

Ya'alon Casts Doubt on Iranian Diplomatic Efforts

Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon cast doubt Wednesday on the current diplomatic efforts to get Iran to stop its nuclear program.

"The diplomatic channel is not bringing the Iranian nuclear program to a halt, and the economic sanctions have yet to stop the centrifuges. A viable military option is required, even if it is the last resort," Ya'alon said during a meeting with Canadian Chief of Defense Staff Gen. Thomas J. Lawson.

Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Ron Prosor warned the U.N. Security Council on Wednesday of Iran's continued progress toward developing a nuclear program.

"The Iranian nuclear program continues to advance at the speed of an express train," Prosor said. "The international community's efforts to stop them are moving at the pace of the local train, pausing at every stop for some nations to get off and on."

Prosor called Iran's nuclear ambitions "the single greatest threat to the Middle East and the entire world."

The ambassador also said Iran's expressed concern over the Arms Trade Treaty, which details the conventions of global trade in conventional weapons, was audacious. He said Iran is a prime supplier of weapons for terrorist groups in the Middle East, and he likened their complaint to "the Mafia complaining that the crime rate in New York is too high."

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