

# DAILY BULLETIN

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## UNITED STATES, G8 PARTNERS WORK ON COMMON IRAN STRATEGY IN GENEVA

Range of nonproliferation issues focus of two days of talks

By Wendy Lubetkin  
Washington File Staff Writer

Geneva -- John Bolton, under secretary of state for arms control and international security, says Group of Eight (G8) members are in complete agreement that Iran must be prevented from acquiring a nuclear-weapons capability.

Bolton said that the United States, France, Britain and Germany have made progress over the past several days toward narrowing their differences on how best to achieve that goal.

The United States believes the clandestine Iranian nuclear program constitutes a “threat to international peace and security” and should be put “at center stage, in the world spotlight, in the forum of the [U.N.] Security Council,” Bolton said September 10 at a press conference in Geneva where he had just concluded two days of discussions with G8 and other countries on a range of nonproliferation issues.

He said he thought the “international dynamic would change dramatically if Iran were at center stage in New York.”

Bolton said the talks at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva were partly an effort to “close the tactical gap” between the United States and Britain,

France and Germany in advance of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors meeting during the week of September 13-17, during which the issue of Iran's nuclear program is scheduled for consideration.

"We have not completely closed the tactical gap, but I think discussions will continue over the weekend and then into next week, and we will see what we are able to do," Bolton said. "The overall objective of insuring that Iran does not acquire nuclear weapons capabilities is not at issue. All of us are agreed on that."

Bolton said that he would travel to Israel for further consultations before returning to Washington.

When asked about South Korea's revelations that it has conducted nuclear experiments, Bolton said the United States could not take a formal position until it knew all the facts; but he vowed that the United States would "not allow a double standard in terms of how we treat violations of safeguards agreements."

Bolton said he expected the IAEA would begin to work on the issue, most likely with a short verbal report on what had been learned to date about South Korea's experiment in Uranium enrichment.

"We are not setting an arbitrary deadline; if it takes longer we are prepared for that. But it would not be unreasonable to ask for a written report that lays out the facts and circumstances in more detail than we currently know by the November board meeting, which takes place at the end of that month."

He said it is the view of the G8 that the IAEA should continue its investigation and report to the board by the meeting later this month.

"I think the South Koreans have shown cooperation. They've brought this issue forward to the IAEA and have been cooperating with the IAEA," he said.

## POWELL SAYS IRAN NUCLEAR ISSUE MAY BE HEADED FOR U.N. SOON

Secretary also discusses homeland security, terrorism, Iraq

Iran's nuclear ambitions will have to be dealt with by the United Nations unless that country keeps its commitments and moves swiftly to satisfy the concerns of the international community, Secretary of State Colin Powell says.

Interviewed Sept. 10 on NBC television's "Weekend Today with Campbell Brown," Powell said the issue would be brought up in the following week at a meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"And we believe that if they (the Iranians) have not satisfied our concerns, the matter should be referred by the IAEA to the Security Council," Powell said. "We don't want to see Iran become another nuclear power. We have enough," the secretary said.

Powell also dealt in the course of his interview with the issues of homeland security, terrorist activity abroad and democratic development in Iraq.

With respect to protecting the United States from terrorist attacks, Powell said U.S. citizens could feel safer because of the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, better intelligence coordination, better law enforcement activities and improvements in border security.

But he cautioned that, while there had been no major domestic terrorist attack in the three years since the assault of September 11, 2001, "It could happen.... We're not completely safe." Thus, he said, the nation remains "on the offensive with respect to terrorism," coordinating its efforts with other nations around the world.

"More and more nations in the civilized world are coming together, exchanging intelligence information, law enforcement cooperation, going after the financial systems that feed these people," Powell said. "Nations like Saudi Arabia realize they're under assault, and rather than perhaps sometimes giving rise to this kind of an activity, they're fighting with all of their energy."

Powell said the United States is adjusting its strategy in Iraq in light of the unanticipated level of insurgency mounted by "defeated elements of the former regime."

“Our real challenge here today and (in the) weeks ahead is to build up Iraqi security forces as fast as we can -- police forces, army units, national guard, border patrol, strike forces -- so that increasingly the Iraqis can take on responsibility for their own security,” he said.

Asked to define the U.S. “exit strategy” in Iraq, the secretary responded, “The end is elections, the constitution is written, Iraqi security forces are built up so they can take care of their own security, and the coalition forces leave. That’s the strategy to bring this to an end.”

He acknowledged he could not put a firm timetable on the process, saying, “I’d like to see the job done in six months, but I don’t think it can be done in six months. Will it be done next year? I don’t know.”

But whatever the timeframe, Powell argued, “We have to stay with it. This is not the time for us to get faint, to get weary, to say... this is too hard, let’s walk away. We haven’t done that in the past, and we’re not going to do it now.”

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#### TERRORISM AIMED AT ALL CIVILIZATION, POWELL SAYS

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Terrorists threaten the sanctity of human life

Secretary of State Colin Powell says there should be no doubt, after the recent terrorist attacks in Russia and elsewhere that killed hundreds of people, that terrorism is aimed at all of civilization, and not just the United States, its allies and interests abroad.

“Terrorism threatens civilization itself, because it assaults the most precious of all civilized principles: the sanctity of human life. Terrorism recognizes no distinction between soldiers and civilians, even children,” Powell said.

Terrorists know no limits, no principle of proportionality, and they seek to reverse efforts over the past millennia to limit the destructiveness of human conflict, he said.

Even though the United States did not invite this struggle and it doesn’t relish it, there is no choice but to meet the challenge of terrorism and defeat it, he said.

In a far-ranging speech September 10 at Georgetown University in Washington, Powell discussed America’s response to terrorism, the role of its long-standing relationship with its NATO partners, the struggles in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the continuing strength of the trans-Atlantic alliance.

Powell said the motives of terrorist groups vary: while some like al-Qaida have global ambitions and apocalyptic motives, others are more geographically focused with narrowly defined political aims. “But the murder of innocents that defines modern terrorism is common to them all,” he said.

There is no political justification for the deliberate murder of innocent people, he said, and the United States opposes it unconditionally.

He said it is difficult to measure success in a war on terrorism, something unlike any that civilized men have fought before, but several things are true.

Al-Qaida enjoyed a sanctuary in Afghanistan three years ago where it plotted, trained and dispatched terrorists across the globe, but today that sanctuary is gone and al-Qaida is on the run, he said.

Three years ago, Saddam Hussein ruled Iraq with a regime that had produced and used weapons of mass destruction, dug mass graves for its own people, and associated with known terrorists for many years, he said. But through the sacrifice of many, that regime is gone today.

Powell said the success in defeating these threats depended on a strategy that combined the judicious use of force with a skillful diplomacy. He credited skillful Anglo-American diplomacy that helped persuade the Libyan government to relinquish its weapons of mass destruction and choose a new future.

Although the United States no longer sees the world, as it did in the Cold War, through the prism of a Euro-centric alliance, and although the Europeans are engaged in a revolutionary experiment in continent-wide federalism, Powell said, none of these developments prevent the United States and European nations from being partners.

Finally, Powell said he sees the new trans-Atlantic partnership in three ways: the need to assure a secure Europe, the continued day-to-day security cooperation

against terrorism, and the expansion of the partnership to operate more extensively beyond Europe.

## U.S. GAINING GROUND IN TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

Vulnerabilities remain to be tackled, officials, experts agree

By Andrzej Zwanecki  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- The U.S. government has achieved significant improvements in making the U.S. transportation system more resistant to terrorist attacks, but it needs to have a strategy to mitigate remaining vulnerabilities, congressional leaders and experts say.

Representatives of the air transportation and shipping industries agree that the level of security today in their respective sectors is better than it was on September 11, 2001.

The bipartisan National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, known as the 9/11 Commission, noted security upgrades, including air baggage screened for explosives and sea cargo prescreened at selected foreign ports, introduced after the terrorists attacks in New York and Washington.

Since then, Congress has passed a number of bills, including the Aviation Transportation Security Act and Maritime Transportation Security Act, designed to prevent terrorists from attacking the U.S. transportation system or using the system to mount new attacks.

The administration also has taken a systematic approach, trying to extend the U.S. security zone beyond U.S. borders and build many layers of defenses between foreign departure points and U.S. shores so that if one breaks down, another can provide protection. Under the Container Security Initiative (CSI), the United States negotiated bilateral agreements with 18 countries to place U.S. Customs inspectors at foreign ports to prescreen cargo containers. In addition, it won the worldwide approval of a new maritime security regime when the 148 member countries of the International Maritime Organization

adopted international port and ship security standards in 2002.

In addition, the administration has invested in new technologies to prepare for new threats as terrorists' tactics and methods evolve.

"Science and technology is key to winning this new kind of war," Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge said in September.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has been working on technologies ranging from sophisticated explosives-sniffing passenger portals to "smart" tamper-resistant containers to blast-resistant cargo containers for passenger planes.

In summarizing these and other efforts, Ridge observed that thanks to them "our nation is safer, stronger, and better protected than ever before."

## STRATEGIC PLAN NEEDED

When the 9/11 Commission looked at a larger picture of transportation security, it came to a conclusion that an integrated strategic plan was needed to look holistically at the entire transportation system with all its interconnections and interdependencies.

"In a free society we cannot protect everything everywhere, all the time," commission Chairman Thomas Kean said in an August 16 congressional testimony. "But they [American people] expect their government to make rational decisions about how to allocate limited resources."

During the same hearing, Asa Hutchinson, under secretary of homeland security, said that a strategic transportation security plan "fully integrated and coordinated with all of the sector plans" should be completed in 2004. He said TSA is developing a prioritized list of critical assets and vulnerabilities that will serve as the basis for allocating resources.

The commission also said that the U.S. government needs to rethink its priorities. Kean said that the bulk of TSA's attention and funding has been directed toward aviation security even though the risk of significant harm is as great or greater in maritime and land transportation.

In a March 31, 2003, report to Congress, TSA said that because the rail, subway and bus transportation systems were subject to no mandatory security requirements, little or no screening of passengers, baggage or crew has been done. A terrorist attack on any of these industries, which serve far more passengers than airlines, could severely damage the confidence of the U.S. public in commercial and public passenger systems, TSA said.

Following the terrorist attacks on commuter trains in Madrid in March, DHS decided to expand its use of bomb-sniffing dogs on mass transit and to test the feasibility of screening luggage and carry-on bags for explosives at rail stations and aboard trains.

As to maritime security, U.S. Coast Guard officials said during the August 25 House hearing that additional improvements in maritime security would require further development of strong partnerships among the federal government, states and the private sector.

“No single maritime stake holder ... can do the job alone,” they said in the joint prepared testimony.

#### COST, PRIVACY TRADEOFFS

Administration officials said that those partnerships were also about sharing the costs of security.

Over the past three years, the administration has devoted nearly \$15 billion to strengthen aviation security, according to its budget proposal for the fiscal year beginning October 1 (FY 2005). In this proposal, it requests nearly \$5.3 billion for the Transportation Security Administration, which did not even exist in 2001.

However, critics are not satisfied with either the level or distribution of spending. Security expert Stephen Flynn said that the administration has provided so far only a fraction of what the Coast Guard estimates is needed to make U.S. ports more secure.

Senator Robert Byrd, a Democrat from West Virginia, admonished the administration during a March Senate appropriations hearing for proposing a 60 percent cut from the 2004 fiscal year spending levels in port security grants and said that the air marshals program has insufficient resources to place armed plainclothes guards on targeted domestic and international flights.

In response, Hutchinson, who testified during the same hearing, said that the administration believes in “a shared

responsibility” among the federal government, the private sector and the port authorities.

“We do not believe it’s exclusively a federal government responsibility to do all of the port security investment,” he said.

Businesses, so far at least, have grudgingly borne their share of security costs.

Bill Clark, executive director of the American Institute for Shippers Associations, said that the attempts to quantify additional costs of security for the shipping industry have not produced “solid” numbers so far. But the industry feels the pressure, he said.

John Meenan, executive vice president of the Air Transportation Association, an airline industry trade group, said that the airline industry shouldered “extensive” costs of federal security mandates and related taxes and fees -- roughly \$3.8 billion annually -- and expected to bear a “fair share” in the future. He said, however, that the industry, which, as a result of high fuel prices and intensified competition, was in poor financial condition, has felt the effects of security expenses.

In addition to higher costs, the evolution of the transportation system has forced tradeoffs between security on one side and convenience and privacy for passengers on another. Although air passengers grudgingly accept some level of security-related inconveniences at airports, as indicated by media reports, those passengers set a limit on privacy restrictions. An upgrade version of the Computer-Assisted Passenger Prescreening System, known as CAPPS II, has been shelved over passengers’ and their congressional representatives’ privacy concerns.

CAPPS II, which was intended to identify higher-risk passengers for additional security procedures before they board the plane, was criticized by Congress and civil liberties groups for inadequate privacy protection, particularly for using commercial data, and a lack of a sufficient redress procedure for misidentified passengers. Airlines were reluctant to give the DHS passenger data for testing because they were concerned about liability issues.

In August, TSA announced that it would replace CAPPS II with a new, more limited program, called Secure Flight. Under the new system, TSA would take over from airlines the responsibility for checking airline passengers’ names against “greatly expanded” terrorist watch lists, the agency said.

“Secure Flight will enhance security for the nation’s travelers while preserving the individual freedoms of each passenger,” U.S. Navy Rear Admiral David M. Stone (retired), assistant secretary of Homeland Security, said in the release.

The change was recommended by the 9/11 Commission.

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#### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION NEEDED TO HELP SUDAN, OFFICIALS SAY

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Powell, Rice also discuss Iran, North Korea, Iraq, counterterrorism

By Peggy B. Hu  
Washington File Staff Writer

International cooperation will be needed to resolve the situation in Sudan, just as multilateral efforts have proven vital in addressing the challenge of Iran’s and North Korea’s nuclear activities, in rebuilding Iraq, and in fighting terrorism around the world, administration officials said in talk show appearances September 12.

In Sudan, the issue is “not just what the United States will do, but what will the international community do,” Secretary of State Colin Powell said during an interview on ABC’s “This Week with George Stephanopoulos.”

Powell said the United States has asked for support for the expansion of the African Union monitoring force in Sudan and has asked the United Nations Security Council to consider the use of sanctions against that country. He also urged the continuation of “the political discussions that are taking place in Abuja, Nigeria, between the rebels and the government of Sudan.”

In an interview on CNN’s “Late Edition with Wolf Blitzer,” National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice said “it is everybody’s assessment that the key is for the African Union to remain in the lead, to get an augmentation of the African Union force that is already on the ground.”

“Rwandans are ready to go, Nigerians are ready to go. We are prepared with others to help get them there. And so, we’re actively involved in trying to get Khartoum [the capital of Sudan] to stop this terrible tragedy,” she said.

Multilateral efforts are also essential to remove the threat of Iran’s and North Korea’s nuclear activities, the administration officials said.

With respect to Iran, Powell said on NBC’s “Meet the Press with Tim Russert” that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will be meeting to examine the situation in that country, and that “there is concern and there is a growing consensus that this has to be dealt with by the international community.”

“Nobody is looking for a war. Nobody is looking for any kind of action that would make the situation in that part of the world worse,” he said on ABC. “And we’re going to continue to pursue the strategy we are on of calling attention to those parts of Iran’s nuclear development program that clearly indicate to us it is moving in the direction of a weapon.”

Rice said on CNN that North Korea’s nuclear activities also are of international concern, and cited the six-way talks between North Korea, South Korea, China, Russia, Japan, and the United States as an example of multilateral cooperation on the issue.

“The United States is no longer, as it was with the Agreed Framework in 1994, in a bilateral agreement with North Korea,” she said. “This is a six-party arrangement in which North Korea’s neighbors are saying that North Korea must abandon its nuclear weapons programs.”

Regarding Iraq, Powell said on “Fox News Sunday” that the insurgents have increased their activity since the Coalition Provisional Authority turned over control of the country to the Iraqi interim government, and will likely try to disrupt the Iraqi elections scheduled for January 2005.

The insurgents “don’t want this new government to succeed. They don’t want elections to take place. They want to go back to the past. They want to go back to the days of Saddam Hussein and developing weapons of mass destruction, filling mass graves, human rights violations. And we’re not going to let them go back. We can’t let them go back,” he said.

Powell said the international community must work together to fight terrorist activities in Iraq and elsewhere.

“There are people out there who wish us harm, and the Russians have people who wish them harm, the Indonesians the same thing,” he said, referring to the recent

attacks on two airliners, a subway station, and a school in Russia and the bombing of the Australian embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia.

“What we have seen is that all nations that are civilized and do not accept this kind of action as representing any sort of legitimate political cause are coming together to fight these terrorists,” he said.

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