



**USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER**  
**CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL**  
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

**Issue No. 938, 6 September 2011**

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Ha'aretz Daily – Israel  
3 September 2011

## **IAEA: Iran Reaches Breakthrough in Suspected Nuclear Weapons Push**

*UN nuclear watchdog report claims Tehran installs self-made, advanced centrifuges that would protect its nuclear facilities from cyber attacks, such as those reportedly perpetrated by the Stuxnet computer worm.*

By Yossi Melman

The United Nations nuclear watchdog released a report Saturday stating that Iran is pursuing the development of nuclear weapons, adding that the Islamic Republic has upgraded its nuclear facilities in order to defend them from possible cyber attacks.

According to the report by the International Atomic Energy Agency, Iran has installed new and improved 2IR as well as 4IR centrifuges, which according to experts, will be immune to cyber attacks that were able to breach the older centrifuges.

The centrifuges have allegedly been installed, the report states, in a fortified underground facility for uranium enrichment near the city of Qom.

Although the number of installed centrifuges is relatively small, Iran has stated that it will continued to install additional ones of the same make in order to enrich its uranium supply to a level of 20%.

Experts emphasize that, according to the report, Iran has been able to achieve a technological breakthrough by producing its own centrifuges, despite the sanctions that have been imposed on the state by the UN Security Council.

The sanctions forbid Iran from enriching uranium, as well as obtaining materials for constructing centrifuges.

It seems, however, that Iran has been able to bypass the embargo, and through its own independent acquisition networks, working in clandestine around the work, acquired rare metals and other materials with which it is now building the carbon fiber blades for the centrifuges.

Compared to the old centrifuges, the new ones will allow Iran to enrich larger amounts of uranium at higher quality in a shorter period of time.

It is important to note that Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad took pride in such developments over five years ago, although, as it turns out, a rather long period of time was needed in order to implement the plan.

The five-year delay shows that despite Iran's progress and determination, it is having difficulty advancing its nuclear program at the rate it aspires to.

The IAEA report restates the fact that Iran ignores any Security Council decisions calling on it to halt its uranium enrichment, and that the Islamic Republic only partially cooperates with the organization, while refusing to provide any required documents.

Said documents are needed in order to determine the nature of the state's nuclear program, specifically to determine whether Iran is secretly developing nuclear weapons alongside its declared program of uranium enrichment.

Furthermore, the report details unnamed intelligence sources, most likely from the West, which claim that Iran is performing a series of actions and experiments, from which it seeks to assemble a nuclear warhead.

The latest report expresses what it called "increasing concerns," over Iran's nuclear aspirations, harshening the rhetoric from the organization's previous reports.

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The Stuxnet computer worm, attributed, at least by foreign sources, to the Israeli Mossad, allegedly attacked over 1,000 centrifuges in a uranium-enrichment facility in Natanz.

Iran does allow IAEA inspectors to visit most of its nuclear facilities, including those in Qom and Natanz, although the organization suspects that Iran does have secret facilities that are unknown to inspectors, or are located in military facilities, where the IAEA has no legal authority to visit.

<http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/iaea-iran-reaches-breakthrough-in-suspected-nuclear-weapons-push-1.382343>

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Tehran Times – Iran

## IAEA Issues Positive Report on Iran

Political Desk

September 3, 2011

TEHRAN - The International Atomic Energy Agency's latest report on Iran's nuclear program can be regarded as a step forward, Iran's permanent envoy to the agency has said.

Commenting on International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Yukiya Amano's report on Iran's nuclear program, which was issued on Friday, in an interview with the Fars News Agency in Vienna later on the same day, Ambassador Ali Asghar Soltanieh said, "Amano's report contains positive points, which were not mentioned in previous reports. Thus this issue is a step forward."

The report said that Amano had held some meetings with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi and Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Director Fereydoun Abbasi in Vienna, Soltanieh noted.

It also mentioned that the IAEA deputy director general had traveled to Iran and visited the country's nuclear facilities, including the Bushehr nuclear power plant, the Natanz and Fordo nuclear facilities, and other nuclear sites, and this is sign of Iran's transparent cooperation with the agency, he stated.

He went on to say that the report showed that certain misunderstandings over Iran's nuclear activities have been cleared up, and he noted that the inspections of the country's centrifuge research centers have proven that Iran's nuclear activities are peaceful.

The report also mentioned Iran's nuclear achievements, including the production of 4,543 kilos of low-enriched uranium and 70.8 kilos of 20 percent enriched uranium, he added.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the IAEA said Iran has begun deploying second-generation centrifuges at its largest uranium enrichment facility in Natanz, which could allow the country to produce nuclear fuel at three times the current rate.

The agency confirmed recent statements by Iranian officials, who said that Tehran had begun deploying more advanced centrifuges at the Natanz facility. The IAEA said its inspectors confirmed that newer machines, called the IR-2m and the IR-4, have been installed at the Natanz facility and that some have begun spinning the uranium gas used to produce nuclear fuel.

The IAEA also reported that Iran had begun installing centrifuges to produce higher-enriched uranium at a facility in Fordo. Iranian officials have said they eventually plan to transfer all of the country's production of 20 percent enriched uranium to Fordo and triple output.

<http://www.tehrantimes.com/index.php/component/content/article/2185>

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Press TV – Iran

Saturday, September 03, 2011

## Iran Urges Total Nuclear Disarmament

Iran's Deputy Ambassador to the UN Eshaq Ale-Habib has called for total nuclear disarmament as the only guarantee that would keep the world entirely safe from nuclear weapons.

The vast majority of the world community strongly believes that the only certain guarantee that nuclear weapons won't be used or threatened to be used is the total annihilation of such weapons, Ale-Habib told the UN General Assembly on Friday.

He went on to say that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as a signatory to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty, believed that nuclear disarmament must be put on the agenda of the international community and any nuclear tests must be banned as well.

The envoy further explained that the annihilation of nuclear weapons turned into a global demand after the US nuclear bombardment of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II.

He noted that during the past decade, several agreements have been signed on denuclearization, non-proliferation and banning nuclear tests to lay the groundwork for total nuclear disarmament.

He, however, added that nuclear-armed countries' failure to remain committed to their obligations under the Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) has endangered the prospect of global nuclear disarmament.

The Article VI of the NPT states that "Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a Treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

He said the international community needed to compel Israel, as a non-signatory to the NPT, to destroy its nuclear weapons and join the NPT.

The Iranian envoy also criticized US nuclear activities and said, the US was the first country to test and use nuclear weapons and it conducted the biggest number of nuclear tests.

The United States also possesses the biggest nuclear arsenal and has allocated billions of dollars to develop nuclear tests and modernize its nuclear weapons, he added.

The UN General Assembly was held on Friday to mark the International Day against Nuclear Tests.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/197172.html>

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Seattle Times

Sunday, September 4, 2011

## Iran Lawmaker Postpones N. Korea, China Visit

*Iran's parliament speaker has postponed a visit to North Korea and China because of an unspecified illness, state media reported Sunday.*

BY NASSER KARIMI, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's parliament speaker has postponed a visit to North Korea and China because of an unspecified illness, state media reported Sunday.

The U.S. has accused North Korea of providing Iran with advanced missiles capable of targeting European capitals.

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The report by Jam-e Jam daily quoted Hossein Sobhaninia, a member of parliament, as saying a visit by Ali Larijani to Pyongyang and Beijing has been postponed. He did not elaborate.

State TV later on Sunday quoted parliament's public relations department as saying "illness" kept Larijani from making the trip. It did elaborate.

But another member of parliament told The Associated Press that Larijani was postponing the trip because he was not scheduled to meet with sufficiently high-ranking North Koreans. The lawmaker spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the trip.

Last week the Iranian parliament's website had said Larijani would be in Pyongyang for a three-day visit beginning Sunday. He was to visit Beijing afterward.

The visit to North Korea would have been the first visit by an Iranian parliament speaker since the 1980s, when Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani visited Pyongyang.

Iranian and North Korean officials have said in the past that the two countries are in "one trench" in the fight against the U.S. and the West.

Both Iran and North Korea are under U.N. Security Council sanctions - the North for its nuclear and missile tests, and Iran primarily for refusing to stop a nuclear enrichment program the West suspects could lead to nuclear weapons.

Tehran says its nuclear program aimed at peaceful purposes like power generation.

A report from the U.N. nuclear agency on Friday strengthened suspicions that North Korea - like Iran - had turned to black market suppliers to set up a uranium-enrichment plant.

[http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/nationworld/2016108874\\_apmlirannorthkorea.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/nationworld/2016108874_apmlirannorthkorea.html)

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Daily Star – Lebanon

## **Iran's Nuclear Advance May Add to Western Worries**

September 05, 2011

By Reuters

VIENNA: Iran is making headway towards rolling out advanced uranium enrichment machines that could speed up its production of nuclear reactor fuel as well as weapons-grade material if, as the West fears, it ultimately tries to assemble atomic bombs.

But it remains unclear whether Tehran, under increasingly strict international sanctions that crimp its ability to import key components, can manufacture the machines in industrial-scale numbers that would revolutionize its enrichment activity.

For years, Tehran has been seeking to replace the breakdown-prone 1970s vintage model of centrifuge it now uses to refine uranium, but the changeover has been hampered by sanctions restricting access to vital components, analysts say.

In a sign the Islamic state may now be making some progress, a U.N. nuclear watchdog report says Iran has begun installing two newer versions for larger-scale testing at a research and development site near the central city of Natanz.

The confidential report, obtained by Reuters on Friday, says Iran informed the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in June that it had also started to operate 54 of these more advanced machines on an experimental basis.

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If Iran eventually succeeds in introducing them in industrial quantities for enrichment, it could significantly shorten the time needed to stockpile material that can have civilian as well as military purposes, if refined much further.

"The installation of ... IR-2s and IR-4s represents progress, for sure," nuclear proliferation expert Mark Fitzpatrick said, referring to the names of the new models.

But analysts said it was not evident that Tehran has the technical prowess and components to make them in bigger numbers.

It seems that "Iran still faces problems developing these new centrifuges, including getting sufficient materials to build them in large numbers," said Peter Crail of the Arms Control Association, a U.S.- based research and advocacy group.

In a sign that deployment of the more advanced models for production remains some time off, Iran is planning to use the old IR-1 model when it shifts higher-grade enrichment from its main Natanz plant to a bunker near the holy city of Qom.

"Although Iran could possibly use these (IR-1) machines to produce weapons-grade uranium ... it would likely prefer to develop its advanced centrifuges first," Crail said.

Iran denies Western accusations that it is covertly seeking nuclear weapons capability, saying it is refining uranium for electricity generation and medical applications.

But the IAEA report said the U.N. agency was "increasingly concerned" about possible work in Iran to develop a nuclear payload for a missile.

This and other findings in the report may provide more grist for Western condemnations of Iran's nuclear activities when the 35-nation governing board of the IAEA meets on Sept. 12-16.

#### **UNDERGROUND BUNKER**

Tehran's refusal to shelve enrichment has drawn four rounds of U.N. sanctions, as well as increasingly tough U.S. and European punitive measures on the major oil producer.

Robert Einhorn, the U.S. State Department senior adviser for non-proliferation and arms control, said in March he did not believe the newer centrifuges were ready to be mass-produced, according to a think tank debate transcript.

Fitzpatrick, a director at the International Institute for Strategic Studies and a former senior U.S. State Department official, said Iran's ability to make high-strength carbon fibre for rotors in advanced centrifuges was believed to be limited.

"So how many more than can produce is an open question."

Iran's main enrichment production facility is also located at the Natanz complex, which is ringed by anti-aircraft guns to protect against any threatened Israeli or U.S. air strikes.

Thousands of old model centrifuges spin at supersonic speeds in an underground hall to increase the fissile isotope ratio.

Western experts say tightening sanctions, technical woes and possible cyber sabotage have slowed Iran's atomic advances. But it is still steadily amassing low-enriched uranium.

Iran's decision in early 2010 to raise the level of some enrichment from the 3.5 percent purity needed for normal power plant fuel to 20 percent worried Western states that saw this as a significant step towards the 90 percent needed for bombs.



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Iran says it needs 20 percent uranium to convert into fuel for a research reactor making isotopes to treat cancer patients, and announced in June it would transfer this activity from Natanz to the Fordow subterranean site.

Shifting enrichment underground could offer greater protection against any attacks by Israel or the United States, which have both said they do not rule out pre-emptive strikes to stop Iran getting nuclear weapons.

Analysts believe Iran is still a few years away from being able to build an atom bomb and that its leadership does not seem to have taken a strategic decision yet to do so.

The latest IAEA report said Iran had now produced a total of 70 kg of the higher-grade material, still well below the amount needed for a bomb, if refined further to 90 percent.

But the Institute for Science and International Security, a Washington-based think-tank, said the monthly output rate of 20 percent enriched uranium had "increased significantly."

<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2011/Sep-05/147946-irans-nuclear-advance-may-add-to-western-worries.ashx#axzz1X5fyAses>

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Desert News – Salt Lake City, UT

## **Iran Offers 'Full Supervision' of Nuke Program**

Monday, September 5, 2011

By Ali Akbar Dareini, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's nuclear chief on Monday proposed to allow the U.N. nuclear watchdog "full supervision" of its nuclear activities for five years provided that sanctions against Tehran are lifted, but the official did not give details of his offer.

The United Nations has imposed four rounds of Security Council sanctions over Tehran's refusal to halt uranium enrichment, a technology that can be used to produce nuclear fuel or materials for an atomic bomb.

Iran's nuclear program is already subject to routine IAEA inspections. IAEA cameras monitor Iran's nuclear activities, including its contentious uranium enrichment sites.

Vice President Fereidoun Abbasi told the semiofficial ISNA news agency, "We proposed that the agency keep Iran's nuclear program and activities under full supervision for five years provided that sanctions against Iran are lifted."

He didn't elaborate what he meant by "full supervision," or how far the International Atomic Energy Agency could go in trying to prevent Tehran's nuclear program from producing weapons. Iran has always insisted that its program is peaceful, but the IAEA has given successively stronger warnings over the years about potential military dimensions to Iran's nuclear program.

The U.S. and its allies accuse Iran of using its civilian nuclear program as a cover to develop nuclear weapons. Iran has denied the charges, saying its nuclear program is aimed at generating electricity and producing isotopes to treat medical patients.

Iran says it voluntarily implemented the Additional Protocol to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a confidence-building gesture, but its parliament passed legislation in 2007 forcing the government to end the cooperation after the country was referred to the U.N. Security Council for sanctions over its refusal to suspend uranium enrichment.

Tehran says it remains committed to its obligations under NPT but is not required to allow intrusive inspections. The IAEA has countered by saying that a government cannot unilaterally abandon the agreement.

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Under the Additional Protocol, a member state is obliged to notify IAEA when it begins to design a new nuclear facility.

Abbasi also charged that Iran is facing increasing "sabotage" in its nuclear program from its enemies.

"We've witnessed increasing acts of sabotage in our nuclear program ... they (the West) are constantly trying to harm our nuclear facilities through (computer) viruses, sale of flawed equipment, etc.," ISNA quoted him as saying.

Last year, a powerful virus known as Stuxnet targeted Iran's nuclear facilities and other industrial sites.

Iran has acknowledged that Stuxnet affected a limited number of centrifuges — a key component in the production of nuclear fuel — at its main uranium enrichment facility in the central city of Natanz. But Tehran has said its scientists discovered and neutralized the malware before it could cause serious damage.

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700176622/Iran-offers-full-supervision-of-nuke-program.html>

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RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

## **Bushehr to Enter 'Pre-Launch Phase' Sept. 12 - Iran**

6 September 2011

Iran's first nuclear power plant in Bushehr will enter its pre-launch phase on September 12 in the presence of Russian Energy Minister Sergei Shmatko, Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi said on Tuesday.

Shmatko will travel to Tehran on Saturday or Sunday to attend the pre-launch ceremony, Salehi said in an interview with official news agency IRNA.

The head of Russia's Federal Agency for Atomic Energy, Sergei Kirienko, could also attend the ceremony, Salehi added.

The Bushehr power plant will start working at 40% capacity under the supervision of Russian experts for a year before its final transfer to Iranian technicians, the Iranian minister said.

On Monday Bushehr fed its first kilowatts of electricity into the national grid.

The plant was generating around 60 megawatts on Saturday evening, IRNA reported.

The fuel for Bushehr was provided by Russia, which completed the long-delayed construction of the plant last summer. The plant was expected to start operating in February.

Under a bilateral agreement, approved by the International Atomic Energy Agency, Russia will initially operate the plant, supply its fuel and take away all the spent fuel for the next two or three years, but will eventually hand over full control to Iran.

MOSCOW, September 6 (RIA Novosti)

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20110906/166476883.html>

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FARS News Agency – Iran

Tuesday, September 6, 2011

## **Iran Changes Prerequisites for N. Talks with World Powers**

TEHRAN (FNA) - A senior Iranian nuclear official announced that Tehran has changed its preconditions for talks with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the world powers.

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"They (the westerners) used to say that Iran should not enrich uranium. Now they say the country should not install centrifuges and should stop enriching uranium to a purity level of 20 percent. Meanwhile, they are seeking to damage our nuclear facilities through viruses and selling (us) defective equipment," Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Fereydoun Abbasi said in an interview with the Iranian students news agency.

"Technically speaking, we should push ahead with our plans and adopt all the measures necessary to coordinate the AEOI and our country's political apparatus for the nuclear discussions."

Commenting on IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano's recent report on Iran's nuclear program, Abbasi said, "Amano should not have included the alleged weapons studies in his report because he has not negotiated with Iran on this matter."

For years, IAEA reports have said that the agency cannot provide assurances about Iran's undeclared nuclear material, he stated.

Since the agency is not sure about the studies, it would be better if it did not include the sentence in its reports, he added.

Iran says its nuclear program is a peaceful drive to produce electricity so that the world's fourth-largest crude exporter can sell more of its oil and gas abroad. Tehran also stresses that the country is pursuing a civilian path to provide power to the growing number of Iranian population, whose fossil fuel would eventually run dry.

The US and its western allies allege that Iran is pursuing a nuclear weapons program while they have never presented corroborative evidence to substantiate their allegations against the Islamic Republic.

Iran is under four rounds of UN Security Council sanctions for turning down West's calls to give up its right of uranium enrichment, saying the demand is politically tainted and illogical.

Iran has so far ruled out halting or limiting its nuclear work in exchange for trade and other incentives, saying that renouncing its rights under the NPT would encourage the world powers to put further pressure on the country and would not lead to a change in the West's hardline stance on Tehran.

Iran has also insisted that it would continue enriching uranium because it needs to provide fuel to a 300-megawatt light-water reactor it is building in the Southwestern town of Darkhovayn as well as its first nuclear power plant in the Southern port city of Bushehr.

Tehran has repeatedly said that it considers its nuclear case closed as it has come clean of IAEA's questions and suspicions about its past nuclear activities.

Analysts believe that the US is at loggerheads with Iran due mainly to the independent and home-grown nature of Tehran's nuclear technology, which gives the Islamic Republic the potential to turn into a world power and a role model for the other third-world countries. Washington has laid much pressure on Iran to make it give up the most sensitive and advanced part of the technology, which is uranium enrichment, a process used for producing nuclear fuel for power plants.

The US attempt to push for stronger Security Council sanctions has been undermined even by the country's own national intelligence estimate, published in late 2007, which said Iran is not pursuing a weapons program.

<http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=9006150020>

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Tehran Times – Iran  
Political Desk

## Iran Stages Aerial War Game

September 6, 2011

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TEHRAN – The initial stage of an offensive aerial war game, entitled ‘Defenders of the Skies of Velayat 3’, started on Tuesday in northwest Iran, announced Air Force deputy commander for air operations.

In the initial stage of the war game, Air Force planes will transport military personnel and equipment from nine air bases of the Air Force to the northwest of the country, where the main stages of the aerial maneuver will take place, Brigadier General Mohammad Alavi announced during a press conference in Tehran on Tuesday.

“During the ten-day war game, equipment, tactics, and ammunition of fighter jets will be tested in four stages,” he said.

Iranian fighter jets, including Sa’eqeh (thunderbolt), will carry out hundreds of sorties during the war game and will drop high-tonnage smart and precision-guided bombs on mock targets.

Sa’eqeh is Iran’s first domestically manufactured fighter.

Sa’eqeh is a single-seater fighter jet. It is the second generation of Azarakhsh fighter. Sa’eqeh fighter planes were first tested successfully in September 2007. The Sa’eqeh is a joint product of the Iranian Air Force and the Defense Ministry.

Alavi added that Air Force transport planes will also carry out various operations including airlifting and carrying military equipment and airborne troops.

<http://tehrantimes.com/index.php/politics/2281-iran-stages-offensive-aerial-war-game->

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Yonhap News – South Korea

September 3, 2011

## **N. Korea May Have Used the Black Market for Uranium Enrichment: Report**

VIENNA, Sept. 3 (Yonhap) -- A U.N. nuclear watchdog claimed that North Korea may have used the black market to set up its uranium enrichment facilities that can be used to make nuclear weapons, media reports said Saturday.

A confidential report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) obtained by the Associated Press claimed that equipment for the uranium enrichment facility in Yongbyon, which was visited by a group of experts from the United States late last year, is similar to products sold by the clandestine supply network supported by Pakistani scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan.

The group of experts led by Siegfried Hecker was invited to check the facility and reported seeing about 2,000 centrifuges that can be used to enrich uranium.

At the time, North Korea said the facility was set up to make nuclear fuel, although the North does not have an atomic reactor. The country tested nuclear devices in 2006 and 2009, although the fissile material used for the detonations was plutonium.

The IAEA report added that the Yongbyon facility was probably built after Pyongyang expelled international inspectors from its soil in April 2009.

The media report, meanwhile, said the Vienna-based international agency under the United Nations plans to hold a board meeting later in the month to discuss issues related to countries such as North Korea and Iran, which outsiders suspect are trying to move forward on their nuclear programs.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2011/09/03/30/0401000000AEN20110903001000320F.HTML>

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Korea Times – South Korea

September 4, 2011

## 'US Prioritizes Getting Info on NK Uranium Program'

By Kim Young-jin

Washington appears to have made securing information on North Korea's secretive uranium enrichment program (UEP) a priority, as it moves to re-engage Pyongyang and stave off another crisis on the peninsula, a U.S. expert said.

"I think they feel the priority now is they have to get some insight into the uranium program," said Victor Cha, Korea chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, on the sidelines of a recent forum in Seoul. "We have none at all. I think they hope these negotiations will allow them to do that."

The Obama administration has moved to engage Pyongyang recently by holding talks with North Korean officials in New York and proposing further discussions on recovering the remains of American soldiers killed in the 1950-53 Korean War.

The North put the region on edge last November by revealing the UEP — which reportedly utilizes some 2,000 centrifuges — to an American academic.

Experts say the program provides a second track to producing nuclear weapons and greatly raises the stakes for multilateral denuclearization negotiations.

The rare U.S.-North Korea talks came on the heels of those between Pyongyang and Seoul that aroused hope for the resumption of the six-party talks on the communist state's denuclearization. Washington has urged the North to halt the UEP and warm cross-border ties before the talks resume.

Cha, former director for Asian affairs in the White House's National Security Council, recommended that the forum should not resume until the North has agreed to an inspection of the UEP and declared a moratorium on nuclear testing.

In addition to finding out more about the enrichment activities, Cha said the administration seems to be rekindling talks with Pyongyang as part of a strategy of "preemptive crisis management" — trying to avoid a crisis as Washington gears up for elections in November 2012.

Studies by Cha show that engaging the North in dialogue greatly reduces chances of provocative behavior.

"There's a tactical play right now. We have a runaway program, we're entering an election year and the longer you do not have any engagement with North Korea, the greater the likelihood of provocation," he said.

The two U.S. Presidents prior to Obama were also more eager to engage when the end of their terms came into sight.

"They know that they want to get something going. It's the only issue in Asia they haven't engaged on. They've even engaged on Burma. They see it as something they need to do before they leave office," he said.

The expert said Washington's attempts to resume joint efforts to recover remains of American troops were a significant step as they involved the North Korean military, not just the foreign ministry.

Some 5,500 soldiers are thought to be buried in North Korea. Cha brought back the last remains unearthed by the project in 2007 under the previous administration.

Many experts say the North is highly unlikely to give up the nuclear program and that future rounds of the six-party talks could focus on slowing rather than ending the program, though the stated goal would be full denuclearization.

**Issue No. 938, 6 September 2011**

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The Georgetown University professor noted that while North Korea was “not really a front-burner issue” given Washington’s preoccupation with situation in Libya and rancorous debate on Capitol Hill, such a scenario could actually help prospects for talks.

“Sometimes it’s actually easier to move something like this when there are some many other issues on the agenda because it doesn’t become a hot political potato,” he said.

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2011/09/116\\_94184.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2011/09/116_94184.html)

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Times of Oman – Oman

## **South Korea Nuclear Envoy to Travel to US**

Agence France-Presse (AFP)

Tuesday, September 06, 2011

South Korea: Wi Sung-Lac plans to meet Stephen Bosworth, Washington's special envoy on Pyongyang, and Clifford Hart, tipped to become the new chief US envoy to the six-way talks, during his two-day visit beginning Wednesday.

"Wi plans to hold discussions on ways to move forward following recent North and South Korean talks and US-North Korea dialogue," the official was quoted as saying on condition of anonymity by Yonhap news agency.

The North abandoned the six-party negotiations aimed at scrapping its nuclear arsenal in April 2009 and conducted its second nuclear test a month later. But diplomatic efforts to restart the dialogue have picked up this summer.

Nuclear envoys from the two Koreas held a rare meeting in Bali in July.

That was followed by US-North Korean talks in New York aimed at restarting the talks grouping China, Japan, the United States, the two Koreas and Russia.

The North's leader Kim Jong-Il reportedly told President Dmitry Medvedev during a visit to Russia last month that Pyongyang was ready to resume the six-party talks.

Kim also expressed readiness to impose a moratorium without preconditions on enrichment work and testing once dialogue restarted, according to the Kremlin.

But both the United States and South Korea dismissed the proposal as nothing new, with Seoul calling for action before the discussions resume.

<http://www.timesofoman.com/innercat.asp?detail=49396&rand=>

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Miami Herald

Tuesday, September 6, 2011

## **SKorea Buying Israeli Rockets to Deter NKorea**

By SAM KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea -- South Korea has struck a \$43 million deal with an Israeli company to buy advanced rockets to protect a front-line area attacked by North Korea last year, officials said Tuesday.

South Korea will deploy 67 Spike NLOS rockets on Baengnyeong and Yeonpyeong islands in the Yellow Sea as early as late this year, a South Korean government arms procurement official said. Four South Koreans were killed on Yeonpyeong when the North shelled it last November.

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The official, who declined to be identified, citing policy, said the deal was made in July after the Israeli weapon received the best performance review from South Korean military officials. Another South Korean arms procurement official confirmed the information.

Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense Systems says the rockets can fly up to 15 miles (25 kilometers) and hit hidden targets. South Korea has been struggling to find ways to take out North Korea's hidden coastal artillery should it attack again.

South Korea's efforts to boost weapons systems on the front-line islands follow intense criticism that defense officials failed to respond strongly and quickly enough after the North's attack last year.

South Korea currently has self-propelled guns, vulcan cannons, multi-rocket launchers, radars and other advanced weapons deployed on the islands, as well as thousands of marines. In June, Seoul set up a separate defense command in charge of troops on the islands.

Violence often flares in the Yellow Sea, and three deadly naval clashes since 1999 have taken a few dozen lives. The maritime line separating North and South Korea was drawn by the U.S.-led U.N. Command without North Korea's consent at the close of the 1950-53 Korean War. That fighting ended with a truce, not a peace treaty, leaving the peninsula still technically in a state of war. North Korea routinely argues that the line should run farther south.

South Korea's moves to bolster its defenses come as it seeks to revive dialogue with North Korea. Since July, diplomats from the two Koreas and the United States have met to explore ways to restart long-stalled nuclear disarmament talks. Progress, however, has been elusive.

In another sign of easing tensions, a religious delegation from South Korea is in North Korea this week to attend a Buddhist service honoring a historic relic considered sacred by both countries.

On Saturday, a U.S. shipment of humanitarian aid arrived in North Korea to help the country recover from floods and heavy rain. The State Department has dismissed any link between the aid and diplomatic efforts to restart the six-nation nuclear talks.

The talks involve the two Koreas, the United States, Japan, China and Russia. During his trip to Russia and China last month, North Korean leader Kim Jong Il reportedly suggested the North might consider a moratorium on nuclear testing and production if the talks resume.

North Korea is pushing for the negotiations to restart. The United States and South Korea have so far reacted coolly, saying the North must first show sincerity by abiding by past nuclear commitments before the aid-for-disarmament talks can resume.

Israel is one of the world's largest defense exporters, having sold arms to Turkey, Britain, the United States and other Western nations. But it is looking for new defense partners to replace the likely short-term loss of Turkey.

Tensions between Turkey and Israel grew as Turkey's Islamic-oriented government sought a rapprochement with Israel's traditional foes in the Middle East. Ties deteriorated sharply after Israel's three-week military offensive in Gaza in 2009. Last year's Israeli raid on a Gaza-bound protest flotilla that killed nine pro-Palestinian activists sent relations to a new low.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/09/06/2392366/skorea-buying-israeli-rockets.html>

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Bangkok Post – Thailand  
6 September 2011

## **North Korea Upgrades Jamming Devices: Report**

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By Agence France-Presse (AFP)

North Korea is upgrading jamming devices to disrupt South Korean military communications, Yonhap news agency said, citing a defence ministry report.

The communist state has some 20 types of jamming devices mostly imported from Russia and it has been developing a new device with a range of more than 100 kilometres (60 miles), the South Korean news agency said on Tuesday.

Yonhap cited a defence ministry report to the parliamentary defence committee. The ministry declined to comment, saying the report was confidential.

North Korea is known to have deployed jamming devices to the heavily-fortified border that are capable of disrupting Global Positioning System (GPS) signals within 50 to 100 kilometres, it said.

The North is thought to have been responsible for the intermittent failure of GPS receivers on naval and civilian craft along the west coast in August 2010.

South Korea's then-defence minister Kim Tae-Young said at the time that the devices could disrupt guided weapons and posed "a fresh security threat" to Seoul.

Seoul mobile users also complained of bad connections and the military reported GPS navigational devices malfunctioning in March, while the South and the US were staging a joint military drill criticised by the North.

The UN's International Telecommunication Union in April urged the North to stop disrupting signals in the South.

Yonhap also cited the report as saying the North could soon begin developing electromagnetic pulse (EMP) bombs that could paralyse communications via electronic signals.

"We don't have any confirmed intelligence, but given the rate of the North's development of new electronic devices and EMP development in other nations, it's possible that the North will also develop (EMP bombs)," it cited the report as saying.

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/asia/255242/north-korea-upgrades-jamming-devices-report>

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People's Daily – China

## **China Plays Important Role in Safeguarding World Peace, Meeting Global Challenges: White Paper**

(Xinhua)

September 6, 2011

BEIJING, Sept. 6 (Xinhua) -- China plays an important role in safeguarding world peace and meeting global challenges, says a white paper titled as "China's Peaceful Development" issued on Tuesday.

China is the only nuclear-weapon country that has publicly stated that it will not be the first to use nuclear weapons, or use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones, the white paper says.

According to the white paper, China has dispatched about 21,000 personnel on 30 United Nations peacekeeping missions, which is the highest number among the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

"China takes an active part in international cooperation in anti-terrorism and nonproliferation," it says.

"It provides humanitarian aid and dispatches rescue teams to countries hit by severe natural disasters and deploys naval escort fleets to combat piracy in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia," it says.

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According to the paper, China is a member of over 100 intergovernmental international organizations, a party to over 300 international conventions, and an active participant in building the international system.

"China is the first developing country to formulate and implement the National Climate Change Program," says the white paper.

"It is also one of the countries which have made the greatest efforts in energy saving and emission reduction and which have made the fastest progress in developing new and renewable energy sources in recent years," it says.

China has played a constructive role in addressing international and regional hotspot problems. For instance, it calls for resolving the Korean nuclear issue, the Iranian nuclear issue and other hotspot issues through peaceful talks, and has helped to establish the Six-Party Talks mechanism on the Korean nuclear issue, the white paper says.

China has settled historical boundary issues with 12 land neighbors. It calls for settling disputes over territory and maritime rights and interests with neighboring countries through dialogue and negotiation. For instance, China has made a constructive proposal to "shelve disputes and seek joint development" and done its utmost to uphold peace and stability in the South China Sea, East China Sea and the surrounding areas, it says.

China seeks to promote common development and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region by pursuing bilateral cooperation and participating in regional and sub-regional cooperation, says the white paper.

"China's development since New China was founded in 1949 and particularly since the reform and opening-up policies were introduced in 1978 shows that China is an important member of the international community which has contributed its due share to bringing about a more just and equitable international political and economic order," it noted.

The white paper, released by the State Council Information Office, introduces the path, objective and foreign policy of the peaceful development and elaborates on what China's peaceful development means to the rest of the world.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90882/7590075.html>

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London Telegraph – U.K.

## **MI6 Caught Libyans Lying about Nuclear Weapons, Documents Reveal**

*MI6 caught the Libyans lying about their stock of nuclear weapons after uncovering a secret network of arms supplies from Pakistan, documents found in Tripoli reveal.*

By Duncan Gardham, and Richard Spencer  
05 September 2011

Libya was told it could resume buying conventional arms and expect a visit from Tony Blair if it was prepared to lay down its chemical and nuclear weapons, the documents disclose.

As talks to disarm the Libyans ground to a halt, a fax from Mark Allen, deputy chief of MI6, referred to a "sample of the material" that proved a link between the Libyans and AQ Khan, a Pakistani nuclear scientist who had been passing the technology to rogue states.

The document from November 2003 added: "We know that Libya has progressed much further than was admitted during the last visit."

MI6 is probably referring to the interception the previous month of the German cargo ship the BBC China en route to Libya with components for 1,000 centrifuges manufactured in Malaysia.

The move helped to kick start a process begun in May 2003 in London when Saif Gaddafi, Col Gaddafi's heir apparent, met officers from MI6 and the CIA.





Among documents found at the Libyan intelligence headquarters by Human Rights Watch, was one which showed Saif Gaddafi had asked what could be guaranteed in return for turning over weapons of mass destruction.

The document relays reassurances from Condoleezza Rice, then the US Secretary of State, through the CIA that Libya would be “welcomed back to rejoin the community of nations and all that goes with that” including “great opportunities that could come of a such a rejoining.”

Britain in turn promised four separate guarantees involving help to obtain a “clean bill of nuclear health” with the International Atomic Energy Agency and work to “smooth” accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

MI6 also promised to argue in Brussels for a “new relationship” between Libya and EU and for the “lifting of the embargo on conventional arms sales.”

It added: “Ultimately after there is a public demonstration of Libya’s irreversible move to disarmament of WMD, [Her Majesty’s Government] would hope that it would be possible to arrange a personal meeting between the Prime Minister and the Leader [Gaddafi.]”

In turn another document spells out that Britain expects to be able to establish the history, current status and projected plans for the Libyans’ nuclear, missile, chemical and biological programmes.

It seeks to produce a complete inventory for each programme, identify all sources of foreign assistance, and to visit key facilities such as research and development sites, manufacturing and deployed missile silos.

A later document from December 2003 points out that Libya appears to have weapons grade uranium passed to it from the former Soviet Union in 1985 and offers help in making sure it does not “fall into the wrong hands.”

A letter from Christmas Day 2003 proposes sending Lord Inge, a former Chief of the Defence Staff, to Libya in order to advise a nervous military on its “strategic defence requirements against the background of today’s international security situation.”

By then differences had been resolved and it tells Moussa Koussa, the head of Libyan intelligence: “Tomorrow is our feast of Christmas. I end by sending every best wish to you, your family and the people of your service. Your achievement realising the Leader’s initiative has been enormous and of huge importance. It has been a real privilege working with you and I have enjoyed it greatly. At this sacred time to peace, I offer you my admiration and every congratulation.”

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/libya/8743226/MI6-caught-Libyans-lying-about-nuclear-weapons-documents-reveal.html>

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Space War.com

## **Russia Successfully Tests Veteran Missile with New Warhead**

By Staff Writers

Moscow, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

September 3, 2011

Russia on Saturday successfully tested its Topol strategic missile with a new warhead designed to breach missile shields, Russian news agencies reported, citing the defence ministry.

"The experimental warhead of the missile hit the designated target with high precision at the testing site on Kamchatka peninsula," a spokesman for the strategic rocket forces told the Interfax news agency.

The Topol intercontinental missile used has been operational for 23 years and was being tested to check its durability in extended use, the spokesman said.



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The missile was fired from the Plesetsk cosmodrome in the northwestern Arkhangelsk region to its target area around 6,000 kilometres (3,730 miles) to the east.

[http://www.spacewar.com/reports/Russia\\_successfully\\_tests\\_veteran\\_missile\\_with\\_new\\_warhead\\_999.html](http://www.spacewar.com/reports/Russia_successfully_tests_veteran_missile_with_new_warhead_999.html)

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RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

## **First Borey Class Nuclear Sub to Be Assigned to Pacific Fleet in 2011**

5 September 2011

Russia's first Borey class strategic submarine will be put into service with the Pacific Fleet in 2011, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on Monday.

The Yury Dolgoruky, which has recently completed sea trials in the White Sea, is expected to be commissioned by the Russian Navy pending the outcome of Bulava ballistic missile testing.

"The submarine is successfully undergoing trials. It should be delivered to the Pacific Fleet this year," Putin said at a meeting with United Russia activists.

On August 27, the Yury Dolgoruky conducted a successful launch of a Bulava missile at a range of 9,100 kilometers (about 5,650 miles).

Three other Borey class nuclear submarines, the Alexander Nevsky, the Vladimir Monomakh, and Svyatitel Nikolai (St. Nicholas) are in different stages of completion. Russia is planning to build eight of these subs by 2015.

Putin said on Monday that the government had allocated 4.7 trillion rubles (\$160 bln) for the modernization of the Russian Navy until 2020.

CHEREPOVETS (Central Russia), September 5 (RIA Novosti)

[http://en.rian.ru/military\\_news/20110905/166452107.html](http://en.rian.ru/military_news/20110905/166452107.html)

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London Telegraph – U.K.

## **Libya: al-Qaeda Acquires Weapons**

*Al-Qaeda's north African branch has acquired a stockpile of weapons in Libya, including surface-to-air missiles that are threatening air travel, the EU's counter-terrorism coordinator said on Monday.*

5 September 2011

Due to the turmoil in Libya, members of al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb have "gained access to weapons, either small arms or machine-guns, or certain surface-to-air missiles which are extremely dangerous because they pose a risk to flights over the territory," said Gilles de Kerchove.

At a news conference marking the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks in the United States, Mr de Kerchove said that while the threat of strikes by mainstream al-Qaeda followers had decreased, AQIM was taking root both on the Arab peninsula and in Africa, posing a mounting threat.

"It is a group that is Africanising and seeking to extend its area of influence," he said.

Like other al-Qaeda affiliates in Pakistan and elsewhere, AQIM had gained support among locals by using ransom money and possibly drug-related income to fund social services unavailable from cash-strapped African governments.

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It had extended its area of action from northern Niger, Mali and Mauritania to northern Nigeria and as far south as Senegal, he said.

To put a brake on any further extension of its influence, European Union nations needed to help African countries such as Chad and Niger to reintegrate the hundreds of thousands of migrant workers who have fled home from Libya in the past months. Mali alone faced the return of 210,000 people, he said.

Plans were under way also to aid information-gathering and counterterror centres in Algeria and Mauritania, and to back Malian efforts to redeploy seven to 10 military bases in its remote barren north as well as provide basic services for the population there.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/al-qaeda/8743276/Libya-al-Qaeda-acquires-weapons.html>

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Denver Post

## **Pakistan Detains Top al-Qaida Suspect**

By CHRIS BRUMMITT and ADAM GOLDMAN, Associated Press

September 5, 2011

ISLAMABAD — A battered al-Qaida suffered another significant blow when Pakistani agents working with the CIA arrested a senior leader believed to have been tasked by Osama bin Laden with targeting American economic interests around the globe, Pakistan announced Monday.

Younis al-Mauritani's arrest—made public six days before the 10-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks—also point to improved cooperation between two uneasy anti-terror allies after the rancor surrounding bin Laden's killing.

Al-Qaida has seen its senior ranks thinned since bin Laden was killed May 2 in a raid by U.S. Navy SEALs in Pakistan without the knowledge of local authorities. Atiyah Abd al-Rahman, the terror network's No. 2, was killed in a CIA missile strike last month.

Pakistan's unusual public announcement of close cooperation with the U.S. spy agency appeared aimed at reversing the widespread perception that ties between the CIA and Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency had been badly damaged by bin Laden's death. The Pakistanis accused the Americans of violating their sovereignty with the raid, while Washington was angry the terror leader had been found in a house in a military garrison town.

The Pakistani military said the arrest of al-Mauritani and two other Qaida operatives took place near the Afghan border in the southwestern city of Quetta, long known as a base for militants. It did not say when. The arrests were carried out in the past two weeks, according to a U.S. official speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters.

The capture of an al-Qaida operative inside Pakistan has become rare in recent years: most targets of CIA operations in the country have been killed by drone aircraft in a relentless series of operations that started to increase in 2008. His capture is likely to create chaos within al-Qaida: even if he does not reveal compromising information, that possibility is almost certain to force the network to alter plans, move operatives and make a variety of other sudden changes, damaging its ability to carry out attacks.

"This operation was planned and conducted with technical assistance of United State Intelligence Agencies with whom Inter-Services Intelligence has a strong, historic intelligence relationship. Both Pakistan and United States Intelligence agencies continue to work closely together to enhance security of their respective nations," the military said in a written statement.

Al-Qaida's center of operations is believed to be in the lawless tribal areas of northwest Pakistan, many hours from Quetta, a large city that is home to both the Taliban's ruling council and a significant Pakistani military presence.

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The statement said al-Mauritani was mainly responsible for al-Qaida's international operations and was tasked by bin Laden with hitting targets of economic importance in America, Europe and Australia. It said he was planning attacks on gas and oil pipelines, power generating dams and oil tankers that would be hit by explosive-laden speed boats in international waters.

It named the other two detainees as Abdul-Ghaffar al-Shami and Messara al-Shami. In its statement, the Pakistani army also described them as senior operatives.

"This action has dealt yet another blow to al-Qaida and is an example of the longstanding partnership between the United States and Pakistan in fighting terrorism," White House spokesman Tommy Vietor said. "We applaud the actions of Pakistan's intelligence and security services that led to the capture of a senior al-Qaida operative who was involved in planning attacks against the interests of the United States and many other countries."

The U.S. has said it doesn't know of any specific al-Qaida plot to attack the U.S. ahead of Sept. 11.

The U.S. provided "critical lead information and technical assistance in working with Pakistan" against al-Mauritani, another American official said on condition of anonymity, in order to discuss intelligence. Al-Mauritani is considered "a seasoned, senior operative" trusted by the group's top leaders, who the U.S. believes "played an absolutely central role in planning and coordinating al Qaeda's operations in Europe," with plots that targeted both European and American interests, the official said.

Since the 2001, attacks, Pakistan's spy agency has cooperated with the CIA to arrest scores of al-Qaida suspects, most of whom were handed over to the United States.

"This reflects how Pakistan and the United States working together can deal an effective blow to the terrorists," said Pakistan's ambassador to the U.S., Husain Haqqani. He said the intelligence cooperation had been restored almost to levels prior to a series of U.S.-Pakistan diplomatic clashes.

Many top al-Qaida commanders are still believed to live in Pakistan, and getting Islamabad's cooperation in cracking down on the network has been a top American goal since 2001. But there have been persistent suspicions that the country was protecting militants. The fact that bin Laden was killed in an army town close to the capital, Islamabad, led to fresh doubts over Pakistan's commitment.

Michael Vickers, the Pentagon's under secretary of defense for intelligence, told The New York Times in a recent interview there were perhaps four important al-Qaida leaders left in Pakistan, and 10 to 20 leaders over all in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia.

*Goldman reported from Kabul. AP Intelligence Writer Kimberly Dozier contributed from Washington.*

[http://www.denverpost.com/nationworld/ci\\_18829457](http://www.denverpost.com/nationworld/ci_18829457)

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China Daily – China

## **Another 9/11 Attack 'Impossible': EU Official**

September 6, 2011  
(Xinhua)

BRUSSELS - Terrorist attacks similar to those that struck New York and Washington on September 11, 2001, are "probably no longer possible," European Union (EU) counter-terrorism coordinator Gilles de Kerchove said on Monday.

"I think we can say today that an attack of the scale and the sophistication that we once had on September 11 probably is no longer possible," he told reporters at a news conference for the 10th anniversary of the attacks.

However, he also stressed "That doesn't mean we are completely out of threat."

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He said that al-Qaida, the terrorist group that allegedly masterminded the September 11 attacks, had been significantly weakened by the striking campaigns in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which led to the death of its leader Osama bin Laden this year.

Kerchove warned that terrorist threat today is "more complex and diverse", referring to remnants of al-Qaida and terrorist groups in the Arabian Peninsula and North Africa.

In the last decade, international cooperation on fighting against terrorism has been strengthened by sharing data, collaborating in the fields of police and judiciary etc., Kerchove said, adding mechanisms and institutions within EU have been established for counter-terrorism.

"Overall, we are much better equipped today that we were 10 years ago," he said.

In addition, Kerchove said it was very important that terrorists should be brought to justice, rather than imprisoned or killed without trial.

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/911/2011-09/06/content\\_13629464.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/911/2011-09/06/content_13629464.htm)

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Voice of America (VOA) News

OPINION/Editorial

September 4, 2011

## Securing Libyan Stockpiles

*The U.S. stands ready to assist in securing or safely eliminating materials and arms that pose proliferation risks.*

The United States has been monitoring Libya's remaining stockpiles of uranium, chemical agents, and certain conventional weapons, concerned that the on-going civil conflict could increase the proliferation risk. The United States has raised this issue with Libya's Transitional National Council, or TNC, which has made clear that it recognizes the importance of securing all proliferation-sensitive materials and weapons, and ensuring the verified destruction of the chemical weapon stocks by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

Libya is a state-party to nonproliferation agreements, including the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Chemical Weapons Convention, and the Biological Weapons Convention. The United States welcomes the TNC's assurances that Libya will meet all of its international commitments. The United States stands ready to assist in securing or safely eliminating materials and arms that pose proliferation risks.

All sensitive elements of Libya's nuclear program were removed in early 2004. The country's remaining inventory of highly enriched uranium was completely removed as of December 2008. Nevertheless, the United States continues to closely monitor the facility.

The United States also continues to monitor Libya's stockpile of uranium yellowcake. This material would need to go through an extensive industrial process, before it could be used in building nuclear weapons. Such processes do not exist in Libya.

All of Libya's remaining chemical agents are secured in bunkers and are stored in bulk that is not in weaponized form. As soon as conditions permit, we are prepared to work with the OPCW to provide assistance to Libya to fulfill its Chemical Weapons obligations, including eliminating the remaining chemical agents.

Since the beginning of the crisis, the United States has been engaged in helping to prevent the proliferation of Libya's conventional weapons. The main concern is Libya's inventory of shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles. The United States is working with NATO to provide all known locations of such weapons so that the TNC can secure and eventually dispose of these weapons. The United States is providing three million dollars to recruit and train local explosive ordnance disposal teams. To date, teams have cleared over 450,000 square meters of land and destroyed over 5.8 tons of munitions.

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"The United States", said U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, "will look to [the TNC] to ensure that Libya fulfills its treaty responsibilities, that it ensures that its weapons stockpiles do not threaten its neighbors or fall into the wrong hands, and that it takes a firm stand against violent extremism."

<http://www.voanews.com/policy/editorials/Securing-Libyan-Stockpiles--129169763.html>

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RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

OPINION/Analysis

## **An American Radar in Turkey Is Not a Threat for Russia, but It Is a Risk**

5 September 2011

RIA-Novosti's military commentator, Konstantin Bogdanov

An American radar is going to be installed in Turkey, where it will most likely be used to track missile launches from Iran, but it will not be able to be used against Russian strategic forces. But the global missile defense system that the United States is currently building still presents a risk to Russia.

### **Anti-missile program receives new radar**

One of the radars that are part of the U.S. and NATO anti-missile system will be stationed in Turkey, Selcuk Unal, the official spokesperson for the Turkish Foreign Ministry said on Friday. "The deployment of this anti-missile system in Turkey will be our country's contribution to the defense system that has been developed as part of NATO's new strategy. It will strengthen the defense potential of NATO, as well as that of our national defense system," noted the diplomat.

As far as we can tell at this point, the issue concerns an X-Band AN/TPY-2 radar, which is part of the THAAD system designed to intercept medium-range missiles at very high altitudes, including in space. According to public data, the operating distance of the radar is about 1,000 km.

In addition to using the THAAD launch complex to destroy falling warheads, it can also be used as a kind of remote "observation point" in the current design of the architecture of the new U.S. ballistic missile defense - the so-called Forward-Based Mode. In this case, the radar can be used for the early detection of ballistic missile launches, and for tracking their trajectories.

### **Whom is it watching?**

The proposed location of the radar drastically constricts the circle of "potential adversaries" that threaten the south European arm of the U.S. missile defense. In the Turkish media, the conversation is about southeastern Turkey.

If located in this area, the radar will not be able to work against Russia. First of all, even theoretically, its range reaches only as far as Novorossiysk; secondly, the Caucasus Range and the East Pontic Mountains would interfere with the radar's ability to track the situation above Russia, even if it were situated atop a mountain near Lake Van.

Furthermore, it makes absolutely no sense to track anything related to the launches of Russian strategic missiles, since they are deployed in northwestern and central Russia, and in Siberia; their operational trajectories are northbound, and go above Arctic regions and Greenland.

Most importantly, even in the unlikely scenario that the radar could spot something that it's not supposed to, such as the hypothetical launch of tactical missiles over Abkhazia and South Ossetia in the event of further hostilities to the south of the Caucasus Range, the Americans still would not be able to do anything about it. ABM launchers in Georgia could have accomplished this, but the odds of being able to place them there in current circumstances are infinitesimal.

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Dmitry Rogozin, Russia's representative in NATO, said on Friday that the Turkish radar does not present a direct threat to Russia. However, this radar could be a big strain on two nations in the region: Iran and Syria.

So far, Syria does not possess missiles that could reach Europe, and it is unlikely to obtain them any time soon. Iran, however, is on the cusp of creating these systems. Its main missile bases that are known to international experts are stationed in western and northwestern Iran, outside Khorramabad and Tabriz. Missiles launched from here could potentially fall under the observation of the new American radar station.

### **General strategy**

The decision to deploy the radar in Turkey intensifies the openly anti-Iran focus of the U.S. global missile shield's European arm, a fact that has been openly admitted, though.

In the early 2000s, the Republican administration's stake was on deploying a MD system in the Czech Republic and Poland, which posed real threat only to Russian SS-25 missiles potentially launched from northwestern Russia.

When the Obama administration came to the White House, the concept of the European missile shield has changed: Plans for the deployment of ABM launchers now focus on southern Romania, whereas the radar system was supposed to go to Bulgaria or, most likely now, Turkey.

Thus, the southern flank of the European component of the U.S. missile shield has more or less been formed. Now, we can say almost for sure that this radar in actuality serves to cover Europe from the potential threat of missile launches from the Middle East.

Missiles launched by potential enemies that target European capitals will fly over Turkey. These trajectories will be detected by Turkish radar, and the Romania-based interceptors will launch head-on anti-missile attacks above the Balkans.

### **The global missile defense system is an intricate mosaic**

In comparison to the plans announced by Washington ten years ago, overall, the European missile defense has lost a substantial share of its explicitly anti-Russian focus. However, Russia still faces risks.

The architecture of the future global U.S. missile shield will provide an unprecedented flexibility of targeting systems and firepower maneuverability. In fact, all core missile shield components, including sea-based radars and ship-based interceptors, should be mobile and, in the event of a threat, adopt a configuration required by the Pentagon.

A high-ranking Pentagon official told The Wall Street Journal that the decision to deploy the radar in Turkey was made in late 2010. However, to avoid any further aggravation of the already tense situation in the region, they decided that the similar American radar that is deployed in Israel, which is included in the Israeli missile defense system, will not receive any information from the one based in Turkey.

Ankara is deeply concerned about potential tension in the region, and is against the creation of an integrated regional missile defense system based on these two radars. It is completely unclear how the Americans are actually going to guarantee that there is no shared information between these two radars, if the global missile defense architecture implies the open sharing of information (ideally, across the globe).

It's possible that the Israeli missile defense system will be excluded, but the ease with which this operation can be reversed clearly demonstrates the ephemeral nature of guarantees provided by the American military.

### **Russia has similar concerns**

Admittedly, the likelihood of the destruction of SS-25 missiles launched from northwestern Russia over the Norwegian Sea is relatively low: at that point, missiles would be past the acceleration phase, which makes interception less likely. However, the U.S. Ticonderoga cruisers would be able to destroy upon takeoff Russian sea-based missiles launched from submarines in the Barents Sea.





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And this really is a serious threat: sea-based nuclear missiles have always been viewed as retaliatory weapon (back in the 1970s they were referred to as city killers due to their relatively low accuracy) and the annihilation of their retaliatory potential may additionally push irresponsible politicians to make a preemptive first strike against Russian nuclear forces. This is especially the case, given the upcoming scrapping of heavy-duty Soviet-made silo-launched missiles, and the situation with new replacement systems, which remains unclear.

This is an unusual situation. On the one hand, the deployment of the southern face of missile defense in Turkey and Romania doesn't threaten Russia in any way.

On the other hand, the vast patchwork of global American missile defense is fraught with huge potential risks for our strategic forces. These risks are piling up beneath the surface, without any explicit threats or noisy rhetoric.

*The views expressed in this article are the author's and may not necessarily represent those of RIA Novosti.*

<http://en.rian.ru/analysis/20110905/166446193.html>

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The National – U.A.E.

OPINION/Comment

## **New Clues - But No Proof - On Iran's Illicit Nuclear Trade**

By Mark Fitzpatrick

September 6, 2011

Given that both Iran and North Korea are pursuing nuclear weapons capabilities in defiance of UN mandates, it would seem logical for the two outlaw programmes to share their respective know-how. After all, each is prevented by UN sanctions from legally acquiring the material and technological wherewithal needed to develop nuclear weapons that can be reliably delivered.

With a long history of bilateral cooperation in the development of ballistic missiles dating back to the late 1980s, it would not be hard for Pyongyang and Tehran to put those well-practised trade deals and transfer routes to use in the nuclear-weapons field. It is therefore a mystery why the world has seen few signs of nuclear cooperation between the two charter members of the rogue nation club. It is not for lack of looking. Western intelligence agencies are intensely targeting nuclear acquisition efforts by Iran and North Korea. More than 90 states have signed the US-led Proliferation Security Initiative that is designed to interdict nuclear and missile-related trade to and from those two regimes.

Yet finding nuclear weapons-related trade is akin to the proverbial needle in a haystack. In the vastness of ocean and sky routes, most forms of nuclear-related cargo are so minute as to be almost undetectable. Moreover, nuclear weapons work in any country is conducted with utmost secrecy. UN expert panels set up to monitor the implementation of sanctions have explained the ways in which Tehran and Pyongyang evade sanctions by using intermediaries in China and long-distance cargo aircraft. The UN panels have documented several instances of missile-related illicit trafficking between Iran and North Korea but nothing about nuclear trade.

Comparing the two nuclear programmes, it is striking how they have developed in different ways. Both have explored the two pathways to nuclear weapons: highly enriched uranium, as was used in the bomb dropped on Hiroshima, and plutonium, which formed the fissile material for the Nagasaki bomb. Yet, whereas Pyongyang went the plutonium route for the devices it tested in 2006 and 2009, Iran has emphasised enriched uranium.

More recently, North Korea also appears to have given priority to the enrichment route - witness the shiny gas centrifuge facility it proudly displayed last November. Among the interesting aspects of that facility is that the centrifuges, of second-generation vintage, were made of maraging steel, a high-strength material that is difficult to manufacture. By contrast, although Iran acquired the same second-generation centrifuge designs from Pakistani black marketeer AQ Khan, it chose to use carbon fibre. Iran cannot manufacture maraging steel and has already

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used most of the stock that it acquired before western countries clamped down on trade in this material. If there were nuclear cooperation between the two countries, it would be logical for North Korea to sell Iran maraging steel and for their centrifuges to look more alike.

The media coverage of Iran-North Korea nuclear cooperation has usually been based on unidentified intelligence sources. Unsubstantiated claims include the alleged presence of Iranian scientists at Pyongyang's 2006 nuclear test and a 2005 Reuters report of North Koreans lecturing during a specialist nuclear training course in Tehran. Last December, Mohammad Reza Heydari, who defected from his diplomatic post in Oslo earlier in 2010, said that from 2002 to 2007, when he headed the foreign ministry's office for airports, he saw many North Korean technicians arriving to collaborate on the Iranian nuclear programme.

In an April 2008 background briefing, however, US intelligence officials flatly denied an Iranian-North Korean nuclear connection. There is no doubting the presence of North Korean technicians in Iran who provide assistance for ballistic missiles and learn from Iran's own testing and development work. Given the secrecy of Iran's nuclear weapons-related activities, it is unclear how Mr Heydari would have been able to conclude that the North Koreans were involved in nuclear-related work rather than ballistic missiles. Throughout the past eight years, even senior Iranian negotiators have repeatedly been surprised by new revelations about Iran's nuclear activities.

Late last month, two new reports of a North Korea-Iran nuclear connection emerged. On August 24, the Munich-based Sueddeutsche Zeitung said North Korea had in the spring delivered dual-use US software that could simulate neutron flows. The unclassified computer programme has many civilian applications, but its export is strictly controlled because it can be used to calculate chain reactions for the development of nuclear explosives. A North Korean delegation reportedly travelled to Iran in February to train 20 defence ministry employees in the software. The newspaper vaguely attributed its information to western intelligence sources. And on August 26, an article published in Israel collected various strands of information to suggest that Iran may have financed the North Korea-Syria deal to construct a plutonium-producing reactor near the town of Deir Al Zour (a site also known as Al Kibar), which Israel bombed in September 2007.

Like the previous reports, neither of the latest stories is confirmed. They should not be dismissed out of hand, however. The well-credentialed Sueddeutsche is no tabloid and the information it reported is generally consistent, at least in terms of developmental level, with other reports that the International Atomic Energy Agency has assembled about what strongly appears to be nuclear weapons-related work by Iran. The IAEA's extensive reports on Iran's nuclear programme, however, have never mentioned anything about a North Korea connection.

In sum, I am less sceptical about the evidence of an Iran-North Korea nuclear connection than I was several months ago. But confirmation is needed before anyone can draw any conclusions.

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<http://www.thenational.ae/thenationalconversation/comment/new-clues-but-no-proof-on-irans-illicit-nuclear-trade?pageCount=0>

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Voice of Russia – Russia  
OPINION/Political Commentary

## Greater Middle East Expects only Arms

By Polina Romanova  
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Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya didn't have, or in the case of Libya, renounced their nuclear programmes. All the regimes in those nations fell under Western pressure, but countries like Iran, Syria and North Korea, which are

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regarded by the U.S and NATO as odious states, are successfully avoiding the Libyan scenario. Experts have warned that countries in the Middle and Near East will soon begin an arms race, and many will try to acquire nuclear technology- just in case.

The revolutions which have been going on in the Middle East and North Africa for months now, have almost overshadowed important news for the Arab world. The Voice of Russia has already reported that Iran has installed new centrifuges at its "Fordu" plant, for uranium enrichment, and that it has shot down a U.S drone flying over the plant. In June, the IAEA Council of Management demanded that the UN Security Council holds Syria accountable for concealing its nuclear programme. Washington has openly called Syria a threat to international peace and security.

"What else can Tehran and Damascus do?", experts ask.

After the American invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq, the series of revolutions, and the forcible overthrow of Muamar Gaddafi by NATO, many Arab countries have little choice left- either succumb to Western countries or arm themselves, says Fedor Lukyanov, editor in chief of "Russia in Global Politics" Journal:

"States with regimes, against which potentially, the U.S could act can come to only one conclusion; do not abandon nuclear weapons. It is the only guarantee of being left alone. In this sense, North Korea is a good example. All the evidence shows that the U.S should have acted against Pyongyang a long time ago with the object of replacing the regime, but that has not happened because the price would be too high. North Korea has nuclear arms and a missile programme, albeit rudimentary", Fedor Lukyanov said.

Western nations are themselves driving countries with what they consider undemocratic rulers at the helm, into a corner. Attempts are being made to foist western style democratic models and mentality on those countries, there is an interference in their internal affairs and access to high-tech is denied them. The club of nuclear states is simply suppressing the desires and aspirations of non-nuclear nations which do not wish to conform, says Gumer Isayev, head of the St. Petersburg center for the study of the modern Middle East:

"For all the others, there is strict restriction on nuclear technology, particularly on military nuclear technology. There is a different attitude to those nations, which have acquired the nukes, one way or another. It seems to me that the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya are instigating a nuclear arms race in the region", Gumer Isayev said.

The situation relating to Israel is of no less concern to Arabs. It is public knowledge that Israel possesses nuclear weapons, though Tel-Aviv officially refuses to admit it. Western nations choose to evade the issue, and moreover, Israel is opposed to any international control of its nuclear research work. Considering Israel's military activity, its neighbours are also getting involved in an arms race, Gumer Isayev declared.

Events in recent months are pushing many countries, especially Arab nations, toward a beefing up of their military potential. Muamar Gaddafi voluntarily wound down Libya's nuclear programme and loyally cooperated fully with the West. But, that did not save him from being ruthlessly toppled by his former friends. And it's doubtful that any of today's leaders want to imitate his fate.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2011/09/06/55746864.html>

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