



# IRAN TODAY & TOMORROW

## WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

The Committee in Support of Referendum in Iran (CSRI), a 501(c)(4), 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 nuclear threat

#### PREVIEW - IAEA meet to scrutinize defiant Iran's nuclear gains

**REUTERS**  **June 10, 2007-VIENNA** - Iran faces heightened criticism over its escalating nuclear activity at a U.N. watchdog meeting this week that will provide a barometer of sentiment for broader sanctions against Tehran. The regular June session of the International Atomic Energy Agency's 35-nation governing board starting on Monday will focus global attention on Iran's rapidly expanding uranium enrichment programme and its reduced cooperation with IAEA inspectors. "Criticism of Iran will be stronger than before since it is both extending enrichment and reducing cooperation. It doesn't bode well. The standoff will worsen," said an Asian diplomat.

#### Military Option on Table Concerning Iran

**AP**  **Associated Press** **June 9, 2007-JERUSALEM** - Military action is one of the options in dealing with Iran's nuclear program, Israel's deputy prime minister said Saturday, after discussing the issue with senior U.S. officials. For now, sanctions are the best way to go, said the Cabinet minister, Shaul Mofaz. He said Israel and the U.S. agreed to review the effectiveness of sanctions at the end of 2007. Mofaz met earlier this week with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. At the time, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said he was not aware of any discussion of a deadline for diplomacy.

#### G8 to back new steps if Iran ignores UN demands



**REUTERS**  **June 8, 2007-Germany** - The Group of Eight (G8) industrialized nations said on Friday it would back "further measures" against Iran if it does not comply with U.N. demands that it suspend its nuclear enrichment programme. As expected, in a statement issued on the final day of a G8 summit the members said they regretted the fact that Iran had ignored three U.N. Security Council resolutions calling for a temporary halt of all uranium enrichment activity. "If Iran fails to fulfill its obligations then adoption of further measures will be supported," the statement said. The wording "further measures" is widely interpreted to mean more sanctions.

#### Sarkozy urges tough sanctions message for Iran



**REUTERS**

**June 8, 2007-HEILIGENDAMM-** French President Nicolas Sarkozy said on Friday the international community needed to signal tougher sanctions to Iran over its disputed nuclear programme. The U.N. Security Council has imposed two rounds of sanctions against Tehran since December and the Group of Eight industrialized nations said on Friday it would back "further measures" against Iran if it did not comply with U.N. demands that it suspend its uranium enrichment programme. "On Iran, it seems to me that there is a large community of views of China, of Russia and of the United States of America to push the Iranian leaders to return to the negotiating table," Sarkozy told a news conference at an annual G8 summit in Germany. "I think we will have to send a message of firmness, certainly of toughening sanctions," Sarkozy said.

## Iran's meddling in Iraq

### 16 SUSPECTED SECRET CELL TERRORISTS DETAINED

**MULTI-NATIONAL FORCE-IRAQ, June 7, 2007-BAGHDAD, Iraq** – Iraqi and Coalition Forces detained 16 suspected terrorists Thursday morning during raids in Sadr City. The individuals detained during the raid are believed to be members of the secret cell terrorist network known for facilitating the transport of weapons and explosively formed penetrators, or EFPs, from Iran to Iraq, as well as bringing militants from Iraq to Iran for terrorist training. Based on information from a suspected terrorist detained May 30, Iraqi and Coalition Forces detained 16 suspected terrorists during the pre-dawn operation believed to be associates of a key leader in the secret cell terrorist network. Four of the suspected terrorists detained tested positive for explosives. Intelligence reports indicate that the suspected terrorist targeted during the raid is a key leader in the secret cell terrorist network who has ties to Iranian intelligence and is believed to be responsible for attacks on Iraqi civilians as well as Iraqi and Coalition Forces in Baghdad.

## Ahmadinejad's anti-Israel remarks

### UN chief slams Ahmadinejad's Israel comments



**AFP**

**June 8, 2007-UNITED NATIONS** - UN chief Ban Ki-moon on Thursday joined the United States in lambasting Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's assertion that a "countdown" had begun on the destruction of Israel. "The secretary general was shocked and dismayed at the remarks attacking Israel attributed to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on June 3 in which he says repeatedly that the world could witness the 'destruction of the Zionist regime' soon," Ban's press office said in a statement released here. Ban, who was in Germany for the G8 summit, noted that Israel is "a full and long-standing member of the United Nations" and said that under the UN Charter, "all members have undertaken to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state." Earlier Thursday, the United States also condemned Ahmadinejad's most recent comments "advocating the destruction of the state of Israel." "These are the latest in a line of statements isolating the Iranian regime from the rest of the international community and are further cause for mistrust," State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said.

### Iran summons Spain envoy in Israel remarks row

**AFP**

**Jun, 7, 2007-TEHRAN** - Iran summoned the Spanish ambassador to protest the calling in of its envoy to Madrid over the latest anti-Israeli outburst by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the Mehr

news agency reported on Thursday. Ahmadinejad provoked a new storm of controversy earlier this week by saying a "countdown" had begun that would end with Lebanese and Palestinian militants destroying Israel. Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos on Monday described Ahmadinejad's comments as "unacceptable. Spain has "good relations" with Iran but "the response (to these statements) must be firm, categorical and unambiguous on the part of a country like Spain, the European Union and the international community," he said.

## Human rights violations in Iran

### EU legislators oppose repression in Iran, group terror listing



**VRT Television, June 10, 2007-Belgium** - A man is arrested in Tehran streets and is brutally tortured by masked men in public. The pictures are recorded using mobile phones and are smuggled out secretly by the supporters of the Iranian Resistance. The people who are exposing these violent acts of the Iranian regime are themselves listed as a terror organization. The Mojahedin-e-Khalq is the main opposition group active in Iran and has been listed in the terror list since 2002.

But as thousands of European Members of Parliament believe this group is unjustly listed without any proof. "They are listed due to political reasons as the European Council adapted an appeasement policy toward Iran," said Vidal-Quatras, Vice President of European Parliament.

### Iran Takes Action To Suppress Dissent

**Los Angeles Times latimes.com June 10, 2007-CAIRO, Egypt** - The government of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is in the midst of one of the most intensive crackdowns on domestic dissent in the past two decades, targeting groups as diverse as banks and labor unions, students and civic organizations. In the United States, attention has focused on the detention of four Iranian-American dual nationals, three of whom have been charged by the government with endangering Iran's national security. But according to human rights activists and ordinary Iranians who described the events, the impact of the crackdown has been far more widespread at home. Security forces swarmed streets in Tehran, the capital, and grabbed people wearing skimpy head scarves, short overcoats or tight shirts. By the end of the month, about 150,000 had been stopped or detained, according to the chief of the national police. Intelligence Minister Gholamhossein Mohseni-Ezhe'i ... accused women and student groups of attempting to overthrow the government under the guise of civil society movements. The U.S. Congress appropriated \$66.1 million this year to support Iranian opposition groups, and Bush administration officials have talked openly of seeking "regime change."

### Iran Stepping Up Persecution of Baha'is

**Radio Free Europe June 7, 2007-** A representative to the United Nations for the Baha'i International Community says Iran has stepped up its persecution of believers of the religious faith. Bani Dugal said Iran's Information Ministry appeared to be systematically generating suspicion, fear, and hatred toward Baha'i followers in an attempt to destabilize the community.

### American Detained in Iran Appeals for State Dept. Help



**June 7, 2007-** Parnaz Azima, one of several Americans detained in Iran, said yesterday that her lawyers and Iranian officials have warned that her case could take years to resolve and appealed to the State Department to keep pressure on Tehran over the fate of the imprisoned or detained Americans.

Azima, a correspondent for U.S.-funded Radio Farda, has been charged with endangering Iran's national security by promoting anti-revolutionary propaganda and receiving illicit funds from the U.S. government. She has been detained in Iran since her passport was confiscated in January. While three other dual U.S.-Iranian citizens are imprisoned, she is out on bail. "The Iran government pretends that it doesn't care about Western government reaction, but in fact they consider it very much. It's very important that the State Department keeps talking about and putting pressure on the Iranian government," she said in a telephone interview from Tehran.

An Iranian judge said yesterday that two other Americans imprisoned for alleged espionage and acts endangering national security -- scholar Haleh Esfandiari of Potomac and social scientist Kian Tajbakhsh of New York -- have acknowledged conducting "some activities" and suggested that other suspects have been identified, Iran's ISNA news agency reported.

## Cyclone Gonu hit southeastern Iran

### Twelve Killed, 40,000 Trapped in Iran Flash Floods



**June 10, 2007-TEHRAN** - Flash floods caused by cyclone Gonu have killed 12 people, injured nine and trapped 40,000 others in southeastern Iran, news reports said yesterday. "Based on the latest information gathered, 12 people were killed as the result of floods in Hormozgan and Sistan-Baluchestan provinces," the head of Iran's emergency services, Farzad Panahi, was quoted as saying by the semi official Mehr news agency. He added that more than 3,000 livestock had perished in the southern port town of Jask in Hormozgan province. The Fars news agency, meanwhile, quoted another official as saying that a total of "40,000 villagers are trapped by water in Hormozgan province."

## Feature

### Iran and the U.N

**American Chronicle, Jun 9, 2007-** As the United Nations Security Council prepares to debate a third round of sanctions against Iran for its continuing refusal to stop its uranium enrichment program, it is time for the five permanent, veto-wielding states to get serious about their efforts to curb the ambitions of an increasing powerful and defiant clerical regime in Tehran. So far, the United Nations has managed only two weak sanctions resolutions, one in December and a second in March. What effect have these measures had on the ability of the Iranians to continue their nuclear pursuits, in spite of repeated demands from the international community that such activities be stopped immediately? Maybe it's time for the member states of the United Nations to start taking Iranian leaders at their word and recognize that they have meant what they have said about their nuclear program all along. Iran has carefully worked to position itself as the dominant power in the Middle East.

### Le Soir: MEK must be removed from the List

**Le Soir newspaper, June 9, 2007- Belgium-** The EU Council is planning to keep MEK in the terrorist list again. It seems that the Council is not paying attention to the verdict of EU Court of Justice issued on December 12th which ruled in favor of Mojahedin. (The Council did not even appeal this verdict.) The Council has made up its mind a few months ago. A letter written by Christoph Heusgen, advisor to the German Chancellor Angela Merkel to Vice President of European Parliament Vidal-Quatras, states that there has been an unanimous agreement on this issue since last February. In February 2007, the Council reached an agreement that the reasons for the inclusion of Mojahedin in the list still apply. Unlike other European countries where Mojahedin enjoy strong support from conservative and liberal parties, in Belgium, Senator Lionel Vandenberghe (from Spirit party) has questioned the Foreign Minister, Karel De Gucht since last June. He stated a very interesting fact in favor of Mojahedin and that is the government should not make a decision in this matter. In light of the upcoming elections, government should take care of the countries daily affairs. Therefore to make any decision regarding this issue, they should wait for a government enjoying the majority support to take over.

### Iran Revisits the Khomeini Legacy

**Asia Times Online, Jun 8, 2007-** It is now 18 years since ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who founded the Islamic Republic of Iran in place of a well-entrenched US-backed monarchy, passed away and, in light of the recent US-Iran dialogue in Baghdad, this year's commemoration has been interlaced with a heightened official attempt to reaffirm Iran's "Khomeinist" credentials. Khomeini's successor, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, has used the occasion to instill the pan-Islamist and religious-nationalist ethos of Khomeini, by calling for Shi'ite-Sunni unity, criticizing the world's "hegemonists", upholding Iran's "nuclear rights", and reminding the nation that Iran cannot expect to achieve its rights "by pleasing with the world-domineering" forces.