



[home](#)

[news](#)

[kcom journal](#)

[khilafah magazine](#)

[kcom multimedia](#)

[comments](#)

[special reports](#)

[books](#)

[letters](#)

Quotation



"Everybody has to move, run and grab as many hilltops as they can to enlarge the settlements because everything we take now will stay ours... Everything we don't grab will go to them." Ariel Sharon, Israeli Foreign Minister, addressing a meeting of militants from the extreme right-wing Tsomet Party, Agence France Presse, November 15, 1998. - Agence France Presse, November 15, 1998.

News

America 'Poised to Strike at Iran's Nuclear Sites' from Bases in Bulgaria and Romania

uploaded 29 Jan 2007

Report suggest that 'US defensive ring' may be new front in war on terror.

by Gabriel Ronay

President Bush is preparing to attack Iran's nuclear facilities before the end of April and the US Air Force's new bases in Bulgaria and Romania would be used as back-up in the onslaught, according to an official report from Sofia.

"American forces could be using their two USAF bases in Bulgaria and one at Romania's Black Sea coast to launch an attack on Iran in April," the Bulgarian news agency Novinite said.

The American build-up along the Black Sea, coupled with the recent positioning of two US aircraft carrier battle groups off the Straits of Hormuz, appears to indicate president Bush has run out of patience with Tehran's nuclear misrepresentation and non-compliance with the UN Security Council's resolution. President Ahmeninejad of Iran has further ratcheted up tension in the region by putting on show his newly purchased state of the art Russian TOR-MI anti-missile defence system.

Whether the Bulgarian news report is a tactical feint or a strategic event is hard to gauge at this stage. But, in conjunction with the beefing up of America's Italian bases and the acquisition of anti-missile defence bases in the Czech Republic and Poland, the Balkan developments seem to indicate a new phase in Bush's global war on terror.

Sofia's news of advanced war preparations along the Black Sea is backed up by some chilling details. One is the setting up of new refuelling places for US Stealth bombers, which would spearhead an attack on Iran. "The USAF's positioning of vital refuelling facilities for its B-2 bombers in unusual places, including Bulgaria, falls within the perspective of such an attack." Novinite named Colonel Sam Gardiner, "a US secret service officer stationed in Bulgaria", as the source of this revelation.

Curiously, the report noted that although Tony Blair, Bush's main ally in the global war on terror, would be leaving office, the president had opted to press on with his attack on Iran in April.

Before the end of March, 3000 US military personnel are scheduled to arrive "on a rotating basis" at America's Bulgarian bases. Under the US-Bulgarian military co-operation accord, signed in April, 2006, an airbase at Bezmer, a second airfield at Graf Ignatievo and a shooting range at Novo Selo were leased to America. Significantly, last year's bases negotiations had at one point run into difficulties due to Sofia's demand "for advance warning if Washington intends to use Bulgarian soil for attacks against other nations, particularly Iran".

Romania, the other Black Sea host to the US military, is enjoying a dollar bonanza as its Mihail Kogalniceanu base at Constanta is being transformed into an American "place d'arme". It is also vital to the Iran scenario.

New today ...

- French Politician Out Over Race Comments
- Protest Focuses on Troop Increase for Iraq
- Case of Al-Jazeera journalist accused of endangering Egypt's national interest to go to trial
- America 'Poised to Strike at Iran's Nuclear Sites' from Bases in Bulgaria and Romania
- Authorities: Leaders of banned Islamic group arrested across Kazakhstan
- Jail 'too full' for paedophile
- Bush faces rising rebellion from fellow Republicans over Iraq
- Israel tries to cut off Tehran from world markets
- Guantanamo conditions said worse
- Venezuela's Chavez says U.S. ambassador could be expelled if he keeps 'meddling'
- Alleged radical Islamist sentenced to 10 1/2 years in jail in Tajikistan
- Anti-War Groups Plan Surge on Washington
- Russian influence worrying US: Putin
- High-Tech Healthcare in Iraq, Minus the Healthcare
- Britain at odds with US over Iraq troop pullout
- Bill Targets US Companies Profiting from Sweatshops Overseas

New this week ...

- Israel's 'invisible hand' in Gaza
- U.S. launches new air strike on Somalia: report
- Blair rejects call for Iraq withdrawal
- Senate committee repudiates Bush on Iraq
- EXPERT EXAMINE RELIGIOUS TRENDS IN KYRGYZSTAN
- Fugitive warlord claims U.S. facing Soviet-style defeat in Afghanistan
- Members of Hizb ut Tahrir arrested
- Wives want to meet arrested Islamic group members in Kazakh south
- Israeli billionaire Saban biggest donor to US politicians
- Protests bring Lebanon to a standstill
- Police video of prisoner's ordeal goes public

Last week, the Bucharest daily Evenimentul Zilei revealed the USAF is to site several flights of F-15, F-16 and A10 aircraft at the Kogalniceanubase. Admiral Gheorghe Marin, Romania's chief of staff, confirmed "up to 2000 American military personnel will be temporarily stationed in Romania".

In Central Europe, the Czech Republic and Poland have also found themselves in the Pentagon's strategic focus. Last week, Mirek Topolánek, the Czech prime minister, and the country's national security council agreed to the siting of a US anti-missile radar defence system at Nepolisy. Poland has also agreed to having a US anti-missile missile base and interceptor aircraft stationed in the country.

Russia, however, does not see the chain of new US bases on its doorstep as a "defensive ring". Russia's defence chief has branded the planned US anti-missile missile sites on Czech and Polish soil as "an open threat to Russia".

Sergey Ivanov, Russia's defence minister, spoke more circumspectly while emphasizing Moscow's concern. He said: "Russia is not worried. Its strategic nuclear forces can assure in any circumstance its safety. Since neither Tehran, nor Pyongyang possess intercontinental missiles capable of threatening the USA, from whom is this new missile shield supposed to protect the West? All it actually amounts to is that Prague and Warsaw want to demonstrate their loyalty to Washington."

Bush's Iran attack plan has brought into sharp focus the possible costs to Central and Eastern Europe of being "pillars of Pax Americana".

Source: newsquest (sunday herald)



[Printable Version](#)



[Send to a Friend](#)

- [Blair likely to quit if aides charged in loans inquiry](#)
- [War's Arab Supporters Bitter Over Its Results](#)
- [Irish police colluded with killers-report](#)
- [Kyrgyz police seize 1,100 leaflets and about 150 booklets of Hezb-e Tahrir](#)
- [Czechs Give Go-Ahead for US 'Son of Star Wars' Base](#)
- [U.S. plans envision broad attack on Iran: analyst](#)
- [Democrats Throw Down the Gauntlet on Bush's 'Surge'](#)
- [Marine Corps colonel among critics of new terror trial rules](#)
- [At Least 25 Americans Died in Iraq Saturday](#)

search khilafah.com for:

go

[[advanced search](#)]