

NEW ORLEANS OF THE MIDDLE EAST

American families stuck in Lebanon are resorting to signs, much as stranded NOLA residents did after Katrina. Meanwhile, Israel took out the Beirut airport several days ago, and has now taken out the bridges that connect southern Lebanon to Beirut, where US evacuation plans depart from. According to MI Senator Stabenow and Congressman Conyers, there are between 5,000 and 7,000 Michiganders stranded in southern Lebanon.

ONE WEEK

THE FIRST FOURTH GENERATION WORLD WAR

Steve Soto posts an email exchange with Sam Gardiner that strongly supports a point I've been making.

A major piece of what I was being told was shocking. Iran and Syria were involved in the planning for the hostage takings. I was even told where and when their planning meeting took place. An individual with former connections to the CIA told me the current situation is all about the Iranian nuclear program.

WHAT IF IRAN IS BEHIND THE BURGEONING REGIONAL WAR?

Via hilzoy via Glenn Greenwald, I found this description of Mubarak's attempts to broker peace between Hamas and Israel.

"Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday told the Cairo daily AlAhram that he had drafted an agreement for the release of abductedIsraeli soldier Gilad Shalit, but that it had been scuttled by outsidepressure on Hamas.

PUTIN'S QUID PRO NO GO

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THE GREATER MIDDLE EASTERN WAR

Like Arthur Silber, I fear that events in the Middle East are designed to spiral out of

control, right into Persia.

[OH, BROTHER: I've said it before, and I'll say it again: It's All About Iran. As I wrote:

If for whatever particular combination of reasons the attack on Iran doesn't come before the November elections (and perhaps even as early as this summer), it will certainly come before the end of Bush's term.

Drudge

ALUMINUM TUBES AND THE HOUSE GRAVY TRAIN

RUMMY'S STUBBORN INCOMPETENCE

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