



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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IRAN OFFICIALLY ASKS FOR PRESIDENT TO JOIN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

March 15, 2007 Haaretz.com reported: "Iran's United Nations Mission sent a letter to the Security Council president Thursday officially requesting permission for President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to speak during its discussion on a resolution that would impose new sanctions on Tehran for refusing to suspend uranium enrichment, a council diplomat said..."



The letter informed South Africa's UN Ambassador Dumisani Kumalo, the current council president, that Ahmadinejad would head the Iranian delegation, the council diplomat said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the letter has not yet been made public.

Richard Grenell, spokesman for the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, would only confirm that the U.S. has received official visa requests for an Iranian delegation. He refused to disclose any details, but the council diplomat said Iran asked for visas for 38 people to accompany Ahmadinejad. The letter gave no date for Ahmadinejad's visit, the diplomat said.

Kumalo said Tuesday that under Security Council guidelines, if a member state has an issue before the council and requests to appear before the Security Council, this must be considered. "That's why I've said I think it would be difficult for us to deny the president of Iran, or the minister of Iran to appear, because we spend all this time fighting on a resolution ... so maybe somebody else needs to join, too, in the fight," Kumalo said...

Earlier Thursday, Ahmadinejad called the United Nations Security Council an illegitimate body and said that any new sanctions imposed on his country would only stimulate it to be self-sufficient and further develop nuclear technology.

Five permanent Security Council nations - the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France - along with Germany on Thursday agreed on a package of new sanctions against Iran that include an embargo on arms exports and an asset freeze on more individuals and companies associated with Tehran's nuclear and missile programs.

Speaking after the news of the Security Council agreement, Ahmadinejad told a rally in the central city of Meibod: "These threats won't have one iota of effect on the strong will of the Iranian nation."

"You cannot force the Iranian nation to retreat on its nuclear program," the official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted him as saying. Hours earlier, the president told a gathering in the central town of Ardakan that the Security Council today has no legitimacy. What are you seeking to prevent [Iran] from achieving?" Ahmadinejad said in Ardakan. "Today, the Iranian nation fully possesses the nuclear fuel cycle. If all of you gather and also invite your ancestors from hell, you will not be able to stop the Iranian nation."

The comments were Ahmadinejad's first reaction to the sanctions agreement against Tehran for failing to halt its uranium enrichment which the West fears is used for nuclear arms making."..."

SYRIA OPERATES AL QAIDA IN LEBANON

March 15, 2007 The Middle East Newline reported: "For the first time, Lebanon has accused Syria of controlling an Al Qaida network.

Lebanese officials said Syrian intelligence has been directing Al Qaida operatives to attack pro-Western interests in Lebanon. The officials said the Al Qaida members, most of them Palestinians, were trained in and financed by Syria and operate under several fronts, including Fatah Al Islam.

"It is no secret that Fateh Al Islam is Fateh Al Intifada, and Fateh Al Intifada is part of the Syrian intelligence-security apparatus," Lebanese Interior Minister Hassan Sabaa said.

The Lebanese assertion came as authorities announced the capture of four Syrians who confessed to bombing two buses north of Beirut in February 2007. Officials said the Syrians were members of Fatah Al Islam, and that a fifth Syrian suspect was being sought."..."

SOLANA: EU SUPPORTS SYRIAN INITIATIVE TO REGAIN GOLAN HEIGHTS

March 14, 2007 Haaretz.com reported: "The European Union supports Syria's goal of regaining the Golan Heights from Israel, the EU foreign policy chief said after meeting President Bashar Assad on Wednesday. "We would like to work as much as possible to see your country Syria recuperate the territory taken in 1967," Javier Solana told a joint news conference with Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Moallem.

Syria has made it clear that its cooperation to help end violence in Iraq would be tied to Western - especially U.S. - support for its peaceful campaign to regain the Golan Heights, which Israel conquered during the Six Day War four decades ago.

Solana also discussed the Lebanese crisis with Syrian leaders Wednesday on what was the first high-level visit by an EU official to Syria in more than two years. Syria, through its state-run press, welcomed Solana's visit as a good move after a long absence.

Solana came to Syria on the final stop of a three-nation attempt to mediate an end to the crisis in Lebanon, where the Hezbollah-led opposition has staged three months of mass protests in a bid to topple the government. Nine people have been killed in street battles between government and opposition supporters.

He held talks with Moallem and Vice President Farouk al-Sharaa on Wednesday morning and was scheduled to meet President Bashar Assad later.”...”

DANISH SCIENTIST: GLOBAL WARMING IS A MYTH

March 15, 2007 United Press International reported: “A Danish scientist said the idea of a "global temperature" and global warming is more political than scientific.

University of Copenhagen Professor Bjarne Andresen has analyzed the topic in collaboration with Canadian Professors Christopher Essex from the University of Western Ontario and Ross McKittrick of the University of Guelph.

It is generally assumed the Earth's atmosphere and oceans have grown warmer during the recent 50 years because of an upward trend in the so-called global temperature, which is the result of complex calculations and averaging of air temperature measurements taken around the world.

"It is impossible to talk about a single temperature for something as complicated as the climate of Earth," said Andresen, an expert on thermodynamics. "A temperature can be defined only for a homogeneous system. Furthermore, the climate is not governed by a single temperature. Rather, differences of temperatures drive the processes and create the storms, sea currents, thunder, etc. which make up the climate".

He says the currently used method of determining the global temperature -- and any conclusion drawn from it -- is more political than scientific. The argument is presented in the *Journal of Non-Equilibrium Thermodynamics*.”

AL QAIDA THREATENS WESTERN EUROPE

March 13, 2007 The Middle East Newslite reported: “Al Qaida has issued threats against Austria and Germany. Al Qaida has posted a statement on the Internet that warned Austria and Germany to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan. The video statement on Sunday said the two Western European countries would become targets of Islamic insurgents.



"Germany's participation in the U.S. war on Islam and Muslims will lead only to endangering Germany itself," the statement said.

Al Qaida and Taliban plan an offensive against the NATO force in Afghanistan over the next few weeks, U.S. officials said. They said the campaign would seek to increase casualties and pressure Western partners of Washington to withdraw their military contingents from Afghanistan.”...”

IRAN COULD BUILD FIRST NUKE DEVICE IN 6 MONTHS

March 10, 2007 The Middle East Newslite reported: “Iran could assemble its first nuclear bomb within six months, a report said. The London-based Oxford Research Group asserted that Iran could launch a crash program to produce its first crude nuclear weapon by late 2007. The ORG report said Teheran could begin such a program should the United States launch air strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities.

"It would be a bit like deciding to build a car from spare parts instead of building the entire car factory," the report said. "Put simply, military attacks could speed Iran's progress to a nuclear bomb."

The report, released on March 5, said Iran was not planning to turn nuclear for another few years. British nuclear scientist Frank Barnaby, author of the report, said Teheran appeared to be seeking to achieve nuclear weapons capability in 2012.

SYRIA DEPLOYS THOUSANDS OF ROCKETS NEAR ISRAEL

March 12, 2007 The Middle East Newslite reported: “Israel's military has determined that Syria deployed more than 1,000 missiles and rockets near the Jewish state. Officials said Syria has brought a range of medium- and long-range rockets that could strike northern and central Israel. They said the transfer of rockets and missiles from Syrian military bases began in September 2006.

"The Syrians have been very cautious and acted very quietly, but there is a new situation along their southern border," an official said. "We have been asking UNIFIL [United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon] to become involved."

The Syrian deployment was disclosed as defense ministers from Iran and Syria met in Damascus over the weekend. The state-owned media in Iran and Syria said the talks were meant to expand defense and military relations, including joint weapons production, and accelerate existing agreements.”...”

*Compiled by L. Jim Tuck, Pastor
UCGIA Oakland, San Jose, Stockton, and Santa Rosa
ljt5053@sbcglobal.net*