

Iranian military commander says Tehran will never sit down to talk with Donald Trump



Tehran, August 2 (RHC)-- The chief commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has rebuffed U.S. President Donald Trump's offer of talks with Tehran, saying the Iranian nation will never allow their officials to hold talks with the "Great Satan" and will, instead, stay on the path of resistance against pressure.

In an open letter to Trump, Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari said "Iran is not North Korea to give a positive response to your offer for a meeting." He said: "The Iranian nation has many differences with those nations that submit to domination, and will never allow its authorities to hold talks and meetings with the Great Satan," referring to the United States.

The senior general also described Trump as an "amateurish president" who is sticking with his same old "cheap" business tactics instead of practicing professional politics. Former U.S. presidents learned better than Trump that Iran and its people could not be threatened, and that they would instead close their ranks and strengthen their unity against any foreign threat and pressure, he added.

"You will take to the grave the dream of Iranian officials asking you for a meeting or getting the permission

to meet you from their nation. You would never live to see that day,” Jafari said.

Speaking at a White House news conference on Monday, Trump said, “I would certainly meet with Iran if they wanted to meet.” Asked if he had any preconditions for such a meeting, Trump replied, “No preconditions. If they want to meet, I’ll meet.

However, only hours later, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo set conditions for the meeting. Also on Tuesday, the U.S. president said he has “a feeling” the Iranians will “be talking to us pretty soon.”

Responding to Trump’s offer, Iran’s Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said the U.S. should blame itself for leaving the negotiating table by unilaterally scrapping the 2015 nuclear deal – officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Back in May, Trump unilaterally withdrew Washington from the JCPOA despite objections from the other signatories to the multilateral accord. The move entails the re-imposition of the nuclear-related sanctions on Iran.

Besides those restrictive measures, the White House has vowed the “strongest sanctions in history” on Iran unless the country fulfills a list of US demands.

Trump’s offer of talks came only days after he effectively threatened Iran in a tweet addressed to President Hassan Rouhani and said, “You will suffer consequences the likes of which few throughout history have ever suffered before.”

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