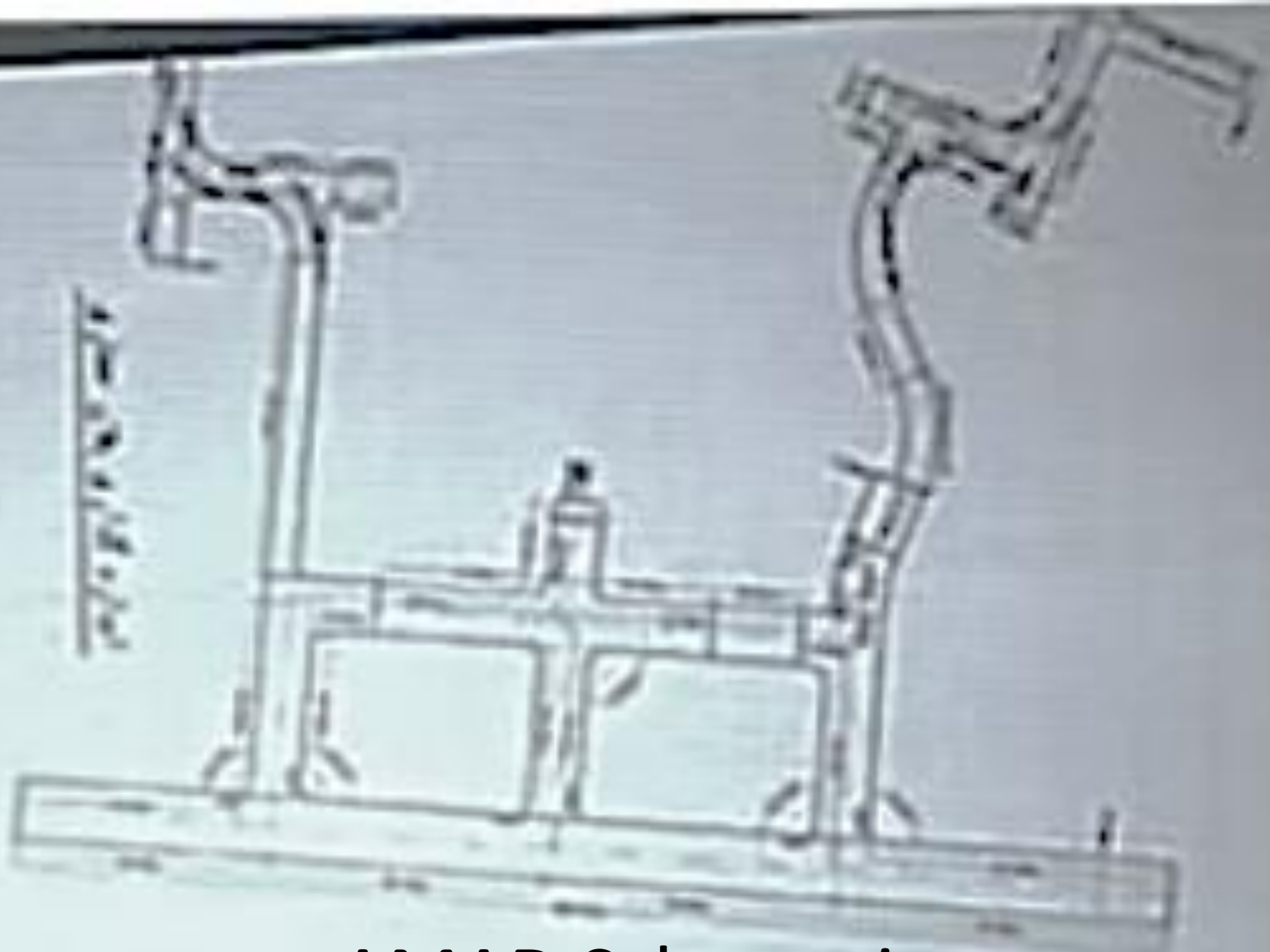


It Fits!

Qom Site Layout

Overlaying a schematic from the AMAD archive on the Qom, now called the Fordow, deeply buried enrichment plant. This plant was built in secret by Iran in the mid-2000s and publicly exposed by Britain, France, and the United States in 2009.

By David Albright and Frank Pabian,
Institute for Science and International Security,
May 1, 2018



AMAD Schematic

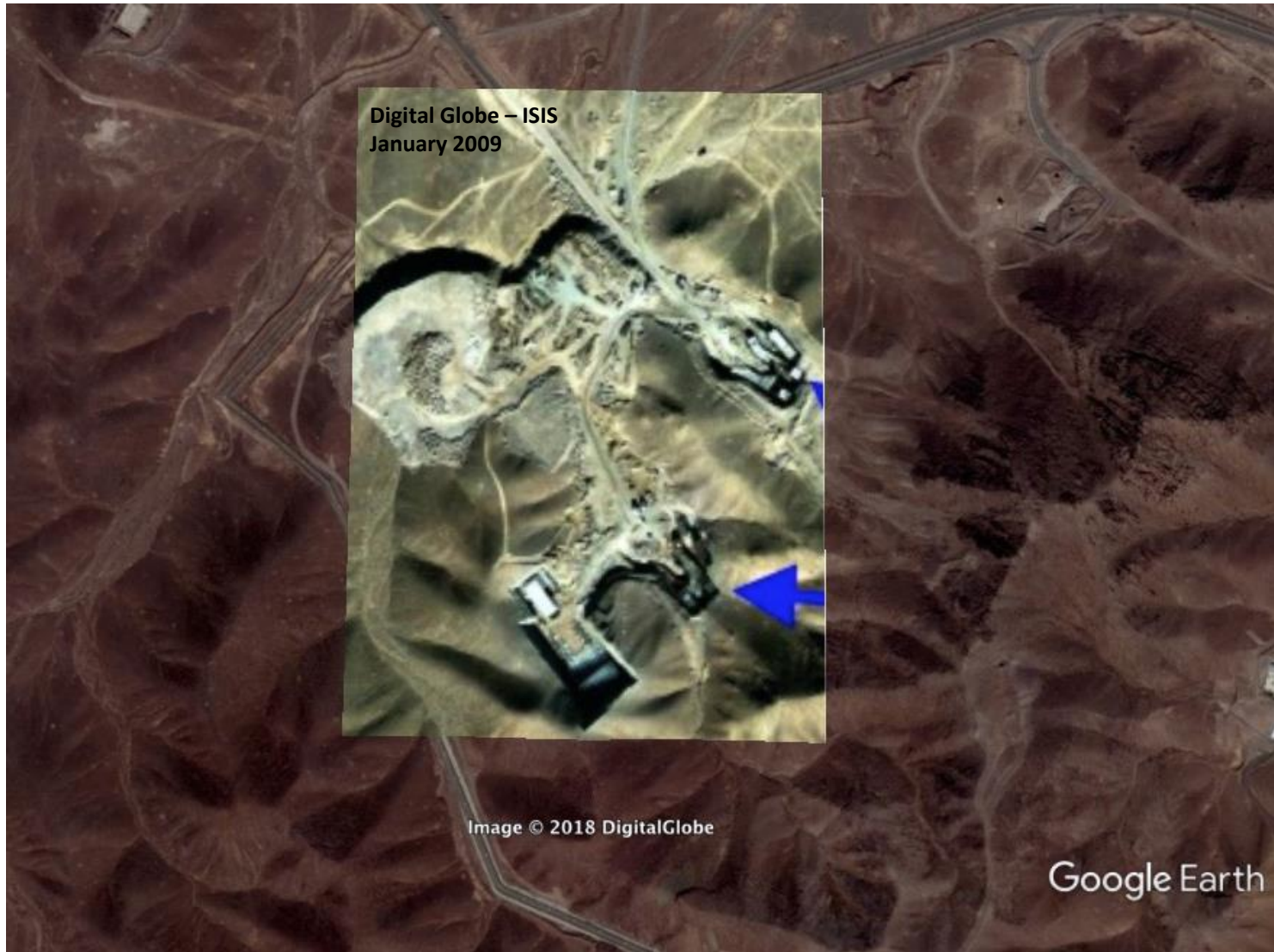
Qom Site, 2009, Digital Globe/ISIS¹



Digital Globe – ISIS
January 2009

¹ "Satellite Imagery of Two Possible Sites of the Qom Enrichment Facility in Iran," Institute for Science and International Security, September 25, 2009, <http://isis-online.org/isis-reports/detail/satellite-imagery-of-two-possible-sites-of-the-qom-enrichment-facility-in-i/8>

Qom Site, 2009, showing two entrances



Digital Globe – ISIS
January 2009



Image © 2018 DigitalGlobe

Google Earth

Qom Site

Long Axis of Main Centrifuge Hall Parallels Ridge Line



Image © 2018 DigitalGlobe
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image © 2018 CNES / Airbus
Image © 2018 CNES / Airbus

Google Earth

Long Axis of Main Centrifuge Hall Parallels Ridge Line



Image © 2018 DigitalGlobe
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image © 2018 CNES / Airbus
Image © 2018 CNES / Airbus

Google Earth

Long Axis of Main Centrifuge Hall Parallels Ridge Line

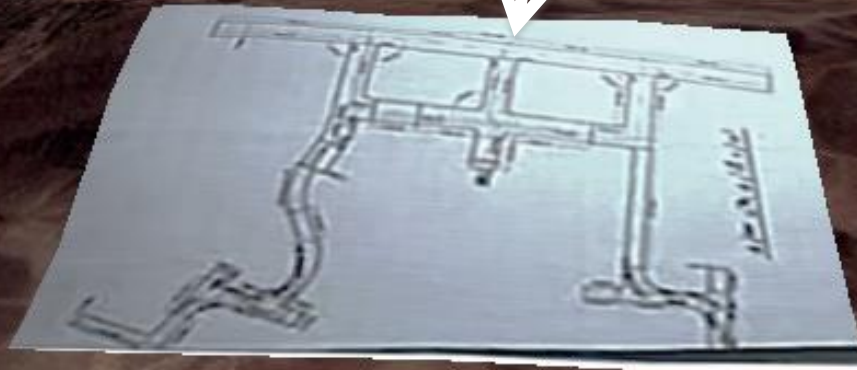


Image © 2018 DigitalGlobe
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image © 2018 CNES / Airbus
Image © 2018 CNES / Airbus

Google Earth

Fordow today



Image © 2018 DigitalGlobe

Qom Site Entrance, also called Fordow
November 25, 2015

Google Earth

Observations

- The schematic matches the entrances and expected layout of the deeply buried Qom uranium enrichment plant.
- Iran calls this site the Fordow facility, and it is constrained from operating centrifuges there by the Iran nuclear deal. However, this facility still exists, largely intact, and can be re-opened on short notice.
- The schematic is an AMAD document, showing that the origin of this plant was in the Iranian nuclear weapons program, a fact we have long assessed but is now proven.
- Because the Qom plant was designed in the AMAD program, it was likely intended to make highly enriched uranium for nuclear weapons.
- It is deeply buried and located at a military site; it was built under intense secrecy.
- Its public revelation in 2009 by Britain, France, and the United States derailed Iran's ability to make weapon-grade uranium at this secret site. Locating the site was not easy.
- Iran was building this plant at a time when US intelligence agencies were stating that Iran's nuclear weapons program had ended. The linkage of this facility to the AMAD program provides new evidence that in 2009 Iran was actually planning to create a facility in secret to make the raw ingredient for nuclear weapons, namely weapon-grade uranium.