U.S. government and its allies for emergency preparedness. Genzyme is a subcontractor to Osiris under the agreement.

Genzyme spokesman Bo Piela said his company will be reimbursed by Osiris at cost for any development work Genzyme does and would earn royalties worth 15 percent of sales if approved for the Defense Department's use.

While an important contract, Mills said it would represent a small segment of business the company hopes to generate from Prochymal. He believes the stem cell therapy could be developed for a variety of ailments, including diabetes, heart disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder.

Prochymal is currently in phase III testing - the final hurdle a drug must pass to gain market approval - for the treatment of Crohn's disease, an inflammation of the digestive tract, a market Mills estimates is worth \$500 million in the U.S. alone.

It also is in phase III testing to treat graft-versus-host disease, in which immune cells from transplanted bone marrow attack the recipient's body.

Osiris has one product on the market, Osteocel, which stimulates bone growth. It had \$5.3 million in sales through the first three quarters of 2007.

This most recent award is "tremendous validation about the depth that this company has been able to develop Prochymal through," Mills said.

Osiris stock closed up 30 cents yesterday at \$12.57 per share in trading on the Nasdaq.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/business/bal-bz.osiris04jan04.0.520842.story>

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New York Post

January 3, 2008

Iran's Dangerous Nuke Game

Why Israel might rush to strike

By Peter Brookes

Iran turned up the heat this week on still-simmering concerns about its atomic aspirations. It crowed that its 1,000-megawatt Bushehr nuclear-power plant would be "online" as early as this spring, putting in place another important building block of its nuclear program.

That sort of news can't help but rattle the steadiest of nerves, no matter what the (narrowly focused) US National Intelligence Estimate on Iran's nuclear-weapons program said about the current state of affairs.

Seemingly not swayed one iota by the NIE's conclusions, you have to wonder if Israel - the country most threatened by an Iranian nuclear (weapons) breakout - might take matters into its own hands.

It has done so twice before - and the time may be here again.

In a 1981 dawn raid lasting less than 90 seconds, Israeli Defense Force fighters attacked the nearly completed 40-megawatt Iraqi Osirak nuclear-reactor complex, setting back Saddam's ability to produce fissile material for nukes.

And again last September, the IDF allegedly struck a nascent Syrian nuclear program, which possibly was benefiting from outside help, in a preventive airstrike that may have also been meant as a warning to Iran of unpleasant things to come.

But why strike now?

Well, within about a year of Bushehr becoming operational, some of its spent nuclear fuel could be stripped of enough plutonium to produce a handful of nuclear weapons *if* the rods aren't returned to their owner/provider, Russia.

Because the production of fissile material is the long pole in the nuclear-weapons tent, the diversion of material at Bushehr is potentially as big a problem as the 3,000 centrifuges that Iran has whirring at supersonic speeds, enriching uranium.

Attacking Bushehr - like Osirak - before it comes online would not only stop it from being used to produce bomb material, but would also prevent radiation from the reactor being spewed into the atmosphere after a strike.

Also possibly spurring Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert to put the IDF into action is other recent news: Iran is reportedly buying the highly capable Russian S-300 air-defense system to bolster the Tor-M1 surface-air missile systems Moscow supplied last year.

The Iranians purchased the Tor-M1 to prevent a modern-day Iranian version of Israel's successful Osirak strike. The lethal S-300s - likely a response to the Syrian strike - will enhance Iran's ability to protect its nuclear sites scattered around the country.

(Curious the extent to which Iran is willing to go to protect its so-called "peaceful" nuclear program, isn't it?)

But despite these reasons for giving a go-ahead for an attack on Bushehr before it's up and running, dealing militarily with Iran's nuclear program is a lot more complex than just that.

While Bushehr is a key element of the program because of its ability to produce large amounts of bomb-worthy fissile material (i.e., plutonium) for weapons use, it isn't the be-all and end-all of that program.

To cripple Iran's nuclear program, the IDF would have to hit other major nuclear sites: The Natanz uranium-enrichment plant, the Arak heavy-water facility and the Isfahan uranium-conversion complex - plus possibly tens of other nuclear-related sites.

But while some facilities like Natanz are "hardened," well-protected by air defenses and often buried as deep as 70 feet down, IDF fighters could hammer them using GPS/laser-guided and penetration weapons such as the American JDAM.

There's also the tyranny of distance. Iran is a lot farther from Israel than Iraq - and the targets aren't clustered like they were at Osirak. They're spread across Iran - a country nearly four times California's size.

Even a surprise IDF air raid would likely be known to others such as the United States, which "owns" the airspace in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf with its vast array of land, sea and air sensors.

(Of course, it is always possible Israel's small fleet of cruise-missile-capable, Dolphin-class diesel submarines, deployed to the Persian Gulf, could play a role in a strike, especially against Bushehr in southern Iran.)

A strike would bring Iranian retaliation, including terrorist attacks by Tehran's allies, such as Hezbollah, as well as missile strikes against large Israeli cities. By association, US interests could come into Iran's crosshairs.

The new year will likely bring more unwelcome news about Iran's nuclear program as it cascades toward a weapons option. It will also be a fateful year for Israel, one that may require action - no matter what the latest NIE says.

Heritage Foundation senior fellow Peter Brookes is a former deputy assistant secretary of defense.

http://www.nypost.com/seven/01032008/postopinion/opedcolumnists/irans_dangerous_nuke_game_337511.htm

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