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## [Report: Iran Violating Nuclear Deal with Secret Development Near 'Off-Limits' Parchin Site](#)



Adelle Nazarian/Breitbart News

by [Adelle Nazarian](#)

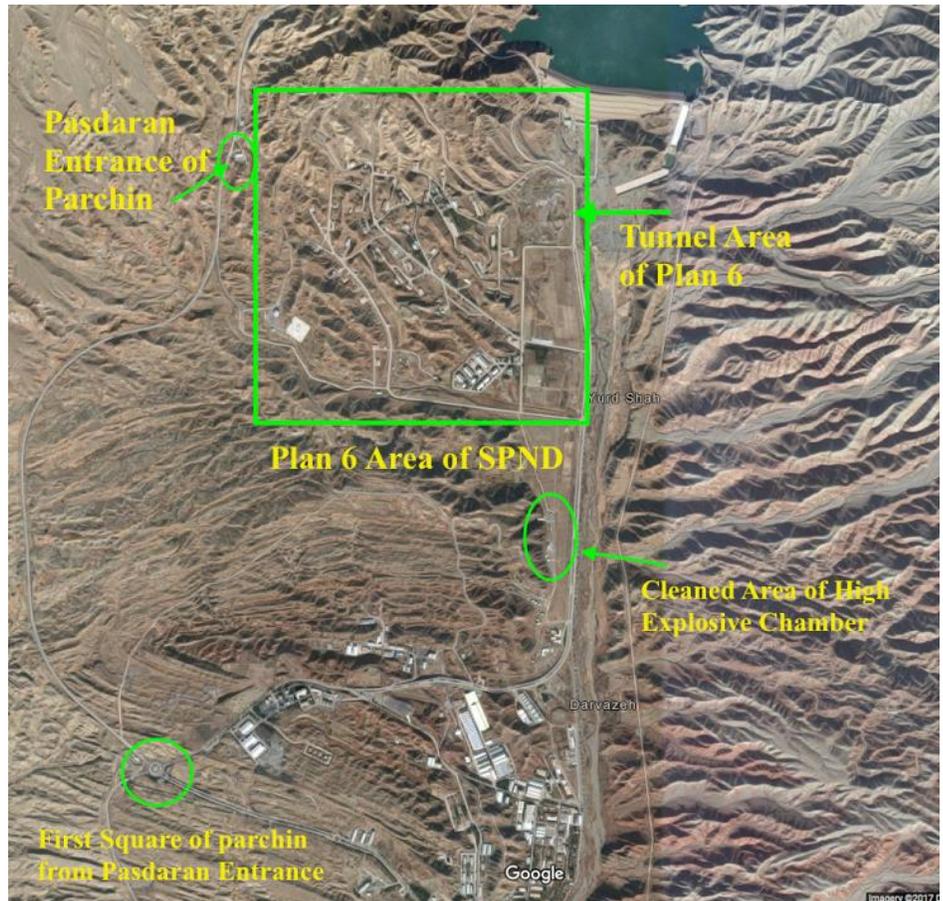
WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Friday, members of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) presented satellite imagery and intelligence, said to be provided by informants working covertly

inside the Iranian military, that indicates the Iranian regime is far from complying with the terms of the nuclear deal.

Alireza Jafarzadeh, the deputy director of NCRI's Washington office, presented the findings in a presentation covered by major media outlets. He said the People's Mojahedin Organization's network within Iran acquired the information.

"We are talking about an extensive covert operation by the Iranian regime," Jafarzadeh said. "Our information shows that their activities have been continuing in full gear despite the JCPOA," he said using the acronym for the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, the formal name for the nuclear deal.

"The engineering unit that is charged and tasked with actually building the bomb in a secret way for the Iranian regime is called the Organization of Defensive Innovation and Research," Jafarzadeh said. It is known by its Persian acronym SPND (which is *Sazman-e Pazhouheshhaye Novin-e Defa'i* in Farsi). It has seven subdivisions, each of which carries out a certain portion of Iran's nuclear program.



"Not only has remained in place and active, it is now clear that in some fields its activities have even expanded," Jafarzadeh said. The SPND was first exposed by NCRI in 2011 and was designated by the State Department three years later because it "took over some of the activities related to Iran's undeclared nuclear program."

IRGC Brig. Gen. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh-Mahabadi directs SPND. He is reportedly described as the AQ Khan of Iran.

On Tuesday, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson [stated](#), in a letter addressed to House Speaker Paul Ryan, that Iran has remained complaint with the 2015 nuclear deal. In that same letter, Tillerson noted, "Iran remains a leading state sponsor of terror, through many platforms and methods."

Asked by a member of the media about a potential conflict in light of Friday's revelation, Jafarzadeh said the letter did not contradict NCRI's findings. Tillerson's statement "does not mean that this is a clean bill of health for the nuclear program of Iran," he said. "It just means that the kind of things that they've been monitoring, only things they have been monitoring, that they have been in compliance."

Jafarzadeh said NCRI shared the information presented to the media with the U.S. government in the last few days.

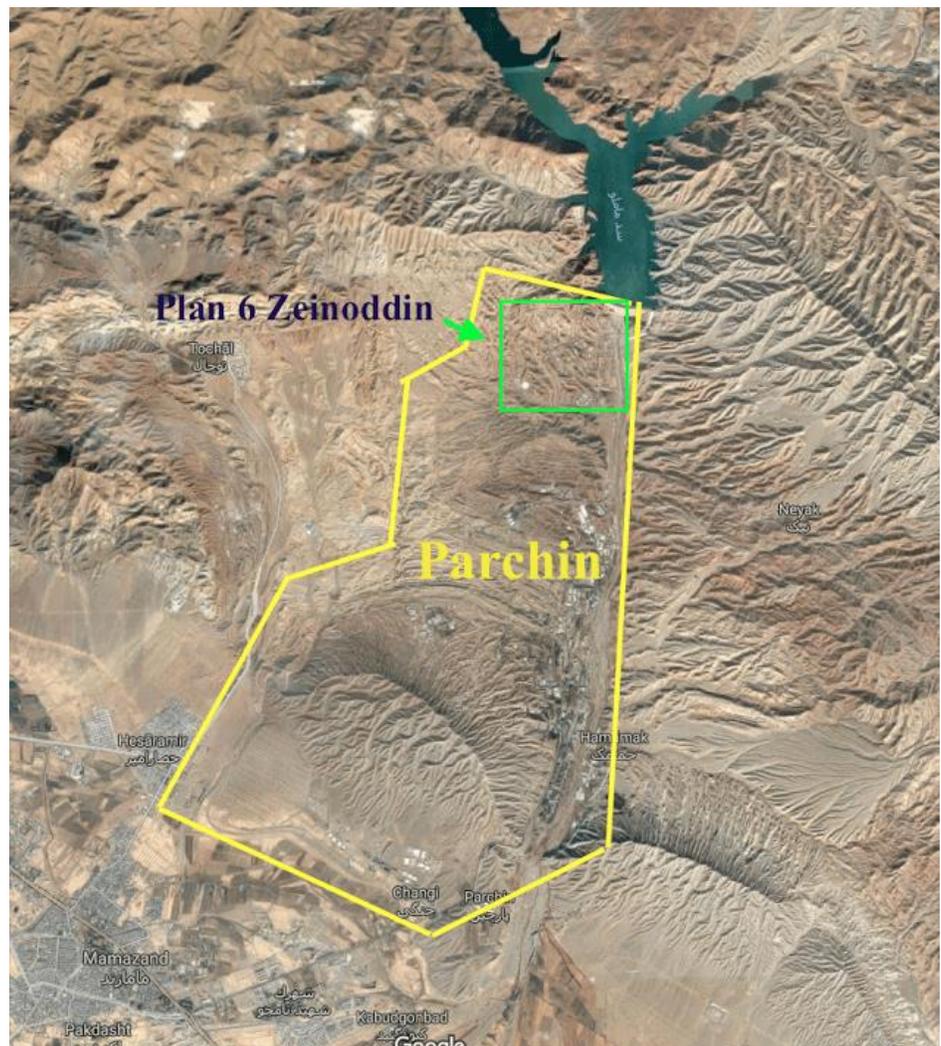
On Thursday, President Donald Trump accused the Iranian regime of cheating on the nuclear agreement during a joint news conference with Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni: "They are not living up to the spirit of the agreement; I can tell you that."

The MEK (*Mojahedin-e-Khalq*), which is NCRI's presence in Iran, first exposed SPND in July 2011 in D.C. Jafarzadeh said the group's findings were mentioned in the IAEA report in November of that same year. In August 2014, the State Department designated SPND under executive order 13228 in their involvement in proliferation.

However, according to Jafarzadeh, the IAEA has not yet received access to SPND or any of the other sites where Iran's true, and illegal, nuclear development is allegedly taking place.

Jafarzadeh noted that NCRI's satellite imagery was also focused on the Parchin military base. [Parchin](#) and other facilities were deemed "off-limits" to IAEA inspectors.

These locations were the sites where the Iranian regime had previously developed its nuclear program, and it is believed the Iranian regime is using the Parchin site to develop their nuclear weapons program covertly. The Parchin facility is a large military complex that is controlled by Iran's defense ministry. It consists of 12 different sections and complexes, each of which is called a *Tarh* or "plan."



The pictures presented on Friday also showed an area located to the north of the Parchin military base: a newly-constructed site known as “Plan 6” which is allegedly a subdivision of SPND, known as METFAZ (the Center for Research and Expansion of Technologies on Explosions and Impact or *Markaz-Etahghighat va Tose'e Fanavari-e-Enfa* in Farsi). According to the report, METFAZ is working with “high explosives” in ways that are identical to “possible military dimensions” that Americans and other Western officials have suggested Iran is covertly pursuing in its nuclear program.

The MEK had originally exposed original METFAZ location in September 2009. The location is known as the “Research Academy” to insiders. (In Farsi, it is referred to as *Pazhouheshkadeh* or *Tahghighat*).

According to Friday’s report, large portions of METFAZ activities are carried out at Iran’s Sanjarian site and then transferred to the Research Academy which is situated within the Parchin nuclear site.

Jafarzadeh said, “it’s imperative that these sites get inspected.” Specifically, he called for inspections on the Nour building (which is SPND HQ), the Mojdeh site (SPND), METFAZ at Khojir, Nouri industries at Khojir and the Research Academy at Parchin.

“What we are arguing is that we should not limit ourselves to the scope of the activities going on in terms of monitoring,” Jafarzadeh said. “We need to look at the bigger picture.” He noted that the elements Tehran was hiding were actually the activities of the seven components of SPND.

Under the JCPOA agreement, uranium enrichment research and development activities are permitted to take place exclusively at the Natanz facility at no more than 5,060 centrifuges for the next eight years.

“The real issue is not Natanz,” Jafarzadeh said. “The real issue is not Fordo anymore. The 600-pound gorilla in the room is the weaponization part; that’s the concern that the U.S. government has right now.” He added, “Let’s keep the focus on the real deal, go to these sites we mentioned, and talk to the experts we mentioned.”

Jafarzadeh added that the focus from day one should have been on following up on the source of enriched uranium that was found during one of the IAEA’s visits to Iran’s Parchin facility before it was deemed “off limits.” He asked, “Where’s the follow up? What’s the source of that uranium contamination? This is where the full focus should have been from day one, not on counting the centrifuges.”

He noted, “the nuclear program of Iran is not a peaceful program. The way the program was created from day one was a secret, covert nuclear weapons program run by the military, the IRGC... And it remains as such.”