

NEW DELHI (Bloomberg) -- India on Friday hinted that it may be rethinking its doctrine of "No First Use" for nuclear weapons.

Defense minister Rajnath Singh tweeted to say the South Asian nation remains "firmly committed" and "has strictly adhered to" the doctrine but "what happens in the future depends on the circumstances." India is engaged in ongoing tensions with nuclear rival Pakistan over its decision to revoke autonomy of Kashmir region, to which both countries stake a claim.

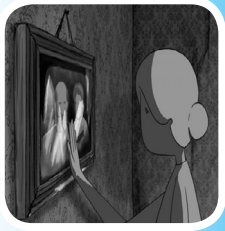
LONDON (Dispatches) -- Iranian Ambassador to London Hamid Baedinejad said the release of an Iranian supertanker in Gibraltar in defiance of Washington's last-minute request to detain the vessel, was "a humiliating defeat" for the U.S. government.

"The U.S., with its forlorn last-ditch attempts, tried to prevent the release of the oil tanker but faced a humiliating defeat," Baedinejad said on his Twitter account on Thursday night.

IRGC Chief Gen. Salami:  
**Enemies Must  
Factor 'Globalized  
Power' of Iran**



**Narrative Grand  
Prize Goes to  
'Tangle' in U.S.**



**Iran's Mes to Play  
Nagoya Oceans of  
Japan in AFC Futsal  
Club C'ship Final**



**Syria Air  
Defenses Foil  
Missile Strike**



### After 'Obstruction' of Treatment in India: **Sheikh Zakzaky Returns to Nigeria**

ABUJA (Dispatches) -- Shia leader Sheikh Ibrahim Zakzaky, who was granted permission to travel to India for medical care after years in detention, returned to Nigeria on Friday following a row over his treatment, his supporters said.

Zakzaky, founder of the Islamic Movement in Nigeria (IMN), and his wife Zeenah Ibrahim were "whisked away by security agents" to avoid waiting media after touching down at the airport in the capital Abuja, group member Abdurrahman Abubakar told AFP.

There was no official comment from the Nigerian authorities on the couple's whereabouts.

The cleric had been in custody in Nigeria along with his wife since December 2015 after they were arrested during violence in which the army killed some 350 of his followers and buried many in mass graves.

The couple flew to India on Monday after a court gave them permission to travel abroad for medical treatment under Nigerian government supervision following a spate of bloody protests by IMN supporters.

But the medical care was held up by a row over the conditions for the treatment as the IMN complained its leader had been denied access to his preferred doctors and was kept under close guard.

On Thursday Zakzaky said he and his wife were told to leave India.

The Nigerian authorities had said Zakzaky would still stand trial on his return from India.

Fears about the health of the cleric, in his mid-sixties, had fuelled near daily protests by his followers in Abuja that descended into bloodshed after a crack-down by security forces.

His lawyers say he has lost sight in one eye, is on the verge of going blind in the other and has blood poisoning caused by bullet fragments lodged in his body from the 2015 violence.

In a statement released after Zakzaky's return the IMN said it would "continue its struggle to ensure that our leader gets the appropriate medical treatment he deserves".

At least eight people, including six protesters, a senior police officer and a trainee journalist, were killed during clashes on July 22. The IMN said 20 of its members were shot dead.

The Nigerian government officially outlawed the group late last month in a move that sparked fears of a harsher clampdown.

A court in 2016 ordered Zakzaky and his wife be released

-- but the authorities ignored the demand and filed charges including homicide against the cleric.

Zakzaky and his group, which emerged from a student movement in the 1970s, have been at loggerheads with the authorities for years. Shias make up a small minority in northern Nigeria.

Estimates put their numbers at around four million in a national population of about 190 million.

Speaking to the AFP on Friday, Zakzaky's daughter Suhailah confirmed that his father had left New Delhi for Nigeria. "They did fly with Ethiopian Airlines," she said.

The London-based Islamic Human Rights Commission, a non-profit organization, said the couple had "lost all faith" in the prospect of receiving proper treatment in India.

The IMN published a statement on Thursday confirming the departure.

"The Nigerian government's interference and scuttling of the whole process rather than supervision as ordered by the court is the direct cause of the impasse," it said.

"The Islamic Movement is completely not happy with the latest development, and we strongly believe any peace-loving person in Nigeria feels the same. The government left no one in doubt that it never wanted the Sheikh to go for the medical treatment in the first place," the statement added.

### **U.S. Coordinating Secret Israel-UAE Talks: Report**

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) — The United States is participating in secret talks between the United Arab Emirates and the occupying regime of Israel to confront Iran, the New York Times reported Friday.

The talks aim to broaden cooperation for military and intelligence sharing between the United Arab Emirates and Israel, it quoted a foreign official with knowledge of the diplomacy as saying.

The United Arab Emirates and the Zionist regime already share some security connections, experts said, and have held below-the-radar discussions in the past. The occupying regime of Israel has sold fighter jet upgrades and spyware to the United Arab Emirates, the Times said.

But including the United States in a new phase of security talks could signal the United Arab Emirates' intent to demonstrate their commitment to the Trump administration's so-called maximum pressure campaign against Iran — even as Emirati officials have stepped back from some of their own hard-line policies targeting Tehran, the paper said.

The three-sided talks, which were first reported by The Wall Street Journal, grew out of a February conference in Warsaw that was

## Disgraceful Defeat of State Pirates



Oil supertanker Grace 1 is seen near Gibraltar, Spain July 4, 2019.

GIBRALTAR (Dispatches) -- The Grace 1 Iran-operated tanker seized by British troops started to move on Friday and there was more smoke from the tanker's chimney, a Reuters reporter saw a day after its detention was lifted.

The Grace 1 was seized by British Royal Marine commandos in darkness at the western mouth of the Mediterranean on July 4 in a move which Tehran condemned as "piracy".

Earlier Friday, Chief Minister of Gibraltar Fabian Picardo said the supertanker has been allowed to leave but a last-minute legal bid by the U.S. to seize the vessel could

still end up back in court.

"It could go back to the court absolutely," Picardo said, speaking with BBC Radio.

He said a decision on the matter would be made "objectively and independently" by related authorities and could then "be subject to once again the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Gibraltar".

His remarks came even as a senior Iranian shipping official said Friday the tanker, released by Gibraltar authorities after being held since July 4, was preparing to set sail into the Mediterranean.

The Grace 1 would be renamed and switch to the Iranian flag for its

onward journey, the deputy head of Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization, Jalil Eslami, said.

"At the owner's request, the Grace 1 will depart for the Mediterranean after being reflagged under the Islamic Republic of Iran's flag and renamed as Adrian Darya for the voyage," Eslami said.

The ship, the official said, was of Russian origin and Panamaflagged and was carrying two million barrels of Iranian oil.

Picardo also stressed that the vessel was free to set sail on Friday, despite the looming U.S. plea.

"She is able to leave as soon as she organizes the logistics neces-

sary in order to sail a ship of that size wherever it's going next," he said. "Could be today, could be tomorrow."

On Thursday, Gibraltar's Supreme Court pushed forward with the vessel's release after throwing out Washington's last-minute request to withhold the tanker.

Gibraltar had unlawfully seized the tanker last month on the U.S. request, according to Spanish authorities as well as initial acknowledgement by the island's authorities.

Picardo said he had agreed to allow the vessel's release after receiving written assurances from Iran that the ship would not head to any country subject to European Union sanctions.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi, however, said Tehran had not given any assurances that the ship would not go to Syria.

"What we have announced was only the fact that the Grace 1 ship never intended to go to Syria in the first place," he said on Friday.

Tehran stressed that the issue would have still been irrelevant to other countries even if the ship had intended to go to Syria, Mousavi added.

"This is legal practice and is not related to any third party. The Islamic Republic of Iran can sell oil to any old and new customer it wills," he said, adding that "We will support Syria in all fields including oil and energy."

Shipping official Eslami said the

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### **Hezbollah Releases Footage of Sinking Sa'ar**

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Hezbollah has released the video of its retaliatory attack on the Israeli warship Sa'ar-5 during the 33-day war in 2006.

The video, which is part of a documentary film recently broadcast by Al Manar TV, reveals details of the operation in which the Israeli vessel was struck.

The documentary starts with Israeli reports about the strike and a testimony made by one of the Zionist soldiers who were on board when the warship was struck.

The media reports highlighted the damage inflicted upon Sa'ar-5 warship, noting that it was moved to Ashdod seaport after evacuating the corpses of the four dead soldiers.

The documentary also inspected the location of the warship at the time of the strike, showing the coordinates employed by the Hezbollah navy to target it, Al Manar reported.

It further highlights two reports about the

occupying regime of Israel's warship and the anti-ship missile C-802 which was used by Hezbollah to strike it.

In the film, Hezbollah navy commander, nicknamed as "Hajj Jalal", reveals that the location of the rocket launcher was in Ouzai area on Beirut coast.

The video was released on August 14 on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the end of Israel's 33-day war on Lebanon.

The conflict began with the Zionist regime launching airstrikes against Lebanese cities as well as the positions of the resistance movement Hezbollah. The war resulted in the demolition of thousands of homes and the deaths of over 1,200 Lebanese civilians.

Some 162 Zionists, including 119 soldiers, were also killed during the fighting.

According to a 629-page report of the Winograd Commission, appointed by the Zionist regime, Hezbollah fighters involved in

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