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Russia and Iran secret nuclear deal would allow uranium transfers to Tehran's illicit weapons program: sources (yahoo.com)

#bibleprophecy, #russia, #iran, #uranium

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Amid the International Atomic Energy Agency's disclosure this week that the Islamic Republic of Iran [accumulated near weapons-grade enriched](#) uranium for its alleged nuclear weapon program, Fox News Digital has learned that Iran has allegedly secured secret deals with Russia to guarantee deliveries of uranium.

In what could be a major setback to a new Iran nuclear deal, foreign intelligence sources speaking on the condition of anonymity, and who are familiar with the negotiations between Moscow and Tehran over Iran's reported illegal nuclear weapons work, told Fox News Digital that Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed to return enriched uranium that it received from Iran if a prospective atomic deal collapses. The State Department would neither confirm nor deny the reports.

The State Department spokesperson told Fox News Digital, "We will not comment on purported secret intelligence reports, but in any event the JCPOA has not been on the agenda for months." A spokesperson for the National Security Council deferred comment to the State Department.

One major component of the effort by the U.S and other world powers to revive [the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action](#) (JCPOA), the formal name of the Iran nuclear deal, is for Russia to warehouse Tehran's enriched uranium. The rationale for Russia storing the uranium is to prevent the regime from using the material to construct an atomic bomb.

The foreign intelligence sources claim, "As part of the agreement between the two countries, Russia has undertaken to return all the enriched uranium to Iran as quickly as possible, if, for any reason, the U.S. withdraws from the agreement."

IRAN COULD PRODUCE ENOUGH 'FISSILE MATERIAL' FOR A NUCLEAR BOMB IN ABOUT 12 DAYS, PENTAGON OFFICIAL TELLS CONGRESS

"It would make sense to me that they would agree to this type of side deal," Rebekah Koffler, a former analyst at the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency, said. Koffler noted that, "Based on my knowledge of Russian doctrine and state tradecraft, the Russians are trying to play both sides. On the one side, they do not want Iran to have a nuclear weapon. On the other hand, they do want assistance from Iran for Ukraine."

Koffler, an expert on Russian strongman [Vladimir Putin](#), added, "Russia benefits from being a party to the JCPOA. Russia's tactic is to drag things on and play both sides."

That gives Putin leverage over both sides but also allows him to be perceived as a deal-maker. Russia is signaling that the U.S. is dependent on Russia."

She concluded that, "The Russians are trying to signal to the Iranians that they will help them out like they did with Iran's civilian nuclear program. On the other hand, they might want to put pressure on the U.S. to do the deal. It is just part of Putin's standard playbook to try to game his opponents."

Former U.S. President [Donald Trump](#) withdrew from the Iran nuclear deal in 2018 because he and his administration believed the JCPOA failed to stop Iran from building a nuclear bomb. Trump's White House also argued that the Iran nuclear pact did not crack down on the theocratic state's terrorism and restrict its missile program.

Iran's regime wants an ironclad agreement from [the Biden administration](#) that it and future U.S. administrations will not pull the plug on a new JCPOA. The White House said it cannot guarantee that a new administration will not walk away from the controversial deal.

On Tuesday, a top U.S. Defense Department official told Congress that Iran's regime could develop enough fissile material for a nuclear bomb in a mere 12 days.

When asked about the secret deals between Iran and Russia over the shipments of enriched uranium, Mojtaba Babaei, a spokesperson for the Iran mission at the United Nations, told Fox News Digital, "There's no information about the claim."

He added, "Massimo Aparo, deputy director general and head of the Department of Safeguards, visited Iran last week and checked the alleged enrichment rate. Based on Iran's assessment, the alleged enrichment percentage between Iran and the IAEA is resolved. Due to the IAEA report being prepared before his trip, his trip's results aren't in it and hopefully the IAEA director general will mention it in his oral report to the board of governors."

When questioned about the Islamic Republic building a nuclear weapon, Babaei said, "Iran has no plans to make nuclear weapons because its military doctrine prohibits the use of weapons of mass destruction in any form."

Experts on [Iran's alleged atomic weapons program](#) have long sharply disagreed with the Islamic Republic's denials and the growing cooperation between Russia and Iran has exacerbated the conflict over Tehran's nuclear program.

Jason Brodsky, the policy director of the U.S.-based United Against a Nuclear Iran (UANI), told Fox News Digital that the "reported side deals between Iran and Russia on the nuclear file just demonstrate the risks of depending on Moscow as a participant or guarantor in a JCPOA-like arrangement. The geopolitical context has fundamentally shifted with its invasion of Ukraine."

He added, "P5+1 [China, France, Russia, Britain, U.S. and Germany] under these conditions of great power conflict is not a viable diplomatic platform. Iran has leverage

over Russia in 2023 that it did not have in 2015 with its supply of arms. It's in this dynamic that the Kremlin can't be trusted. The JCPOA of 2015 has no future. It's time to declare it dead, invoke the snapback sanctions mechanism, and pivot to a deterrence strategy as the diplomatic track has run aground."

Iran's regime is [supplying Russia with sophisticated lethal](#) drone technology in its war against Ukraine.

The uranium enrichment deal was hammered out during [Putin's visit to Iran](#) in July 2022. The ostensible quid pro quo arrangement between the authoritarian regimes further solidified their growing alliance.

The Intelligence officials said, "President Putin, who made a special trip to Iran to pursue weapons deals between the two countries, agreed to approve the request, apparently due to his interest in compensating the Iranians for their assistance." Talks about the secret deals also unfolded between Moscow and Tehran during August 2022, when Iran's regime was providing a shot into the arm of Putin's war machinery in Ukraine.

According to the intelligence officials, the Iranians seized the opportunity during Putin's desperate need for drones and demanded a "nuclear guarantee" that would enable Iran "to quickly restore its uranium stock to the quantity and enrichment levels it had maintained before the resumption of the agreement."

The attempt to circumvent the U.S. and the other Western powers would gut the entire purpose of the Iran nuclear deal, argued the intelligence officials, who noted, "This would significantly undermine U.S. interests and would give Russia de facto control over the nuclear agreement in the present and future."

The Biden administration remains deeply wedded to the Iran nuclear deal, which would provide Tehran with up to [\\$275 billion in financial benefits](#) during the first year of the agreement and a startling \$1 trillion by 2030, according to one U.S. think tank study.

In an unusual move, the Biden administration is following a more dovish approach than its Western European counterparts who want Iran to be censured at Monday's IAEA meeting for enriching near weapons-grade uranium. The Islamic Republic has produced weapon-grade material of 60% since 2021, but new material was discovered showing 84% purity. Weapons-grade uranium starts at around 90%.

Michael Singh, an expert on Iran's nuclear program and the managing director for The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, urged the Biden administration and its allies in a late February article on the think tank's website to "snap back sanctions" against Iran in response to Tehran's near weapons-grade uranium enrichment

The 2015 JCPOA contains a penalty that allows for snapback sanctions and Singh argued that the sanctions would "bolster military deterrence, and plan for potential crisis scenarios."

The row over Iran's illicit enrichment of weapons-grade uranium comes amid a Fox News Digital report that Tehran may be behind [an assassination and terror target list](#) focused on law enforcement agencies in Boston.

The U.S. government under both Democratic and Republican administrations has classified Iran's regime as the worst state sponsor of international terrorism.

Fox News Digital queries to Russia's government and the IAEA were not immediately returned.

[The IAEA's Director General Grossi](#) said on Saturday while in Tehran that he had "constructive" meetings and a settlement with Iran over its near weapons-grade enrichment of uranium was reached. Grossi met with the head of Iran's atomic energy organization, Mohammad Eslami.

The IAEA board is scheduled to meet Monday in Vienna to consider the organization's latest report and could once again censor Iran for its actions.

Iran said to have supplied Russia with large shipment of ammunition | The Times of Israel

#bibleprophecy, #russia, #iran, #munitions

Mar 8, 2023

Two ships tracked leaving Iranian port and arriving in Russian dock in January; security source tells Sky News 100 million bullets and 300,000 shells on board

Iran has supplied Russia with a large shipment of ammunition including millions of bullets and hundreds of thousands of shells, Sky News reported Wednesday, citing an unnamed security source.

“Iran sent two cargo ships to the combat zone in Ukraine, carrying approximately 200 new shipping containers that contained ammunition for the Russian fighting in Ukraine,” the source said.

Tracking data showed two Russian-flagged ships, the Musa Jalil and the Begey, departing an Iranian port in January and arriving later that month in Russia, according to [the report](#).

On board were around 100 million bullets and 300,000 shells, the source said.

“Russia pays for the ammunition in cash and by doing so, bypasses the western sanctions on it, ignoring the sanctions on Iran,” according to the source.

The alleged shipment included bullets of various calibers for pistols, assault rifles, machine guns and heavy machine guns.

According to the source, there were also 40mm grenades for grenade launchers, 107mm anti-tank rockets, various sizes of mortar shells, artillery rockets, shells for armored vehicles, and 10,000 flak jackets.

“Russia continues to use Iran as a ‘rear base,’” the source said.

The ammunition is needed to restock Russia’s own supplies that it is rapidly burning through as it pours fire on Ukrainian forces. Russia’s invasion of its neighbor, launched last February, has run into fierce Ukrainian resistance supported by weapons and ammunition from Western nations. The initial Russian advance has largely ground to a halt or been pushed back in some areas.

A Ukrainian brigadier has said Russia is firing between 60,000 to 70,000 artillery shells a day as it pounds the defenders’ positions, Sky reported, though US officials put the figure at a maximum of 20,000.

Sky noted that it was not able to confirm the size of the shipment and that an expert told the network the alleged volume sounded high.

However, the source was confident that “two hundred containers on two ships are capable of carrying this amount of munitions.”

Data from the MarineTraffic tracker showed both ships in the Iranian port of Amirabad on the Caspian Sea on 9 January and then setting sail the next day.

According to the maritime tracking data, the Musa Jalil left port at around 10am, local time on 10 January and the Begey also departed on the same day <https://t.co/e7KwD2ExLv> [pic.twitter.com/9XTip2EnCS](https://t.co/9XTip2EnCS)

— Sky News (@SkyNews) [March 8, 2023](#)

On January 12, both ships stopped for unknown reasons off the coast of Turkmenistan for two days and then continued on their journey, reaching the Russian port of Astrakhan on January 27. The ships then left the port on February 3.

The ships can be seen in this satellite image taken on 2 February, which is when they likely unloaded their cargo – they left the next day <https://t.co/e7KwD2ExLv> [pic.twitter.com/rX1semyBBp](https://t.co/rX1semyBBp)

— Sky News (@SkyNews) [March 8, 2023](#)

Ukraine’s ambassador to the UK told Sky it was no surprise that Iran was supplying Russia and he expected more support to come.

“They — allegedly the second biggest army in the world — [are] running out of resources, which is a great result for the Ukrainian armed forces,” Ambassador Vadym Prystaiko said.

He said sanctions on Russia were hampering its ability to resupply but “we still have actively to pursue the Iranians and the rest of these regimes to stop the supply to Russians to fuel this war in Ukraine.”

The owner of the two ships did not respond to a Sky request for information. The Russian and Iranian defense ministries would also not comment to the network.

Iran is already accused of supplying Russia with military drones that have been used extensively in Ukraine.

Euphrates River Water Levels Fall Sparking End Times Questions - Amanda Casanova (christianheadlines.com)

#bibleprophecy, #euphrates, #rivers, #water

Feb 28, 2023

Iraq's Ministry of Water Resources reports that the water levels of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in Iraq have fallen 30 percent.

The rivers both originate in Turkey. Iraq has said Turkey has curtailed water with dams, but experts have said climate change has also led to the plunging water levels.

[According to The National News](#), the water ministry pointed to Turkey for "the low quantity of water reaching Iraq.

"This has triggered a sharp drop in the country's water reserves," it said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Iraqi authorities say farmers abuse water supplies and disregard water restrictions.

Photographs captured of the river show sections of the dried riverbed.

Water Ministry Spokesman Khaled Chamal said the drop in water levels is "temporary," and officials are expected to release water from Iraqi dams.

"There should be positive results within the next two days," he said.

In 2017, Smithsonian Magazine reported that a satellite study found that the Tigris-Euphrates basin was losing groundwater faster than any other place in the world except India.

The Euphrates is the longest waterway in Western Asia and runs 1,700 miles from the mountains in Turkey to the Persian Gulf.

Some believers have pointed to the sixth bowl judgment in [Revelation 16:12](#), which says, "The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings of the East."

"A key event leading up to Armageddon is the drying up of the Euphrates," the biblical reference website, Got Questions, said in a column. "Are we witnessing the setup for the fulfillment of a major end-times prophecy?"

End-time believers say the river drying up is a sign that the Second Coming is approaching. In reference to the End Times, [Isaiah 11:15](#) reads, "The Lord will dry up the gulf of the Egyptian sea; with a scorching wind, he will sweep his hand over the

Euphrates River. He will break it up into seven streams so that anyone can cross over in sandals.”

Whether the drying up of the river is heralding the End Times or a product of drought and low rainfall, believers are also pointing to [John 7:38](#), the bible verse that says, “whoever believes in Jesus will have rivers of living water flowing from within them.”

[Moviegoers 'Are Coming to Christ' after Watching Jesus Revolution: Producer - Michael Foust \(christianheadlines.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #christian, #movie, #calvarychapel

Mar 2, 2023

The revival-themed film that rocketed to No. 3 at the box office also transformed some theaters into spontaneous worship services, with moviegoers gathering to sing, pray and share the gospel before they walked to their vehicles.

The film, *Jesus Revolution*, tells the true story of a Jesus-loving hippie from the 1960s/70s and the straight-laced pastor who embraced him. It grossed \$15.8 million last weekend, more than double what it was projected to make.

It will expand into more theaters this weekend.

Producer Kevin Downes told Christian Headlines he was "blown away" by the reaction from moviegoers.

"It's been just an answer to prayer," Downes said. "I've been so overjoyed by it."

Social media was filled with anecdotal stories.

In Florida, a TikTok [video](#) showed dozens of moviegoers singing and praying while a musician at the front of the theater played the guitar. "Revival in a movie theater after the Jesus Revolution movie," the caption read.

In California, 10 moviegoers accepted Christ after the movie ended, according to a [Facebook](#) post by pastor Kevin Foster of LifeBridge Community Church. There also was a "powerful time of worship and prayer at the end," he wrote.

At another theater in California, a worship service broke out in the middle of the movie after a technical glitch halted the film, according to a personal testimony sent to Downes and others. The testimony said a young girl stood up, "faced the crowd and asked who needed prayer. People started asking for prayer. And this young girl and her friends started praying over these people. She then asked if anyone would like to give their lives over to Christ."

Jesus Revolution was made by the same company (Kingdom Story) that was behind *I Can Only Imagine*, *American Underdog*, *I Still Believe* and *Woodlawn*. Downes was one of the co-founders of Kingdom Story.

The culture was ready for *Jesus Revolution*, Downes said. Its release followed a wave of revivals/outpourings at Asbury University and other schools. Weeks earlier, the sports

world embraced prayer after the collapse of Buffalo safety Damar Hamlin. The film's Feb. 24 release date was announced last year – long before those recent events.

"God's timing is perfect," Downes told Christian Headlines. "We're seeing this play out. ... So many people are coming to Christ, and they're being introduced for the first time to a God who loves them so much. ... We're just really thankful. We're overjoyed."

It stars Jonathan Roumie (*The Chosen*) as Lonnie Frisbee, Joel Courtney as Greg Laurie, Kelsey Grammer (*Cheers*, *Frasier*) as Chuck Smith, Kimberly Williams-Paisley (*Father of the Bride*) as Laurie's mother and Anna Grace Barlow as Laurie's girlfriend and future wife Cathe.