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August 16, 2010

#### Iran News

# President Obama warns Prime Minister Erdogan over Israel and Iran

President Barack Obama has warned Turkey's Prime Minister Erdogan that Ankara needs to shift its position on Israel and Iran to have any chance of obtaining the U.S. weapons that it desires. The Administration was disturbed when Turkey voted against U.N. sanctions on Iran in June. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 15, 2010 article in *The Financial Times*.

# U.S. rules bar banks that violate Iran sanctions

The Treasury Department released new regulations that could bar foreign banks or companies from accessing the financial system in the U.S. if the banks did business with entities or people subject to UN and U.S. sanctions that were passed in June. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 13, 2010 article in *The New York Times*.

#### U.S. wants to give Iran sanctions time to work

The U.S. has adequate "wiggle room" to allow sanctions time to succeed against Iran before turning to other means to prevent it from developing nuclear weapons, avowed Jim Jones, President Obama's national security adviser. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 11, 2010 article in *Reuters*.

# U.S.: Iran's actions compromise Lebanon's sovereignty

After Iran offered to support Lebanon's army if the U.S. were to discontinue military aid, U.S. State Department spokesman Philip Crowley stated that "Iran's activities compromise Lebanese sovereignty." According to Crowley, the remarks made by Iran demonstrate the reasoning behind U.S. interest in supporting Lebanon. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 11, 2010 article in *Haaretz*.

# IAEA: Iran activates new enrichment equipment

Iran has activated equipment to enrich uranium more efficiently in a move that defies the U.N. Security Council, stated the International Atomic Energy Agency. According to the IAEA, Iran has started to enrich uranium to up to 20% at its Natanz pilot fuel enrichment plant. At 20%, uranium can be turned into weapons-grade material much more quickly. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 10, 2010 article from the *AP*.

# Prime Minister Netanyahu's statement before the Turkel Commission

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appeared before the Turkel committee, which is inquiring about the May 31 flotilla incident. Netanyahu avowed that "Iran provided Hamas with thousands of rockets, missiles and other arms." <u>Click here</u> to view this August 9, 2010 statement from the Prime Minister's Office.

# Arab majority backs nuclear Iran

A 2010 Arab Public Opinion Poll found that 57% of Arabs believe that Iran's nuclear program aims to build a bomb, and they also view that goal optimistically, which nearly doubled the 29% who thought this in 2009. The percentage of those who view an Iranian nuclear bomb negatively fell from 46% to 21%. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 6, 2010 article in *The Washington Times*.

#### U.S. blacklists 21 Iranian companies

The U.S. Treasury blacklisted 21 state-owned Iranian companies in six countries as part of a growing and international effort to undercut Iran's ability to use units in Europe and Asia to facilitate financial transactions and weapons development. Also announced were measures targeting Iranian foundations charged with supporting militant organization in Lebanon, Afghanistan and the Palestinian territories. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 4, 2010 article in *The Wall Street Journal*.

#### Iran claims to have S-300 surface-to-air missiles

Iran received two missiles from Belarus and two others from another unspecified source. Russia signed a contract in 2007 to sell S-300 missiles to Iran, but said in June that new UN sanctions prevent their delivery. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 4, 2010 article from the *AP*.

#### Ahmadinejad survives attack on convoy in Iran

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad endured a bomb attack on his convoy in Iran. Reportedly, an attacker heaved a bomb that struck a car transporting journalists and presidential staff. Some individuals in the car were wounded. <u>Click here</u> to view this August 4, 2010 article in *Reuters*.

The Iran Briefing

*The Iran Briefing* is a newsletter designed to educate the Jewish community on issues related to the Iran. This newsletter does not necessarily represent the views of the JCRC or the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. To respond to *The Iran Briefing*, contact Lori Dearman at LDearman@qmjf.org.



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