



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

Articles & Other Documents:

Featured Article: [Edward Markey to Introduce Bill to Trim Nuclear Capability](#)

1. [U.S. Attack on Iran 'Suicide,' Would Spark Reprisal, Envoy Says](#)
2. [Harsher IAEA Report on Iran Nuclear Program Expected Next Month](#)
3. [U.S. and Israel Split on Speed of Iran Threat](#)
4. [Report: Iran Adds 2 Submarines to Naval Fleet](#)
5. [China Urges Talks on Iran Nuclear Issue](#)
6. [Arrow Missile Defense System Successfully Tested](#)
7. [Saudi Arabia to Acquire Nuclear Weapons to Counter Iran](#)
8. [US Inertia on NK Invites 3rd Nuclear Test: Expert](#)
9. [Defense Ministry to Restructure for Stronger Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction](#)
10. [Pyongyang's Leadership Change Poses "Even Greater" Security Challenges: U.S. Commander](#)
11. [India Upgrades Its Military with China in Mind](#)
12. [Interceptor Scores a Direct Hit on Target Missile](#)
13. [Pak Support for Terror Could Lead to N-Exchange: US](#)
14. [Russia Urges Support for Its Non-Proliferation Efforts](#)
15. [Russia Set to Build World's Most Powerful Laser Station](#)
16. [Russia, U.S. Agree to Exchange Information on ICBM Launches](#)
17. [Russia's Bulava-Carrying Subs to Enter Service in Summer](#)
18. [Russia Converts Nuke Submarine For 'Special Missions'](#)
19. [St. Petersburg Radar to be Put on Alert in Feb.](#)
20. [Ellen Tauscher in New Role of Special Envoy, Strategic Stability-Missile Defense](#)
21. [Edward Markey to Introduce Bill to Trim Nuclear Capability](#)
22. [Bill Could Set Rules for U.S. Compliance with New START Accord](#)
23. [Senior al-Qaeda Leader Killed in Drone Strike in Pakistan](#)
24. [Somali Militant Group al-Shabaab Formally Joins al-Qaida](#)
25. [An Iranian Nuclear Weapon: How Would We Know?](#)
26. [North Korea: 'Before the Storm'](#)
27. [Al Qaeda Merger Raises New Concerns](#)
28. [Cracks in Kim Jong Eun System](#)
29. [U.S. Missile Shield in Europe Hampers other Disarmament Efforts](#)

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

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

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

The following articles, papers or documents do not necessarily reflect official endorsement of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense, or other US government agencies. Reproduction for private use or commercial gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. All rights are reserved.



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

San Francisco Chronicle

U.S. Attack on Iran 'Suicide,' Would Spark Reprisal, Envoy Says

By Ladane Nasser and Stepan Kravchenko, Bloomberg News

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Feb. 8 (Bloomberg) -- A U.S. attack on Iran would be "suicide" that would prompt retaliation, said Mahmoud-Reza Sajjadi, the Persian Gulf country's ambassador to Russia,

"Iran has very good access to the whole world to carry out strikes against America," he told reporters in Moscow today, adding that no pre-emptive strike is planned.

Iranian armed forces are closely monitoring hostile powers' activities in the region, including along Iran's borders, and are ready to counter possible aggression, said Abdollah Reshadi, commander of the northeastern air defense unit. "Iran's air defense is on the alert for foreign powers' military moves and fully prepared to counter any threats against the country," he said today, according to state-run Press TV.

Israeli leaders, who have accused Iran of working toward building a nuclear weapon, say time is running out for a military strike that could stop the Islamic Republic from pursuing that aim. President Barack Obama told NBC News on Feb. 5 that "our preferred solution is diplomatic, but we're not going to take any actions off the table."

Iran, which says its atomic activities are designed to ensure electricity for its growing population, is under four rounds of United Nations sanctions and additional restrictions imposed by the U.S. and the European Union. Iran has threatened to shut the Strait of Hormuz, through which about a fifth of globally traded oil passes, as the EU prepares to ban imports of Iranian crude on July 1.

Willing to Act

Iranian leaders are willing to carry out an attack in the U.S. in response to real or perceived actions that threaten their government, James Clapper, the director of national intelligence, told Congress on Jan. 31.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta this month declined to comment directly on a report by Washington Post columnist David Ignatius that Panetta believes there is a strong likelihood Israel will strike Iran in April, May or June. He and other U.S. officials have warned Israel not to act alone.

Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak said on Feb. 2 that his country must consider conducting "an operation" before Iran reaches an "immunity zone," referring to Iran's goal of protecting its uranium enrichment and other nuclear operations by moving them to deep underground facilities.

Iran doesn't recognize Israel as a legitimate state and backs the Lebanese Hezbollah movement and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, which it describes as "resistance" groups and the U.S. and Israel classify as terrorists.

"Wherever there is cruelty, there will be resistance, and wherever there is resistance, we will be there," Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said at a conference in Tehran today. He said Iran "isn't seeking to rule the world or dominate anyone."

With assistance from Henry Meyer in Moscow. Editors: Jennifer M. Freedman, Andrew Langley.

http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/g/a/2012/02/08/bloomberg_articlesLZ2MSH1A1I4H01-LZ2UF.DTL

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

Ha'aretz Daily News – Israel

Harsher IAEA Report on Iran Nuclear Program Expected Next Month

Upcoming follow-up report apparently includes new details about efforts by Tehran to develop nuclear warheads for ground-to-ground missiles.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

By Amos Harel
9 February 2012

An upcoming report to be issued next month by the International Atomic Energy Agency on Iran's nuclear program is expected to be harsher than the last one, which the IAEA released in November. That document provided the main basis for stiffer international sanctions against the Islamic republic, including the complete oil embargo by the European Union that is to be imposed as of July.

Additional revelations by the IAEA could be the basis for even harsher international sanctions against Iran.

The agency's board of governors is scheduled to convene on March 5 in Vienna, the same day on which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is due to give a speech in Washington at a meeting of the annual policy conference of the pro-Israel lobby AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. While in the United States, Netanyahu is expected to meet with President Barack Obama for talks that will to a large extent be devoted to the international response to the threat from Iran.

The upcoming follow-up report from the IAEA will apparently include new details about the effort by Tehran to develop a nuclear warhead for a ground-to-ground missile. Last week an IAEA delegation visited Tehran for another round of talks with Iranian authorities. Western diplomats told news agency reporters in Vienna, where the organization is based, that the Iranian visit was a total failure.

The diplomats told the Reuters news agency that the delegation again asked the Iranians to give inspectors access to visit the military facility at Parchin, southeast of Tehran, but the Iranians refrained from responding to the request. Parchin is thought to be a main site of the weapons program. According to the same sources, after two days in which there appeared to be some progress in the talks, the Iranians began deliberately stalling - under the guise of changing the rules for the discussions - and the visit accomplished nothing.

An IAEA delegation will return to Tehran for another round of discussions on February 21, and IAEA chairman Yukiya Amano said in an official statement that the agency is "committed to intensifying dialogue" with Iran over its nuclear program. At the beginning of the week, President Obama signed an order stiffening American sanctions on the Iranian central bank, in another significant step against Iran. This step came about two weeks after the Europeans announced their oil embargo.

It appears that at least some of the comments about the Iranian issue made Israeli leaders in recent weeks are timed for the run-up to the IAEA board of governors meeting.

<http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/news/harsher-iaea-report-on-iran-nuclear-program-expected-next-month-1.411806>

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

New York Times
February 9, 2012

U.S. and Israel Split on Speed of Iran Threat

By MARK LANDLER and DAVID E. SANGER
Page – A1

WASHINGTON — Amid mounting tensions over whether Israel will carry out a military strike against Iran's nuclear program, the United States and Israel remain at odds over a fundamental question: whether Iran's crucial nuclear facilities are about to become impregnable.

Israel's defense minister, Ehud Barak, coined the phrase "zone of immunity" to define the circumstances under which Israel would judge it could no longer hold off from an attack because Iran's effort to produce a bomb would

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



be invulnerable to any strike. But judging when that moment will arrive has set off an intense debate with the Obama administration, whose officials counter that there are other ways to make Iran vulnerable.

Senior Israeli officials, including the foreign minister and leader of the Mossad, have traveled to Washington in recent weeks to make the case that this point is fast approaching. American officials have made reciprocal visits to Jerusalem, arguing that Israel and the West have more time and should allow sanctions and covert actions to deter Iran's plans.

The Americans have also used the discussions to test their belief, based on a series of public statements by Israeli officials, that an Israeli strike against Iran could come as early as spring, according to an official familiar with the discussions.

President Obama tried to defuse arguments for military action in a telephone call last month with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, the substance of which was confirmed by an Obama administration official who spoke only on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to describe the conversation. While the two men have had an often contentious relationship over Middle East diplomacy, American officials emerged from that exchange persuaded that Mr. Netanyahu was willing to give economic sanctions and other steps time to work.

The difference of opinion over Iran's nuclear "immunity" is critical because it plays into not just the timing — or bluffing — about a possible military strike, but the calculations about how deeply and quickly sanctions against Iran must bite. If the Israeli argument is right, the question of how fast the Iranians can assemble a weapon becomes less important than whether there is any way to stop them.

"'Zone of immunity' is an ill-defined term," said a senior Obama administration official, expressing frustration that the Israelis are looking at the problem too narrowly, given the many kinds of pressure being placed on Tehran and the increasing evidence that far tougher sanctions are having an effect.

The Israelis have zeroed in on Iran's plan to put much of its uranium enrichment near Qum in an underground facility beneath so many layers of granite that even the Pentagon acknowledges it would be out of the reach of its best bunker-busting bombs. Once enrichment activities are under way at Qum, the Israelis argue, Iran could throw out United Nations inspectors and produce bomb-grade fuel without fear the facility would be destroyed.

At its core, the official said, the argument the Israelis make is that once the Iranians get an "impregnable breakout capability" — that is, a place that is protected from a military strike — "it makes no difference whether it will take Iran six months or a year or five years" to fabricate a nuclear weapon, he said.

The Americans have a very different view, according to a second senior official who has discussed the concept with Israelis. He said "there are many other options" to slow Iran's march to a completed weapon, like shutting off Iran's oil revenues, taking out facilities that supply centrifuge parts or singling out installations where the Iranians would turn the fuel into a weapon.

Administration officials cite this more complex picture in pressing the Israelis to give the latest sanctions a chance to inflict enough pain on the Iranian leadership to force it back to the negotiating table, or to make the decision that the nuclear program is not worth the cost.

Iran's currency has plunged, they note; its oil is piling up in storage tanks because it cannot find buyers, and there is growing evidence of fissures among the country's leadership.

After a period of doubt about Israel's intentions at the end of last year, administration officials said the two sides were now communicating better. Mr. Obama, they said, reflected that when he said in an interview on Sunday with NBC News, "I don't think that Israel has made a decision on what they need to do."

This is not the first time that the Israelis have invented a phrase that suggests a hard deadline before an attack. At the end of the Bush administration, they said they could not allow Iran to go past "the point of no return." That



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

phrase was also ill-defined, but seemed to suggest that once Iran had the know-how and the basic materials to make a bomb, it would be inevitable.

While nuclear experts believe Iran now has enough uranium to fuel four or more weapons, it would have to enrich it to bomb-grade levels, which would take months. Beyond that, Iran would have to produce a warhead that could fit atop an Iranian missile — a process that could take one to three years, most experts say.

Still, Mr. Barak's theory of "immunity" has gained a lot of attention in recent weeks, complicating a debate charged with bellicose language — in Israel and Iran and among Republicans on the presidential campaign trail, where Mitt Romney and other candidates have pledged Israel full support in any military confrontation with Iran.

Disputes between the United States and Israel are inevitable, according to experts, given the radically different stakes of a nuclear Iran for a distant superpower and for a neighbor whose very existence the leaders in Tehran have pledged to eradicate.

"No end of consultations can remove that asymmetry," said Martin S. Indyk, a former ambassador to Israel and director of the Foreign Policy Program at the Brookings Institution.

Next month, Mr. Netanyahu is scheduled to visit Washington to address the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, a powerful pro-Israeli lobbying group, to whom he and other Israeli leaders have regularly spoken about Iran's "existential threat." The White House has not yet announced whether Mr. Netanyahu will meet with Mr. Obama, though officials say it is likely.

Officials said that for all the friction between the United States and Israel over issues like Jewish settlements in the West Bank, it had not spilled over into the dialogue over Iran, in part because Mr. Obama has ordered it "walled off" from politics.

Administration officials also noted a distinction in the tone of Mr. Barak and Mr. Netanyahu, who does not publicly favor the phrase "zone of immunity." This week, an American official noted, Mr. Netanyahu declared that on the topic of Iran, officials should just "shut up."

"I think that's good advice," the American official said.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/09/world/middleeast/us-and-israel-split-over-how-to-deter-iran.html?pagewanted=all>

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

Wall Street Journal
February 9, 2012

Report: Iran Adds 2 Submarines to Naval Fleet

Associated Press

TEHRAN—Iran's state-controlled news agency reported Thursday that the navy has added two more domestically built light submarines to its fleet.

The move is seen as part of Iran's effort to upgrade its defense capabilities amid escalating tension with the West over its nuclear program. Tehran has threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz, a strategic oil shipping route, over new U.S. sanctions targeting its critical oil industry.

The report by IRNA quoted Iran's navy chief Adm. Habibollah Sayyari as saying the Ghadir class submarines meet the needs of navy.

In November, Iran said it added three more Ghadir class submarines to its naval fleet. This class of submarine can fire missiles and torpedoes and operate in the Gulf's shallow waters.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Iran is believed to have about 12 light and three Russian-made submarines in its fleet, but it doesn't disclose the total numbers.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203646004577213401286919484.html>

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

China Daily – China

China Urges Talks on Iran Nuclear Issue

February 10, 2012

(Xinhua)

BEIJING - China has the desire to work with relevant parties to realize the early resumption of dialogue between Iran and a group of six international mediators, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Spokesman Liu Weimin made the remark at a daily press briefing when asked about China's views on boosting dialogue and negotiation in relation to Iran's nuclear issue.

At the invitation of Deputy Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Baqeri, Foreign Ministry Assistant Minister Ma Zhaoxu will visit Iran from February 12 to 13. The spokesman said Ma will exchange views with the Iranian side on nuclear issues.

China has been endeavoring to encourage peaceful negotiations, Liu said.

"We consistently stand for the opinion that dialogue and cooperation are the correct way to solve Iran's nuclear issue," Liu said.

The spokesman said it is urgent to relaunch the dialogue process between the group of six international mediators and Iran and promote cooperation between the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Iran.

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2012-02/10/content_14581120.htm

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

Jerusalem Post – Israel

Arrow Missile Defense System Successfully Tested

Officials say the test demonstrates Israel's ability to defend itself in a future war.

By YAAKOV KATZ

February 10, 2012

In the face of Iran's continued pursuit of a nuclear weapon, Israel tested the Arrow missile defense system on Friday in what officials said was a successful demonstration of the country's ability to defend itself in a future war.

At 11 a.m., an F-15 Israel Air Force (IAF) fighter jet launched a Blue Sparrow, a missile developed by Rafael to impersonate long-range Iranian ballistic missiles.

The Arrow's radar and detection system, developed by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) detected the incoming "enemy" missile and tracked it together with the US X-Band radar deployed in the Negev desert.

The Arrow interceptor was not launched during the test, in line with the parameters of the drill, which was carried out to test the system's overall capabilities in detecting and tracking incoming enemy targets.

The Defense Ministry said the test was not connected to current events and was part of the Arrow systems annual training regimen, but that it was a significant milestone, as it completes the development of the Block 4 stage of the interceptor, which will be delivered to the IAF soon.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

The Arrow serves as Israel's upper-tier missile defense system. Additional layers include the Iron Dome for short-range rockets and the soon-to-be-deployed David's Sling, which is being developed to defend against medium range rockets.

Defense Minister Ehud Barak on Friday praised all those that took part in the successful test. "This is an important technological achievement and an important step in Israel's progress in the field of defense... the successful test demonstrated again, the high technical capabilities of engineers, technicians and employees of the Israeli security industry that participated in the test," he said.

In October or November, Israel and the United States are expected to hold a joint Austere Challenge missile-defense exercise.

Senior American military officers from the European Command are scheduled to arrive in Israel later this month to finalize plans to hold the exercise, which has been billed as the largest joint missile-defense exercise in the countries' history.

The drill was initially scheduled for April and was supposed to see the deployment of thousands of US troops and various sophisticated American military equipment in Israel.

Jpost.com staff contributed to this report.

<http://www.jpost.com/Defense/Article.aspx?ID=257305&R=R1>

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

The Australian – Australia

Saudi Arabia to Acquire Nuclear Weapons to Counter Iran

By Hugh Tomlinson, Riyadh, The Times

February 11, 2012

SAUDI Arabia could acquire nuclear warheads within weeks of Iran developing atomic weapons as the threat from Tehran triggers an arms race across the Middle East.

In the event of a successful Iranian nuclear test, Riyadh would immediately launch a twin-track nuclear weapons program.

Warheads would be purchased off the shelf from abroad, with work on a new ballistic missile platform getting under way to build an immediate deterrent, according to Saudi sources.

At the same time, the Saudi kingdom would upgrade its planned civil nuclear program to include a military dimension, beginning uranium enrichment to develop weapons-grade material in the long term.

Saudi officials emphasise that Riyadh has no military nuclear program at present and will continue to lobby for nuclear disarmament across the region.

But the Saudi government accepts privately that there is no chance of Israel surrendering its undeclared arsenal of warheads, and Riyadh is determined to match Tehran if its arch enemy in the Gulf goes nuclear.

Like many Western powers, Riyadh is convinced that Iran is seeking to build nuclear weapons, and is preparing for a worst-case scenario should Western efforts to halt Iran's nuclear advance fail.

The Times has learnt that commanders of Saudi Arabia's Strategic Missile Force have been actively considering the missile platforms on the market.

"There is no intention currently to pursue a unilateral military nuclear program but the dynamics will change immediately if the Iranians develop their own nuclear capability," one senior Saudi source said.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

"Politically, it would be completely unacceptable to have Iran with a nuclear capability and not the kingdom."

Pakistan is the most likely vendor of warheads to Riyadh, according to Western officials.

Saudi Arabia is believed to have shouldered much of the cost of Pakistan's nuclear program and bailed out Islamabad when it was sanctioned by the West after its first nuclear test, in 1998.

In exchange, the countries have long been rumoured to have an agreement whereby Pakistan would sell Saudi Arabia warheads and nuclear technology if security in the Gulf deteriorated.

Riyadh and Islamabad have persistently denied that any such arrangement exists, but Western defence officials and diplomats in Riyadh are convinced there is an understanding. One said the kingdom would call in its favour from Pakistan "the next day" after an Iranian nuclear test and could have warheads within weeks.

This would place Saudi Arabia in breach of a memorandum of understanding signed with the US in 2008, promising US assistance with civil nuclear power on condition that Riyadh does not pursue "sensitive nuclear technologies".

But if Tehran builds a bomb, the regional landscape would change completely.

Riyadh is confident that Washington would be among the suitors bidding to provide nuclear technology so as to maintain oversight on the program.

Saudi Arabia's only current offensive ballistic missiles are the CSS-2 East Wind missiles, bought from China and smuggled into the kingdom in the 1980s.

The \$US3 billion deal, conducted under the late King Fahd, sparked fury in Washington when it was uncovered.

Riyadh has always claimed that it paid the Chinese extra to have the missiles rendered incapable of carrying nuclear warheads.

The Chinese platform could be upgraded, but the East Wind system is notoriously inaccurate and Riyadh might well decide to start from scratch.

A signal from Riyadh that it was seeking a new missile platform would be likely to prompt a bidding war from most of the available suppliers.

The US test-fired a Trident missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads during a joint exercise with Saudi Arabia in 2010. That year, the kingdom upgraded its missile command centre in Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia signed a nuclear co-operation agreement with China last month, adding to deals with France, South Korea and Argentina.

It has retained the right to enrich its own uranium as part of each agreement, something that remains a stumbling block to a mooted nuclear pact with the US.

Riyadh plans to spend more than \$88 million on 16 nuclear reactors by 2030 to meet its growing domestic energy needs.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/saudi-arabia-to-acquire-nuclear-weapons-to-counter-iran/story-fnb64oi6-1226268171576>

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

Korea Times – South Korea
February 8, 2012

US Inertia on NK Invites 3rd Nuclear Test: Expert

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

WASHINGTON (Yonhap) -- The Obama administration's wait-and-see attitude toward North Korea's new leadership is expected to lead to another nuclear test by the unpredictable communist regime, a U.S. expert said Tuesday.

"This failure to be more proactive is likely to end in a different kind of bad news -- another nuclear test," said Philip W. Yun, executive director of Ploughshares Fund, a global security foundation.

Talks between Washington and Pyongyang have been notably lacking since the abrupt death of leader Kim Jong-il in mid-December. Kim's third son, Jong-un, has taken the helm of the nuclear-armed nation.

Kurt Campbell, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, openly admitted the difficulty of figuring out what's going on in the secretive country, and Washington's response is still hanging in the balance.

In this presidential election year, the U.S. government has been also preoccupied with other pending issues such as Iran, Syria and the European economic crisis.

In his contribution to The Hill, titled "Don't Ignore North Korea," Yun emphasized that the U.S. should not waste any more time.

"Just as a policy of fostering regime change is not tenable, a seemingly reasonable wait-and-see/status quo approach is also inadequate," he said. "It could sow the seeds for yet another nuclear test in 2013, which could lead to engineering advances that allow the totalitarian North to produce smaller (and more) nuclear warheads."

Yun was deeply involved in diplomatic efforts toward North Korea, working as senior adviser at the U.S. State Department from 1994 to 2001.

He pointed out that in the 1990s, the world discounted Kim Jong-il as an "incompetent playboy," but he pulled off two nuclear tests, in 2006 and 2009.

The U.S. views the new leader as an "untested young boy."

Yun said the North will likely choose a third nuclear test for military and technical reasons, given the need for a follow-on experiment for its plutonium-based nuclear weapons program.

The new leader, Jong-un, is also coming under great pressure to demonstrate bold leadership, Yun added.

"Rather than reading tea leaves about the future, we need a solid grip on the present," he said. "Let's focus on the real and urgent, seriously probing North Korea's new leadership for facts -- and prevent yet another nuclear test."

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2012/02/120_104367.html

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

Yonhap News – South Korea
February 9, 2012

Defense Ministry to Restructure for Stronger Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction

SEOUL, Feb. 9 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry is set to undergo restructuring to bolster the military's defense against weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and cyber warfare, officials said Thursday.

Under the proposed change, the ministry's department of non-proliferation will be renamed the "department of WMD response," they said. Officials in that department will be tasked with forming defense policy against North Korea's potential WMD attacks and providing necessary guidelines, they added.

The newly-named department will also oversee non-proliferation and nuclear policies, missile defense, and response to chemical and biological weapons, officials said.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

In another change, the information protection team will be renamed the "cyber protection policy team" and will formulate South Korea's response to North Korea's cyber warfare threats.

"North Korea has continuously developed missiles, nuclear weapons and chemical and biological weapons," a defense ministry official said. "We're also aware of actual cyber attacks by North Korea. We need to develop policies to actively respond to such instances, and to strengthen roles and functions for relevant departments, accordingly."

The number of civil servants at the ministry will increase from 621 to 634 under the changes, officials added.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2012/02/09/85/0200000000AEN20120209004500315F.HTML>

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

Yonhap News – South Korea
February 10, 2012

Pyongyang's Leadership Change Poses "Even Greater" Security Challenges: U.S. Commander

By Lee Chi-dong

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9 (Yonhap) -- The nominee to head U.S. troops in the Asia-Pacific area said Thursday that North Korea's leadership change adds to regional security concerns on top of the possibility of the communist regime using weapons of mass destruction (WMDs).

"In fact, with the uncertainties associated with the ongoing leadership transition, upcoming challenges on the Peninsula may be even greater," Adm. Samuel Locklear said at a Senate confirmation hearing.

If confirmed, he will replace Adm. Robert Willard, currently commanding the 325,000-strong U.S. Pacific Command that has become more vital in the U.S. defense strategy, which is making a "pivot" toward Asia.

"North Korea's potential use of WMD presents a serious threat," he added. The North conducted two nuclear tests and is apparently developing long-range missiles.

Kim Jong-il, a long-time ruler of the secretive nation, died of heart attack in December and Pyongyang declared his son, Jong-un, reportedly in his late 20s, as successor.

"On the surface, North Korea appears stable, and Kim Jong-un and his leadership is primarily focused on domestic matters," Locklear said. "However, enduring U.S. and allied concerns -- North Korea's past provocative behavior, large conventional military, proliferation activities, and pursuit of asymmetric advantages through its ballistic missile and weapons of mass destruction programs, including uranium enrichment -- presents a serious threat to the United States, our allies and partners in the region and the international community."

He added, "North Korea's continued proliferation efforts pose a significant threat to the Pacific region and beyond."

Locklear branded North Korea as a "proven proliferator" of ballistic missiles and relevant technologies to countries like Iran.

The North's proliferation created a "serious and growing capability to target U.S. forces and our allies in the Middle East and assisted Syria in building a covert reactor in the early 2000s, which would have been capable of producing plutonium for nuclear weapons," added the admiral.

He also vowed to facilitate the U.S. base relocation project in South Korea.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

"The movement of units and facilities to areas south of the Han River improves force protection and survivability, placing the majority of personnel and equipment outside of the tactical effective range of North Korean artillery," he said.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/national/2012/02/10/65/0301000000AEN20120210000500315F.HTML>

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

Economic Times – India

9 February 2012

India Upgrades Its Military with China in Mind

By The Associated Press (AP)

NEW DELHI: India has decided to buy 126 fighter jets from France, taken delivery of a nuclear-powered submarine from Russia and prepared for its first aircraft carrier in recent weeks as it modernizes its military to match China's.

India and China have had tensions since a 1962 border war, and New Delhi has watched with dismay in recent years as Beijing has increased its influence in the Indian Ocean.

China has financed the development of ports in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Myanmar, and its recent effort to get access in the Seychelles prodded New Delhi to renew its own outreach to the Indian Ocean island state off western India.

With its recent purchases, running into tens of billions of dollars, India is finally working to counter what it sees as aggressive incursions into a region India has long dominated.

"The Indian military is strengthening its forces in preparation to fight a limited conflict along the disputed border, and is working to balance Chinese power projection in the Indian Ocean," James Clapper, the US director of national intelligence, told a Senate committee last week.

India has created new infantry mountain divisions and plans to raise a strike corps aimed at countering aggression by China. Their border still has not been set despite 15 rounds of talks, and patrols frequently face off on the ground.

Analysts say that although the probability of a conflict between the two Asian giants is remote, a short, sharp conflict in the disputed Himalayan heights can't be ruled out.

"Over the last couple of years, the Chinese have been acting more and more aggressively in the political, diplomatic and military arena," said retired Brig. Gurmeet Kanwal, director of the Indian army-funded Centre for Land Warfare Studies in New Delhi.

Indian leaders and defense strategists have fretted as China modernized its forces and extended its military advantage over India. For some in India, countering China is taking precedence even over checking longtime rival Pakistan.

"Of late, there has been a realization (in India) that China is the real danger of the future," Kanwal said.

But Zhao Gancheng, an South Asian expert from the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Studies, said India's reasons for building up its military go well beyond China.

"Of course, India takes a cautious attitude against China due to some unsettled historical issues. But I still believe India's fundamental goal of developing the military ability is to become a globally big country," Zhao said. "Next, it wants to make certain preparation for so-called potential threats coming from China and other countries."

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



From China's perspective, India's military buildup is "not a main factor" in its defense plans, Zhao said. "Not many people in China regard India as a threat and China has no intention to take part in a military contest with India," he said.

The drive to modernize Indian forces was long overdue as much of the equipment was obsolete Soviet-era weapons, and the orders for fighter jets, naval frigates, helicopters and armaments have made India the world's largest importer of arms. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute said India accounted for 9 percent of all the world's weapon imports in 2010, the latest year for which figures were available.

Last week's order of 126 combat aircraft, won by France's Dassault, followed a bitter battle by global jet manufacturers. The initial cost for the fighter jets is estimated as \$11 billion, but on-board weaponry, technology transfers, maintenance, warranties and other costs are expected to almost double the price.

The Indian navy last week took command of a Russian Nerpa nuclear submarine, renamed INS Chakra-II, at the Russian port of Vladivostok, propelling India into an elite group of countries operating underwater nuclear-powered vessels. It joins the United States, France, Russia, Britain and China.

The Chakra-II, on lease for 10 years at a cost of nearly \$1 billion, is expected to be inducted into the navy by March. Later this year, India is expected to take delivery of a retrofitted Soviet-built aircraft carrier.

In addition, six Scorpene subs being built in India under license from France in a \$5 billion deal are expected to start going into service in 2015, three years behind schedule, said Defense Minister A K Antony. Labor problems and difficulties procuring needed technology have hampered the project, he told the Indian Parliament recently. Critics also blame India's sluggish bureaucracy for the delays.

"India's efforts at modernizing its forces have been very slow," said Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan, a defense analyst at the New Delhi-based Observer Research Foundation.

Some Indian military experts complain that the country is not doing enough to upgrade its forces to the level befitting the regional power it aspires to be.

"It's not only China that is rising. India is on the ascent too, and it's a trend that will continue for some decades," said retired Air Vice Marshal Kapil Kak at the Centre for Air Power Studies in New Delhi.

India may be worrying over China's overtures to its neighbors, but New Delhi is reaching out to the Southeast Asian and East Asian countries in Beijing's backyard as well.

India has struck a strategic partnership with Vietnam, including helping Hanoi beef up its defense capabilities. Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has been actively pursuing a "Look East" policy, engaging the leaders of South Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, among others. The policy has resulted in a troupe of high-level visits to India, bolstering trade and economic cooperation.

Nowhere is the contest between China and India more evident than in Myanmar, where both of the energy-seeking Asian giants are caught in a race to gain access to the country's natural gas sources.

India has regularly conducted defense exercises with countries in the region. It is scheduled to host the navies of 14 Asian countries in maritime exercises later this week; the Chinese and Pakistani navies have not been invited.

And, while India is increasing its defense capabilities, China is doing the same, but faster, making it difficult for India to catch up. The Chinese government's military budget is the second largest in the world after the United States.

India has raised two mountain divisions of soldiers to add to its existing high-altitude troops. Around 36,000 soldiers and officers of the divisions have been posted in the remote northeast, not far from India's Arunachal Pradesh state, which China claims as part of its territory.



A proposal for a mountain strike corps is awaiting clearance by India's Cabinet, and an independent armored brigade for the mountain region also is in the works. India hopes to show it can strike deep beyond its neighbor's borders to serve as a deterrent for any Chinese aggression, Kanwal said.

"India is building up its capability for offensive operations in the mountains with a view to taking the fight into Chinese territory," Kanwal said.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/india-upgrades-its-military-with-china-in-mind/articleshow/11821265.cms>

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

The Hindu – India

Interceptor Scores a Direct Hit on Target Missile

By Y. Mallikarjun

Hyderabad, February 10, 2012

Validating Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) capability, India successfully launched an interceptor missile to destroy an incoming target missile in a direct hit at an altitude of 15 km over the Bay of Bengal on Friday.

The target missile mimicked an incoming enemy missile with a range of more than 2,000 km.

A few minutes after the 'hostile' missile, a modified surface-to-surface Prithvi, took off at 10.10 a.m. from Launch Complex-3 at Chandipur, the interceptor missile, Advanced Air Defence (AAD), was fired from the Wheeler Island. As the target missile climbed to a height about 100 km and began descending at rapid speed, the interceptor travelling at supersonic speed homed on to the target and smashed it to smithereens around 10.15 a.m. at a 15-km altitude in the endo-atmosphere.

The crucial test was conducted as part of India's plans to deploy a two-tiered BMD system to engage and kill incoming enemy missiles in the endo-atmosphere and exo-atmosphere.

This was the seventh interceptor mission and the fifth endo-atmospheric interception. Six of the tests to date have been successful, including the first three in a row.

Immediately after the modified Prithvi was launched, the Long Range Tracking Radars near Puri picked up the target missile as also the Multi Functional Radar at Paradip tracked the missile and passed on the information to guidance computer, which gave the command for launching of AAD after computing the target's flight. Equipped with inertial navigation system, a hi-tech computer and a radio-frequency seeker the AAD locked on to the target missile and blasted it in the terminal phase.

Scientific advisor to Defence Minister V.K. Saraswat, Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) Chief Controller for missiles and strategic systems, Avinash Chander and other top missile scientists were present.

Scientists laud successful launch

Our Correspondent T.S. Subramanian adds:

Mr. Saraswat called it "a good launch." The success of the interception "confirms" that India's Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) programme in the endo-atmosphere (that is, below an altitude of 50 km) "is now ready for deployment and the country is in a position to take it to the next phase of production and induction," he asserted. The entire operation including the launch of the attacker missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur and the interceptor taking off from the Wheeler Island, 70 km away, and the interception were "carried out in the deployment mode," he said. A user team from the Army, which was present in the Wheeler Island, watched the entire operation.



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

The two launches - that of the attacker missile and of the interceptor - took place independently and they were controlled by radars at different places in the country and by the Mission Control Centre and the Launch Control Centre. Fifteen computers stationed at Hyderabad, Balasore, Chandipur, Konark, Puri, Wheeler Island and so on worked in unison and made the mission a complete success. "We saw the fragments of the target missile forming a track on the computer screen, confirming that the target was destroyed," said Dr. Saraswat, who is also Director-General of DRDO.

Mr. Chander, DRDO's Chief Controller for missiles and strategic systems, called it "an excellent interception" and that "the entire interception was automated with radars tracking the incoming target missile." While the Launch Control Centre was situated in the Wheeler Island, the Mission Control Centre was situated a few "thousands of kilometers away from the launch point" of the attacker missile, he claimed.

D.S. Reddy, Programme Director, BMD programme, said the success of the interception proved that India had graduated "from the experimental mode to the deployment mode" of its interceptors. While the target missile belonged to 600 km range class, the interceptor missile was capable of taking on missiles which had a range of 2,000 km. "We met all the objectives we had as part of the mission and we have demonstrated to the user [the Army] whatever we were claiming," Mr. Reddy said.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/article2878400.ece?homepage=true>

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

Daily Bhaskar – India

Pak Support for Terror Could Lead to N-Exchange: US

By Press Trust of India (PTI)

10 February 2012

Washington: Support to terrorist activities inside India by elements in Pakistan's military and its spy agency could lead to confrontation between the two neighbours which has the potential to rapidly escalate into a nuclear exchange, a top American commander warned on Thursday.

Admiral Samuel Locklear told a Senate Committee that little progress has been made with regard to recent confidence building measures between the two nuclear-armed neighbours.

"Support by elements of Pakistan's military and intelligence services for violent extremist organizations (VEOs) targeting India strains the relationship; this support has the potential to result in military confrontation which could rapidly escalate to a nuclear exchange," Locklear told lawmakers during his confirmation hearing to head the US Pacific Command (PACCOM).

"Current efforts at dialogue have yielded few concrete results on the core security issues, especially regarding the resolution of territorial disputes," he said in a written response to questions asked by the top Senate panel.

However, he said efforts have provided each side greater insight into the other's positions.

"While progress is slow, the trajectory is positive and offers the promise of increased confidence-building measures," he said.

The Admiral said the US can continue to work with Pakistan to take effective action against groups-based in Pakistan that advocate and actively participate in attacks against India.

Responding to a question on India-US relationship, the Admiral said a close, continuing, and expanding security relationship with India will be important for security and stability in Asia and for effectively managing Indian Ocean security in the twenty-first century.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Admiral Locklear said the once nascent relationship between unfamiliar nations "has evolved into a strategic partnership between two of the pre-eminent security powers in Asia."

"Today, US-India defense ties are strong and growing, including a robust state of dialogues, military exercises, defense trade, personnel exchanges, and armaments cooperation," the top commander said.

He said efforts over the past ten years have focused on relationship-building and establishing the foundation "for a long-term partnership". He said the strong ties between the two militaries reflect this.

Locklear, however, said India maintains its strategic autonomy.

"India is essential to achieving long-term US goals for regional economic development, security and stability, and wide-ranging cooperation to counter extremism and radicalization," he said.

The Admiral underlined that the priorities for the bilateral ties "should focus on increasing maritime security cooperation, expanding the military-to-military relationship, and deepening cooperation on defense trade and production".

"I believe there is potential for cooperating on counter-proliferation, collaborating on humanitarian assistance and disaster response, countering piracy, cooperating on counter-terrorism, greater intelligence sharing on common threats, and working towards stability in Afghanistan and the broader Indian Ocean region," he noted.

<http://daily.bhaskar.com/article/WOR-TOP-pak-support-for-terror-could-lead-to-n-exchange-us-2843310.html>

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

Voice of Russia – Russia

Russia Urges Support for Its Non-Proliferation Efforts

By Garibov Konstantin

February 9, 2012

Russia has appealed to Pakistan, India and Israel to join the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, commonly known as the Non-Proliferation Treaty, or NPT, according to the Director of the Security and Disarmament Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry Mikhail Ulianov. Before this happens, Moscow would like to rely on those countries to provide for the security of their nuclear materials.

Practically all countries have joined the NPT, with the exception of Israel, India, Pakistan and North Korea. Recently Russia called on North Korea to return to the NPT and the IAEA guarantees. Pyongyang withdrew from the Treaty and expelled IAEA inspectors after the UN Security Council condemned it for testing a nuclear device.

Commenting on Russia's appeal for the consolidation of the non-proliferation agreement, Director of the Centre of Public and Political Research Vladimir Yevseyev points out:

"It is important to do this because there is a real danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear materials from those countries. If the world public, Russia included, exerts influence on those countries, the risk of nuclear proliferation from India, Pakistan and Israel will be reduced and we'll be able to prevent the most horrible catastrophe imaginable, which is nuclear terrorism."

India and Pakistan have constructed nuclear weapons. There is a strong suspicion that Israel also has them at its disposal but Israel objects to putting its nuclear programme under IAEA control. In this connection, Russian diplomat Mikhail Ulianov stressed that Moscow would like to see those countries in the NPT as non-nuclear member-states. India and Pakistan possess military nuclear technologies, have carried out tests of nuclear devices and created a nuclear arsenal. However, their nuclear weapons and delivery systems are not on combat duty yet. The Russian diplomat called on those countries to prevent terrorists from laying their hands on sensitive nuclear

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

materials and technologies. This is the opinion of Pyotr Topychkanov, an expert from the Centre of International Security of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations at the Russian Academy of Sciences.

“It is important for those countries to control their materials and technologies. We know what happens if they do not control them or just participate in spreading those materials and technologies. Recall the secret network of Pakistani scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan which provided certain nuclear technologies to Iran, North Korea, Libya, Israel, India and Pakistan. Obtaining nuclear materials provides the opportunity for making a dirty bomb”.

At the same time, it is obvious that the safety of nuclear facilities, materials and technologies is a global aim. Pyotr Topychkanov stressed in this connection:

“It is essential to overcome the natural barrier between NPT member-states on the one hand, and those that are not member-states, on the other. Safety standards for nuclear materials ought to be high in all countries. We need close cooperation to achieve this aim.”

A lot is already being done in this respect. In 2004 Russia and the US supported the adoption of a UN Security Council resolution which is meant to prevent weapons of mass destruction from getting into the hands of individuals, including terrorists. In 2006, Moscow and Washington put forward the idea of a global struggle against nuclear terrorist acts. Almost 100 countries have already joined this initiative. Russia and the US also cooperate in creating mechanisms of opposing risks and dangers in the field of nuclear non-proliferation.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2012/02/09/65698086.html>

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

RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

Russia Set to Build World’s Most Powerful Laser Station

9 February 2012

Russia is set to build the world’s most powerful dual-purpose laser station at the approximate cost of 45 billion rubles (\$1.5 billion), a Russian nuclear official said on Thursday.

The station might be built near the Sarov Federal Nuclear Center in Russia's Nizhny Novgorod region, said the head of the nuclear center, Ildar Ilkayev, but he did not specify when the construction would begin.

“The Russian leadership made a decision to build the world’s largest laser station... The United States has already constructed a similar station and France is about to complete the construction of their own station. We [Russia] are behind them because it costs a lot, but it will be the best one in the world,” Ilkayev said.

The mooted station, he said, will be both used for military and scientific purposes, particularly in the research of laser thermonuclear fusion, which scientists believe to be the backbone of the energy production in the future.

Ilkayev said it would take at least 10 years to build the station. It will be capable of directing 2.8 million joules of ultraviolet laser energy compared to the output of the U.S. and French stations of two mega joules.

The official also opts for the station, which will be 360 meters in width and as tall as a 10-storey building, to be open for all scientists, including from other countries.

U.S. California-based the National Ignition Facility (NIF) was put into operation in 2009 and is currently the world’s largest laser, occupying the territory of approximately three football fields. Its 192 intense laser beams are capable of delivering 60 times the energy of any previous laser systems to a target.

NIZHNY NOVGOROD, February 9 (RIA Novosti)

<http://en.ria.ru/world/20120209/171236043.html>

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

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

People's Daily – China

Russia, U.S. Agree to Exchange Information on ICBM Launches

(Xinhua)

February 09, 2012

MOSCOW, Feb. 8 (Xinhua) -- Russia and the United States have signed an agreement about two-way exchange of information regarding strategic missiles launches, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

The ministry said in a statement that the third session of the Russian-U.S. consultative commission on the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) was held in Geneva from Jan. 24 to Feb. 7.

"The sides agreed the number of launches of the inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBM) or submarine-based missiles (per year) and they would exchange telemetric information about it in 2012," the ministry said.

It added that Moscow and Washington have been continuing their discussions on the practical issues related to the treaty's implementation.

According to the new START signed in 2010, Russia and the United States must provide each other with information about five test or training launches of their inter-continental ballistic missiles annually.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90777/7724116.html>

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

RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

Russia's Bulava-Carrying Subs to Enter Service in Summer

9 February 2012

Russia's newest nuclear-powered submarines, the Yury Dolgoruky and the Alexander Nevsky, will be put into operation in the summer, Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov said on Thursday.

The Yury Dolgoruky will enter service in June and the Alexander Nevsky in August, he said.

The Borey-class subs will be armed with Bulava intercontinental ballistic missiles but Serdyukov did not say exactly when the troubled missile will enter service.

The Yury Dolgoruky's construction began in 1996 at the Sevmash shipyard and was completed in 2008. It has a crew of 130 and will be armed with 16 Bulava SLBMs and six SS-N-15 cruise missiles.

President Dmitry Medvedev said in late December that the flight tests of the Bulava SLBM were completed and it will now be adopted for service with the Russian Navy.

Russia successfully test launched two Bulava missiles on December 23.

They were the 18th and 19th test launches of the troubled Bulava. Only 11 launches have been officially declared successful.

But some analysts suggest that in reality the number of failures is considerably larger. Russian military expert Pavel Felgenhauer said that of the Bulava's first 12 test launches, only one was entirely successful.

Despite several previous failures officially blamed on manufacturing faults, the Russian military has insisted that there is no alternative to the Bulava.

The Bulava (SS-NX-30) SLBM, developed by the Moscow Institute of Thermal Technology (since 1998), carries up to 10 MIRV warheads and has a range of over 8,000 kilometers (5,000 miles). The three-stage ballistic missile is designed for deployment on Borey-class nuclear submarines.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

MOSCOW, February 9 (RIA Novosti)

http://en.ria.ru/military_news/20120209/171236845.html

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

RTT News

Russia Converts Nuke Submarine For 'Special Missions'

By RTT Staff Writer

February 9, 2012

(RTTNews) - Russia's Sevsmash shipyard will shortly resume work on converting the multi role Project 949AM nuclear submarine Belgorod for a "series of special missions," the country's Navy Chief Admiral Vladimir Vysotsky said on Thursday.

Conversion work has been suspended since the sinking of its sister ship, the Kursk, a cruise missile armed boat, in the freezing Barents Sea after an explosion killing all the 118 sailors and officers on board 12 years ago.

"Belgorod will be completed as a special project. The boat will have many special tasks ahead of it," Vysotsky was quoted by Russian media as saying.

The Russian Navy has several submarines for what it terms "special missions," but information about them remains classified.

The Project 949M class has a displacement of 23,860 tons, a length of 150 meters, speed of 33 knots and crew of 118.

http://www.rttnews.com/1816773/russia-converts-uke-submarine-for-special-missions.aspx?type=cn&utm_source=google&utm_campaign=sitemap

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

RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

St. Petersburg Radar to be Put on Alert in Feb.

9 February 2012

This month a new radar of the Voronezh class will be put on alert duty near Russia's second largest city of St. Petersburg as part of Russia's early warning system, a missile defense spokesman said on Thursday.

The current overhaul of Russia's missile defenses is also due to the new strategic challenges presented by the U.S.-led missile shield plans in Europe.

"New generation missile warning radar in the Leningrad Region will be put on alert duty in February 2012," said Col. Alexei Zolotukhin, spokesman for the missile defense troops in the Russian Defense Ministry.

The radar in the Leningrad Region was built in 2006 and until recently was operated in a test mode, he said.

Two other Voronezh class radars are already operating in a test mode in Armavir in the Black Sea area and in Pionersky near Russia's westernmost exclave of Kaliningrad. Another one near the Siberian city of Irkutsk will be put into test mode operation later this year.

The Voronezh class radars are a serious breakthrough compared to the previous generation radars of the Dnepr and Daryal class. The radar in Pionersky has a range of 6,000 kilometers and can simultaneously track around 500 objects.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Under the national defense program until 2020, the Defense Ministry is to replace all Soviet long-range radars and close all gaps in radar coverage on Russia's borders.

MOSCOW, February 9 (RIA Novosti)

http://en.rian.ru/military_news/20120209/171237484.html

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

RTT News

February 7, 2012

Ellen Tauscher in New Role of Special Envoy, Strategic Stability-Missile Defense

By RTT Staff Writer

(RTT News) - The U.S. State Department's top arms control official Ellen Tauscher on Tuesday began serving in the newly-created position of Special Envoy for Strategic Stability and Missile Defense.

She took the new post after resigning as Under-Secretary of State for arms control and international security.

Assistant Secretary for Arms Control and Verification and Compliance Rose Gottemoeller will be acting Under-Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

In her special envoy role, Tauscher will continue to be responsible for bilateral work with Russia, and particularly the work that she does with Sergei Ryabkov to try to come to agreement with the Russians on a missile defense cooperation regime, State Department spokesperson Victoria Nuland said.

Tauscher will also co-chair the U.S.-Russia Bilateral Working Group on Arms Control and International Security.

<http://www.rttnews.com/1815225/ellen-tauscher-in-new-role-of-special-envoy-strategic-stability-missile-defense.aspx>

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

Boston Globe

Edward Markey to Introduce Bill to Trim Nuclear Capability

February 8, 2012

By Bryan Bender, Globe Staff

WASHINGTON -- Taking aim at an area of federal spending left unchecked for generations, two dozen lawmakers today plan to propose legislation mandating deep cuts in the US nuclear arsenal – including submarines, missiles, aircraft, and weapons design laboratories.

According to its chief sponsor, the bill is an effort to jumpstart a wider discussion that both liberals and some fiscal conservatives consider long overdue: why does the United States still need thousands of atomic bombs designed to prevent a war with the Soviet Union?

“Many say that we need a fundamental reevaluation of Medicare and Medicaid and the entire domestic side of government spending,” said Representative Edward J. Markey of Malden, who has enlisted dozens of his Democratic colleagues in the effort. “You never hear them talk about a fundamental reevaluation of whether the Cold War defense budget approach makes sense any longer for the 21st century.”

The bill, a summary of which was provided to the Globe, estimates that \$100 billion can be saved over the next decade while still maintaining hundreds of nuclear weapons to deter any would-be aggressors.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

“This is not a road map to zero weapons,” said Joel Rubin, a former State Department official who is now director of policy and government affairs at the Ploughshares Fund, which seeks to reduce the spread of nuclear arms. “Markey is calling for sound strategic and fiscal decision-making for our national defense.”

The legislation comes as President Obama is reviewing the nuclear strategy to determine how many weapons are needed to deter potential enemies such as Iran or North Korea.

“The Markey bill, more than anything, highlights some of the ways which the United States can save tens of billions of dollars in systems that are simply not required for our security,” said Daryl Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control Association, a nonprofit think tank in Washington.

One of the most significant proposals involves the fleet of bombers that are equipped to carry nuclear weapons.

The bill will propose stripping the nuclear mission from both the B-2 and B-52 bombers and delaying production of a new bomber until 2023. Such a move would effectively phase out one of the legs of the so-called “nuclear triad” consisting of aircraft, land-based missiles, and submarines. That structure has characterized the nuclear arsenal since the early 1960s.

Other proposals include:

- reducing the fleet of nuclear-armed submarines from 14 to 8;
- delaying production of a replacement submarine to 2023 and only building eight;
- canceling plans for the new F-35 jet to be able to carry nuclear bombs;
- canceling plans for a new intercontinental ballistic missile; and
- canceling plans to build a uranium processing facility in Oak Ridge, Tenn., to manufacture material for new nuclear weapons.

“We need more nuclear weapons programs like Lady Gaga needs another outfit,” Markey said.

However, the legislation would also require that the military and Department of Energy, which builds and maintains the warheads, to keep at least 200 intercontinental missiles and 250 submarine-launched missiles to keep a strong nuclear deterrent in an uncertain world.

The bill summary does not mention limits on the number of actual weapons, which according to recent estimates are somewhere in the ballpark of 5,000 bombs, including those ready to be launched and those in storage. Some missiles can carry multiple warheads and the United States and Russia last year agreed to cut the number of total weapons ready to be launched at 1,550.

The Markey bill has the support of only of 24 Democrats in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives. There is little confidence that it get enough support to pass any time soon – especially in a heated election year.

But several Republicans in recent months have also expressed support for slashing nuclear weapons to help reduce government spending.

For example, Senator Tom Coburn, Republican of Oklahoma, last year laid out a similar plan for nearly \$80 billion in nuclear weapons cuts over the next decade, including cutting land-based missiles, nuclear-armed subs, bombers, and the number of warheads stored in reserve.

“None of this is really radical thinking in the context of the budget environment we are in,” said Carl Conetta, co-director of the Project on Defense Alternatives in Cambridge. “The nuclear weapons industry is huge and they are going to lobby against it, but we still have dramatic overkill in this area.”

He said it is possible that military leaders would welcome the cuts. “You might get agreement among the Joint Chiefs, who might want to rescue other weapon systems” from budget cuts.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Markey also said reducing the nuclear arsenal could save other defense programs that are designed to confront more pressing threats. "It's better to cut unneeded submarines than Navy SEALs and better to cut nuclear bombers than unmanned drones," he said. "Which weapons are we going to be using in the 21st century?"

At minimum, the Massachusetts lawmaker said he hopes his bill will force those who are still defending the current structure to justify their position.

"How many Americans know each Trident submarine has the capacity to totally destroy Russia or China?" he asked. "That's each submarine, not the entire fleet."

He also explained it in terms of other pressing national priorities that need to be met with fewer resources coming into Washington.

"What is the greater terror? That Americans will be attacked in nuclear war or they will get a call that cancer or Alzheimer's has struck one of the members of their family," he asked. "We need to have this wider debate."

<http://www.boston.com/Boston/politicalintelligence/2012/02/edward-markey-introduce-bill-trim-nuclear-capability/b7WtahrQF1bp1Ug08wMK4O/index.html>

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

Global Security Newswire

Bill Could Set Rules for U.S. Compliance with New START Accord

February 9, 2012

A key U.S. lawmaker on Wednesday said he planned to submit a revised legislative proposal to address how the Obama administration can comply with a strategic arms control deal with Russia (see *GSN*, Feb. 8).

House Armed Forces Strategic Forces Subcommittee Chairman Michael Turner (R-Ohio) could submit an altered version of the New START Implementation Act once the administration issues its fiscal 2013 budget request next week, the lawmaker indicated in a press release. Turner introduced the original bill last year.

New START, which entered into force on Feb. 5, 2011, requires each government by 2018 to reduce deployment of strategic nuclear warheads to 1,550, down from a cap of 2,200 mandated by this year under an older treaty. It also limits the number of fielded strategic warhead delivery platforms to 700, with an additional 100 systems permitted in reserve. The treaty calls for the nations to regularly share quantities, siting and schematics of armament equipment and sites.

The administration in 2010 negotiated a decade-long, \$85 billion nuclear weapons complex spending plan amid efforts to secure the treaty's Senate ratification, Turner noted in provided remarks.

"President Obama made a lot of promises to convince the Senate that it was safe to ratify the New START treaty. Without specific and detailed promises to modernize the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile, delivery vehicles and infrastructure, there is no doubt that the New START treaty would not have been approved," he said.

"However, it is now clear based on actions within the administration and announcements to the Congress, like the intention to delay the development of the next-generation ballistic missile submarine and the delay in the first production unit of the B-61-12 bomb, that the president isn't keeping his word," the lawmaker stated (see *GSN*, Jan. 27).

He said Obama's forthcoming budget proposal would mark "a significant reversal" from his prior pledge to seek no less than \$7.9 billion in fiscal 2013 funds for the National Nuclear Security Administration, the semiautonomous Energy Department entity that oversees the U.S. nuclear weapons complex.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

"He may also walk away from his direct pledge to build the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) facility at [the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico]; this facility is key to the United States continuing its nuclear weapons enterprise," Turner added (see *GSN*, Dec. 19, 2011).

"The ratification of the New START treaty was a package deal, and President Obama is now changing the terms of the Senate's ratification of the treaty," he said. "Congress cannot allow the president to walk away from his promises, nor can we afford to continue to reduce our nuclear forces to reach treaty mandated levels without the robust modernization of the remaining U.S. nuclear weapons forces the president promised."

Declarations by the administration suggest it would strictly mull further arsenal cuts in a forthcoming plan to carry out objectives established by the 2010 Nuclear Posture Review, Turner said (see *GSN*, Jan. 24).

A Turner spokesman told *Global Security Newswire* that details of the planned legislation would be issued next week following the federal budget rollout (U.S. Representative Michael Turner release, Feb. 8).

<http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/bill-could-set-rules-us-compliance-new-start/>

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

London Telegraph – U.K.

Senior al-Qaeda Leader Killed in Drone Strike in Pakistan

A senior militant, believed to be the head of al-Qaeda in Pakistan, was killed in a US drone strike early on Thursday morning, according to security officials.

By Rob Crilly, Islamabad
09 February 2012

Badar Mansoor had been a link man between militant groups, running a training camp and sending volunteers to fight across the border in Afghanistan.

Intelligence officials said two missiles were fired at a house in Miranshah, the main town of North Waziristan, killing as many as five militants.

Identifying figures killed in drone strikes is notoriously difficult and can take several weeks. However, a senior Pakistani official told the AFP news agency that Mansoor was among the dead.

"He died in the missile attacks overnight in Miranshah. His death is a major blow to al-Qaeda's abilities to strike in Pakistan," he said.

Thursday's attack was the second since Barack Obama confirmed the existence of a covert drones programme directed against extremists in Pakistan's border region.

Mansoor came from Pakistan's largest province, Punjab, and moved to North Waziristan in 2008 where he rose to become a senior figure in the Pakistan Taliban, leading a band of about 200 fighters.

He was blamed for planning numerous suicide attacks, including several in Karachi and one directed against the minority Ahmadi community that killed more than 90 people in Lahore in 2010.

He was a close associate of Ilyas Kashmiri – the then head of al-Qaeda in Pakistan – and local reports suggest the two discussed setting up Laskhar-e-Osama to launch attacks across the country following the death of Osama bin Laden last year.

Kashmiri carried a \$5m price on his head and was killed in a drone strike last June.

Since then, many analysts believe Mansoor took over his post as al-Qaeda chief in Pakistan.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Rahimullah Yusufzai, a senior analyst in the north-western town of Peshawar, said the drone strikes were eating away at al-Qaeda's capacity in the country.

"Al-Qaeda is being weakened because they are reliant on the protection of the local leaders, who are being killed," he said.

As well as Kashmiri, drones are credited with the 2009 killing of Baitullah Mehsud, the leader of the Pakistan Taliban.

But the programme is blamed for killing hundreds of civilians.

The Bureau of Investigative Journalism says as many as 535 civilians, including more than 60 children, have been killed in drone attacks since Obama took office.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/al-qaeda/9072027/Senior-al-Qaeda-leader-killed-in-drone-strike-in-Pakistan.html>

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

London Guardian – U.K.

Somali Militant Group al-Shabaab Formally Joins al-Qaida

Al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri announces 'glad tidings' in video message

By Katharine Houreld for Associated Press in Nairobi

Thursday, 9 February 2012

The Somali militant group al-Shabaab has formally joined al-Qaida, according to a video translation of a message from al-Qaida's leader.

Ayman al-Zawahiri gave "glad tidings" that al-Shabaab had joined al-Qaida, according to the translation of the 15-minute video by the Site Intelligence group on Thursday.

"Today, I have glad tidings for the Muslim Ummah that will please the believers and disturb the disbelievers, which is the joining of the Shabaab al-Mujahideen Movement in Somalia to Qaidat al-Jihad, to support the jihadi unity against the Zio-Crusader campaign and their assistants amongst the treacherous agent rulers," he said.

Al-Shabaab leaders have pledged allegiance to al-Qaida in the past, releasing a video in 2009 called "At Your Service Osama", the same year that Osama bin Laden released a video in which he made encouraging comments about the Somali insurgency.

But the new al-Zawahiri video – which was posted on an Islamic Internet forum on Thursday – is the first formal welcoming of al-Shabaab by the new al-Qaida leader. The new video also featured the al-Shabaab chairman, Mukhtar Abu Zubeyr, also known as Godane, pledging allegiance to al-Zawahiri.

Somalia's al-Shabaab militia is a mix of conscripts, paid fighters, clan militias, and ideologues. It counts a few hundred foreign fighters among its ranks. Most are drawn from other east African nations but a few have travelled from as far afield as Pakistan and Chechnya.

The foreigners brought cash and tactical and bomb-making knowledge to al-Shabaab, but the extent of the organisation's formal links to al-Qaida have often been unclear. Clan allegiances are still an important part of the 21-year-old Somali civil war, which currently pits al-Shabaab against the weak UN-backed government. The government is supported by some 10,000 African Union troops and allied militias.

Last November al-Zawahiri released a video about his memories of Bin Laden. The longtime Bin Laden deputy became al-Qaida's head after US Navy Seals killed Bin Laden in May. Information in his compound at the time of his death suggested that Bin Laden was "giving strategic direction" to al-Qaida affiliates in Somalia and Yemen.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530



Western intelligence officials say that al-Qaida officials have found sanctuary with al-Shabaab for years. Last month, a US drone strike killed Bilal al-Berjawi, a close associate of late al-Qaida operative Fazul Abdullah Mohammed, who directed the 1998 bombings of the US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed more than 200 people. Fazul was killed in Somalia last year.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/feb/09/somali-al-shabaab-join-al-qaida>

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

Council on Foreign Relations
OPINION/Blog

An Iranian Nuclear Weapon: How Would We Know?

By Micah Zenko
February 7, 2012

As President Obama articulated in his State of the Union address, the goal of U.S. policy toward Iran is clear: “To prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon.” There are a number of problems inherent to this objective, however. How do you operationalize it? How would you know that Iran has produced a nuclear weapon, or is nearing the completion of one?

From recent history in North Korea, we know of five distinct steps on the spectrum toward becoming a nuclear weapons state.

1. The U.S. Intelligence Community (IC) estimates that North Korea has sufficient weapons-grade fissile material to build a nuclear weapon.

In 1989, North Korea shut down its 5 megawatt graphite-moderated reactor at Yongbyon and removed the nuclear fuel rods, which were reprocessed into plutonium in March 1990. However, the full extent of North Korea’s deception regarding spent fuel removal and reprocessing as well as its plutonium cache was unknown until the release of IAEA environmental measurements in 1991. In November 1993, the CIA briefed President Bill Clinton that North Korea has a “better than ever” chance of possessing enough plutonium for one or two nuclear weapons,” based on estimates of the maximum it could have produced during the shutdown. (Today, North Korea possesses between six to ten bombs worth of plutonium.)

2. The U.S. IC estimates that North Korea has a weapon.

In April 2001, Deputy Director for Central Intelligence John McLaughlin stated, “North [Korea] probably has one or two nuclear bombs.” It is important to note that this belief was not based on a nuclear test. In August 2001, in an unclassified response to questions from the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the CIA revealed: “North Korea has produced one or two simple fission-type nuclear weapons and has validated the designs without conducting yield-producing nuclear tests.”

3. North Korea informs U.S. officials that it possesses a nuclear weapon.

In December 2002, North Korea removed the metal seals and disabled the fifteen surveillance cameras installed by the IAEA at the Yongbyon nuclear reactor and reprocessing facility. On December 31, 2002, the final two IAEA inspectors (both Russians) in North Korea were forced to leave the country. In April 2003, North Korean negotiators disclosed to U.S. diplomats that they possessed nuclear weapons and had reprocessed all of the spent fuel previously frozen under the 1994 Agreed Framework. In February 2005, in its most definitive public statement to date, the North Korean foreign ministry stated that the country had indeed “produced nuclear weapons.”

4. North Korea conducts a verifiable nuclear test.

On October 9, 2006, North Korea conducted an underground nuclear test, which it claimed was “conducted with indigenous wisdom and technology 100 percent” and created a “powerful self-reliant defence capability.” One



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

week after the test, the Office of the Director of Intelligence (ODNI) released a statement affirming North Korea's nuclear progress: "Analysis of air samples collected on October 11, 2006, detected radioactive debris which confirms that North Korea conducted an underground nuclear explosion...The explosion yield was less than a kiloton." After claims of a second test in May 2009, the ODNI assessed, "North Korea probably conducted an underground nuclear explosion...The explosion yield was approximately a few kilotons."

5. North Korea has a verifiable nuclear delivery vehicle.

North Korea could attempt to covertly transport a nuclear weapon aboard an airplane, ship, submarine, or ground vehicle, although all are probably too unreliable to successfully deliver such a highly-valued weapon. If there were a crisis, however, North Korea could decide to rush a bomb onto one of those platforms, much as Israel quickly assembled nuclear weapons to be delivered by plane on the eve of the Six Day War in 1967. According to the National Intelligence Council in 2001, the more plausible delivery method is ballistic missiles: "Missiles provide a level of prestige, coercive diplomacy, and deterrence that nonmissile means do not."

In an unclassified report to Congress in August 2007, the ODNI stated, "North Korea has short- and medium-range missiles that could be fitted with nuclear weapons, but we do not know whether it has in fact done so." In January 2011, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates warned that within five years North Korea could develop the capability of striking the U.S. homeland with an inter-continental ballistic missile (ICBM), presumably with the Taepodong-II missile, which failed in flight tests in July 2006 and April 2009. (Various Pentagon officials have acknowledged that the thirty ground-based missile defense interceptors deployed in Fort Greely, Alaska, and Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, will be capable of intercepting a North Korean—or Iranian—missile "for some years to come.")

In the case of Iran, the U.S. IC does not believe that Iran has reached any of the five steps along the nuclear weapons spectrum. Moreover, as the Director of National Intelligence James Clapper affirmed last week in a Senate hearing, "we don't believe they've actually made the decision to go ahead with a nuclear weapon." However, if Iran fulfills any of the five steps, it could spell failure for the Obama administration's strategy to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear weapons state. Prior to these steps are a series of "red lines;" policymakers and analysts continue to guess what specific Iranian actions would trigger a military response by the United States. In an upcoming post, I will tackle the question of red lines, and what could compel a preemptive attack against the Iranian nuclear program.

Micah Zenko is a Council on Foreign Relations Fellow for Conflict Prevention in the Center for Preventive Action. His areas of expertise are conflict prevention; U.S. national security policy; military planning and operations and nuclear weapons policy.

<http://blogs.cfr.org/zenko/2012/02/07/an-iranian-nuclear-weapon-how-would-we-know/>

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

Korea Times – South Korea
OPINION/Interview Analysis
February 9, 2012

North Korea: 'Before the Storm'

By Sunny Lee

WASHINGTON — Kim Jong-un's North Korea is muddling along. So far so good. The instinct for survival shared by the Kim family and the dynastic element of the key leadership is keeping things in check. But the devil is in the details, according to Jack Pritchard, a well-known expert on North Korea and a former key U.S. negotiator who often flew to Pyongyang.

"It's exactly what you would expect to see: a very smooth transition — on the surface," said Pritchard, president of the Korea Economic Institute (KEI), at his office that overlooks K Street in downtown Washington.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Established in 1982 as a non-profit organization, KEI is a “Korea hub” in Washington whose scope of activity embraces all aspects of the U.S.-Korea relationship.

Pritchard believes there’s nothing strange about the apparent composedness. “It’s in the interest of all the power base now in North Korea to ensure that the public face of North Korea under the new young leader looks stable and the post-Kim Jong-il North Korea displays continuity of appearance to the late leader.”

He dismisses the current “calm” as interim in nature as if it were in the eye of a storm center — a total serene state before a big shock.

Kim Jong-il had a stroke in August 2008. Analysts at that time viewed that the North had not well prepared for a transition to his son. “The only way it would work was if Kim Jong-il survived for a relatively long period of time. That was, at least several years,” said Pritchard, concluding that what resulted was “a very hasty establishment of a transition plan.”

So, what’s in store for Jong-un? Pritchard doesn’t think he is the sole authority in North Korea. And that naturally poses a threat to the young king, who suddenly inherited his father’s dynasty.

Jong-un is surrounded by power peddlers, who are much older than him. These include the usual list of individuals: Jang Song-taek, Jong-un’s uncle; Kim Kyong-hui, his aunt; Ri Yong-ho, a vice chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC); Kim Yong-chun, a vice chairman on the National Defense Commission; and Kim Kyok-sik, a hardliner general who reportedly supervised the shelling of Yeonpyeong Island, among other things.

“The question becomes at what point Kim Jong-un and those surrounding him come into conflict with each other when they face an internal or external crisis. So the key test will be either a domestic or external crisis that causes them to make a very deliberate decision for which it may be not in the best interests of the other portions of the ruling elite,” said Pritchard.

A bellwether to watch, he said, is the competition between the Workers’ Party and the military.

After Kim Il-sung died in 1994, Kim Jong-il consolidated his power by weakening the authority of the Workers’ Party — the main power platform his father used to rule the country. It was because the old guards in the party were powerful, restraining Kim Jong-il’s budding authority.

In an effort to structure his own power base, Kim Jong-il used the National Defense Commission (NDC) and elevated it as the highest state body, with ultimate executive power resting with its chairman: Kim himself.

He also initiated a new national motto of the “military-first” policy.

With Kim in charge, the NDC naturally became the most powerful organ. But after his stroke, Kim also began to worry about what would happen to Jong-un after he was gone. “I think Kim Jong-il, after his recovery from the stroke, decided that his son, who was 25 or 26 at that time, would be unable to create serious credentials within the military,” said Pritchard. “So, Kim Jong-il attempted to shift the power pendulum back to the Workers’ Party.”

Citing a North Korean official, Japan’s Mainichi newspaper on Feb. 4 said Kim Jong-un ordered a portion of the rice, collected for military use, to be distributed to the people. The move was unusual enough that the North Korean official called it “a kind of reform.”

That may be a subtle hint of a back-pedaling from the military-first policy. Yet outwardly, Jong-un still has to keep the appearance of sticking to the “military-first” policy in a bid to bolster his status with the armed forces.

Pritchard judges that the attempt to revitalize the Workers’ Party (so as to empower Jong-un) is incomplete, posing a threat to him. He anticipates increasing competition between the party and the military. “It will be interesting to see how the rivalry plays out.”

Although Kim Jong-un was given four-star general status, he is not currently a member of the NDC. “I am watching whether Kim Jong-un will be named a member of the NDC,” said Pritchard.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

The “calm” period will hold through April 15, the centenary anniversary of Kim Il-sung, said Pritchard. “Then, we will begin to see perhaps some signs of conflict among those behind the throne there, even though that may not be immediately perceptible to the outside world.”

The North Korean elite want to prevent an internal storm. “So, they’ve made some attempt to cross-balance power. For example, Ri Yong-ho, a vice chief of CMC inside the Workers’ Party, is also vice marshal of the Korean People’s Army. You also see Jang Song-taek, a civilian leader, now wearing a military uniform too. What you see is cross-countering, if you will.”

But Pritchard thinks the move is likely to be insufficient to avoid the storm. “Initially, it will play out okay. But they have not faced a crisis yet.”

He paused and then continued: “I don’t anticipate this current Kim Jong-un structure to last for more than a year or two.”

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2012/02/113_104531.html

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

CNN – Security Clearance Blog
OPINION/Analysis
February 9, 2012

Al Qaeda Merger Raises New Concerns

By Suzanne Kelly and Paul Cruickshank

News that Harakat Al-Shabaab - long associated with al Qaeda but never formally welcomed into the family - has gotten the blessing from al Qaeda's leader seems to be a merger that was a long time coming. But the announcement does raise concerns that that the Somali terror group could help them in plotting to attack on U.S. soil.

In a message released Thursday the leader of Al-Shabaab, Mukhtar Abu al-Zubeir, pledged his allegiance to the terrorist network. His 14-minute pledge was followed by al Qaeda's leader, Ayman al Zawahiri, offering his "glad tidings" as a welcome to the larger organization, according to the SITE monitoring service.

One U.S. official, who would not be named because of the sensitivity of the intelligence information, said that "Zawahiri's announcement just formalizes what everyone already knew: Al-Shabaab is an affiliate of al Qaeda. This doesn't change the fact that al Qaeda's core is still suffering and trying to remain relevant."

Intelligence sources tell CNN the announcement was expected "weeks ago."

A second U.S. official, also speaking anonymously because of the sensitivity of current intelligence, suggested that the announcement was "possibly an attempt to consolidate those who are questioning Al-Shabaab's commitment to the global jihad movement, and that formalizing the alliance could help the smaller organization with its recruiting efforts.

Terrorism expert and CNN analyst Fran Townsend agreed.

"They do this because the little group gets legitimacy by being one of the franchisees and the big group gets legitimacy because they show they still have centralized power. They do it for different reasons, but the benefit comes in perception and fundraising."

Still, some experts point to the coordinated way it was communicated as significant. Al-Shabaab released a video titled "At your service Osama" in October 2009, but there has been little evidence of direct cooperation between the Somali group and al Qaeda's senior leadership in Pakistan.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

The merger will increase concerns that Al-Shabaab may seek to plot a terrorist attack on U.S. soil, as the onus will be on al-Shabaab to cement its place within the al Qaeda network. Dozens of American Somalis, mostly from the Minneapolis area, have traveled to join Al-Shabaab in Somalia in recent years, and counterterrorism officials worry that some will be sent back to launch terrorist attacks in the United States.

Last October, one of the American Somalis recruited by Al-Shabaab called for attacks against the United States in an Al-Shabaab martyrdom video before blowing himself up in a suicide bombing in Mogadishu, the fourth American to carry out such an attack in the country.

"If you ask me what keeps me awake at night, it is the thought of an American passport-holding person who transits through a training camp in Somalia and gets some skill and then finds their way back into the United States to attack Americans here in our homeland," General Carter Ham, the head of the United States Africa Command, said late last year.

Last July, House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Peter King said that "Al-Shabaab now has more capability than ever to strike the U.S. homeland," adding that "as many as two dozen Muslim-Americans with Al-Shabaab - who in many cases were trained by top al Qaeda leaders - remain unaccounted for."

According to U.S. counterterrorism officials, Al-Shabaab recruiters, as well as being active in Minneapolis, are now also operating in Boston, Seattle, San Diego, Washington and several other American cities with sizable Somali communities. One concern is that these recruiters will now work on behalf of al Qaeda and press for extremists to launch attacks directly on U.S. soil.

U.S. counterterrorism officials say there is no clear evidence that Al-Shabaab's Western recruits have received instruction in making explosive devices out of readily available chemicals - the type of training that al Qaeda has provided Western militants in the tribal areas of Pakistan, but are worried that this may change.

Thus far the group's only plot on Western soil was the attempted assassination of a Danish cartoonist in January 2010.

Up till now the key focal point of cooperation between Al-Shabaab and al Qaeda was the presence of several East African al Qaeda operatives on Somali soil. Chief among these was Fazul Abdullah Muhammad, a Kenyan wanted for years for his alleged role in the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. His death in a shootout in Mogadishu in June was a big blow to the Somali group's capabilities to carry out complex operations outside the country.

"He was the gatekeeper to al Qaeda Central and was believed to have an extensive network across East Africa, including safe houses," Michael Taarnby, an expert on Al-Shabaab at the University of Central Florida, told CNN.

Late October a mysterious al Qaeda envoy with a North American accent - Abu Abdulla Alhujahir - started appearing in Al-Shabaab propaganda videos. He claimed he had been sent by Zawahiri to hand out food aid to famine victims on behalf of the terrorist group. While counterterrorism analysts were cautious about the claims - and some speculated he was an American extremist who had traveled to Somalia - the videos signaled that Al-Shabaab sought closer relations with al Qaeda.

While Al-Shabaab had much to lose from a formal merger while it controlled most of Mogadishu and southern and central Somalia, the group has been coming under increasing pressure in the past year.

It has been forced on the defensive by the Kenyan incursion into southern Somalia, where it is strongest, and is being driven by African Union forces farther from the capital it used to control, and it has been further weakened by a backlash against it for imposing Taliban-like laws and preventing international aid agencies from reaching famine victims.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

The United States is deploying surveillance drones in the region to better track Al-Shabaab - and there are reports that it has already carried out strikes on Somali militants. The group's propaganda made clear it believed that the United States and their allies were orchestrating their demise.

In this context, the decision to join the al Qaeda fold may have been a ploy for recruits and funds.

Ken Menkhaus, an expert on Al-Shabaab and a professor at Davidson College in North Carolina, told CNN he was surprised by the announcement of the merger because of recent tensions between Al-Shabaab and foreign fighters linked to al Qaeda on the ground in Somalia. Some of the latter suspected an Al-Shabaab commander had a hand in the death of Fazul last June, said Menkhaus.

"My guess is that this is a 'Hail Mary' pass on behalf of both Al-Shabaab and al Qaeda. They're hoping they can galvanize support amongst radical Muslims around the world and take advantage of the military operations by Kenya and Ethiopia to rally Somalis and non-Somalis to their cause. It worked when Ethiopia invaded in 2006, but I don't think it's going to work this time," Menkhaus told CNN.

As Shabaab expert Taarnby outlined in a recently published paper, al Qaeda's connections to militant groups in East Africa date from when the terrorist organization was based in Sudan in the early 1990s. During this period, al Qaeda set up operations in Somalia and reached out to Somali Islamist groups, which they attempted to prod into confrontation with U.S. peacekeepers deployed to the country.

Despite building ties to Somali Islamist groups such as al-Ittihad and claiming success for downing an American Blackhawk helicopter, al Qaeda found it difficult to navigate Somalia's tribal structures. After bin Laden relocated to Afghanistan in 1996, a small contingent of al Qaeda operatives remaining in Somalia formed the nucleus its East African operations. In August 1998, after five years of planning, the terrorist group carried out suicide truck bomb attacks against U.S. embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, killing more than 200 people. By then Nairobi had emerged as al Qaeda's most important base in East Africa.

After 2000, al Qaeda operatives started moving back to Somalia seeking safe haven. During the following years al-Ittihad members, having taken control of the country's Islamic courts and operating under a new name - the Islamic Courts Union (ICU) - gained increasing popularity in Somalia. Their victory over competing militias in a battle for Mogadishu in 2006 prompted Ethiopian troops to invade.

It was anger over the two-year Ethiopian occupation that saw the rise of Al-Shabaab - a hard-line part of the ICU coalition - which by 2009 had taken control over much of Mogadishu and central and southern Somalia. In subsequent years several factions of the group drew increasingly close to al Qaeda's worldview. Al-Shabaab also had ties to bin Laden's terrorist network through several al Qaeda operatives who moved to Somalia from other East African countries.

In July 2011, the group orchestrated a trio of suicide bombing in Kampala, Uganda, killing dozens, illustrating its growing intent to launch attacks outside Somalia.

The group poses a significant regional threat. U.S. officials have expressed concerns that the group was beginning to cooperate with al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and the Nigerian militant Islamist group Boko Haram to target American interests in Africa. They are also worried about deepening cooperation with al Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen. Tanzanian, Kenyan, and other East African militants trained in its camps in southern Somalia, and inspired by al Qaeda's ideology posed an increasing threat in Africa, especially the Muslim Youth Centre, an Al-Shabaab-affiliated group with chapters across Kenya.

Menkhaus, the American Al-Shabaab expert, said he believes that despite the group's ability to mount major attacks in Nairobi, it has been holding back from launching an attack there because it will hurt Somali business interests in the country. He does not expect the merger with al Qaeda to change this.

http://security.blogs.cnn.com/2012/02/09/al-qaeda-merger-raises-new-concerns/?hpt=hp_t3

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



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

Daily NK – South Korea
OPINION/Guest Columnist

Cracks in Kim Jong Eun System

By Prof. Lee Young Hwa, Kansai University, Japan
February 9, 2012

The Kim Jong Eun regime was launched in a flurry of activity following the sudden death of Kim Jong Il. It is led by a collective, not by Kim Jong Eun. This is the opinion of many. The problem is the character and strength of this collective leadership system.

This author would call the collective leadership system ‘guardianship rule’. Kim Jong Eun is surrounded by influential protectors; from his family there is Jang Sung Taek and Kim Kyung Hui, from the People’s Army there is a three-man ‘new military group’; Chief of Staff Lee Young Ho, Director of the General Political Department Kim Jeong Gak and Kim Young Cheol of the General Bureau of Reconnaissance. And for the public security side there is National Security Agency First Vice-director Woo Dong Cheuk.

At first glance we think we can tell how this is turning out. However, if we look more closely, we can see that the alliances in the guardianship rule system are very complicated, and that there are big disadvantages on show in terms of durability and strength.

Guardianship rule came into being in January, 2009; in other words, when Kim Jong Eun was nominated successor. However, within two years serious cracks had started to appear. The first signs were detected in February, 2011, while Kim Jong Il was still alive. According to highly accurate inside information which this author obtained, an influential person from the new military group called a close person to Jang Sung Taek and put pressure on him with the following warning;

“If anyone were to stand in the way of Kim Jong Eun, they would never be forgiven no matter who they were.”

It was the start of the drift apart for the Jang Sung Taek faction and that of the so-called ‘new military group’. Jang Sung Taek has not reacted to this explicit threat to date, but if it goes too far then it is unclear whether he will be able to maintain his self-control.

Jang Sung Taek’s nickname is ‘power struggle incarnate’. Within the Workers Party and Cabinet and even within the military, he has developed extensive contacts. He is close to old army figures Oh Keuk Ryul, Kim Young Chun and Kim Kyuk Shik.

This shrunken ‘old military group’ is increasingly discontented at the new army group. The signs are there. As the writer himself knows personally, military veterans have spread the idea of the replacement of Kim Young Chun, citing Kim himself, and expressed dissatisfaction at the supercilious attitude of the new army group.

This all points to the seriousness of the arrogance of the new army group. If Jang Sung Taek were to support the restraining of the new army group, the unity of the People’s Army could rapidly decline. Therefore, in the mid to long term the epicenter of the power struggle is most likely to be Jang Sung Taek.

Last December 24th, Jang Sung Taek put on an awkward-looking military uniform to say his last respects to Kim Jong Il. There are varying interpretations of this, but this author sees it in the same context as the above. When he was alive, Kim Jong Il played the role of lid, suppressing divisions and the emergence of cliques. But now he has departed the scene.

Kim Jong Eun cannot carry a spear, and he has lost a powerful shield in Kim Jong Il. And now there are even serious cracks in the guardianship camp. The biggest of Kim Jong Eun’s many weaknesses is that he has no experience in a



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

power struggle. Will the power struggle amateur be able to play the arbitrator's role on the field of veiled enmity? This author says no.

<http://www.dailyink.com/english/read.php?catald=nk03600&num=8787>

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

Voice of Russia – Russia
OPINION/Commentary

U.S. Missile Shield in Europe Hampers other Disarmament Efforts

By Andrei Ilyushenko
February 10, 2012

It's been a year since Moscow and Washington sealed a new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START-3). The agreement, largely celebrated as the main achievement of the US-Russia 'reset', was also expected to pave the way for future arms reduction talks, especially in the nuclear sphere. However, not only did those expectations fail to materialize, on the contrary, many Russian diplomats and military officials are now warning of a new spiral of arms race.

America's plans to deploy a European missile shield by 2020 have proven to be a major stumbling block in the way of US-Russia negotiations as the US failed to assure Moscow that the system wasn't aimed at Russia.

Moscow believes that "the deployment of the US missile defense system in Europe is an attempt to tip the balance of power in the region. Ever since the end of the Cold War, the US has been moving its strategic weapons closer to Russian borders," Russian Deputy Defence Minister Anatoly Antonov said.

The rift could be bridged through diplomatic and expert talks, but Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov believes the ongoing talks have failed to result in any progress. "Although consultations are continuing, I see no light at the end of the tunnel," he said at the Munich Security Conference last week and stressed that the once fully-fledge talks have now descended into mere consultations.

But the alternative would be even worse. "Our concerns are not being heard. The missile shield is being deployed despite our concerns, so we are being forced to take retaliatory steps," Gen. Nikolai Makarov said after the NATO-Russia Council meeting which took place in December 2011.

In the meantime, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has outlined the retaliatory measures Russia could be forced to take in response to the deployment of the US missile shield in Europe. These measures envisage a deployment of Iskander missiles in Russia's westernmost Kaliningrad region, as well as other defence systems capable of countering any threats posed by NATO.

In effect, Medvedev's statement signaled that, in its drive to build up its missile defence capabilities, the US could soon reach the point of no return, which will render all arms talks completely useless. "The measures outlined by President Medvedev are well thought-out, well-grounded and backed up by appropriate resources," Anatoly Antonov said.

The US missile defense programme is not only triggering a new spiral of the arms race, it's also ruling out any opportunities for disarmament which START-3 seemed to have offered.

According to US Assistant Secretary Rose Gottemoeller, the START treaty laid a good foundation for further disarmament efforts. She recalled that when signing the treaty, US President Barack Obama noted that, as soon as the treaty comes into force, the US would seek further reductions of strategic and tactical weapons, including non-deployed weapons.

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER
CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

At the same meeting, Russia's position was put forward by Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov, who stressed that after the signing of the treaty, a holistic approach and consideration of additional factors, including the missile defense issue, would be of vital importance.

"A deadlock in talks on missile defence is hampering the entire process of nuclear disarmament. Essentially, negotiations on further reductions of nuclear weapons cannot be confined to strategic weapons alone. Another three issues which need to be resolved are missile defense, non-strategic nuclear weapons, and non-nuclear military facilities," Yevgeny Myasnikov, Director of the Center for Arms Control, Energy and Environmental Studies argues.

"The issue of missile defence is central to any talks on nuclear disarmament. Finding common ground on the issue of missile defence would help solve the other two problems mentioned above, while any deadlock in negotiations on this point would stall any talks on tactical nuclear weapons (TNW) and non-nuclear military facilities, or any further reduction of strategic nuclear weapons," the expert believes.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2012/02/10/65733646.html>

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

Issue No. 979, 10 February 2012

*United States Air Force Counterproliferation Research & Education | Maxwell AFB, Montgomery AL
Phone: 334.953.7538 | Fax: 334.953.7530*