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Behind the Deepening Crisis with Iran: The Real Story Versus the Cover Story

By Mark H Gaffney

February 21, 2012 "[Information Clearing House](#)" --- Recently, President Obama imposed new sanctions on Iran which according to reports have been very effective, causing a sudden major devaluation of Iran's currency. The Iranians correctly understand that they are under attack, and have threatened to respond by closing the strait of Hormuz, through which a large percentage of oil from the Mideast flows to the global economy.

If the crisis deepens and Iran makes good on its threat to close Hormuz, there is little doubt that the US will intervene to reopen the strait. This will lead to a shooting war for which Iran will be blamed, even though the recent US sanctions were tantamount to overt aggression.

I believe the US will exploit the situation to attack Iran's nuclear facilities. But, even more importantly, the US will target Iran's conventional missiles. Indeed, I believe this is the real reason for US sanctions in the first place, and for the buildup of tensions in recent days. Despite public perceptions, and all the rhetoric about nukes, the present crisis has nothing to do with Iran's alleged nuclear weapons program. In my opinion, that is just a cover story.

The real issue is the fact that Iran has upgraded its medium range conventionally-armed missiles with GPS technology, making its missiles much more accurate. This means Iran can now target Israel's own nuclear, bio and chemical weapons stockpiles, located inside Israel, as well as the Dimona nuclear reactor.

In short, Iran has achieved a conventional deterrent to Israel. Therefore, statements by Iranian officials that Iran has no nuclear weapons program are in my view probably correct. Presently, Iran does not need nukes to deter Israel. It can do so with its GPS-guided medium range missiles. The Israelis are no doubt gnashing their teeth over this, because they now find themselves threatened by their own WMD stockpiles, and by their own nuclear reactors, especially Dimona, all of which have become targets.

A few direct hits by Iran could cause a toxic plume, killing thousands of Israelis. A worst case might signal the end of the Jewish state.

It is important to realize that Iran would never launch a pre-emptive strike on Israel because the Iranians know that the US/Israeli response would be devastating. However, if Iran comes under attack first, all bets are off. Iran will defend itself. A counter attack on Israel cannot be ruled out because Iranian leaders understand clearly (even if the American people do not) that the crisis has been manufactured, on Israel's behalf.

From the Israeli standpoint, the present Iranian deterrent (though conventional) is simply unacceptable. Israel's military strategists have always insisted on total freedom of movement. This is why Israel refused a US offer many years ago to sign a defense pact with the US. Such a treaty would have limited Israel's freedom of movement, and this was unacceptable. Israel's leaders preferred to remain independent. Israel has always insisted on the "freedom" to intimidate its neighbors, whenever and howsoever it chooses. Iran's conventional missiles now curtail that "freedom." Israeli officials probably worry, for example, that Iran's conventional missiles would limit its freedom to attack Hezbollah in Lebanon, in a future conflict. Hezbollah is closely allied with Tehran.

I believe the present crisis has been manufactured to create the pretext for a US air campaign to take out Iran's conventional missile sites. The US will also target Iran's nuclear facilities, but the primary target will be Iran's conventional missiles. The US will be doing Israel's bidding. The Zionist tail will be

wagging the servile US dog.

Obviously, you can't generate public support for such a bombing campaign, on Israel's behalf. Hence the cover story about nukes and the alleged Iranian threat to wipe Israel off the map, all of which is untrue but very effective propaganda nonetheless.

The problem for the US is that depriving Iran of its conventional deterrent will not be easy to accomplish. Indeed, it will be even more difficult than taking out all of Iran's nuclear facilities. Iran's conventional missiles are probably dispersed widely. If they come under attack, the purpose of the air campaign will be transparently obvious to the Iranian leadership. Faced with the prospect of losing their deterrent, the Mullahs may well decide to fire their conventional missiles. If they do and manage some direct hits on Israel's nuclear-bio-and chemical weapons stockpiles, the ensuing disaster will prompt an Israeli response. Israel may even resort to the Samson Option, and attack Iran with nukes. Words cannot describe the horrific scale of such an outcome. Unfortunately, it is all too possible.

Early in the war, US naval forces in the Gulf will also come under attack. No mistake, Iran has enough anti-ship cruise missiles to pose a grave threat to the US naval presence in the Gulf. Thousands of US sailors are now in harm's way, and at risk.

We must rally to prevent such a war. Peace activists must now marshal every asset for peace that we possess. The American people need to know the truth. This is a phony crisis. Yet the danger is very real. Now is the time to speak out with all of our strength. Tomorrow could come too late.

Mark H Gaffney's forthcoming book, Black 9/11, will be released soon by Trineday Press. It can be ordered at www.trineday.com

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dougal · 1 day ago

Thank you for this piece. The facts should be obvious to anyone but unfortunately so many people believe what they are told by the MSM. We must ALL do whatever we can to prevent this upcoming war. It never fails to amaze me how evil the US/Isreal partnership continues to foment pain, choas and horror.

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Bill Duke · 1 day ago

Sounds like an extremely feasible hypothesis considering the deceptive policies and complicit media of THE UNITED STATES, INC. and Israel. Sent it around to my contacts and would ask fellow posters to do the same.

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1 reply · active 1 day ago

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Kurt O · 1 day ago

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The bully in...

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Bill Duke

Well said, jerry...thanks.....now let us all get this video out. Personally, I am looking for a place...

» 1 hour ago

Comments by IntenseDebate

History repeating itself. The men surrounding FDR led him to goad Japan into striking the first blow kicking off WWII. This is the same shit, different century, and as with WWII, the real string pullers are the transnational Zio-bankster mafia who control world monetary systems.

And as long as they continue to have this control over our money, they will pretty much control everything else of importance -- the nonstop wars along with the immense human suffering they bring will continue apace.

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dumbo · 1 day ago

"AMERICANS NEED TO KNOW THE TRUTH "
I don't know where they are going to get it from, the media in the US is about as much use as a chocolate fire guard.

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[1 reply](#) · active 1 day ago

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Blame NWO · 1 day ago

Another useless, ignorant and senseless act of aggression. Seriously? We need to quit voting Demo/Repug. And put our own people in. Anyone who has more then one mil? Sorry. You're out.

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Deadbeat · 1 day ago

Because Gaffney is too cowardly or is ignorant, or whatever the reason avoids Zionism. If he argued that the reason why the U.S. will attack Iran is due to Zionist who controls the U.S. government and was to educate people of that fact he would have a better chance of halting a potential war on Iran.

The problem with his argument is that if people understand that the U.S. wants to take out Iran's military deterrent that people may in fact rally behind that. American have been fed with racist propaganda against Arabs, Muslim and Persians for decades. If the U.S. wants to eliminate Iran's conventional deterrent that MAY be a beneficial with the racist narrative. Thus Gaffney's argument is rather a dishonest argument that could have an "unintended" outcome.

The only way to deal with this issue is by exposing Zionism and its racist, supremacist and expansionist agenda.

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tadzio · 1 day ago

An additional reason that the Israelis turned down a defense pact with the US is that such a commitment would require the zionist entity to define its borders. As the leader of an aggressive, expansionist state Netanyahu does not want to limit Israel to its present occupied areas or hinder its ability to bring about an additional Nabka should the opportunity arise.

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karlof1 · 1 day ago

The US Empire's policy since 1979 toward Iran is Regime Change; everything else is a ruse. The US Empire used its proxy Iraq in a prolonged war to try and accomplish that policy goal and failed. The only way to accomplish that policy is to invade and then occupy Iran, and an army of several millions would be required just for the attempt. Limited attacks on Iran's nuclear program or its defense works will NOT accomplish the policy goal. And nuking Iran isn't viable either as such a strike and Iran's regional counterstrikes will effectively cripple the region's oil industry and thus end the Industrial Age.

Iran and its allies have successfully anticipated the US Empire's moves and negated them almost immediately. China and Russia have both announced they will stand with Iran, and the initial assault on Dollar Hegemony via the PetroDollar is about to commence. What we have on display in Western media is the Bully foaming at the mouth as it no longer can have its way. Escobar uses a different metaphor in his piece, http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/NB22Ak04...

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marcus · 1 day ago

U.S. govnt.-CIA media propaganda is only effective if we don't expose it. Articles like "Iranian aircraft carriers in the Gulf of Mexico", etc. exposing the 60 yr U.S. overthrows, repression, proxy war, terrorist bombings, sabotage, U.S. spy flights, Stuxnet attack, strangulation, surrounding with U.S. bases & aircraft carriers, & constant war threats by warmongering mega-uke U.S. & israel against no-uke peaceful Iran, all acts of war, can deflate the lies & expose the U.S as ALREADY firing the first shots. This article will show that the Iranian defensive deterrent threatens no-one & actually prevents war by the U.S & Israeli mad dogs. Everyone must debunk the lies of the CIA- media war criminals. The military has said war is 90% propaganda. Peace is the truth people hear.

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hansignals4theblind · 1 day ago

this is a great piece of information. the fact is Israel likes to be unchallenged. There has to be a deterrant to blatant Israeli aggression for it's own sake and the worlds- after all where will all that nuclear dust go but into the wind and land somewhere. This is a catastrophe in the making, surely, america prove your detractors wrong by showing you are not servile to zionist aspirations

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