



## **USAF Center for Unconventional Weapons Studies (CUWS) Outreach Journal**

CUWS Outreach Journal 1190

6 November 2015

**Feature Item: “Nuclear Nonproliferation: NNSA’s Threat Assessment Process Could Be Improved”.** Report to Congressional Committees: prepared and published by the Government Accounting Office (GAO); released 31 October 2015; 40 pages.

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/680/673470.pdf>

The threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear and radiological weapons remains one of the most pressing U.S. national security challenges, and these threats are evolving. Information produced by the “Over the Horizon” (OTH) initiative about future proliferation threats is intended to support long-term Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation (DNN) planning and other DNN management decisions.

The Joint Explanatory Statement Accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 includes a provision for GAO to assess the National Nuclear Security Administration’s (NNSA’s) nuclear nonproliferation programs. This report (1) describes how NNSA assessed potential proliferation threats through its OTH initiative and assesses the limitations, if any, in the process used by the initiative and (2) examines the extent to which NNSA used information about the potential threats assessed through the OTH initiative in DNN organization and planning decisions.

GAO analyzed NNSA documentation on the OTH initiative and NNSA planning documents. GAO also interviewed DOE and NNSA officials, DOE national laboratory representatives, and external subject matter experts and external validators in peer review groups involved in OTH activities.

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## **USAF Center for Unconventional Weapons Studies (CUWS) Outreach Journal**

Alaska Dispatch News – Anchorage, Alaska

### **Federal Bomb Squad Neutralizes Fake Nuke in Anchorage Training Exercise**

By Chris Klint

November 4, 2015

A Washington, D.C.-based bomb squad practiced one of its most sensitive tasks -- defusing a simulated nuclear device -- at the Port of Anchorage this week, local FBI officials said Wednesday.

According to a statement from the FBI's Anchorage office, the bureau's elite Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices Section [2] chose Anchorage for its latest exercise because its primary disposal team had been "wanting to practice their response in a winter environment."

Anchorage-based bureau spokeswoman Staci Feger-Pellessier said Wednesday that the two-day logistical exercise began with a "deployment of forces" Monday. The simulated bomb response began early Tuesday morning and continued until about 9 p.m. that evening.

Deirdre Fike, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Anchorage office, said in the statement that the port was the "perfect location" for the exercise. In addition to bureau and port officials, the exercise involved members of the federal departments of Defense and Energy, as well as Anchorage Police Department officers.

"From the very beginning, officials from the Port of Anchorage were incredibly accommodating in helping us with this training," Fike said. "An incident involving a weapon of mass destruction would require an immediate combined response with our federal, state and local partners. Training, like the exercise earlier this week, allows us to build upon our already strong partnerships."

Stuart Greydanus, the port's facility security officer, said the exercise was conducted some distance from the port proper, with no disruption to routine operations.

"The exercise occurred on the north backlands of the port, the very north end," Greydanus said. "It wasn't near any commercial activity at the port."

Port officials had minimal involvement with the exercise, which involved a device transported to nearby Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and placed within a standard shipping container.

"Their training device was flown in onto JBER -- it was trucked down the haul road from JBER directly onto the port," Greydanus said. "Basically, we provided them a 20-foot container to stage their device in the container."

While all FBI regional offices, including Anchorage's, have a minimum of two certified bomb disposal technicians on staff, Feger-Pellessier said they have various specialties short of WMDs. The C-IEDS team deployed from the nation's capital is a one-of-a-kind squad, much like the bureau's dedicated Hostage Rescue Team.

"This is the best of the best of the best," Feger-Pellessier said.

Under federal law, the FBI is the primary agency for responding to nuclear devices or weapons of mass destruction on American soil. Although the national team would be called in if any actual nuclear device were found in Alaska, locally based FBI technicians -- supported by other agencies -- remain among the initial responders to any incident involving a bomb.

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“As a first-tier response of a local office, our bomb techs are trained to handle that,” Feger-Pellessier said. “We have to be prepared, no matter where a suspicious device is found -- no matter whether that be the remote areas of Alaska or in downtown Anchorage, we have to be prepared when it is found.”

Feger-Pellessier declined to discuss details of the exercise, citing the need to deny terrorists potentially useful information. She did say that the bureau’s bomb-disposal procedures generally involve four steps: locating a device, clearing and securing the area, assessing the threat posed by the device, then rendering it safe.

This week’s exercise didn’t include a simulated public-affairs component, covering the potential dissemination of details or evacuation orders in connection with the incident. According to the FBI, a decision to release any information about an actual weapon of mass destruction in an urban area - an unprecedented situation in U.S. history -- would be made far beyond the Anchorage office.

“This office is not the one that would be making that ultimate call,” Feger-Pellessier said. “How that call would be made would come from the highest level of many different agencies.”

In the long term, Feger-Pellessier said, exercises like Tuesday’s help maintain the FBI’s readiness to perform its primary duty.

“Our priority and mission is to keep America and its citizens safe from any form of attack,” Feger-Pellessier said.

<http://www.adn.com/article/20151104/federal-bomb-squad-neutralizes-fake-nuke-anchorage-training-exercise>

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Defense News – Tysons Corner, VA

## **Boeing Protests Northrop's Long Range Strike Bomber Contract**

By Andrew Clevenger and Lara Seligman

November 6, 2015

WASHINGTON — Boeing, which along with partner Lockheed Martin submitted the losing bid in the competition to build the US Air Force's new Long Range Strike Bomber, filed a protest Friday with the Government Accountability Office over the DoD awarding the contract to Northrop Grumman on Oct. 27.

The GAO now has 100 days to review the protest and issue a ruling.

Boeing and Lockheed Martin concluded the selection process for the Long Range Strike Bomber was fundamentally flawed, the companies said in a joint statement. Specifically, they take issue with the cost evaluation performed by the government for not properly rewarding the team's proposals to break the upward-spiraling historical cost curves of defense acquisitions, and for not properly evaluating the relative or comparative risk of Northrop Grumman's ability to perform, as required by the solicitation.

Northrop Grumman, maker of the stealth B-2 bomber, won the award in part because of a projected cost per plane of \$511 million in 2010 dollars, well below the Pentagon’s cost cap of \$550 million in 2010 dollars.



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Boeing has little to lose and much to gain from a protest. The LRS-B contract award is expected to top \$100 billion over the life of the contract and will mean decades of revenue for the winning contractor. Without LRS-B, Boeing's military aircraft facility in St. Louis, Missouri, could face extinction.

But Boeing faces long odds of a successful protest. As a recent annual report on the defense acquisition system noted, only around 2 percent of defense protests were actually upheld in 2013, the last year data was available. This rate is lower than the overall federal rate for that year, which was just under 4 percent.

Additionally, the Air Force, clearly eager to avoid a repeat of the decade-long tanker saga when a Boeing protest eventually reversed the original award to Airbus, has taken great pains to insulate the LRS-B award.

Service leadership tasked not one but two independent cost estimators to evaluate the program, officials revealed last week. Experts also point to a recent Pentagon Inspector General audit of the LRS-B acquisition process as evidence the contract award is air tight.

In making the announcement, Secretary Deborah Lee James stressed that the selection process was "deliberate and disciplined."

"Award of this contract followed a deliberate and disciplined process, our team of professionals carefully considered the offerers' proposals in accordance with the source selection criteria," James told reporters during the award announcement. "The entire process was carried out with a high level of transparency with our industry partners and was scrutinized via DOD peer reviews."

But despite the Air Force's best efforts, a protest could delay the program and spark an ugly public relations battle, particularly given Boeing's clout on Capitol Hill.

Boeing and Lockheed will likely wage intense lobbying campaigns. Boeing is expected to tap the Missouri delegation, including influential Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill and Republican Sen. Roy Blunt, while Lockheed will look to the Texas delegation, particularly Fort Worth's Republican Rep. Kay Granger and House Armed Services Committee Chairman Rep. William "Mac" Thornberry, also a Republican.

Before the announcement last week and after a hearing on streamlining defense acquisitions, Thornberry acknowledged concerns over a possible LSR-B protest and the litigious nature of acquisitions in general.

"It's part of the way acquisition culture has developed that every bid award has protests, and you're expected to protest – basically with no penalty," he told reporters. "So, a number of members have had ideas about improving that situation, and it's something that we will continue to discuss."

<http://www.defensenews.com/story/defense/2015/11/06/boeing-protests-northrops-long-range-strike-bomber-contract/75225206/>

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The Knoxville News Sentinel

## **Frank Munger: Report Cites Long-Term Needs for Highly Enriched Uranium**

By Frank Munger

November 6, 2015

In a 48-page report to Congress last month, the U.S. Department of Energy laid out its plans for management of tritium and enriched uranium through 2060.

A major player in those plans, of course, is the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, which is the nation's repository for weapons-grade uranium and nominally the Uranium Center of Excellence.

The report notes the U.S. produced more than 1,000 metric tons of highly enriched uranium before stopping production in 1962 and, as of Sept. 30, 1996, had 741 metric tons in inventory.

Most of what wasn't residing in deployed nuclear weapons was presumably in storage at Y-12 or somewhere in between.

The current inventory of weapons-usable uranium is traditionally classified.

Over the past couple of decades, the DOE has managed programs to get rid of tons of highly enriched uranium, or HEU, that's been declared surplus to mission needs, primarily by "down-blending" the material with other stocks of uranium to eliminate the weapons capability and to make it useful for fuel in commercial nuclear reactors.

Some of the resulting low-enriched uranium can be used in reactors to produce tritium, which the DOE needs to replenish nuclear weapons on a periodic basis.

More down-blending of excess and "unobligated" HEU is expected to meet the tritium needs, but the likely candidate materials for this program are reportedly not suitable for high-end use and are in scrap or impure forms that require a lot of processing.

There are questions about the capabilities to do the work — even with plans for a new Uranium Processing Facility at Y-12.

"If this material is not used in the near-term for down-blending, NNSA (the National Nuclear Security Administration) will have to redirect limited resources and funds to prepare the materials for long-term storage until a disposition or utilization plan is identified," the report states.

The report cites long-term needs for highly enriched uranium, such as fueling the nation's nuclear-powered submarines and aircraft carriers and providing highly-enriched fuel for specialized nuclear reactors — such as the High Flux Isotope Reactor at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.



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The report also identifies other, lesser known options for the strategic nuclear material, such as fuel for space reactors and fuel for a Department of Defense reactor used to “study defenses-related nuclear weapons effects.” That reactor must be refueled every five years, with the next time due in 2018, according to the report.

NNSA spokesman Steven Wyatt said he was not at liberty to discuss those plans or Y-12’s involvement.

[http://www.knoxnews.com/news/columnists/frank-munger-report-cites-longterm-needs-for-highly-enriched-uranium\\_15504765](http://www.knoxnews.com/news/columnists/frank-munger-report-cites-longterm-needs-for-highly-enriched-uranium_15504765)

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Channel NewsAsia – Singapore

### **US Completes Complex Test of Layered Missile Defence System**

*The U.S. military on Sunday hailed the success of a complex US\$230 million (£149 million) test of the U.S. missile defence system that it said showed the ability of the Aegis and THAAD weapons systems to identify and destroy ballistic and cruise missiles at once.*

Reuters

02 November 2015

WASHINGTON: The U.S. military on Sunday hailed the success of a complex US\$230 million (£149 million) test of the U.S. missile defence system that it said showed the ability of the Aegis and THAAD weapons systems to identify and destroy ballistic and cruise missiles at once.

The test was conducted near Wake Island in the western Pacific Ocean around 11:05 p.m. EDT by the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, U.S. European Command, U.S. Pacific Command, the Ballistic Missile Defense System Operational Test Agency and the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense.

"This was a highly complex operational test of the BMDS which required all elements to work together in an integrated layered defence design to detect, track, discriminate, engage, and negate the ballistic missile threats," MDA said in a statement released late Sunday.

Riki Ellison, founder of the nonprofit Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance, said it was the first time the U.S. military had proven the effectiveness of a layered defence.

"It's a huge success," Ellison said, adding the test would increase confidence in U.S. plans to deploy a THAAD battery, or system, to Europe, and could help support a drive to send a THAAD system to South Korea.

Critics often say tests of the missile defence system are too simple and do not simulate real-life potential threats.

The test involved a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system built by Lockheed Martin Corp, two AN/TPY-2 radar systems built by Raytheon Co, Lockheed's Command, Control, Battle Management and Communications system, and the USS John Paul Jones destroyer with its AN/SPY-1 radar.

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During the test, a THAAD system on Wake Island detected and destroyed a short-range target simulating a short-range ballistic missile that was launched by a C-17 transport plane.

At the same time, the THAAD system and the destroyer both launched missiles to intercept a medium range ballistic missile, launched by a second C-17. THAAD hit the target, but the Raytheon SM-3 Block IB missile failed early in its flight and missed.

MDA said it was investigating the problem.

Ellison said THAAD's ability to hit the second target showed the importance of having a layered missile defence system. "If one missile doesn't work, you have another system to use against enemy threats," he said.

While the first two threats were being addressed, the Navy Aegis destroyer also intercepted an BQM-74E target built by Northrop Grumman Corp using a Standard Missile-2 Block IIIA guided missile.

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/us-completes-complex-test/2232458.html>

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Sputnik International – Russian Information Agency

### **This is How Washington Wants to Gain Military Edge Over Russia**

3 November 2015

Washington is developing a global missile defense system to achieve military supremacy over Russia, Russian envoy to NATO Alexander Grushko asserted.

"Unfortunately, the chance to create a truly global missile defense system was wasted. This system would not have been based on a specific alliance, but would instead efficiently protect against real missile threats, not imaginary ones. NATO refused to pursue this mostly on ideological grounds," he told Rossiya-24 TV.

Grushko also mentioned a recent missile defense exercise in Europe. The participants were tasked with intercepting a ballistic missile, as well as a number of cruise missiles.

*This scenario shows that "the system which is currently under development is not meant to counter the so-called 'nuclear threat from Iran,'" he noted. "Unfortunately, the US is actually developing its missile defense system in an attempt to gain military superiority over Russia."*

A single look at the architecture of the global missile defense system, which includes a European component with bases in Poland and Romania, exposes its true purpose. Especially if NATO's military buildup and the Pentagon's decision to preposition military hardware close to Russia's borders are also taken into account.

Earlier, the Director of the Department for Non-Proliferation and Arms control at the Russian Foreign Ministry, Mikhail Ulyanov told RIA Novosti that Iran's missile program does not pose a threat to Europe.

Any claims to the contrary are merely a "smokescreen to carry out a project which is essentially aimed at disrupting Russia's nuclear deterrence capabilities." In addition this initiative is aimed at dragging European allies into a long-term confrontation with Russia.





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"Evidently, these developments are in the interests of the United States," Ulyanov observed.

<http://sputniknews.com/military/20151103/1029513921/us-russia-nato-missile-defense.html>

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Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, CA

### **Pentagon Suspends Troubled Missile Defense system at Center of 'Runaway Blimp'**

By David Willman, Contact Reporter

November 3, 2015

The Pentagon has suspended indefinitely a trial run of the troubled missile defense system called JLENS, whose giant, radar-carrying blimps were intended to help safeguard the skies over Washington.

The three-year “operational exercise” has been a financial lifeline for JLENS, arranged by supporters of the program after Army leaders tried to kill it.

Any decision whether to resume the exercise will wait until after the Army has completed an investigation into how one of the pilotless blimps broke away from its mooring station in Maryland last week and flew uncontrolled over parts of two mid-Atlantic states, military officials said Tuesday.

“It’s going to be a complete and thorough investigation, and it takes time,” Army spokesman Dov Schwartz said.

The mishap Wednesday provoked fresh questions about the worth of JLENS, which has cost taxpayers more than \$2.7 billion. The runaway blimp soared over Maryland and Pennsylvania, dragging a 6,700-foot-long mooring cable behind it. The cable clipped power lines, leaving thousands of people without electricity and disrupting civil aviation, before the blimp came to rest outside rural Moreland Township, Pa.

Army Maj. Beth R. Smith, speaking for the North American Aerospace Defense Command, said: “Future actions regarding the JLENS exercise will be made following the conclusion of the investigation.”

As lawmakers of both parties seek to trim \$5 billion from President Obama’s proposed \$612-billion defense budget, senior Democrats on the House Armed Services Committee are, for the first time, openly assailing any further spending on JLENS.

The system is designed to provide early detection of cruise missiles, drones and other low-flying threats, but it has struggled to track flying objects, to distinguish friendly from threatening aircraft and to communicate with the nation’s air defense networks.

“What we need is an unbiased investigation into JLENS incompetence,” Rep. Jim Cooper of Tennessee, one of the committee’s most senior Democrats, said in a statement to the Los Angeles Times. “We should defend the U.S. from low-flying threats, but this seems a stupid way to do it.”

When Cooper questioned House Armed Services Chairman Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) about JLENS in a private meeting of members and staff Monday, Thornberry made clear that Republicans still



back the system, according to Democratic aides who attended. A spokesman for Thornberry confirmed the exchange.

Bay Area Democrat Jackie Speier, another committee member, said in a statement: “As we cut \$5 billion from the defense budget this week, JLENS should be the first thing to go, but inexplicably Republicans decided it wasn’t worth eliminating. Now is the perfect time to get rid of a ‘zombie program’ that doesn’t provide an advantage over aircraft that we’ve already bought.”

Speier, referring to disclosures in a Los Angeles Times article published in September, pointed to the pivotal role played by the nation’s then-No. 2 military officer in saving JLENS after senior Army officials tried to kill the program in 2010.

Marine Corps Gen. James E. “Hoss” Cartwright, then vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, argued that JLENS held promise for enhancing the nation’s air defenses. At his prodding, money was found in 2011 for the three-year operational exercise above Washington, The Times reported.

Cartwright retired the same year. Five months later, he joined the board of Raytheon Co., the prime contractor for JLENS. As of the end of 2014, Raytheon had paid him more than \$828,000 in cash and stock for serving as a director, Securities and Exchange Commission records show.

Speier called Cartwright’s prompt transition “an egregious example of the corrupting nature of the revolving door for military generals who then go on to serve on defense contractor boards.”

The operational exercise, which is costing taxpayers about \$50 million a year, involved two JLENS blimps floating up to 10,000 feet high. It was to begin in January. But problems, notably with computer software, delayed the launch of a required second blimp until mid-August.

JLENS is short for Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor System. The 242-foot-long blimps operate in pairs. One searches widely for threats. The other is supposed to transmit “fire control” data on the location, speed and trajectory of threatening objects so U.S. fighter jets or ground-based rockets can shoot them down.

A 2012 report by the Pentagon’s Operational Test and Evaluation office faulted the system in four “critical performance areas” and rated its reliability as “poor.” A year later, in its most recent assessment, the agency again cited serious deficiencies and said JLENS had “low system reliability.”

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-pentagon-suspends-jlens-runaway-blimp-20151103-story.html>

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TASS Russian News Agency – Moscow, Russia

### **Recent Drills Demonstrate High Combat Readiness of Russia’s Strategic Nuclear Forces**

*Special attention was paid to issues of using high-precision long-range weapons, the Russian Defense Minister notes*

November 03, 2015

MOSCOW, November 3. /TASS/. The planned drills when all components of the Russian Nuclear Triad test-fired ballistic and guided missiles demonstrated high level of combat readiness of strategic nuclear forces and high-precision long-range weapons, Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu said on Tuesday.



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Shoigu reminded that among participants in the drills were forces of the Southern Military District, Northern and Pacific Fleets, Caspian Flotilla, Aerospace Defense Forces and Long Range Aviation.

"In general, the results of the drills demonstrated high combat readiness of strategic nuclear forces and high-precision long-range weapons," the defense minister said.

Shoigu said the exercise confirmed combat orders go reliably along the chain command — from the National Center of Defense Control to command posts of military formations and units.

The defense minister reminded that Russian Aerospace Defense Forces test-fired a Topol intercontinental ballistic missile from the Plesetsk cosmodrome. Tu-160 strategic bombers fired guided missiles at targets at Pemboj and Kura training ranges. The Bryansk and Podolsk submarines test-fired ballistic missiles from the Barents and Okhotsk Seas. "All designated targets were hit with precision," Shoigu noted.

"Special attention was paid to issues of using high-precision long-range weapons," he added. Shoigu said that the Veliky Ustyuz smallsize gunnery ship of the Caspian Flotilla destroyed a target with a Kalibr winged guided missile, while the Iskander-M ballistic missile system fired a winged missile at the Kapustin Yar training range.

<http://tass.ru/en/defense/833689>

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Sputnik International – Russian Information Agency

### **Russia Set to Scrap 17 Outdated Topol Missile Launchers by 2017**

The Russian state space corporation Roscosmos is planning to dismantle a total of 17 outdated Topol mobile missile launchers by the end of 2016.

3 November 2015

MOSCOW (Sputnik) — The Topol entered service with the Russian Strategic Missile Forces in 1988 and is being gradually replaced with more advanced Topol-M and Yars mobile missile systems.

*According to a post on the website of state purchase orders, the company is looking for a contractor to dismantle 17 Topol launches from a missile unit based in the Udmurt Republic in Russia's Volga Region "in line with a federal program on the dismantling of weaponry and other military equipment until 2020."*

During the process, the launchers will be placed and scrapped at the facilities coordinated with the United States, in line with the Russian-US New START Treaty of 2010, Roscosmos said.

The launchers have been designed to fire RS-12M Topol (NATO reporting name SS-25 Sickle) single-warhead intercontinental ballistic missiles that have a maximum range of 10,000 kilometers (6,125 miles) and can carry a nuclear warhead with a yield of up to 550 kilotons.

<http://sputniknews.com/military/20151103/1029551641/russia-topol-missile-launchers.html>

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RT (Russia Today) – Moscow, Russia

## Top Army General Calls Russia ‘#1 Threat’ to US

3 November 2015

Fresh back from Kiev, Army Chief of Staff General Mark Milley called Russia “aggressive” and “adversarial to the interests of the United States,” claiming that having nuclear weapons and the ability to use them makes Russia the foremost threat to the US.

Russia is the only country in the world with the nuclear capability to destroy the United States, which makes it an existential threat, Milley told the audience at the Defense One summit in Washington, DC on Monday. Moscow’s recent behavior suggested that Russia would be willing to use such weapons, the general added, saying that Russia has been violating “*the Westphalian order*” since about 2008 by “*invading sovereign nations.*”

If that sounds familiar, that’s because Milley used the exact same phrases during his confirmation hearing before the US Senate this July. The only difference is that he wore a blue service uniform then, and chose a camouflage combat uniform (ACU) for his conference appearance Monday.

What’s more, the phrasing most likely was not even his own: Two weeks prior to Milley’s confirmation hearing, General James Dunford used the exact same language at his own Senate confirmation hearing for the post of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Dunford previously commanded the US Marine Corps.

“*I would say that Russia’s recent behavior is adversarial to the interests of the United States,*” Milley said, citing “*aggressive*” exercises and patrols by Russian aircraft, submarines and troops – inside Russia – for the past “*four-five-six-seven*” years.

“*Russia bears close watching,*” the general added.

When asked whether this means Russia should be treated like a foe and not a partner, Milley executed a fighting retreat, urging a “*strength and balance sort of approach, which is our current policy.*”

Diplomacy is a “*bit more nuanced*” than a binary calculation, he noted. While Russian “*aggression*” should be fought with sanctions and NATO posturing, the US should work with Moscow on matters of mutual interest and convenience, such as the Iran nuclear deal.

This just happens to be the official party line of the Obama administration, as espoused by Secretary of State John Kerry, Secretary of Defense Ash Carter, and President Barack Obama himself on a number of occasions.

Between the talking points and clichés, such as “*Freedom isn’t free,*” Milley leavened his presentation with references to the army’s favorite book on military philosophy, *On War*, which was written almost two centuries ago by Prussian officer Carl von Clausewitz. The unfinished book was published in 1832, following Clausewitz’s death during a cholera outbreak.

Though many of his observations have been questioned since, and others grown into truisms from overuse, Clausewitz at least knew a thing or two about Russians, having fought alongside them against Bonaparte in the Napoleonic wars.

Instead of honoring the Pentagon tradition of treating his audience to a PowerPoint presentation, Milley offered canned responses to questions from Fox News defense analyst Jennifer Griffin.



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One of Griffin's remarkably insightful inquiries was whether the US could defeat Russia in a ground war.

*"Our capabilities today are plenty good enough to deal with anything that Russia has,"* Milley retorted, ignoring his own words about Russia's nuclear capabilities.

Milley had the unenviable job of arguing that the US Army was not *"hollow"* and could do everything asked of it, while at the same time pleading for more funding, troops and gear.

*"To maintain our way of life, to maintain a military that protects that way of life, is a very expensive endeavor,"* he said.

The general had just come back from Ukraine, where he had been visiting US troops who are teaching the Kiev forces *"human rights and use of force."*

<https://www.rt.com/usa/320572-general-milley-russia-threat/>

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Politico.com – Arlington County, VA

### **Pentagon's Top Russia Expert Says She Pushed Tougher Policy**

By Austin Wright

November 04, 2015

The Pentagon's former top Russia policy expert, who stepped down last week, says she worked behind the scenes to get the Obama administration to take a harder line with Moscow but was overruled — and remains concerned that Russian President Vladimir Putin will test the U.S. and its allies in other places.

Evelyn Farkas, who served as deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasia until last Friday, made clear in an exit interview with reporters on Wednesday that her departure "was not motivated by policy differences."

Story Continued Below

But she acknowledged she advocated, unsuccessfully, for the administration to do more to deter Russia, including providing "lethal, defensive assistance to Ukraine, primarily anti-tank weapons."

She also said that the administration should review its force posture in Europe and consider putting more troops further east and that top U.S. officials should spend more time in the region.

"We need more high-level attention being paid to the countries that feel directly threatened by Russia," Farkas said.

Farkas announced last month her decision to leave the Pentagon after five years, during which she advised three secretaries of Defense and played a major role in securing \$244 million in military support for Ukraine. Her departure comes at a sensitive time for the administration, which is struggling to figure out how to deter Russian aggression in Ukraine and its new bombing campaign against Syrian rebels to prop up Syrian dictator Bashar Assad.



Farkas said she was proud of her work at the Defense Department but painted a grim picture of U.S. relations with Russia.

She said she believes Putin is seeking to be a counter to the United States on the world stage and that Ukraine and Syria might not be the last of his military adventures.

“I wouldn’t be surprised if he tried to counter-balance us elsewhere,” she said, noting that there was some concern in the administration that if Putin saw an opening, he might try to “test NATO.”

She added: “I do think that we need to, unfortunately, do a better job of really understanding what Russia and the Kremlin’s interests are. They have, thus far, prioritized their security interests over their economic interests.”

She insisted, though, that she wasn’t leaving the administration with any hard feelings, explaining that now was “a good time personally for me to leave.”

“I will say that certainly I advocated for things internally, and I have personal views that may be further afield or may be slightly different from what the current administration position is, but I’ve always felt that I gave my advice and was listened to and we had a full hearing and we have a very healthy inter-agency process.”

She demurred when asked about her post-Pentagon plans.

“I’m going to take my time to decide exactly what is next, and I’ll leave it at that,” Farkas said.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2015/11/evelyn-farkas-russia-pentagon-215517>

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The Korea Herald – Seoul, South Korea

## **Allies Endorse Guideline to Counter North Korea’s Nuke, Missile Threats**

By Yeo Jun-suk

November 2, 2015

South Korea and the U.S. on Monday approved an operational guideline to counter North Korea’s nuclear and missile threats, reiterating their allied stance against the communist regime’s possible aggression and provocations.

During their annual Security Consultative Meeting in Seoul, Defense Minister Han Min-koo and his U.S. counterpart Ashton Carter also signed the allied plan to execute the “conditions-based” transfer of wartime operational control, which is expected to take place in the mid-2020s.

The SCM was held as Pyongyang has ratcheted up its nuclear and missile threats. It has long claimed its “sovereign” right to launch “satellites” for space development, and that it would continue to strengthen its “nuclear deterrence” against the U.S.

At the meeting, the two sides did not discuss the U.S.’ potential deployment of an advanced missile defense asset, called the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system, to the peninsula due to the sensitivity of the issue, Seoul officials explained.

The guideline to cope with Pyongyang’s nuclear and missile threats employs the so-called “4D” concept, the centerpiece of the allies’ proactive defense strategy. The 4D stands for “detect, defense, disrupt and destroy” -- the four major steps to fend off Pyongyang’s nuclear and missile attacks.



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“Detect” represents the allies’ procedures to track North Korea’s missile movements with various intelligence-gathering assets, while the “defense” refers to a set of the allied defensive operations to minimize any damage from potential attacks.

“Disrupt” means striking North Korea’s core missile facilities including supporting installations, while “destroy” refers to the allies’ efforts to demolish the North’s mobile launchers, called TEL (transporter erector launcher), and incoming missiles.

The new plan to pursue a conditions-based OPCON transfer cited Seoul’s enhanced intelligence and command-and-control capabilities as one of the conditions that allow Seoul to assume OPCON.

Both had agreed that Seoul would assume OPCON once the South’s “critical” military capabilities are secured, and the security environment on the peninsula and in the region is conducive to a stable OPCON transition.

These agreements came amid escalating controversy here over the potential deployment of THADD and Seoul’s jet fighters procurement programs. Pentagon had rejected the transfer of key technologies for a Korean Fighter Experimental project that aims to procure 120 combat fighters by 2020.

In a joint press conference, Secretary Carter dismissed the speculation that Washington is unilaterally pursuing the deployment of the THAAD missile defense battery to South Korea, echoing the Pentagon’s recent dismissal of a Lockheed Martin official’s claim that the allies had been discussing it.

Carter also highlighted bilateral efforts to keep float the KF-X project. He said the two sides would build a forum to discuss the botched procurement project, while reiterating the Pentagon’s rejection of the technology transfer that Washington said would violate U.S. law.

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20151102001247>

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NK News – Wilmington, DE

### **Kim Jong Un Yet to Consolidate Power: Expert**

*Next two to five years are crucial for Kim Jong Un, N.Korea leadership expert suggests*

Chad O’Carroll

November 2nd, 2015

Kim Jong Un is the “ultimate decision-maker” in Pyongyang but is yet to fully consolidate his power, a North Korea leadership expert said on Friday, warning that, as a result, the next two-to-five years will be “critical for the regime.”

Speaking at a Washington, D.C. event to launch his “North Korean House of Cards” report, Ken E. Gause suggested that serious problems could emerge if Kim Jong Un did not consolidate power within that timeframe.



"I'm not saying the regime is going to collapse, though that's a possibility if certain things begin to happen, but it can make it very difficult for (it) to operate as a top-down, leader-based system," Gause said of the risks associated with an unresolved consolidation process.

At that point, "it may have to transform into something else, where other voices at the center of power may have some influence," which could ultimately unhinge the regime "due to the culture of North Korean politics," he said.

#### HUMAN PERSPECTIVE

Gause, speaking at an event organized by the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea, described his theoretical model for understanding politics in North Korea. He said that only by looking at Kim's rise from a "human level" could observers hope to understand "what would have to happen for somebody to step into the shoes of the Supreme Leader."

"Firstly, you need to develop relationships inside the regime that allow you to be able to control power," Gause said, describing Kim's leadership activities as "a relationship-building exercise."

"And the other thing ... you need to learn how to manipulate power," in order to influence "individuals and patronage systems" with a "very complex series of levers of power."

Gause said developments in Pyongyang since the rise of Kim Jong Un were consistent with his theory that the young leader was the top leader, but had not yet fully consolidated power.

Gause cited evidence revealed in his research pointing to weekly meetings established for Kim immediately after his father's death, aimed at developing his "relationships and understanding of the networks of power."

Tuesday meetings were focused on domestic politics, Gause said, with Fridays focusing on foreign and security policies.

"So what (this) really suggests is that the regime really had to come up with a way of educating the Supreme Leader, which then suggested he was not entirely ready, even though he had all the titles of power," he said.

#### PURGES, WEAPONS AND THE ECONOMY

Gause said that after receiving an initial education on how to control the regime, which was notable for excluding Jang Song Thaek at every stage, Kim begun a three-stage process to consolidate his power base.

First, Kim needed to make his mark by conducting "politics inside the regime," which "means purging people, moving people around."

"He has done a remarkable job at playing politics inside the regime," Gause said, pointing to Kim's resilience and ability to survive even the shock execution of Jang Song Thaek, previously regarded as the "No. 2" broker of power in Pyongyang.

"The second thing he needed to do was show progress on critical weapons systems," Gause said, describing efforts in the military domain as an essential part of the consolidation process.

"Now I know a lot of people in the U.S. government were frustrated with the missile test of April 2012, but if you think about it from Kim Jong Un's point of view... one of the critical things he needed to do was to show that he had control and was paying proper deference to the security of the nation."





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As such, the subsequent satellite launch of December 2012 and the third nuclear test of early 2013 “needed to happen,” Gause said, as Kim “had to show himself not only as a leader who has all the power, he also has the interests of the most powerful parts of the regime at heart.”

However, unlike his successful efforts to play politics and win support from military circles, Kim was having difficulty in “implementing the third thing he needed to do ... the promise to show progress on the economy,” Gause said.

“When he announced the *Byungjin* policy, it basically put himself into a catch-22 position,” Gause said, referring to North Korea’s policy of seeking to simultaneously develop the economy and nuclear weapons.

And because of his insistence on the *Byungjin* line, Kim finds it difficult to attract foreign aid due to international opposition of North Korea’s nuclear program, something that limiting capacity for economic growth and, consequently, Kim’s potential to fully consolidate power.

“He’s not willing to trade on the nuclear program,” Gause said, as it is “critical to his legitimacy as Supreme Leader.”

### **OGD AND TOTAL POWER**

Above all, Gause said that competing theories seeking to explain leadership politics in North Korea – notably those claiming the Organization and Guidance Department (OGD) is the real power behind the scenes in Pyongyang – were problematic.

“The OGD model I have a lot of trouble with ... that would assume that you have a bunch of individuals that would be running things behind the scenes,” Gause said. Namely, he said, those associated with the OGD were not universal in finding success.

“Now, there is no question about a proliferation of OGD people within the regime, at the provincial level, the central level ... people who were in the OGD now occupying industries like a mini-mafia, I agree with that,” he said.

“But if you were to think about and take that model out to its logical extension, two things fall apart.

“One is that we are seeing individuals from that model suffer and (get) pushed aside,” he said, further pointing to evidence which “suggests there are multiple patronage systems going into the OGD ... (which) would suggest an OGD that is divided and at odds with itself.”

“If that model were correct, that there is some sort of puppet master behind the scenes, you’d think there would be some much more strong homogeneity there.”

The other issue, Gause said, is that this idea is not consistent with the regime’s actions.

“(The OGD) model doesn’t explain domestic and foreign policy,” he said. “My sense is that if that model were operating, then you’d have an intense focus – almost to the exclusion of everything else – on internal security.”

And that would not explain recent diplomatic charm campaigns since Kim’s accession Gause said, because the OGD’s “primary focus is on surveillance of the regime.”



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Gause also dismissed the theory that Kim has enjoyed total control since the dawn of his rule, mainly due to the visible time it has taken for him to become “educated in the process of becoming Supreme Leader.”

<http://www.nknews.org/2015/11/kim-jong-un-yet-to-consolidate-power-expert/>

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The Korea Herald – Seoul, South Korea

### **North Korean Leader Calls for More Precise Rockets**

November 3, 2015

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un ordered a further development of "modern and precise" anti-aircraft rockets as he watched a firing drill in a western front-line area, Pyongyang's state media reported Tuesday.

"He underlined the need for the field of national defense science to more dynamically develop various types of new anti-aircraft rockets suited to the demand of a modern war so as to firmly defend the blue sky of the homeland from any air strike of enemies," said the North's state-run Korean Central News Agency.

It did not specify the timing and location of the training conducted by anti-aircraft units deployed on the western sector of the inter-Korean border.

Kim instructed the military and scientists to step up efforts to "modernize rockets and ensure their precision," the KCNA added.

On Monday, Defense Minister Han Min-koo and his American counterpart, Ashton Carter, announced a set of four major operational guidelines for countering North Korea's missile attacks after their talks in Seoul

Under the so-called 4D strategy, the allies said they will swiftly "detect, defense, disrupt and destroy" the North's missiles if needed.

North Korea watchers noted the timing of the North's report.

"I think the military training was held before (the Han-Carter talks). But North Korea released a relevant report just after that," said Yang Moo-jin, a professor at the University of North Korean Studies. "It seems to be strategically intended to counter the South Korea-U.S. coordination." (Yonhap)

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20151103000343>

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The Independent – London, U.K.

### **Vladimir Putin Tells Russian Security Council to Stockpile Nuclear Protective Equipment**

*President says country must be prepared for threats 'both in peacetime, and – God forbid... in wartime'*

By Damien Sharkov

2 November 2015

Russian President Vladimir Putin has ordered his security council to assess Russia's readiness to survive a nuclear, chemical or biological disaster and has told them to stockpile protective equipment if necessary.

The order was given during one of Putin's regular meetings with the council that is made up of the heads of Russia's intelligence, defence and law enforcement agencies. High-ranking ministers and the speaker of the Russian house of parliament are also permanent members of the group.

According to the government website, Putin told the council that it was important to review and potentially strengthen Russia's defence protocols against "nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological threats, both in peacetime, and—God forbid, of course—in wartime."

"We have to analyse to what extent they correspond to the realities of today and, if the need arises, make the required revisions," Putin said.

The Russian president also proposed to the council that Russia should begin developing and producing personal protective equipment against nuclear, biological or chemical threats. "In the near future we should set up an inventory of individual means of protection for citizens, to determine which of them have become theoretically and technically obsolete, and develop measures to replenish stocks of such assets in accordance with modern designs," Putin said.

During his address, Putin used the example of the Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster in Japan to illustrate the the need for the new defences. He also said that Moscow should be wary about the safety of nuclear power plants and businesses that handle toxic chemicals and make sure that they follow updated procedures to avoid accidents. According to the country's state nuclear agency Rosatom, Russia has 10 nuclear power plants.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/vladimir-putin-orders-russian-security-council-to-stockpile-nuclear-protective-equipment-a6717791.html>

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Sputnik International – Russian Information Agency

### **Russia's Eastern Military District Receives Iskander-M Missile Systems**

*A missile unit in Russia's Southern Military District located in the East Siberian Republic of Buryatia received Iskander-M (NATO reporting name SS-26 Stone) tactical missile systems, the Defense Ministry said in a statement on Tuesday.*

3 November 2015

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MOSCOW (Sputnik) — The Iskander is characterized by its high mobility and maneuverability, as it takes just 20 minutes to put the system in operational readiness.

The 9K720 Iskander-M entered into service in 2006 to replace the OTR-23 Oka missile system, retired following the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union.

*In order to master the sophisticated weaponry, the unit's military personnel "passed theoretical and practical training courses" and "performed combat and electronic launches of cruise and ballistic missiles" in Russia's southern Astrakhan Region, the statement reads.*

Another brigade of Iskanders under the district's command has been on duty in Russia's Jewish Autonomous Region in the Russian Far East since 2013.

Russia is currently performing a \$325-billion rearmament program to achieve a 70-percent modernization of its military by 2020.

<http://sputniknews.com/military/20151103/1029525064/russia-iskander-missiles-buryatia.html>

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TASS Russian News Agency – Moscow, Russia

### **Russia to Develop New Ballistic Missile Launch System by 2017**

*The new system will be used for launching intercontinental ballistic missiles withdrawn from service for putting commercial payloads into space*

November 03, 2015

MOSCOW, November 3. /TASS/. Russia's United Instrument Manufacturing Corporation (an affiliate of the state-run Rostec corporation) in 2017 will be through with the development of a new system of preparing and launching intercontinental ballistic missiles being withdrawn from service, the corporation has said in a news release.

"The Unified Instrument Manufacturing Corporation is developing a new system of preparing and launching intercontinental ballistic missiles for putting commercial payloads in space. The new launch pad instruments have already undergone preliminary testing. This work is to be completed in 2017," the statement says.

The work is being conducted by the research and industrial association Impuls under a contract with the international space company Kosmotras within the framework of the conversion program Dnepr.

"The program has been effective for many years. The first generation of our system was used to launch heavy rockets RS-20 (Satan under NATO classification), which entered duty back in the 1970s. They have long gone obsolete and now have to be disposed of. We are now working on a next generation system, which is unified and can be used to launch not only RS-20B, but also other missiles being withdrawn from service," the United Instrument Manufacturing Corporation CEO Sergey Skokov said.

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The preparation and launch system has been used on more than 20 occasions to put various payloads in space.

<http://tass.ru/en/defense/833727>

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The Guardian (U.S. Edition) – New York, NY

### **SNP and Labour MSPs Unite to Vote Against Trident Renewal**

*All but one of Labour's MSPs vote for motion opposing renewal of nuclear weapons system based at Faslane submarine base*

By Severin Carrell, Scotland editor

Tuesday, 3 November 2015

The Scottish parliament has voted strongly against the renewal of Trident after a rare display of unity by Labour and the Scottish National party.

In an unusual concession after years of rivalry on defence policy, the SNP adopted a motion put forward by Labour that said scrapping Trident's replacement system had to be tied to a fully-funded programme to find new jobs for redundant defence workers.

The deal saw Scottish Labour's leader, Kezia Dugdale, vote in favour of the motion, abandoning her long-standing opposition to unilateral disarmament, after her party voted by more than 70% to oppose nuclear weapons at its annual conference on Sunday.

With the amended motion calling for a defence diversification agency, the final tally was 96 in favour and 17 against, including the sole Labour rebel, Jackie Baillie, whose Dumbarton constituency includes the Trident submarine base at Faslane, and all the Tory and Liberal Democrat MSPs present.

The Holyrood vote will allow the policy's supporters within Labour to argue that scrapping Trident represents majority opinion in Scotland but the conflict within Labour over the marked shift in policy continued on Tuesday.

Neil Kinnock, the former Labour leader, said it could never win a UK election with unilateral disarmament in its manifesto.

Lord Kinnock said Sunday's conference vote would intensify the debate over Labour's stance on Trident at Westminster, where senior shadow cabinet ministers are in open revolt over attempts by Jeremy Corbyn to oppose its renewal. The SNP is also likely to taunt Labour at Westminster over its deep divisions.

"The debate is wide open. What I do know is the British people will not vote for unilateral disarmament. And that reality has to be dealt with," Kinnock said.

Trade union leaders at Faslane submarine base at the Clyde were also dismayed by Sunday's vote, after Unite Scotland, which has 800 members at the base and the nearby nuclear warhead depot at Coulport, backed the motion against Trident's replacement.

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Derek Torrie, Unite's shop steward at the Clyde naval base, said they were "dismayed and angry" at the union's stance. "We expect the union to back us to the hilt in preserving and sustaining our jobs. We don't believe it has done so," Torrie told BBC Reporting Scotland on Monday.

Labour strategists hope the Holyrood vote will strengthen their appeal to leftwing voters at next May's Scottish parliament elections, and among active churchgoers.

The Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament hailed the vote as a major boost to the disarmament cause, and the Church of Scotland issued a statement welcoming Holyrood's opposition to the "morally and ethically abhorrent" weapon.

The future replacement of Trident rose quickly up the political agenda in Scotland after it became a totemic issue in the pro-independence campaign last year, and Labour is currently 30 points behind the SNP in Scottish opinion polls.

But Tory officials believe it will damage Labour's standing among the mainstream voters it needs to win back key seats, including the East Renfrewshire constituency held for 18 years until the general election by Labour's staunchly pro-Trident MP Jim Murphy.

The SNP's decision to accept Labour's motion also signals a shift in its stance. Before his resignation as party leader and first minister, Alex Salmond had focused the debate on scrapping Trident on the savings for public services, rather than reemploying the thousands of people whose jobs would be lost.

Baillie, the only Labour rebel to vote against Tuesday's motion, insisted that abandoning Trident's replacement would put Faslane's future as the UK's sole submarine base at risk and with it 13,500 highly-skilled jobs.

Keith Brown, the Scottish government infrastructure secretary, told Holyrood that although Trident was a reserved matter under Westminster's control, its impact on the Scottish economy and its likely lifetime cost to the public sector – put by the Tory MP Crispin Blunt at £167bn – meant it was of keen interest to Scottish voters.

Brown, a veteran of the Falklands war, said Scotland's share of that would be around £14bn. "It is wrong for the UK government to be contemplating building a new nuclear weapons launch system while at the same time introducing massive cuts to welfare," Brown said.

"Around £1bn of the £12bn welfare cut by the UK government impacts directly on Scotland and it does seem to me to put the priorities of the UK government into quite sharp focus."

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/nov/03/snp-and-labour-msps-unite-to-vote-against-trident-renewal>

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The Jerusalem Post – Jerusalem, Israel

### **Rafsanjani Revelation on Iran Drive for Nuclear Bomb Eludes Alleged Khamenei Fatwa**

*The International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations nuclear watchdog, is investigating whether Iran's nuclear program ever had a military application.*

By ARIEL BEN SOLOMON

Saturday, 31 October 2015

Former Iranian president Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's revelation last week that Iran sought to build nuclear weapons touches on the ongoing debate over whether the fatwa issued by Iran's leader banning nuclear weapons actually exists.

However, the alleged fatwa reportedly issued in 2005 by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei came after the period when Rafsanjani admits the nuclear option was explored.

Nonetheless, such an admission reveals the secretive and slippery nature of the regime. If, according to Khamenei, nuclear weapons were prohibited according to Islam since 2005, then how could they have been allowed a couple of decades earlier according to the same Islamic texts? Iran's geopolitical situation is not much better than it was, as it still sees the West, Israel and Sunni states as its enemies.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations nuclear watchdog, is investigating whether Iran's nuclear program ever had a military application.

It is due to issue a report by December 15.

Throughout the negotiations, Iran insisted its program had only been for peaceful purposes.

"As I have said, when we started the [nuclear] work, we were at war, and we wanted to have such an option for the day our enemies wanted to use nuclear weapons. This was [our] state of mind, but things never become serious," Rafsanjani, the head of Iran's Expediency Council and the political rival of Khamenei, said in an interview to the Iranians' Nuclear Hope website, according to a report by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

"However, we took seriously the nonmilitary uses [of the nuclear project], and so we invested money and did a great deal of work. We worked in various areas and also taught a great deal. We dispatched students and invited scientists and many other things of this sort."

Yigal Carmon, president of the Washington-based MEMRI, told *The Jerusalem Post* on Thursday that Rafsanjani refers to the period of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq War and Khamenei's alleged fatwa was supposedly issued later in 2005. Hence it does not change the fundamentals of the fatwa debate.

Thus, Carmon says that the problem remains as it has always been: "Where is the alleged fatwa of 2005? Why can't anyone in Iran or America show us this fatwa of 2005?" MEMRI stands by its previous reports and its statement to the *Post* last year, that Khamenei never issued an official fatwa against nuclear weapons, at least not one for which there is any official record.

Other experts had told the *Post* last year that, on the other hand, a fatwa can be oral and does not have to be written down.

However, Carmon points out that "the theoretical possibility of issuing an oral fatwa does not serve as a proof that one has been issued."

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MEMRI argues that the Iranians are lying about the fatwa and that the Obama administration in endorsing it, commits a grave mistake.

“There have been reports that Khamenei issued a fatwa prohibiting nuclear weapons, yet there is no agreed-upon date, place of where it was said, who heard him say it nor the exact phrase used,” Ayelet Savyon, head of the Iran desk at MEMRI, had told the Post last year.

Furthermore, she said MEMRI had searched through all the fatwas listed on all the official websites of Khamenei, including his fatwa website, and it was not listed anywhere.

*Reuters contributed to this report.*

<http://m.jpost.com/Middle-East/Iran/Rafsanjani-revelation-on-Iran-drive-for-nuclear-bomb-eludes-alleged-Khamenei-fatwa-430657#article=6021QUU3MkVGQkE2MkRBRjgxRjE1N0UzQkQzNkY1QjQ5NDQ=>

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Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) – Tehran, Iran

1 November 2015

### **JCPOA Expected to Be Implemented Early in January: Araqchi**

Tehran, Nov 1, IRNA – The nuclear agreement reached between Tehran and the six world powers is expected to be implemented early in January, a senior lawmaker quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araqchi as saying.

Araqchi was quoted as saying by rapporteur of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission Nozar Shafiei.

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was adopted by Iran and the Group 5+1 (the US, Russia, China, France and Britain plus Germany) in Vienna on July 14.

Araqchi said that except for two cases, all other parts of the roadmap between Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency has been implemented and IAEA director general will give a report to IAEA Board of Governors within nearly one month.

The deputy foreign minister noted that the IAEA Board of Governors will convene on December 15 to present a resolution that will put an end to the so-called possible military dimensions (PMD) of Iran's nuclear program.

It is expected that the implementation of the JCPOA will begin within the next two months and the sanctions will be terminated, suspended or stopped under the term of the nuclear deal.

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/81821305/>

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Press TV – Tehran, Iran

### **Iran Not to Implement JCPOA until Sanctions Repealed: MPs**

Sunday, November 1, 2015

Iranian lawmakers have urged the administration to withhold the execution of its commitments under a nuclear agreement reached with the P5+1 group of countries until the US and EU sanctions against Tehran are declared null and void.

In a letter to President Hassan Rouhani on Sunday, 213 lawmakers said no practical measure should be taken with regard to the implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) before US President Barack Obama and the European Union officially declare the lifting of all financial and economic sanctions against Tehran.

They called on the government to set up a “powerful, informed and astute” committee to supervise the JCPOA implementation.

It is expected that the government fully observe the directives issued by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on the JCPOA implementation to safeguard the Iranian nation’s interests, the letter read.

In a letter to President Rouhani on October 21, the Leader enumerated certain points on the implementation of the JCPOA and issued directives to be heeded in this regard.

The Iranian president, in a letter addressed to the Leader on October 22, expressed gratitude to the Leader for his guidelines and support regarding the nuclear agreement and reiterated that Ayatollah Khamenei’s instructions will be fully taken into account.

On July 14, Iran and the P5+1 group of countries – the United States, Britain, France, China and Russia plus Germany – finalized the text of the JCPOA on Tehran’s nuclear program in the Austrian capital, Vienna.

According to the agreement, Iran will accept restrictions on its nuclear program in return for removal of sanctions imposed on Tehran by the US and the EU.

<http://www.presstv.com/Detail/2015/11/01/435853/Iran-P51-Majlis-Rouhani-Leader-JCPOA-sanctions>

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Mehr News Agency – Tehran, Iran

### **AEIO Spokesman: No Centrifuges Dismantled Yet in Nuclear Facilities**

Tuesday, 3 November 2015

TEHRAN, Nov. 03 (MNA) – The AEIO spokesman said on Tue. measures taken so far in regard to the implementation of JCPOA are just preparatory work and no centrifuges have been dismantled yet in Iran’s nuclear facilities .

Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEIO) Spokesman Behrouz Kamalvandi told reporters on Tuesday that measures in regard to the implementation of the JCPOA and the dismantling of

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centrifuges in nuclear facilities have been taken with the aim to save more time once the agreement is put into effect; “we are just in the stage of the preparatory work,” he said.

Kamalvandi stressed that Ayat. Khamenei’s directives on the JCPOA will be meticulously implemented, adding “it is imperative to strike a firm and definitive agreement on Arak reactor and fuel swap and receive the necessary guarantees from the other side. All these steps are currently being taken care of”.

Kamalvandi stressed that the measures taken so far to prepare the stage for the implementation of the nuclear accord aimed at saving time and that they are all reversible .

On the official document of redesigning the Arak nuclear reactor, Kamalvandi said five out of the six member states of the 5+1 group of countries have announced their agreement; “we are waiting for the remaining country to announce its opinion in a few days so that the document will be signed by all ministers of Iran and the 5+1 group”.

Highlighting the importance of reaching a firm agreement, Kamalvandi added, “the two important sections of the Leader’s directives [on JCPOA implementation] aim at securing a firm contract by stressing that Arak redesigning and swapping enriched uranium with natural uranium must not be implemented before the clarification of the PMD and other required agreements”.

Meanwhile, the AEOI head Ali Akbar Salehi is currently in Tokyo to hold talks with Japanese officials on expanding nuclear safety cooperation .

<http://en.mehrnews.com/news/111627/No-centrifuges-dismantled-yet-in-nuclear-facilities>

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Press TV – Tehran, Iran

## **Leader Urges Alertness against US Enmity**

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has urged alertness in the face of continued enmity by the United States toward Iran.

Ayatollah Khamenei called for such alertness in a Tuesday meeting with Iranian students in the capital, Tehran.

According to the Iranian calendar, Wednesday, Aban 13, marks the day when Iranian students took over the US embassy in Tehran, dubbed the “den of espionage,” back in 1979. It has been named the National Day of Fighting Global Arrogance.

In his Tuesday remarks, the Leader said that fighting global arrogance, unlike what certain individuals say, is rooted in wisdom and is based on experience.

Ayatollah Khamenei referred to the 1953 coup d’état against former Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddeq, and noted the then-premier made a mistake by putting his trust in the US after the Iranian oil industry was nationalized.

The Leader said the US has in recent years been involved in having certain individuals conceal its hostile intentions against Iran; the objective is to hide the real intention of the enemy from Iran so foes can harm the country, Ayatollah Khamenei said.

Some people do that with evil motives, some others out of folly, the Leader said.



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Ayatollah Khamenei urged Iranian students to study the documents obtained after the US embassy takeover, noting that those students who seized the embassy found out that it was truly a “den of espionage.”

“The truth is that US’s objectives regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran have not changed at all; and they (the Americans) would not spare a moment if they could destroy the Islamic Republic; but they can’t,” Ayatollah Khamenei said.

The United States has gradually realized that the reason behind the Iranian nation’s resistance is its religious beliefs, and therefore, has today sought to target these beliefs with new tools, the Leader said.

The Leader pointed to the nuclear negotiations between Iran and the P5+1 group of countries and said enemies employed hostile measures during the talks in the hope that the Iranian nation would no more be able to stand on its feet.

Iran and the P5+1 – the US, the UK, Russia, China, France and Germany – finalized the text of a nuclear agreement, dubbed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), on July 14.

Under the JCPOA, limits will be put on Iran’s nuclear activities in exchange for, among other things, the removal of all economic and financial bans against the Islamic Republic related to its nuclear program.

The Leader emphasized that one should not mistake the enemy for friends with whom we have disagreements.

“The enemy is he seeks to, by employing all of his capabilities, harm the nation and see a puppet government come to power,” the Leader said.

### **‘Death to US policies’**

“The slogan ‘death to America’ is backed by reason and wisdom; and it goes without saying that the slogan does not mean death to the American nation; this slogan means death to the US’s policies, death to arrogance,” the Leader noted.

<http://www.presstv.com/Detail/2015/11/03/436100/Iran-Leader-Ayatollah-Khamenei-global-arrogance>

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FARS News Agency – Tehran, Iran

Tuesday, November 03, 2015

### **Top Commander: N. Warhead, over 2000-km-Range Only Restrictions for Iran's Missile Program**

TEHRAN (FNA) - Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Hassan Firouzabadi said designing missiles with nuclear warheads and increasing the range of long-range missiles to more than 2,000km are the only two bans that Iran's arms program sees for itself.

“We will respect two limits; the first is what has been stated in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)(the UNSC resolution 2231 which approved the JCPOA) about the ban on designing



missiles for carrying nuclear warheads and the second is confining the range of our missiles to 2,000-km which has earlier been declared by all Iranian officials," Firouzabadi said on Tuesday.

Iranian officials have always underscored that the country's defense program cannot be affected by the nuclear deal clinched between Iran and the world powers on July 14 and the UN Security Council resolutions.

On October 11, Iran successfully test-fired the country's new precision-guided long-range ballistic missile that can be controlled until the moment of impact. Emad carries a conventional warhead.

"This missile (Emad) which has been fully designed and made by Iranian Defense Ministry's scientists and experts is the country' first long-range missile with navigation and strike controlling capability; it is capable of hitting and destroying the targets with high-precision," Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan told reporters after the successful test of Emad missile.

The Iranian Defense Minister reiterated that the manufacture and successful testing of Emad missile is a technological and operational jump in a strategic field, and said, "We don't ask for anyone's permission for boosting our defense and missile power; we resolutely continue our defense programs, specially in the missile field, and Emad missile is a conspicuous example."

General Dehqan felicitated Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, Iranian Armed Forces and the Iranian nation on the successful testing, and appreciated the scientists and experts of the Aerospace Industries Organization of the Defense Ministry.

The Iranian Defense Minister reiterated that the mass production and delivery of Emad missile to the country's Armed Forces will considerably increase their power and tactical capabilities.

The Iranian Armed Forces have recently test-fired different types of newly-developed missiles and torpedoes and tested a large number of home-made weapons, tools and equipment, including submarines, military ships, artillery, choppers, aircrafts, UAVs and air defense and electronic systems, during massive military drills.

Defense analysts and military observers say that Iran's wargames and its advancements in weapons production have proved as a deterrent factor.

<http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13940812001345>

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Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) – Tehran, Iran

4 November 2015

### **Demonstrators Burn US Flags during 13 Aban Rallies**

Tehran, Nov 4, IRNA – Iranian demonstrators in Tehran on Wednesday burned US flags and in a statement stressed that US is the 'Great Satan'.

'We consider US as Great Satan and we believe that fighting the arrogant powers is logical,' the statement reads.

Iranians staged massive rallies nationwide to commemorate the 36th anniversary of the 1979 takeover of the US Embassy in the capital, Tehran, on Wednesday.

Aban 13, falling on November 4, marks the seizure of the US Embassy in Tehran in 1979 and is a national day in the Islamic Revolution.



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While chanting anti-US slogans, the demonstrators also burned the flags of America during the rallies.

A large number of people, groups of students in particular, marched from the University of Tehran to the premises of the former embassy in Taleqani Street.

Each year, demonstrators gather outside the building of the former US Embassy, also known as the “Den of Espionage,” and chant slogans against the United States.

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/81825220/>

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Tasnim News Agency – Tehran, Iran

### **Iran Waiting for IAEA Report for Removing Centrifuges: Spokesman**

November, 04, 2015

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Behrouz Kamalvandi announced that the country does not plan to decommission its centrifuges for now and will wait for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report.

Speaking to the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) on Tuesday night, Kamalvandi referred to the start of Tehran’s preliminary measures as per the text of a recent nuclear agreement with six world powers, dubbed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), according to which the country is supposed to reduce the number of its centrifuges.

However, he said for the removal of centrifuges, the country should wait for a report by the IAEA on Iran’s nuclear activities.

On July 14, Iran and the IAEA signed a Road-map regarding the Islamic Republic’s nuclear work in the Austrian capital city of Vienna.

As part of the Road-map, the IAEA is required to finish its investigations about Iran’s nuclear activities and submit a report to the agency’s board by December 15.

In reaction to certain reports on the removal of 200 centrifuges from Natanz nuclear site, Kamalvandi had said earlier on Tuesday that no centrifuge has been mothballed yet.

Iran and the Group 5+1 (Russia, China, the US, Britain, France, and Germany) on July 14 reached a conclusion on a 159-page nuclear agreement that would terminate all nuclear-related sanctions imposed on Tehran over its nuclear energy program.

The agreement was officially adopted on October 18, and is going to take effect within the next two months.

<http://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2015/11/04/906928/iran-waiting-for-iaea-report-for-removing-centrifuges-spokesman>

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Press TV – Tehran, Iran

## Iran Starts Blockade on US Goods

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Iran's Minister of Industry, Mine and Trade Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh in a directive to his deputies on Thursday ordered to implement a blockade on imports of consumer goods from the United States. Nematzadeh in his directive ordered all the related institutions to prevent the presentation of American goods that represent a symbolic presence of the US in Iran in shops and stores across the country.

This, he said, is based on what the Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei emphasized in his recent letter to President Hassan Rouhani regarding the implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) - Iran's nuclear accord reached in July with the US, Europe, Russia and China.

Ayatollah Khamenei in his letter emphasized that the implementation of the JCPOA must lead to the promotion of the resistance economy – a self-dependent economy that he said must be created a few years ago to withstand the sanctions.

For that to happen, Ayatollah Khamenei told Rouhani that his government should set up a series of obligations for the government that included mechanisms for empowering national production and checking imports of US-made goods.

President Rouhani wrote back to Ayatollah Khamenei, assuring that his government would observe the Leader's guidance and considerations.

<http://www.presstv.com/Detail/2015/11/05/436439/Iran-starts-blockade-on-US-goods>

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Mehr News Agency – Tehran, Iran

## Salehi: 'Iran to Fulfill Commitments in Time'

Thursday, 5 November 2015

TEHRAN, Nov. 05 (MNA) – Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Ali Akbar Salehi said on Thursday that Iran will fulfill its commitments regarding the nuclear agreement in time to have sanctions lifted by the end of the year .

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani had once again emphasized, last week that the sanctions are expected to be lifted by the end of 2015.

Salehi also said, this week, that Iran has begun to reduce the uranium enrichment centrifuges as part of its nuclear agreement.

Following his speech on Iran's nuclear future to diplomats and energy executives in Tokyo, Salehi said "Whatever the president says will be fulfilled."

During his speech, Salehi had noted that AEOI anticipates no particular technical problems in dismantling its centrifuges.

Talking about Arak heavy water reactor, he added "Iran is waiting for an official document from the 5+1. Until the document is presented, Iran will certainly not take any steps regarding the Arak heavy water research reactor".

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Salehi arrived in Japan on November 1 to hold talks with top Japanese officials and also to attend the 61st meeting of the Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs in Nagasaki.

<http://en.mehrnews.com/news/111677/Iran-to-fulfill-commitments-in-time>

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FARS News Agency – Tehran, Iran

Thursday, November 05, 2015

### **Basij Commander: US Should Pay Compensation for Complicity in Killing of 250,000 Iranians**

TEHRAN (FNA) - Commander of Iran's Basij (volunteer) Force Brigadier General Mohammad Reza Naqdi said Washington should pay ransom for its substantiated back-up role in the killing of tens of thousands of Iranians in and after the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

"In the days when the Islamic Revolution was underway and after that and during the holy defense (the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran 1980-1988), over 250,000 Iranians were massacred directly by the US or by its proxies at Washington's order, and these US crimes can be proved based on undeniable and irrefutable proofs and documents," Naqdi said in Tehran on Thursday.

He stressed that the Iranian nation should receive compensation money from the US for the death of their children and beloved ones at the hands of the merciless Washington.

Based on documents and evidence, the US spy agencies helped the Pahlavi monarchy to identify and kill its opponents during the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

It also assisted former Iraqi dictator, Saddam Hussein, during the 8-year war against Iran by supplying it with weapons and intelligence.

<http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13940814000721>

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The Jordan Times – Amman, Jordan

### **Chemical Weapons Used by Rebels in Syria — Sources**

By Reuters

November 05, 2015

THE HAGUE — Chemical weapons experts have determined that mustard gas was used in a Syrian town where Daesh militants were battling another rebel group, according to a report by an international watchdog seen by Reuters.

A confidential October 29 report by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), a summary of which was shown to Reuters, concluded "with the utmost confidence that at least two people were exposed to sulphur mustard" in the town of Marea, north of Aleppo, on August 21.

"It is very likely that the effects of sulphur mustard resulted in the death of a baby," it said.

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The findings provide the first official confirmation of use of sulphur mustard, commonly known as mustard gas, in Syria since it agreed to destroy its chemical weapons stockpile, which included sulphur mustard.

The report did not mention Daesh, as the fact-finding mission was not mandated to assign blame, but diplomatic sources said the chemical had been used in the clashes between Daesh and another rebel group taking place in the town at the time.

"It raises the major question of where the sulphur mustard came from," one source said. "Either they [Daesh] gained the ability to make it themselves, or it may have come from an undeclared stockpile overtaken by IS [Daesh]. Both are worrying options."

Syria is supposed to have completely surrendered the toxic chemicals 18 months ago. Their use violates UN Security Council resolutions and the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention.

The report, which will be formally presented to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon later this month, adds to a growing body of evidence that the Daesh terror group has obtained, and is using, chemical weapons in both Iraq and Syria.

Kurdish authorities said earlier this month that Daesh militants fired mortar rounds containing mustard agent at Kurdish peshmerga fighters in northern Iraq during clashes in August. They said blood samples taken from around 35 fighters who were exposed in the attack southwest of the regional capital of Erbil showed "signatures" of mustard gas.

### **Special session**

A team of OPCW experts has been sent to Iraq to confirm the findings and is expected to obtain its own samples later this month, one diplomat said.

A special session has been called by the OPCW's 41-member Executive Council to discuss the Syrian findings and it will be held in The Hague on November 23, sources at the OPCW told Reuters.

Sulphur mustard — which causes severe delayed burns to the eyes, skin and lungs — is a so-called Schedule 1 chemical agent, meaning it has few uses outside warfare.

A second report by the OPCW fact-finding mission to Syria said the team had so far been unable to substantiate claims from the Syrian government that its forces had been targeted by insurgents using chemical weapons.

The mission "cannot confidently determine whether or not a chemical was used as a weapon" by militants in the Jobber area on August 29, 2014, it said.

Syria agreed in September 2013 to destroy its entire chemical weapons programme under a deal negotiated with the United States and Russia after hundreds of people were killed in a sarin gas attack in the outskirts of the capital, Damascus.

The last of 1,300 tonnes of chemical weapons declared to the OPCW was handed over in June, 2014, but several Western governments have expressed doubt that the government of President Bashar Assad declared its entire arsenal.

With Syria's civil war in its fifth year, chlorine has also been used illegally in systematic attacks against civilians, the OPCW found.

In the Idlib province south of Aleppo, the report said, there were several incidents between March and May of 2015 which "likely involved the use of one or more toxic chemicals".





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A UN-OPCW joint investigative mission has been assigned to determine who was behind those attacks.

<http://www.jordantimes.com/news/region/chemical-weapons-used-rebels-syria-%E2%80%94-sources>

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Islamic Republic News Agency – Tehran, Iran

6 November 2015

### **JCPOA Implementation Depends on Closing PMD Issue: MP**

Tehran, Nov 6, IRNA – A senior member of Parliament Abbasali Manouri Arani said on Friday that Iran's implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) depends on closing the so-called possible military dimensions (PMD) of Iran's nuclear program by the IAEA.

Mansouri Arani, a member of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission, made the remarks in an exclusive interview with IRNA.

He said that the UN nuclear agency will release its report on the PMD within the next two weeks and any measure by the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement the JCPOA depends on how this report will meet Tehran's interests.

'We have agreed to honor our commitments about the centrifuges by the time of implementing the JCPOA which is within the next two months,' Mansouri Arani said.

Referring to Iran's commitment to transfer 10,000 centrifuges in Natanz site and store them there, he said that this requires preliminary measures and dismantling the centrifuges and in order to do so, Iran is waiting for the agency's report on PMD.

He noted that based on a letter by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, any measure by Iran in this regard depends on closing the PMD issue.

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/81827564/>

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The Times of India – Mumbai, India

### **India's Nuclear Programme among Largest in Developing Nations: US Report**

By Press Trust of India (PTI)

November 3, 2015

WASHINGTON: Stating that India has "one of the largest nuclear power programmes" among developing nations, a US-based thinktank said by the end of 2014 India had enough weapon-grade plutonium to possess an estimated stock of atomic weapons in the range of 75-125.

"An estimate of India's nuclear arsenal can be derived by considering its weapon-grade plutonium stock. The resulting estimate has a median of 138 nuclear weapons equivalent with a range of 110

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to 175 weapons equivalent," a report released by Institute for Science and International Security said.

"However, the actual number of nuclear weapons India built from its stocks of weapon-grade plutonium must be less. When accounting for the amount of plutonium in the weapons production pipelines and in reserves, it is reasonable to assume that only about 70 per cent of the estimated stock of weapon-grade uranium is in nuclear weapons," the report said.

"Thus the predicted number of weapons made from its weapon-grade plutonium at the end of 2014 is about 97 with a range of 77-123. These values are rounded to 100 nuclear weapons with a range of 75-125 nuclear weapons," the report co-authored by David Albright and Serena Kelleher-Vergantini said.

Notably, Albright had led anti-India campaign both at the Congress and among the think-tanks against the Indo-US civil nuclear deal.

The report 'India's Stocks of Civil and Military Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium, End 2014' concludes that India has "one of the largest nuclear power programmes among developing nations".

The report estimated that India has made 100-200 kilogrammes of weapon-grade uranium for nuclear weapons.

"Faced with a lack of information but evidence that India has produced HEU (highly enriched uranium) for nuclear weapons, it is assumed that India has made 100-200 kilogrammes of weapon-grade uranium for nuclear weapons. Of course, this estimate is highly uncertain," the report said.

"It has a substantial stock of nuclear weapons made from weapon-grade plutonium, and perhaps some thermonuclear weapons that rely on both weapon-grade plutonium and weapon-grade uranium," the report said.

Noting that an estimate of India's nuclear arsenal can be derived by considering its plutonium and highly enriched uranium stocks, the report said India separates plutonium produced primarily in a set of small, dedicated reactors and a smaller amount produced in nuclear power reactors.

"However, India also has a growing gas centrifuge programme capable of producing significant amounts of HEU mostly for naval reactor fuel and perhaps for nuclear weapons, including thermonuclear weapons," it said and alleged that India is not transparent about its fissile material stocks.

The report estimates India's stocks of separated plutonium and highly enriched uranium as of the end of 2014.

India's stockpiles of nuclear weapons is much less than that of neighboring Pakistan, according to a recent report.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Indias-nuclear-programme-among-largest-in-developing-nations-US-report/articleshow/49640016.cms>

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## **USAF Center for Unconventional Weapons Studies (CUWS) Outreach Journal**

The National Interest – Washington, D.C.

OPPINION/Feature

### **Should the U.S. Military Fear China's Underwater Atomic Arsenal?**

*The Hunt for Red October: China Edition? Chinese boomers are coming to the Pacific Ocean. Just how worried should America be?*

By Robert Farley

November 1, 2015

By the end of this year, China's nuclear ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs, or "boomers") may take their first deterrent patrols. How does this change the balance of power in the Pacific?

#### **History of Program:**

China completed its first SSBN, the Type 092 "Xia" boat, in 1981. The sub did not enter service until 1987, however, and has reportedly never conducted a deterrence patrol. The sub (various rumors over the years have asserted that a sister ship was built, and lost) represented a triumph of China's limited submarine building industry, but did not constitute a meaningful deterrent.

China's second effort, the Type 094 class, has resulted in a much more effective group of boats. The Type 094s displace about 11,000 tons submerged, and carry 12 JL-2 submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), capable of launching a nuclear warhead some 7,500 kilometers.

Reports vary on whether the missiles can carry MIRVs, but given Chinese advances in this area it is likely that these and future boats will carry them in the future. Thus far China has constructed around four Type 094 class subs, the minimum necessary for conducting continuous deterrent patrols.

The next step is the Type 096 "Tang" SSBN. Reports vary widely on the design parameters and expected deployment dates, but it will undoubtedly be larger, quieter, and carry more missiles with more warheads. The Type 096 is expected to carry up to 24 JL-3 SLBMs, with a range of 10,000 kilometers.

Deployed appropriately, any of the more modern submarines can strike the United States with nuclear missiles. The Type 096 can strike the U.S. from secure areas near China's coast. The Pentagon currently believes that China will build around eight SSBNs in total, giving the PLAN the capacity to maintain multiple boats on continuous patrol. Much depends, however, on whether China shifts its overall nuclear posture from minimal deterrence to active pursuit of secure second strike capability.

#### **Strategies:**

The Type 092 boat is practically undeployable, and has effectively been retired. The PLAN has been conducting extensive exercises with the Type 094 boats, presumably in preparation for their first deterrent patrols. The PLAN has developed an extensive infrastructure for servicing these boats. However, the Type 094 class cannot operate independently in conditions of high intensity conflict. The boats are reputedly noisier than 1970s era Soviet SSBNs, making them easy prey for American attack subs.

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In light of this disadvantage, it seems likely that China will adopt the “bastion” concept that guided Soviet SSBN deployment during the Cold War. The Soviets adopted the bastion strategy because of concern about the survivability of its SSBNs, and because of paranoia about a decapitating American first strike. If anything, China’s boats remain less survivable than the Soviet subs of the late Cold War, and China is considerably more vulnerable to pre-emptive nuclear attack than the Soviet Union. Consequently, a bastion strategy might make sense. However, the PLAN needs to accelerate the development of its anti-submarine warfare capabilities in order to pose a genuine threat to American attack submarines.

On the one hand, the noisiness of China’s boomers make them easy for U.S. attack boats to find. On the other hand, an insecure nuclear deterrent does not bode well for crisis stability. As Brendan Thomas-Noone and Rory Medcalf have suggested, noisy SSBNs present tempting targets for nuclear attack submarines. In a war, the United States (or Japan, or India) might press this advantage by engaging in a concerted effort to destroy China’s boomers. This was precisely the strategy the U.S. Navy envisioned in the 1970s and 1980s; attacking the “bastions” in which Soviet SSBNs patrolled.

While sinking the SSBNs seems attractive, a concerted campaign might produce a “use it or lose it” mentality in the Chinese Communist Party, and would undoubtedly heighten concerns about U.S. escalatory intentions. In short, the vulnerability of Chinese SSBNs is both an opportunity and a problem for the United States.

#### **Effects on Deterrence:**

In practical terms, the expansion of the Chinese submarine nuclear deterrent doesn’t have much effect on the United States. As was the case with the Soviet Union, and is the case with Russia, China has plenty of good reasons to refrain from launching. The decision to devote resources to the SSBN fleet may well result from concerns over U.S. nuclear primacy; the idea that the United States could decisively destroy China’s nuclear forces on the ground. The deployment of additional submarines undoubtedly makes China’s second strike deterrent somewhat more secure, but the United States would require excessively high confidence to undertake a first strike against under any conditions.

As the world’s most powerful navies have found, SSBNs are a mixed blessing. They suck up cash and resources at every stage of design and development, and return very little in terms of operational value. The United States Navy has grudgingly settled on an Ohio replacement boat, although not without controversy. The ability of the United Kingdom to replace its existing SSBN force is an open political question. Even the Russians have been slow to replace their aging, Cold War era boomers. Moreover, “bastion” strategies are particularly costly, as they force the deployment of support units in the vicinity of the boomer.

The more interesting questions come down the road, as China tries to catch the United States (and Russia) on quieting technology. If future PLAN boomers have sufficient stealth to operate independently, then the Chinese deterrent strategy could come to resemble the American more closely than the Soviet. This would, incidentally, free up surface and subsurface anti-submarine units for other work.

In any case, the presence of additional Chinese boomers adds a wrinkle to the escalation-management problems that will arise if China and the United States ever go to war. The development of the Indian SSBN force, which has lagged behind the Chinese for some time, could further complicate the nuclear politics of the Indo-Pak. But most likely, Chinese boomers will spend their careers doing what everyone else’s boomers do; hide deep in the ocean, waiting for an order that will probably never come.



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*Robert Farley, a frequent contributor to TNI, is author of The Battleship Book. He serves as an Senior Lecturer at the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce at the University of Kentucky. His work includes military doctrine, national security, and maritime affairs.*

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/should-the-us-military-fear-chinas-underwater-atomic-arsenal-14218?page=show>

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The News International – Karachi, Pakistan

OPINION/Commentary

### **How to Explain Our Nuclear Stance**

By Rizwan Asghar

Monday, November 02, 2015

*“The thought that human beings are considering saving lives by killing millions of their fellow human beings is so preposterous that the words ‘saving life’ have lost all of their meaning. One of the most tragic facts of our century is that this ‘No’ to nuclear weapons has been spoken so seldom, so softly, and by so few.”*

— Henri J M Nouwen

Pakistan is a nuclear state, with a stockpile of more than 120 nuclear weapons. There is no way these 120 weapons can be used without blowing up the whole planet. With four operating plutonium production reactors, Pakistan’s capacity to produce fissile material for weapons continues to grow. When would it stop? No one seems to know the answer.

Lt-Gen Khalid Kidwai, Pakistan’s former director general of the Strategic Plans Division (SPD), remarked earlier this year that Pakistan has enough weapons to ensure that war in South Asia is no longer an option. These remarks suggested that Pakistan already has sufficient nuclear capability to ensure the credibility and reliability of our minimum nuclear deterrence.

We do not need a shift from a strategy of ‘minimum credible deterrence’ to ‘full spectrum deterrence.’ So our decision-makers will have to, finally, solve this puzzle: how many nuclear weapons are enough? Because it seems it is high time our nuclear establishment stopped producing more nuclear material for weapons.

Nuclear weapons are meant to deter a nuclear war, not arm the country to fight one. So the introduction of short-range missiles especially NASR (Hatf-9), with a range of only 37 miles (60km), is bound to raise lots of questions.

It is definitely true that, over the past decade, the Indian military’s growing quantitative and qualitative advantages have increased the pressure on our policymakers to enhance the role of nuclear weapons in our overall military doctrine and strategy. But our growing nuclear arsenal, along with the induction of tactical nuclear weapons, is certainly not the most sensible strategy.

There is no gain saying the fact that India has one of the world’s fastest growing nuclear arsenals. But the international community is not ready to accept the logic that the future trajectory of our nuclear programme should depend on how much Indian nuclear arsenal grows. Pakistan’s economy

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is only one-seventh of India's and what certainly makes more sense is competing with India in the economic realm.

Our current nuclear approach continues to send alarms to the international community. According to the latest estimates by the International Panel on Fissile Materials, Pakistan has an inventory of approximately 3,100 kilograms (kg) of highly enriched uranium (HEU) and roughly 170kg of weapon-grade plutonium. This has led to both rational and irrational fears, bordering on paranoia, that Pakistan's nuclear programme can be a source of threat to global peace and security.

Part of the reason why the international media is also swarming with apprehensions about our nuclear capability has to do with our complete failure on the diplomatic front. It is an unfortunate fact that our government has, thus far, remained unable to gain international support against India's involvement in Balochistan and our tribal areas. And what explains this failure to appraise the world of our legitimate security concerns is the presence of the weak and uncharismatic leaders that dominate Pakistani politics at the moment.

Then there is the issue that our nuclear establishment has also made no bones about impressing upon the international community the need to understand the threats emanating from India's conventional military strength. The course of events over the past one year shows that our political government and military leaders have not been quite successful in fighting our case on the diplomatic front.

It is highly unfortunate that Pakistani scholars are so ill-informed on issues of national security that in different international conferences and seminars they rely only on hackneyed phrases and diplomatic jargon to fight Pakistan's case. Our nuclear establishment does not make any serious effort to select competent people for this purpose, relying on people who parrot the official position of the Pakistani government without really thinking about what it means.

The one thing our nuclear security managers should have understood by now is that the only way for Pakistan to be accepted as a normal nuclear state is to win over diplomatic support in favour of our nuclear stance. One way to win the support of the international community is by letting the Conference on Disarmament (CD) start negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT).

Pakistan's refusal to allow even the start of formal talks on the FMCT is an unsustainable position. What is worse is that, taking advantage of our collective failure to muster enough support, some members of the CD only blame Pakistan's obduracy for the deadlock of the CD.

And this is a dirty truth: for the past four years Pakistan is just reiterating the original mantra not to allow the start of talks and the CD is bereft of any viable solution to the problem.

Another reason we have not been able to achieve this goal, so far, is that short-sighted leaders and incompetent diplomats are representing Pakistan at the world stage. During a recent conference in Los Angeles, California, this writer had the opportunity to interact with a couple of American academicians and people who are very influential in Washington's policymaking circles. Most of the participants shared the opinion that the growing US-India synergy is a failure of Pakistan's diplomacy in recent years.

More alarmingly, a myriad of vested interests and misguided writers in both Pakistan and India are influencing the public mind. And the very few people who are trying to make people aware of this rush towards nuclear insanity are being branded 'traitors' or 'American agents'. This also explains why about 1.5 billion people of South Asia are being held hostage to the myopic vision of the nuclear establishments of both countries.



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Pakistan's Strategic Plans Division (SPD) will have to stop relying on such dogmatic writers and, instead, engage foreign qualified experts who can reconcile our broader national security approach with certain reasonable demands from the international community. We need to convince the world that all the wild speculations about us becoming the world's third largest nuclear weapon state – with an arsenal of more than 350 weapons – are exaggerated.

A decent beginning can be made if Pakistan allows the start of talks on the FMCT. The academics in our country should help bring down the emotional rhetoric on this issue. In December 1993, Pakistan supported the UN General Assembly Resolution calling for talks on a “non-discriminatory multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.” So, Pakistan cannot afford to appear as a country violating the UN resolution and blocking the CD from implementing its agreed agenda.

Pakistan's current director general of the SPD should play his role in bringing fundamental changes to Pakistan's emerging nuclear posture and ensure that our country earns a respectable place in the global nuclear order. One thing is clear: a nuclear Pakistan cannot afford to be a pariah state in the comity of nations.

*Rizwan Asghar is a Pakistan-based journalist, nuclear security expert, and defense analyst. He is currently a PhD scholar at University of New Mexico, USA.*

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-9-348904-How-to-explain-our-nuclear-stance>

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The National Interest – Washington, D.C.

OPINION/Feature

### **The 1980s Called. They Don't Need Their Cruise Missiles Back.**

*The Obama administration's defense posture is perfect... for destroying Soviet air defenses in 1985.*

By Tom Nichols

November 3, 2015

Lest anyone think that Barack Obama defanged America's nuclear deterrent, we should all rest assured. The nuclear triad of submarines, land-based missiles and nuclear-armed bombers remains, just as it has for over 50 years. The Navy is going to produce a new ballistic missile sub. The Air Force would like to upgrade the ICBM force. The contract for the follow-on to the B2 bomber was announced just last week. If you'd gone into a coma the night the Berlin Wall fell and woken up 25 years later, you wouldn't notice much difference other than lower numbers. The structures and strategies remain intact.

Those strategies are so persistent that once again, the United States is gearing up for a debate on yet another weapons system from another era. Apparently, the nuclear-armed B-2 and its stealth capabilities are not enough to guarantee our nuclear deterrent, at least not for advocates of a new nuclear air-launched cruise missile (what used to be called ALCMs). The “Long Range Standoff” (now blessed with the new acronym LRSO) would be the follow-on to the cruise missiles meant to be launched by bombers against the old USSR during World War III.

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Why do we need a new LRSO? We don't, unless you think America should be prepared for a protracted, all-out war with the old Soviet Union. The purpose of the old ALCM was to allow U.S. bombers to get close enough to fire its cruise weapons from a distance as part of a campaign of suppressing enemy air defenses and other targets at the edge of enemy territory. As part of an over nuclear war-fighting strategy, it made sense—at least, it made sense if you believed in nuclear war-fighting strategies.

Those strategies had their purpose during the Cold War as part of a complex deterrent ranged against a global ideological empire. Why are we still relying on such concepts now? Here's how two advocates of the LRSO, Mel Deaile and Al Mauroni, described the need for the LRSO recently:

Deterrence and assurance only work if the U.S. military can hold all necessary targets at risk. A2/AD advances make it harder for our forces to reach their targets and our inattention to these limitations makes it harder to convince our allies that we can and will come to their defense in an emergency. Most importantly, dual-use aircraft and missiles allow us the greatest deterrent flexibility....The LRSO's attackers also fail to account for its importance as a hedge vis-a-vis submarine-launched and intercontinental ballistic missiles. Should either of these legs be subject to technological failure or decreased capability, a flight of 30 B-52s armed with 20 LRSO missiles each would give the STRATCOM commander 600 warheads at the ready.

As Ronald Reagan said to Jimmy Carter: "There you go again."

Think about the scenario here. Well, wait: actually, there *isn't* a scenario, just a description of a capability. But as British strategist Michael Howard asked when confronted with arguments like this over thirty years ago, we have to ask ourselves: What is this war about? What, exactly, is the scenario under which the United States resorts to nuclear cruise missiles because enemy air defenses are too hazardous for the bombers? I can think of only one: a major nuclear war that's already underway.

Advocates of the LRSO might argue that there are other contingencies to consider, but this a system whose obvious purpose is fighting a nuclear conflict. Notice the careful euphemisms in the description about why we need a new LRSO, and specifically about how those 600 airborne warheads would be a backup if other legs of the triad suffer a technological failure or "decreased capability." If the entire ICBM and submarine force can suffer a "technological failure," then clearly we're doing something wrong. The more likely meaning of this expression is "a huge and paralyzing cyber-attack," which would mean that World War III was already in the offing.

Technological reliability, however, isn't really the point. The real rationale for the LRSO is in that second part, a "decreased capability" in the other legs of the triad, a bland term that actually means "wiped out by enemy nuclear strikes." That's why a future STRATCOM chief would need those 600 warheads: because all the other ones are gone. Is that the eventuality for which we're still planning? If we're still spinning out long-term nuclear war-fighting plans, then let's say so and get on with that debate, instead of procurement fights that are nothing more than a way to spend money while providing a thin substitute for actually thinking about strategy.

This stale thinking about nuclear strategy always returns us to the same answers and the same force structure. Each nuclear review produces the same answer: we're doing everything right, but we could do it a bit smaller. Each time we look at our strategy, we go back to what we think worked during the Cold War, and we try to replicate those capabilities. This is not strategy, it is intellectual stasis. Where the LRSO is concerned, former Secretary of Defense William Perry and former Assistant Secretary Andy Weber put it bluntly and accurately in their call to kill the LRSO: "The old





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Cold War requirement for such a capability no longer exists.” But why let reality get in the way of a program?

The United States and Russia are the only two countries who maintain a triad. We’re about to spend scads of money modernizing that triad, including replacing the most advanced bomber in the world with the next more advanced bomber in the world. We don’t need to reinvest in a nuclear program meant to destroy Soviet air defenses in 1985. How large a deterrent we need is an argument worth having, but in the meantime, let’s stop trying to refight the Cold War. That mission’s already been accomplished.

*Tom Nichols is Professor of National Security Affairs at the Naval War College and an adjunct at the Harvard Extension School. His most recent book is No Use: Nuclear Weapons and U.S. National Security (University of Pennsylvania, 2014). The views expressed are his own.*

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-1980s-called-they-don%E2%80%99t-need-their-cruise-missiles-back-14236?page=show>

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Daily Times – Lahore, Pakistan

OPINION/Columnist

### **Nuclear Politics in South Asia**

*Through the Cold Start Doctrine, India envisions that, in case of war, it can divide Pakistan into two halves by separating Sindh or the Pakistani part of Kashmir from Punjab*

By Dr Qaisar Rashid

November 4, 2015

On the nuclear front, no other region of the world has been experiencing developments quite like the South Asia region has. The decade of the 1990s prompted its de facto nuclearisation when the region’s two giants, India and Pakistan, went nuclear in May 1998, though India had tested its nuclear weapon in 1974.

The Brasstacks crisis of 1987 and the Kashmir insurgency crisis of 1990 — when there was witnessed massive deployment and maneuvering of troops by India and Pakistan along their shared border — could not mature into a war between them because of presumed nuclear deterrence, as India had overt nuclear capability while Pakistan had opaque nuclear capability. Similarly, the Kargil war in 1999 and, in the wake of a five-man militant attack on the Indian parliament, the large scale military stand-off in 2001-2002 between the armies of India and Pakistan could not ripen into an across-the-border war because of affirmed nuclear deterrence expressed by both the countries. This was the time when India practiced the Sundarji Doctrine (1981-2004), which was primarily defensive or counter-offensive in nature. In this way, nuclear deterrence (by having large-yield strategic nuclear weapons deliverable through long-range ballistic missiles or airplanes) served its purpose of establishing regional peace by raising the fear that conventional war might turn into nuclear war.

Now, it seems that the space hogged by nuclear deterrence to avert a conventional war in South Asia has shrunk. India claims to have not only created some space to launch a limited sub-

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conventional war (predicated on the element of surprise) against Pakistan but that it also has the ability to sustain it below the nuclear-threshold level. Replacing the Sundarji Doctrine, India has declared the Cold Start Doctrine, which derives its strength from the blitzkrieg strategy used by India in December 1971 against Pakistan's army in East Pakistan to hasten the emergence of an independent Bangladesh. Through the Cold Start Doctrine, India envisions that, in case of war, it can divide Pakistan into two halves by separating Sindh or the Pakistani part of Kashmir from Punjab in a quick and powerful manner, besides holding the occupied limited area for some time to bargain with. Lately, a modified version of the doctrine has been tossed around. This version detaches itself from the war-time-only limitation and unlocks the possibility for a peacetime swift, potent but short duration surprising assault. The probable, identified areas in Pakistan are those that come under the sway of the Lashkar-e-Tayyaba (LeT), an internationally banned organisation notorious for attacks inside India to liberate Indian-held Kashmir.

Pakistan has not fully realised yet that the Mumbai attacks in 2008 changed India. The books written on Ajmal Kasab, the then sole survivor from amongst the attackers, describe the plan in detail, besides establishing the relationship of all the attackers to Pakistan. Lately, it has been reported in the media that, on the visit of Pakistan's Prime Minister (PM) Nawaz Sharif to the US in October this year, the US authorities presented Nawaz Sharif with the evidence implicating three Pakistanis in the attack, which took place on July 27 this year on a passenger bus and in a police station in the Gurdaspur district of India and which consumed the lives of about one dozen Indian civilians and policemen. On their way to the police station, the attackers thankfully failed to explode a railway track on a bridge, though they had planted a mine there. The Global Positioning System (GPS) sets recovered from the attackers (after they were killed in a gun battle) indicated Sargodha (in Pakistan) as the starting point of their journey on July 21. Incidents such as these ratchet up the possibility of provoking India into thinking out-of-the-box ways of avoiding war in the face of nuclear deterrence. The projected modified version of the Cold Start Doctrine seems to have a solution for this emerging scenario, which India calls Pakistan's asymmetric war against it. The likelihood of any such attack is in the Pakistani part of Kashmir where, reportedly, the India-specific LeT also has its bases.

Pakistan has recently declared that it has developed low-yield (battlefield) tactical nuclear weapons (TNWs) attached to short-range missiles such as the Nasr (developed in 2011 and carried by a shoot-and-scoop delivery system) to counter India's Cold Start Doctrine. Clearly, Pakistan is basking in the impression that India's doctrine is wartime specific and no modified version of it is available in the market for any peacetime confrontation. Secondly, Pakistan believes that its TNWs, in whatever form, are a substitute for any method to counter the quick, sub-conventional Indian offensive, whether the target of the offensive is Mureedke, the headquarters of the LeT in Pakistan (near the India-Pakistan border) or any distant safe haven such as Sargodha. Thirdly, Pakistan thinks that India cannot deploy its TNWs such as the Prahaar missile (developed in 2011) to neutralise Pakistan's reaction. Fourthly, Pakistan thinks that India cannot have access to an Iron Dome, which is an anti-missile air defence system.

Against this backdrop, it is apparent that Pakistan is devoid of any anti-Cold Start Doctrine; instead, Pakistan takes refuge in the term 'offensive-defence'. Secondly, Pakistan has failed to reign in non-state actors using its land to attack India. Thirdly, Pakistan is still undervaluing the importance of the element of surprise on which India has been relying. Fourth, Pakistan is still not realising that the success in having TNWs and the presence of Islamic militants on its land is a lethal combination the world is scared of, not to say South Asia.

South Asian politics are fraught with unpredictability. It is not known when Pakistani non-state actors cross the border, carry out any atrocious act and prompt a reaction from India. Similarly, it is



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not known why Pakistani civilians should be ready to become victims of the collateral damage caused by any TNW, even if it is launched to counter any version of India's Cold Start Doctrine.

*The writer is a freelance columnist*

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/opinion/04-Nov-2015/nuclear-politics-in-south-asia>

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The Hindustan Times – New Delhi, India

OPINION/Analysis

### **Pakistan's Nuclear Program Threatens the World, Not Just India**

By Shyam Saran

November 04, 2015

On the eve of Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to Washington and his summit meeting with United States President Barack Obama on October 23, there were two noteworthy developments: One, senior US journalist David Ignatius, who often reflects thinking within the US administration, reported that Washington was contemplating an offer of a civil nuclear deal to Islamabad, similar to the India-US nuclear deal. The US, he said, may also sponsor Pakistan's membership of the Nuclear Suppliers' Group. Pakistan, in return, would have to accept unspecified restraints on its rapidly expanding nuclear weapons programme.

Two, Pakistan's foreign secretary Aizaz Chaudhary confirmed on October 22 that Pakistan has developed tactical nuclear weapons of low yield as a deterrent against an invasion by the Indian Army. He spoke of Pakistan's acquisition of "full spectrum deterrence" capability to deter threats at every conceivable level. He claimed that this posture was consistent with credible minimum deterrence. Finally, he described Pakistan's nuclear programme as "one-dimensional": To stop Indian aggression before it happens.

Though both Pakistan and US official sources denied that a US-Pakistan nuclear deal was in the offing, the two developments are related. Pakistan pronouncements were aimed at the US and sought to convey that it would not accept a nuclear deal which did not have the exact same template as the India-US nuclear deal. Pakistan would insist on parity with India and reject conditions that had not been imposed on India.

Let's consider the terms on which the US may have offered a nuclear deal to Pakistan, including NSG membership. In a study released by the Stimson Center earlier this year entitled 'A Normal Nuclear Pakistan', US nuclear experts Michael Krepon and Toby Dalton enumerated the following possible conditions: One, shift declaratory policy from 'full spectrum' to strategic deterrence; two, commit to recessed deterrence posture and limit the production of short-range delivery vehicles and tactical nuclear weapons; three, lift Pakistan's veto on Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty negotiations and reduce or stop fissile material production; four, separate civilian and military facilities, and; five, sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty without waiting for India.

If the study reflects thinking within the US administration, then as an opening gambit in negotiations, these conditions are exceptionally mild and accommodating, given Pakistan's record

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on proliferation and its pursuit of a substantial and diversified nuclear arsenal and delivery capability. For example, there is no expectation that Pakistan, like India, should commit itself to a no-first use pledge, nor limit its production and deployment of nuclear weapons and delivery vehicles outside the category of TNWs. It may, on the basis of parity with India, accept the fourth and the third conditions partially (since it is unlikely to reduce or stop fissile material production).

Would the US acquiesce to Pakistan demands? The danger is that the US may treat this issue in transactional terms. It may believe that a nuclear deal may be a tempting enough prize to extract Pakistani support on an Afghan government-Taliban peace deal, which could enable the US to exit with some positive outcome, even if that proves temporary. The sop to India would be that Chinese opposition to India's entry into the NSG would be overcome, if Pakistan too could gain membership.

But this would also legitimise the substantial Chinese assistance to Pakistan's nuclear programme, which is currently in violation of the NSG guidelines.

The US would be making a serious error with significant and adverse long-term consequences if it continues to pursue this initiative. While Chaudhary claims that the country's nuclear programme is unidimensional, directed only against India, the reality is different. Pakistan has long harboured fears that the US may in a future crisis seek to take out and disable Pakistan's nuclear weapons.

These fears have been exacerbated by the 2011 Abbottabad operation, which eliminated Osama bin Laden. Pakistan has sought to increase the number of its weapons, the varieties of its delivery vehicles and produce more miniaturised weapons to enable a wide dispersal and better camouflage. One should also not lose sight of Pakistan's history of nuclear proliferation support to other Islamic states. There have been credible reports of a secret Saudi-Pakistan agreement, enabling the kingdom's access to Pakistani nuclear weapons if faced with a grave security threat. To argue that Pakistan's nuclear programme is unidimensionally targeted towards India is nothing more than rhetorical deflection.

The US may find it convenient to buy into this rhetoric because accepting the reality would require revising its approach to Pakistan's nuclear programme from benign tolerance to robust constraint. We may end up with a nuclear equivalent of what has been witnessed in Afghanistan — the US supplying funds and weapons to Pakistan that have been used to kill American soldiers in that country.

Should India revise its nuclear doctrine in the light of Pakistan's deployment of tactical nuclear weapons? Unlike Pakistan, India considers its nuclear weapons as a deterrent against nuclear attacks and they are not Pakistan-specific. The label on a nuclear weapon, tactical or strategic, fired against India or Indian forces makes no difference to its consequences. A nuclear exchange, at whatever level it is initiated, will inevitably result in an all-out strategic exchange. To believe that either side would, in the fog of war, be able to limit the exchange only to a theatre level is a dangerous illusion.

It would, however, be reckless for Pakistan to believe that having a nuclear deterrent, even a full spectrum one, gives it the licence to use cross-border terrorism against India, without fear of retaliation.

The US and its allies should carefully reflect whether they should encourage Pakistan in pursuing such a policy by rewarding rather than condemning its nuclear intransigence. Terrorism under a nuclear overhang is not just India's problem. It may come to haunt the international community, including the US in the future.



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*Shyam Saran, a former Foreign Secretary, is currently chairman, RIS, and senior fellow, CPR. The views expressed are personal.*

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/analysis/pakistan-s-nuclear-program-threatens-the-world-not-just-india/story-L45D26JWPmJM7n2XcA6xTM.html>

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### **ABOUT THE USAF CUWS**

The USAF Counterproliferation Center was established in 1998 at the direction of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Located at Maxwell AFB, this Center capitalizes on the resident expertise of Air University, while extending its reach far beyond - and influences a wide audience of leaders and policy makers. A memorandum of agreement between the Air Staff Director for Nuclear and Counterproliferation (then AF/XON), now AF/A5XP) and Air War College Commandant established the initial manpower and responsibilities of the Center. This included integrating counterproliferation awareness into the curriculum and ongoing research at the Air University; establishing an information repository to promote research on counterproliferation and nonproliferation issues; and directing research on the various topics associated with counterproliferation and nonproliferation .

The Secretary of Defense's Task Force on Nuclear Weapons Management released a report in 2008 that recommended "Air Force personnel connected to the nuclear mission be required to take a professional military education (PME) course on national, defense, and Air Force concepts for deterrence and defense." As a result, the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center, in coordination with the AF/A10 and Air Force Global Strike Command, established a series of courses at Kirtland AFB to provide continuing education through the careers of those Air Force personnel working in or supporting the nuclear enterprise. This mission was transferred to the Counterproliferation Center in 2012, broadening its mandate to providing education and research to not just countering WMD but also nuclear deterrence.

In February 2014, the Center's name was changed to the Center for Unconventional Weapons Studies to reflect its broad coverage of unconventional weapons issues, both offensive and defensive, across the six joint operating concepts (deterrence operations, cooperative security, major combat operations, irregular warfare, stability operations, and homeland security). The term "unconventional weapons," currently defined as nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, also includes the improvised use of chemical, biological, and radiological hazards.

The CUWS's military insignia displays the symbols of nuclear, biological, and chemical hazards. The arrows above the hazards represent the four aspects of counterproliferation - counterforce, active defense, passive defense, and consequence management.

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