

That Worrisome China-Iran Deal

by Hugh Fitzgerald



While the Biden Administration was preoccupied with passage of the \$1.9 trillion stimulus package, the attack on the Capitol, racial injustice, and suchlike domestic considerations, Iran and China – two of America’s three most dangerous enemies – were getting together to fashion a 25-year alliance that strengthens Iran’s negotiating position with Washington. A report on what this agreement includes, by the Israeli analyst Dan Shueftan, is here: “Iran-China deal is cause for concern,” by Dan Schueftan, [said Amos Yadlin](#), former head of Military Intelligence for the IDF and currently head of the Institute for National Security Studies. Yadlin said that with that clause about intelligence sharing, “China is putting itself in a place that, until today, it had not been before.”

“On a fundamental level, China opposes an Iranian nuclear bomb, but on the other hand, it is not helping to stop Iran,” said Yadlin. “Iran, too, needs the political support which China has to stop the United States from pressuring it.”

“The Chinese understand that the Biden administration is not the Trump administration, and they can be much more aggressive,” he added.

China commits to enhanced “military cooperation” with Iran in the future. What does this mean? Will China, as it is constantly upgrading its weaponry, and determined as it is to catch up with and in some weaponry possibly surpass the Americans, be able to supply advanced fighters to Iran, equal in performance to the American Stealth fighter F-35? Will it supply Iran with missile defense systems equal to those of Israel? Will China decide to help the Iranians with their nuclear project, or their ballistic missile program? Most worrisome, China has agreed to share with Iran its intelligence about the region, and especially about the Jewish state. The Chinese, according to the Israelis, have a spying operation in the Jewish state that targets Israel’s two largest arms exporters, Israel Aerospace Industries and the arms manufacturer Rafael, along with the company Elbit Systems. Now Israel must assume that whatever they find out, they will pass on to Iran.

For Israel, and its Sunni allies, this Iran-China deal is a terrible development. But with Biden in the saddle, all hat and no cattle, what did you expect?

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