

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani says war with Tehran will be Mother of All Wars



Tehran, August 6 (RHC)-- Any war with Iran will be the "Mother of All Wars," Iranian President Hassan Rouhani warned on Tuesday in a speech broadcast live on state TV, warning once again that shipping might not be safe in the Strait of Hormuz oil waterway.

"Peace with Iran is the Mother of All Peace, war with Iran is the Mother of All Wars," Rouhani said at the Foreign Ministry in a speech which also praised Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif after the United States imposed sanctions on him on July 31st.

Tensions have recently increased between Iran and the West, in particular, Great Britain and the United States, following the downing of a U.S. reconnaissance drone and the seizure of a British oil tanker. However, what kick-started the turmoil was the United States' decision to pull out of an international agreement which curbed the Islamic Republic's nuclear program in return for an easing of economic sanctions on Iran.

If the United States wants to have negotiations with Iran then it must lift all sanctions, Rouhani said, noting that Iran must be allowed to export oil. Fuelling fears of a Middle East war with global repercussions, the

Guards seized British tanker Stena Impero near the Strait of Hormuz in July for alleged marine violations, two weeks after British forces captured an Iranian oil tanker near Gibraltar accused of violating sanctions on Syria.

“A strait for a strait. It can’t be that the Strait of Hormuz is free for you and the Strait of Gibraltar is not free for us,” Rouhani said. Approximately one-fifth of the world’s oil traffic passes through the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

On Sunday, the Guards seized an Iraqi oil tanker in the Gulf which they said was smuggling fuel and detained seven crewmen, Iran’s state media reported.

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