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## Mullen: US Still Thinking About Attacking Iran

By Jason Ditz

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Despite providing no new evidence to the contrary, US Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Admiral Michael Mullen says he “[doesn’t believe for a second](#)” that Iran’s nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, and reiterated that the US is considering attacking Iran over it.

“[We’ve actually been thinking about military options for a significant period of time.](#)” Mullen insisted. Indeed the US has been threatening to attack Iran off and on for years, usually citing the civilian nuclear program as a justification.

The threat comes just weeks after [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu admonished the US regarding Iran, saying that they needed to threaten to attack Iran much more often](#) than they had been in recent months. The US had publicly rejected the call, saying they threaten Iran enough at present, but such a new, high profile threat suggests they may still be on the rise.

It [also comes just a week before the planned P5+1 talks with Iran](#), which are supposed to be a meaningful effort involving US diplomats to kick-start talks designed to prevent a war with Iran. Timing the threat like this may suggest the talks aren’t going to amount to much.