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Folder Title: Iran II (3)

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Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name MCNAMARA, THOMAS E. FILES

Counterterronism and Narcotics

File Folder

Box Number

IRAN II MCNAMARA (3/4)

_92299 RAL Box 5

Withdrawer

DLB 5/17/2006

FOIA

F01-113

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ID Doc Type	Doc	ument Description	1	No of	Doc Date	Rest	rictions
24576 FORM	TRAN	ISMITTAL FORM		1	2/4/1988	B3	
	PAR	7/11/2008	NLRRF01-113				
24577 FROM	TRAN	SMITTAL FORM		1	ND	В1	В3
24578 MEMO	INR T	O DISTRIBUTION EATS	, RE: IRANIAN	1	ND	В1	
24579 MEMO		TON ABRAMOWIT	Z TO ARMACOST,	5	2/3/1988	B1	
24580 FORM	TRAN	NSMITTAL FORM		1	ND	B1	B3
	PAR	7/11/2008	NLRRF01-113				
24581 REPORT		TAN REACTION TO	O RECENT MILITARY	9	4/21/1988	B1	В3
	PAR	7/11/2008	NLRRF01-113				
24582 CABLE	#2309	044Z APR 88		2	4/23/1988	В1	
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24583 CABLE	NO C	ABLE NUMBER, R	E: IRAN	2	ND	B1	
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24584 CABLE	NO C	ABLE NUMBER, R	E: IRAN	2	ND	B1	В3
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B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

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B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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24585 CABLE	NO CABLE NUMBER, RE: IRAN	_ 2	ND	B1 B3
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24586 MEMO	BOB OAKLEY TO JOHN NEGROPONTE, RE: US-IRAN RELATIONS AND HOSTAGES	2	6/1/1988	B1
	D 10/21/2011 F2001-113/1			
24587 MEMCON	IRAN	1		B1
	D 10/21/2011 F2001-113/1			
24588 REPORT	RE: IRAN AIR 655	5	7/5/1988	B1
24589 CABLE	#080013Z JUL 88	4	7/8/1988	

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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MCNAMARA, THOMAS E.: FILES DLB 5/17/2006

File Folder FOIA

IRAN II MCNAMARA (3/4) F01-113

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24579 MEMO

5 2/3/1988

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Here is the typescript I promised per our telephone conversation today.

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SEGRET

Central Intelligence Agency



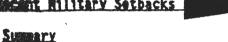
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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

21 April 1988

Iranian Reaction to Recent Military Setbacks



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This memorandum was prepared by Office of Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis. Questions and comments are welcome and may be directed to the Chief,

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Iranian Aggressiveness

Iran's firing on US forces, the placing of mines in the Gulf earlier in the month, and Tehran's recent hostility toward Saudi Arabia over the issue of Iranian participation in the annual pilgrimage to Mecca underscore Iran's continuing hostile stand toward its enemies.

Iran, since the revolution in 1979, generally has exhibited a threatening posture toward its neighbors. Over the years, the degree of overt Iranian hostility has fluctuated, but since the US escort program began last July, it has remained at a high level. (See attached list for a chronology of incidents). Iran has demonstrated its hostility during the past year by:

--Mining Gulf shipping lanes last summer, including the placement of mines obviously intended to damage the first US-escorted convoy. One hit the Bridgeton;



- --Continuing the mining until US forces caught the Iran Ajr redhanded;
- --Firing 10 Silkworm missiles at Kuwait. One hit a US-owned ship; one hit a reflagged tanker; one struck Kuwait's Sea Island Terminal;
- -- Increasing its attacks on ships in the Saudi trade after the United States began protecting Kuwaiti shipping;
- -- Instigating provocative demonstrations by Iranians in Mecca during the annual Hajj, resulting in riots and the deaths of at least 400 pilgrims;
- --Planning an attack on Saudi offshore oil facilities in October. The Saudis apparently forestalled the strike by taking defensive measures after being alerted by US Intalligence;
- --Attacking more ships in the Gulf in December than in any other single month of the war;
- --Increasing the ratio of its ship attacks this year relative to Iraqi ship attacks. The attacks have been running three to two in favor of Tehran (see attached chart);
- --Conducting more lethal ship attacks by occasionally attempting to kill crewmen or to inflict more than superficial damage;
- -- Engaging in more violations of Gulf states' territorial waters in its pursuit of ships to attack;
- --Reportedly sending an agent to sabotage the Bahrain oil refinery;
- --Resuming mining this month.

Viewed from this perspective, Iran's resumption of mining this month was not a sudden, isolated incident but a shift in tactics and targets and a deliberate raising of tensions within the context of a basically aggressive policy Tehran has followed all along. We have no specific information on why Iran resumed the mining, but Tehran apparently perceived that it was losing the initiative to the United States and its Gulf allies. The Iranians knew the mining would provoke a US reaction. They probably weighed the risk of a US military strike but concluded that the risk was acceptable, believing that the mines were more likely to strike a commercial ship—a situation reducing the prospects of significant US retaliation. At a minimum, the mines were designed to show the Gulf states that their security had not been enhanced by the increased US naval presence or US warnings to Tehran about mining.



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Iranian Actions in the Persian Gulf Since the US Escort Program Began

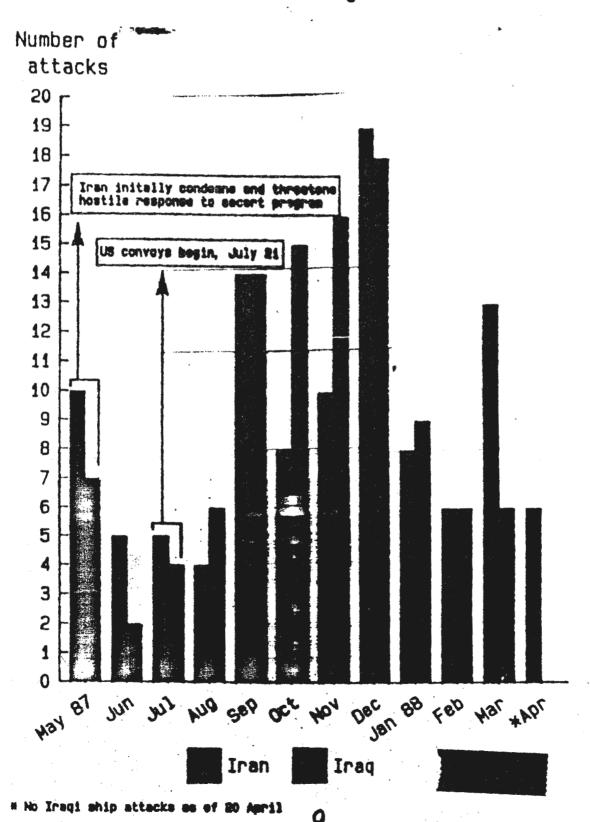
- 21 Jul -- First Earnest Will convoy began.
- 24 Jul -- SS Bridgeton hits mine west of Farsi Island.
- 25 Jul -- Additional mines discovered west of Farsi; probably laid at the same time as the mine that the Bridgeton hit.
- 01 Aug -- Riots in Mecca instigated by Iran.
- 10 Aug -- Tanker hits mine off of Khawr Fakkan in the Gulf of Oman.
- 15 Aug -- A supply ship sinks after hitting mine off Khawr Fakkan.
- 18 Aug -- Mines, probably old, found in shipping lanes off Kuwait and Abu Musa.
- Ol Sep -- Iran fires a Silkworm missile that lands in the water off Kuwait.
- 04 Sep -- Iran fires a Silkworm missile that overflys an anchored reflagged tanker near the Sea Island terminal and impacts on the beach south of Mina al Ahmadi.
- 05 Sep -- Iran fires a Silkworm missile that hits the water off Kuwait.
- 21 Sep -- The Iran Air is captured while laying mines.
- 28 Sep -- A minefield is discovered in a shipping lane off Dubayy.
- 03 Oct -- Iranian naval forces apparently attempt to attack Saudi/Kuwaiti oilfield; thwarted by strong Saudi naval and air presence.
- 08 Oct -- Three Iranian small boats fire on two US helicopters that return fire and sink two of the craft.
- 15 Oct -- US-owned tanker hit by Silkworm missile while anchored off Kuwait.
- 16 Oct -- Reflagged tanker hit by Silkworm missile while anchored off Kuwait.
- 22 Oct -- Silkworm missile hits the Sea Island terminal off Kuwait.
- 24 Oct -- Kuwaiti Shias, probably supported by Iran, bomb the Pan Am ticket office in Kuwait.

SECRET

- 03 Nov -- Iran is suspected in a bombing near the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry.
- 14 Nov -- Two mines destroyed by Allied minesweepers in the southern Persian Gulf.
- 19 Nov -- US naval forces destroy several mines west of Farsi Island.
- 07 Dec -- Iran fires a Silkworm missile at the Kuwaiti Sea Island terminal; it hits a reflector barge.
- 07 Mar -- Iranian Sassan oil platform fires on two passing US helicopters.
- March -- Iranian sponsored sabetage campaign against Saudi facilities abroad begins.
- 14 Apr -- USS Roberts strikes mine in the central Persian Gulf.
- 18 Apr -- Iranian naval units respond against US naval forces after the US destruction of two Iranian oil platforms. Iranian forces attack a UAE oilfield south of Abu Musa Island.
- 19 Apr -- Additional mines discovered by Allied forces near Farsi Island and in the southern Gulf.
- 20 Apr -- Iran fired two possible Silkworm

at Kuwait.

Ship Attacks in the Persian Gulf (Since Protection Program Announced)



WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE Ø1 OF Ø2

PRT: OAKLEY SIT SIT: PORTER VAX

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8720 INFO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 5117 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 5208 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 7021

SECRET KABUL 00930

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: SOPN. ASEC. AMGT. PTER. IR. AF

SUBJECT: IRANIAN THREAT - KABUL: PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: KABUL Ø928

- 1. S ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. GIVEN EXTRAORDINARY SECURITY MEASURES BEING TAKEN HERE AND EVACUATION OF SELECTED AMERICAN PERSONNEL (REFTEL). WE WOULD EXPECT THAT NEWS MEDIA WILL QUICKLY BECOME COGNIZANT OF SITUATION. THIS IS PARTICULARLY LIKELY IN VIEW OF INFLUX OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS FOR APRIL 27 SAUR REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY AND MAY 15 BEGINNING OF SOVIET TROOP WITHDRAWAL.
- 3. ACCORDINGLY, WE PROPOSE THAT DEPARTMENT CONSIDER FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE:
- Q. WHY ARE EXTRAORDINARY SECURITY MEASURES BEING TAKEN AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY KABUL>
- A. U.S. MILITARY ACTIONS AGAINST IRANIAN TARGETS. APRIL 18. HAVE RESULTED IN INCREASED RISK TO U.S. FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL FROM TERRORIST ATTACKS. ACCORDINGLY. WE HAVE TAKEN INCREASED SECURITY MEASURES.
- Q. WHY HAVE THESE MEASURES ONLY BEEN TAKEN IN KABUL>
- A. WE ARE TAKING INCREASED SECURITY MEASURES IN ALL

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE Ø2 OF Ø2

OUR EMBASSIES. THE PRECISE CONTENT OF THESE MEASURES VARIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH LIKELY THREATS IN PARTICULAR PLACES.

4. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. GLASSMAN BT # Ø 9 3 Ø

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24586 MEMO

2 6/1/1988

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BOB OAKLEY TO JOHN NEGROPONTE, RE: USIRAN RELATIONS AND HOSTAGES

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24588 REPORT

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RE: IRAN AIR 655

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