

Poseidon's Trident

The Three-Pronged threat from the Persian Gulf

The threats to Western Civilization emanating from the Persian Gulf are three and only two of them are Iranian. The third and greatest threat comes from Saudi Arabia.

The Iranian threat to the West is two fold. The first is the threat to destroy Israel. The second is the threat to destroy the United States. Both of these threats are to be carried out by the use of irregular forces (Hezbollah), regular military forces (principally Syrian) and by nuclear armed missiles from Iran proper. What is seldom mentioned is the Iranian threat to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States that is based upon religious schism.

The Western press hardly ever makes mention of the fact that the major oil producing areas of the Persian Gulf are majority Shiite. The Gulf Cooperation Council was formed in the middle 1980s as a response to Iranian activities among the Shiite populations of these countries. Not only would Israel be very happy to see the United States remove the Iranian nuclear threat, so would the rest of the Gulf States. They are just as vulnerable if not more vulnerable to Iran's nuclear forces than Israel. They are even more vulnerable to sectarian strife initiated from Tehran.

Iran is a short term threat. Its economy is in the tank. It cannot refine enough petroleum to meet its needs. Its military is large but technologically not up to modern standards. Destroying Iran as a modern nation can be accomplished without invasion and without the use of nuclear weapons. Any attempt to invade Iraq as a response can be effectively stopped at the Shatt al-Arab by superior firepower. Iran is a one dimensional threat at best. It may even implode on its own.

The threat posed by Saudi Arabia is much more dangerous and much longer term. That threat is the spread of Wahabbi Islam. The most apparent manifestation of that threat is El Queda and its associated franchisees. The mostly hidden part of the threat is the Wahabbization of mosques around the World and the creation of groups whose purpose is to camouflage that Wahabbization and deflect any criticism of the progress of Wahabbization.

The major Islamic organizations in the West are almost all Wahabbist. Among those are The Committee for American Islamic Relations (CAIR), The World Association of Muslim Youth (WAMY), The North American Council for Fatwa and Research, The European Council for Fatwa and Research (both chaired by Yousef al-Qawadari, reputed spiritual advisor to the Muslim Brotherhood). It is surprising how much deference is paid to these organizations by politicians including the President. He now plans to send a representative to the Organization of the Islamic Conference. This is a Saudi sponsored forum for the Islamic states.

There is reasonable evidence that the United States may be preparing to take some action against Iran depending upon the outcome of the July 16th Security Council meeting dealing with Iran's nuclear program. There is no doubt that Israelis are pushing for such an attack. It would not be stretching credulity to presume that Saudi Arabia is also pressing for such an attack but certainly not publicly. The destruction of Iran would probably cause the removal of the theocracy and the installation of a secular government. That may happen on its own given the economic disaster that is the Iranian economy. It would also end any thoughts among the Shia who live in the GCC states of rebelling against their Sunni masters. We would be seen as punishing the Shia for a schism that is 1200+ years old and inflaming the rest of Islam against us. That is a really good deal for the Saudis.

Why is it that we do not hear about Saudi actions within the United States? Why do politicians show such deference to Wahabbist organizations and supporters of terrorist organizations? Good questions. If you visit Andrew Shulman's www.anti-cair-net.org you can see exactly what kind of organization CAIR is. They are not our friends. Several of their senior people have been convicted of various terrorist crimes in Federal court. That should be a hint.

America must take a serious look at whatever action may be planned against Iran. It might not rank as the stupidest thing we have ever done but it would be right near the top of the list. Iran does not have a contiguous border with Israel and therefore is only a threat by missile or proxy. Right now Syria and Hezbollah are Iran's proxies. Remove Syria from Iran's orbit and you go a long way towards stabilizing the Eastern Mediterranean especially Lebanon. Iran ceases to be a real threat to Israel until, or if, it develops a weaponized nuclear explosive.

Removing Iran as a direct threat to Israel does not remove it as a direct threat to the Sunni dictatorships of the Gulf States. A theocratic Iran is still capable of inciting rebellion among the Shia along the Western Persian Gulf.