

27 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 Donald Cook, US Air Force, Retired
5. General Gordon Cornell, US Air Force, Retired
6. General J.B. Davis, US Air Force, Retired
7. Admiral William A. Doughert, US Navy, Retired
8. Admiral Leon A. "Bud" Edney, US Navy, Retired
9. General Alfred G. Hansen US Air Force, Retired
10. Admiral Thomas Hayward, US Navy, Retired
11. Admiral James Hogg, US Navy, Retired
12. Admiral Jerome Johnson, US Navy, Retired
13. Admiral Timothy J. Keating, US Navy, Retired
14. Admiral Robert J. Kelly, US Navy, Retired
15. Admiral Thomas Joseph Lopez, US Navy, Retired
16. Admiral James A. "Ace" Lyons, US Navy, Retired
17. Admiral Richard Macke, US Navy, Retired
18. Admiral Henry Mauz, US Navy, Retired
19. General Lance Smith, US Air Force, Retired
20. Admiral Leighton Smith, US Navy, Retired
21. Admiral William D. Smith, US Navy, Retired

22. General Louis C. Wagner, Jr., US Army, Retired
23. Admiral Steve White, US Navy, Retired
24. General Ronald W. Yates, US Air Force, Retired

25. Lieutenant General Teddy G. Allen, US Army, Retired
26. Lieutenant General Edward G. Anderson, III, US Army, Retired
27. Lieutenant General Marcus A. Anderson, US Air Force, Retired
28. Lieutenant General Spence M. Armstrong, US Air Force, Retired
29. Lieutenant General Harold W. Blot, US Marine Corps, Retired
30. Vice Admiral Michael Bowman, US Navy, Retired
31. Lieutenant General William G. "Jerry" Boykin, US Army, Retired
32. Vice Admiral Edward S. Briggs, US Navy, Retired
33. Lieutenant General Richard E. "Tex" Brown III, US Air Force, Retired
34. Lieutenant General William J. Campbell, US Air Force, Retired
35. Vice Admiral Edward Clexton, US Navy, Retired
36. Vice Admiral Daniel L. Cooper, US Navy, Retired
37. Vice Admiral William A. Dougherty, US Navy, Retired
38. Lieutenant General Brett Dula, US Air Force, Retired
39. Lieutenant General Gordon E. Fornell, US Air Force, Retired
40. Lieutenant General Thomas B. Goslin, US Air Force, Retired
41. Lieutenant General Mike Gould, US Air Force, Retired
42. Lieutenant General Earl Hailston, US Marine Corps, Retired
43. Vice Admiral Bernard M. Kauderer, US Navy, Retired
44. Lieutenant General Timothy A. Kinnan, US Air Force, Retired
45. Vice Admiral J. B. LaPlante, US Navy, Retired
46. Vice Admiral Tony Less, US Navy, Retired
47. Lieutenant General Bennett L. Lewis, US Army, Retired
48. Vice Admiral Michael Malone, US Navy, Retired
49. Lieutenant General Charles May, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
50. Vice Admiral John Mazach, US Navy, Retired
51. Lieutenant General Fred McCorkle, US Marine Corps, Retired
52. Lieutenant General Thomas McInerney, US Air Force, Retired
53. Vice Admiral Robert Monroe, US Navy, Retired
54. Vice Admiral Jimmy Pappas, US Navy, Retired
55. Vice Admiral J. Theodore Parker, US Navy, Retired
56. Lieutenant General Garry L. Parks, US Marine Corps, Retired
57. Lieutenant General Everett Pratt, US Air Force, Retired
58. Vice Admiral John Poindexter, US Navy, Retired
59. Lieutenant General Clifford "Ted" Rees, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
60. Vice Admiral William Rowden, US Navy, Retired
61. Vice Admiral Robert F. Schoultz, US Navy, Retired
62. Lieutenant General E.G. "Buck" Shuler, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
63. Lieutenant General Hubert "Hugh" G. Smith, US Army, Retired
64. Vice Admiral Robert Spane, US Navy, Retired
65. Lieutenant General Robert Springer, US Air Force, Retired
66. Vice Admiral Edward M. Straw, US Navy, Retired
67. Lieutenant General David J. Teal, US Air Force, Retired
68. Vice Admiral D.C. "Deese" Thompson, US Coast Guard, Retired
69. Vice Admiral Howard B. Thorsen, US Coast Guard, Retired
70. Lieutenant General William E. Thurman, US Air Force, Retired

71. Lieutenant General Billy Tomas, US Army, Retired
72. Vice Admiral John Totushek, US Navy, Retired
73. Vice Admiral Jerry Tuttle, US Navy, Retired
74. Vice Admiral Jerry Unruh, US Navy, Retired
75. Vice Admiral Timothy W. Wright, US Navy, Retired

76. Rear Admiral William V. Alford, Jr., US Navy, Retired
77. Major General Thurman E. Anderson, US Army, Retired
78. Major General Joseph T. Anderson, US Marine Corps, Retired
79. Rear Admiral Philip Anselmo, US Navy, Retired
80. Major General Joe Arbuckle, US Army, Retired
81. Rear Admiral James W. Austin, US Navy, Retired
82. Major General John Batiste, US Army, Retired
83. Rear Admiral John R. Batzler, US Navy, Retired
84. Rear Admiral John Bayless, US Navy, Retired
85. Major General John Bianchi, US Army, Retired
86. Rear Admiral Donald Vaux Boecker, US Navy, Retired
87. Major General Edward R. Bracken, US Air Force, Retired
88. Rear Admiral Jerry C. Breast, US Navy, Retired
89. Rear Admiral Bruce B. Bremner, US Navy, Retired
90. Major General Edward M. Browne, US Army, Retired
91. Rear Admiral Thomas F. Brown III, US Navy, Retired
92. Rear Admiral Lyle Bull, US Navy, Retired
93. Major General H. Hale Burr, Jr. US Air Force, Retired
94. Major General Bobby G. Butcher, US Marine Corps, Retired
95. Rear Admiral Jay A. Campbell, US Navy, Retired
96. Major General Henry D. Canterbury, US Air Force, Retired
97. Major General Carroll D. Childers, US Army, Retired
98. Rear Admiral Ronald L. Christenson, US Navy, Retired
99. Major General John R.D. Cleland, US Army, Retired
100. Major General Richard Cooke, US Marine Corps, Retired
101. Major General Richard L. Comer, US Air Force, Retired
102. Rear Admiral Jack Dantone, US Navy, Retired
103. Major General William B. Davitte, US Air Force, Retired
104. Major General James D. Delk, US Army, Retired
105. Major General Felix Dupre, US Air Force, Retired
106. Rear Admiral Philip A. Dur, US Navy, Retired
107. Major General Neil L. Eddins, US Air Force, Retired
108. Rear Admiral Paul Engel, US Navy, Retired
109. Major General Vince Falter, US Army, Retired
110. Rear Admiral James H. Flatley, US Navy, Retired
111. Major General Bobby O. Floyd, US Air Force, Retired
112. Major General Paul Fratarangelo, US Marine Corps, Retired
113. Rear Admiral Veronica "Ronne" Froman, US Navy, Retired
114. Rear Admiral R. Byron Fuller, US Navy, Retired
115. Rear Admiral Frank Gallo, US Navy, Retired
116. Rear Admiral Albert A. Gallotta, Jr., US Navy, Retired
117. Rear Admiral James Mac Gleim, US Navy, Retired
118. Rear Admiral Robert H. Gormley, US Navy, Retired
119. Rear Admiral William Gureck, US Navy, Retired

120. Major General Gary L. Harrell, US Army, Retired
121. Rear Admiral Donald Hickman, US Navy, Retired
122. Major General Geoffrey Higginbotham, US Marine Corps, Retired
123. Major General Kent H. Hillhouse, US Army, Retired
124. Rear Admiral Jim Hinkle, US Navy, Retired
125. Major General Jerry Holmes, US Air Force, Retired
126. Major General Victor Joseph Hugo, US Army, Retired
127. Major General James P. Hunt, US Air Force, Retired
128. Rear Admiral Grady L. Jackson, US Navy, Retired
129. Major General William K. James, US Air Force, Retired
130. Rear Admiral John M. "Carlos" Johnson, US Navy, Retired
131. Rear Admiral Pierce J. Johnson, US Navy, Retired
132. Rear Admiral Steven B. Kantrowitz, US Navy, Retired
133. Major General Maurice W. Kendall, US Army, Retired
134. Rear Admiral Charles R. Kubic, US Navy, Retired
135. Rear Admiral Frederick L. Lewis, US Navy, Retired
136. Major General John D. Logeman, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
137. Major General Homer S. Long, Jr., US Army, Retired
138. Major General Robert M. Marquette, US Air Force, Retired
139. Rear Admiral Robert B. McClinton, US Navy, Retired
140. Major General James C. McCombs, US Air Force, Retired
141. Rear Admiral W. J. McDaniel, MD, US Navy, Retired
142. Major General Keith W. Meurlin, US Air Force, Retired
143. Rear Admiral John H. McKinley, US Navy, Retired
144. Rear Admiral Terrence McKnight, US Navy, Retired
145. Major General John F. Miller, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
146. Major General Burton R. Moore, US Air Force, Retired
147. Rear Admiral David R. Morris, US Navy, Retired
148. Rear Admiral Ed Nelson, Jr., US Coast Guard, Retired
149. Major General George W. "Nordie" Norwood, US Air Force, Retired
150. Major General Everett G. Odgers, US Air Force, Retired
151. Rear Admiral Phillip R. Olson, US Navy, Retired
152. Major General Raymund E. O'Mara, US Air Force, Retired
153. Rear Admiral Robert S. Owens, US Navy, Retired
154. Major General Robert W. Paret, US Air Force, Retired
155. Rear Admiral Robert O. Passmore, US Navy, Retired
156. Major General Robert Patterson, US Air Force, Retired
157. Major General Richard E. Perraut, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
158. Rear Admiral W.W. Pickavance, Jr., US Navy, Retired
159. Rear Admiral L.F. Picotte, US Navy, Retired
160. Rear Admiral Thomas J. Porter, US Navy, Retired
161. Major General H. Douglas Robertson, US Army, Retired
162. Major General Alan V. Rogers, US Air Force, Retired
163. Major General Eric J. Rosborg, US Air Force, Retired
164. Rear Admiral W.J. Ryan, US Navy, Retired
165. Rear Admiral Norman Saunders, US Coast Guard, Retired
166. Major General John P. Schoeppner, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
167. Major General Edison E. Scholes, US Army, Retired
168. Rear Admiral Hugh P. Scott, US Navy, Retired
169. Major General Richard Secord, US Air Force, Retired

170. Rear Admiral James M. Seely, US Navy, Retired
 171. Major General Sidney Shachnow, US Army, Retired
 172. Rear Admiral William H. Shawcross, US Navy, Retired
 173. Rear Admiral Bob Shumaker, US Navy, Retired
 174. Major General Willie Studer, US Air Force, Retired
 175. Major General Larry Taylor, US Marine Corps, Retired
 176. Rear Admiral Jeremy Taylor, US Navy, Retired
 177. Major General Richard L. Testa, US Air Force, Retired
 178. Rear Admiral Robert P. Tiernan, US Navy, Retired
 179. Major General Paul E. Vallely, US Army, Retired
 180. Major General Kenneth W. Weir, US Marine Corps, Retired
 181. Major General John Welde, US Air Force, Retired
 182. Rear Admiral James B. Whittaker, US Navy, Retired
 183. Major General Geoffrey P. Wiedeman, Jr., MD, US Air Force, Retired
 184. Rear Admiral Thomas J. Wilson, III, US Navy, Retired
 185. Rear Admiral H. Denny Wisely, US Navy, Retired
186. Brigadier General John R. Allen, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
 187. Brigadier General Dale F. Andres, US Army, Retired
 188. Brigadier General John C. Arick, US Marine Corps, Retired
 189. Brigadier General Loring R. Astorino, US Air Force, Retired
 190. Rear Admiral Robert E. Besal, US Navy, Retired
 191. Brigadier General William Bloomer, US Marine Corps, Retired
 192. Brigadier General George P. Cole, Jr., US Air Force, Retired
 193. Brigadier General Richard A. Coleman, US Air Force, Retired
 194. Brigadier General James L. Crouch, US Air Force, Retired
 195. Rear Admiral Marianne B. Drew, US Navy, Retired
 196. Brigadier General Philip M. Drew, US Air Force, Retired
 197. Brigadier General Jerome V. Foust, US Army, Retired
 198. Brigadier General Larry K. Grundhauser, US Air Force, Retired
 199. Brigadier General Thomas W. Honeywill, US Air Force, Retired
 200. Brigadier General Gary M. Jones, US Army, Retired
 201. Brigadier General Stephen Lanning, US Air Force, Retired
 202. Brigadier General Thomas J. Lennon, US Air Force, Retired
 203. Rear Admiral Bobby C. Lee, US Navy, Retired
 204. Rear Admiral E. S. Skip McGinley, II, US Navy, Retired
 205. Brigadier General Hans J. Mueh, US Air Force, Retired
 206. Brigadier General Rudolf F. Peksens, US Air Force, Retired
 207. Brigadier General Roger W. Scarce, US Army, Retired
 208. Brigadier General Joe Shaefer, US Air Force, Retired
 209. Brigadier General Graham E. Shirley, US Air Force, Retired
 210. Brigadier General Stanley O. Smith, US Air Force, Retired
 211. Brigadier General Hugh B. Tant III, US Army, Retired
 212. Brigadier General Michael Joseph Tashjian, US Air Force, Retired
 213. Brigadier General William Tiernan, US Marine Corps, Retired
 214. Brigadier General Robert V. Woods, US Air Force, Retired

