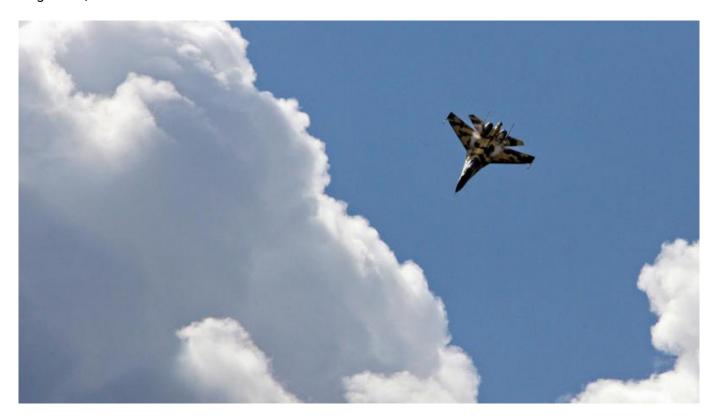


Iran to Buy Russian Sukhoi Fighter Jets, Says Official

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Maxim Stulov / Vedomosti

Iran is set to begin negotiations on a new deal to buy Russian Sukhoi fighter jets, the country's Defense Minister announced on Sunday.

Speaking on Iranian television, Brigadier General Hossein Dehgan⊠said that move made part of wider plans to develop the Iranian air force.

Tehran has also recently received a Russian S-300 anti-aircraft⊠missile defense system, which was first purchased by Iran in 2007.

The deal was suspended in 2010 due to UN sanctions against the **⊠**country, but was resumed again in November 2015.

Testing of Iran's Bavar-373 anti-aircraft system is also to take**∑**place in the near future, Dehgan said.

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