

# White House Recruits South Caucasus Allies For Attack On Iran

By <u>Global Research</u> Global Research, January 31, 2012 Stop NATO 31 January 2012 Region: <u>Russia and FSU</u> Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?</u>

#### http://times.am/?l=en&p=4259

Times.am (Armenia) January 30, 2012

US held discussions with Azerbaijan about its relations with Iran: Is the USA looking for a platform?

U.S. charge d'affaires to Azerbaijan Adam Sterling announced that the U.S. understands Azerbaijani special position on Iran due to the geographical location, he said while commenting on the sanctions imposed on Iran.

According to Azeri Press Agency, the diplomat said Iran-related issues are always discussed in bilateral meetings.

"We constantly discuss it during the talks with Azerbaijan," he said.

Today Russian Kommersant wrote that the Georgian and U.S. presidents will discuss the possibility of the use of Georgian territory for attacking

Iran. The source referred to experts who confirmed that events related to Iran will be the main theme of the Georgian and American presidents. Some of them also noted that Georgia will be unable to refuse the the U.S. offer even it wants to refuse it.

This information makes us think that maybe the U.S. plans an attack against Iran and is looking for a platform in the region. Armenia is considered to be Iranian ally and it is not seriously expected to provide any assistance against Iran. Georgia is more reliable for the U.S. and negotiations with the Azerbaijani side on Iranian-Azerbaijani relations are held, as we know from the quote by the American official.

At the same time the Islamic Republic News Agency reports that Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi advised European and U.S. officials to interact with Iran instead of resorting to sanctions and pressures.

Salehi made the remark here on Monday while talking to the Turkish TRT television news channel.

http://en.apa.az/news.php?id=164658

Azeri Press Agency January 30, 2012

US charge d'affaires: We understand Azerbaijan's special position on Iran Viktoria Dementyeva

Baku: "We understand Azerbaijan's special position on Iran due to the geographical location," U.S. charge d'affaires to Azerbaijan Adam Sterling said while commenting on the sanctions imposed on Iran, APA reports.

The diplomat said the Iran issue is always discussed in bilateral meetings.

"We constantly discuss it during the talks with Azerbaijan," he said.

http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=24400

Civil Georgia January 31, 2012

Saakashvili: 'Results from Talks with Obama Exceeded Our Expectations'

Tbilisi: President Saakashvili said "concrete results" of his meeting with President Obama "exceeded our expectations."

"I am very impressed and satisfied by the results of this meeting," he said in remarks made separately for Georgian journalists after leaving the White House, following his talks with the U.S. President on January 30.

He said it was the most fruitful talks he had ever had in the Oval Office. Saakashvili met twice with President Obama's predecessor, George W. Bush, at the White House – first in July, 2006 and then in March 2008.

In his remarks outside the White House, Saakashvili emphasized what he called "elevating" defense cooperation with the U.S. "on a new level".

"We are talking about elevating cooperation in the defense sphere to a new level; if in previous years we were talking only about anti-terrorism operations and our participation in peacekeeping operations in Iraq or Afghanistan, now we are talking about cooperating with the United States on developing Georgia's self-defense capabilities. We will continue working on these issues; very concrete meetings have been planned and this is a new, higher level of our cooperation on the military and security issues," Saakashvili said.

### Edited by Rick Rozoff

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