

Login

user:

pass:

Remember me

[register](#)

[RU](#) [EN](#) [ES](#)

- User Menu**
- Home Page
 - «Mirror of the World»
 - Support the Site
 - Contacts
 - Iraq-War board rules
 - Articles
 - Iraq News
 - Around the World
 - Historical analysis & facts
 - Forums
 - Current analysis
 - Economics
 - Hot News
 - Rankings

RSS feeds

RSS feed for articles and news

Weather

Baghdad

SU, 15/01
+14..+16 °C
NW, 6 m/s

Basrah

SU, 15/01
+15..+17 °C
NW, 6 m/s

Calendar-Filter

< Jan > < 2006 >

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Today

Spain defies US on Venezuela deal, Chavez threatens with oil cuts to US

By: fromPortugal on: 14.01.2006 [15:34] (660 reads)



Spain says it will go ahead with the sale of military planes to Venezuela despite objections from the US.

President Hugo Chavez on Friday blasted Washington for blocking Spain's sale of military aircraft to Venezuela and taunted the United States by speculating about what might happen if he stopped sending it oil.

(8037 bytes) [c]

Spain defies US on Venezuela deal

14 January 2006 08:47

Spain says it will go ahead with the sale of military planes to Venezuela despite objections from the US.

However, **the American components normally used in the aircraft will be replaced with more expensive European parts.**

Venezuela says the equipment, which also includes patrol boats, is for defensive purposes and to prevent drug smuggling.

Email Services from RTE

But the US has expressed concern that the Venezuelan government could use it to destabilise the region.

US State Department spokesman John Cormack said he hopes that Spain could understand Washington's position.

[link](#)

Spain rebuffs U.S. on sale to Venezuela

UPI - Friday, January 13, 2006

Date: Friday, January 13, 2006 5:56:38 PM EST

MADRID, Jan. 13 (UPI) — Spain rebuffed Washington's appeal to refuse military sales to Venezuela, saying Friday it will sell the South American nation military boats and jets.

The United States has refused to grant a re-export license for the U.S. components of the Spanish aircraft and patrol boats that make up a proposed \$2 billion deal, the Financial Times reported. In addition, the United States has asked Spain not to supply Caracas with arms.

But late Friday Spanish state radio quoted Defense Ministry sources in Madrid as saying the big military deal would go ahead and substitute technology would

come from European sources.

[link](#)

Spain defies US blockade of Venezuela plane deal

AFP

Saturday, January 14, 2006

MADRID(AFP) - Spain protested yesterday that its sale of 12 military planes to Venezuela must go ahead despite being blocked by the United States because of Washington's concerns about President Hugo Chavez.

The US veto to the deal is the latest move in a period of stormy relations between Spain and the United States.

The number two in the Spanish government, Maria Teresa Fernandez de la Vega, told a press conference: "**The Bush administration decided to refuse licences for planes that Spain sold to Venezuela and it did so for reasons that the Spanish government does not share.**

"That said, the contracts were signed with another country, Venezuela, and must be respected."

The US ambassador to Spain, Eduardo Aguirre, had informed Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos on Thursday of Washington's decision to refuse a licence for the deal.

A ministry spokesman said the US decision was "intended to block this commercial contract involving planes equipped with American parts".

The spokesman denied Washington was acting politically in halting the two-billion-dollar deal for the transport and surveillance planes, but a statement from the US embassy in Madrid indicated otherwise.

"Despite being democratically elected, the government of President Hugo Chavez has systematically undermined democratic institutions, pressured and harassed independent media and the political opposition, and grown progressively more autocratic and anti-democratic," it charged.

The United States voiced objections to the deal when it was signed in November, saying it was concerned about US technology being sold to the oil-rich South American state.

Caracas says the planes are needed to combat drug smuggling, but the US administration fears materiel sold to the Chavez administration could be used to arm Colombian rebels.

Spanish Defense Minister Jose Bono has defended the deal with Venezuela, saying that the materiel was for solely peaceful purposes and that Madrid had fulfilled European Union and NATO regulations.

[link](#)

Chavez attacks U.S. halt on Spanish plane deal

CARACAS, Venezuela (Reuters) - President Hugo Chavez on Friday blasted Washington for blocking Spain's sale of military aircraft to Venezuela and taunted the United States by speculating about what might happen if he stopped sending it oil.

Washington said on Thursday it had refused an export license for Spain to sell 12 transport and maritime surveillance planes containing U.S. technology to Venezuela, the world's No. 5 oil exporter and a key U.S. energy supplier.

Chavez, who often accuses Washington of trying to oust him, has antagonized the U.S. government with his campaign to counter U.S. trade proposals in Latin America. U.S. officials brand him a negative influence in the region.

"What is this if not proof of the horrific imperialism Washington's government wants to impose on the world ... a new attack on Venezuela is just beginning," Chavez told parliament in a speech that lasted more than five hours.

"After all the U.S. government has done to us, we still send them 1.5 million barrels of oil every day... what would happen if tomorrow I said no more oil tankers go to the US, how high would oil prices go?" he asked.

Spain said on Friday it planned to go ahead with the sale of planes to Venezuela, using substitute technology, after the United States blocked the deal for the EADS-CASA aircraft with U.S. components.

Chavez has weakened Venezuela's traditional alliance with Washington since his election in 1998. He has cut U.S. military cooperation and strengthened ties with South American neighbors and countries such as Iran, India and China.

The fiery leader has repeatedly warned oil supplies could be threatened if the United States invaded Venezuela, which supplies about 15 percent of U.S. energy imports. U.S. officials dismiss such statements as ridiculous.

Rich from soaring petroleum prices, Venezuela last year negotiated deals to buy weapons and military equipment from Spain, Russia and Brazil in an effort to overhaul its armed forces and beef up border defenses.

Washington has said it worries that some of Venezuela's new weapons could fall into the hands of groups it says are terrorist, such as Colombia's Marxist FARC rebels.

"We're concerned that this proposed sale of military equipment and components to Venezuela could contribute to destabilization in Latin America," U.S. State Department spokesman Sean McCormack told reporters.

The aircraft are part of a \$2 billion Spanish deal, signed in November, to supply Caracas with ships and planes. Venezuela has also purchased Russian military helicopters and 100,000 rifles and wants to buy Brazilian military training planes.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim said on Wednesday his country saw signs Washington was trying to block the sale of the Brazilian-made military aircraft to Venezuela.

[link](#)

Another problem between US and an European countrie and NATO member

As time passes and things shows clearly that Europe cannot be under US wishes. Most of European problems are being created by US interferences and somewhere in future a more serious clash is to start.

Spain will probably make a tough decision concerning this. Spain cannot rely on US military material, so Spain will give priority to European weapons and definitely will give a bigger approach to France.

Spain is already a very important player in the european military industry and this could trigger to an important decision: decide replacing US material they have, for european similar. it will give a boost to european industries, and one less client for US weapons.

Concerning NATO structure, more and more european countries are questioning why they need US above them, interfering in internall affairs.

Why NATO still exists, except for US spread their influence?

why as a countrie tries to enter EU, first enter in NATO? When europe decides that the time is arrived for finishing a cold war structure called NATO?

Comments by FromPortugal

Only comments

Comments per page 50

Article and comments

Send

Good news indeed...

by stopwar on 14.01.2006 [16:22]

the US does NOT have a monopoly of software, thanks to open systems.

thank you, from Portugal

by Ana on 14.01.2006 [17:49]

Thanks you for making clear that this decision is in fact bad for Nato, with the structure it has at the moment.

I heard the other day that some European countries would like to see the end of Nato. Could you elaborate on this. Which countries and how do they proceed. Cumprimentos, Ana

FromPortugal

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 14.01.2006 [18:31]

"Most of European problems are being created by US interferences . . . "

If the USA is successful in pushing Europe to accept sanctions against Iran, then Europe will suffer from the loss of trade and the higher price of oil.

Yes, many of Europe's problems are being created by US interference.

Likewise, many of Europe's problems are solved by going contrary to US demands.

For example, the US demanded that Spain not sell aircraft to Venezuela.

If Spain had listened to the USA, then Spain would not have made any profit.

However, by going against US demands, Spain and other parts of Europe are going to profit since the airplanes will now be sold with European parts.

Abiding by US demands hurts Europe.

Contradicting US demands does benefit Europe.

USA

by Yasis on 14.01.2006 [18:44]

NATO must be destroyed and europe free from U.S troops.

Russia and EU can then move closer together.

USA's influence and power will be thus reduced.

And if you think that USA will allow this, you must be in dreamland.

oil cut to USA

by a_family_member_of_adam_and_eve on 14.01.2006 [18:52]

US oil production peaked in 1970 and since then they have been importing oil beside their local production and every year the import is increasing . Now any oil cut from Venezuela will create a shortage and US need to make it up from other country .Ohthe so called aboitic oil or something which grows like apple underground might rescue them.

NATO destroyed

by hiles69@msn.com on 14.01.2006 [21:20]

Sorry I can't recall the source folks, but a few days ago I read Washington wants to dump NATO because too many countries are "unreliable" (and dump the UN for the same reason).

Circumstantial evidence for this being the case is the axis of US/Israel/Turkey which has been forged in preparation for attacking Iran.

Turkey? Why Turkey? Well I suppose here is a chance to "restore" the Ottoman Empire and prevent any possibility of a Kurdistan ever being formed.

But what good news to see so many around the world rejecting the Evil Empire of USrael!!

Maybe we're in with a chance yet, though it has to be faced that the leaders of that Empire are psychotic and so can do anything.

Not only psychotic, Gerry, but

by wings on 14.01.2006 [22:20]

drug and alcohol induced. Bush will soon show up in a conference drunk, hopefully on international TV.

Voice of the White House January 13, 2006
h <http://thetruthseeker.co.uk/article.asp?ID=4042>

Thanks FromPortugal

by wings on 14.01.2006 [23:09]

The Liberation of South America

A not too quiet revolution is occurring and it will change the geopolitical alignment of the world. From the Orinoco River to Tierra del Fuego, South American nations are electing left-wing governments and seeking economic and political policies that are independent of United States demands. The U.S. administration failure to forecast these occurrences and its lateness to implement policies to prevent the trends suggests the end of American economic and political dominance of South America. Regional trade treaties will hinder U.S. exports to South America, radical governments will increase their demands on investors, national cooperation will counter U.S. influence and local considerations will combat globalism. The United States can either continue on a path towards isolation that will lead to economic decline, or start a new era of genuine cooperation that will raise Latin America's living standards and enable America to maintain its own quality of life.

full story, h http://www.alternativeinsight.com/Liberation_of_South_America.html

I don't think so

by Tet on 14.01.2006 [23:25]

The shoemaker is the perfect guy to set Chavez up for a very hard fall. Spain caves-in on this and strings Chavez along until Chavez can't make a replacement order with someone else. Peace.

To Tet

by guestiw on 14.01.2006 [23:32]

You forgot about China. The countries that are defying the US are also establishing ties with China. China needs the resources these countries can provide. Do you think they'll sit idly by while the US tries to make imperialist inroads again?

Not so bad at all

by Seele on 14.01.2006 [23:44]

@ALL

I think even with this decision the US has shot itself in the foot again, in the long way.

Remember, there are a lot of countries which fear US intervention, especially after the US attacked Afghanistan and Iraq, which both did not possess enough high-weapons to deter US assault plans.

North-Korea on the other hand did possess defense weapons - wherefore the US was to frightend to attack that country.

Other states noticed that.

So now we have a lot of countries trying to buy weapons which they think might grand them security, in order to ensure not to be the next US target. (For example anti-air defence systems and so on.)

And weapon traders will now think twice wether to buy from the US and European countries or from Russia or China. Of course the US intent was to prevent EU countries from doing business with countries not supporting the US neocon policy. But finally even EU countries will now think twice wether to do military business with the US or better with Russia and China. Keep in mind that russian and chinese weapons systems are often cheaper than the US versions, but contain the same level of quality. And now the US itself added even another factor to it, that will keep

foreign countries from requesting weapons containing US technology, as they fear the deals might not be fulfilled by the delivering countries, such as Spain and so on. (Even though Spain for example did not step back from the contract, it sends a clear message into the world, to stay away from deals with US technology - even if not of military concern).

I don't really think this is going to make US products attractive to possible buyers, so in the end the US government's move has harmed the US economy more than possible weapon buyer-countries, as it is possible for them to replace the request for systems containing US parts completely resp. switch to Russian and Chinese weapons market. Thus the US government again proved to be very stupid, as it would have been much wiser to allow the sale of non-military items even to states with anti-imperialistic ideology, while only blocking US high-tech military gear from being sold to states considered "hostile".

Now Russia and China are grinning and smiling like never before, guess !

Referring to our last conversation

by Seele on 15.01.2006 [00:01]

@iranian shi'ite

I thought about it very long, and re-informed myself on the issue, and I have now come to the conclusion that you were mainly right. It really is a serious question if the USraelis will bomb Iranian oil industry as this would probably lead to heavy confrontation with China, which has deals with Iran worth several billion dollars. So intervention against Iran and especially bombing the oil industry would lead to serious US problems especially with China. Wherefore it truly might be highly questionable if the US is going to risk such a, otherwise avoidable, confrontation.

If Iran gives in a little bit.

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 15.01.2006 [03:05]

If Iran says to itself, "we had better stop our uranium research because the USA might bomb us if we don't stop," then the USA would come along with another demand.

When Iran met that demand, the USA would find another. The USA would keep insisting that Iran do what the USA commands or else Iran will be bombed.

By the time the USA was satisfied, we would be just another lackey state like Columbia.

Giving in to imperialists' demands only encourages them to make more demands.

Iran needs to go ahead and do whatever it is that it wants to do. If the USA makes hostile action, then Iran can push up the price of oil to \$100 a barrel, thus wreaking havoc on US consumer spending.

Seele

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 15.01.2006 [03:10]

"I don't really think this is going to make US products attractive to possible buyers, so in the end the US government's move has harmed the US economy . . . "

Smart countries like South Korea and Venezuela will move away from purchasing US weapons.

But the morons running countries like Kuwait and Saudi Arabia will always be willing to purchase US weapons.

US creating problems for Europe.

by Iranian-Shi'ite on 15.01.2006 [03:16]

"Most of European problems are being created by US interferences . . . "

Here is another example to add to the one I made above on the third post on this thread.

I recall once that Russia wanted to sell laser machines to Iran. The USA stepped in and demanded that Russia cancel the sale.

Russia gave in to that demand. (I think that Yeltsin was the leader then.)

So, Russia lost \$millions in business because it gave in to US demands. But Russia didn't just lose the sale of those machines. Russia would have also made money training Iranian technicians and supplying spare parts.

That sale would also have led to other sales from Russia. So it is impossible to tell how much money Russia lost there because it gave in to US demands.

If we think about it, we can find example after example as to how the USA created problems for Europe.

hiles69

by turco on 15.01.2006 [03:36]

Turkey is in the list because it is next to Iran and Iraq and Syria and any other strategically important country you can think of. It is also a long time Nato member and always governed by US friendly folks.

But Turkey has not fought with Iran, for a very long time. Even in the glorious days of the Ottoman empire. Our border with Iran has not changed for 400 yrs. (1639).

Turks were quite reluctant even allowing US troops to use Turkey to attack Iraq even though at the time we were afraid of the consequences from the US (but never thought about the consequences "allowing" would bring, from the Iraqis, which is much more important in the long run, since US will leave in at most a decade). In retrospect, everyone in Turkey agrees that, not going along with the US requests was the right thing to do, even those that always support US interests.

Now, it will be extremely difficult to convince us, in this perspective, to help US attack a country several times stronger than Iraq at its worst, and we have no issue whatsoever with. So when the time comes, Turks will be overwhelmingly against it. Today they have no idea it may even be being planned. (so US may use its military bases for aerial operations without Turkish people knowing about it).

turco

by hiles69@msn.com on 15.01.2006 [06:37]

For clarification:

I was not referring to Turkish people in general, only the government in Istanbul ... so sorry if I offended you. (Yes and I realize that the Ottoman Empire did not extend into Persia.)

I generally try to distinguish between those in power and those who do not identify with them, but it is very hard when most people do not even bother to try.

Do you, for instance, mostly refer to "the US" when trying to make a point, rather than Washington?

Are you inclined to refer to "the British Empire", when really that was/is an empire based in London and which first colonized the regions of "the British Isles" before attempting to conquer the entire world?

Whatever: I don't mistake you for the government in Istanbul ... but then even most Americans do not identify with Washington politicians ... and so it goes, around the world.

But the MSM has made it VERY hard for any of us to distinguish between the propaganda pumped out by politicians and those of us who try to survive this increasingly Orwellian world.

I might get back to this later but, meanwhile, I respect your criticism of what wrote.

NATO

by Yasis on 15.01.2006 [07:33]

In 2003, there was a great chance to disrupt NATO. Before the invasion, people feared that Turkey would be invaded by Iraqi troops if USA attacked Iraq.

The other European countries in NATO did not want to get involved in a conflict that was stirred up by USA.

If Saddam had launched scuds at USA bases in Turkey, that would have created problems for USA and NATO and test the alliance.

The bad feelings from that scenario could have been used by Russia and others to sow discord among the NATO group and pave the way for a disintegration.

Saddam, however, did not dare to do this.

If it had been DPRK.....

See what happens when you say

by iron_clay on 15.01.2006 [08:16]

See what happens when you say "Pharqu You Bush!"

All 4 are smiling ... try it. Say out loud "Pharqu You Bush" and I bet you can't help but smile too.

Now @ stopwar

Which reminds me... when will Jouna be allowed to return?

Yep I'm in the dark again.

Missed something for sure.

Had noticed Jouna wasn't around ... because it was possible to get a word in edgeways // but didn't know he had been banned.

Someone want to fill me in on the goss or are you all willing to keep me in the dark here.

hiles69

by turco on 15.01.2006 [08:28]

No, you have a point actually. Some of the people in the govt. in Ankara (not Istanbul btw) thinks the way you describe (bringing back the glory of ottomans). Their mouthpieces argue that we should be more active in the world politics. It usually end up meaning we should help the Americans.

However these guys are losers. They need to convince the public if they plan to do anything big, and with the elections in 2007, and being a majority in the parliament only by the support of about %30 they will definitely be buried if they are on the wrong side.

And they failed last time with Iraq. And their failure was a big deal, because they told americans, that we will help if you give us money etc. And still couldn't get the parliament to vote on it. Making both the americans particularly pissed off.

Now, Iran is a bigger fish. Noone can argue, even it was obviously a "very good idea" not to help US attack Iraq, now it will be a good idea to help it attack Iran or Syria. It just doesn't make sense, we already know how it will end.

Also, about the Kurdistan issue. I agree, that the Turkish govt. is obsessed with the Kurdistan issue. However, US sees Kurds as friends, whereas Iran and Turkey (well govts of course) both see them as "threats" at best. So It is more logical to colloborate with Iran on this issue rather than the US.

yasis

by turco on 15.01.2006 [08:38]

that was just "talk" to scare the Turks into letting americans use their territory.

on the other hand France and Germany played smart and said if Iraq attacked Turkey in retribution to the US invasion from Turkish land, we will not consider it as an attack on a NATO member.

otherwise an attack on a NATO member would have to be taken as an attack on all members, in the spirit of "all for one".

But of course we Turks know pretty well, that an attack on Turkey by any country would never be considered as an attack on Nato by those rich states anyways. We know that pretty well, the point was, by stating that explicitly, France and Germany helped Turkey say to America "you see, they will not come to our aid if Saddam nukes us". so Sorry. Well at least they opened the door for the possibility.

Both americans and us knew Saddam had no nukes. But they couldn't answer such an argument by simply saying "Hey saddam has no nukes, are you guys joking!". Because it was them who told us initially that he had nukes, and capability to hit Ankara, and would do so if we don't help them.

So Turkey bought bunch of awacs from Germany as a result of all that.

Posting comments:

You should be registered AND logged in user to post comments here.



Min	Max
28001	31586



принимает
WebMoney



e-gold

