

Tudeh News



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The Risk of Military Adventurism and its Dire Consequences for the Region and the Popular Movement

(Editorial of "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 881, 7 November 2011)

The news and analyses publicized in the world media in the recent weeks depicts the intensification of political tension and crisis between the US administration and European states with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The G20 summit in Cannes, France, and also the recent discussions of the Arab League about the political developments in Syria, have both turned into significant topics of discussion in relation to the future of our nation. At the same time, the provocative statements and comments of the Israeli officials alluding to the urgency of military action against Iran, and the threat and risk of military attack on Iran's nuclear sites, have been the headline of the international media.

Although in recent years there have been hardly any week in which there was no exchange of words and the usual threats between the US and its strategic ally Israel from one side, and the leaders of the theocratic regime of Iran on the other side, but the progressive and patriotic political

forces of Iran could not stay indifferent to the recent serious and growing threats under the new, current regional and global circumstance.

Ali Akbar Salehi, Iran's Minister of Foreign Affairs, tacitly admitting these threats, last week made a comment that IR of Iran has prepared itself for "the worst case". Firoozabadi, the Chief of Joint Staff of Iran's Armed Forces, also has said: "we, as the military apparatus, consider these threats, although with slim likelihood, as definitive." The peace-loving forces of the world have raised their deep concern about the recent developments. In its position regarding the fast-paced developments of the region, on November 5th the Chinese government expressed its opposition to any kind of military action against Iran.

In recent years, the Tudeh Party of Iran has repeatedly expressed its strong opposition to any kind of foreign intervention and military adventurism in our country, under any name and pretext, by the imperialist states and its contingents. Our party believes that the destiny and future of our nation and the struggle for freedom, sovereignty and social justice is merely determined by the will of the peoples of our nation.

Our party has also stated that the unwise and adventurist foreign policy of the Iranian regime has not only resulted in the isolation of our country in the world, but also provided the favorable situation for imperialism and the reactionaries in the region in their efforts to reach an

international consensus for the military attack of Iran. We have repeatedly exposed, in depth, how the regime's diplomacy has been ineffective and futile due to its contradictory and reactionary nature. In addition, the repressive policies of the regime against the popular forces have made the formation of a domestic popular



movement against the foreign aggression impossible. When the progressive forces, trade unions, the youth, student, and women movements are under the vicious attack of the regime, and obstructing the organization and formation of these movements has become the main duty and role of the security and suppressive forces of the regime, how could a dynamic mass movement take shape to defend the integrity and sovereignty of the country? It is under such circumstances that the imperialist states prepare to use their propaganda machine and financial means to promote their puppet "alternatives", the likes of "National Congress" that Ahmed Chalabi, CIA's lackey, founded 8 years ago in Iraq.

The international diplomacy and developments usually have their own rules, and the international and regional balance of

power plays a significant role in the trend and direction of these developments. The example of development in Libya, and the engagement of NATO states in military operations against this country, even though the US and Britain governments had extensive relations with Gaddafi's regime, is one of the valuable and enlightening lessons to pay attention to. The rapid developments and growth of liberating movements in Tunisia and Egypt and other nations in the Middle East, and the possibility of the crumbling of other dictatorial regimes in the region that mainly rely and depend on imperialism and execute its policies, has provoked the United States and the EU countries to look for ways to preserve their plundering interests.

Military action by Saudi Arabia and the member states of the "Gulf Cooperation Council" in Bahrain, persuading the Jordanian government to implement some limited, superficial and temporary reforms, and attempts to control and divert the direction of developments in Egypt must be viewed in this light. The actions of the Libyan and Syrian governments in suppressive and provocative confrontation with democracy movements in these countries was used by imperialists as a pretext for intervention, and in case of Libya, full-blown military aggression against that country which was going on uninterrupted for 7 months. The overthrow of Gaddafi's dictatorial regime by the NATO forces in October, and under the current circumstances of the Middle East, demonstrated yet a different behavioural model of political-military adventurism of imperialist states (different from large scale military campaign and occupation of the countries in the region, i.e. what was done in Afghanistan and Iraq).

It seems that after 8 years of criminal aggression of imperialism against Iraq, once again the policy of "regime change"

under the cover of enforcing the international law is on the agenda of the United States and its European allies.

Barack Obama, the US president, in a joint press conference with French President Nicolas Sarkozy at the G20 summit, which was held on November 3rd and 4th in Cannes, France, talked about the need to intensify the international pressure on the IR of Iran with regards to its nuclear program. Certainly this statement could not be considered as an accidental statement or ambiguous aside, particularly under the circumstances that a widespread economical crisis is sweeping the European Union. Obama's position is in line with the very threatening positions of David Cameron, Prime Minister, and William Hague, Foreign Secretary of Britain in recent weeks with regards to Iran. Nick Clegg, Britain's Deputy Prime Minister, also has commented about Iran: "A nuclear armed Iran would be very bad for the world and bad for peace and stability in the world, and it would flout completely international opinion... Britain would not take any options off the table but would continue to seek a negotiated solution."

The Guardian also revealed the plans of Britain's Defence Ministry in support of missile-aerial military assault by the US in the soil of Iran. The formal meetings and contacts of military and political authorities of Britain and Israel (including the Chief of Staff of Britain's Army and Israeli Defence Minister) in recent weeks could not be ignored. Meanwhile, attempts are under way by the reactionary Arab regimes to put Iran under the cross-hair of overthrow policies of imperialist states and the next target of their attack.

Saudi Arabia and Qatar, as the brokers of these discussions, have tried to convince the Syrian president to part its destiny from the future of the theocratic regime of Iran. According to the Middle Eastern media, these attempts have had some success.

Both of these two countries, which have been very actively involved in the developments of recent months in Bahrain and Libya to justify the interventionist policies of imperialism, have taken hostile positions against Islamic Republic of Iran. According to Alquds Alarabi, the Arab states have guaranteed to pay for the military action against Iran from their currency reserve which amounts to more than \$5.2 trillion.

The position of the progressive, democratic and patriotic political forces on the current developments in Iran and the region is very clear. We want peace and strongly oppose any and all sort of military intervention of imperialist states and their strategic allies against Iran. We believe that such an action is against the interests of the people of our nation and would benefit the Iranian regime in justifying its suppressive policies.

As we have repeatedly stated in recent years, Tudeh Party of Iran, along with other progressive and patriotic forces in Iran, not only categorically opposes the imperialist sanctions and foreign intervention of any form, but also deems the policies of the authoritarian forces in the anti-patriotic government of Ahmadinejad, the Chamber of the Supreme Leader, and the Islamic Guards Corps as policies that escalate the tensions and set the stage for the imperialist plans to intensify the devastating sanctions, and even military attack of Iran. Our party stresses that struggle against despotism and dictatorship is not separate from the struggle for peace and to protect the national interests, the true rights of the Iranian people, and the independence and sovereignty of the country.

The reactionary theocratic regime of Supreme Leader and the global imperialism, both, are inherently in fundamental contrast with the interest, rights and demands of the popular movement of our nation. The ruling

despotism- as it showed in the aftermath of the electoral coup of 2009- and its policies and plans are part of the main causes of the growing risk of imperialist intervention and the threats against the national interests of Iran. In its path to achieve freedom, social justice, national sovereignty and independence, the popular movement of Iran is faced with two main factors that confront the social progress and development of Iran, i.e. dictatorship and imperialism●

Alarming Tensions, Interventionist Sanctions, and the National Sovereignty of Iran!

(Published in "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 880, 24th Oct. 2011)

Increasing tensions between the Islamic Republic and the American government have once again made the relations between the two countries the top world news. In the past days, the high U.S. administration officials have described the uncovering of a plot to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to the United States by the Qods Force cells tied to the Islamic Guards Corps. The U.S. attorney general in a press conference with international reporters alleged that the American security agencies had disrupted Qods Force plot, a special operations unit of the Iranian Islamic Guard Corps (IGC), to assassinate Adel Al Jabir, the Saudi ambassador to Washington. Following this official announcement, in a press conference, Hillary Clinton, the American secretary of state, mentioned that coordination and consultations will ensue with the U.S. allies on further isolation of the Islamic Republic. Consequently, Joe Biden, the Vice President of the United States, while threatening Iran, pointed candidly that: "The alleged is an outrage that violates one of the fundamental

premises which is the safety and sanctity of diplomats and is a shameful act ... nothing has been taken off the table". Following the standpoints taken by the high officials of the White house, it was Obama's turn, as the highest American authority, to show a reaction on the above incident; he in a press conference along with his South Korean counterpart, declared that, Iran has to be held accountable for 'reckless plot'. Obama emphasized that: "We believe even if the Iranian president or supreme leader did not have detailed operational knowledge, there has to be accountability with respect to anybody in the Iranian government engaging in this kind of activity... the important issue for Iran is that it should answer to the world community why certain elements in their government are involved in such activities." He also emphasized that U.S. will do its utmost for further isolation of Iran and the tightening of the sanctions! Following Obama's words, the United States Treasury undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence of the United States told the Senate Banking Committee that studies on further sanctions of Iran, including the Islamic Republic "central bank" have started; and subsequently United States pressed formal charges against Iran to the United Nations.

Escalating tensions between the Islamic Republic and the American government considering the current delicate situation in the region and the acute global problems, including the economic crisis and its aftermath and consequences, cannot but raise justified concerns for the patriotic and progressive forces and those concerned with the world peace. Especially since imperialism has hashed plots and interventionist plans for the ever important Middle East region, and the adventurist and tension rising policies of the Velayate Faghih (theocratic) regime can provide the necessary excuse and justifications for implementation of such plans.

The irresponsible stands of the high officials of the Islamic Guards Corps and numbers of Vali Faghih affiliates in the recent weeks, especially, the baseless and contrary to national interest slogans such as deployment of naval ships to the proximity of the U.S. shores and the speeches by the military advisor of Khamenei, i.e. Islamic Guards Corps commander, Rahim Safavi, indicating that the Islamic Republic is capable of interfering in the internal affairs of the Saudi Arabia, indeed are instrumental in increasing the current dangerous tension and provide necessary pretexts to the United States and its allies. Examples of such stands can be observed on the October 12 issue of "Raja news". In this article, it is declared that " what supplied the groundwork to this hubris (the terror incident of the Saudi ambassador in the United States) is the passivity in the diplomatic establishment in the country and simple mindedness in freeing the two American spies ... the natural outcome of not attacking the enemy while all the elements are in place is to be scored against ..." Such viewpoints are not exclusive to a single reactionary news agency and has not been either in the past. Increasing the role of the military and security apparatus in the affairs of the country, especially, the position held by these institutions in the sensitive decision making and strategic affairs of the country in both domestic and international arenas, the view points uttered by alike of "Raja News" find elevated positions in the highest echelons of the government. The Revolutionary Guards, now through strengthening their financial positioning and exclusive economic privileges and enjoying full support of the Valiye Faghih becoming the undisputed political and economic force in our country, are the advocates, propagators, and the enforcers of such policies, especially in the foreign arena, policies which have deeply been in conflict with the rights, interests, and national security of Iran and continue to be so.

It is sufficient to look at some of the standpoints by the guards, Basij militia commanders, and other influential circles and centers allied with the guards and leader's circle to comprehend the scale of the danger that threatens the national interests and sovereignty of Iran. Among these, it can be pointed to the Islamic Guards Corps commander Naghdi, who concurrent with the events in the Middle East declared that it is not only for the westerners to interfere in our affairs, we also interfere in their affairs (quoting contextually). Or the demonstrations by the Basiji militia tugs and their signing of the petition for "suicide operations" in defense of "Bahraini and Saudi Muslims" which was faced with anger and reaction of Saudi and other Persian Gulf states.



In recent days, the deputy head of the Islamic Guards Corps also, in commemoration for martyrs of preparations and logistics of Qom guards, on October 14, declared that "today, a series of international and regional policies of Israel and America have faced defeat, thanks to the Muslim awakening, and are on the verge of collapse and they under no time such as today have been incapable of the management of the crisis."

Taking such stands and policies can not only be contrary to the national interests of Iran, but in the final analysis will aid imperialism in the region.

Historical experience in the region proves that the policies of the reaction have always been in the aid of imperialism's aims. Furthermore, in the sensitive and important region of the Middle East and Persian Gulf, as testified in history, reaction and backwardness have been aligned with the interests and policies of world imperialism and in certain more important arenas have been aligned and tangled and they continue to be so. Thus, no true progressive force shall assess these stands "positive" or "anti imperialist". What is worrisome in the current affair and the rising tensions between the Islamic Republic and United States for our country, is the loss of opportunities and national interest and threatening of our country by U.S. imperialism and its allies and the strengthening of the interventionist sanctions which only serves the parasitic segments of the Iranian capital and the centers of power and fortune of the Velayate Faghih (theocratic) regime. The sanctions up to now have seriously hurt the national economy and the productive capability of the country and resulted in destitution and poverty for the vast masses of the workers, toilers in the city and country side, middle strata, industrialists and small and medium producers in the country.

One of the main winners of the imperialist sanctions are the Islamic Guards Corps. Yet it should not be forgotten that any interventionist sanction does not only limit itself to the current situation in the country; their heavy burden pose serious consequences for the future generation in our country. The strengthening of the sanctions can also underlie new resolutions against Iran in the UN Security Council by EU and United States. At the same time, the threat of new wars should not be under

estimated.

In addition, reaction through increasing tensions on the verge of the parliamentary elections is attempting to sway public opinion away from domestic situation and under the guise of foreign threats, attack the popular movement. The letter by political activists to Mohammad Khatami and the stands by various tendencies in the student movement on impossibility of holding a free and democratic elections in the current situation is an indication of the fact that reaction is facing serious challenges to strengthening and safeguarding its interests on the verge of the elections, thus, through increasing tensions is attempting to signify the foreign threat as the main issue. Tudeh Party of Iran, along with other progressive and patriotic parties and forces in the country, while strongly opposing imperialist sanctions and foreign interference in any form, finds the ruling reaction, anti national Ahmadinejad government, the leader circle, and the Islamic Guards Corps policies as instruments in increasing tensions and the strengthening of the devastating sanction. Furthermore, our party stresses that the struggle against despotism and dictatorship is not separate from the struggle for maintaining national interests, just rights of the Iranian people, and safeguarding national sovereignty and independence of the country●

From the joint statement of 71 Communist and Workers parties published October 2011:

“We condemn any intervention in Iran by imperialist states and their allies, which are trying to advance their plan for the creation of a “Greater Middle East”. We believe that it is the right of the Iranian people themselves to determine the direction of future developments in their country and to achieve peace, democracy and progress.”