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Trump Withdraws U.S. From Iran Accord

The U.S. is exiting the Iranian nuclear accord, President Donald Trump said Tuesday, dismantling his predecessor's most prominent foreign-policy initiative and bucking the appeals of some of America's closest allies. Speaking in the Diplomatic Room of the White House, Mr. Trump delivered harsh words about the 2015 deal to curb and monitor Iran's nuclear activity, calling it "horrible," "one-sided" and "disastrous." According to The Wall Street Journal, the president said he planned to institute sanctions against Iran, and said the U.S. would sanction any nation that helps Tehran pursue nuclear weapons, as well as U.S. and foreign companies and banks that continue to do business with the country. After an 11-minute televised speech explaining his decision, Mr. Trump sat down at a desk and signed an order withdrawing the U.S. from the pact as Vice President Mike Pence, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and national security adviser John Bolton looked on from across the room. Administration officials said the Iran sanctions suspended under the agreement snapped immediately back into effect, meaning any new contracts and financial deals are banned. They said businesses and banks have either 90 or 180 days to wind down existing ties, depending on the particular type of transaction.