



New Revelations?

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***Martha MacCallum:** Revelations about Iran's efforts to build nuclear weapons just keep coming. Sources inside Iran say the government is still pushing for a bomb and could have one in less than 2 years.*

Alireza Jafarzadeh is the President of Strategic Policy Consulting, Inc, and he's also a Fox News foreign affairs analyst. He joins me now from Washington. Alireza good to have you with us.

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Good to see you Martha.



Martha MacCallum: Give us your insight. Obviously we've all been watching as the reform system has broken down under the pressure of clerics in Iran. Tell me a little about what you have revealed and what you're finding in terms of the nuclear ambitions in Iran and where they stand right now.

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Martha, according to information I've received from sources with access to the Iranian regime, there was a secret meeting attended by top officials of the Iranian regime, very recently in Iran. It was attended by the supreme leader Ali Khamenei, it was intended to reassess their nuclear strategy and they came to three conclusions. Number one, they decided that Iran needs to join the nuclear club and go nuclear as rapidly as possible otherwise they have no chance of survival as a result of the dynamic and changing region and their defiant population.

Second they decided that the timetable they need to set is the end of 2005 or sooner and they need to speed up things rapidly otherwise the windows of opportunity are going to be closed. And third in order to accomplish that they have decided to basically feign cooperation with the international community as long as they can drag this whole issue or even decide to halt the enrichment of uranium in the Natanz nuclear facility but they will pursue their enrichment in other smaller sites. They have a number of other sites in addition to the site in Natanz as you can see the picture here.



So this is what they are going to pursue. And they feel that they need to do all this rapidly. They are heavily relying on the Europeans to help them in the international level to get to their objective.

Martha MacCallum: Why did they sense some urgency on their part and why do you think everything is embolden them given what's happened in Iraq, and Libya taking a different path, at least right now it would appear so.

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Well, certainly what has been happening in the region and also inside Iran has really urged them to speed up the process because they feel this is not a luxury for them to get the bomb. They feel that they must gain access to nuclear weapons otherwise their survival is at stake. I think the reason they are so bold right now is partly due to the activities and the actions of the Europeans who have been so compromising in dealing with them. Iran has become so brazen now that they're asking the IAEA to end the probe. This is like a serial killer after being caught for 18 years of crimes wanting to have a plea bargain. So this is absolutely not acceptable.

Martha MacCallum: Alright, we thank you for your insights. Alireza Jafarzadeh, it's good to have you with us.

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Thank you very much Martha.