

A Test of Manhood

Welcome to July, 1941 with a few chord changes.

Commander of Iran's Army Major General Ataollah Salehi has warned a US aircraft carrier not to return to the Persian Gulf, adding that the warning comes "only once."

On December 30, 2011 the Iranian Navy identified and recorded footage and images of the USS John C. Stennis in the area where Iran is currently holding naval military exercises.

General Salehi said on Tuesday that we recommend and warn the aircraft carrier not to return to its previous position in the Persian Gulf, "since we are not in the habit of repeating a warning and we warn only once." (<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/219094.html>)

To which we replied.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 2012 – Closure of the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, which Iran has threatened while holding military exercises there since Dec. 23, will not be tolerated, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said today.

According to international news reports, Iran has warned the United States not to replace the aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis, which last week left the strait -- the only sea passage to the open ocean for petroleum-producing nations in the Persian Gulf region.

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"No one in this government seeks confrontation over the Strait of Hormuz," he added. "It's important to lower the temperature."

The deployment of U.S. military assets in the Persian Gulf region will continue as it has for decades, the Pentagon press secretary said. (<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=66655>)

Please read both articles for more important information.

Analysis. Roosevelt's embargo of Japan was Japan's test of manhood. Surrender or fight. For Japan surrender meant ending their war in China. This was culturally and economically impossible for Japan whose doctrine of *Hakko Ichui* dictated Japanese cultural supremacy.

We have just presented Iran with the same choice: surrender or fight. To the Iranians it means surrender their nuclear program. In the end it also means surrender to the supremacy of Sunni Islam. This the mullahs cannot do, especially those who follow the teachings of Ayatollah Mesbah Yazdi. It is their mission to bring forth the Mahdi as soon as possible, what ever it takes. Whatever you may think of the mullahocracy that runs Iran, they are set upon a mission from which they will not be easily deterred.

Fight or flight? The mullahocracy will not surrender. Therefore they will fight. They will martyr Iran and maybe most of Iraq in their irrational quest for the return of the Mahdi. What we must determine is how they plan to accomplish this task.

The dream of a two front assault on the Saudis is being taken away from them. Assad is in a death struggle with his own people thanks to the intervention of the Saudis. This will continue until Assad is dead. He had his chance to rid himself of the Iranians and failed. Assad may yet choose to attack his

neighbors. Presume that if he does the fighting power of the Syrian Army will have been reduced by the half that is busy slaughtering his people who are not Alawites. This is sectarian civil war.

Iraq is about to become the next theater of sectarian civil war. I presume at this point that the Shiites nominally lead by Maliki will endeavor to organize to assist the Iranians in bringing back the Mahdi. The well in Karbala is where the Mahdi is supposed to return from the occultation. Expect that to be a primary target for destruction perhaps by the Saudi Air Force. Removing all hope of the Mahdi's return goes a long way towards shutting down the Iranian mullahs. There will still be the Yazdis who will insist that the Mahdi can deoccult himself through whatever obstacles are placed in his way.

In the meantime, perhaps the Iranians only hope for salvation is rapidly going elsewhere for oil. It appears that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has gone to buying oil from Russia and Vietnam while attempting to extract serious price concessions from the Iranians. The PRC is already getting Iranian oil at serious concession prices and for goods in kind. If the Iranians are being squeezed by the PRC, we may truly count them as pariahs.

Iran is no different from a wild animal backed into a corner from which it cannot escape. Iran does have an escape available in the form of revealing all of its nuclear program. But that is equivalent to surrender to the infidels and renouncing the return of the Mahdi in the foreseeable future. The mullahs would rather martyr themselves and as many Iranians, Iraqis, Syrians, Saudis, et. al. as possible rather than give up their last foreseeable chance to conquer the World for Shiite Islam. They will fight.

But how? Any attack on a US ship will earn them a serious reprisal. Gulf of Tonkin anyone? More likely they will use asymmetric warfare. The third Intefada would be one way. Attacking US forces in Afghanistan would be another. Attacks by Hezbollah on Israel would be another. Same from Gaza. Jerusalem must be controlled by Muslims for the Mahdi to appear. That would be part of the third Intefada I believe. Perhaps random attacks on US facilities in the Middle East via homicide bomber?

Or perhaps they "go for the gold" and initiate open warfare against the Arabian peninsula. The Iranians might decide to use Qods Force personnel to continue the civil unrest along the western side of the Persian Gulf.

Whatever the Iranians decide to do in response to the next time the Stennis or any other carrier transits the Straits of Hormuz, it will set them on the inexorable path to war. Surrender is not an option.

"The price of freedom is the willingness to do sudden battle anywhere, any time and with utter recklessness." - Robert A. Heinlein