

Rowhani Proposes Talks With U.S.A.

Hassan Rowhani, representative of Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khamenei on the Supreme National Security Council, former National Security Council head, and negotiator in nuclear matters, issued a “personal” proposal for negotiating a solution to the conflict over Iran’s nuclear program. The proposal, sent to *Time* magazine, has the following points:

“Iran would make an active contribution, provided that other countries with similar sensitive fuel cycle programs also do the same, to fixing the loopholes in the non-proliferation system and to developing a technically credible international control regime.

“Iran would consider ratifying the Additional Protocol, which provides for intrusive and snap inspections.

“Iran would address the question of preventing breakout from the NPT [Non-Proliferation Treaty].

“Iran would agree to negotiate with the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] and states concerned about

the scope and timing of its industrial-scale uranium enrichment.

“Iran would accept an IAEA verifiable cap on enrichment limit of reactor grade uranium.

“Iran would accept an IAEA verifiable cap on the production of UF₆—uranium hexafluoride, which is used for enrichment—during the period of negotiation for the scope and timing of its industrial scale enrichment.

“Iran and the IAEA would agree on terms of the continuous presence of inspectors in Iran to verify credibly that no diversion takes place in Iran.

“Iran’s readiness to welcome other countries to partner with Iran in a consortium provides additional assurance about the peaceful nature of Iran’s nuclear program. It is not Iran’s intention to disregard Security Council decisions. The way out is for the Security Council to mandate the IAEA to address this issue and establish a negotiating process for a fixed period to formulate a credible plan taking into account the suggestions I made in my personal capacity.

“Iran is prepared to work with the IAEA and all states concerned about promoting confidence in its fuel cycle program. But Iran cannot be expected to give in to United States’ bullying and non-proliferation double standards.”

sixty years ago, such a country did not exist. They show old documents and globes and say, try as we might, we have not been able to find a country named Israel. I tell them to study the history of World War I and II.

One of my students told me that during World War II, which more than tens of millions of people perished in, news about the war was quickly disseminated by the warring parties. Each touted their victories and the most recent battlefront defeat of the other party. After the war, they claimed that six million Jews had been killed. Six million people that were surely related to at least two million families.

Again let us assume that these events are true. Does that logically translate into the establishment of the state of Israel in the Middle East or support for such a state? How can this phenomenon be rationalized or explained? . . . [continues on the behavior of Israel]

Mr. President, As you are well aware, I live amongst the people and am in constant contact with them—many people from around the Middle East manage to contact me as well. They do not have faith in these dubious policies either. There is evidence that the people of the region are becoming increasingly angry with such policies.

It is not my intention to pose too many questions, but I need to refer to other points as well. Why is it that any technological and scientific achievement reached in the Middle East regions is translated into and portrayed as a threat to

the Zionist regime? Is not scientific R&D one of the basic rights of nations? You are familiar with history. Aside from the Middle Ages, in what other point in history has scientific and technical progress been a crime? Can the possibility of scientific achievements being utilized for military purposes be reason enough to oppose science and technology altogether? If such a supposition is true, then all scientific disciplines, including physics, chemistry, mathematics, medicine, engineering, etc., must be opposed.

Lies were told in the Iraqi matter. What was the result? I have no doubt that telling lies is reprehensible in any culture, and you do not like to be lied to. . . .

The brave and faithful people of Iran too have many questions and grievances, including: the coup d’état of 1953 and the subsequent toppling of the legal government of the day, opposition to the Islamic Revolution, transformation of an Embassy into a headquarters supporting the activities of those opposing the Islamic Republic (many thousands of pages of documents corroborate this claim), support for Saddam in the war waged against Iran, the shooting down of the Iranian passenger plane, freezing the assets of the Iranian nation, increasing threats, anger and displeasure vis-à-vis the scientific and nuclear progress of the Iranian nation (just when all Iranians are jubilant and collaborating in their country’s progress), and many other grievances that I will not refer to in this letter.