

Iran: We Can Fire 11,000 Missiles A Minute at Invaders

Contributed by AP, Debka, Others
Saturday, 20 October 2007

Saber Rattling From Military Commander Promises A Quick Response To Any Attack

Iran to fire 11,000 missiles at invaders
Sat, 20 Oct 2007 18:13:42

Iran warns that it would fire as many as 11,000 missiles at 'the enemy's bases' within the first minutes after any possible attack.

Brigadier General Mahmoud Chaharbaghi, a senior commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), warned Saturday Iran will immediately respond to possible attacks.

He emphasized that Iran is capable of maintaining its fire power, in case of any invasion.

The commander of the missile force of the IRGC revealed Iran is one of the few countries with the capability of destroying the enemy's mobile targets as it possesses smart munitions and the equipments to pinpoint the enemy's targets.

"Now the enemies should ask themselves how many forces they would be ready to sacrifice to pay the price of their folly," Chaharbaghi added.

"If a war breaks out in the future, it will not last long because we will rub their (the enemies') noses in the dirt," he concluded.

Chaharbaghi's remarks come after US President George W. Bush said Tehran's nuclear activities would lead to World War III.

Bush's remarks have drawn criticism at home and around the world with US presidential hopeful Barack Obama terming them as "cowboy diplomacy".

MD/RE

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=27898§ionid=351020101>

Iran: We Can Fire 11,000 Missiles A Minute
Saber Rattling From Military Commander Promises A Quick Response To Any Attack
TEHRAN, Iran, Oct. 20, 2007

(AP) Iran is capable of firing 11,000 rockets into enemy bases within the first minute after any possible attack, state-run television quoted a top Revolutionary Guards Corps commander as saying Saturday.

Gen. Mahmoud Chaharbaghi, the missile commander of the Guards, said Iran has identified all enemy positions and was prepared to respond in less than a minute to any possible attack.

"Enemy bases and positions have been identified. ... The Guards ground force will fire 11,000 rockets into identified enemy positions within the first minute of any aggression against the Iranian territory," the television quoted Chaharbaghi as saying.

Chaharbaghi did not specifically identify the bases or the enemy and did not refer to arch foes Israel or the United States by name. But the U.S. has 40,000 troops on various U.S. bases in other Persian Gulf countries and 20,000 in Mideast waters. Another 160,000 U.S. troops are in neighboring Iraq and about 25,000 are in another one of Iran's neighbors, Afghanistan.

Iran's semiofficial Fars news agency also quoted Chaharbaghi as saying that Iran's radar-avoiding rockets cover the entire Persian Gulf and the entire Iran-Iraq border.

Chaharbaghi was quoted by Fars as saying that rockets with a range of 155 miles will be delivered to the Guards ground force soon. He didn't elaborate.

Iran has periodically raised alarms over the possibility of war, particularly when the West brings up talk of sanctions over Tehran's rejection of a U.N. Security Council demand that it halt uranium enrichment.

Tensions are high between Washington and Tehran over U.S. accusations that Iran is secretly trying to develop nuclear weapons and helping Shiite militias in Iraq that target U.S. troops. Iran denies the claims.

Washington has said it is addressing the Iran situation diplomatically, rather than militarily, but U.S. officials also say that all options are open.

Last month, a top Iranian air force general said Iran has drawn up contingency plans to bomb Israel should the Jewish state attack Iran. He made the comments days after French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said that the international community should prepare for the possibility of war in the event Iran obtains atomic weapons, although he later stressed the focus is still on diplomatic pressures.

Iran on Thursday denounced a warning by U.S. President George W. Bush that the Iran's nuclear activities could lead to World War III, saying the statement was warlike rhetoric geared at diverting U.S. attention from White House failures in Iraq.

The White House said Bush was simply making "a rhetorical point" when he suggested that if Iran could make nuclear weapons, it could lead to World War III.

A top Iranian Revolutionary Guards commander warned last month that U.S. bases around Iran would be legitimate targets.

"Today, the United States is within Iran's sight and all around our country, but it doesn't mean we have been encircled. They are encircled themselves and are within our range," Gen. Mohammed Hasan Kousehchi told IRNA in September.

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<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/10/20/world/main3388106.shtml>

Iranian Military Leader Threatens to Respond to Enemy Attack With Instant Rocket Barrage
Saturday , October 20, 2007

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http://www.foxnews.com/printer_friendly_story/0,3566,303758,00.html

Iran warns to fire off 11000 missiles
By AFP

Iran warned on Saturday it would fire off 11,000 rockets at enemy bases within the space of a minute if the United States launched military action against the Islamic republic.

"In the first minute of an invasion by the enemy, 11,000 rockets and cannons would be fired at enemy bases," said a brigadier general in the elite Revolutionary Guards, Mahmoud Chaharbaghi.

"This volume and speed of firing would continue," added Chaharbaghi, who is commander of artillery and missiles of the Guards' ground forces, according to the semi-official Fars news agency.

The United States has never ruled out attacking Iran to end its defiance over the controversial Iranian nuclear programme, which the US alleges is aimed at making nuclear weapons but Iran insists is entirely peaceful.

Iran has for its part vowed never to initiate an attack but has also warned of a crushing response to any act of aggression against its soil.

"If a war breaks out in the future, it will not last long because we will rub their noses in the dirt," said Chaharbaghi.

"Now the enemy should ask themselves how many of their people they are ready to have sacrificed for their stupidity in attacking Iran," he said.

Iranian officials have repeatedly warned the military would target the bases of US forces operating in neighbouring Iraq and Afghanistan in the event of any attack and already has these sites under close surveillance.

Chaharbaghi said that the Guards would soon receive "rockets with a range of 250 kilometres (155 miles)" whereas the current range of its rockets is 150 kilometres (91 miles).

"We have identified our targets and with a close surveillance of targets, we can respond to the enemy's stupidity immediately," Chaharbaghi added.

He said that the Guards' weapons were spread out throughout the country and so would not be affected by any isolated US strikes against military facilities.

The Guards are Iran's elite ideological army and responsible for its most significant weapons such as the longer range Shahab-3 missile which has Israel and US bases in the Middle East within its range.

<http://www.france24.com/france24Public/en/news/world/20071022--Iran-fire-11000-missiles-islamic-repolic-.html>

Iran warns of 11,000 rocket retaliation
Warns that 'enemy bases' would be targeted after any possible attack
The Associated Press
Updated: 8:46 a.m. ET Oct 20, 2007

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Chaharbaghi did not specifically identify the bases or the enemy and did not refer to arch foes Israel or the United States by name. But the U.S. has 40,000 troops on various U.S. bases in other Persian Gulf countries and 20,000 in Mideast waters. Another 160,000 U.S. troops are in neighboring Iraq and about 25,000 are in another one of Iran's neighbors, Afghanistan.

Iran's semiofficial Fars news agency also quoted Chaharbaghi as saying that Iran's radar-avoiding rockets cover the entire Persian Gulf and the entire Iran-Iraq border. Both on state-run TV and in Fars, he only used the word rocket, not missile. A rocket is normally an unguided weapon whereas missiles usually have guidance systems.

Chaharbaghi was quoted by Fars as saying that rockets with a range of 250 kilometers 155 miles will be delivered to the Guards ground force soon. He didn't elaborate.

Nuclear tensions

Iran has periodically raised alarms over the possibility of war, particularly when the West brings up talk of sanctions over Tehran's rejection of a U.N. Security Council demand that it halt uranium enrichment.

Tensions are high between Washington and Tehran over U.S. accusations that Iran is secretly trying to develop nuclear weapons and helping Shiite militias in Iraq that target U.S. troops. Iran denies the claims.

Washington has said it is addressing the Iran situation diplomatically, rather than militarily, but U.S. officials also say that all options are open.

Last month, a top Iranian air force general said Iran has drawn up contingency plans to bomb Israel should the Jewish state attack Iran. He made the comments days after French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said that the international community should prepare for the possibility of war in the event Iran obtains atomic weapons, although he later stressed the focus is still on diplomatic pressures.

Iran denounces Bush's WWII warning

Iran on Thursday denounced a warning by U.S. President George W. Bush that the Iran's nuclear activities could lead to World War III, saying the statement was warlike rhetoric geared at diverting U.S. attention from White House failures in Iraq.

The White House said Bush was simply making "a rhetorical point" when he suggested that if Iran could make nuclear weapons, it could lead to World War III.

Another top Iranian Revolutionary Guards commander warned last month that U.S. bases around Iran would be legitimate targets.

"Today, the United States is within Iran's sight and all around our country, but it doesn't mean we have been encircled. They are encircled themselves and are within our range," Gen. Mohammed Hasan Kousehchi told IRNA in September.

Last month, Iran showed off its military might during a parade that included torpedoes, surveillance drones and what Iran called its new domestically manufactured warplanes.

Iran recently also has upgraded its Shahab-3 missile to range of about 2,000 kilometers (1,250 miles), capable of

reaching Israel and carrying a nuclear warhead.

But last month, Adm. William Fallon, the top U.S. military commander in the Middle East, said he believes Iran is not as strong as it portrays itself. "Not militarily, economically or politically," he said.

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URL: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21389599/>

Iran Warns If Attacked Will Fire 11,000 missiles

Iran warned on Saturday that if the Islamic Republic is attacked it has the capability to fire off 11,000 rockets at enemy bases within a minute of the attack. A general in the elite Revolutionary Guards Mahmoud Chaharbaghi was quoted in the Fars new agency saying , if war breaks out in the future it will not last long because we will rub their noses in the dirt. The enemy should ask themselves how many of their people they are ready to sacrifice for their stupidity in attacking Iran.” The general added that Iran has the capability of targeting bases of US forces operating in Iraq and Afghanistan and has them under close surveillance. He noted that soon the Guards will receive rockets with a range of 250 kilometers. “We have identified our targets and with close surveillance of targets we can respond to the enemy’s stupidity immediately, “he said.

The general’s warning comes days after US President George Bush warned that if the international arena fails to take harsher sanctions against Iran and its race to achieve nuclear power, the situation could lead to World War III. I have told people that if you are interested in avoiding World War III it seems like you ought to be interested in preventing the Iranians from gaining the means to make nuclear weapons,”Bush said.

Meanwhile Russian President Putin who visited the Iranian Republic for the first time last week has become the focus of renewed pressure to join the international arena in condemning Iran’s race for nuclear power instead of supporting it. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert last week made a lightning visit to Moscow in an attempt to dissuade Putin from assisting Iran in the construction of a nuclear reactor. Putin however on Thursday declared that the Russian defense industry was developing new nuclear weapons as part of a plan to re arm its military. “We will develop missile technology, including completely new strategies,”he told reporters. The Russian President went on to stress that the goal was to boost Russian defense.10.20.07

Margot Dudkevitch

Infolive.tv

<http://www.infolive.tv/en/infolive.tv-13564-israelnews-iran-warns-if-attacked-will-fire-11-000-missiles>

Ahmadinejad’s Aggressive Nuclear Policy Prevails in Tehran
DEBKAFile Exclusive Report and Analysis
October 20, 2007, 2:37 PM (GMT+02:00)

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has laid down the gauntlet.

Having prevailed over the more pragmatic elements of the Islamic Republican regime headed by supreme ruler Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, he and his Revolutionary Guards are challenging the United States to do its worst.

Saturday, Oct. 20, the fire-eating president succeeded in removing the formidable Iranian nuclear negotiator, head of the National Security Council, Ali Larijani, from his path. He then sent the Revolutionary Guards missile and artillery commander, Gen. Mahmoud Chaharbagshe, to warn that, in the first minute of an attack on Iran, the Islamic Republic would fire 11,000 missiles and mortars against enemy (US and Israeli) bases. The scale of ordnance threatened implied Tehran’s certainty that Syria, Hizballah, Hamas and the pro-Iranian militias in Iraq would join the assault.

DEBKAFile’s Iran sources report that the president’s venture into brinkmanship points to his confidence that neither the US nor Israel can or will dare to strike at Iran’s clandestine nuclear facilities. Khamenei has shown no sign as yet of reining him in.

The Russian president Vladimir Putin’s visit last week to Tehran was a disappointment to the clerical rulers. Contracts for the Russians to complete the Bushehr atomic reactor and supply the fuel for its activation were not signed

during that visit, although they had been drawn up previously between Larijani and the head of the Russian Nuclear Energy Commission Sergei Kiriyeenko in Moscow.

At the last minute, Ahmadinejad, backed up by the IRGC chiefs, put his foot down against Putin's pre-condition which was incorporated in the contract for a joint Russian-Iranian mechanism to oversee the reactor and guarantee its non-use for weapons production.

Putin made a last attempt to talk Tehran round in a long conversation with the supreme ruler Wednesday, Oct. 17, before he flew out of Tehran.

Initially, there were reports that the Russian president had presented new proposals for solving the crisis, which Khamenei promised to seriously examine. The Iranian News Agency IRNA then quoted Khamenei as saying noncommittally: "We will ponder your words and proposal."

However, on Friday, Oct. 19, Ahmadinejad made remarks which contradicted statements by the supreme ruler and Larijani. He denied that Putin had brought any new proposals to Tehran on the Bushehr nuclear reactor. This denial had the effect of presenting Larijani as a failure. His efforts to achieve a new set of Iranian-Russian nuclear contracts and a breakthrough for Tehran that would have kept Moscow in the international camp opposed to tougher UN Security Council sanctions were shown up as useless.

The Iranian president had manipulated the episode in such a way as to leave the nuclear negotiator no option but to quit.

In contrast to the ultra-radicals, Larijani is described by DEBKAfile's Iranian sources as a practical diplomat who believed in a compromise that would let Iran continue its uranium enrichment process and develop its nuclear program, up to the point of weapons capability, without taking the final step of actually making a bomb.

His humiliation marks the further rise in Ahmadinejad's influence and his unimpeded drive to go all the way to a military showdown with the United States and Israel over Iran's nuclear ambitions. In private conversations in Tehran, the president argues that neither is in a position to go to war against the Islamic Republic.

Our military sources stress that the Iranian nuclear program no longer relies exclusively on uranium enrichment to attain a weapon, but has also turned to plutonium as an alternative path to a weapons capacity. The Bushehr reactor is a matter of national pride in Iran, but whether or not it is activating does not affect its military nuclear plans one way or another.

The production of plutonium for weapons is relatively simple and cheap, a fact that was exposed by Israel's air strike in northern Syria on Sept. 6.

If even Syria can build a small nuclear reactor for plutonium production with North Korean help, there is no reason to assume that Iran has not built an active reactor of this kind and is hiding it underground.

While much has been made of North Korea's input for Syrian's nuclear activities, little has been said about Iran's assistance, which DEBKAfile's intelligence sources estimate as far more substantial. In other words, North Korea is not the only nuclear proliferators; Iran is consistently violating its commitments under the Non-Proliferation Accord by passing its military nuclear secrets to Syria.

<http://www.debka.com/article.php?aid=1308>

Iran threatens to attack 170 US targets
JPost.com Staff , THE JERUSALEM POST Oct. 1, 2007

Iran threatened Monday to attack some 170 American targets in the Middle East and around the world if it is attacked by Israel or the US, Israel Radio reported.

A high-ranking officer from the country's Revolutionary Guards told the force's official journal, The Guards, that Teheran succeeded, after extended and comprehensive work, to identify hundreds of strategic American targets in the Middle East and around the world.

The Revolutionary Guards' Ground Forces Command is able to easily kill American nationals staying in the Middle East. "Several years ago they [Americans] were far away from us by thousands of kilometers. Now they are so close we can touch them," the Iranian general said.

On Sunday former US ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton told Tory delegates in Britain that efforts by the UK

and the EU to negotiate with Iran had failed and that he saw no alternative to a pre-emptive strike on suspected nuclear facilities in the country.

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1189411524152&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FPrinter>