

25 August, 2015

Hon. John A. Boehner  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
1011 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3508

Hon. Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
233 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0512

Hon. Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-1702

Hon. Harry Reid  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-2803

Dear Representatives Boehner and Pelosi and Senators McConnell and Reid:

As you know, on July 14, 2015, the United States and five other nations announced that a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) has been reached with Iran to prevent it from developing nuclear weapons. In our judgment as former senior military officers, the agreement will not have that effect. Removing sanctions on Iran and releasing billions of dollars to its regime over the next ten years is inimical to the security of Israel and the Middle East. There is no credibility within JCPOA's inspection process or the ability to snap back sanctions once lifted, should Iran violate the agreement. In this and other respects, the JCPOA would threaten the national security and vital interests of the United States and, therefore, should be disapproved by the Congress.

The agreement as constructed does not "cut off every pathway" for Iran to acquire nuclear weapons. To the contrary, it actually provides Iran with a legitimate path to doing that *simply by abiding by the deal*. JCPOA allows all the infrastructure the Iranians need for a nuclear bomb to be preserved and enhanced. Notably, Iran is allowed to: continue to enrich uranium; develop and test advanced centrifuges; and continue work on its Arak heavy-water plutonium reactor. Collectively, these concessions afford the Iranians, at worst, a ready breakout option and, at best, an incipient nuclear weapons capability a decade from now.

The agreement is unverifiable. Under the terms of the JCPOA and a secret side deal (to which the United States is not privy), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will be responsible for inspections under such severe limitations as to prevent them from reliably detecting Iranian cheating. For example, if Iran and the inspectors are unable to reach an accommodation with respect to a given site, the result could be at least a 24-day delay in IAEA access. The agreement also requires inspectors to inform Iran in writing as to the basis for its concerns about an undeclared site, thus further delaying access. Most importantly, these inspections do not allow access to Iranian military facilities, the most likely location of their nuclear weapons development efforts. In the JCPOA process, there is substantial risk of U.S. intelligence being compromised, since the IAEA often relies on our sensitive data with respect to suspicious and/or prohibited activity.

While failing to assure prevention of Iran's nuclear weapons development capabilities, the agreement provides by some estimates \$150 billion dollars or more to Iran in the form of sanctions relief. As military officers, we find it unconscionable that such a windfall could be given to a regime that even the Obama administration has acknowledged will use a portion of such funds to continue to support terrorism in Israel, throughout the Middle East and globally, whether directly or through proxies. These actions will be made all the more deadly since the JCPOA will lift international embargoes on Iran's access to advanced conventional weapons and ballistic missile technology.

In summary, this agreement will enable Iran to become far more dangerous, render the Mideast still more unstable and introduce new threats to American interests as well as our allies. In our professional opinion, far from being an alternative to war, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action makes it likely that the war the Iranian regime has waged against us since 1979 will continue, with far higher risks to our national security interests. Accordingly, we urge the Congress to reject this defective accord.

Sincerely,

1. Admiral David Architzel, US Navy, Retired
2. Admiral Stanley R. Arthur, US Navy, Retired
3. General William Begert, US Air Force, Retired
4. General J.B. Davis, US Air Force, Retired
5. Admiral William A. Doughert, US Navy, Retired
6. Admiral Leon A. "Bud" Edney, US Navy, Retired
7. General Alfred G. Hansen US Air Force, Retired
8. Admiral Thomas Hayward, US Navy, Retired
9. Admiral James Hogg, US Navy, Retired
10. Admiral Jerome Johnson, US Navy, Retired
11. Admiral Timothy J. Keating, US Navy, Retired
12. Admiral Robert J. Kelly, US Navy, Retired
13. Admiral Thomas Joseph Lopez, US Navy, Retired

14. Admiral James A. "Ace" Lyons, US Navy, Retired
15. Admiral Richard Macke, US Navy, Retired
16. Admiral Henry Mauz, US Navy, Retired
17. General Lance Smith, US Air Force, Retired
18. Admiral Leighton Smith, US Navy, Retired
19. Admiral William D. Smith, US Navy, Retired
20. General Louis C. Wagner, Jr., US Army, Retired
21. Admiral Steve White, US Navy, Retired
22. General Ronald W. Yates, US Air Force, Retired
  
23. Lieutenant General Teddy G. Allen, US Army, Retired
24. Lieutenant General Edward G. Anderson, III, US Army, Retired
25. Lieutenant General Marcus A. Anderson, US Air Force, Retired
26. Lieutenant General Spence M. Armstrong, US Air Force, Retired
27. Lieutenant General Harold W. Blot, US Marine Corps, Retired
28. Vice Admiral Michael Bowman, US Navy, Retired
29. Lieutenant General William G. "Jerry" Boykin, US Army, Retired
30. Vice Admiral Edward S. Briggs, US Navy, Retired
31. Lieutenant General Richard E. "Tex" Brown III, US Air Force, Retired
32. Lieutenant General William J. Campbell, US Air Force, Retired
33. Vice Admiral Edward Clepton, US Navy, Retired
34. Vice Admiral Daniel L. Cooper, US Navy, Retired
35. Vice Admiral William A. Dougherty, US Navy, Retired
36. Lieutenant General Brett Dula, US Air Force, Retired
37. Lieutenant General Gordon E. Fornell, US Air Force, Retired
38. Lieutenant General Thomas B. Goslin, US Air Force, Retired
39. Lieutenant General Earl Hailston, US Marine Corps, Retired
40. Vice Admiral Bernard M. Kauderer, US Navy, Retired
41. Lieutenant General Timothy A. Kinnan, US Air Force, Retired
42. Vice Admiral J. B. LaPlante, US Navy, Retired
43. Vice Admiral Tony Less, US Navy, Retired
44. Lieutenant General Bennett L. Lewis, US Army, Retired
45. Vice Admiral Michael Malone, US Navy, Retired
46. Vice Admiral John Mazach, US Navy, Retired
47. Lieutenant General Thomas McInerney, US Air Force, Retired
48. Lieutenant General Fred McCorkle, US Marine Corps, Retired
49. Vice Admiral Robert Monroe, US Navy, Retired
50. Vice Admiral Jimmy Pappas, US Navy, Retired
51. Vice Admiral J. Theodore Parker, US Navy, Retired
52. Lieutenant General Garry L. Parks, US Marine Corps, Retired
53. Lieutenant General Everett Pratt, US Air Force, Retired
54. Vice Admiral John Poindexter, US Navy, Retired

55. Lieutenant General Clifford "Ted" Rees, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
56. Vice Admiral William Rowden, US Navy, Retired
57. Vice Admiral Robert F. Schoultz, US Navy, Retired
58. Lieutenant General E.G. "Buck" Shuler, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
59. Lieutenant General Hubert "Hugh" G. Smith, US Army, Retired
60. Vice Admiral Robert Spane, US Navy, Retired
61. Vice Admiral Edward M. Straw, US Navy, Retired
62. Lieutenant General David J. Teal, US Air Force, Retired
63. Vice Admiral D.C. "Deese" Thompson, US Coast Guard, Retired
64. Lieutenant General William E. Thurman, US Air Force, Retired
65. Lieutenant General Billy Tomas, US Army, Retired
66. Vice Admiral John Totushek, US Navy, Retired
67. Vice Admiral Jerry Tuttle, US Navy, Retired
68. Vice Admiral Jerry Unruh, US Navy, Retired
69. Vice Admiral Timothy W. Wright, US Navy, Retired

70. Rear Admiral William V. Alford, Jr., US Navy, Retired
71. Major General Thurman E. Anderson, US Army, Retired
72. Major General Joseph T. Anderson, US Marine Corps, Retired
73. Rear Admiral Philip Anselmo, US Navy, Retired
74. Major General Joe Arbuckle, US Army, Retired
75. Rear Admiral James W. Austin, US Navy, Retired
76. Rear Admiral John R. Batzler, US Navy, Retired
77. Rear Admiral John Bayless, US Navy, Retired
78. Major General John Bianchi, US Army, Retired
79. Rear Admiral Donald Vaux Boecker, US Navy, Retired
80. Rear Admiral Jerry C. Breast, US Navy, Retired
81. Rear Admiral Bruce B. Bremner, US Navy, Retired
82. Major General Edward M. Browne, US Army, Retired
83. Rear Admiral Thomas F. Brown III, US Navy, Retired
84. Rear Admiral Lyle Bull, US Navy, Retired
85. Major General H. Hale Burr, Jr. US Air Force, Retired
86. Major General Bobby G. Butcher, US Marine Corps, Retired
87. Rear Admiral Jay A. Campbell, US Navy, Retired
88. Major General Henry D. Canterbury, US Air Force, Retired
89. Major General Carroll D. Childers, US Army, Retired
90. Rear Admiral Ronald L. Christenson, US Navy, Retired
91. Major General John R.D. Cleland, US Army, Retired
92. Major General Richard L. Comer, US Air Force, Retired
93. Rear Admiral Jack Dantone, US Navy, Retired
94. Major General William B. Davitte, US Air Force, Retired
95. Major General James D. Delk, US Army, Retired

96. Major General Felix Dupre, US Air Force, Retired
97. Rear Admiral Philip A. Dur, US Navy, Retired
98. Major General Neil L. Eddins, US Air Force, Retired
99. Rear Admiral Paul Engel, US Navy, Retired
100. Major General Vince Falter, US Army, Retired
101. Rear Admiral James H. Flatley, US Navy, Retired
102. Major General Bobby O. Floyd, US Air Force, Retired
103. Major General Paul Fratarangelo, US Marine Corps, Retired
104. Rear Admiral Veronica "Ronne" Froman, US Navy, Retired
105. Rear Admiral R. Byron Fuller, US Navy, Retired
106. Rear Admiral Frank Gallo, US Navy, Retired
107. Rear Admiral Albert A. Gallotta, Jr., US Navy, Retired
108. Rear Admiral James Mac Gleim, US Navy, Retired
109. Rear Admiral Robert H. Gormley, US Navy, Retired
110. Rear Admiral William Gureck, US Navy, Retired
111. Major General Gary L. Harrell, US Army, Retired
112. Rear Admiral Donald Hickman, US Navy, Retired
113. Major General Geoffrey Higginbotham, US Marine Corps, Retired
114. Major General Kent H. Hillhouse, US Army, Retired
115. Rear Admiral Tim Hinkle, US Navy, Retired
116. Major General Victor Joseph Hugo, US Army, Retired
117. Major General James P. Hunt, US Air Force, Retired
118. Rear Admiral Grady L. Jackson, US Navy, Retired
119. Major General William K. James, US Air Force, Retired
120. Rear Admiral John M. "Carlos" Johnson, US Navy, Retired
121. Rear Admiral Pierce J. Johnson, US Navy, Retired
122. Rear Admiral Steven B. Kantrowitz, US Navy, Retired
123. Major General Maurice W. Kendall, US Army, Retired
124. Rear Admiral Charles R. Kubic, US Navy, Retired
125. Rear Admiral Frederick L. Lewis, US Navy, Retired
126. Major General John D. Logeman, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
127. Major General Homer S. Long, Jr., US Army, Retired
128. Major General Robert M. Marquette, US Air Force, Retired
129. Rear Admiral Robert B. McClinton, US Navy, Retired
130. Rear Admiral W. J. McDaniel, MD, US Navy, Retired
131. Major General Keith W. Meurlin, US Air Force, Retired
132. Rear Admiral Terrence McKnight, US Navy, Retired
133. Major General John F. Miller, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
134. Major General Burton R. Moore, US Air Force, Retired
135. Rear Admiral David R. Morris, US Navy, Retired
136. Rear Admiral Ed Nelson, Jr., US Coast Guard, Retired
137. Major General George W. "Nordie" Norwood, US Air Force, Retired
138. Major General Everett G. Odgers, US Air Force, Retired

139. Rear Admiral Phillip R. Olson, US Navy, Retired
140. Rear Admiral Robert S. Owens, US Navy, Retired
141. Major General Robert W. Paret, US Air Force, Retired
142. Rear Admiral Robert O. Passmore, US Navy, Retired
143. Major General Richard E. Perraut, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
144. Rear Admiral W.W. Pickavance, Jr., US Navy, Retired
145. Rear Admiral L.F. Picotte, US Navy, Retired
146. Rear Admiral Thomas J. Porter, US Navy, Retired
147. Major General H. Douglas Robertson, US Army, Retired
148. Rear Admiral W.J. Ryan, US Navy, Retired
149. Rear Admiral Norman Saunders, US Coast Guard, Retired
150. Major General John P. Schoeppner, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
151. Major General Edison E. Scholes, US Army, Retired
152. Rear Admiral Hugh P. Scott, US Navy, Retired
153. Major General Richard Secord, US Air Force, Retired
154. Rear Admiral James M. Seely, US Navy, Retired
155. Major General Sidney Shachnow, US Army, Retired
156. Rear Admiral William H. Shawcross, US Navy, Retired
157. Rear Admiral Bob Shumaker, US Navy, Retired
158. Major General Willie Studer, US Air Force, Retired
159. Major General Larry Taylor, US Marine Corps, Retired
160. Rear Admiral Jeremy Taylor, US Navy, Retired
161. Major General Richard L. Testa, US Air Force, Retired
162. Rear Admiral Robert P. Tiernan, US Navy, Retired
163. Major General Paul E. Vallely, US Army, Retired
164. Major General Kenneth W. Weir, US Marine Corps, Retired
165. Major General John Welde, US Air Force, Retired
166. Rear Admiral James B. Whittaker, US Navy, Retired
167. Major General Geoffrey P. Wiedeman, Jr., MD, US Air Force, Retired
168. Rear Admiral H. Denny Wisely, US Navy, Retired

169. Brigadier General John R. Allen, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
170. Brigadier General John C. Arick, US Marine Corps, Retired
171. Brigadier General Loring R. Astorino, US Air Force, Retired
172. Rear Admiral Robert E. Besal, US Navy, Retired
173. Brigadier General William Bloomer, US Marine Corps, Retired
174. Brigadier General George P. Cole, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
175. Brigadier General Richard A. Coleman, US Air Force, Retired
176. Brigadier General James L. Crouch, US Air Force, Retired
177. Rear Admiral Marianne B. Drew, US Navy, Retired
178. Brigadier General Philip M. Drew, US Air Force, Retired
179. Brigadier General Jerome V. Foust, US Army, Retired

180. Brigadier General Larry K. Grundhauser, US Air Force, Retired
181. Brigadier General Thomas W. Honeywill, US Air Force, Retired
182. Brigadier General Gary M. Jones, US Army, Retired
183. Brigadier General Stephen Lanning, US Air Force, Retired
184. Brigadier General Thomas J. Lennon, US Air Force, Retired
185. Rear Admiral Bobby C. Lee, US Navy, Retired
186. Brigadier General Hans J. Mueh, US Air Force, Retired
187. Brigadier General Robert F. Peksens, US Air Force, Retired
188. Brigadier General Joe Shaefer, US Air Force, Retired
189. Brigadier General Graham E. Shirley, US Air Force, Retired
190. Brigadier General Stanley O. Smith, US Air Force, Retired
191. Brigadier General Hugh B. Tant III, US Army, Retired
192. Brigadier General Michael Joseph Tashjian, US Air Force, Retired
193. Brigadier General William Tiernan, US Marine Corps, Retired
194. Brigadier General Roger W. Scarce, US Army, Retired
195. Brigadier General Robert V. Woods, US Air Force, Retired

