



In aid worker dishes out food to the victims of the Tuesday earthquake at a camp in the town of Orta, 80 miles (50 miles) north of Ankara. (AFP Photo)

IRAN DAILY

Number 873

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Khordad 19, 1379

Rabi-ul-Awal 5, 1421

www.Iran-Daily.com

Price 500 Rials

Behbahani's Claims Mere Lies 2

Iran Ready to Process Caspian Oil 3

Suicide Bomber Kills Lankan Minister 7

Iran Daily Interview: US Expert Analyzes 1953 Coup

Revolutions's Achievements Still Not Fully Analyzed



Malcolm Byrne

National Security Archive (based at George Washington University).

"But the US made a huge mistake."

Discussing what he called a joint US-Britain operation, Byrne, who is in Iran to take part in a two-day conference themed 'Iran and the Great Powers', said that in 1953, the US focused so heavily on the Soviet Union that it totally misunderstood Russian capabilities and the situation of Iran.

He said the US was afraid that Iran's Premier Mohammad Mosaddeq could not handle the growing crisis with Britain and the oil nationalization. "They thought that Mosaddeq would end up being swallowed up by politics and the Tudeh Party would gain control of the country. That would mean the Soviets would be in charge. This is what Washington wanted to prevent," he said.

However, he said, the coup initially failed. "The Mosaddeq government found out about the plan and tried to warn Mosaddeq. Certain people thought that the US and British were relying on

apparently did not come through. So the initial coup failed. It was the main US agent Kermit Roosevelt who made it happen," Byrne said.

He added that since Mohammad Reza Shah was

For 46 years, the CIA has kept secret a particular document, a history about the plans of the 1953 coup and about the things that happened in the coup. The agency has refused to release the document.



considered a weak individual, the US did not rely on him. Iran was an important country for the United States and for the world because of its oil. Thus Iran became the subject of intense US interest and concern. I think the US would have staged the coup with or without the stab."

In 1999, the National Security Archive filed a lawsuit to force the CIA to release the same.

However, the document was leaked to the New York Times and the paper published an abstract of it in its March 16 issue for the first time.

The source used to work

for CIA.

Byrne said certain CIA directors have admitted that in the 1960s there was a lot of documentation on Iran that was destroyed. "But there is still a significant amount of information available."

Noting optimism about the future of US-Iran relations, he said there are too many interests on both sides for promoting better understanding and closer connections. "Moreover, if this kind of documentation can be made available in the long run, then may be it can get rid of some suspicions on each side about what happened."

Established in 1985, the National Security Archive studies the history of US foreign policy, particularly during the cold war period. It has a specific mandate to look at US-Iran relations after the end of World War II. The organization is focusing on particular turning points in the relationship.



An overview of the seminar themed 'Iran and the Big Powers 1950-1954' held in Tehran (IRNA Photo)

TEHRAN, June 7--A seminar entitled 'Iran and the Big Powers 1950-1954' kicked off on Wednesday in the presence of domestic and foreign experts at the Foreign Ministry's Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS).

Addressing the inaugural ceremony, deputy foreign minister for educational affairs, Sadeq Kharrazi, pointed to the fundamental changes which have occurred in the country in the course of the Islamic Revolution. He said it could not be denied that the pace of post-revolution development was so rapid that the public was given no opportunity to study and analyze its dimensions.

"Therefore," he said, "it can be concluded that the reasons, key factors, and outcome of the change that it has brought on society have not been explored and its realities not fully dis-

covered." Kharrazi pointed to the various reasons behind the crises in the country's chronology of events, and said that due to the role alien powers played in bringing the Pahlavi regime to power, the regime tried its best to conceal the fact in its archives of written documents in order to give legitimacy to its role.

He expressed hope that the genuine historical record would be released so as to enable researchers to gain new conclusions and thereby reach a general consensus in an effort to better understand the motives of the revolution.

On the opening day of the two-day seminar, participants will be discussing the the US, Britain, Russian and the oil industry, the nationalization movement and the August 19, 1953 coup, and capitalism and the oil industry nationalization movement.

Lebanese War Booty for the Army

BEIRUT, Lebanon, June 7--The Lebanese Islamic resistance have said they will deliver all the war booty taken from the Israeli army to the Lebanese army. The dec-

ry over the occupiers for the generations to come.

When the Israelis fled south Lebanon together with the South Lebanese Army mem-



Perspective Turkey's Obsessions

By MOHSEN SHARIAT

Sunday Elections for Majlis Presiding Board

TEHRAN, June 7--The