

January 22, 2016

U.S. Sanctions 11 Entities for Supporting Iran's Ballistic Missile Program

The U.S. Treasury Department sanctioned nearly a dozen Iranian-linked entities Sunday for their role in Tehran's ballistic-missile program, a move coming just hours after Washington and Tehran concluded a high-stakes prisoner swap. "Iran's ballistic-missile program poses a significant threat to regional and global security, and it will continue to be subject to international sanctions," the Treasury Department's top sanctions official, Adam Szubin, said in a statement released Sunday. According to The Wall Street Journal, the sanctions target U.A.E.-based Mabrooka Trading Co. LLC and its founder, Hossein Pournaghshband, for allegedly aiding Iranian state companies in acquiring carbon fiber for Iran's missile program. The U.S. also alleges that Tehran sent technicians to North Korea over the past two years to jointly work with its defense industries on the development of an 80-ton rocket booster.