



*Embassy of the
Islamic Republic of Iran
Copenhagen*

In the Name of God

Press Release

Mr. Anders Fog Rasmussen, the former Danish Prime Minister, and currently General Secretary of NATO, is well known for his close relations with George W. Bush and Tony Blair, the architects of Afghanistan and Iraq invasion.

It therefore comes as no surprise to hear Mr. Rasmussen, like many others who think a bash at Iran would enhance their political credentials, taking every opportunity to air the views of the war drummers of 2003 – the Neo-con circles and like-minded others. In an article in the April 7 edition of the Politiken Mr. Rasmussen, resorts to wild speculation, misstatement and deception about Iran. In this article he claims Iran has kept several nuclear sites secret from the IAEA. It is a fact that Iran's nuclear programme has always been under IAEA inspections, particularly in the past 7 years when inspectors from this Agency, whilst maintaining a continual presence in Iran, have conducted the most intrusive regime of inspections in the history of the Agency. If they are not aware of the secret! sites, then how can Mr. Rasmussen be so categorical in his assertions? Isn't he chewing the words of such Neo-con figures as Bolton, like they did about Iraq before the invasion? Besides, if Mr. Rasmussen knows about the sites, then they can not be secret, can they? Next, he goes on to claim: "Iran has rejected offer of cooperation from the West". He conveniently does not mention that the so called offers from the US and Europe were to sell Iran their goods and services and Iran was expected, in return, to dismantle its nuclear programme altogether. In the deal offered, Iran was even denied the opportunity to choose what to buy and whom to buy from. Is that an offer of cooperation or demand for total capitulation?

In the article Mr. Rasmussen states that Iran has increased its level of enrichment to higher than that required for civilian use. He must be referring to the 20 per cent enrichment which Iran recently undertook. He is deceiving the public by deliberately omitting the fact, reported extensively in the media recently, that this enriched uranium is needed for the Tehran Reactor to produce isotopes for medical use. Isn't medical use civilian in Mr. Rasmussen's eye? He need not be reminded that all enrichment in Iran is done under IAEA camera surveillance and inspection.

Mr. Rasmussen talks of Iranian missiles capable of hitting Turkey, Bulgaria Greece and others. By what logic would Iran want to attack those countries? It should be known that Iran's missile programme is purely defensive. It is painful for Iranians to be reminded of Iraqi missiles, supplied by Mr. Rasmussen's friends, raining down on them without any defence. Never again, Mr. Rasmussen & Co.

He goes on to say Iran has failed to abide by a few UN SC resolutions. Mr. Rasmussen, being the Danish Prime Minister for so many years, knows how SC resolutions are passed. In the case of Iran, these resolutions contravene the articles of the NPT, which gives Iran the right to develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Iran is doing precisely that and nothing more, nothing less. The rights accrued are derived from Iran being a signatory to the NPT. They were not given to Iran by the SC or the likes of Mr. Rasmussen to be taken away by resolutions. If Mr. Rasmussen wants to contribute to world peace he should do something to stop this international Body – SC – from being manipulated by a few in the name of the international community.

**The Press & Public Relations Section
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Copenhagen**

April 9, 2010

