

America's first clash with Iran

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Note sur le contenu : Introduction 1. The Stark disaster 2. Target : Kuwait 3. Raising questions 4. Operation Earnest Will 5. Ambush 6. Rethinking 7. The invisible hand strikes again 8. In flagrante 9. Fort Apache :the Gulf 10. "Turn and engage" 11. "We will commence firing" 12. "We are the big winners in the gulf now" 13. "No higher honor" 14. "A one-day war" 15. "Stop, abandon ship, I intend to sink you" 16. "None of these ladies has a scratch on her" 17. "Multiple silkworms inbound" 18. Policeman of the Gulf? 19. "Unknown, assumed hostile" 20. "I deeply regret the result, if not the decision" 21. Sea of lies ? 22. "Give me the key. Give me the key." 23. "They don't fight like Iranians anymore"

Résumé ou extrait : Présentation de l'éditeur : "In May 1987 the US frigate Stark, sailing the Persian Gulf, was blown apart by an Exocet missile fired from an Iraqi jet fighter. A fifth of the ship's crew was killed and many others horribly burned or wounded. This event jumpstarted one of the most mysterious conflicts in American history: "The Tanker War," waged against Iran for control of the Persian Gulf. This quasi-war took place at climax of the Iran-Iraq War during Reagan administration. Losing on the battlefield, Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran had decided to close Persian Gulf against shipping from Iraq's oil-rich backers, the emirate of Kuwait. The Kuwaitis appealed for help and America sent a fleet to the Gulf, raising its flag over Kuwait's commercial tankers. The Iranians laid mines throughout the narrow passage and launched attack boats against both tankers and US warships. The tanker Bridgeton hit an Iranian mine

and flooded. The US Navy fought its largest surface battle since World War II against the Ayatollah's assault boats. Meanwhile, US Navy Seals arrived in the Gulf. Iranian gunners fired shore-based Silkworm missiles against US forces, actions which, if made known at the time, would have required the US Congress to declare war against Iran. In July 1988, sailors aboard cruiser USS Vincennes shot an Iranian airliner out of the sky, killing 300 civilians. This event came one month before the end of the war. Author Lee Allen Zatarain, employing recently released Pentagon documents, firsthand interviews, and a determination to get to the truth, has revealed a conflict that few recognized at the time, but which may have presaged further battles to come."

Sujet - Nom commun : Guerre Irak-Iran (1980-1988)

Guerre Irak-Iran (1980-1988) -- Opérations navales américaines

Relations extérieures -- États-Unis

Histoire navale -- États-Unis -- 20e siècle