



IRAN TODAY & TOMORROW

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

The Committee in Support of Referendum in Iran (CSRI), a 501(c)(3), non-profit and independent group, is committed to advance change in Iran through an internationally monitored referendum as the only peaceful means to bring democracy and establish a secular and representative government in Iran.

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Iran's dangerous nuke program

The Iranian Nuclear Challenge

The New York Times, Editorial, June 22 - If international treaties to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons have any power, now is the time to flex it on Iran. Last week the United States, Europe, Russia and China jointly condemned Iran's refusal to explain how it got blueprints and equipment usable for making nuclear bomb fuel. That criticism must be followed up with concerted pressure to keep Iran from joining the growing list of states armed with nuclear weapons. Tehran has been defying the spirit, and probably the letter, of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in order to acquire the technology and fuel needed to build nuclear weapons. If it is allowed to continue down this path, it could begin building bombs in two to five years. If Europe, Russia and China now toughen their stands, as Washington is urging, Iran, unlike North Korea, can probably still be stopped. In recent days, Tehran has threatened to resume work on uranium-enrichment equipment. In light of this new belligerence and Iran's failure to cooperate with the I.A.E.A., Europe should overcome its qualms about referring the Iranian nuclear issue to the United Nations Security Council. The Security Council is designed to deal with threats to international peace and security. A potential Iranian breakout from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty clearly qualifies. Other steps should be taken as well. Russia should continue to refrain from delivering fuel for Iran's Russian-built nuclear power reactor until Tehran renounces uranium enrichment and fully cooperates with the I.A.E.A. China should order its companies not to cooperate with Iranian enrichment or bomb-making efforts, and should urge North Korea and Pakistan to impose similar bans. The unhappy experience of Iraq showed that unilateral military action is not a very useful antiproliferation tool. This is the moment to make multilateralism, pursued with determination and firmness, work with Iran.

Powell hints at sanctions for Iran

Associated Press, June 21- Secretary of State Colin Powell hinted Monday that Iran could face the prospect of U.N. economic sanctions if it did not prove to the world it has no nuclear weapons program. Powell, after meeting with Mohamed ElBaradei, the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said, "The international community is expecting them to answer its questions and to respond fully."

Failed preemption

The Washington Post, June 18 - Nine months ago, as a confrontation loomed between Iran and the United Nations over Iran's illicit nuclear programs, three European governments staged a preemptive operation. This week, with the world's attention focused on the troubled

situation in Iraq, the European version of preemption is yielding its own bitter if less bloody result. Inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency have reported that Iran never honored its agreement; it has stalled and stonewalled the inspectors while continuing to work on elements of a nuclear program that could soon allow it to produce weapons. There can be no disguising the fact that the European strategy for handling one of the world's most dangerous proliferation problems is proving feckless. It could, within a year or two, lead to an outcome as bad as or worse than any now foreseen in Baghdad: possession of nuclear weapons or the means to quickly make them by a hard-line Islamic regime that sponsors several anti-Western terrorist organizations. If a crisis is to be avoided, a better strategy is needed. Yet it should now be clear that if Iranian nuclear ambitions are to be checked Europe and Russia will have to forcefully employ the leverage of their diplomatic and economic relations with Tehran. So far only carrots have been offered and they have produced no results.

High time to treat Iran's threat seriously

National Post, June 15 - It looks increasingly as if there really is an "axis of evil" country with a nuclear weapons program that poses a serious threat to world security.... It is time for the IAEA and the United Nations to start treating Iran's threat seriously. A nuclear bomb in the hands of Tehran's theocrats would alter the geopolitical map of the Middle East. It would endanger Western allies and imperil future prospects for peace in the region. At its meetings this week, the IAEA should pass a resolution establishing a deadline for Iran to come clean and co-operate fully with IAEA inspectors. If Iran refuses, the matter should be referred to the UN Security Council in order that sanctions can be adopted, a step Washington has long sought. The threat of economic suffocation is likely to be the only language the mullahs understand, and the only chance we have at averting a more serious conflict.

Mullahs threaten Europe, IAEA to evade accountability

US accuses Iran of 'bullying' UN

BBC World Service, June 16 - Kenneth Brill, the US Ambassador to the United Nations in Vienna, said: "This full-blown effort to try to change the direction of the [IAEA] board through public and private intimidation suggests Iran has something to hide." "People who are trying to produce electricity for light bulbs don't engage in this kind of behaviour," he added, referring to Iran's position that it only wants to use nuclear technology to generate power. He was responding to Mr Khatami's rejection of a toughly worded resolution being considered in Vienna this week by IAEA members. "If this resolution passes, Iran will have no moral commitment to suspend uranium enrichment," Mr Khatami said.

Khatami threatens Europe

Jam-e Jam, June 15 - (The mullahs' president, Mohammad) Khatami sent a letter to the British, German and French heads of state and complained that the countries seek excuses. He warned: Iran cannot turn a blind eye on its irrefutable right to peaceful nuclear technology. If the unfriendly conduct and failure to comply with mutual commitments persist, (Iran) will consider its options.

Khamenei's representative: "Europe's excuses will not be left unanswered"

Jam-e Jam daily, June 15 - Ali Larijani, the Supreme Leader's representative in the Security Council said: "In all the negotiations, the IAEA officials have been told that if they do not recognize the persistence of Iran's activities by June, Tehran will make another decision. Europe's excuses will not be left unanswered."



Chief Justice: Draft resolution extremely malicious

ISNA, June 15 - Chief Justice Shahroudi said, "The draft resolution drawn up by the board of governors is extremely malicious." Shahroudi told a conference of judicial authorities: "The draft is identical to the views of the United States. In this way, they want to make up the

defeat the Arrogance sustained in Iraq. Tehran's chief justice called these types of resolutions "conspiracies" and called for opposition to it.

Official daily advocates use of force against IAEA

Jomhuri Islami daily, June 12 – Although it is very late, the time to make a decision has come. If the International Atomic Energy Agency does not close Iran's dossier in its meeting this week and does not announce the end of this game, the officials of the Islamic Republic must, without a moment of hesitation, end this game because they (IAEA) only understand the language of force. It seems that the riches of science and knowledge should not be kept waiting any longer and we should not be running after a smile or a frown from some European or some IAEA official and in doing so wasting the time of a country and nation because they are nothing more than naïve agents of America. *(Jomhuri Islami is a newspaper affiliated with Khamenei's faction.)*

Mullahs' export of terrorism

Shedding light on attempts to engage Tehran mullahs

The Wall Street Journal, June 18 - We'll say this on behalf of the latest staff reports from the 9/11 Commission: They are far more interesting than the media coverage suggests. Americans who go online to read the reports will actually learn a few things. For example, they'll discover new details about the links between al Qaeda and Iran. The conventional wisdom has been that these Shiite and Sunni cultures couldn't meet, but the report says they did so "to cooperate against a common enemy" -- the infidel U.S. Specifically, al Qaeda operatives trained in Iran, and al Qaeda helped Iran-backed Hezbollah terrorists obtain explosives. Al Qaeda was also probably involved in two attacks on U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia, including the 1996 bombing of Khobar Towers that killed 19 Americans and injured 372 and had previously been blamed largely on Hezbollah. This certainly sheds some useful light on State Department attempts to "engage" Tehran's mullahs as they attempt to build a nuclear bomb.



Suicide bombing volunteers

VOA, June 15 – Iranian organizations hire volunteers to participate in suicide bombings in Iraq, Israel, and the US. A group under the name of Committee Commemorating Martyrs of Islam's Global Movement claims that thousands of Iranians who are ready for suicide bombing operations have registered in this group. According to As-Sharq Al-Awsat daily: A unit of the Iranian regime's Intelligence Ministry has also been hired by the suicide bombers. A Revolutionary Guards Corps official that has been introduced as H.A has called for the establishment of a "Martyr Army" to fight against worldwide infidelity. He says: "We will do everything in our power to attack this front, by means of suicide operations or our own missiles."

Martyrs' Committee threatens Qatar, UAE with suicide bombers

Kayhan daily, June 14 - The Committee for Commemoration of the Martyrs of Islam's Global Movement has issued a statement, referring to the confiscation of an Iranian boat in the UAE's waters, announcing: The whole world knows that Muslim Iranian youth have unique ways of answering the enemy's aggression. If the enemy trespasses, they are ready to sacrifice their lives to destroy the palaces of aggressors on their heads.

Meddling in neighboring countries and around the world

Guards Corps Commander calls new Iraqi government "mercenary"

Al-Qarar daily, June 15– The Revolutionary Guards Corps commander in chief Rahim Safavi called Iraq's new government "mercenary". Speaking at a gathering of Revolutionary Guards

in Shiraz, he said: "The recent developments in Iraq proved that the US is incapable of providing security for the Iraqi people. It has not been able to establish a popular government in a climate of security; therefore it sufficed to form a mercenary government. Iraq's government receives orders from the United States."

Trouble from Tehran

National Review, *June 14*, *Michael Ledeen* - Two months earlier, I had written about Zarkawi on the basis of German and Italian intelligence documents, presented by the prosecution in court cases against members of his European network. At that time, I noted that these documents identified Iran as the base of Zarkawi's operations. Powell was making a case against Iraq, and understandably omitted the Iranian connection, but the evidence of the Iranian matrix has just been reinforced in a book by Stefan Dambrosio, one of the Italian judicial officers charged with investigating terrorist activities in Milan. The European network is used to recruit new bodies for the jihad in Iraq, and they enter from Iran in groups of three to five, with phony passports and usually pretending to be businessmen (or, I can add, journalists). They rent or buy small apartments in Baghdad, Tikrit, and Ramadi, where they organize larger cells, and then move into the battle area. Zarkawi himself entered Iraq by this method, along with one of the leading ideologues of the jihad, Abu Masaab (a Syrian). That tracks with my own analysis, which is that we are dealing with several different groups, supported by the various terror masters in Tehran, Damascus, and Riyadh, in a joint operation within the overall matrix of Hezbollah which of course means Iran.

Confiscated Iranian boat entered Emirate water for spying

As-Sharh Al-Awsat, *June 12* – According to Arabic country officials of the Persian Gulf region, the Iranian boat which was confiscated by Emirates coastguards, had entered Emirates water for the purpose of carrying out a military and espionage mission for Iran. The captain of this boat was following up on three missions which included monitoring the movement of patrol ships in the Persian Gulf, monitoring the cooperation between the Emirates Marine forces and foreign warships and searching for communication water cables to listen in to conversations.

Waiting to take advantage of power vacuum in Iraq

Iran massing troops on Iraq border

United Press International, *June 15*- Iran reportedly is readying troops to move into Iraq if U.S. troops pull out, leaving a security vacuum. The Saudi daily *As-Sharq al-Awsat*, monitored in Beirut, reports Iran has massed four battalions at the border. *As-Sharq al-Awsat* quoted "reliable Iraqi sources" as saying, "Iran moved part of its regular military forces towards the Iraqi border in the southern sector at a time its military intelligence agents were operating inside Iraqi territory."

Severe violation of human rights

EU disappointed by human rights status

Sharh daily, *June 16* – The European delegation sent to Iran for negotiations on human rights announced a few hours before leaving Tehran: We have not reached a suitable and final conclusion in the negotiations. Emma Edwin, the European Union human rights spokeswoman, announced that there is still very much work left regarding the condition of human rights in Iran and we are very unhopeful and disappointed by the current process.

Army forces open fire on residents of village

Khorassan daily, *June 15* – At 11 pm Monday, army forces opened fire on residents and municipality workers in Hessar-e Shir Ali village, located south west of Bojnourd. The reason for this measure was that Bojnourd residents had staged a protest against the seizure of their

property by the First Brigade of Gorgan Province's 30th Division. The protestors had gathered Monday morning outside the governor's office in Bojnourd. They said: Even the presence of the First Brigade's garrison in the region disturbed the residents' peace for years, but the confiscation of property dramatically changed everything. The demonstrators also said they had protested the issue many times but government officials had taken no measures.

Families urge EU delegation to visit Iranian political prisoners

Radio France Internationale, June 13 - Families of political prisoners wrote a letter to the head of the EU delegation, urging him to insist on meeting with prisoners. They particularly called on him to inspect the notorious Gohardasht Prison. Families of political prisoners also requested that the EU delegation inspect ward 209 of Evin prison. The families in their call for justice presented 68 names of prisoners. The EU delegation arrived in Tehran on Saturday and its talks will continue until Tuesday.



Six youth flogged in public

Iran National Television, June 13 - Six youth were flogged in public in Fardis district in Karaj. Revolutionary Guards Commander Kyumarsi said the agents of the 23rd police station in Fardis arrested six youth and handed them over to judiciary authorities. The youth were sentenced to 80 lashes each by Judge Mostafa Barzegar on charges of disrupting public order. The sentences were carried out in public on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, causing outrage among Fardis residents.

5,000 workers go on strike in Orumeih

Voice of Kurdistan Radio, June 11 - About 5,000 workers of the cities of Mahabad, Piranshahr, Sardasht, and Oshnavieh held a strike outside the workers office in Orumeih in protest to unpaid wages. The strike still continues to this day.