



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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Nuclear proliferation

AP Associated Press

Diplomat: Info May Show Iran Nuke Cover-Up

AP, June 17, By ANDREA DUDIKOVA VIENNA, Austria - The U.N. nuclear watchdog agency has information Iran may be engaging in a new nuclear cover-up near a military facility outside Tehran, diplomats said Thursday as the agency's board prepared to rebuke Iran for hindering an international probe. The agency was looking at intelligence that Iran was razing parts of a restricted area next to a military complex in a Tehran suburb, the diplomats said on condition of anonymity. Satellite photos showed that several buildings had been destroyed and topsoil had been removed at **Lavizan Shiyan**, one diplomat said. The diplomat said that to his knowledge the International Atomic Energy Agency had not visited that site, although agency officials told the Iranians they were concerned about the unexplained activities. "It's vanishing now, so they need to look at it," said the diplomat, adding that the agency also was focusing on other sites. The diplomat did not elaborate. The IAEA is investigating nearly two decades of covert nuclear activity by Iran. Tehran maintains its program is meant to generate electricity, but the United States claims it is a weapons program.

President Bush has labeled Iran part of an "axis of evil" with North Korea and prewar Iraq.....

The New York Times

Iran Threatens to Restart Nuclear Work

New York Times, June 17, By MARK LANDLER-VIENNA, June 16 - Iran threatened on Wednesday to resume its enrichment of uranium - a prerequisite for making nuclear weapons - if the International Atomic Energy Agency passed an expected resolution rebuking it for not cooperating. Iran's president, Mohammad Khatami, said his country no longer had a "moral commitment" to suspend uranium enrichment, though he added that it had not made a decision to restart such work. "If the draft resolution proposed by the European countries is approved by the I.A.E.A., Iran will reject it," he said in Tehran. "If Europe has no commitment toward Iran, then Iran will not have a commitment toward Europe." Mr. Khatami's statement deepened the rift between Iran and the atomic energy agency, a United Nations watchdog group, as its 35-member governing board was close to passing a toughly worded resolution deploring Tehran's lack of cooperation with its investigation of the country's nuclear program. The United States accused Iranian officials of trying to push board members into softening the criticism. "They're trying to intimidate the board and individual states," said the American ambassador to the agency, Kenneth C. Brill. "It really makes us question their claims that they have nothing to hide.".....

The Boston Globe

Nuclear word war over Iran escalates

If agency resolution passes, nation says it would restart program

Boston Globe, June 17, By Brian Whitmore, Globe Correspondent -VIENNA -- Escalating its war of words with Washington, Iran threatened yesterday to resume its uranium enrichment program if the International Atomic Energy Agency passed a toughly worded resolution condemning Tehran for lackluster cooperation with the UN's nuclear watchdog. The United States said in response that such tactics increase widespread suspicions that Iran is using its civilian nuclear power program as a cover to clandestinely acquire atomic weapons. "People who are trying to produce electricity for light bulbs don't engage in this kind of behavior," Kenneth Brill, the US ambassador to the energy agency, told reporters yesterday, referring to the Iranian threat. "The basic message that Iran is sending is that they have something to hide and they're going to use any means they have, including intimidation, to keep things from coming to light," Brill added....

Guardian Unlimited

Iran ready to tear up nuclear agreement

The Guardian, June 17, Ian Traynor-Iran yesterday threatened to resume enriching uranium, the key to its suspected nuclear bomb programme, in response to European-led criticism of its lack of full cooperation with UN nuclear inspectors. The warning, from President Mohammad Khatami, came as the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna prepared to adopt a resolution strongly critical of perceived continuing Iranian attempts to block and deceive the inspectors. "We had, we have and we will have, a nuclear programme to enrich uranium to produce fuel," said Mr Khatami - in what is a blow to Britain, Germany and France, which last year struck a widely-hailed deal for Iran to suspend uranium enrichment. "With the ongoing trend, we have no moral commitment any more to suspend uranium enrichment," Mr Khatami said. There has been discontent in the EU - and more visibly in the US - at the Iranian approach since it agreed to suspend enrichment. The IAEA says the country has continued to make equipment and refine crude uranium for the enrichment programme.

The Washington Times

Iran's mushrooming threat

Washington Times, June 16-When it comes to displaying a calculated contempt for the United States, Europe and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) over nuclear weapons development, the mullahcrats in Tehran are in a class with the Pyongyang Stalinists.

As the IAEA meets in Vienna to consider a European-drafted resolution pointing to Iran's continued refusal to come clean about its nuclear program, representatives of the Islamist regime continue to threaten the agency. The speaker of the Iranian parliament yesterday warned that members may not ratify Iran's signature to an additional protocol to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) — something insisted on by the IAEA after it discovered that Tehran was attempting to develop atomic weapons in violation of its obligations as a signer of the NPT. The speaker, Gholam Ali Hadad-Adel, suggested that by pressing Iran to tell the truth, the Europeans were doing the bidding of nefarious "Zionists." Late last month, the head of Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guards warned that that the regime was prepared to launch suicide attacks or missile strikes against "29 sensitive sites in the U.S. and in the West." Iranian President Mohammed Khatami (who is usually depicted in the Western press as a moderate) has denounced three European Union countries (Britain, France and Germany, known as the "EU 3") who have tried to put together a compromise arrangement in which Iran verifiably ends its pursuit of atomic weapons — much as Libya has. Indeed, Mr. Khatami has hinted that Iran will withdraw from the NPT if the international community tries to force it to tell the truth about its nuclear activities. Unfortunately, there is little evidence thus far that either the United States or the EU 3 will move decisively to stop Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. While Britain and France seem to be inching toward a somewhat tougher approach, they have shown little interest in putting any kind of a deadline on Tehran. While Washington has done a commendable job of articulating the problem that would be posed by nuclear

weapons in the hands of rogue governments like the one in Iran, it has shown little stomach for confronting the regime anytime this year. While the West delays taking action, congressional investigators reported yesterday that Beijing is sending nuclear technology to Iran in exchange for oil.

The Washington Times

Toughen up on Iran

Washington Times, June 15, By Hedayat Mostowfi, CSIR-Bravo for a timely editorial ("Iran and the EU 3," Thursday). It is now time for Britain, France and Germany to explain to the world the progress they think they have made in their "human rights dialogue" with Iran. As the article correctly points out, choosing business over human rights has only brought shame to the European Union. If anything, this dialogue has emboldened the Iranian regime to pursue the export of terrorism and nuclear weapons. Iraq has become the testing ground of Iran's dangerous skills. In their most recent reports, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch documented the appalling state of human rights in Iran. France outraged the world by attacking and pressing charges against Iranian dissidents only days after signing lucrative trade deals with Tehran. It would be an ominous moment if and when the clerics acquire the A-bomb. Then, the EU would be much more than an embarrassment. Iran has to be dealt with firmly now; tomorrow could prove too late. There are two choices before us: Dealing with the mullahs without the bomb today or dealing with them with the bomb tomorrow.

Meddling in Iraq and export of terrorism

Iraq fed up with Iran's meddling



Iran meddling in Iraq

Al-Menar Al-Yawm, June 9 - Iran's government has dispatched many intelligence agents and mercenaries to Iraq to entertain specific interests which are against the welfare of the Iraqi people. Iran's intelligence agents are behind all the ugly acts that have spread in Iraq, such as drugs and social corruption. Residents of Najaf and Karbala sense this very well. There are many complaints on the actions of a handful of mercenaries of the Iranian regime in the two holy provinces. To this end, one must refer to Tehran's positions on Iraq's new government. The fact is that Iran's government does not want Iraq to be stable and its people to be engaged in rebuilding it. On the other hand, Iran with these remarks wants to make Iraq a playground for its mercenaries and spies so that they could sabotage the people of Iraq in any way they want. One who cries for the conditions of the Iraqi people must make serious efforts to drive out the mercenaries and stop their plans.



Appalling human rights situation in Iran

U-Iran Human Rights Talks

Radio Farda, June 16- We have received no information about the Iran-EU human rights roundtable held in Tehran earlier this week, vice chair of the international federation of human rights societies tells Radio Farda. Lahiji who heads the Paris-based society for defense of human rights in Iran, adds that Iran and EU rejected requests by this organization and several other independent human rights groups for attending the meetings. The only human rights

organization invited to the talks was the Amnesty International. (Amir-Mosaddegh Katouzian). The Islamic Republic rejects secular and liberal concept of human rights, deputy judiciary chief Mohammad-Javad Larijani said at the end of EU-Iran human rights talks in Tehran. Human rights conditions in Iran are better than that of neighboring countries, President Khatami said. He added that, for improving human rights conditions, "we have to compare ourselves not with the west but with neighboring countries.

No Compromise on Iran's Violations of Human Rights, British Prime Minister Says

Radio Farda, June 16- "There should be no compromise on human rights and democracy in Iran," British Prime Minister Tony Blair said today in a press conference in London devoted to US and Britain's plan to bring democracy to the Middle East. Radio Farda's London-based reporter Shahrar Tabari asked Blair to comment on Human Rights Watch's recent report that urged EU governments to place improvement of human rights conditions above their financial and political interests.

US State Department Releases Fourth Annual Report on Human Smuggling

Radio Farda, June 15 -"Iran is a source, transit, and destination country for women and girls trafficked for the purposes of sexual and labor exploitation," according to the fourth annual Trafficking in Persons Report issued by the US State Department. The Government of Iran does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, it is making significant efforts to do so, the report says. "Women and girls are trafficked to Pakistan, Turkey, and France for sexual exploitation. Boys from Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Afghanistan are trafficked through Iran to the Gulf States where they are forced to work as camel jockeys, beggars, or laborers. Afghan women and girls are trafficked to Iran for sexual exploitation and forced marriage. Internal trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation and children for forced labor also takes place. The internal trafficking of women and children is fueled by an increasing number of vulnerable groups, such as runaway women, street children and drug addicts."

Communications Ministry Buys New Equipment for Blocking Internet Sites

Radio Farda, June 14-The communications ministry has purchased new, more advance hardware and software to ensure that all ISPs will follow the rules regarding filtering of "undesirable" Internet site, communications minister Ahmad Motamedi said today in an interview with Tehran daily **Sharq**. He defended the recent padlocking of ISPs by the order of Iran Telecom.