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In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

The War against Iran Was America's Greatest Strategic Mistake and Loss

The United States' war against Iran was not only an unjustifiable act of military aggression and a violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, but it also resulted in the erosion of some of the most critical pillars of American power, credibility, and strategic influence. The consequences of this conflict extend far beyond the battlefield and have introduced profound shifts in the global security and military landscape.

In other words, the United States not only failed to achieve its stated objectives, but the very mechanisms through which it traditionally generates and projects power have been fundamentally challenged.

The following ten factors support this assessment:

1. Challenge to American Maritime Dominance

Iran demonstrated that, despite possessing the world's largest naval force, the United States is unable to impose its will on one of the most strategically significant energy corridors in the world.

2. Exposure of Regional Military Vulnerabilities

For decades, the United States invested enormous financial resources in establishing and maintaining military bases throughout the region. Iran demonstrated that the American military presence not only fails to automatically generate power and deterrence, but may also create significant vulnerabilities.

3. Challenge to Intelligence Superiority

For many years, American intelligence dominance was widely regarded as unmatched and beyond the reach of competitors. Iran demonstrated its ability to target and disrupt some of the most sensitive elements of U.S. intelligence networks.

4. Questioning the Myth of Absolute Technological Superiority

Iran successfully challenged the long-standing perception of unquestioned American military technological superiority. During the conflict, U.S. air, unmanned, naval, logistical, and intelligence systems were effectively exposed to Iranian countermeasures and attacks.

5. Erosion of Confidence in Advanced U.S. Military Systems

Damage inflicted upon military systems that had long been regarded as symbols of American technological supremacy has increased doubts among U.S. allies regarding

their reliability, while simultaneously strengthening the confidence of America's competitors.

6. Growing Distrust in the U.S. Security Umbrella

The conflict increased concerns among allies regarding the effectiveness of American security guarantees. As a result, many states have begun exploring more diversified security arrangements, indicating a gradual transformation in the region's strategic mindset.

7. Reversal of the Economics of War

Iran demonstrated that a sanctioned nation can, under certain circumstances, transfer a significant portion of the economic cost of conflict back to the sanctioning power. This development represents a notable shift in traditional assumptions regarding economic warfare.

8. Shifting the Battlefield into American Domestic Calculations

Iran succeeded in moving the strategic consequences of the conflict beyond its own borders and into the domestic political and electoral calculations of the United States itself.

9. Strategic Pressure on the Three Pillars of American Power

Since the onset of the conflict, the three principal pillars of American influence, namely military power, economic power, and intelligence capability, have faced unprecedented strategic challenges.

10. Transformation of the Regional and International Security Order

Iran's strategic achievements in defending itself should not be measured solely by the number of targets struck or by the material damage inflicted upon its adversaries. More significant are the broader consequences: the perception of uncontested maritime hegemony has been challenged, American military vulnerabilities have been exposed, economic weaknesses have become more visible, confidence in the U.S. security umbrella has declined, and the foundations of the existing political and security order have experienced profound shocks.

Looking Ahead:

In the emerging security environment, the United States will be compelled to recognize a "new Hormuz" as a symbol of strategic transformation, reflecting a changing balance of power and a new set of realities governing regional and global security dynamics.

The Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hong Kong & Macao

