

Tuesday, 30 October 2012

## Irans defense minister says US is the source of cyber terrorism report



The United States is the source of cyber terrorism, Iran's defense minister said, according to a report published by a local daily. "The United States is the source of cyber terrorism and intends to pave the way for increasing its activities in relation to cyber terrorism through diverting attention and leveling accusation," Defense Minister Ahmad Vahidi was quoted as saying on Monday by the Tehram Times. Vahidi was responding to U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta who has hinted that Iran was behind recent cyber-attacks against oil and gas companies in the Arabian Gulf.

"Potential aggressors should be aware that the United States has the capacity to locate them and hold them accountable for their actions that may try to harm America," Panetta had said, adding that Iran has "undertaken a concerted effort to use cyberspace to its advantage." Vahidi added that Israel was another "blatant example of cyber terrorism." "This [Zionist] regime, in cooperation with the United States, is trying to pressure independent countries and the countries that are opposed to hegemonistic policies through planning and launching cyber-attacks," Vahidi said, according to the Tehran Times, adding that both countries have already launched a number of cyber-attacks against Iran.