

Press Releases: Iran Atomic Archive

Press Statement
Mike Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC
April 30, 2018

For many years, the Iranian regime has insisted to the world that its nuclear program was peaceful. The documents obtained by Israel from inside of Iran show beyond any doubt that the Iranian regime was not telling the truth. I have personally reviewed many of the Iranian files. Our nonproliferation and intelligence officials have been analyzing tens of thousands of pages and translating them from Farsi. This analytical work will continue for many months. We assess that the documents we have reviewed are authentic.

The documents show that Iran had a secret nuclear weapons program for years. Iran sought to develop nuclear weapons and missile delivery systems. Iran hid a vast atomic archive from the world and from the IAEA – until today.

Among the flaws of the Iran nuclear deal was the whitewashing of Iran's illicit activities related to its military nuclear program. Iran had many opportunities over the years to turn over its files to international inspectors from the IAEA and admit its nuclear weapons work. Instead, they lied to the IAEA repeatedly. They also lied about their program to the six nations who negotiated the Iran nuclear deal. What this means is the deal was not constructed on a foundation of good faith or transparency. It was built on Iran's lies. Iran's nuclear deception is inconsistent with Iran's pledge in the nuclear deal "that under no circumstances will Iran ever seek, develop, or acquire any nuclear weapons."

We are therefore assessing what the discovery of Iran's secret nuclear files means for the future of the JCPOA. Allowing restrictions on Iran's nuclear program to sunset was a mistake. One has to ask: Why exactly was Iran hiding half a ton of nuclear weaponization files while implementing the Iran deal? It is worth recalling that from 2006-2015, Iran was prohibited by Security Council resolutions from enriching any nuclear material. Now that the world knows Iran has lied and is still lying, it is time to revisit the question of whether Iran can be trusted to enrich or control any nuclear material. As the President's May 12 deadline to fix the Iran deal approaches, I will be consulting with our European allies and other nations on the best way forward in light of what we now know about Iran's past pursuit of nuclear weapons and

its systematic deception of the world.

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[Press Releases: Remarks on Iran Atomic Archive](#)

Remarks

Mike Pompeo

Secretary of State

On Aircraft Carrier Joint Base Andrews
April 30, 2018

SECRETARY POMPEO: Everybody ready to get home?

QUESTION: Very much so.

SECRETARY POMPEO: Yeah, me too. Well, look, you all had a chance to see what the prime minister said today. You've seen the statement that I've released with some of the President – what was said in our response to the question at the joint press conference he held. I'm happy to ask any – answer any questions to clarify anything about this new material that the prime minister released today.

QUESTION: How long have you known about that?

QUESTION: Did you go over it when you were with him in their meeting? I mean, how much of the meeting was that?

SECRETARY POMPEO: So we have – we've known about this material for a while. And yes, we certainly discussed the material yesterday when we were together.

QUESTION: Thank you.

SECRETARY POMPEO: But it's been something that's been in the works for a while. I know there are people talking about these documents not being authentic. I can confirm for you that these documents are real; they're authentic.

QUESTION: Senator Corker says you've known about this for years.

SECRETARY POMPEO: Well, that's partly true. The existence of the AMAD program that ended roughly December of 2003, January of 2004, it is accurate to say that the knowledge of that has been known for – the fact of that had been known for quite some time. But there are thousands of new documents and new information. We're still going through it. There's still a lot of work to do to figure out precisely the scope and scale of it. But it is the case – it – there is new information about that program.

QUESTION: Does it matter for the Iran nuclear deal, I mean, given that it looks like they abandoned the program some time ago?

SECRETARY POMPEO: Well, this is – this will, I think, spell out the scope and scale of the program that they undertook there, and I think makes – I think makes very clear that, at the very least, the Iranians have continued to lie to their own people. So while you say everyone knew, the Iranians have consistently taken the position that they've never had a program like this. This will – this will belie any notion that there wasn't a program like this.

QUESTION: Is there anything in there that suggests there's an actual violation of the 2016 agreement?

SECRETARY POMPEO: We'll leave that to lawyers. I'll leave that to lawyers to sort of make – and the President will ultimately have to make a determination about that too. You should remember there are still many, many documents that we've not had the opportunity to go through yet. It's complex, a lot of translation work. There's just a – it's just a significant undertaking.

QUESTION: Does this suggest that the IAEA was wrong when it closed the book on the PMDs as part of the – part of the JCPOA?

SECRETARY POMPEO: I don't know the answer to that.

QUESTION: Well, do these documents – are they contemporaneous with the negotiations that were going on or the (inaudible)?

SECRETARY POMPEO: We haven't gone through all the documents yet. We're still scratching the surface of what we're going through.

QUESTION: Did the prime minister choose to release this now in order to influence the President's decision or to support it?

SECRETARY POMPEO: I don't know. I don't know why they chose that timing.

QUESTION: It sounds like you have not drawn any conclusions on it yet.

SECRETARY POMPEO: Well, yes and no. I mean, it depends what you mean. Yes, we've drawn conclusions. We know more about the AMAD program than we knew before, and we have a whole lot more material to go through. We now know that they continued to store this material in an orderly fashion for some purpose – right? They kept the documents for a reason, and one can speculate as to why. If you said you were never – right? – the JCPOA says you'll never, ever have a nuclear weapons program – right? Or maybe not with a not a never ever. You won't ever have a nuclear weapons program. But you chose to store in secret and hide these documents?

QUESTION: Historical record? You're not willing to give them the benefit of the doubt that they don't want to destroy their history or –

SECRETARY POMPEO: The world can decide if this was for the Iranian museum that they – that they decided to hang onto it. (Laughter.)

QUESTION: How much have you guys (inaudible)?

QUESTION: Secretary, what happens now? Do you (inaudible) urgent meeting of the E3? What happens now?

SECRETARY POMPEO: So the Israelis will now, I think – I think the prime minister said publicly they are going to go provide expert briefings to the Germans and the French (inaudible). They'll do the same thing for the Brits as well, and I think he indicated he was going to do it for the other members of the P5 also. And I think that's important. I don't think the Israelis – the Israelis haven't asked us to take their word for it; they provided us the material to review. I am confident they will do the same for the other partners of the P5.

QUESTION: If you –

MODERATOR: Okay, guys. The Secretary has to go.

QUESTION: How much will it damage European relations? I mean, they obviously want to stay very much in the deal. If you pull out, are you afraid that relations with Europe will be damaged?

SECRETARY POMPEO: I'd say two things. One, we're working diligently to fix this thing. I mean, on the plane we've been working to try and get language right that will address President Trump's concerns. So we're still working our way there.

And then a second thing I'd say is we've had lots of conversations with the Europeans. We know what it is they're hoping to achieve. We share the same end goal to keep the Iranians from ever having a nuclear weapon. I am confident that we will continue to have good relations with our European partners should the President choose to pull out of this. This will be one issue among many of the important, critical issues that we all work on together.

MODERATOR: All right. Thanks, you guys.

SECRETARY POMPEO: Thank you all.

QUESTION: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

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Press Releases: Terrorist Attack in Kabul

Press Statement
Mike Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC
April 30, 2018

The United States strongly condemns today's senseless and barbaric attack in Kabul that killed 29 people and wounded dozens more, including several brave journalists and media professionals. We extend our deepest condolences to the families and friends of the victims who were injured and killed, and we mourn all those who lost their lives.

The independent media is a cornerstone of democracy. Despite today's attack, the vibrant media landscape that has developed in Afghanistan will endure, in large part due to those journalists and media professionals who tragically died in today's attack, but whose courageous and steadfast work helped lay the foundation for Afghanistan's thriving and resilient independent media. The international community's commitment to the Afghan people and a lasting peace in Afghanistan will not be shaken by such attacks.

The United States, along with our Afghan and international partners, is committed to defeating ISIS in Afghanistan, which has claimed responsibility for this attack. We stand with the people, the independent media, and

government of Afghanistan and remain committed to supporting the Afghan people's efforts to achieve peace, security, and democracy for their country.

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[Press Releases: State Department Announces 22nd Experience America Visit to Indianapolis, Indiana](#)

Media Note
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC
April 29, 2018

The U.S. Department of State, and the Office of the Chief of Protocol, are proud to announce the 22nd Experience America trip to Indianapolis, Indiana, with members of the foreign Diplomatic Corps, May 6-8, 2018.

Over 30 foreign ambassadors – representing countries across four continents – will join Ambassador Sean P. Lawler, Chief of Protocol of the United States, to engage local business and community leaders and spotlight America's heartland. Indianapolis has emerged on the world stage as a signature city for companies in information technology, automotive and advanced manufacturing, as well as biomedical and pharmaceutical research.

This visit will not only highlight the economic growth occurring throughout Indiana, but also provide countless opportunities to create new global partnerships and boost trade and investment.

Sunday, May 6th – 6:30 p.m. Welcome Reception at the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Headquarters, Hall of Champions – An opportunity for the foreign ambassadors to meet and interact with Indianapolis's top

academic and cultural leaders. Event will feature remarks by representatives of Indiana, Ambassador Lawler and officials from the NCAA.

Monday, May 7th – 8:15 a.m. In Conversation with Indiana University – This event will feature a discussion about the newly established Center for Rural Engagement at Indiana University-Bloomington illustrating how IU is connecting its broad resources with community projects and partnerships to address challenges and opportunities across southwest central Indiana. The conversation will highlight how the center’s various initiatives will improve the lives of people living across the region, and illustrate how university-led collaboration can create unique solutions to complex challenges common to rural communities all around the nation.

Monday, May 7th – 12:30 a.m. Manufacturing Plant Tour at the Cummins Midrange Engine Plant – Diplomats will witness the latest in how technology shapes the future of manufacturing at the Cummins Midrange Engine Plant (CMEP). Cummins is a global power and technology leader in the design and manufacture of a variety of power solutions including clean diesel and near-zero natural gas engines. At CMEP, Cummins will highlight the latest in advanced manufacturing and automation, and spotlight how leading manufacturing capabilities and a dynamic workforce power local economic growth and contribute to the creation of vibrant communities.

Monday, May 7th – 5:30 p.m. Community Reception at the Cummins Indiana Distribution Headquarters – During an evening reception in downtown Indianapolis, Cummins executives and Board Members will host elected officials and community leaders from across Indiana to meet Ambassadors and discuss how businesses and governments drive global economic and job growth. Remarks by Ambassador Lawler, The Honorable Joe Hogsett, Mayor of Indianapolis and Cummins Chairman and CEO, Tom Linebarger.

Tuesday, May 8th – 8:15 a.m. Indianapolis-Region Business Breakfast – Diplomats will connect with the Indianapolis region’s business community through a breakfast hosted by the Indy Chamber. A panel discussion by executives will introduce key industries in the region and their ties to international commerce, as well as opportunities to build global business connections within and among the region.

Other closed-press events include a tour of the The Dallara IndyCar Factory and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, a tour of Eli Lilly and Company’s headquarters facility and a demonstration of innovative methods Lilly is bringing to biotechnology research, and a visit to the Kennedy King Memorial

For more information and to RSVP for any event, please contact Tim Gowa at GowaTM@state.gov by Thursday, May 3.

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[Press Releases: Remarks With Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu After Their Meeting](#)

Remarks
Mike Pompeo

Secretary of State

Tel Aviv, Israel
April 29, 2018

PRIME MINISTER NETANYAHU: Good afternoon. Secretary Pompeo, Mike, it's wonderful to welcome you. This is your first visit to Israel as Secretary of State. I think it's significant that you chose, as did the President, to include Israel on this important itinerary. I think it's symbolic of our friendship, which is deep, and getting even deeper and stronger. We've known each other for some time, I followed your activities in Congress and then as CIA, now as Secretary of State. You're a true friend of Israel, a true friend of the Jewish people, and I look forward to working with you in your new role. We've just had very productive, very focused conversations on our common interests and how to defend our common value.

I want to thank again President Trump for his historic decision on recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital. We look forward to welcoming the American delegation to celebrate the relocation of the embassy with you, Ambassador Friedman. I must tell you that the bold decision by President Trump has prompted other countries – there are quite a few now who are planning to move their embassy to Jerusalem as well. It says something about American leadership and about the forthright way in which simple truths are being put forward and the effect this has on the international scene.

Mr. Secretary, I think the greatest threat to the world and to our two countries and to all countries is the marriage of militant Islam with nuclear weapons, and specifically, the attempt of Iran to acquire nuclear weapons. We've had a very productive talk today on this subject as well. I appreciate

the President's leadership and your position on stopping Iran from ever acquiring nuclear weapons. I appreciate the President's and your position on stopping Iran's aggression in the region. That aggression has grown many-fold since the signing of the Iranian deal. If people thought that Iran's aggression would be moderated as a result of signing the deal, the opposite has happened, and Iran is trying to gobble up one country after the other. Iran must be stopped. Its quest for nuclear bombs must be stopped. Its aggression must be stopped. And we're committed to stopping it together.

I was very much encouraged, once again, by the steadfast support of the United States for Israel and for this common effort, which encompasses many other countries, as you know – as you well know, Mr. Secretary. But our bond is special. It's based on shared values of democracy, freedom, the quest for security and peace, and I can say that today America and Israel are closer than ever before. And I have no doubt that our alliance will grow even closer in the years ahead.

So I want to welcome you back to Israel, Mr. Secretary. It's a pleasure to see you and I wish you the best of luck in your important mission. Thank you.

SECRETARY POMPEO: Thank you. Thank you so much. Thank you.

Well, good afternoon. It is a great honor to be here on my first trip as Secretary of State. I've been the Secretary for a handful of hours. As I was saying earlier, I haven't been to my office yet.

As you said, this relationship's never been stronger, and I think we should both be proud of that. We had fantastic conversations today on difficult issues facing each of us. We are incredibly proud to be opening the new embassy on May 14th, well ahead of the original timetable. This step comes as Israel celebrates its 70th anniversary of independence and 70 years of recognition as steadfast support for Israel from the American people as well. By recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and the seat of its government, we're recognizing reality. I also stress, as President Trump has said in December, the boundaries of Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem remain subject to negotiations between the parties, and we remain committed to achieving a lasting and comprehensive peace that offers a brighter future for both Israel and the Palestinians.

Many of our conversations today, Mr. Prime Minister, as you said, centered on Iran. Strong cooperation with close allies like you is critical to our efforts to counter Iran's destabilizing and malign activity throughout the Middle East and indeed throughout the world. We remain deeply concerned about Iran's dangerous escalation of threats to Israel and the region, and Iran's ambition to dominate the Middle East remains. The United States is with Israel in this fight and we strongly support Israel's sovereign right to defend itself.

Regarding the JCPOA, President Trump's been pretty clear. This deal is very flawed. He's directed the administration to try and fix it, and if we can't fix it, he's going to withdraw from the deal. It's pretty straightforward. Unlike the past administration, President Trump has a comprehensive Iran

strategy that is designed to counter the full array of threats emanating from Tehran.

As part of the President's comprehensive Iran strategy, we are also working to counter the broad set of non-nuclear threats: Iran's missile systems, its support for Hizballah, the importation of thousands of proxy fighters into Syria, and its assistance to the Houthi rebels in Yemen. We look forward to working closely with strong allies like Israel in countering these threats and rolling back the full range of Iranian malign influence.

Regarding Syria, where the barbaric Assad regime is propped up by Iran, the United States' top priorities are to defeat ISIS, de-escalate violence, deter the use of chemical weapons, and ensure the safe delivery of humanitarian aid and support an ultimate political resolution to the conflict. Our strategy to do that remains unchanged. We strongly support the UN-led efforts in Geneva to bring an end to the Syrian conflict, which has gone on for far too long.

We know there are many challenges ahead and we look forward to being your partner in resolving each of them. The United States and Israel I know together can achieve that. It's great to be back.

PRIME MINISTER NETANYAHU: Thank you.

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