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MERIDOR: WE MUST BE READY TO PREEMPT THREATS

October 23, 2007 The Jerusalem Post reported: "Israeli Ambassador to the US Sallai Meridor declared Monday that Israel should always be prepared "to preempt, to deter and to defeat if we can" when speaking about the threats facing the country. Chief among those threats was Iran, said Meridor, who called for a unified international as well as domestic American front to counter the Islamic Republic's nuclear ambitions.

"This will take a united United States on this matter, that they would not have the illusion today that come January '09, they [Teheran] have it their own way," he said, referring to the inauguration of President George W. Bush's successor, who could potentially change US policy on Iran.

Meridor said "very little time" remained to keep Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon and to avoid the worst-case scenarios, outlined by French President Nicolas Sarkozy, of an Iranian bomb or a war with Iran.

"There may be a third way still, but only if the diplomatic and economic steps could be dramatically - not incrementally - intensified," he said, adding that 33 percent of Iran's trade is with Europe.

Meridor's comments appeared to put Israel at odds with America's approach to UN Security Council sanctions, in which the US is pushing for a gradual increase of pressure on Iran through a series of sanctions resolutions so long as Teheran refuses to halt uranium enrichment. A third such resolution is currently being considered. Israeli sources said that to their knowledge the administration is also calling for tougher sanctions.

The ambassador said Iran would only stop its quest for nuclear capabilities when "the cost [is at] a level that in their minds will put at risk the accomplishments of the [1979 Islamic] revolution."..."

EU, IRAN HOLD NUCLEAR TALKS

October 24, 2007 Voice of America News reported: "The meeting between EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana and Iranian officials was the first since the appointment of Saeed Jalili as Iran's new negotiator on the issue, after the resignation this weekend of Ali Larijani. Both Iranians took part in Tuesday's meeting in Rome and said Iran would continue working with the EU.

After the meeting, Larijani said the talks addressed Iran's work with the United Nations nuclear watchdog - the International Atomic Energy Agency - which is investigating Iran's past nuclear activities, as well as other nuclear issues

Jalili says Tehran supports dialogue with the West and that he sees the talks as an opportunity to forge better ties with Europe. He says he will continue the same course pursued by his predecessor Larijani.

Solana has been studying the possibility of entering formal negotiations with Iran on international requests that it halt sensitive nuclear activities. He says he expects more talks with the Iranians by the end of November.

"The meeting of today has been constructive," he said. "I have been, for the last period of time, working with Dr. Larijani and I hope very much that we will continue."



Javier Solana

The U.N. Security Council has imposed two sets of sanctions because of Iran's refusal to suspend uranium enrichment. Last month, the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany - with EU support - agreed to delay until November any new U.N. resolution to toughen sanctions, giving Iran more time to cooperate with an investigation into its nuclear activities. Solana says future moves were discussed.

"We announced, once again, that by the end of the month of November Dr. Baradei must present a report to the board of governance of the agency," Solana said. "They will clarify the cooperation, the level of cooperation between Tehran, Iran, and the agency."..."

MK: NUCLEAR BOMB WON'T DESTROY ISRAEL

October 23, 2007 YnetNews.com reported: "An atomic bomb, of the type being developed by Iran, can't destroy Israel, period. It causes death in a 500 meter radius, but can't destroy Israel," that was the calming message given to Ynet Tuesday by Knesset Member Prof Isaac Ben-Israel, a major general in the reserves.

"A nuclear Iran," the Kadima MK said, "is an intolerable threat to Israel - and Israel must do everything so that Iran will never have such a bomb."

A nuclear Iran has a long line of consequences, the first of which is not necessarily a firing of a nuclear weapon at Tel Aviv. "There's no chance in the world that if Iran will have a bomb the Arab Sunni states won't follow suit," Ben-Israel said. "Already, all Arab states termed

'moderate' have announced that they are commencing their own peaceful nuclear programs, out of fear from the Shiite revolution.

"That's because Iran, in addition to its aim to destroy Israel, publicly declares its wish to export the Shiite revolution. Therefore, it is only a matter of time before they have a bomb," He said. On the other hand, if Iran abandons the project, "it's fair to assume that Arab states will sit quietly, as they have done until today."

The next implication is the end of the Israeli ambiguity: "If the day comes in which Iran has a nuclear bomb, and other Arab states in the area follow it – Israel will have to end its ambiguity on the issue. From this point, not much time will pass until the Middle East will not only be unstable, but it will also be saturated with nuclear weapons," the MK said.

"In such a state, where a war breaks out here every two days due to lack of understandings – one can only guess who will be the first to fire this weapon," he said."..."

"When one thinks about it to the end, it's not reasonable. There are not two actors here but several actors, in an unstable region, and there is a state willing to pay an international price to advance its plan to wipe Israel off the map. Therefore, the day after is the worst day for Israel," he said."..."

'ANNAPOLIS IS A TRAP SET BY ZIONISTS'

October 22, 2007 The Jerusalem Post reported: "Addressing a cabinet session, the president said the conference, expected to be held in the United States (in) late November, would not serve the interest of the Palestinian nation."...



Ahmadinejad

Referring to the conference as the 'autumn peace conference', Ahmadinejad cautioned regional countries against being deceived. "The regional states should be careful not to be trapped by organizers of the conference and not to prepare grounds for enemies to take advantage of such an opportunity for their own ends," he said.

"The Zionist regime is on the verge of collapse and that is why enemies are conducting such a conference to give the regime a chance to refresh its spirit."

"Making any decision about Palestine without the presence of the Palestinian nation will never end up resolving the crisis," Ahmadinejad added.

"The time is over now to decide about the Palestinian nation in their absence. As an international issue, the issue of Palestine should be solved by their direct participation and with their presence."

"Those who established the Zionist regime and support this fake regime could by no means play a role in solving the question of Palestine or play the role of a mediator," Ahmadinejad was quoted as saying."

SCIENTISTS GENERATE POWERFUL ANTIMATTER RAY

October 23, 2007 FoxNews.com reported: "There is a reactor in Munich, Germany, that has been generating those types of radiation beams for some time now, and our analysis of the data shows that we have exceeded what they have reported," Dr. Ayman Hawari, director of the Nuclear Reactor Program at North Carolina State, told the university's Web site.

The beam, consisting of an intense burst of positrons, was generated at the school's PULSTAR campus nuclear reactor, which first went online in 1972. A positron is the "mirror image" of an electron — it has the same weight and properties of the most basic atomic particle, but is positively rather than negatively charged.

Theoretical physicists believe there are equal amounts of matter and antimatter in the universe, but few antimatter particles have been found "in the wild." North Carolina State researcher hope the positron beam will form the basis of antimatter-based instruments."

IAEA HEAD WARNS AGAINST RUSHING TO USE FORCE TO CURB IRAN NUKES

October 22, 2007 Ha`aretz.com reported: Iran would need three to eight years to make a nuclear bomb, the head of the United Nation's nuclear watchdog said in an interview published on Monday, and he warned against a rush to use force to curb Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), told France's Le Monde newspaper there was plenty of time for diplomacy, sanctions, dialogue and incentives to bear fruit.

U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney said on Sunday the world would not stand by and let Iran develop a nuclear weapon, and Washington has not ruled out an attack. Iran says its nuclear plans are peaceful and denies it wants to make an atomic bomb.

"I cannot judge their intentions, but supposing that Iran does intend to acquire a nuclear bomb, it would need between another three and eight years to succeed," ElBaradei told Le Monde. "All the intelligence services agree on that."

"Major powers have agreed to delay a move against Iran until November to see if Tehran answers IAEA queries about its intentions. ElBaradei said it would not be a problem if those talks extended into December. The powers are also awaiting the result of talks with EU negotiator Javier Solana, who is due to meet an Iranian delegation in Rome on Tuesday..."..."

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