

## Iran's Smoking Gun

### Commentary for December 16, 2009 — More Evidence of Iranian Plans

A December 14, 2009 *Times OnLine* article titled "[Secret document exposes Iran's nuclear trigger](#)" reported that internal Iranian military documents have surfaced that indicate that tests were being conducted to perfect a "nuclear trigger" mechanism to detonate nuclear material for a fissionable bomb. The article begins:

**"Confidential intelligence documents obtained by *The Times* show that Iran is working on testing a key final component of a nuclear bomb. The notes, from Iran's most sensitive military nuclear project, describe a four-year plan to test a neutron initiator, the component of a nuclear bomb that triggers an explosion. Foreign intelligence agencies date them to early 2007, four years after Iran was thought to have suspended its weapons programme."**

While experts in England and around the world are looking at the documents, they are being made available to the UN nuclear inspectors for verification. The documents are said to be technically accurate, but are they genuine? If the documents prove to be genuine, they contradict a 2007 United States intelligence estimate that Iran had suspended its nuclear bomb research.

**"The documents detail a plan for tests to determine whether the device works — without detonating an explosion leaving traces of uranium detectable by the outside world. If such traces were found, they would be taken as irreversible evidence of Iran's intention to become a nuclear-armed power."**

The underlined portion in particular caught my attention, because it seems to confirm my understanding that Iran will not test a nuclear device until all components of an operable weapon system seem to be working. It is a major engineering feat they are attempting. (See my October 16, 2009 Commentary "[Iran and Nuclear Weapons](#).")

If Iran were to conduct a nuclear blast test it would immediately make Iran to be a liar because it has publicly denied any desire to possess nuclear weapons even though "everyone knows" that is exactly their goal. Nevertheless it would be a major blow to Iranian prestige in the international arena and may even have repercussions in Iran's domestic politics as well.

Furthermore, it would be a red flag to Iran's neighbors, a direct challenge to Israel, and to the United States that Iran cannot be trusted and that it is a threat to their security. Iran would be inviting a military strike against its nuclear infrastructure. Such a strike could not be prevented although Iran is doing everything possible to minimize beforehand the effects, should such a military attack occur against its nuclear resources.

Therefore, Iran will wait until it is able to test a completely integrated weapon system of a missile, a warhead large enough to carry a small nuclear weapon that will explode. The three components will all be tested at once: the missile (the delivery system), the warhead (able to stand stresses of launch and reentry), and a workable nuclear device inside the warhead that explodes when and where desired.

Why would Iran wait until all components are ready to be tested at the same time? Iran has been testing missiles for a long time, with varying success. They would test the warhead at the same time as the nuclear device inside that warhead. At the present time Iran needs to perfect the accuracy and payload lift capacity of their missiles. This takes time.

Iran has also been claiming publicly that their nuclear program has been for peaceful purposes. Premature evidence of a weaponized nuclear program (which everyone already suspects) might trigger military action against Iran's nuclear and military facilities that would hamper and considerably delay their program. This entire charade that all major nations are playing on the international stage may soon come to a violent conclusion.

### ***What Will Happen?***

Will Israel attack Iran's nuclear facilities? Will the United States assist Israel in the attack? If an attack on Iran's nuclear facilities takes place, how will Iran react? Will it retaliate violently in neighboring Iraq where Iran has thousands of proxy agents? Will Iran retaliate and attack Israel with missiles or terrorist attacks? Will Iran try to close off the Strait of Hormuz to all oil tankers? Will the United States Navy and the navies of other countries be able to keep the Straits open to oil tanker traffic?

Will the world's economy be greatly injured by a sudden spike in oil prices? All oil from Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates flows through the Strait of Hormuz. Will insurance companies insure multimillion dollar tankers suddenly put at risk of attack through that narrow waterway?

Will the present government of Iran survive? It is presently under great internal pressure by political protests and riots, economic riots, gasoline shortages, and economic depression and shortages in large sections the Iranian economy.<sup>1</sup>

### ***Russia and China***

How will Russia and China react? While neither Russia or China can prevent an attack, they can pressure the United States.

Russia is a major oil producer and exporter (some believe the world's largest producer of crude oil). A disruption in the Strait of Hormuz and a subsequent doubling or tripling in world oil prices would be a major windfall for Russian oil sales and the Russian economy. At the same time Russia could halt or delay supplies to United States forces fighting in Afghanistan which come through Russia and Russian-proxy states next to Afghanistan.

China receives 14% of its crude oil from Iran and 21% from Saudi Arabia,<sup>2</sup> all of which goes through the Strait of Hormuz. Such a reduction would cause great economic upset in China and likely cause internal political unrest. While an Iran with nuclear weapons is no threat to China, it does care if its oil flow is restricted or cut off. It would cripple China's growing economy. China could threaten the United States economically or politically (in North Korea).

None of these events relate directly to biblically prophesied events — yet. See my "[April 2006 Newsletter](#)" which introduces Dr. Martin's presentation "[Iran in Prophecy](#)." This material should be read again in light of current events. The end-time prophecies regarding Iran have not yet occurred in history, particularly the prophecies of Isaiah chapter 45. The Bible says that Iran must be powerful before Christ's Second Coming. Iran is not powerful at present, but it shall be so in the future. Iran at present can cause disruption for other countries, but it is not currently building economic, political, or military power. It is a weak nation risking internal dissension and collapse. Soon Iran will rejoin the family of nations and become a peaceful member of the international community. In peace its power will grow.

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1. For additional background information about Iran and her neighbors see my April 2006 Commentary "[Iran in Focus](#)." In there are links to still other ASK articles, as well as articles outside ASK.
  2. See "[Chinese crude oil imports rose 13.6 percent year-on-year in April](#)" from a May 13, 2009 official Chinese government website. Referenced 12/14/09.