

Upcoming Iranian Nuclear Talks

By <u>Stephen Lendman</u> Global Research, February 18, 2013 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> In-depth Report: <u>IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?</u>

Multiple previous P5+1 talks were held. America manipulated them to fail. So did Israel covertly. Western nations were pressured to go along.

On February 26, new talks will be held in Almaty, Kazahhstan. Expect no more this time than earlier.

It bears repeating. Tehran's nuclear program isn't at issue. It's red herring cover for imperial aims. It's the oil, stupid, and regional dominance.

Iran's sovereignty stands in the way. Its program is peaceful. It complies with NPT provisions. World leaders know it. So do IAEA inspectors.

Washington targets all independent governments. It wants pro-Western puppet ones replacing them. It invents reasons to do so. It operates extrajudicially in defiance of rule of law principles.

It gets UN Secretary-Generals to go along. Ban Ki-moon's one of the worst. He shames the office he holds. He spurns UN Charter principles. He's complicit in war crimes.

He's well rewarded for doing so. He lies for Washington. He's a longstanding imperial tool.

On February 14, the <u>Washington Post</u> headlined "Iran could use UN talks as cover to build bomb, Ban K-moon says."

He knows Iran has no such intention. He lies and claims otherwise. Decisive swift action should prevent what doesn't exist, he urges.

Accelerated action should be prioritized. "We should not give much more time to the Iranians, and we should not waste time," he says. "We have seen what happened with the DPRK."

"It ended up that they (were) secretly, quietly, without any obligations, without any pressure, making progress."

The Security Council must "show a firm, decisive and effective, quick response."

Like America and Israel, he wants Iran to prove a negative. He told Imam Khamenei he's not satisfied with peaceful reassurances. He did so on orders from Washington.

He's "frustrated" about failed international talks. He points fingers the wrong way. He blames Iran for Western intransigency.

He speaks with forked tongue. He mimics John Kerry. America's new Secretary of State said progress depends on if Iran's ready to "make and discuss real offers and engage in a real dialogue."

Doing so is impossible without legitimate negotiating partners. Iran hasn't had them in decades. It doesn't now.

On February 16, <u>Press TV</u> headlined "Iran censures Ban Ki-moon for remarks on nuclear energy program."

Iranian UN ambassador Mohammad Khazaei called what he said "unfortunate." He acted "in contradiction to his duties and against international principles."

He called on Ban to observe justice and confidence-building measures. He urged him to use his position responsibly. It's his job to do so. He never once tried. He's complicit in imperial crimes.

He makes unjust accusations. Iran has every right to object. It's entitled to use nuclear power peacefully. Ban knows but won't say. He regurgitates what Washington tells him to say.

America and Israel claim Tehran is months away from producing a bomb. No evidence whatever suggests it. Saying so is malicious propaganda.

Kerry picked up where Hillary Clinton left off. He represents imperial lawlessness. He's Israel's man at State.

He said "(w)e are not going to get trapped into a delay-after-delay process here."

"It is incumbent on the Iranians to prove that they are prepared to meet our willingness, President Obama's willingness, again and again stated by the president, to be open to a diplomatic resolution here."

Washington doesn't negotiate. It demands. Other countries are pressured to comply. Multiple threats follow otherwise. Iran's familiar with American double-dealing.

It's hard imagining why they put up with it so long. Job's patience would be taxed. Tehran prioritizes peace and good relations. It won't stop trying to achieve them. Washington and Israel obstruct them. Rogue states operate that way.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi said Tehran's willing to negotiate directly with Washington. At issue only is "the other side (coming) with authentic intentions."

It hasn't happened in decades and won't now. Salehi knows it. So do other Iranian leaders. On February 16, <u>Fars News Agency</u> headlined "Leader Blasts American Officials' Paradoxical Policies." He referred to their "spirit of bullying."

"Americans expect others to give in to their illogical words and bullying as some have done, but the Iranian nation and the Islamic Republic does not surrender because it has logic, ability and power," Imam Khamenei said.

He stressed key points. They include illogical and contradictory US remarks, using nuclear

negotiations to demand Iran surrender its legitimate rights, and lying about removing sanctions through talks.

He called America's offer of direct talks disingenuous. It's cover to bully Iran to surrender.

It's because "they want to show to the revolting Muslim nations of the region that the Islamic Republic of Iran was eventually made to sit to the negotiating table despite all its resistance and toughness, and that they, thus, have no other option but to give up and surrender."

Tehran keeps "its eyes wide open." It understands Washington's duplicity. It responds accordingly.

America previously offered direct talks. Iran's "logical words" were spurned. It was blamed for doing so. Expect nothing different now.

At the same time, he said:

"If Americans show both in their words and actions that they are not illogical, then they would see that the Islamic Republic and the Iranian nation are benevolent and favor interaction and logic."

"This is the only way to interact with the Islamic Republic of Iran, and in that case the US administration would receive a proper response."

On February 16, <u>Reuters</u> headlined "Exclusive: Big powers to offer easing gold sanctions at Iran nuclear talks."

"Big powers," of course, means Washington. Its offer was duplicitous. It was made to be refused. It demands Iran shut down its newly expanded Fordow enrichment plant.

It operates legitimately. Tehran categorically refuses. Washington's latest offer is contemptuous. It assures upcoming Almaty failure.

Reuters cited unnamed Western officials. They spoke on condition of anonymity. They're embarrassed to attach their names to surrender demands. They should have kept silent and said nothing.

They said the new proposal largely replicates earlier ones. "We don't think the Iranians (deserve) much more," they added.

They claim Iran isn't ready to deal ahead of its June 14 presidential elections.

Tehran's ready for legitimate talks anytime. It needs legitimate partners to do so. Washington obstructionism prevents it. It's no different now than earlier.

Pressuring Iran to halt uranium enrichment proves it. Claiming it's for bomb development is false on its face. Knowing it's true but saying otherwise shows what Iran is up against.

Saber rattling makes things worse. It repeats ad nauseam. It's done so belligerently. False charges follow earlier ones.

Sanctions violate international law. They're imposed to harm Iran's economy, isolate it

politically, and cause ordinary Iranians pain and suffering.

It's done to turn them against their government. It's been tried many times before. Every time it fails. Ordinary people blame responsible parties. Their governments are their last line of defense.

Iranians aren't fools. They know Washington and Israel are Tehran's main enemies. They're enemies of peace, equity and justice.

They're hegomonic partners. They violate international law. They spurn it with impunity. They commit crimes of war, against humanity, and genocide. So do complicit NATO partners and rogue regional allies.

At issue is advancing Washington's imperium. It's about regional dominance. It's about controlling world energy supplies. It's about turning Iran into a vassal state.

In 1979, Iran ended 2,500 years of monarchal rule. A generation of Pahlavi repression ended. It's not about to roll over for Washington and return it.

Its sovereignty matters too much. It'll do what's necessary to protect it. Its leaders are responsible for doing it. They've done so for 34 years.

Castro's Cuba alone remained independent longer. Both nations abhor imperial Washington's aims. They do so for good reason. They prioritize peace and good relations, not conflicts and global dominance.

They're targeted for doing the right things. Expect nothing ahead to get easier. Washington has longstanding war plans. It's waging multiple ones already. It has others in mind.

They'll be launched in the fullness of time. Today is the most perilous time in world history. Humanity may not survive America's onslaught.

It's shocking to imagine it's come this far and perhaps no further. If it perishes, it'll be the only species ever to do so.

It'll prove higher intelligence was more liability than asset. Given Washington's rage for dominance, things may turn out that way.

A Final Comment

In mid-February, FAIR's (Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting) <u>Peter Hart</u> asked if Iranian magnets are the new aluminum tubes.

In months preceding the 2003 Iraq war, the mainstream media, TV talking heads, and Bush administration officials lied. They said Saddam Hussein attempted to buy "thousands of specially designed tubes" to advance his nuclear weapons program.

Their "diameter, thickness and other technical specifications (had) persuaded American intelligence experts that they were meant for Iraq's nuclear program."

None existed. Most people didn't now. This and other false accusations became pretexts for war. Destroying the cradle of civilization followed.

Pre-2003 Iraq no longer exists. Millions died. Conflict continues. More die daily. Human misery is incalculable. No end in sight looks near.

Washington perhaps destroying Iran the same way. Propaganda wars precede hot ones. Tehran faces numerous false charges. New accusations follow earlier ones.

The mainstream media march in lock step with imperial plans. Sources relied on are serial liars.

Henry Kissinger may or may not have said "If you can't hear the drums of war you must be deaf." It's true either way. Permanent war is official US policy.

Current ones rage. More are planned. One country after another is ravaged. It bears repeating. Humanity may not survive Obama's second term. Rogue administration policies make it appear less likely.

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago and can be reached at <u>lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</u>.

His new book is titled "Banker Occupation: Waging Financial War on Humanity."

http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanII.html

Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com and listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network Thursdays at 10AM US Central time and Saturdays and Sundays at noon. All programs are archived for easy listening.

http://www.progressiveradionetwork.com/the-progressive-news-hour

http://www.dailycensored.com/upcoming-iranian-nuclear-talks/

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Stephen Lendman</u>, Global Research, 2013

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Stephen Lendman	About the author:
	Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III." http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cutting- edge discussions with distinguished guests on the

Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

<u>www.globalresearch.ca</u> contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca