Petroleum (oil) Determinism: the true of oil in the outcome of the Iran - Iraq war

Davod kiany (Ph.D.)

Institute for International Energy Studies (IIES). No.65, Sayeh St., Vali-e-Asr Ave.Post Cod: 1967743 711. Tehran. Iran. Tel: 27644, 254

Email: d kiany2000@yahoo.com

Abstract: The Iran-Iraq war has aptly been described as the Third World's first Great War. Different factors involved in the war which they were material or spiritual. Oil or petroleum was one of them. The importance of oil to the modern world is unique in character and incredibly far-reaching in scope. Oil is the most important source of fossil fuel in the world, and so far no suitable substitute has been found for it. Oil for Iranian government plays an important role in victory or defeat in war. Sometimes the forces of Iran the successes achieved during the war between two countries. This paper discusses the role of oil in the period of war.

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1.0 Magnitude of oil

Oil is a national security tool and a foreign policy lever: The importance of oil to the modern world is unique in character and incredibly far-reaching in scope. Oil is the most important source of fossil fuel in the world, and so far no suitable substitute has been found for it. It is the main engine in the world economy and at the same time it is a scarce substance. As such, countries rich in oil resources and reserves enjoy a strategic significance. In fact, these countries can take advantage of this God-given wealth for the realization of international policies and the establishment of sustainable security. It is interesting to note that major oil companies of the world, known as the "Seven Sisters" in 1960s and 1970s, were for years taking advantage of the long-term concessions that had been granted to them for the exploitation of oil resources in other countries as a powerful political lever. Today the world security is dependent on oil, and any change in the price or production of oil can have impact on all countries. Until the second war, oil maintained its strategic importance for the military sector, particular in the west. With development of nuclear weapons in the cold war period, oil became increasingly strategic for economic development .today, this oil function is most outstanding among its many other uses. With increasing oil demand, especially in East Asia, U.S., china, Europe, India and Japan new challenges face the Persian Gulf. China is a big country to become dependent on the oil's Persian Gulf. The demand of oil is creating a foreign policy, under the oil condition in Middle East and Persian Gulf.

In the two decades of past history, have witnessed several international events of historic extent; the eight years Iran Iraq war, the tankers war in the Persian Gulf, Desert Storm, the attack of Iraq on Kuwait, the attack of the Americans on Afghanistan,

the Lebanon Issues, the Middle East problems, and the latest attack of the Americans on Iraq, have occurred in the world's major oil fields. Today many academic studies have focused on oil in foreign policy despite the strategic nature of this commodity. Logically, support for either realist or liberal theories from a study of interdependence should be particularly persuasive, given the vital importance of oil for national security. If the world's major rising power is employing cooperative strategies rather than using military means to ensure energy supplies, that choice may have significant theoretical and policy implications. The vulnerability of oil consuming states depends on whether they have alternative forms of energy available either domestically or in the international environment. Daniel Yergin (1991) explained the relationship of oil to the rise of modern capitalism: the intertwining relations between oil, politics, and international power, and the relationship between oil and society in what Yergin calls today's age of 'hydrocarbon man'." He pointed out three important issues for oil are: 1- since emergence and development of capitalism and modern commercial, the biggest and most important the trade and occupation of world is on the bases of oil; 2-oil is as commercial goods and mixed with national strategies, politics and world power, and 3 - history of oil, and oil industry in the first decade's activity, with production that called Grosin (white oil) became famous to new brightness.(Yergin, D.1991:7).

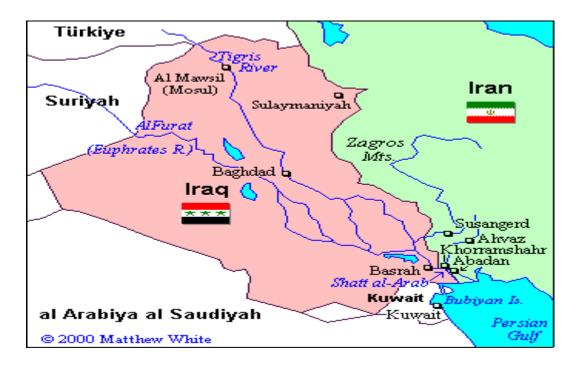
2.0 Precedent

The Iran-Iraq war has aptly been described as the Third World's first Great War.(Al-khalil,S,1989) Conventional assessments of the costs of the war tend to focus upon lost oil revenues, declining GNPs and destruction.(Mossavar-Rahmani,B,1983) .One of the factors causal to hostility between the two countries

was a dispute over full control of the Arvand Rud, waterway at the head of the Persian Gulf, an important channel for the oil exports of both countries. In 1937, Iran and Iraq signed a treaty that settled the long-standing dispute, which dated back to the Ottoman-Persian Wars of the 16th and 17th centuries over the control of the Arvand Rud. In the same year, Iran and Iraq both joined the Saadabad Pact, and relations between the two nations remained good for decades afterwards. (Efraim, K, 2002).

In April 1969, Iran abrogated the 1937 treaty over the Shatt al-Arab river, and as such, Iran ceased paying tolls to Iraq when its ships used the Shatt.(Efraim, K, 2002). The Shah justified his move by arguing that almost all river borders all over the world ran along the thalweg, and by claiming that because most of the ships that used the Shatt were Iranian, the 1937 treaty was unfair to Iran.(Bulloch, J,and Morris, H,1989). In the years of 1974–75, Iran and Iraq almost went to war over Iran's support of the Kurds in Iraq. . In

the 1975 Algiers Agreement, Iraq made territorial concessions—including the Arvand rud waterway—in exchange for normalized relations. Briefly, there are some different descriptions for the root of Iran-Iraq war have happened in Persian gulf, that it including: focuses upon the declining Iranian hegemony in the Gulf region after the revolution. The war suggests that Iran was attacked simply because its inflammatory Shi'i rhetoric was fuelling revolutionary sentiments among the Shi'i population in Iraq. Attention to the deeply rooted cultural enmity between Iran and Iraq and is premised upon a sense of incompatible and immanently hostile societies characterized in racial (Arvan and Semite), sectarian (Shi'i and Sunni), ethnic (Arab and Persian) or religious (secular and fundamentalist) terms. (Farhang, M. 1985) and Focuses upon territorial disputes between the two states, especially those arising over the Arvandrud waterway.

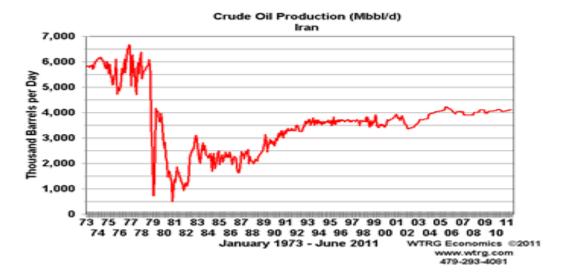


3.0 Iran's Oil policy

By emergence of Islamic Republic of Iran in Persian Gulf and influence on other Muslims, their self-confidence increased. Saudi Arabia used the oil income to promote the bestow ring in its foreign policy and caused to grow the Islamic tendencies from Turkey to Africa by creating school, mosque and Islamic banks (Hunter, SH.2001:174). In Saudi Arabia country, some people attacked to kaaba that is inspired by Islamic Revolution of Iran (Asadian,A.2002:99), and some Islamic movements were active in Lebanon, Philistine

and Syria, and all Arab countries around the Persian Gulf feared of spreading the Islamic Revolution of Iran, even the western and eastern powers were feared. Possessing the Embassy of U.S.A in Tehran, missing gendarme of Persian Gulf, and influence of Soviet in Iran and relations between Iran and Iraq, contract 1975 between Algeria and Saddam Hossein were the main obstacles to spread the revolution and guaranteed the profits of U.S.A and West (Aboghazale, A.2001:45-47), thus Iraq attacked to Iran in 1980 because tended to be the great leader in the region and join the Great Arabs

against the Fars because the contract 1975 of Algeria was cancelled partial and attacked to Khuzestan Province in South of Iran that had the largest Oil and Gas sources and 2.3 oil of Iran is found here and also attacked to the Oil Refinery of Abadan that was the largest Refinery in Middle East. Also, it attacked to the exporting port of Khoramshahr that had a strategic status by aim of taking back the Arvand River that was boundary of two countries; Iraq knew that oil was the vital factor in Iran, so from the first attacks decided to destruct and ruin the oil utilities of Iran completely, to force Iran to capitulate; although the war threatened the interests of all countries around the world and had direct influence on all countries, and victory of Iran or Iraq caused to disturb the balance of Persian Gulf, but Iraq started to attack to Oil Utilities of Iran that led to decrease the exporting rate of the oil to 1,300,000 barrels. The costs of the war were about 40% of the government budget and Iran spent about 1 billion Dollars for the war (Hooglund, E.1984:36). Iran was forced to spend about 70% of annually income for military purposes in 1982 that showed the dependency of the war and policy of war continuing on the oil revenues (Nicholas, K.1984). By decreasing the production and falling of oil prices, the oil revenue decreased and then the government couldn't purchase the military equipment so continuing or stopping the war depended on oil selling. The most important and largest refineries and Oil and Gas Plants in south of Iran located in Ahvaz, Gachsaran, Aghajari, Masjed Soleiman, Bid Boland and Khark island that was the exportation terminal were attacked by Iraq. Every day, attacks to the oil centers were increased. At the beginning of the war, about 4 million barrels were decreased, i.e. 15% of OPEC or 8% of global demand (Yergin, D.1997:70) and oil price was 38 Dollars per each barrel. Under such conditions, non-OPEC producers such as Mexico, Egypt and Norway entered to the oil market and oil business that was 5% cash in such situation reached to 45-50% (Amirahmadi, H and Parvin, M.2002:195).



In 1982, Iran retook Khoramshahr from Iraq, but confronted many difficulties from viewpoint of oil revenues. Iran, that had an ideal sight to war and International System, by relaying on oil revenues, was forced to sell its oil. The Arab Society Peace Conference asked to announce cease-fire and Iraqi forces went out from Iran, and declared that compensates about 70 million dollars from restoration Funds to Iran, although it was a delusive promise but Iran's pride toward the oil wealth showed insignificant the financial aspect of this peace that was a reason of taking long the war (Kordzde Kermani, M.2001). Oilbased economic of Iran remembers this sentence by Colmanso: "a droplet of oil is equal to a droplet of blood. The strategy of the government was to export the

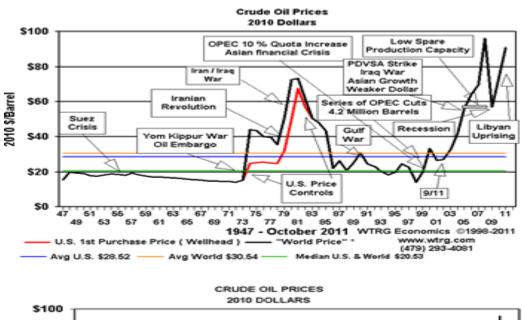
oil and decrease the foreign exchange incomes, also to ration all foodstuffs with coupon and subside.

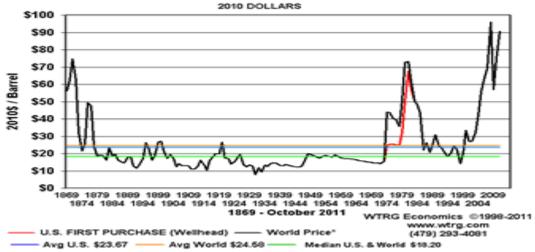
During 1982, the wells were attacked by Iraqi Airplanes in Persian Gulf. In 1984, the president Khameneie said: we believe that the world needs our oil because three main factors for the modern world that are movement, inquiring and heating need oil (Heshmatzade, MB.2000:208). Supporting of Iraq and boycotter of Iran because of its anti-colonization policy caused Iran is under pressure because Iran hoped that can use its oil power against the west and U.S.A. The Authorities of the government, particularly the president Khameneie depended upon the oil and said: Iranians can shout their oppression and prohibit the oil for the region of the Persian Gulf, as its prohibition against U.S.A and against Shah, a day it might be

closed the oil taps against Europe, the advanced technology of U.S.A and the West (Heshmatzade, MB.2000:232). Of course, the West can remember the memories related to the crisis of 1973 by Arabs, Israel and Revolution of Iran (the second Oil Shock).

Iran gained victory by continual operations and braveries up to 1984, so that requested to desolate Saddam and Irag"s Bath Party. Khavir Prez Decouiar, the president of UN, wrote: "Iran was opposed to Israel and wanted to withdraw the Iraqi forces, to establish the Islamic government in Iraq and open a path from Iraq

for fighting against Israel (Dekoyar,KH.2000:215). However, oil revenue was spent for war and international Cartels sold their saved weapon and started to produce new weapons and Iran was among the ten importer of weapon .Iran imported weapon amounted about 8.7 billion dollars that share of American Equipments was 6.7 billion Dollars (Aboghazale, A.2001:65).Under supporting of U.S.A, Iraq was deleted from the list of International Terrorism and exhibition of U.S exportation to Iraq.





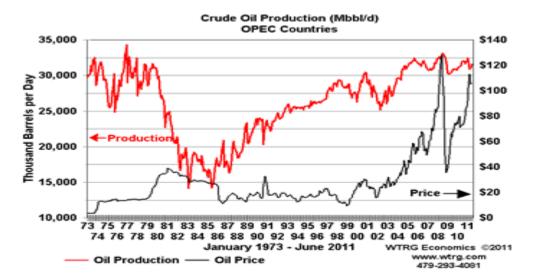
4.0 Iran & OPEC

One of the most important events in foreign policy in the oil producing countries was the formation of OPEC in 1960(Fateh, M.1979). OPEC's objective was to coordinate and unify oil policies among Member Countries, in order to secure fair and stable prices for oil producers; an efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations; and a fair return on

capital to those investing in the industry. The members of OPEC used this lever against the other countries. Oil became a political and economic weapon in the world. And there are 750 billion oil barrels belong to OPEC countries. Iran was a member and founder of OPEC. After 1973, and increasing the oil prices because of Arabs and Israel war, OPEC has played an active role. Shah followed a cooperative procedure against the

States of OPEC. Shah increased the oil prices under protection of OPEC up to 1977. After victory of Islamic Revolution of Iran in 1979, the new government limited the production rate and increased the prices. By starting the war between Iran and Iraq, OPEC was dependent on the producer countries such as Saudi Arabia and didn't control the oil price in practice. Iran disapproved the contracts of OPEC in 1981, 1982 and 1984. From viewpoint of Iran, OPEC was an organization under control of Saudi Arabia. Up to 1986, the prices were decreased seriously and the war became international in the Persian Gulf and the oil price in OPEC reached to 10 dollars. Iran was forced to accept all resolutions of

OPEC, but after the war and good relations between Iran and Arabia, the status of oil has changed and Arabia decreased its share and the prices were kept on that rate, but when the war between Iraq and Kuwait was begun in 1990, OPEC was formed again by changing the oil price and world demand of oil and all members could dominate on the crisis. Up to 1996 the global market of oil was suitable and good but in 1997 the prices were decreased in OPEC again and Iran depended on those policies. Of course, some factors influenced on OPEC from outside.



5.0 Cooperation Council of the Persian Gulf

This council, in 1981 was established that was composed of Arabic countries in the region of the Persian Gulf that are: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Emirate and Iraq for opposition against Ian and support the Iraq. Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and Emirate gave Iraq a loan without dividend about 3 billion dollars (Terzaian, P.1985:282-83). This council helped Iraq very much such as selling oil from Arabia and Kuwait instead of Iraq, offering the ports in Kuwait to Iraq to attack to Iran and air of Kuwait for attacking to Iranian ships. Although Imam Khomeini advised this Council NOT help the Iraq and feared them from Iraq's attack to this Council and Saddam attacked to Kuwait in 1990 and called it one of its provinces and relations of Iran and the Council was not good until end of the war, BUT after the war this relation improved by regional and global changing such as attack by Iraq to Kuwait, braking up the Soviet and other problems, and afterwards another difficulties like as presence of U.S.A in the region, Nuclear Energy of Iran and declarations of Emirate for Iranian islands were appeared.

6.0 War of Oil Tankers and Internationalization

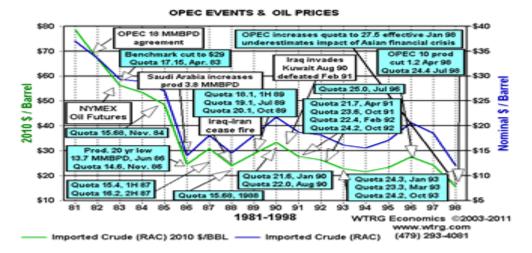
During 1983, the oil revenues of Iran reached to 20 billion dollar and share of the production was 2.4 million dollars per day, and price of the oil was 29 dollars per each barrel, so the costs of the war was about 40% of the government budget and Iran has spent about 1 billion Dollars for continuing the war (Amirahmadi, H and Parvin, M. 2002:191). From 1980 to 1984, Iran has possessed some important sections of Iraq includes oil islands Majnoon and in 1985 by an important military operation the port of FAV was possessed by Iran and Iraq couldn't access to the Persian Gulf and two Loading Terminals of Oil was controlled by Iran. According to some theoreticians what could intensify the economical war of Arabia against Islamic Republic of Iran in OPEC was the Iran's victory in FAV (Razavi, H.2001:249). By conquering of FAV, Iraq began to intensify its attacks to the oil utilities and "Oil Tanker War" in 1985 has been begun, so France intended to break off exportation of oil of Iran by delivery the super standard airplanes and Exoset missiles. During the years that oil tanker wars was continued, every day the intense attacks against ships was increased and Iran should supply the

oil during the war continuation, these attacks had influences but didn't stop the exportation, perhaps Iraq wanted to negotiate with Iran. Iraq attacked to residential cities of Iran that a council from UN was dispatched to Iran to stop the attacks. Mr. Hashemi Rafsanjani proposed to add the oil purposes and ships to the contract (Aboghazale, A.2001; 179) and this is because of importance of Oil for Iran. Iran was forced to arrange many different ways for oil selling to remove the war requirements:

Iran exported the oil from Siri terminal and Lavan terminal in south of 640 km of Persian Gulf from

Khark to prevent the attack of airplanes. (Amirahmadi, H and Parvin, M. 2002:192).

Iran prescribed to establish a pipe line to Jask Port and Taheri Port in Persian Gulf or to a port in Black Sea or Mediterranean for oil exports (Petroleum weekly, 1985:3).Iran established some buoys in 40 km of Khark Island near the Genaveh Port (Kiany, D.2005).Also, Iran encouraged Syria to close pipe lines that transfer the oil from Iraq Syria to Banias port in Tripoli Mediterranean and paid 85 million dollars to Syria and supplied oil to Syria Refinery (Razavi,H.2001:229).



Iran was forced to increase barter exchange deals and main relations with Yugoslavia and China was done that about 1.4 of Iranian Trades was barter deals and sold its oil by 5 dollars lower than the price of market and proposed some discounts or forced to sell its oil as contractual sale or during 3-9 months. Japanese merchants and Iran's government agreed that Japan should purchase about 2 dollars against each one dollar good that sold to Tehran, Iran wanted to increase this policy with West German and these ways could help Iran to solve its problems.

Khark Island was the important oil loading terminal in which 95% of Oil of Iran was transferred from this Island and was attacked about 2,830 times and this region announced as a war region by the government because every day it was attacked. The cost of war was doubled for Iran. On the one hand, for purchasing the weapons and financial pressures, the government was forced to export the oil and purchase the weapons from dealers, so worse than this subject; the country was forced to import the oil. Mr. Hashemi, the general commander of forces, said: "they want to deprive us from Khark to prevent us to export the oil, but we want to ruin each ship against every ship that is ruined and then don't undertake its responsibility, if

Iraq has facilities to prevent to transport our oil but we can block the Hormoz narrow pass (Ettelaat Nespaper, 1984). Iran, for this matter, said: "if we cannot export our oil from the Persian Gulf, we prevent every country to export its oil. Meanwhile, the Cooperation Council of the Persian Gulf helped Saddam very much.

Iran was brought at a hard bay and has done everything for revive its political status. Imam Khomeini called year 1986 as "Resistance Year" and considered the war as an important priority. One of the important events during this period was the tripe of MCfarlin – the special agent of U.S.A – to Iran and sending the weapons and military equipments from U.S.A government. It was a hidden trip that was revealed later and shocked the political structure of U.S.A.

In 1986, Iran has started a ground operation called Karbala 5 in east of Basreh, and possessed a part of Shalamche, but Iraq increased its attacks to Iran when purchased Escade missiles from the Soviet, and since Iran supported the Afghani soldiers against the Soviet forces, the Soviet didn't wish Iran's triumph. Gary Sik, the former secretary of the president of U.S.A believed that the most important factor for war continuation from Iran was the exportation of the oil, so

the exportation of oil from Iran should be stopped. One of the worst years for Iran's economics was 1986, because the oil revenues decreased more than 50%, and it was a financial risk for the responsible authorities. By continuing the attacks to oil centers and decreasing the oil revenues, the foreign currency revenues of Iran reached to 5 billion dollars that about 3 billion dollars was spent by armed forces and about 2 billion dollars was spent for administering the country affairs (Ettelaat Newspaper, 1996), while 16.5 billion dollars should be spent according to the budget of oil selling. The Oil Tankers War was intensified that in 1985 about 47 ships, in 1986 about 107 ships and in 1987 about 187 ships were attacked.

The foreign policy of Iran during these times was based on non-commitment toward U.S.A and the Soviet but it was depended upon spreading the cooperation with the undeveloped countries and union of Muslim nations (Ehteshami, A.1999:74-75). It should be noted that Saudi Arabia supported Iraq in OPEC because increased its production rate, thus decreasing the oil prices had influenced on war procedures and encouraged Iran to accept the political solutions to end the war (Hunter,SH.1990:63), and when Iran possessed the FAV port these assistances were increased.

The Islamic Republic of Iran was a rentier state which a little percent of labor force are busy to produce as rent and most of the society is receiver or distributor of rent (Hagi Yoosefi, AM. 1999:37). According to the need of oil revenues for war expenditures, under such conditions, the region of the Persian Gulf was unsafe for all people. In one hand, the decrease of the prices caused to decrease of the production rate and the oil influenced on both the government and society and economics (Zavari, M.2003). The government had an ideal sight to the war even to accept the resolution 598 in 1988; but didn't pay attention to terms and conditions of international organizations but vice versa the government had a pessimistic sight toward the International System in form of the revision politics, so the motto "everyone is not from us is our enemy" was far from the international norms (Azghandi, A.2003:1). In 1986, the production oil rate reached to 2.5 million barrels and oil revenues reached to 8 billion dollars and even the oil price reached to less than 10 dollars per each barrel that some theoreticians called it the third oil shock (Zoghi,I.1991:278). The great powers who reviewed the status, neither U.S.A nor the Soviet didn't want to become a winner, so the war entered to an international stage in the Persian Gulf that was unsafe for all ships and as the past periods, the world might confronted many difficulties for the oil supply. Iran declared that it is insecure for all governments because we don't export the oil so the solution of the great powers was the oil boycott of Iran in Hormoz narrow pass and deprivation of financial incomes (Drodian, M.2002:22) so both superpowers were agreed about ending of the war (Drodian, M.2002:31). Since the Persian Gulf had 63% of the oil reserves and 25% of total of oil exportations around the world, and so 30% of Europe importation and 60% of Japan exportation has been done through this region (Aboghazale, A.2001:255), the Persian Gulf was bomb and the mobilized groups started to attack to the ships of other countries with their motor boats. The naval force of SEPAH cruised around of islands such as Farsi, Siri, Hali, Abu Musa and Lark. Iran attacked to the Kuwaiti ships, ships had no security in the Persian Gulf and Iran inspected a lot of ships. The Iranian authorities declared that: retaliating, ship against ship, platform against platform, oil port against oil port.

In 1987, the prices of oils were declined and the loading quays were ruined, the production rate was decreased and the country confronted evil status. In 1982, shortage of the budget reached to 77 billion dollars, in 1983 it reached to 107 billion dollars, in 1987 to 150 billion dollars and in 1988 to 211 billion dollars (Heshmatzade, MB. 2000: 361). This shortage should be compensated by taking loans from other countries with high interest rate or by the foreign exchange funds which had no funds. The expenses of the war were astounding and purchasing the equipment, boycotts and increasing production of oil by the Arab countries has shocked Iran significantly. On these situations, the government was forced to print banknotes and tried to activate the private shareholders and returned them to invest in the country. When the oil revenues increased, the foreign policy was influenced on it, for example in 1980 the oil revenues reached to 11.6 billion dollars and in 1981 in which the war has begun these revenues were increased seriously and Iran started to do the huge ground operations was confronted with descending of the revenues in 1984 because in 1984 Iraq had intensified its attack to Khark and Lavan which were the great oil terminals of Iran; in 1984 the oil revenue reached to 16.6 billion dollars, in 1985 to 12.9 billion dollars, in 1986 to 5.9 billion dollars and in 1987 to 9 billion dollars so during the end of the war it reached to 7.5 billion dollars so these revenues were not enough for continuing the war.

As increasing the pressure by Iraq to the oil tankers, Iran could purchase the new oil tankers from South Korea or rented by higher prices, but in 1988, the situation has changed. In an insecure situation in the Persian Gulf, Iran could attack to the Kuwaiti ships using silkworm missiles made by China, even has launched missiles to Al-Ahmadi port in the Kuwait, so Kuwait asked U.S to help and escort its missiles and U.S.A flags were flying in Kuwaiti ships (Drodian,M.2000). Thus, Kuwait allowed Iraq to use the Boobian islands near the FAV to facilitate Iraqi

attacks to Iran, so Iraq started to attacks by chemical equipments and could take back the FAV. Shalamche and Halabche from Iran, therefore the cities and possessed regions were taken back one by one, even the Mainoon Islands which were oil regions in Iraq. Mr. Hashemi said that: "Iraq has oil for compensate the war damages". He meant the oil reserves in Majnoon Islands (Aboghazale, A.2001:164) that separated from Iran completely. The oil prices were declined in the market and the government's income was not enough, so the government asked people for help (Ramazani, R.2001:73). Really, about 1.3 of oil revenues spent for the war, until in 1988, i.e. the last year, the oil revenue reached to 6.6 billion dollars while the costs of the war were 9.6 billion dollars, it means that the costs were 30% higher than the oil revenue. Under these conditions, U.S.A started to fight with Iran and attacked to the Reshadat Ian Oil Platform (Drodian, M.2000); instead. Iran intensified its attacks to ports and ships in Kuwait. Reigan declared that the boycott of exportations and importations could be taken long up to 10 days. So the Boeing Airplane of Iran with 290 passengers was destroyed by U.S.A warship. Mr. Hashemi, the commander of forces said: during the war the economic situation of Iran reached to the worst conditions, we forced to take about 12 billion dollars loan from foreign countries, we informed Imam Khomeini, and he accepted the resolution 598 of UN which was about peace of Iraq and Iran, and in 1988 Iran made peace with Iraq and the 8 years' war came to end. Oil was the most important factors that might be the cause of peace or attack or continuing the war in foreign policy of Iran. The costs of war were calculated about 97.2 billion dollars and direct damages about 34,535 milliard Rial, but the amount of damages calculated about 1.000 billion dollars (Jafari Valdani, A. 1998:11).

Conclusion

After victory of Islamic Revolution, the policy of the new government was based on keeping the oil and decreasing the rate of production because believed that the oil belonged to people those coming in the future. Many foreign oil soldiers escaped and all oil contracts were canceled. At the beginning of the Revolution, spreading the revolution by the oil revenues and helping the liberal movements were considered as a vital risk for the countries around the Persian Gulf. Iran conflicted with U.S.A and it was cleared that Iran could be inclined to the Soviet but Saddam Hossein - the president of Iraq - attacked to Khuzestan Province of Iran that produced about 2.3 oil of Iran because of difference against contract 1975 Algeria, so the Refinery of Abadan was ruined. Iraq attacked to oil equipment of Iran because knew that the vital factor of Iran's economics was based on the Oil, then the war of oil tankers was begun to break off the exportation of oil from Iran. In 1986, when Iraq attacked to Iran and insecurity in the Persian Gulf from one hand and supplying the oil very much to the global market by Arabia caused to decrease the oil price to less than 10 Dollars. As the oil was an important factor in the politics of Iran, Iran couldn't purchase the military equipment but Iran forced to accept the resolution 598 to make peace with Iraq and oil was the factor of continuing or breaking off the war.

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