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... some individuals imagine UFOs are hiding in the cloud....



'WIPED OFF THE MAP' - The Rumor of the Century

by Arash Norouzi

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<http://www.mohammadmossadegh.com/>

Across the world, a dangerous rumor has spread that could have catastrophic implications. According to legend, Iran's President has threatened to destroy Israel, or, to quote the misquote, "Israel must be wiped off the map". Contrary to popular belief, this statement was never made, as the following article will prove.

BACKGROUND:

On Wednesday, **October 26, 2005** at the Ministry of Interior conference hall in Tehran, newly elected Iranian President [Mahmoud Ahmadinejad](#) delivered a speech at a program, reportedly attended by thousands, titled "The World Without Zionism". Large posters surrounding him displayed this title prominently in English, obviously for the benefit of the international press. Below the poster's title was a slick graphic depicting an hour glass containing planet Earth at its top. Two small round orbs representing the United States and Israel are shown falling through the hour glass' narrow neck and crashing to the bottom.

Before we get to the infamous remark, it's important to note that the "quote" in question was itself a quote; they are the words of the late Ayatollah Khomeini, the father of the Islamic Revolution. Although he quoted Khomeini to affirm his own position on Zionism, the actual words belong to *Khomeini* and not Ahmadinejad. Thus, Ahmadinejad has essentially been credited (or blamed) for a quote that is not only unoriginal, but represents a viewpoint already in place well before he ever took office.

THE ACTUAL QUOTE:

So what did Ahmadinejad actually say? To quote his exact words in farsi:

"Imam ghoft een rezhim-e ishghalgar-e qods bayad az safheh-ye ruzgar mahv shavad."

That passage will mean nothing to most people, but one word might ring a bell: *rezhim-e*. It is the word "*Regime*", pronounced just like the English word with an extra "*eh*" sound at the end. Ahmadinejad did not refer to Israel the country or Israel the land mass, but the Israeli *regime*. This is a vastly significant distinction, as one cannot wipe a *regime* off the map. Ahmadinejad does not even refer to Israel by name, he instead uses the specific phrase "rezhim-e ishghalgar-e qods" (regime occupying Jerusalem).

So this raises the question.. what exactly did he want "wiped from the map"? The answer is: *nothing*. That's because the word "map" was

never used. The Persian word for map, "*nagsheh*", is not contained anywhere in his original farsi quote, or, for that matter, anywhere in his entire speech. Nor was the western phrase "wipe out" ever said. Yet we are led to believe that Iran's President threatened to "wipe Israel off the map", despite never having uttered the words "map", "wipe out" or even "Israel".

THE PROOF:

The full quote translated directly to English:

"The Imam said this regime occupying Jerusalem must vanish from the page of time".

Word by word translation:

Imam (Khomeini) ghoft (said) een (this) rezhim-e (regime) ishghalgar-e (occupying) qods (Jerusalem) bayad (must) az safheh-ye ruzgar (from page of time) mahv shavad (vanish from).

Here is the full transcript of the speech in farsi, archived on Ahmadinejad's web site

www.president.ir/farsi/ahmadinejad/speeches/1384/aban-84/840804sahyonizm.htm

THE SPEECH AND CONTEXT:

While the false "wiped off the map" extract has been repeated infinitely without verification, Ahmadinejad's actual speech itself has been almost entirely ignored. Given the importance placed on the 'map' comment, it would be sensible to present his words in their full context to get a fuller understanding of his position. In fact, by looking at the entire speech, there is a clear, logical trajectory leading up to his call for a "world without Zionism". One may disagree with his reasoning, but critical appraisals are infeasible without first knowing what that reasoning is.

In his speech, Ahmadinejad declares that Zionism is the West's apparatus of political oppression against Muslims. He says the "Zionist regime" was imposed on the Islamic world as a strategic bridgehead to ensure domination of the region and its assets. Palestine, he insists, is the frontline of the Islamic world's struggle with American hegemony, and its fate will have repercussions for the entire Middle East.

Ahmadinejad acknowledges that the removal of America's powerful grip on the region via the Zionists may seem unimaginable to some, but reminds the audience that, as Khomeini predicted, other seemingly invincible empires have disappeared and now only exist in history books. He then proceeds to list three such regimes that

have collapsed, crumbled or vanished, all within the last 30 years:

- (1) [The Shah of Iran](#)- the U.S. installed monarch
- (2) The Soviet Union
- (3) Iran's former arch-enemy, Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein

In the first and third examples, Ahmadinejad prefaces their mention with Khomeini's own words foretelling that individual regime's demise. He concludes by referring to Khomeini's unfulfilled wish: "**The Imam said this regime occupying Jerusalem must vanish from the page of time. This statement is very wise**". This is the passage that has been isolated, twisted and distorted so famously. By measure of comparison, Ahmadinejad would seem to be calling for *regime change*, not war.

THE ORIGIN:

One may wonder: where did this false interpretation originate? Who is responsible for the translation that has sparked such worldwide controversy? The answer is surprising.

The inflammatory "wiped off the map" quote was first disseminated not by Iran's enemies, but by Iran itself. The Islamic Republic News Agency, Iran's official propaganda arm, used this phrasing in the English version of some of their news releases covering the World Without Zionism conference. International media including the BBC, Al Jazeera, Time magazine and countless others picked up the IRNA quote and made headlines out of it without verifying its accuracy, and rarely referring to the source. Iran's Foreign Minister soon attempted to clarify the statement, but the quote had a life of its own. Though the IRNA wording was inaccurate and misleading, the media assumed it was true, and besides, it made great copy.

Amid heated wrangling over Iran's nuclear program, and months of continuous, unfounded accusations against Iran in an attempt to rally support for preemptive strikes against the country, the imperialists had just been handed the perfect *raison d'être* to invade. To the war hawks, it was a gift from the skies.

It should be noted that in other references to the conference, the IRNA's translation changed. For instance, "map" was replaced with "earth". In some articles it was "The Qods occupier regime should be eliminated from the surface of earth",

or the similar "The Qods occupying regime **must** be eliminated from the surface of earth". The inconsistency of the IRNA's translation should be evidence enough of the unreliability of the source, particularly when transcribing their news from Farsi into the English language.

THE REACTION:

The mistranslated "wiped off the map" quote attributed to Iran's President has been spread worldwide, repeated thousands of times in international media, and prompted the denouncements of numerous world leaders. Virtually every major and minor media outlet has published or broadcast this false statement to the masses. Big news agencies such as The Associated Press and Reuters refer to the misquote, literally, on an almost daily basis.

Following news of Iran's remark, condemnation was swift. British Prime Minister Tony Blair expressed "revulsion" and implied that it might be necessary to attack Iran. U.N. chief Kofi Annan cancelled his scheduled trip to Iran due to the controversy. Ariel Sharon demanded that Iran be expelled from the United Nations for calling for Israel's destruction. Shimon Peres, more than once, threatened to wipe *Iran* off the map. More recently, Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu, who has warned that Iran is "preparing another holocaust for the Jewish state" is calling for Ahmadinejad to be tried for war crimes for inciting genocide.

The artificial quote has also been subject to additional alterations. U.S. officials and media often take the liberty of dropping the "map" reference altogether, replacing it with the more acutely threatening phrase "wipe Israel off the face of the earth". Newspaper and magazine articles dutifully report Ahmadinejad has "called for the destruction of Israel", as do senior officials in the United States government.

President George W. Bush said the comments represented a "specific threat" to destroy Israel. In a March 2006 speech in Cleveland, Bush vowed he would resort to war to protect Israel from Iran, because, "...the threat from Iran is, of course, their stated objective to destroy our strong ally Israel." Former Presidential advisor Richard Clarke told Australian TV that Iran "talks openly about destroying Israel", and insists, "The President of Iran has said repeatedly that he wants to wipe Israel off the face of the earth". In an October 2006 interview with Amy Goodman, former UN Weapons Inspector [Scott Ritter](#) referred to

Ahmadinejad as "the idiot that comes out and says really stupid, vile things, such as, 'It is the goal of Iran to wipe Israel off the face of the earth' ". The consensus is clear.

Confusing matters further, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad pontificates rather than give a direct answer when questioned about the statement, such as in Lally Weymouth's Washington Post [interview](#) in September 2006:

Are you really serious when you say that Israel should be wiped off the face of the Earth?

We need to look at the scene in the Middle East — 60 years of war, 60 years of displacement, 60 years of conflict, not even a day of peace. Look at the war in Lebanon, the war in Gaza — what are the reasons for these conditions? We need to address and resolve the root problem.

Your suggestion is to wipe Israel off the face of the Earth?

Our suggestion is very clear:... Let the Palestinian people decide their fate in a free and fair referendum, and the result, whatever it is, should be accepted.... The people with no roots there are now ruling the land.

You've been quoted as saying that Israel should be wiped off the face of the Earth. Is that your belief?

What I have said has made my position clear. If we look at a map of the Middle East from 70 years ago...

So, the answer is yes, you do believe that it should be wiped off the face of the Earth?

Are you asking me yes or no? Is this a test? Do you respect the right to self-determination for the Palestinian nation? Yes or no? Is Palestine, as a nation, considered a nation with the right to live under humane conditions or not? Let's allow those rights to be enforced for these 5 million displaced people.

The exchange is typical of Ahmadinejad's interviews with the American media. Predictably, both Mike Wallace of 60 Minutes and CNN's Anderson Cooper asked if he wants to "wipe Israel off the map". As usual, the question is thrown back in the reporter's face with his standard "Don't the Palestinians have rights?, etc." retort (which is never directly answered either). Yet he *never* confirms the "map" comment to be true. This did not prevent Anderson Cooper from referring to earlier portions of his interview after a

commercial break and lying, "as he said earlier, he wants Israel wiped off the map".

Even if every media outlet in the world were to retract the mistranslated quote tomorrow, the major damage has already been done, providing the groundwork for the next phase of disinformation: complete character demonization. Ahmadinejad, we are told, is the next Hitler, a grave threat to world peace who wants to bring about a new Holocaust. According to some detractors, he not only wants to destroy Israel, but after that, he will nuke America, and then Europe! An October 2006 memo titled Words of Hate: Iran's Escalating Threats released by the powerful Israeli lobby group AIPAC opens with the warning, "*Ahmadinejad and other top Iranian leaders are issuing increasingly belligerent statements threatening to destroy the United States, Europe and Israel.*" These claims not only fabricate an unsubstantiated threat, but assume far more power than he actually possesses. Alarmists would be better off monitoring the statements of the ultra-conservative Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, who holds the most power in Iran.

As Iran's U.N. Press Officer, M.A. Mohammadi, complained to The Washington Post in a June 2006 letter:

It is not amazing at all, the pick-and-choose approach of highlighting the misinterpreted remarks of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in October and ignoring this month's remarks by Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, that "We have no problem with the world. We are not a threat whatsoever to the world, and the world knows it. We will never start a war. We have no intention of going to war with any state."

The Israeli government has milked every drop of the spurious quote to its supposed advantage. In her September 2006 address to the United Nations General Assembly, Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni accused Iran of working to nuke Israel and bully the world. "They speak proudly and openly of their desire to 'wipe Israel off the map.' And now, by their actions, they pursue the weapons to achieve this objective to imperil the region and threaten the world." Addressing the threat in December, a fervent Prime Minister Ehud Olmert inadvertently disclosed that his country already possesses nuclear weapons: "We have never threatened any nation with annihilation.

Iran, *openly, explicitly and publicly* threatens to wipe Israel off the map. Can you say that this is the same level, when they are aspiring to have nuclear weapons, as America, France, Israel, Russia?"

MEDIA IRRESPONSIBILITY:

On December 13, 2006, more than a year after The World Without Zionism conference, two leading Israeli newspapers, The Jerusalem Post and Haaretz, published reports of a renewed threat from Ahmadinejad. The Jerusalem Post's headline was [Ahmadinejad: Israel will be 'wiped out'](#), while Haaretz posted the title [Ahmadinejad at Holocaust conference: Israel will 'soon be wiped out'](#).

Where did they get their information? It turns out that both papers, like most American and western media, rely heavily on write ups by news wire services such as the Associated Press and Reuters as a source for their articles. Sure enough, their sources are in fact December 12th articles by Reuter's Paul Hughes [[Iran president says Israel's days are numbered](#)], and the AP's Ali Akbar Dareini [[Iran President: Israel Will be wiped out](#)]. The first five paragraphs of the Haaretz article, credited to "Haaretz Service and Agencies", are plagiarized almost 100% from the first five paragraphs of the Reuters piece. The only difference is that Haaretz changed "the Jewish state" to "Israel" in the second paragraph, otherwise they are identical.

The Jerusalem Post article by Herb Keinon pilfers from both the Reuters and AP stories. Like Haaretz, it uses the following Ahmadinejad quote without attribution: ["Just as the Soviet Union was wiped out and today does not exist, so will the Zionist regime soon be wiped out," he added]. Another passage apparently relies on an IRNA report:

"The Zionist regime will be wiped out soon the same way the Soviet Union was, and humanity will achieve freedom," Ahmadinejad said at Tuesday's meeting with the conference participants in his offices, according to Iran's official news agency, IRNA.

He said elections should be held among Jews, Christians and Muslims so the population of Palestine can select their government and destiny for themselves in a democratic manner."

Once again, the first sentence above was wholly plagiarized from the AP article. The second sentence was also the same, except "He called for elections" became "He said elections should be held..".

It gets more interesting.

The quote used in the original AP article and copied in The Jerusalem Post article supposedly derives from the IRNA. If true, this can easily be checked. Care to find out? Go to:

www.irna.ir/en/news/view/menu-234/0612134902101231.htm

There you will discover the actual IRNA quote was:

"As the Soviet Union disappeared, the Zionist regime will also vanish and humanity will be liberated".

Compare this to the alleged IRNA quote reported by the Associated Press:

"The Zionist regime will be wiped out soon the same way the Soviet Union was, and humanity will achieve freedom".

In the IRNA's actual report, the Zionist regime will **vanish** just as the Soviet Union **disappeared**. *Vanish. Disappear.* In the dishonest AP version, the Zionist regime will be **"wiped out"**. And how will it be wiped out? **"The same way the Soviet Union was"**. Rather than imply a military threat or escalation in rhetoric, this reference to Russia actually validates the intended meaning of Ahmadinejad's previous misinterpreted anti-Zionist statements.

What has just been demonstrated is irrefutable proof of media manipulation and propaganda in action. The AP deliberately alters an IRNA quote to sound more threatening. The Israeli media not only repeats the fake quote but also steals the original authors' words. The unsuspecting public reads this, forms an opinion and supports unnecessary wars of aggression, presented as self defense, based on the misinformation.

This scenario mirrors the kind of false claims that led to the illegal U.S. invasion of Iraq, a war now widely viewed as a catastrophic mistake. And yet the Bush administration and the compliant corporate media continue to marinate in propaganda and speculation about attacking Iraq's much larger and more formidable neighbor, Iran. Most of this rests on the [unproven assumption that Iran is building nuclear weapons](#), and the lie that Iran has vowed to physically destroy Israel. Given its scope and

potentially disastrous outcome, all this amounts to what is arguably the rumor of the century.

Iran's President has written two rather philosophical letters to America. In his first letter, he pointed out that "History shows us that oppressive and cruel governments do not survive". With this statement, Ahmadinejad has

also projected the outcome of his own backwards regime, which will likewise "vanish from the page of time".

[Arash Norouzi](#) is an artist and co-founder of [The Mossadegh Project](#).

<http://www.mohammadmossadegh.com/news/rumor-of-the-century/>

Ahmadinejad: Letter to Angela Merkel

"I have no intention of arguing about the Holocaust. But..." - from Ahmadinejad's letter

Following his letter to U.S. President George Bush, [Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad](#) composed the following letter to German Chancellor Angela Merkel dated August 28, 2006.

Released publicly in German and English versions, it refers to the "survivors of the Holocaust" four times.

Iran's state news agency IRNA said the letter "called for Iran-Germany cooperation for promotion of peace, security, progress and human dignity at mutual and international levels".

In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

**Her Excellency Angela Merkel
The Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany
Excellency,**

Please accept my warmest greetings.

If it had not been for Germany being a great contributor to progress in science, philosophy, literature, arts and politics;

If it had not been for a more important and positive influence of Germany in international relations and promotion of peace;

Moreover, if it had not been for the persistence of a strong will by certain global powers and special groups to constantly portray Germany as defeated and indebted country of World War II in order to continue their extortions;

And if it had not been for the presence of Your Excellency at the top of the executive branch of your country as an experienced stateswoman with bitter and sweet experiences in two dissimilar societies with different political systems and traditions,

And at the same time, if it had not been for the advantages that are limited to women, such as stronger human sentiments and certain manifestations of the divine compassion and kindness, specially in the position of a mother and being at the service of the people, and the common responsibility of all people with faith in God to defend human dignity and worth and to prevent violations of their rights and their humiliation, and proceeding from this conviction that we are all created by the Almighty and He has bestowed upon us all dignity and no one has any special privileges over the other, and under no circumstances could a society be deprived of its rights, barred from pursuit of progress and perfection or be controlled or humiliated;

Finally, if it had not been for the oppression, however different, of our nations, our shared responsibility to promote justice as the most basic foundation for promotion of peace and human equality, I would not have found the motive to write this letter.

Honourable Chancellor

Rulers come and go, but people with culture and history and their attachments and desires will keep on staying. Opportunities in front of those in position of high power are transient, even if they may be vast and broad. These opportunities are very auspicious and can play a key role in the negative and positive transformations and developments of a nation.

Those in position of high power do not normally have many opportunities, but are accountable before the Almighty and people due to their high responsibility. We know this, and you know it as well.

Some of these developments can have regional, continental and global ramifications and can hardly be overlooked.

For sometime I have been thinking why some nations that their history shows they have indeed had an important and prominent share and role in material and spiritual progress of mankind in various arenas of science, arts, philosophy, literature and politics and were makers of civilization are not allowed to be proud as a nation of their historical accomplishments and play their deserved and constructive role on the global arena. They try to keep the black cloud of humiliation and shame hanging over their heads. And even more regrettably, some of the leaders of such a nation regard this situation befitting them and their nation and try to justify it. This is really an astonishing phenomenon in today's world. The propaganda machinery after World War II has been so colossal that has caused some people to believe that they are the guilty party by historical accounts and must pay the penalty for the wrongs committed by their forefathers for successive generations and for indefinite period of time.

Excellency

World War II came to an end with all its material and moral losses and its 60 million casualties. The death of

human beings is tragic and sad. In all divine religions and before all awakened conscience and pure nature of mankind and the sense of right and wrong, the life, property and honour of people, regardless of their religious persuasion and ethnic background, must be respected at all times and all places.

Sixty years have passed since the end of the war. But, regrettably the entire world and some nations in particular are still facing its consequences. Even now the conduct of some bullying powers and power-seeking and aggressive groups is the conduct of victors with the vanquished.

The extortion and blackmail continue, and people are not allowed to think about or even question the source of this extortion, otherwise they face imprisonment. When will this situation end? Sixty years, one hundred years or one thousand years, when? I am sorry to remind you that today the perpetual claimants against the great people of Germany are the bullying powers and the Zionists that founded the Al-Qods Occupying Regime with the force of bayonets in the Middle East.

The Honourable Chancellor

I have no intention of arguing about the Holocaust. But, does it not stand to reason that some victorious countries of World War II intended to create an alibi on the basis of which they could continue keeping the defeated nations of World War II indebted to them. Their purpose has been to weaken their morale and their inspiration in order to obstruct their progress and power. In addition to the people of Germany, the peoples of the Middle East have also borne the brunt of the Holocaust. By raising the necessity of settling the survivors of the Holocaust in the land of Palestine, they have created a permanent threat in the Middle East in order to rob the people of the region of the opportunities to achieve progress. The collective conscience of the world is indignant over the daily atrocities by the Zionist occupiers, destruction of homes and farms, killing of children, assassinations and bombardments.

Excellency, you have seen that the Zionist government does not even tolerate a government elected by the Palestinian people, and over and over again has demonstrated that it recognizes no limit in attacking the neighbouring countries.

The question is why did the victors of the war, especially England that had apparently such a strong sense of responsibility toward the survivors of the Holocaust not allow them to settle in their territory. Why did they force them to migrate to other people's land by launching a wave of anti-Semitism? Using the excuse for the settlement of the survivors of the Holocaust, they encouraged the Jews worldwide to migrate and today a large part of the inhabitants of the occupied territories are non-European Jews. If tyranny and killing is condemned in one part of the world, can we acquiesce and go along with tyranny, killing, occupation and assassinations in another part of the world simply in order to redress the past wrongs?

Excellency

We need to ask ourselves that for what purposes the millions of dollars that the Zionists receive from the treasury of some Western countries are spent for. Are they used for the promotion of peace and the well-being of the people? Or are they used for waging war against Palestinians and the neighbouring countries. Are the nuclear arsenals of Israel intended to be used

in defense of the survivors of the Holocaust or as a permanent threat against nations of the region and as an instrument of coercion, and possibly to defend the interests of certain circles of power in the Western countries.

Regrettably, the influence of the Zionists in the economy, media and some centers of political power has endangered interests of the European nations and has robbed them of many opportunities. The main alibi for this approach is the extortion they exact from the Holocaust.

One can imagine what standing some European countries could have had and what global role they could have played, if it had not been for this sixty-year old imposition.

I believe we both share the view that the flourishing of nations and their role are directly related to freedom and sense of pride.

Fortunately, with all the pressures and limitations, the great nation of Germany has been able to take great strides toward advancement and has become a major economic powerhouse in Europe that also seeks to play a more effective role in international interactions. But just imagine where Germany would be today in terms of its eminence among the freedom-loving nations, Muslims of the world and peoples of Europe, if such a situation did not exist and the governments in power in Germany had said no to the extortions by the Zionists and had not supported the greatest enemy of mankind.

It is sad to admit that Europe has lost a lot of its clout in global interactions and has not been able to face and overcome major challenges by relying on itself. This is, of course, understandable. The big powers outside of the continent intend to prove that Europe cannot rely on itself and do anything without their help and intervention.

Our people have also suffered from the interventions by some of the victors of the war after World War II. For many years they interfered in our internal affairs and did not want to see our nation conquer the pinnacles of progress and perfection. They had their eyes on our natural wealth, above all on our energy resources. To secure their own interests, they overthrew the legally constituted government of the time, installed a dictatorial regime and supported it to the end. Later, they supported Saddam in the war imposed on our people and observed no humanitarian boundary in their support for the Iraqi dictator. Our nation has experienced the pain and anguish from the interferences of those who are now crying out for human rights. There are still many suffering from the wounds and injuries of this war.

Many of these aggressions have taken place by those who regard themselves the victors of the World War II. They allow themselves to do whatever they wish, and unfortunately, after the end of the Cold War, the arrogance and expansionist ambitions of these powers have escalated.

We believe that still a major part of the peoples of the world and even international organizations are under the influence of the behaviour and the conduct of the victors of the World War II.

I explained the position of the people and government of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the United Nations General Assembly. Is the present state of affairs such as the rules governing the work of the Security Council, especially the right to veto, fair?

Do you not think that the time has come to change these rules in cooperation with independent governments? These rules are by no means acceptable to the collective conscience of nations and are contrary to the sense of reason and human nature. At least, if we want to be fairer, some other countries of the world should be allowed to benefit from the right to veto.

Madam Chancellor

You are familiar with the pains and sufferings currently afflicting our world. Today, the pain and suffering of the people of Iraq that come from occupation, absence of security and daily acts of terrorism are tormenting the entire humanity. Relentless interferences of some bullying powers in the internal affairs of other nations, antagonism toward the inalienable rights of nations to have access to more advanced technologies, subjecting nations to permanent threats by relying on arsenals of chemical and nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction, opposition to popular governments in Latin America, supporting coup d'état and dictatorial regimes, absence of due attention to Africa and taking advantage of the power vacuum there to plunder their wealth are among the problems facing our world today. In my letter to President Bush, I spelled out a long list of contemporary global problems.

Where are the roots of these problems? How long can they continue? Do you not think that the main root lies in the fact that some of the rulers and powers of today have distanced themselves from the teachings of the divine prophets, the teachings of Abraham, Moses and Jesus Christ (peace be upon him) and the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him).

These teachings are in all divine religions that you and I believe:

- God is the creator of all things and beings. We have all been created free and He has not allowed us to be the servant of anyone other than Him.
- He has commanded us to worship Him and to avoid all oppressors and tyrants.
- He has commanded us to be virtuous, to be good to and serve the people, and has directed us to be kind to and defend the oppressed and fight the oppressors.
- God has given humans dignity and scorns their humiliation.
- He has sent his messengers with clear reasons, the Book and a balance and has called on his servants to promote justice.

Based on these shared principles and foundations of our faith, we believe:

- Peace and tranquility can only be established and endure on the basis of faith in God and justice.
- Peace and dignity are the rights of all nations.
- Pursuit of progress and better livelihood combined with spirituality, compassion and well-being is the right of people.
- You and we can found a new movement to achieve these noble human ideals by relying on these principles and the articles of faith that are common to all divine religions.

Our nations believe and are committed to these pillars of faith. The history has shown that the people of Iran are not familiar with aggressing and brutalizing other nations. Nevertheless, we do not allow being the subject and victim of aggression and brutality. The

experience of the eight-year war clearly demonstrated this fact to the whole world.

I believe we and you have both been the subject of tyranny. They do not respect your rights and want us also to forego our rights. Fortunately, I have heard that you also speak your mind openly and are against engendering tension and wars.

Honourable Chancellor,

The inner instincts and nature of the peoples of the world have awakened up.

Tendency toward faith in the oneness of God is on the rise.

People will no longer tolerate to be tyrannized, humiliated and their rights violated.

The prevailing circumstances today differ from those of yesterday. Multiple standards and approaches in relations will not endure.

Iran and Germany can play a more important role together in the international arena by relying on the noble and high values.

This cooperative relationship can also enhance the role of Europe on the global scene and serve as a model of cooperation between two governments and nations.

Without doubt, cooperation of two peace-loving, powerful and cultured nations of Germany and Iran will serve the interests of Europe as well. Together we must end the present abnormalities in international relations, the type of order and relations that are based on the impositions of the victors of the World War II on the defeated nations. Nations and many governments will be on our side on this path.

We must make the shadow of World War II disappear and help the international community to promote security, freedom and sense of tranquility.

The people of Iran and Germany are two great nations that have contributed to the making of our civilization. They have rich culture and have been in the forefront of science, literature, arts and philosophy. Both of our people have a strong faith in God and follow the teachings of divine prophets. They have also had long-lasting scientific, cultural and commercial relations and share many valuable mutual interests.

I have no doubt that with the cooperation of the two governments and the support of the two great nations we can take great strides forward in alleviating the problems and abnormalities of our world today.

Daring and courageous decisions are the key to our success in overcoming the existing problems, countering the violations of rights and defending the rights of nations.

To the extent that I know of the people of Germany, they will come along and join us and want restore their dignity and influence for the sake of global peace and calm. Our people have the similar spirit.

Together we will be able to prove to some powers that respecting other nations and their rights is good for them as well. Our two nations and governments, next to each other, will be able to play a fundamental role in promoting peace, security, progress, and human dignity at the scale of two countries and internationally.

In closing, I pray to the Almighty for the success of Your Excellency and the government and people of Germany.

<http://www.mohammadmossadegh.com/news/mahmoud-ahmadinejad/letter-to-angela-merkel/>

Ahmadinejad: Letter to the American People

"Can terrorism be contained and eradicated through war, destruction and the killing of hundreds of thousands of innocents?" - from Ahmadinejad's letter

November 29, 2006:

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad composed the following letter, released in English, addressed "To the American people" - <http://www.mohammadmossadegh.com/news/mahmoud-ahmadinejad>

**Message of H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran
To the American People**

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. *O, Almighty God, bestow upon humanity the perfect human being promised to all by You, and make us among his followers.*

Noble Americans,

Were we not faced with the activities of the US administration in this part of the world and the negative ramifications of those activities on the daily lives of our peoples, coupled with the many wars and calamities caused by the US administration as well as the tragic consequences of US interference in other countries;

Were the American people not God-fearing, truth-loving, and justice-seeking, while the US administration actively conceals the truth and impedes any objective portrayal of current realities;

And if we did not share a common responsibility to promote and protect freedom and human dignity and integrity; Then, there would have been little urgency to have a dialogue with you.

While Divine providence has placed Iran and the United States geographically far apart, we should be cognizant that human values and our common human spirit, which proclaim the dignity and exalted worth of all human beings, have brought our two great nations of Iran and the United States closer together.

Both our nations are God-fearing, truth-loving and justice-seeking, and both seek dignity, respect and perfection.

Both greatly value and readily embrace the promotion of human ideals such as compassion, empathy, respect for the rights of human beings, securing justice and equity, and defending the innocent and the weak against oppressors and bullies.

We are all inclined towards the good, and towards extending a helping hand to one another, particularly to those in need.

We all deplore injustice, the trampling of peoples' rights and the intimidation and humiliation of human beings.

We all detest darkness, deceit, lies and distortion, and seek and admire salvation, enlightenment, sincerity and honesty.

The pure human essence of the two great nations of Iran and the United States testify to the veracity of these statements.

Noble Americans,

Our nation has always extended its hand of friendship to all other nations of the world.

Hundreds of thousands of my Iranian compatriots are living amongst you in friendship and peace, and are contributing positively to your society. Our people have been in contact with you over the past many years and have maintained these contacts despite the unnecessary restrictions of US authorities. As mentioned, we have common concerns, face similar challenges, and are pained by the sufferings and afflictions in the world.

We, like you, are aggrieved by the ever-worsening pain and misery of the Palestinian people. Persistent aggressions by the Zionists are making life more and more difficult for the rightful owners of the land of Palestine. In broad day-light, in front of cameras and before the eyes of the world, they are bombarding innocent defenseless civilians, bulldozing houses, firing machine guns at students in the streets and alleys, and subjecting their families to endless grief.

No day goes by without a new crime.

Palestinian mothers, just like Iranian and American mothers, love their children, and are painfully bereaved by the imprisonment, wounding and murder of their children. What mother wouldn't?

For 60 years, the Zionist regime has driven millions of the inhabitants of Palestine out of their homes. Many of these refugees have died in the Diaspora and in refugee camps. Their children have spent their youth in these camps and are aging while still in the hope of returning to homeland.

You know well that the US administration has persistently provided blind and blanket support to the Zionist regime, has emboldened it to continue its crimes, and has prevented the UN Security Council from condemning it.

Who can deny such broken promises and grave injustices towards humanity by the US administration?

Governments are there to serve their own people. No people wants to side with or support any oppressors. But regrettably, the US administration disregards even its own public opinion and remains in the forefront of supporting the trampling of the rights of the Palestinian people.

Let's take a look at Iraq. Since the commencement of the US military presence in Iraq, hundreds of thousands of Iraqis have been killed, maimed or displaced. Terrorism in Iraq has grown exponentially. With the presence of the US military in Iraq, nothing has been done to rebuild the ruins, to restore the infrastructure or to alleviate poverty. The US Government used the pretext of the existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, but later it became clear that that was just a lie and a deception.

Although Saddam was overthrown and people are happy about his departure, the pain and suffering of the Iraqi people has persisted and has even been aggravated.

In Iraq, about one hundred and fifty thousand American soldiers, separated from their families and loved ones, are operating under the command of the current US administration. A substantial number of them have been killed or wounded and their presence in Iraq has tarnished the image of the American people and government.

Their mothers and relatives have, on numerous occasions, displayed their discontent with the presence of their sons and daughters in a land thousands of miles away from US shores. American soldiers often wonder why they have been sent to Iraq.

I consider it extremely unlikely that you, the American people, consent to the billions of dollars of annual expenditure from your treasury for this military misadventure.

Noble Americans,

You have heard that the US administration is kidnapping its presumed opponents from across the globe and arbitrarily holding them without trial or any international supervision in horrendous prisons that it has established in various parts of the world. God knows who these detainees actually are, and what terrible fate awaits them.

You have certainly heard the sad stories of the Guantanamo and Abu-Ghraib prisons. The US administration attempts to justify them through its proclaimed "war on terror." But every one knows that such behavior, in fact, offends global public opinion, exacerbates resentment and thereby spreads terrorism, and tarnishes the US image and its credibility among nations.

The US administration's illegal and immoral behavior is not even confined to outside its borders. You are witnessing daily that under the pretext of "the war on terror," civil liberties in the United States are being increasingly curtailed. Even the privacy of individuals is fast losing its meaning. Judicial due process and fundamental rights are trampled upon. Private phones are tapped, suspects are arbitrarily arrested, sometimes beaten in the streets, or even shot to death.

I have no doubt that the American people do not approve of this behavior and indeed deplore it.

The US administration does not accept accountability before any organization, institution or council. The US administration has undermined the credibility of international organizations, particularly the United Nations and its Security Council. But, I do not intend to address all the challenges and calamities in this message.

The legitimacy, power and influence of a government do not emanate from its arsenals of tanks, fighter aircrafts, missiles or nuclear weapons. Legitimacy and influence reside in sound logic, quest for justice and compassion and empathy for all humanity. The global position of the United States is in all probability weakened because the administration has continued to resort to force, to conceal the truth, and to mislead the American people about its policies and practices.

Undoubtedly, the American people are not satisfied with this behavior and they showed their discontent in the recent elections. I hope that in the wake of the mid-term elections, the administration of President Bush will have heard and will heed the message of the American people.

My questions are the following:

Is there not a better approach to governance?

Is it not possible to put wealth and power in the service of peace, stability, prosperity and the happiness of all peoples through a commitment to justice and respect for the rights of all nations, instead of aggression and war?

We all condemn terrorism, because its victims are the innocent.

But, can terrorism be contained and eradicated through war, destruction and the killing of hundreds of thousands of innocents?

If that were possible, then why has the problem not been resolved?

The sad experience of invading Iraq is before us all.

What has blind support for the Zionists by the US administration brought for the American people? It is regrettable that for the US administration, the interests of these occupiers supersedes the interests of the American people and of the other nations of the world.

What have the Zionists done for the American people that the US administration considers itself obliged to blindly support these infamous aggressors? Is it not because they have imposed themselves on a substantial portion of the banking, financial, cultural and media sectors?

I recommend that in a demonstration of respect for the American people and for humanity, the right of Palestinians to live in their own homeland should be recognized so that millions of Palestinian refugees can return to their homes and the future of all of Palestine and its form of government be determined in a referendum. This will benefit everyone.

Now that Iraq has a Constitution and an independent Assembly and Government, would it not be more beneficial to bring the US officers and soldiers home, and to spend the astronomical US military expenditures in Iraq for the welfare and prosperity of the American people? As you know very well, many victims of Katrina continue to suffer, and countless Americans continue to live in poverty and homelessness.

I'd also like to say a word to the winners of the recent elections in the US:

The United States has had many administrations; some who have left a positive legacy, and others that are neither remembered fondly by the American people nor by other nations.

Now that you control an important branch of the US Government, you will also be held to account by the people and by history.

If the US Government meets the current domestic and external challenges with an approach based on truth and Justice, it can remedy some of the past afflictions and alleviate some of the global resentment and hatred of America. But if the approach remains the same, it would not be unexpected that the American people would similarly reject the new electoral winners, although the recent elections, rather than reflecting a victory, in reality point to the failure of the current administration's policies. These issues had been extensively dealt with in my letter to President Bush earlier this year.

To sum up:

It is possible to govern based on an approach that is distinctly different from one of coercion, force and injustice.

It is possible to sincerely serve and promote common human values, and honesty and compassion.

It is possible to provide welfare and prosperity without tension, threats, imposition or war.

It is possible to lead the world towards the aspired perfection by adhering to unity, monotheism, morality and spirituality and drawing upon the teachings of the Divine Prophets.

Then, the American people, who are God-fearing and followers of Divine religions, will overcome every difficulty.

What I stated represents some of my anxieties and concerns.

I am confident that you, the American people, will play an instrumental role in the establishment of justice and spirituality throughout the world. The promises of the Almighty and His prophets will certainly be realized, Justice and Truth will prevail and all nations will live a true life in a climate replete with love, compassion and fraternity.

The US governing establishment, the authorities and the powerful should not choose irreversible paths. As all prophets have taught us, injustice and transgression will eventually bring about decline and demise. Today, the path of return to faith and spirituality is open and unimpeded.

We should all heed the Divine Word of the Holy Qur'an:

"But those who repent, have faith and do good may receive Salvation. Your Lord, alone, creates and chooses as He will,

and others have no part in His choice; Glorified is God and Exalted above any partners they ascribe to Him." (28:67-68)

I pray to the Almighty to bless the Iranian and American nations and indeed all nations of the world with dignity and success.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

29 November 2006

<http://www.mohammadmossadegh.com/news/mahmoud-ahmadinejad/letter-to-american-people/>

Focus on Islamic Republic of Iran

Iran's oil minister wants foreign oil companies out

AP, August 7, 2011 18:24

TEHRAN: Iran's new oil minister says the country's powerful Revolutionary Guard's economic conglomerate should replace foreign oil and gas companies.

Rostam Qasemi told the official IRNA news agency that the economic conglomerate, Khatam-ol-Anbia, should be improved. He didn't elaborate.

Qasemi was the chief of Khatam-ol-Anbia before becoming oil minister last week. He told IRNA that he still feels like he works for the Revolutionary Guard.

Khatam-ol-Anbia is considered the Revolutionary Guard's most important financial unit and is the largest contractor of government projects in Iran.

The unit already has started working on oil and gas projects since foreign companies, including Total SA and Royal Dutch Shell, withdrew from Iran in compliance with sanctions imposed by the West.

<http://arabnews.com/middleeast/article484762.ece>

81 congressmen to visit Israel in coming weeks

By HERB KEINON, 08/08/2011, 01:55

55 Republican, 26 Democratic congressmen to arrive for week-long trips sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation. Eighty-one congressmen, or about 20 percent of the US House of Representatives, will visit Israel over the next three weeks during Congress's summer recess, with the first group of 26 Democrats scheduled to arrive on Monday.

The Democratic delegation will be followed by two Republican ones, bringing a total of 55 Republicans.

Most of the representatives are freshmen congressmen, with 47 – or fully half of the freshmen Republicans voted into office in 2010 – making the trip.

For many of them, this will be their first trip to Israel.

The week-long trips are sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation, a charitable organization affiliated with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, which brings large delegations of congressmen here every other August.

House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-Maryland) will head the Democratic delegation, and House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Virginia) will lead one of the Republican groups.

Hoyer, in a statement, said he looked forward to "returning to Israel to continue learning firsthand about the evolving security situation in the Middle East, the deep challenges facing Israel, and the role the US can play in the region during this time of uncertainty.

I'm pleased members of Congress have this opportunity to study American interests in the Middle East and gain a deeper understanding of the issues involved in increasing stability in the region."

The delegation will visit both Israel and the West Bank, and is scheduled to meet with President Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem, and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah. Among those on the delegation arriving Monday are Illinois

Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr., Ohio's Betty Sutton, and Pennsylvania's Mark Critz.

In a related development, The Israel Project will be bringing a group of 18 Washington-based ambassadors from Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America to Israel on Monday for a weeklong tour and high-level meetings. Like the congressmen, they will also go to Ramallah, for a meeting with PA Prime Minister Salam Fayyad.

Among the countries represented on the trip are Albania, Barbados, Belize, Burkina Faso, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Macedonia, St. Lucia and Uganda.

Some of these countries have been mentioned by officials in Jerusalem as likely candidates to either vote against, or at least abstain, when the vote on Palestinian statehood comes before the UN in September.

<http://www.jpost.com/DiplomacyAndPolitics/Article.aspx?id=232876>

A day in the life of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

VIDEO - NBC's Ann Curry joins Iranian leader on a day that starts at 5 am and ends at midnight

Dudi Cohen, 09.13.11, 22:16 / [Israel News](#)

Ahead of his upcoming trip to New York next week to attend the UN General Assembly, Iranian President [Mahmoud Ahmadinejad](#) allowed NBC reporter Ann Curry to accompany him on a typical working day. The senior correspondent's conclusion was that Ahmadinejad works around the clock.

After a 5 am prayer, Ahmadinejad goes out to jog with his security team, Curry reports, while waving his hands in "rocky style".

He then goes to the gym where he trains for 30 minutes, lifting weights or cycling. The Iranian leader reaches his "spacious but simple" office before 7 am, removes his shoes and scans the daily newspapers and western media outlets.

After an hour in his office, he meets Shiite leaders and addresses a conference in Tehran. By 9:40 am he boards the presidential jet, "a 50-year-old airplane, likely a result of Western sanctions" and flies to an eastern province.



Ahmadinejad at the gym (screenshot from Youtube)

According to his aids, Ahmadinejad often sleeps three hours a night, ending his work days at 2 a.m. They claim that even Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has advised him to get more sleep.

After meetings and tours near the border with Turkmenistan, he lands back in Tehran at 6:35 pm as Curry asks him what he wishes for Iran. Ahmadinejad replies, "I want the same future

that I want for every nation: peace, friendship, happiness and unity."

The Iranian leader then returns to the presidential palace to hold more meetings, stops for prayer, continuing to work until midnight, when he calls it a day.

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4121747,00.html>

Cheney: Israel to attack Iranian nuclear facilities
Former US Vice President tells Newsmax 'Iran represents an existential threat, and Israel will do everything to guarantee their survival, security'; says next 9/11 might involve WMDs

Ynet, [Israel News](#), 09.12.11, 17:20 /

[Israel](#) is likely to attack [Iran's](#) nuclear facilities if it proves necessary in order to prevent it from acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction, former Vice President Dick Cheney told US-based independent news site Newsmax.

"I think Iran represents an existential threat, and (Israel) will do whatever they have to do to guarantee their survival and their security," the former vice president told Newsmax's Chief Washington correspondent Ronald Kessler.

Asked whether he is basing his prediction on a particular source, Cheney said he cannot attribute it to any one Israeli source, and "wouldn't want to do that."

However, the former vice president noted that he had several conversations with top Israeli officials who "correctly perceive Iran as a basic threat."

Nuclear Deterrence

In his recently released autobiography, ***In My Time: A Personal and Political Memoir***, Cheney mentions another state with nuclear ambitions – [Syria](#).

In an interview with [The New York Times](#) last month, Cheney claimed President George W. Bush rejected his advice in 2007 to bomb a suspected nuclear reactor site in Syria, and that he was "a lone voice" for military action against the country.

According to Cheney, other advisers were reluctant because of "the bad intelligence we had received about Iraq's stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction" before the 2003 invasion of that country.

In his interview with Newsmax, the former vice president referred to the 10th year anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, saying "I still worry more than anything else really about the possibility of a group of terrorists acquiring really deadly capabilities."

"When we got hit on 9/11 there were 19 guys armed with airline tickets and box cutters. The next time around I worry they may have a nuclear device or biological agent of some kind and would be in a position to inflict far greater damage

and loss of lives than anything we experienced on 9/11. I think that's still a very real threat."

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4121354,00.html>

Ahmadinejad: US used 9/11 as excuse to start wars
Iranian leader says September 11 attacks were used by US in complicated, designed game to affect public emotions, pave way for invasions

AP, 09.11.11, [Israel News](#)

The Iranian president says the United States used the [September 11](#) attacks as an excuse for launching wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mahmoud [Ahmadinejad](#) says the attacks were a "complicated, designed game" to affect people's emotions and pave way for the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq.

He also says US launched those wars to solve its own economic problems. Ahmadinejad's remarks appeared on Iranian state TV's website on Sunday.

The Iranian leader has repeatedly questioned the official version of the events surrounding the Sept. 11 attacks, calling it a "big lie."

In 2010, New York turned down his request to visit the World Trade Center site to pay respects to the victims of the terrorist attacks.

Meanwhile, Supporters of an Islamist political party in Pakistan have used the anniversary of the September 11 attacks to stage anti-American protests.

In Islamabad, about 100 people chanted and held up banners that repeated conspiracy theories alleging American or Israeli involvement in the attacks.

Such theories have been commonly aired among Islamists and militant sympathizers since the attacks in 2001.

A smaller demonstration also took place in the central Punjabi city of Multan.

Both demonstrations were organized by Jamat-e-Islami, the country's largest Islamist political party.

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4120686,00.html>



Ahmadinejad. '9/11 designed game' Photo: AP

Pakistan, Afghan, Sudan Presidents Attend Tehran-Sponsored Counterterrorism Conference; U.N. Sec.-Gen. Praises Conference; Conference Defines U.S., Israel as Source of Global Terrorism

By: A. Savyon & D. Diamond*

Introduction

On **June 25-26, 2011**, the Iranian regime hosted the first "World Without Terrorism Conference" in Tehran. The conferees included Afghan President Hamid Karzai, Tajikistan President Emomali Rahmonov, Pakistani President Asif 'Ali Zardari, Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, and Sudanese President 'Omar Al-Bashir, as well as representatives from Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, and Mali. Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad both spoke at the conference's opening ceremony.^[1] In his address, Khamenei said that the conference's aim was to

clearly define terrorism and to identify its root causes. He pointed to "satanic world powers which use terrorism in their policies and in their planning to achieve their illegitimate goals," specifying that the "Zionist regime" and Zionism in general had from their very beginning perpetuated global terrorism. He went on to say that the U.S., the U.K., and other Western governments had "a black record of terrorist behaviors."^[2]

It is worth pointing out that Tehran has recently suffered a number of severe blows, both domestically – as a result of the deep schism between Supreme Leader Khamenei and

President Ahmadinejad – and as a result of regional developments – among them the precarious situation of Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad's regime, which has significantly weakened the Tehran-Damascus axis; Iran's defeat in the standoff with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states over the recent crisis in Bahrain; the E.U.'s refusal to renew talks with Iran over its nuclear program; and more. Thus, it is apparent that Tehran devised the conference as a means to improve its standing in the region and internationally, and to promote itself as a strong and leading regional force, at the expense of Saudi Arabia. Throughout the conference, Iran presented a blatantly anti-U.S. and anti-West agenda, focusing on the claim that the U.S. and Israel are at the root of global terrorism.

It should be noted that despite Tehran's efforts to secure the participation of as many countries as possible, from the Middle East and elsewhere, so that the conference could be promoted as a broad and inclusive international event, the absence of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states or, for that matter, any other Arab states, can hardly be ignored. According to the Pakistani daily *Express Tribune*, several Middle Eastern countries, including Saudi Arabia, declined Iran's invitations to participate in the conference, in a gesture of resentment over Iran's support for Shi'ite protests in Bahrain and other Arab countries. The daily also reported that Saudi Arabia had led an effort to sabotage Iran's attempt to present itself as a leading regional power, asking Pakistan not to attend the conference on the grounds that Iran was using it as a means to try to extricate itself from international isolation. Riyadh proposed that Pakistan attend instead a counterterrorism conference to be hosted by Saudi Arabia; Pakistan, however, refused the offer.

Ultimately, the roster of the conferees marks the event as regional, rather than a global. Indeed, its participants were limited to neighbors of Iran that share its regional security interests – for instance, Pakistan and Afghanistan – and Iranian satellites – such as Tajikistan, Iraq, and Sudan.

Even though Sudanese President Bashir, who is wanted by the U.N. for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur, was among the conference speakers – and also met privately with Khamenei and Ahmadinejad – U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon praised Iran for its initiative in hosting the conference. In a message delivered to the conference via special envoy, Ban said: "The U.N. has an important role in fighting terrorism and I hope that the Tehran conference can attain [this] great goal... Moving towards negotiation[s] and recognition among nations according to the U.N. charter, having friendly relations with nations and improving relations among them, and performing humanistic activities are some of the important strategies against terrorism."[\[3\]](#)

According to the Iranian news agency Fars, the conference addressed various means and methods of cooperative counterterrorism on bilateral, regional, and international levels; the global obstacles and challenges posed by terrorism; and the causes of the increasing trend of terrorist activities worldwide.[\[4\]](#)

The following report will provide an overview of the conference:

According to his official website,[\[5\]](#) in his opening speech Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei criticized the "hegemonic powers' history of terrorist acts and their support for the terrorist Zionist regime, and their long list of monetary and propaganda support for organized terrorists – and, at the same time, their claim of fighting terrorism." He emphasized that the conference was largely aimed at "providing a clear

and precise definition of terrorism," adding that "the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the fight with this evil phenomenon [an] unavoidable responsibility, and will continue with strength its efforts in this great [fight]."



Left to right: Tajikistan President Emomali Rahmon, Sudanese President 'Omar Al-Bashir, Pakistani President Asif 'Ali Zardari, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi, Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, and Afghan President Hamid Karzai, at the "World Without Terrorism Conference" in Tehran, June 25, 2011. Source: English.news.cn, June 26, 2011.

Khamenei: The Zionist Regime Is Proud of Its Terrorist Background

Following are excerpts from his address, as it appeared on his website:

"...Terrorism is not a new phenomenon. It is not a product of recent periods. However, the emergence of horrific weapons of mass destruction has made it hundreds of times more dangerous. More [shocking] and important [are] the calculations of satanic world powers, which use terrorism in their policies and planning to achieve their illegitimate goals. Historical memories in the minds of nations in our region will never forget how colonial powers planned to occupy Palestine and expel [the] Palestinian people from their homeland, by organizing and arming terrorist organizations such as the Zionism International Agency [apparently, the World Zionist Organization] and tens of similar groups which committed [the] horrendous crimes in Deir Yassin and in other places.

"The Zionist regime, since the very beginning of its creation [and] until now, has continued shamelessly and openly [in] its terrorist acts outside and inside Palestine. Both the former and incumbent leaders of the Zionist regime feel proud of their terrorist background and, in some cases, of their direct involvement in terror operations.

"Another example is the United States, [which] has a long list of terrorist behaviors [in its] financing and arming [of] terrorist organizations in the region. The deadly attacks of American drones against defenseless families in villages and in the most deprived areas of Afghanistan have [repeatedly] turned... weddings into mourning ceremonies. Crimes by the Blackwater [Corporation] in Iraq, killing Iraqi citizens and elites, assisting terrorist groups in Iran, Iraq, and in Pakistan, [the] assassination of Iranian nuclear scientists in cooperation with [the] Mossad, [and] shooting down Iran's passenger aircraft in the Persian Gulf that left 300 men, women, and children killed – are [all] part of this shameful and unforgettable list of American acts of terrorism.

"The United States, Britain, and some Western governments with a black record of terrorist behaviors, have now added to their rhetoric the claim of fighting terrorism. They are the same terrorists who, during [the] 1980s, massacred thousands of innocent people in Iran. They killed 72 Iranian senior officials [and] academic figures, and scores of [Majlis

members] in a single act of terrorism. In another terrorist act, our president and prime minister were martyred, and the perpetrators of these terror attacks are now living in some European countries under the protection of European governments. With such behaviors, it is a shame to claim to be leading the fight against terrorism.

"Meanwhile, the United States and its allies call Palestinian freedom fighters terrorists, a deceitful definition which constitutes the basic problem of terrorism in the present world. From the standpoint of the leaders of hegemonic powers, everything that threatens their illegitimate interests is viewed as terrorism. All struggles intended to defend a cause against the occupiers and interventionist forces are regarded by them as terrorism. But they never call those evil forces and evil cells that are a plague against the life and security of innocent people terrorists.

"A clear and exact definition of terrorism can be one of your fundamental works and objectives in the present meeting. By relying on the noble teachings of Islam, with its underlying principles for human dignity, where the loss of an innocent life is considered the loss of [all of] humanity, and as a nation which has suffered heavy losses on the part of violent terrorism, we believe that the fight against this evil phenomenon is an unavoidable responsibility, and by the grace of Allah, we remain dedicated to continue this great fight with greater force."

Ahmadinejad: The World Powers Are Using 9/11 to Divide Nations and Impede Their Progress

According to President Ahmadinejad's official website,^[6] his address to the conference emphasized the global threat posed by terrorism, pointing to Iran as one of its chief victims. He claimed that terrorism was the result of the poverty, discrimination, and humiliation caused by foreign invasion and occupation, citing the examples of Iraq and Afghanistan under U.S. military occupation. He said that Israel, the U.S., and the West had exploited the Holocaust and 9/11 to justify the realization of their colonialist aspirations in the Middle East, which had brought nothing but backwardness and destruction to the region:

"Some believe that the motive behind the September 11 attacks was to ensure the safety of [the] Zionist regime, to foment insecurity in regional countries, to distract U.S. public opinion from the chaotic economic situation in the country, and to [line] the pockets of uncivilized, belligerent capitalists... Two years after the incident that provided an excuse for the invasion of two countries (Afghanistan and Iraq) led to the killing, injuring, and displacing of millions... the U.S. government, under pressure from public opinion, tasked a group to investigate the reason behind the attacks. But the real truth has been kept from the Americans and the world..." According to the website, Ahmadinejad said that the global powers "resorted to terrorism 'to create divisions, break unity among nations, impede their progress, and dominate their resources and fates' [by] tak[ing] the fates of other nations in their hands and impos[ing] their puppets on them... [The] president called on the international community to devise practical solutions to curb terrorism and urged the abolishment of 'faulty, discriminatory mechanism[s] [for] fighting terrorism'... He also said that the Islamic Republic is ready to cooperate with others in fight[ing] against terrorism."

During the two days of the conference, Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei met with the presidents of Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan. In his meeting with Afghan President Karzai, he said that U.S. President Obama's statement regarding the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan by

2014 was meant for domestic consumption, and that the U.S. planned to use Karzai's country as a permanent base for its forces. Karzai replied that he hoped Obama would keep his promise, and asked Iran to extend aid to Afghanistan.



Source: English.news.cn, June 26, 2011.

Khamenei Meets with Afghan, Iraqi, Pakistani Presidents, Warns Against U.S. Presence in Their Countries

In his meeting with Iraqi president Jalal Talabani, Khamenei said that U.S. power in the Middle East had declined, and that this fact should be taken advantage of against the U.S. Talabani replied that the Iraqis were united in their opposition to the ongoing U.S. presence in their country, and likewise asked for Iranian assistance. In his meeting with Khamenei, Pakistani President Asif 'Ali Zardari told the Iranian leader that the U.S. was trying to sow division in Pakistan for its own ends, and promised that his country would work toward expanding its relations with Tehran.^[7]

Khamenei Meets with Sudanese President Bashir

In a meeting with Sudanese President 'Omar Al-Bashir, that was also attended by Iranian President Ahmadinejad, Supreme Leader Khamenei expressed satisfaction over the "Islamic awakening[s]" in Egypt, Tunisia, and Libyan, claiming that these popular movements had successfully defied the West and the Zionists. He cautioned against Western attempts to exploit the uprisings for their own ends, saying: "The U.S. and Zionist regime's bastion in Egypt has collapsed; the U.S. and certain puppet regimes of the region are now trying to divert the track of movements..." Khamenei expressed concern over the situation in Libya, where he said the popular uprising was close to realizing a true victory for Islam, much to the dismay of "the West, [which fears the] possible formation of an Islamic government in Libya, at the doorstep of Europe."

Turning to developments in Sudan, Khamenei said that Iran fully supported Sudan's Islamic government and Muslim people in their determination "to safeguard their independence, Islamic ideology, and sovereignty." He praised Sudan for standing up to "the U.S. and Zionist regime's pressures and conspiracies," urging all parties and factions in Sudan "to keep vigilance and remain united in the face of the ongoing developments." Bashir, on his part, said that ties between the two countries were solid, and thanked Tehran for its support of the Sudanese people. He said that the developments in the region would prove in favor of the Islamic countries, adding that "the region would never return to previous conditions, and [that] the U.S. and the Zionist regime have been [the greatest] losers of the development[s]."^[8]

It should be noted that prior to the conference, the moderate-conservative Iranian website Asr-e Iran called on the Iranian regime to rescind its invitation to Sudanese President 'Omar Al-Bashir. The website claimed that Iran, which is accused by the U.N. of violating human rights, should act like the many countries which had refused to host Bashir, who is wanted by

the U.N. for crimes against humanity and war crimes in Darfur. The website said that Bashir's presence at the conference would greatly harm Iran, and that it would be inappropriate to host someone who had been accused of murdering hundreds of thousands of people.^[9]

Ban Ki-Moon Praises Tehran for Hosting Counterterrorism Conference

The news agency Fars reported that U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, via a special envoy, had delivered a message to the conference in praise of Iran's initiative: "U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon praised Tehran's initiative and efforts in holding the first international conference on the global fight against terrorism, and described it as a major move and gathering in the war on terrorism."



Source: English.news.cn, June 26, 2011.

***A. Savyon is Director of MEMRI's Iranian Media Project. D. Diamond is a research fellow at MEMRI.**

In a written message to the conference read by [the] U.N. Envoy to Tehran Mohammad Rafi Al-Din Shah, [Ban] Ki-moon

[commended] the Islamic Republic of Iran for holding [this] very important conference."

According to Fars, Ban also said that the U.N. had "'approved a large number of resolutions against terrorism in recent years' and [that] holding conferences like the Tehran conference can be considerably helpful in implementing these resolutions... The U.N. has an important role in fighting terrorism, and I hope that the Tehran conference can attain great goals... Moving towards negotiation and recognition among nations according to the U.N. charter, having friendly relations with nations and improving relations among them, and performing humanistic activities are some of the important strategies against terrorism."^[10]

Endnotes:

[1] According to the Pakistani daily *Express Tribune*, the presidents of Bangladesh, Bolivia, and the Republic of Benin were also in attendance. *Express Tribune* (Pakistan), June 20, 2011.

[2] Website of the Supreme Leader (Iran), June 25, 2011.

[3] Fars (Iran), June 26, 2011.

[4] Fars (Iran), June 26, 2011.

[5] Website of the Supreme Leader (Iran), June 25, 2011. The original English translation was lightly edited for clarity.

[6] Website of the President (Iran), June 25, 2011. The original English translation was lightly edited for clarity.

[7] Website of the Supreme Leader (Iran), June 25-26, 2011.

[8] Website of the Supreme Leader (Iran), June 26, 2011.

[9] Asr-e Iran (Iran), June 23, 2011; Mehr (Iran), June 20, 2011.

[10] Fars (Iran), June 26, 2011.

<http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/5408.htm>

Israeli military plots to cripple Iran in cyberspace NewsCore, August 07, 2011 11:13AM

ISRAEL has set up a military cyber command to wage a computer war against Iran as senior officers become increasingly concerned that a conventional attack on Tehran's nuclear sites could end in failure.

The new cyber command will report directly to Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu who has placed the program at the heart of Israel's defense capability, UK newspaper *The Sunday Times* reported.

"Israel must turn into a global cyber superpower," he told a meeting of cyber warfare experts recently.

The centre, which has been set up under the auspices of military intelligence unit 8200 has already conducted a series of "soft" espionage missions, including hacking into Iran's version of Facebook and other social networking sites.

The Stuxnet malware virus, which dramatically affected Iran's nuclear program in 2009 by sabotaging the delicate centrifuges needed to enrich uranium, is widely believed to have been developed by Israeli and American technicians.

In April, Iranian government offices came under attack from a hitherto unknown malware virus to which Tehran officials gave the name Stars.

They claimed the damage had been contained but admitted it was the second mysterious virus found since the Stuxnet attack.

"Israel has two principal targets in Iran's cyberspace," said a defense source with close knowledge of the cyber war preparations.

"The first is its military nuclear program and its military establishment. The second is Iran's civil infrastructure. Attacking both, we hope, will cripple the entire country's cyberspace."

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/breaking-news/israeli-military-plots-to-cripple-iran-in-cyberspace/story-e6frf7jx-1226110181124>

**Iran to U.S., Israel: Bring On the Cyber War
Iran is ready to take on the U.S. and Israel in any online skirmish using their "undeniable" cyber warfare capabilities.**



By LEE FERRAN, Aug. 8, 2011

Iran is ready to take on the U.S. and Israel in any online skirmish using their "undeniable" cyber warfare capabilities, a member of the Iranian parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee said today.

Avaz Heidarpour said that should American or Israeli cyber spies attempt to wage an online campaign against Iran, the country's state and intelligence agencies would combat any operations with their own "very strong" defense capabilities, according to [Iran's state news agency](#).

Heidarpour's remarks came a day after Britain's [The Sunday Times](#) reported Israel has set up a military cyber command charged with developing attacks against Iran. The command operates under a military intelligence designation, reports directly to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and has already conducted "soft" espionage missions against Iranian social networking sites, the report says.

"Israel must turn into a global cyber superpower," Netanyahu told a meeting of cyber warfare experts, according to reports. Israel's intelligence agency, Mossad, and the U.S.'s CIA have [already been implicated](#) in at least one major cyber operation

against Iran: the Stuxnet worm that reportedly damaged an Iranian nuclear facility in 2010. Shortly after the worm's discovery, [The New York Times reported](#) it had been developed in a joint U.S.-Israeli intelligence operation. The German publication [Der Spiegel said](#) today that Israeli sources doubt the U.S. played a significant role in the Stuxnet program.

Neither U.S. nor Israeli officials publicly took credit for the cyber attack, but it was reportedly [referenced in a video montage](#) of "accomplishments" by an outgoing Israeli general and several cyber [security experts](#) -- including American government officials -- put the U.S. and Israel on a short list of countries with the means and motivation to carry out such an attack.

Iran Can Also Beat U.S. 'Internet in a Suitcase,' Iranian Spy Chief Says

It is not the first time Iranian officials have taken a vocal, defensive position against perceived Western cyber threats. In June, Iran's head of intelligence claimed the state was also capable of combating the U.S.'s so-called "internet in a suitcase" program which he said was designed to connect dissidents directly with the CIA in hopes of undermining the Iranian government.

"We had predicted these [U.S.] devised actions... and devised proper ways to combat them," Iranian Intelligence Minister Heidar Mosleshi said.

[READ: Iran Can Beat U.S.'s 'Internet in a Suitcase,' Iranian Spy Chief Says](#)

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/ABC-News-Investigative-](http://www.facebook.com/pages/ABC-News-Investigative-Team-The-Blotter/263058762303)



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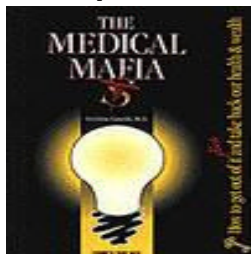
Israel: 'Facebook and Twitter Are the Battlefields'

In addition to the reported secret cyber command, the Israeli military recently revealed it was dedicating resources to public ["new media" operations](#) online, run from the Israeli Defense Forces Spokespersons Unit.

"The tools are infinite. The question is not whether we should be there, but how we should be there," IDF New Media chief Lt. Sacha Dratwa said in a [post on the IDF website](#). "Computers and keyboards are the weapons, Facebook and Twitter are the battlefields. It is there that we fight, each and every day." Spokesmen for the Israeli military did not immediately respond to requests for comment for this report.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/iran-us-israel-bring-cyber-war/story?id=14255216>

THE MEDICAL MAFIA by Ghislaine Lanctot, M.D.



I have a passion: unlimited health.

In order to realize this dream, I went to medical school.

For many years, I was convinced that I was on the right track. Reality, however, was something else altogether. Thoughts emotions and feelings, these invisible and untouchable antagonists invariably frustrated me in my scientific work.

I then turned to other avenues, to alternative medicines and natural therapies, which offered other solutions for overall health. I set out in search of them to many countries and discovered the benefits that they had to offer.

But people continue to suffer and die all the same. Why?

*Why is our state of health constantly deteriorating?

*Why does our medical system cost so much?

*Why is it maintained when everyone is so dissatisfied with it?

*Whom does it profit?

Not knowing where to go next, I turned inward. Unlimited health was waiting for me there! The debate surrounding the reform our health system goes on interminably. Our health suffers while costs keep escalating. It is a catastrophe. Governments are overwhelmed and spend an inordinate amount of effort and money putting out the fires. Grasping for straws, some are promoting privatisation!

The Medical Mafia enables "patients" to find out what it really means to be healthy and how to become the decision maker of tomorrow's ideal system of health. It proposes people to reform, not a political brand that simply maintains the industry-insurance-doctors-bureaucrats' vested interests and privileges.

This exciting and controversial book by Dr. Ghislaine Lanctot answers the questions:

* How does the health system really work?

* Who are the members of the Medical Mafia?

* Who really pulls the strings?

* How patients are exploited?

* What vital information is and has been suppressed?

* Why health care systems are actually sickness systems.

* Why socialized medicine is a monopoly for financiers and whose price includes an almost total loss of freedom of choice.

* How doctors have become powerless drug industry salespersons.

* Why proposed health care reform is a ploy!

* How did we get into such a mess when in fact each of us has the ultimate say over our health and the inherent costs of maintaining it?

And, it addresses solutions: How we can escape "alive" and regain unlimited health and wealth? How to take back our power over our lives and as such over our health?

What we can do to set up affordable health services that serve us rather than the pharmaceutical industry? We alone possess the means to regain our health and find prosperity!

The publication of the Medical Mafia caused quite a stir. On its way to becoming a best seller it landed its author before the Medical Board. After a drawn out hearing, which saw most of her witnesses set aside, not surprisingly, the verdict was unequivocal - "Guilty" for having dared to speak out. The medical establishment takes a very dim view of any member who dares to speak out, all this under the guise of protecting the public. Free speech is replaced by the party line....

Ghislaine Lanctot was banned for life from practicing medicine. And if that wasn't enough, she was to pay for the expenses the establishment had incurred in bringing her to trial.

Her reaction to that, as reported in one newspaper, was also unequivocal: "Over my dead body!"

The trial is recounted in "The Trial of The Medical Mafia" by Joachim Schafer.

The Medical Mafia: The superb expose of the medical system by the Canadian doctor, Ghislaine Lanctot, who also shows how and why "alternative" methods are far more effective.

Highly recommended. **Price:** £15.00