

IRAN LIBERATION

News Bulletin of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Council of Resistance of Iran

August 19, 2002

IRANIAN RESISTANCE EXPOSES

Mullahs' Top Secret Nuclear Sites and Weapons of Mass Destruction Projects

Stunned silence in Tehran after revelations

- **Jafarzadeh:** *“West’s appeasement of the mullahs has emboldened them in their drive to acquire WMD.”*
- **International Atomic Energy Agency’s** spokeswoman said IAEA had not inspected Iran’s nuclear facilities in Bushehr.
- **Associated Press:** Officials acknowledged that Iran is moving forward with its clandestine nuclear weapons program.
- **Fox News TV:** U.S. officials said that the information is being taken seriously and is being analyzed.
- **Al-Jazeera TV:** The Iranian Resistance revealed that the Tehran regime has built two nuclear centers for military purposes.
- **World Tribune.Com:** Western intelligence sources confirmed that Tehran is constructing the two facilities.
- **UPI:** The facilities had been kept hidden from the International Atomic Energy Agency.



Alireza Jafarzadeh, from NCRI representative office in the U.S. briefs reporters in Washington, D.C., on Tehran’s nuclear projects.



Mullahs' Top Secret Nuclear Sites and WMD Projects Exposed at NCRI Press Conference

The representative office of the National Council of Resistance of Iran in Washington, D.C., revealed on Wednesday, August 14, two top-secret nuclear sites in Iran and the clerical regime's new nuclear, biological and chemical weapons projects at a press conference in Washington, D.C.

More than 40 U.S. and international news organizations attended the press conference at the Willard Hotel. Members of Washington's diplomatic corps were also present.

Mr. Alireza Jafarzadeh, an official of the NCRI's U.S. representative office, exposed the mullahs' extensive drive to acquire nuclear, chemical and biological weapons on the basis of a report by the Defense and Strategic Research Committee of the NCRI, compiled with the help of the Mojahedin Command inside Iran.

Excerpts from the information provided by Mr. Jafarzadeh to the press appear below:

On the surface, the Iranian regime's main nuclear activities are focused on Bushehr's nuclear power plant, but in reality many secret nuclear programs are at work without the knowledge of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

One of these top secret projects is Natanz's nuclear facility. Natanz is about 100 miles north of Isfahan. The other one is Arak's atomic facilities. Arak is a city in central Iran, 150 miles south of Tehran. These two projects have been kept secret until now.

■ Top Secret Project in Natanz, Kashan

1- This is one of the secret projects of mullahs' Atomic Energy Organization (AEOI), which is directly supervised by the clerical regime's Supreme National Security Council.

2- In order to prevent any leaks, this project is pursued under the cover of a project for eradicating deserts. Its installations is located in old Kashan-Natanz Highway, cross a village called Deh-Zireh located 40 kilometers (25 miles) south east of Kashan. This area of nearly 1,000 square kilometers is under the jurisdiction of the Governor's Office of Kashan.

3- The land considered for this project is 100,000 square meters with two large



Mullahs' Atomic Energy Organization runs numerous secret projects without international monitoring. An advisory group to Khatami also supervises the research for weapons of mass destruction .

25,000-meter halls in an area near several administrative buildings for 1,000 personnel. Underground facilities have also been considered for this project.

4- Each of the halls is 8 meters deep in the ground, protected by a concrete wall 2.5 meters thick, and surrounded by another concrete wall to make it resistant against explosions.

5- The construction of the buildings of this project began two years ago by two construction companies, Jihad-e Towse'eh and Towse'eh- Sakhteman and is due to be finished by March 2003. Installation of technical facilities will subsequently begin.

6- The project has cost 95 billion tomans so far. Its budget has been provided by the Supreme Security Council, and is not overseen by the Budget and Planning Organization.

7- Mir- Hossein Moussavi, former Iranian Prime Minister and representative of the Supreme Security Council, visited this project in early August. Gholamreza Aghazadeh, head of the Atomic Energy Organization, visits Kashan every month to oversee the progress in this project.

8- To create a better cover, the Atomic Energy Organization has set up a front company by the name of Kala-Electric through which it pursues all the project's needs for facilities and equipment. The office of this company is located at 33 Fifteenth Street, Seyyed-Jamaledin

Assadabadi Avenue, Tehran. The officials of this company have made several trips to China and India in the year 2001.

9- The company is run by Davood Aqajani who is also the managing director of Natanz Project. The company's communications and contacts with the Atomic Energy Organization is done directly through the office of AEOI chief, Gholamreza Aghazadeh.

■ Nuclear Project in Arak

1 - The Atomic Energy Organization began the construction of this nuclear facility in Arak's Khondaub region in 1996. This is a heavy water project. It is considered a top-secret project within the AEOI and is supervised by Dr. Mohammad Qannadi, Deputy for Production of Nuclear Fuel.

2 - This under-construction project is located at Qatran Workshop (near Qara-Chai River), 5 miles in Arak-Khondaub Highway, Khondaub. It requires access to a lot of water and for this reason it is located on a river bank.

Senior authorities of the Provincial Governor's Office in Arak have been instructed by the regime's security officials not to disclose the address and location of this site.

3 - To prevent any leaks from this project and to make it untraceable, the AEOI is implementing the plan through an affiliate front company, the Mesbah Energy Co. The company's CEO and the man running this project in the AEOI is Daryoush Shaibani.

4- The headquarters of Mesbah Energy Company is located at 77 Armaghan Gharbi, Valiasr Ave., across from Mellat Park, Tehran.

Operational manager for the project is Behnam Asgarpour who is based at the project's site in Khondaub.

5- Given the clandestine nature of this project, its budget is not supervised by the regime's Organization for Planning and Budget.

6- Arak's project is not officially registered with AEOI's human resources office because of its importance and sensitivity. It is directly overseen by

Gholamreza Aqazadeh, the AEOI's chief. The Security and Intelligence office of the AEOI and the Central Office of Security supervise the bureaucratic operations of this project.

7- Presently, 85% of the construction work of Arak's nuclear project has been completed and some of the units will be ready to carry out nuclear tests in Autumn.

Some of the towers located at this site are 3 meters thick and 48 meters high, each with 70 mesh trays.

■ Active Atomic Projects

Some of the plans and active nuclear centers of the clerical regime are:

1- Bushehr's Nuclear Power Plant, in Bushehr Province;

2- The Nuclear Fuel Center, in Isfahan;

4- The Nuclear Research Center of Karaj, in Tehran Province. On February 9, 2001, a five-ton steam container in hall #3 located in the Technology Center of the city of Karaj on Mottahari Ave., exploded. The explosion was due to change in its fuel system, from diesel to natural gas, without taking the required safety precautions;

5- The Research Center of Bonab, in East Azerbaijan Province;

6- Saghand Research Center of Yazd, in Yazd Province;

7- Tehran's Amirabad Research and Reactor Center, in Tehran.

Mr. Jafarzadeh also revealed some details and specifics on the AEOI's front companies which facilitate its contacts and exchanges with foreign companies to procure technical needs, without using its official title.

Sakht Iran, Messbah Energy, Hasteh Sarayand, Kaavosh Yaar, Kaan Iran, Energy Novin, Novin Pooneh and ICS companies are among the fronts the AEOI began setting up since five years ago. Isfahan's atomic centers and Bushehr's nuclear power plant also use several similar companies.

Mr. Jafarzadeh also reviewed the

clerical regime's efforts to gain access to biological and chemical weapons. He pointed out that Tehran's production and research for biological warfare concurrently take place in four different institutions: Defense Ministry's Special Industries; the Construction Crusade's Research Center with four affiliate research institutes in the cities of Isfahan, Shiraz, Tabriz, and Mashad; the Revolutionary Guards Corps' Imam Hossein University in Tehran; the Center for Bio-Technological Research that operates under the supervision of the Iranian Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

Mr. Jafarzadeh revealed that a group of Khatami's advisors called the Sciences and Technology Group—an affiliate of the Presidential office—is in charge of supervising the affairs of the centers that do research on weapons of mass destruction (WMD). It also recruits many experts from China, North Korea, and Russia.

Under the pretext of research and by using dual-use technology, it purchases its needs from European countries, Jafarzadeh said. The group's objective is to install biological warheads on ballistic missiles.

The Revolutionary Guards' 24th Bessat chemical offense brigade, that had been dissolved in the fall of 1990, has been re-established on a larger scale and held a training camp for its forces in June 2002 in Lorestan's Doroud region.

Tehran has also stockpiled a significant amount of lethal nerve gas agents.

Mr. Jafarzadeh said the mullahs have turned Iran into a center with the highest level of production and storage of biological weapons in this part of the world. He said: "The projects and plans initiated during Rafsanjani's tenure were later pursued by Khatami. The nuclear project has reached a point where the regime would be capable of a nuclear test in the next few years and could obtain nuclear weapons." □

"Iran's secret nuclear sites"

The top-secret information exposed by the NCRI's representative office in Washington, D.C., attracted much attention in the U.S. and around the world. Excerpts from a few of these reports appear in this section.

◆ Associated Press, Washington, Aug. 14

— Members of an Iranian rebel group alleged Wednesday that Iran's government is building at least two secret sites to support its nuclear weapons program.

Citing sources inside the Iranian government, officials with the National Council of Resistance of Iran said the sites are a nuclear fuel production plant and research lab at Natanz and a heavy water production plant at Arak. Both sites are in central Iran south of the capital of Tehran.

"These two nuclear sites have been kept secret until now," said Alireza Jafarzadeh, the representative of the organization in the United States, at a press conference.

Both sites are close to completion, Jafarzadeh said. Heavy water at the Arak plant could be used to support reactors capable of producing material for nuclear weapons, he said.

U.S. officials familiar with the rebels' charges declined to comment on the specifics of their claims. However, the officials acknowledged that Iran is moving forward with its clandestine nuclear weapons program.

◆ Deutsche Presse Agentur (DPA), Washington, Aug. 14

— The Iranian regime has constructed at least two nuclear

Continued on page 4

IAEA Denies Inspection of Bushehr's Nuclear Facilities

The spokeswoman for the International Atomic Energy Agency said IAEA's representative had not inspected Bushehr's nuclear facilities in his visit to Iran.

The official Iranian news agency, IRNA, reported that the head of IAEA's Department of Technical Cooperation had checked Bushehr Power Plant's compliance with international standards for production of nuclear energy and inspected the security standards in that plant. But the IAEA spokeswoman said this report was not correct and the power plant had not been inspected. □

Mullahs Shocked by Revelations

The clerical regime reacted angrily to the Iranian Resistance's exposure of its top secret WMD programs. The Iranian state television and radio criticized the United States for allowing such a press conference to be held by the Iranian Resistance.

In one of its broadcasts, the state radio said: "A wave of extensive news propaganda is being staged against Iran."

The state-run press ran similar reports on the news conference of the NCRI representative office in the U.S.

Khatami tried to justify the clerical regime's nuclear ambitions as "the need to be strong."

At the same time, the Revolutionary Guards Corps announced that it had launched military exercises in Isfahan to prepare for any nuclear or biological attack, in an effort to distract attention from the Iranian Resistance's revelations. □

“Iran’s secret nuclear sites”

Continued from page 3

sites for its weapons development program without the knowledge of international monitors, a leading Iranian resistance group said Wednesday in Washington.

International attention to Iran’s nuclear program centers on the reactor facility at Bushehr in southwestern Iran, which is being constructed with Russian assistance. But technicians from the former Soviet Union, including Russia and Ukraine, are involved in secret projects as well, said Alireza Jafarzadeh of the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

♦♦ **Voice of America, Aug. 14** — An Iranian opposition group in exile says Tehran is secretly building two facilities to support its nuclear weapons program.

A spokesman for the National Council of Resistance of Iran, Alireza Jafarzadeh, says the sites in central Iran have been secret until now.

Wednesday’s report of the new facilities came just weeks after Russia announced it plans to build up to a total of seven nuclear reactors in Iran, including one already under construction in Bushehr.

♦♦ **Fox News Television, Washington, Aug. 14** — Members of an Iranian opposition group in Washington, D.C., Wednesday said they have specific evidence of two locations inside Iran — in the cities of Natanz and Arak, located south of the capital of Tehran — where there are covert operations to make a nuclear weapon.

“These two secret sites are away from the monitoring of the international atomic energy agency and the purpose of these sites is both for the production of nuclear fuel and also the research and expertise to be able to make the bomb,” said Ali Reza Jafarzadeh, a member of the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

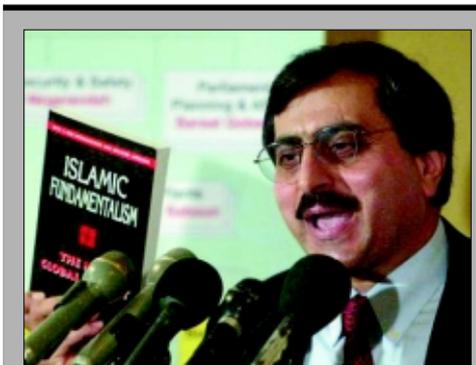
U.S. officials said that the information is being taken seriously and is being analyzed, and senior Defense officials confirm that intelligence shows that Iran is “desperately seeking” nuclear fuel capability — fissile material for a nuclear bomb.

♦♦ **Fox Live, Aug. 14, 12:30 PM** — **Interview with Alireza Jafarzadeh**

David Asman: Joining us now Alireza Jafarzadeh member of the foreign affairs

committee of the National Council of Resistance of Iran. Sir thanks very much for coming... What does Iran have that we should be worried about?

Jafarzadeh: We revealed today that Iran



Jafarzadeh, U.S. representative of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, holds a copy of “Islamic Fundamentalism” during a Washington news conference where he discussed his organization’s new information of top secret projects of the Iranian regime’s nuclear program. (AP Photo/Rick Bowmer)

has been pursuing two separate secret nuclear projects on two secret sites that have been away from the attention of the International Atomic Energy Agency. This is very serious, because it is critical for the nuclear arms program of the Iranian regime to be able to both produce nuclear fuel as well as the expertise and the know how and the research.

Question: We heard about ‘Busher’... I guess that’s one that the Russians were helping the Iranians build. Am I right?

Answer: Yes you’re right, in fact ‘Bushehr’ has been a very open and public facility that has attracted a lot of attention, internationally. What the Iranian regime has done, using the attention on Busher and the controversy around it, was to deviate attention from more sophisticated, more serious secret programs which are these two sites that we revealed.

♦♦ **United Press International, Washington, Aug. 14** — Alireza Jafarzadeh, spokesman for the National Council of Resistance of Iran, said Wednesday that two massive facilities were under construction in Iran that would be involved in the production of weapons-grade nuclear fuel. The facilities, he said, had been kept hidden from the International Atomic Energy Agency....

♦♦ **Al-Jazeera TV, Aug. 15** — The Iranian Resistance revealed that the Tehran regime has built two nuclear centers with military purpose.

One of the officials of the Iranian National Council of Resistance told a press conference in Washington these sites are near the cities of Natanz and Arak in central Iran. These two sites have been built in the framework of a project for production of weapons of mass destruction. He pointed out that the Iranian regime receives the budget for this project from unofficial sources.

♦♦ **The Financial Review (Australia), Aug. 17** — Members of an Iranian rebel group claimed Iran’s Government was building at least two secret sites to support its nuclear weapons program.

Citing sources inside the Iranian Government, officials with the National Council of Resistance of Iran said the sites were a nuclear fuel production plant and research lab at Natanz and a heavy water production plant at Arak...

“These two nuclear sites have been kept secret until now,” Alireza Jafarzadeh, the US representative of the organisation, said at a press conference.

♦♦ **Baltimore Sun, Aug. 15** — Citing sources inside the Iranian government, officials with the National Council of Resistance of Iran said the sites are a nuclear fuel production plant and research lab at Natanz and a heavy water production plant at Arak....

♦♦ **World Tribune.Com, Aug. 15** — Iran is constructing at least two facilities to help construct and assemble nuclear weapons.

Iranian opposition sources said the Teheran regime is building two nuclear weapons facilities in central Iran south of Tehran...

Western intelligence sources confirmed that Teheran is constructing the two facilities. They said the facilities are part of a secret nuclear infrastructure that will be staffed with scientists and technicians from the former Soviet Union....

“These two nuclear sites have been kept secret until now,” Alireza Jafarzadeh, a representative of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, told a news conference on Wednesday. □