

White House Reviews US Military Plan for 120,000 Troops for Iran War

Plan doesn't envision invasion, which would involve far more troops

By Jason Ditz

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War Agenda

In-depth Report: **IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?**

John Bolton ordered the Pentagon to come up with an "updated" plan for getting more American troops into the Middle East to fight a war against Iran. The plans are in now, according to officials, who say that the options envision 120,000 US ground troops in the Middle East.

Incredibly, this option appears to just be the start of the war, as officials say that the 120,000 plan does not include a US ground invasion of Iran. Officials concede that the ground invasion would require far more troops.

Instead, the 120,000 is just the next step in the ongoing US escalations toward war, and is envisioned as a response to any Iranian threat on US forces or interests, or any hint of acceleration of its nuclear program.

US officials quoted in the media about the plan are everywhere and always supportive of the idea, and the underlying narrative of an "Iranian threat." Some argue that the fact that the Pentagon would send 120,000 troops and not even invade proves how big the threat is, while others say that the 120,000 troops would be a "scare tactic" to warn Iran off any aggressive moves.

This is quite contrary to Europe's take on US policy, with European officials calling on the US to exercise some restraint, and expressing concern that US moves are liable to miscalculate and start a war through sheer accident.

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