



Will Iran follow Libya?

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Dari Alexander: *The United States urging rogue states to follow Libya's example by quitting the race to develop weapons of mass destruction. Last week Libyan leader Muamar Gaddafi announced that his country is renouncing its quest for chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and would cooperate with international inspections. Secretary of state Colin Powell urging countries like North Korea, Syria and Iran to get smart and follow Libya's lead. The question is will that happen?*

Here for more to talk about this in New York is Alireza Jafarzadeh, he is the President of Strategic Policy Consulting Incorporated and a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee for the National Council of Resistance of Iran. He's also a fox news foreign affairs analyst. So many things, and we thank you so much for coming in today. Now...

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Happy Holidays.

Dari Alexander: Happy Holidays to you as well. Iran has said they will submit to inspections. The question is will they, and how significant is such a resolution?

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Well I think the Iranian regimes nuclear program is very serious because they have a very sophisticated uranium enrichment program. They have already made plutonium. They have a very sophisticated delivery system, shahab3 missiles, and they are working on the shahab 4.

Dari Alexander: But they maintain that they are for peaceful purposes.

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Well, that's the position that they have held for so many years but they had to concede that they have had 18 years of lying and deception. I think this is very serious because Iran is a country that has a bigger agenda of establishing an Islamic Republic in the neighboring country of Iraq and exerting the hegemony in the region. So their program needs to be stopped. Of course the recent resolution was important because it was a foot in the door, if you will, but that needs to be expanded.

Dari Alexander: Are you confident that in fact we do have our feet in the door at this point, the international community and will get somewhere with this resolution?

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Well this is just the beginning; just the foot in the door but there is a bigger agenda, a bigger picture. Iran is a big country, four times as big as Iraq, lots of

mountains, caves and different places. Nobody knew a thing about Iran's nuclear weapons program just last year, thanks obviously to the revelations of the Iranian opposition. So we need to make sure the IAEA is very vigorous in their inspections that any future breaches by Iran would be immediately declared as non-compliant and be referred to the UN Security Council. That's what can be done in the first step. In the bigger picture, I can tell you honestly I am not very comfortable at all. I think we need to pursue a bigger agenda of regime change in Iran because that's the only way you can really make sure that the nuclear weapons program ends.

Dari Alexander: So you are not confident at this point that the mullahs will in fact come clean?

Alireza Jafarzadeh: They would definitely not come clean. Their past 18 years of lies and deceptions clearly shows that.

Dari Alexander: Even though they have made this promise and we see Libya's example.

Alireza Jafarzadeh: They were forced to make that promise because they wanted to take some of the wind out of the international community's sail, they wanted to dodge scrutiny, they wanted to not be referred to the Security Council. So they didn't have no other choice But I think, this is not a regime that you "trust and verify." This is a regime that you suspect and scrutinize and that's what needs to be done.

Dari Alexander: I'm curious, how of an affect do you think would happen, what went down in Iraq, how much do you think that affected Iran's decision to cooperate?

Alireza Jafarzadeh: I think what brought the Ayatollahs on the table was not their change of heart, or their cooperation, rather it was the international pressure and the stunning revelations by the Iranian resistance. So clearly it was the stick that worked and that needs to be followed up. I think the additional stick in dealing with the mullahs who are very frightened right now is to put political pressure. You need to hit them where their Achille's heel is, which is supporting their main opposition. For the past two weeks, Tehran has been constantly demanding the extradition of the thousands of members of their opposition in Iraq, who by the way have built a very cooperative relation with the US Army. That's what the US needs to do, to counter that demand, and step up support for the Iranian opposition and help bringing about a regime change.

Dari Alexander: All right, we have to see what happens. Alireza Jafarzadeh, we appreciate you coming in.

Alireza Jafarzadeh: Thank you very much and I wish you the best at this holiday season.

Dari Alexander: Thank you again.