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US plan for Iran strike ready: US envoy to Israel

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Ahead of the upcoming Iran-P5+1 talks, US Ambassador to Tel Aviv Dan Shapiro says Washington has already drawn up plans for a possible military attack against Tehran.

"It would be preferable to resolve this (Iran's nuclear issue) diplomatically and through the use of pressure than to use military force," Shapiro said in remarks aired by Israel's Army Radio on Thursday.

He said, however, that necessary planning has been done to ensure that the option of a possible military attack on Iran is ready.

"But that doesn't mean that option is not fully available - not just available, but it's ready. The necessary planning has been done to ensure that it's ready."

The envoy's comments come ahead of the upcoming negotiations between Iran and the P5+1- the five permanent UN Security Council members plus Germany- in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad.

The representatives of Iran and the P5+1 held the latest round of talks in the Turkish city of Istanbul on April 14.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the general atmosphere of the negotiations and agreed to continue talks in Baghdad in May.

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Saeed Jalili said Thursday that the upcoming talks must revolve around cooperation based on the inalienable rights of the Iranian nation.

Iran says that as a committed signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency, it has the right to use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, dismissing allegations of pursuing military objectives in its nuclear energy program.