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Leader's Advisor Larijani: Israel Plotted to Attack Meeting of Heads of State

TEHRAN -- A senior advisor to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has revealed that Israel plotted to attack a high-level meeting of Iranian officials, including heads of government and later target the Leader himself, but the scheme was successfully foiled.

"The enemy's plan in this war was to target IRGC commanders and key national centers simultaneously. They believed they could pressure certain officials into abandoning the establishment through threats," Ali Larijani said in a televised interview.

Larijani, who served as Parliament speaker between 2008 and 2020, further revealed that during the war, Israel attempted to intimidate a range of Iranian officials, including politicians, military officers, and security personnel

"On Friday, they contacted me and gave me 12 hours to leave Iran or get out of Tehran—or else, they said, I'd meet the same fate as martyrs like [Chief of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces Major General Muhammad Hussein] Bagheri and [commander of Iran's top military headquarters Major General Gholam-Ali] Rashid. But I gave them the answer they deserved," he said.

Referring to the U.S. aggression against Iran's peaceful nuclear sites of Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan, Larijani dismissed the move as a "face-saving" gesture, saying, "Let them be happy with that."

Pointing to Iran's retaliation against the U.S. aggression on Iranian soil, Larijani said, "Out of 14 Iranian missiles, six struck the American base [in Qatar] - and they hit hard, each carrying a 400kg warhead."

U.S. President Donald Trump, trying to save face, claimed "only one missile hit," he said, adding let him "enjoy his delusions."

After more than a week into the war, the U.S. decided to finally make its collaboration with the Israeli regime official, with direct intervention in the war that the Israeli regime has been losing.

On June 22, the United States joined the Israeli regime in the assault and bombed three Iranian nuclear sites in a grave violation of the United Nations Charter, international law, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

A day later, Iran launched a wave of missiles at Al-Udeid air base in Qatar, the largest American military base in West Asia, in retaliation for the U.S. aggression.

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Iran Closely Monitoring Israeli Moves in Neighbors



Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei speaks to reporters during his weekly news briefing in Tehran Monday.

TEHRAN -- Iran said Monday it is closely monitoring any Israeli movement to abuse the soil of the neighboring countries for a renewed act of aggression against the Islamic Republic.

Addressing reporters at his weekly press conference here, Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said Iran has informed the relevant countries of related news reports, intelligence, and speculation in this regard.

"Without exception, all the neighboring countries have assured us that they will not allow the Zionist regime to misuse their space or territory for aggressive actions against Iran," he added.

Baghaei said the neighboring countries are certainly aware of their duties and commitments, both within the framework of good neighborliness policy and international law.

Based on international law, the Iranian spokesperson said, no country is permitted to allow other countries to use their territory for malicious actions against a third country.

Baghaei said all the relevant countries have "explicitly and decisively" rejected reports about the misuse of their territory against Iran and assured Tehran that they would never give such permission in the future.

He emphasized that the issue is still under investigation, while the Iranian armed forces and security and military authorities are closely monitoring the reports in this regard.

Iran's ministry of foreign affairs is also pursuing these cases seriously, Baghaei said.

The spokesman also touched on the most recent "inappropriate" report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) against Iran, saying it provided an excuse for military aggression by the United States and the Israeli regime against Iran's nuclear facilities.

He said the U.S. and the European trio of Britain, France, and Germany (E3), and some other countries have been explicitly pursuing a political approach to Iran's peaceful nuclear program.

"We have always expected the Agency and its director general to adhere to their duties, regardless of political maneuvering," he added.

Baghaei said the IAEA made mistakes, which had many consequences regarding Iran's nuclear issue and made the continuation of bilateral cooperation in a normal manner quite irrational.

The spokesman also took an issue with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz's description of Israel's blatant war of aggression against Iran as "dirty work" to justify it, saying the glossing over is set to bring a "historic and eternal shame" for Berlin.

Baghaei also criticized the "unacceptable" stance by Germany and France on the Israeli acts of aggression against Iran, saying Paris should be held answerable about its complicity in the war.

Baghaei firmly rejected and condemned U.S. President Donald Trump's "insulting and provocative" remarks against Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Such statements, he said, hurt the feelings of millions of Iranians and Muslims and will result in nothing but an increase in hatred and disgust towards the U.S. policies regarding the region and Muslims.

The spokesman said the Israeli regime committed multiple war crimes during its 12-day acts of aggression.

"Undoubtedly, every case of martyrdom and every case of destruction of a building in Iran constitutes a war crime, because (Continued on Page 7) The Holy Qur'an

They say: Allah has taken a son (to Himself)! Glory be to Him: He is the Self-sufficient:

They say: Allah has taken a son (to Himself)! Glory be to Him: He is the Self-sufficient: His is what is in the heavens and what is in the earth; you have no authority for this; do you say against Allah what you do not know? Say: Those who forge a lie against Allah shall not be successful.

The Holy Qur'an (10.69)

PRAYER TIMINGS

02:56

Noon (Zohr) 12:08

Evening(Maghreb) 19:45

Dawn(Fajr)" Tomorrow" 04:52

Sunrise "Tomorrow"

Envoy: U.S. Seeks Unconditional Surrender, Not Negotiation

NEW YORK (Dispatches) -- Iran's ambassador to the United Nations asserted that "unconditional surrender" cannot be considered negotiation, emphasizing the futility of engaging in talks with the U.S. if they continue to dictate conditions on Iran.

"Negotiation has its principles, and it is a give-and-take process. So we should engage in the negotiation and discuss with each other, maybe we reach a conclusion or not, but the unconditional surrender is not negotiation," Amir Saeid Iravani said in an interview with CBS News television channel on Sunday.

"If they are ready for negotiation, they will find us ready for that, but if they want to dictate to us, it is impossible for any negotiation with them."

Iravani also reiterated that Iran will not halt uranium enrichment by any means.

He said although the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors in Iran remain secure, they are currently prohibited from accessing any nuclear sites in the country as their activities have been temporarily halted.

"They are in Iran and are in a secure situation, but their activities have been suspended. They are not allowed to access our sites. They have not performed their duties," he said.

FM: Iran Greatest Victim of West's Chemical Weapons

TEHRAN -- Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi says Iran, as the greatest victim of chemical weapons in contemporary history, is a staunch advocate of a world free of weapons of mass destruc-

Araghchi made the remark in a message on Sunday on the occasion of the National Day of Combat against Chemical and Biological Weapons.

The occasion commemorates the 38th anniversary of the chemical attack on the northwestern Iranian city of Sardasht by former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

As the principal initiator of the initiative for a region free of nuclear

weapons, Iran has consistently stood at the forefront of the struggle against such weapons, he said.

Iran, he said, has never ceased its pursuit of justice for the victims of chemical warfare and firmly believes that the implementation of justice is a "necessary prerequisite" for preventing the recurrence of atrocities such as the chemical bombardment of Sardasht.

The minister hoped that through collective determination and effort, the day will come when no human being shall fall victim to weapons of mass destruction, and that peace and amity shall replace war and violence. On June 28, 1987, the Saddam regime dropped mustard gas bombs on Sardasht, killing at least 119 Iranian civilians and injuring another 8,000, leaving some of them permanently disabled.

Western countries- including Germany, the Netherlands, Britain, France, and the United States- contributed to the Iraqi regime's chemical weapons program at the time.

Araghchi said credible evidence and substantiated documentation confirm that certain Western countries, particularly the United States, the United Kingdom, and Germany, have pro-

vided Saddam's regime with chemi-

cal substances, technologies, and the necessary equipment, enabling it to employ chemical weapons against the Iranian people.

He said the West's support, along with the repugnant silence of the international community, emboldened the Saddam regime to persist in its atrocities and further violate international law with impunity.

The world has been witnessing in recent days the assassination of Iranian women and children, ordinary civilians, university professors, nuclear scientists, and senior military and civilian officials "at the hands of some

of the most cunning and malevolent

terrorists" of the era who are based in Tel Aviv, Araghchi said.

"Those same Western countries have aligned themselves with the aggressor, offering de facto support for its acts of aggression and its violations of international law and the Charter of the United Nations."

The minister warned that Israel's attacks on Iran's critical infrastructure, including facilities involved in the production of industrial chemical materials, pose the risk of a grave humanitarian and environmental catastructure.

Iran, he said, has formally called for (Continued on Page 7)