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China's support for Iran (un)questionable (Updated)

By: AFP on: 12.08.2005 [10:02] (1261 reads)

(8019 bytes)



BEIJING - China's opposition to taking the Iranian nuclear crisis to the UN Security Council is largely driven by their long-term oil relationship, sparked in part by the US occupation of Iraq, analysts say.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Gholamali Khoshroo is currently in Beijing to explain Tehran's position on resuming uranium conversion activities at a plant in Isfahan, which has caused an international outcry.

The move prompted the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to set a September 3 date for a report on Iran's compliance which could lead to a possible referral to the Security Council for sanctions, such as a ban on oil sales.

China, a nuclear power and one of the Security Council's five permanent veto-wielding members, has made it clear it does not want the issue before the UN body.

"It would not be helpful ... We all want a peaceful solution to the Iranian issue. So I think the best place is the efforts between the EU (European Union) and (the) Iranians or the IAEA," China's UN ambassador Wang Guangya said this week.

"The council has too many things on the table. Why should we add more?"

Beijing's stance is partly because it has a policy of not interfering in other countries internal affairs, driven by the fact that it does not want similar outside interference in its own domestic matters.

Mostly it is down to economic interests, in particular oil which China needs to keep firing its remarkable economic transformation, experts said.

In 1997 China negotiated a 1.3 billion dollar contract with Saddam Hussein to develop the al-Ahdab oil field in central Iraq, and in 2001 it was in talks develop the much larger Halfayah field.

"Between them, the two fields might have accounted for almost 400,000 barrels per day, or 13 percent of China's oil consumption in 2003," said Michael Schwartz, professor of sociology at the State University of New York who specialises in Iraq and Iran.

"However, like Iraq's other oil customers (including Russia, Germany and France), China was prevented from activating these deals by

Image Galleries

Weather

Weather forecast for Baghdad and Basrah. Baghdad: MO, 15/08, +46..+48 °C, NW, 6 m/s. Basrah: MO, 15/08, +46..+48 °C, N, 3 m/s.

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Today

the UN sanctions then in place ..."

When the US invaded and set up the Coalition Provisional Authority all pre-existing contracts and promises were null and void, wiping out China's stake in Iraqi oil fields.

So it turned to Iran, and sealed a 70 billion dollar contract to import Iranian oil, and has since signed a host of other economic agreements, including to build the first stage of the Tehran subway system.

"In other words, the war in Iraq - and the resistance that it triggered - played a key role in creating a potentially powerful alliance between Iran and China," said Schwartz.

Ehsan Ahrari, an independent strategic analyst based in Virginia who regularly writes on Iran, said that for these reasons, China will never agree to the Iran issue being taken to the Security Council.

"China has been strengthening its ties in Iran, most importantly, in the energy field. It also has been doing business with Iran in the transfer of missile, and even nuclear technology," he said on his website www.ehsanahrari.com.

"China's voracious energy appetite is in dire need of Iran's considerable oil and gas reserves. It also needs a lot of hard cash to pay for the ever-escalating prices of oil in a bullish seller's market."

"As long as Iran needs China's missile and nuclear technologies, Beijing expects its oil purchase bills to become eminently manageable."

"Consequently, the Iranians are feeling comfortable that they have reasons to count on China's support if the EU-3 (France, Germany and Britain) and the US were to go to the Security Council."

China has a voracious appetite for oil to feed an economy ticking along at 9.5 percent annual growth, and has been searching for supplies in all parts of the globe.

The world's most populous country expects to import 130 million tonnes of crude in 2005, up from last year's record high of 122 million tonnes, making it the second largest importer in the world after the United States.

[link](#)

Iran ex-president warns IAEA resolution will 'cost' the West

TEHRAN (AFP) Aug 12, 2005

Top Iranian figure Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said Iran's decision to resume sensitive nuclear work was "irreversible" and warned that Western opposition to Iran's program will "cost them dearly."

During a Friday sermon, the prominent ayatollah said: "You could drag things on but Iran's decision is irreversible," drawing chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" from the faithful.

Rafsanjani's remarks came a day after the International Atomic Energy Agency's 35-nation board of governors adopted a resolution expressing "serious concern" at Tehran's decision to resume uranium conversion activities.

The influential former president warned worshippers not to "take lightly what happened at the IAEA. It is very important and will create new conditions for our country and the region. It will turn a new leaf in the history of our revolution.

"It will cost them dearly," he vowed, signaling the possibility of a hardened stance by a country that plays an important role in Iraq,

Afghanistan and the Gulf as well as being a major oil producer.

"Bear in mind that you cannot treat Iran like Iraq or Libya," added Rafsanjani, who heads Iran's top arbitration body, the Expediency Council.

Hundreds of worshippers took to the streets after the prayers, demanding Iran's nuclear rights and shouting slogans against the "Great Satan".

Since early Friday, Iranian state TV has been airing interviews with ordinary people on the street slamming the IAEA decision and insisting on Iran's right to nuclear technology.

The IAEA resolution urged Iran to re-establish full suspension of all enrichment-related activities, after Tehran raised the stakes in the dispute by removing IAEA seals at a conversion facility in Isfahan, 400 kilometers (250 miles) south of Tehran.

Suspicious of Iran's 18 years of concealments, Western countries are concerned that Iran is secretly trying to develop nuclear weapons and is using its energy program as a cover.

Uranium conversion produces a gas that is the feedstock for enriching uranium, which fuels nuclear reactors and can potentially provide the raw material for atomic bombs.

Rafsanjani, a moderate conservative who was the top challenger in Iran's recent presidential election, lost to ultraconservative Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

During the campaign, he had stressed the importance of finding a negotiated solution to the nuclear issue.

In his sermon, Rafsanjani said Iran has a right to enrichment within the Non-Proliferation Treaty, while insisting the process resumed Wednesday is a non-sensitive part of the fuel cycle and is under strict IAEA control.

"Nobody could be more transparent than us" but "it is clear that we cannot build confidence", he said.

IAEA chief Mohammad Elbaradei is on September 3 to give a report on Iran's compliance, which could lead to a new emergency IAEA meeting and possible referral to the UN Security Council for sanctions.

An Iranian official said Thursday a second facility in Natanz would maintain its suspension of enrichment activity to "keep the door open for negotiations."

In November, Iran signed an accord with the EU in Paris under which it agreed to suspend certain activities including uranium conversion and enrichment for the duration of negotiations aimed at securing guarantees that Tehran's program was purely peaceful.

Iran has considerably toughened its tone since conservatives consolidated their grip on power in the country, notably with election of hardliner Ahmadinejad to top office.

Before the EU resolution was adopted, the deputy head of Iran's atomic energy organisation Mohammad Saidi warned an accord with the European Union over its nuclear program would become void if it were adopted.

27 comments

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Article and comments

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Disagree with title of article

by MrWiseOwl on 12.08.2005 [11:10]

From what I am reading, China's support for Iran is not questionable at all!!

perhaps they mean "unquestionable"

by picard-fortune-500 on 12.08.2005 [11:23]

At any rate do the idiots who are pushing for sanctions realize what the consequences would be if Iran stopped supplying the world with their 2.5 million barrels a day of crude oil for a few months?

questionable as to what direct action ...

by hellsbells on 12.08.2005 [11:29]

... China can make in this developing crisis, artificially created by the US/zionist entity.

Evidently the Chinese are adopting a diplomatic attitude, to see if it can be resolved by negotiations. Whether the Chinese Airforce will fly in to fight along side the Iranian Airforce remains to be seen. Maybe they have other strategies, such as collapsing the USD (or threatening to) in the event of actual hostilities.

But the Chinese have big stakes in Iran. Don't think they want to lose all that OIL.

Year Ago

by profile on 12.08.2005 [11:29]

I pointed out this a long time ago.Funny how a year later the AFP and other media outlets start getting round to writing about an article on the topic.when it was obvious regarding China a very long time ago.

This is why i mentioned that China and China alone is actively helping the Iraqi resistance with intelligence and logistical support via Iran and Syria. For any resistance to be successful it needs to be constantly resupplied,funded,re-armed etc.otherwise the resistance over time dries up.We are 2.5 years into a war and every month is more deadly,accurate amd more violent that the previous month.

The quantity,accuracy and targets the resistance have hit show an extreme high level of intelligence activity using sophisticated technology such as the ability to intercept electronic communications or using sattellite imagery,there are only a few major countries in the world that have that ability,which suggests a major power is helping the Iraqi resistance that is (China)and China alone.

Many always ask the wrong questions,like will the U.S/NWO attack Iran or Syria.That is the wrong question to ask.The question to ask is WHY has Syria and Iran NOT already been attacked ? When the U.S/NWO had all the necessary militray equipment in the area during the first 6 months after the Invasion of Iraq when resistance was fairly light.?

Iran and Syria do not have WMDs or Nukes of their own,if those countries were attacked any retaliation due back comes in a conventional form which would not bother the U.S/NWO in the slightest.

The reason Iran and Syria were not attacked before was because there was and is a greater power (China) behind those 2 countries and China has a lot of WMDs including Nukes of which can do the U.S/NWO a lot of damage,if not terminal.This put them off invading because they did not know how China would react.

Russia is the sly fox

by Yasis on 12.08.2005 [11:48]

I fear for Syria and Iran as they are supplied with weapons by Russia. Russia is the covert part of the NWO. Russia deliberately supplies weapons to these two states to allow them to have a false sense of security. US, the so called bad cop in this game then stirs up trouble for Syria and Iran. US is using the nuclear issue to box in Iran.

Thes reactors are supplied by Russia. Russia causes all these problems in a covert way. US-EU-Russia all have the same long term agenda of a one world government.

China is increasing worried about all these plans. What bothers me is that the covert role played by Russia in this NWO game is not seen by most people.

Russia is a sly fox.

This is a Misleading title

by ohm on 12.08.2005 [11:53]

The link links to sundaytimes.co.za/news/southafrica but the very familiar AFP report is titled " CHINESE OPPOSITION TO TAKING IRAN TO SECURITY COUNCIL, ALL ABOUT OIL ". Now how the fuck does a discription of a relationship between the 2 countries translate into 1 country questioning the relationship between the 2. FUCK THERE subttle propaganda, looks like there seeking to change the way one views the article.

Ha Ha, Russia can't fool me

by Yasis on 12.08.2005 [12:03]

Things are very dangerous now as Russia and China are having joint military exercises for the first time. This shows that the NWO is moving in for the kill. Again, Russia is selling weapons to China. Again, US is responding by hold the first strategic dialogue session with China. Russia and US are covertly allied.

It's the same old game.

See below link:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/upi/?feed=TopNews&article=UPI-1-20050803-22174900-bc-us-russia-china.xml>

See? US and Russia are allied. The military exercises are a farce.

I will not be so stupid as to believe in any US-Russia "rivalry."

Ha Ha

by Yasis on 12.08.2005 [12:09]

Yes, the title of the article does not correspond to what is written in the report. The report clearly says that China will not support any move to send the Iranian issue to the UN.

I think that this is a move by the NWO to send a message to Iran telling Iran that China will not help it. To cause Iranian leaders to be confused.

Very tricky these NWO. Trying to drive a wedge between them.

I will not be fooled NWO.

It is "questionable"...

by stopwar on 12.08.2005 [13:04]

because it doesn't fit in with their "media reality". Everything interacts through the USUK coalition - in the post-Iraq world, countries aren't supposed to communicate independently!!!

subway system

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 12.08.2005 [13:35]

quote: ". . . and has since signed a host of other economic agreements, including to build the first stage of the Tehran subway system."

The first stage has been completed and the second stage is under way.

My point is to reinforce that China's investments in Iran go far beyond oil and gas deals.

Profile

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 12.08.2005 [13:37]

Some people here question, if Iran is supporting the resistance, then why is it also supporting the occupation government.

I've given some of my answers to that. I'm curious as to your take on that. How do you answer that question?

To Iranian

by profile on 12.08.2005 [16:42]

In answer to your question: My opinion on your question regarding Iran would only be based on interpretation and speculation.

Iran needs to keep plausible denial in whatever it does. Iran certainly needs certain objectives filled without causing international concern or escalating the situation against itself. It supports the Jaafri government on the outside but is also helping to bring about its downfall or acquiescence towards Iran.

Iran cannot afford to have an Iraq that is friendly to the U.S/NWO. because Iran will know what that will ultimately mean for Iran in the long term. Iraq will act as a forward base for other countries intelligence agencies or NGOs that can and will cause a lot of trouble in Iran either on the political basis or political groups causing civil unrest in Iran. The NGOs/NWO would use Kurdish areas to destabilise Northern Iran and even Turkey and Southern Iraq similar except with the Arabs/Sunnis. I think we have already seen this this year in southern Iran where a forged letter was distributed through sunni communities in Iran stating they would be re-patriated this had the effect of causing Civil unrest (a destabilising effect).

My opinion is that Iran does not want Iraq to be governed by anyone that will be overtly friendly to this NWO group.U.S-Israel-EU etc.But it cant openly come out and say that.So it gives the illusion of working with the Iraq goverment on the outside where as behind the scenes it is helping the Iraqi resistance.

The other reason for helping the Iraqi resistance is because that is too the benefit to its ally China.It helps China because everday the war drags on the easier it becomes for China to forge reationships with Islamic countries, especially with in OPEC.Secondly war always has the effect of demoralising a country economically,politically both internationally,domestically,militarily and more importantly emotionally.All of these things China can use as a dynamic to benefit itself.The Longer this Iraqi war drags on the more beneficial it is too China.And China is Irans ally.

Iran does not want Iraq or the middle east turned into a staging post for this NWO controlling group destroying the culture,heritage,history and religion in the area and turning it into a pornographic-drug and alcohol riddled society in which it has done in every country it gains a foothold in.

In my opinion Iran is working covertly beneath the scenes with the resistance in some way.

All these demands are understandable

by Kevin on 12.08.2005 [18:14]

Since the outcome of nuclear enrichment May be a nuclear bomb, it most certainly results in nuclear waste.

I believe the U.S. government the most hypocritical since it has a policy of using D.U. Literally dusting the world with leukemia and cancers of every sort, why should the U.S.G object if Iran wants to get into game of annihilation? The more the merrier right?

If China loses Iran, Venezualian oil becomes critical

by Neal on 12.08.2005 [22:55]

As soon as China loses Irans oil like it did Iraq, there will be a rush to ship Venezualian oil and that will kick off a pacific war.

Puppet governments and underground groups

by Yasis on 13.08.2005 [06:04]

Iranian-Shi'ite, Please see <http://iraqwar.mirror-world.ru/article/43921>, it will answer your questions.

In politics, governments sometimes deal with all sides to control events and to secure their outcome. In a situation like Iraq where a power vacuum might happen at any time, it is always best to keep an ace up your sleeve.

Iraqis and Americans

by Yasis on 13.08.2005 [07:41]

Whatever the americans want to do with Iraq, they must ensure that their puppet government can bring stability and have control over the population. The puppet regime installed by the americans have no legitimacy among the Iraqis and they require american troops to protect them.

Once the american occupational forces leave, the puppet government will collapse without its master. During this period of time, an Iraqi army that will fight for this puppet regime must be created so that american troops can leave.

American planners have this fantasy that they can turn Iraq into a Germany or Japan. With permanent american bases to project their power into the oil laden middle east. Most likely conclusion is a Vietnam, Afghanistan or an Algeria rather than Japan or Germany.

Saddam Hussein taught Iraqis to be independent and how to fight. He privatised oil companies and tried to lead the arab states. Such policies is of course unacceptable to the americans. To tell the Iraqis to yield and be slaves like the days of the british mandate is nothing but a dream.

Cutting up Iraq into three parts is an attractive idea as this will alter the internal political nature of Iraq and leave a weak state in its place. There is nothing but death and failure for the americans in Iraq. I do not know whether they have a fall back plan.

Whether the goal is to establish military bases, whether it is privatisation of Iraqi oil companies, whether it is control of the Iraqi oil fields or to turn the Iraqi economy into a slave relationship with the american companies, or to bring down the Iraqi state, all this will fail.

The Iraqis will not want to live in a semi-colonial state like the days of Nuri Said.

Nuri Said, the dog of the brits was hanged in 1958. Even if the puppet regime can survive, how long can it last before their leaders are hanged?

Americans will fail and die in Iraq. All american agendas, plans, objectives will turn to nought as they did in Vietnam. Bush really blundered with Iraq. It is sad that americans have this type of leader.

Iraqis will never die alone.

profile

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 13.08.2005 [12:45]

Then in that case, your opinion is similar to my opinion.

Yasis

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 13.08.2005 [13:07]

Your opinion on the matter is also similar to mine.

China's oil to be exhausted within 14 years

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 13.08.2005 [13:17]

A recent report released by the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) points out that the country's crude oil reserves will be exhausted within 14 years, based on the current proven oil reserve and scale of production.

[link](#)

Seems like

by MmArRgDdOnN on 13.08.2005 [13:51]

Seems to me like the shrubbie tribe from the good old US of A are creating yet another set of demons to justify their ventures in the Fossil Fuel and Military Hardware sale businesses.

Wake up and smell the freaking coffee folks,..., the American Propaganda System is geared to generate vast volumes of data for the express purpose of manufacturing seemingly legit information to attempt to justify the rogue (read as disgustingly deviant and corrupt) polices currently being generated by the warmongering fascist pigs of the Repugnant Republican Reprobates (RRR).

In other words,..., keep the American Hoi Polli cowering in fear as they literally reduce the masses to mere robots governed by a seemingly unassailable government that has been quite literally raping them for virtually every right their constitution once gave them.

Prognosis,..., not good,..., unless the entire population of the USA wakes the phuck up and tosses these corrupt degenerates out of power.

Remember,..., payback is a bitch,..., and the idiotic RRR cabal is setting the USA up for Generations of Blow Back events.

You can't go around the planet dropping bombs where and when you want weithout the entire world aligning itself against such abdismal hubris,..., Hitler got his,..., so will shrubbie jr, sr and the sick little b*st*rd jeb. Meanwhile,..., 9/11 was the blow back for the first "Gulf War",..., the Blow Back is comming, it's just a matter of time,..., and the hoi polli will be the ones to pay for the fascist RRR piglets forrays back into the Dark Ages.

By the way shrubbie

by MmArRgDdOnN on 13.08.2005 [13:58]

Have fun worrying for the rest of your dismal existance when and where that 56 cent solution with your sick arsed name on it finds you.

Through your own insanity you have become the most despised and most "Wanted Dead" man on this planet,..., so how's it feel to be in a virtual prison for the rest of your life you sick little SOB (Yes I'm calling barbara bush a Beeatch) and also note that the names do not start with capitol punctuation, purposefully so,..., just to show the disrespect these RRR slugs and slugettes deserve.

PS to al the shrubbie clan

by MmArRgDdOnN on 13.08.2005 [14:00]

FOAD you corrupt egomanical warmongering fascist pigs.

Nigeria and Iran discuss military cooperation

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 13.08.2005 [14:39]

An Iranian military delegation is visiting Nigeria with a view to signing a defense cooperation pact.

[link](#)

But Yasis on 12.08.2005 [11:48],

by Mike-Malaysia on 15.08.2005 [00:42]

you dont believe in the NWO. You made some posts a few days ago ridiculing the idea. Are you a new convert? Who knows, perhaps one day you will also realise that seing "nothing wrong" with single source quoting from zionists like US politician Mark Kirk is also wrong.

Yasis 2

by Mike-Malaysia on 15.08.2005 [00:51]

Yasis. I appreciate that we all start off as armchair political analysis virgins, but when we do so, we grow and mature and develop our viewpoints based on how we see global events relating to each other. You on the otherhand are going from baby to senior statesman, and in toe process making yourself look a fool as you jump from viewpoint to viewpoint. As your scoffing at the NWO and now your adoption of that concept and then going on to mention secret

alliances within it. Do you believe in NWO or what? What do you understand by NWO?

My Experience with the Chinese

by Mike-Malaysia on 15.08.2005 [01:12]

Is that they do not stand beside men whose doom is imminent. China is only interested in Iran for t reasons.

- 1) It can get loads of gas and some oil cheaply (\$ reason)
- 2) It opens up another market for Chinese goods and services(\$ reason)

China will continue to deal with Iran until it looks like an attack is just about to happen (or *does* actually happen) then they will stand back and watch the carnage. Anyone who thinks China will risk ANYTHING for Iran is a total bloody fool. China knows that when the smoke clears, it has the economic strength to bust it's way into the newly formed board of directors and lay a series of nice offers on the table, to regain some of the privileged trade deals it had before, and China hid not lose \$x billion in the process of being engaged in a war.

Dont waste any time thinking that China will do anything that can be proved is standin in the way of the US. It may be splying arms to the Iraqi's via Syria (which is what the US administration would love us to think) and so forth, but I seriously doubt it. Syria isn't going to do anything to put its own security in jeopardy.

Chinese philosophy seems to put the \$ above all else. When they die here, the siblings leave grand tokens of model credit cards and model credit cards as 'gifts' for the departed. I wonder if God accepts Mastercard?

This is how the visible part of the NWO are conquering (even abysmally)the worlds resources. Just look at China, Russia and Frances total disgraceful stance on the Iraq issue. None of these countries ever stood up in the UN and said to Powel "FUKCING BULLSHIT, YOUR FALLACIOUS PIG" No. They said absolutely NOTHING about the HUGE number of gross lies they were pumping out. They did NOTHING about when the US ran off with the Iraqi weapons dossier and handed back a shabby edited version. They did NOTHIING about the unilateralism shown by the US/UK/Spain/Aus. They all went around knowing pretending like they really cared and could actually stop it.
they KNEW the US was going to attack. They did NOTHING after the attack began, instead the pigs said 'lets forget the past and move on'

Iran, dont look to China or Russia to save you. Your on your own. No other country will suffer for your behalf. Develop your nukes. Defend yourself and quickly!!!

Mike

by Yasis on 15.08.2005 [06:04]

I did not change my opinion. I don't believe in the NWO. There is no good evidence that proves their existence. My earlier posts on this thread shows how easily one can interpret "evidence" into anything you want.

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