

Iranian FM Mottaki In Washington

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Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki was in Washington yesterday. US State Department spokesman said that Mottaki had asked for permission to visit the Iranian interest section at the Pakistan Embassy in Washington, but that no meetings with administration officials were planned

The spokesman said he did not know whether Mottaki had planned other "non-official" meetings and refused to characterize the visit as part of a "new initiative" by Washington toward Tehran.

Al-Jazeera TV reported this morning that senior U.S. administration official Robert Burns had told the press in Geneva, prior to a 5+1 meeting with Iran on nuclear issues, that the U.S. delegation in Geneva is authorized to engage in bilateral discussions with Iran.

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