On Khamenei’s Orders, Tehran Accelerates Missile Activities and Tests After the Iran Nuclear Deal

Active Communication of the Regime’s Most Important Missile Center in Semnan with SPND Organization, in Charge of Building a Nuclear Bomb

Revelation of 42 IRGC Missile Sites Involved in Manufacturing, Testing and Launching Across Iran, Organizational Structure of IRGC’s Aerospace Force (missile launch) and the Aerospace Organization (missile manufacturing)

June 20, 2017

Since the start of the last round of nuclear negotiations in 2013, and especially after the conclusion of the nuclear deal – formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) – in 2015, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has intensified its activities and initiatives around the development and expansion of the Iranian regime’s missiles program.

Based on detailed intelligence obtained from inside the clerical regime in Iran, specifically reports obtained from inside the Defense Ministry and the IRGC, by the People’s Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK), Khamenei has tasked the IRGC’s Aerospace Force with executing this mandate.

The Aerospace Force is the fourth component of the IRGC, along with its ground forces, navy and the extraterritorial Qods Force. IRGC’s air force was changed to the Aerospace Force in 2009.

The creation and expansion of centers and locations involved in the missiles program, including special missile sites, which are located underground or under the mountains, are a part of these measures and pursued by the IRGC’s Aerospace Force under the command of IRGC Brig. Gen. Amir Ali Hajizadeh.

There are three new findings.

According to information ascertained by the sources of the MEK including from within the regime and specifically from within the IRGC that have been completed recently, the scope of the missile program that is pursued by the IRGC and their focus on the program, is much more extensive than what it was previously perceived.
In this respect, the Iranian resistance:

1. Has verified the locations of 42 centers involved in the production, testing and launching of missiles by the IRGC. A dozen of these sites are hereby revealed for the very first time.
2. Four of the most important missile centers of the Iranian regime with specific details including their locations have been highlighted. Two of these centers are among the facilities that the clerical regime describes as missile cities.
3. Has obtained information on the relations between the clerical regime with North Korea in developing and building these centers and facilities

Details on these three findings are as follows:

**Using North Korean Models to Build Missile Sites**

On the basis of specific intelligence, the IRGC’s missile sites have been created based on North Korean models and blueprints. North Korean experts have helped the Iranian regime to build them.

Underground facilities and tunnels to produce, store, and maintain missiles have also been modeled after North Korean sites and were created with the collaboration of the North Korea’s experts.

These North Korean experts who were sent to Iran, trained the main IRGC missile experts in IRGC garrisons, including the Almehdi Garrison situated southwest of Tehran. These ties have been strengthened to a degree where the IRGC has built a special residence for North Korean experts beside the command center of the Hemmat Missile Industry Group in Tehran – Damavand Street, Azmayesh three-way junction, 2nd kilometer of Telo road. These experts have had a continuous presence in the IRGC’s key missile industries, including building a warhead and the guidance systems.

In the context of these trainings and relations, delegations of the IRGC’s aerospace constantly travel to North Korea and exchange knowledge, information and achievements with North Korean specialists.

According to specific information, since nuclear negotiations in 2013, this trend has not stopped and North Korea’s experts constantly travel to Iran while the IRGC’s missile experts visit North Korea.
The Locations of 42 IRGC Missile Sites

The Iranian Resistance has identified 42 IRGC missile centers involved in production, testing, storage, launch and command. Among this list, 15 are part of the regime’s missile manufacturing network. These 15 centers include several factories related to a missile industry group and together form a web of dozens of missile production facilities.

The testing, storage and launch of missiles are the responsibility of the IRGC Aerospace Force.

The Iranian Resistance has identified 27 other missile centers of the regime associated with Aerospace Force, including the IRGC missile command headquarters (the Dastvareh Garrison located in the Chitgar region) and three missile test sites (south of Semnan; around the Qom Lake; and south of Varamin). Some of these centers are multi-functional, including launching pads, training sites, and missile storage and maintenance units. This collection consists of 25 storage sites for missiles, 13 launch sites, and 8 sites for the training and deployment of missile brigades.

The Iranian Resistance has compiled maps and aerial imageries of 24 centers. The regime has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to build each one of the centers underground and inside mountains, which sheds light on the magnitude of the resources allocated to its missiles program overall.

The location of these centers on Iran’s geographical map, in addition to a separate map of Tehran specifically, is enclosed. A review of the locations of these centers reveals the following:

- The centers for building and testing missiles are laid out in Iran’s central regions.
- Locations for medium-range ballistic missile launches are mostly in Iran’s western mountain regions, in addition to central regions.
- In the southern provinces, missile launch centers are aimed at the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

The spreading of these centers across Iran clearly reveals the IRGC’s missile objectives towards western and southern borders.
Locations of Iranian Regime Missile Sites Across the Country
Locations of Iranian Regime Missile Sites in Tehran
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IRGC’s Missile Center in Semnan and its Coordination with SPND, in Charge of Building a Nuclear Bomb

Among these centers, here are more details about 4 of the key ones:

1. **The Semnan Missile Center:** This is the largest missile complex in Iran. It is located 70km southeast of the city of Semnan in a relatively mountainous region. The complex is comprised of several sections, which include a command center, missile storage facilities, launching pads for medium-range missiles, explosive test sites and a training facility. In recent years, most of the regime’s missile tests have been conducted at this location.

This center has been actively collaborating with SPND, the organization tasked with building a nuclear bomb. Some of the tests related to SPND organization are conducted at this site.

SPND is the Persian acronym of the engineering unit for nuclear weapons program inside the Iranian regime, called the Organization of Defensive Innovation and Research (Sazman-e Pazhouheshhaye Novin-e Defa’i). The National Council of Resistance of Iran first revealed the existence of SPND in July 2011 in Washington, DC. Three years later, SPND was designated by the U.S. Department of State on August 29, 2014, under Executive Order (E.O.) 13382. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh Mahabadi, also known as Dr. Hassan Mohseni, a veteran IRGC brigadier general, the key individual in the regime’s nuclear weapons program heads SPND.

Every week a highly security controlled group under the command of Brig. Gen. Mostafa Siri, commander of SPND intelligence security goes to the Semnan center. (The Iranian resistance revealed in 2008 the connection between the nuclear arms manufacturing organization and Hemmat Missile Industry Group in the field of manufacturing nuclear warhead).

Tehran has talked about “missile cities;” Semnan missile center is one of these locations.

2. **The Lar Missile Center:**

This site is located approximately 6km west of Lar city in a mountainous region, in Fars Province in southern Iran. It also has an extensive array of tunnels and underground facilities. Severe security conditions are imposed in this region. There is a kiosk and roadblock at the entrance of the mountainous area with military forces stationed. Cell phones are disconnected on the way to this center. It is forbidden to carry cell phones to this center.

Lar missile center is one of the main missile centers of the regime that Tehran has described as missile cities.

3. **Khorramabad Missile Center at Imam Ali Garrison:**

This garrison is located 25km west of Khorramabad city toward Koohdasht and on the foothills of Sefid Kouh Mountains, in Lorestan Province in western Iran. The area is completely surrounded by mountains. The regime uses this garrison to launch Shahab 3 missiles. In 2010, an accidental explosion of a Shahab 3 missile during a test resulted in the deaths of 20 individuals at this location.
The Khatam al Anbiya Construction Headquarters of the IRGC has launched two extensive projects of tunnel construction in this area. The two projects are called Sayad and Bakhshandeh. The director of IRGC’s confidential plans who has been executing this project is engineer Bassami.

The management of Fordow tunnel projects was also by engineer Bassami. According to our information, some of IRGC’s foreign experts also participated in the construction of this missile center.

4. The complex of missile bases in the vicinity of Bidgeneh Village near Karaj city:

The garrisons and bases of this region are the oldest missile units. The Almehdi and Sajad garrisons are the locations where the IRGC’s missile brigades are posted. They also have storage facilities for the regime’s ballistic missiles.

The regime has built extensive underground facilities for the storage of the missiles in these two garrisons. Modarrees Garrison, which is adjacent to Almehdi Garrison, is where the IRGC carried out its research on the ballistic missiles.

In November 2011, 40 officers of the IRGC including Brig. Gen. Hassan Tehrani Moghaddam, known as the father of the missile program of the Iranian regime, were killed due to the explosion of one of the ballistic missiles in Modarrees Garrison.

The IRGC’s Aerospace Force

As mentioned, the IRGC’s Aerospace Force is responsible for the regime’s missiles program. The organizational chart of this unit is as follows:

**Command:** The commander of the IRGC Aerospace Force has been Brig. Gen. Amir Ali Hajizadeh since 2009. The command headquarters is located at Dastvareh Garrison, which is situated at an area northwest of Tehran adjacent to the Chitgar Forest. The command center of the missiles unit is also posted at this location.

**Main sections:** IRGC Aerospace Force includes the following main sections:

- a. Missile unit including missile brigades
- b. Air force unit located in the military airports of the country
- c. Air defense groups; these groups are organized across the country
The Missile Production Unit of the Defense Ministry’s Aerospace Industries Organization

The Aerospace Industries Organization (AIO) is responsible for the production of the regime’s missiles. Currently, it is commanded by Brig. Gen. Mehrdad Akhlaghi, whose name was listed on UN Security Council Resolution 1747 in 2007 and is currently sanctioned by the Treasury Department. The headquarters of the Aerospace Industries Organization is located at Noboniad Square in northern Tehran (near the Defense Ministry and SPND). The organizational chart of this organ is as follows:

These industries are comprised of 8 missile industry groups, whose organizational structure is shown on the Aerospace Industries Organization’s chart.

The mandate and headquarters of each group are as follows:

1. Hemmat Industries Group: Hemmat is the largest missile industry group. It produces the Shahab 3 and liquid fuel missiles. Its command center and factories are located in eastern Tehran at the Khojir region.
2. The Bakeri Industries Group: This group, which is involved in the manufacturing of various missiles, produces solid fuel missiles. This group is also located in the Khojir region.
3. The Ya Mahdi Industries Group: This group produces a variety of smaller missiles and also a number of centrifuge parts at its welding shops. Its main center is located in Shiyan Lavizan; however, some of its factories are located on Karaj road towards the City of Qazvin.
4. The Cruise Industries Group: This group produces cruise missiles and its main factories are at the Khojir complex.
5. Air Defense Industries Group: This group produces surface to air missiles and anti-aircraft rockets. Its main factories are at the Parchin complex (its location is indicated on the aerial photo).
6. The Parts Manufacturing Group (Mechanic): This group manufactures missile launching pads and other equipment related to the missiles industry. It is located north of the Damavand highway passed the Telo intersection.
7. The Sanam Industries Group, also known as the Electro-Mechanic Industries Group: This group produces material and equipment needed for the missile industry under the guise of manufacturing home accessories, washing machines, and television sets. It is headquartered at Parchin.
8. Fajr Industrial Group: This group works on electronics and guidance systems, including navigation systems. Its headquarters is in northern Tehran.
IRGC-Manufactured Missiles

Below are some of the missile types produced by the IRGC. The main surface to surface IRGC missiles can be summarized using the following categories:

1. **Medium-range ballistic missiles:** These missiles include Shahab 3, Sejil, Qadr, Ashura and some of the missiles that launch satellites into space, such as Safir. These missiles all have a range between 1,500 km to 2,000 km and have the capability to carry a nuclear warhead. Despite a ban on the regime using these types of missiles by UNSC Resolution 2231, the IRGC continues to launch these missiles on Khamenei’s orders.

2. **Other missile types:** The remaining types of missiles produced by the IRGC are modeled after North Korean, Chinese or Russian missiles. They include short-range surface to surface, sea and anti-aircraft missiles. Some of these missiles include Fateh 110, Saeqeh, Zelzal, and Nazeat. The regime has shipped these missiles to Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Lebanon and Afghanistan. It has also used them to threaten shipping in the Persian Gulf or the Gulf of Oman.

Brig. Gen. Amir Ali Hajizadeh, the commander of the IRGC Aerospace Force, said on November 11, 2014: “The missile manufacturing plants in Syria have been transferred to them from Iran.”
Conclusion

The Iranian regime has remained in power in Iran by relying on two pillars: internal repression and external export of Islamic fundamentalism and terrorism. Its illicit nuclear weapons program and its continued expansion of ballistic missiles serve its policy of export of Islamic fundamentalism and terrorism.

As the regime becomes more isolated domestically and its grip on Iranian society weakens, it resorts more frantically to the second pillar of its bid to keep power.

The former chairman of Iran’s Joint Chiefs of Staff, Major General Hassan Firouzabadi, said on November 12, 2016: “If the Leader [Khamenei] permits, missiles are fired. Otherwise, they will not be fired. Even the time of the launch is determined by him.”

The ruling theocratic dictatorship in Iran has neither the capacity nor the will to set aside its policy of ballistic missile expansion. The regime’s leader [Khamenei] expressly stated on May 10, 2017, “there is no difference between change of behavior and change of regime.”

The regime is united in investing in the ballistic missile program because all the regime’s factions realize the survival of their regime is at stake. Following the Arab Islamic American Summit in Saudi Arabia in May, which had the U.S. president in attendance, where countries called on the Iranian regime to cease all warmongering activities, including its illegal missile activities, Tehran’s officials declared their stance one after another regarding the decisions of the summit and insisted that the regime’s missile program will continue. On May 23, 2017, regime president Hassan Rouhani emphasized that the regime’s missile activities will continue unabated.

The Iranian people, on the other hand, are deeply opposed to the regime’s nuclear and missile programs and its interference in the region. These are anti-Iranian policies.

The major annual gathering of Iranians in Paris on July 1, declares its unequivocal opposition to the policies of export of Islamic fundamentalism and terrorism and the regime’s expansionist interventions in the region, and to its nuclear and missile programs. These principled positions are the wishes of the majority of the Iranian nation, expressed in recent weeks by Iranian youth organized inside Iran in support of this gathering. This gathering is a referendum against the religious fascism ruling Iran and its warmongering policies in the region, as well as against its nuclear and missile programs.

In view of these facts, the following steps need to be taken:

1. The enactment and enforcement of effective and broad sanctions against the Iranian regime’s missile program and all related entities, institutions, and individuals.
2. Designation of the IRGC as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) for its role as the force responsible for terrorism as well as the regime’s missile program.
3. Expulsion of the IRGC and its affiliated militias and proxies from the region, particularly from Syria and Iraq.

These materials are being distributed by the National Council of Resistance of Iran-U.S. Representative Office. Additional information is on file with the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

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Appendix A

Supplement to the NCRI-US revelation about Tehran Accelerating Missile Activities and Tests After the Iran Nuclear Deal

Satellite Imagery of Four Key Missile Sites Across Iran

Organizational Charts of Aerospace Industries Organization

And

Aerospace force
The Semnan Missile Center

The largest missile complex in Iran is located 70km southeast of the city of Semnan in a relatively mountainous region, comprised of several sections, which include a command center, missile storage facilities, launching pads for medium-range missiles, explosive test sites, and a training facility. In recent years, most of the regime’s missile tests have been conducted at this location. Widespread facilities have been constructed underground and in tunnels. This center has been actively collaborating with SPND, the organization tasked with building a nuclear bomb.

General Area of Semnan Missile Site in South East of Semnan City

Various locations at Semnan Missile Site
Control and Command Center-Semnan Missile Site

Large Area of Semnan Missile Site

A-Control and Command Center-Semnan
Launching Pad and Testing Facilities at Semnan Missile Site

Testing and Launching Pad B

Testing and Launching Pad C
Logistics and Security Facilities at Semnan Missile Site

Complex D

Complex E

Complex F
The Lar Missile Center

This site is located approximately 6km west of Lar city in a mountainous region, in Fars Province in southern Iran.

General Area of Lar City with the Lar Missile Center marked on the map

Lar Missile Center in Fars Province
Lar Missile Center in Fars Province Including Underground Tunnels
Khorramabad Missile Center at Imam Ali Garrison

This garrison is located 25km west of Khorramabad city toward Koohdasht and on the foothills of Sefid Kouh Mountains, in Lorestan Province in western Iran. The area is completely surrounded by mountains.

General Area of Khorramabad with the Imam Ali Garrison marked on the map

Khorramabad Missile Center at Imam Ali Garrison
The complex of missile bases in the vicinity of Bidgeneh Village

The garrisons and bases of this region are the oldest missile units. The Almehdi and Sajad garrisons are the locations where the IRGC’s missile brigades are posted. They also have storage facilities for the regime’s ballistic missiles.

Almehdi Garrison-Bidgeneh

Sajad Garrison-Bidgeneh

Modarres Garrison
Appendix B

Satellite Imagery of Missile Sites Across Iran

Supplement to the NCRI-US revelation about Tehran Accelerating Missile Activities and Tests After the Iran Nuclear Deal
Missile Site Locations in Western Iran
The Command Headquarters of the IRGC Aerospace Force

Dastvareh Garrison next to Chitgar Forest

Garmdarreh (Fajr) Base

Garmdarreh Missile base has large installations and underground tunnels; Extensive tunnels were built in recent years. It is located at km 20 of Tehran-Karaj Highway.
Missile Sites in Parchin Military Complex

General Area of Parchin in Southwest Tehran

Plan 4 in Parchin

Plan 10 in Parchin
Hemmat Industries Group

Hemmat Industries Group is the largest missile industry group. It produces the Shahab 3 and liquid fuel missiles. Its command center and factories are located in eastern Tehran at the Khojir region.

Khojir area in southwest Tehran-Hemmat Industries
Parts Manufacturing Group (Mechanic)

The Parts Manufacturing Group (Mechanic) manufactures missile launching pads and other equipment related to the missiles industry. It is a part of Aerospace Industries Organization and is located north of the Damavand Street, 1 km on Telo Road, Azmayesh junction.

Haft-Tir Complex - Isfahan

Haft-Tir Complex, is close to Zarrin Shahr, south of Isfahan. The site consists of several underground tunnels accommodating nuclear and missiles activities as well as making ammunitions.
Bagheri Industries

Bagheri Industries is a part of the Aerospace Industries Organization and is involved with the production of Air Defense equipment. It is located on the km 7 of the old Tehran-Karaj Highway.

Bagheri Industries on Tehran Karaj Highway

Shahabadi Industries (Araj)

Shahabadi Industries is a part of the Sanam Industries, a subsidiary of the Aerospace Industries Organization and is responsible for purchasing missiles equipment under this name. It is located at Araj Junction, Pasdaran Street, Tehran.
Missile Sites in Qazvin

Shafizadeh Industries Missile Site

Motahari Industries Missile Site
The Nouralmahdi Missile Site next to Fordow

Badinbeh Missile Site in Varamin
The Bakeri Industries Group

The Bakeri Industries Group, which is involved in the manufacturing of various missiles, produces solid fuel missiles, and is located in the Khojir region.

Khojir area in southwest Tehran-Bakeri Industries

Bakeri Industries Group in Khojir
The Ya Mahdi Industries Group

Abyek area

Ya Mahdi-Abyek

Ya Mahdi-Shian