Middle East Working Group, NSC

PREPERATIONS FOR

DECEMBER 6, 2005

PRESENTATION ON IRANIAN NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES
Global Security: [www.globalsecurity.org](http://www.globalsecurity.org)
Global Security is a comprehensive online source of defense and intelligence related information, largely aimed for public consumption, including media and policy aides. In the case of Iran, they had information on both weapons programs and weapons delivery system programs, largely based on public information including IAEA reports, open testimony from various officials, news reports, as well as estimates from experts.

Federation of American Scientists: [www.fas.org](http://www.fas.org)
The FAS is a group of scientists, first formed by Manhattan Project scientists in 1945, which addresses national security issues in the nuclear age while promoting humanitarian uses of science and technology. The FAS publishes estimates on security and intelligence, including WMD programs and means of delivery, for many nations, ranging from the United States and known nuclear powers to nations believed to be attempting to develop nuclear weapons, based largely on intelligence estimates.

Missile Threat: [www.missilethreat.com](http://www.missilethreat.com)
A project of the Claremont Institute, MissileThreat.com seeks to present an overview of the threat posed by proliferation of ballistic missiles in the post-Cold War era, the means to defend the United States against this threat (focusing largely on missile defense), and resources to learn more about this increasingly salient debate. Missilethreat.com largely relies upon public statements, intelligence estimates made public via news reports, as well as expert analysis.

The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists: [www.thebulletin.org](http://www.thebulletin.org)
One of the most respected journals on nuclear science, the Bulletin seeks to present non-technical, policy relevant information about nuclear weapons and other global security issues to the public as well as government officials, scientists and journalists. Most articles relevant to the discussion of Iran’s nuclear program relied upon news reports as well as analysis as to the development of Iran’s nuclear program from experts on the development of nuclear weapons.

Carnegie Endowment Proliferation News and Resources:
The Carnegie Endowment’s program on non-proliferation provides estimates as to specifics of Iran’s nuclear development (as well as in other nations), based largely on reports issued by agencies such as the IAEA and relevant agencies in the US government, as well as public statements from senior officials, scientific analysis and political analysis.

IranWatch: [www.iranwatch.org](http://www.iranwatch.org)
A project of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, Iran Watch focuses exclusively on analyzing Iran’s WMD and weapons delivery programs. IranWatch publishes information on suspect aspects of Iran’s nuclear program, as well as international sources of support for Iran’s program. IranWatch focuses primarily on
obtaining information through government and international reports, as well as private sources.

Middle East Forum:


  - Rubin looks to Iran inside poitics giving suggestion to US on how to deal with it.

Media

Several other daily newspapers or wires have published individual stories, as events warrant, on Iran’s nuclear program. Some of these refer directly and specifically to classified intelligence reports which are otherwise unavailable. Examples include the Washington Post, BBC, New York Times, and others. In addition, individuals who have been involved in the negotiations or who are analyzing them have, on occasion, published articles that have, in some instances, provided details about Iran’s nuclear program.

- Radio Free Europe, Timeline of EU-3 negotiations with Iran, from August 2002 to Present.
- CNN: “Iran ‘may share nuclear know-how’.” 15 September 2005. Iran’s President allegedly told Turkish PM Recep Tayyip Erdogan that he is willing to share Iran’s nuclear knowledge with other Islamic countries.
- *NY Times*: Broad, William J. and David Sanger. “Relying on Computer, US Seeks to Prove Iran’s Nuclear Aims.” 13 November 2005. US is trying to convince allies that Iran is attempting to produce uranium for its Shabab missile by presenting computer simulations used by Iran.

Other:

- The Iranian Parliamentary Elections and US-Iran Relations, Dr. AmirAhmadi, Mar 2004
  - AmirAhmadi is a long time advocate of normalizing US-Iran relations and his articles are a good source in this area.

  - An expert meeting on Iran USA with considerable insights.
• Interview with Iran Ambassador to UN Dr. Javad Zarif, January 3, 2004
  o An important long interview by Iran Ambassador to UN about Iran's positions.

  o This could be considered one of the most comprehensive public works done on Iran recently.

• Rudolf, Peter. “The United States, Iran and Transatlantic Relations; Headed for Crisis?”
  o Rudolf believes that the EU-US approach to Iran is diverging further because of three issues, 1.) the US assertion that Iran is a ‘terrorist state’; 2.) how to engage Iran; 3.) and the increasing pressure on the EU by the US to force the UNSC and IAEA to implement punitive actions against Iran.

  o Takey argues that the US must actively engage Iran to decrease Iran’s perception of insecurity and vulnerability. Iran feels vulnerable because of its poor relationship with the US, the emerging security architecture in the Middle East, and

• Haass, Richard N. “Regime Change and Its Limits.” Foreign Affairs. August 2005 84.4. 66-78.
  o Haass compares the Bush administration’s approaches to Iran and North Korea on nuclear proliferation. He argues that the US approach to push for regime change, as opposed for technology, will not have effect in the short term.

• Nuclear Threat Initiative: Iran, Nuclear Profile
  http://www.nti.org/e_research/profiles/Iran/1825_4968.html.
  o NTI, founded by Ted Terner and former-Senator Sam Nunn, assesses the Iranian nuclear program in an extensive time line from 1945-Present.