Kayhan IRGC to Get 800 Karrar International **Battle Tanks** Kayhan Group of Newspapers

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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Iran, Pakistan Explore **Defence & Development Ties**

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

If all goes well and if the July 25 elections in would produce a strong, stable, and truly independent government in Islamabad, then prospects are bright for Iran-Pakistan ties – countries which before the infiltration of the heretical Wahhabis in southern Asia, had enjoyed the best of good-neighbourly relations.

The recent visit to Pakistan of the Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, Major-General Mohammad Hussein Baqeri, who held constructive talks with his hosts, including the joint production of defence equipment, and was taken on tour of the sensitive Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Province on the terrorist-infested borders of Americanoccupied Afghanistan, indicates the will of the two sides to forge closer relations for confronting common threats.

Bageri, invited by his Pakistani counterpart, General Qamar Javed Bajwa, who last year had officially visited the Islamic Republic of Iran, in his meetings with both senior military and civilian officials of the care-taker government, discussed wide range of cooperation for promotion of bilateral ties, including coordination at the 700-km long joint porous border, which terrorists on the payroll of the Unholy Trinity (US-Saudi Arabia-Israel) take advantage of to attack the people of Iran's Sistan-Baluchestan Province.

Topics discussed by the two sides ranged from military education, pilot training, military drills and regular contacts between the two countries' defence industries, to the threats posed by common enemies.

It is obvious that the US and the illegal Zionist entity are the archenemies of both Iran and Pakistan (and also of the whole Muslim World), a factor to which General Bageri referred last Monday in Pakistan, saying: "The US tops the list of countries that seek to create insecurity in the region and is against the restoration of regional peace."

This is clear by the various terrorist outfits Washington supports in the region in coordination with regime in Riyadh, to create divisions amongst neighbours - a reality which Islamabad should realize rather than being deceived by the tens of millions of dollars that Saudi Arabia regularly pours in with the intention of keeping Pakistan in perpetual turmoil.

Right now, besides its threats and pressure tactics to deter Pakistan as well as India - from expanding ties with Iran, the US, which is an outside power, is airlifting into Afghanistan from Syria and Iraq the defeated Daesh terrorists, who might soon infiltrate Pakistan as well, and cross its eastern frontiers into Indian-controlled Kashmir. In view of these dangers there is a real need to confront the mischief of the US and its agents – as was evident by the recent meetings held in Islamabad between intelligence officials of Iran, Pakistan, Russia and China. The sooner the regional countries (India included) become aware of the devilish designs of the Americans the better for the peace, progress and security of Asia. We know Pakistan does not like the lingering presence in Afghanistan of the US occupation forces, although it thinks it is not in a position to voice public opposition. As for the proud Muslim Afghan people, it is actually a humiliation for them to continue to tolerate the presence of US and NATO occupation troops on their soil that has destabilized their country, resulting in proliferation of poppy cultivation and terrorism. The Islamic Republic of Iran has long shown the way to the world on how to keep out the devilish US, and if regional countries, including Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Qatar, and others, were to follow suit with firm faith in God Almighty for the sake of Islamic unity, there is no reason why the Americans cannot be kicked out from all of South and West Asia. Iran can help establish and train popular mobilization units in both Afghanistan and Pakistan for weeding out terrorists and terrorism, as it successfully did in Syria and Iraq. Let us hope, the exchange of visits at the top levels will continue to take place amongst regional countries and that Pakistan will emerge stronger from next week's general elections. If serious cooperation, not just in defence but in all fields, starts between the two neighbours, it will be an economic boon for both the Iranian and Pakistani peoples.



TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- The **Islamic Revolution Guards Corps** (IRGC) has announced a plan to procure almost 800 modern Karrar battle tanks, Tasnim news agency reported on Wednesday.

The IRGC has announced it intends to move forward with the procurement of 800 modern Karrar battle tanks as part of the modernization plan of Iran's armed forces.

The new Iranian-made main battle tank possesses a modern electro-optical fire control system, a laser rangefinder, ballistic computer and could fire at both stable and mobile targets in day or night.

The Karrar is fitted with a new welded turret which is armed with a 125 mm smoothbore gun. It can fire laser-guided missiles, likely from the main gun barrel, and has a remotely operated 12.7-millimeter machine gun. As for the armor protection of the new tank, it has reactive armor tiles to protect against antitank shells, rockets, and missiles. The Karrar is fitted with the latest generation of armor, with ERA (Explosive Reactive Armor) at the front of the hull and turret.

In February, commander of Iran's Army Ground Force Brigadier General Kioomars Heidari said contracts to use Iranian homegrown military tank Karrar were ready to be delivered to the Iranian armed forces.

He also noted that the Karrar tank is one of the unique products that have been contracted by the Army to be delivered to the factories for mass production

Despite its visual similarity to the Russian T-90MS tank, the Iranian Karrar advanced battle tank is a new local development. On Wednesday, Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Hatami said the Islamic Republic would give "a crushing response" to any act of aggression against the country.

"The Armed Forces, which enjoy modern and advanced equipment, are fully prepared to give a crushing response to any ill-wishing aggressor," he said as he visited an exhibition of defense industries.

"We advise the Islamic establishment's enemies to respect national sovereignty and the dignity and will of the Iranians, because our proud nation has proved throughout history that it is not an aggressor but will severely punish aggressors," Hatami said.

He also praised Iran's defense industry as one of the best in the world and said the weapons and defense equipment manufactured in the country have indigenous capabilities commensurate with the geographical condition of the country and based on the requirements of the Armed Forces.

The Holy Our'an Go forth light and heavy, and strive hard in Allah's way with your property and your persons; this is better for you, if you know. The Holy Qur'an (9.41) PRAYER TIMINGS 13:11

Kayhan

Noon (Zohr) Evening(Maghreb) 20:39 Dawn(Fajr)" Tomorrow" 04:21 Sunrise "Tomorrow" 06:02

Almost **All Iranians** in Canada Denounce **MKO Rally**

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -Nearly 100% of Iranians in Canada believe Ottawa officials should not have taken part in the annual gathering of MKO terrorists, recently held in Paris, a survey has found.

The poll carried out the Iranian-Canadian Congress found 98.90% of respondents repudiate former Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper's participation in the despicable event.

Asked whether the MKO terrorist group represented them, 99.48% said it did not. Meanwhile, 94.13% said they are against Harper's decision to remove the MKO from the list of terrorist organizations in 2012, calling it a mistake.

Harper was among the staunchest supporters of the Zionist regime of Israel during his premiership and showed deep animosity towards the Islamic Republic.

Washington and the European Union removed the MKO from their lists of terrorist organizations in 2012 and 2009, respectively. The group is headquartered in Paris, while its terrorists are based in Albania.

Since it was founded in the 1960s, the terrorist group has gone from Marxism to ally of Saddam Hussein, attempting to position itself as the Iranian government-in-waiting.

Earlier this month, Iran's Foreign Ministry summoned the French ambassador to Tehran to protest against the Paris meeting. Several British MPs also attended the terrorist rally, including Labor MP Toby Perkins who was paid \$1,112 in expenses to cover his travel, accommodation and meals, according to the UK Parliamentary register of MPs' financial interests. U.S. President Donald Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani was one of 33 senior American officials and military brass at this year's circus. According to the British daily The Guardian, about 4,000 people attended the rally, many of them refugees and young eastern Europeans who had been bussed in for a weekend trip to Paris. The paper noted that the MKO 'has minimal support in Iran and is widely hated for its use of violence and close links to Israeli intelligence." Some of the terrorist group's uncouth practices include forcing its male members to divorce their wives and have them married to its gang leader Maryam Rajavi's husband Massoud.

Minister Confirms IAEA Inspected **Iranian University**

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran's Minister of Science, Research and Technology Mansour Gholami those who "try to raise suspicions and damage said on Wednesday a recent inspection of an Ira- national interests, saying the Iranian university in nian university by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had been authorized by the country's Supreme National Security Council. Gholami confirmed reports that IAEA inspectors had visited the university which he did not identify, saying such visits take place with the authorization of the Supreme National Security Council.

The minister criticized "rumors" spread by

question had to abide by the decision made by the Supreme National Security Council.

Gholami said the inspection of the university included visit to its laboratories, without any problem.

Reports said Monday IAEA inspectors had visited Iran University of Science and Technology (IUST) and Sharif University of Technology.

Trump Called Iranian Delegation Eight Times: Official

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - U.S. President Donald Trump called the Iranian delegation at the UN General Assembly in September eight times to talk to President Hassan Rouhani who rejected it, a government official said here Wedneday.

"Trump called us eight times but we didn't respond," said Mahmoud Vaezi, the presidential chief of staff, told reporters after a cabinet meeting.

He made remarks in response to Trump's statement Thursday

that he expected Iran to call him and request a new deal.

"Iran at some point will call me and ask for a deal, and we'll make a deal," he said. "They are feeling a lot of pain right now," he added.

Trump pulled the U.S. out of the 2015 nuclear accord in May, pledging to reimpose "the highest level" of sanctions on Iran. In a video clip aired Tuesday by Israeli television, PM Benjamin Netanyahu boasted that the occupying regime of Israel was

responsible for Trump's decision to quit the Iran nuclear deal.

"We convinced the U.S. president (to exit the deal) and I had to stand up against the whole world and come out against this agreement," Netanyahu says in the video. "And we didn't give up." Hussein Mousavian, a member of Iran's nuclear negotiating team in 2000s, said last month U.S. Vice President Mike Pence had called Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi and invited Rouhani to Trump's dinner.