Air power building ...

Additionally, governments have other air requirements. To effectively handle natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, volcanoes, and fires, governments must have air transport support. Such support is crucial, particularly in military and war scenarios, as it can offer reconnaissance, escort, and air monitoring. This helps limit the enemy's utilization of air and maximize a government's potential for power building to advance strategic war goals and national interests.

The Air Force, as a national defense organization, must focus on executing its comprehensive mission and employing air power across seven dimensions: destruction, defense, mobility, warning and surveillance, intelligence and reconnaissance, command and control, and air support. Within these dimensions, specific missions include air attacks, air defense, air transportation, aerial reconnaissance and rescue, air combat surveillance or escort, crisis control air operations, air command and control of the battlefield, air network-oriented cyber operations, and military meteorological services.

Despite the challenges brought about by the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the Iranian Air Force, under the new command system, successfully carried out its missions during the Iraqi imposed war in the 1980s. It executed a "military operation" that not only overcame internal issues but also led to a unification that brought profound changes to the course of the war. This unity proved instrumental in controlling the situation and thwarting Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's military objectives in the war. In addition to showcasing its superior air power, the force achieved air superiority by causing physical and psychological disruption, effectively managing the interplay of time, political considerations, and military necessities. It, in fact, incapacitated its most dangerous adversary. By seizing control of the third dimension of the battlefield, namely altitude, and manipulating the fourth dimension of time, the Iranian Air Force compelled Saddam Hussein to reconsider his war strategy in the second week of the conflict. This provided an opportunity for Iranian politicians and military commanders to foster national unity in fighting back the Iraqi aggression.

Despite enduring fluctuations for decades, the Iranian Air Force remains robust and well-equipped with a substantial fleet of manned and unmanned aircraft. It stands prepared to competently defend across the seven dimensions of its primary mission.

Iran's major blow to Mossad

Israel's hollow intelligence hegemony exposed

We commence this writing with quotations from William Burns, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), to underscore the significance of the subject and lend credence to the assertion that alongside conventional and classical competitions and wars, an ongoing and potentially more crucial battle persists: the "war or competition of information." Spies, with a longstanding history, are integral tools in this realm of informational warfare. William Burns, in a segment of his recent comprehensive article in Foreign Affairs, states:

"The CIA has committed substantially more resources toward China-related intelligence collection, operations, and analysis around the world—more than doubling the percentage of our overall budget focused on China over just the last two years. We're hiring and training more Mandarin speakers while stepping up efforts across the world to compete with China, from Latin America to Africa to the Indo-Pacific...

"Meanwhile, we're transforming our approach to emerging technology. The CIA has been working to blend high-tech tools with age-old techniques for collecting intelligence from individuals — human intelligence, or HUMINT...

"We're developing new AI tools to help digest all that material faster and more efficiently, freeing officers to focus on what they do best: providing reasoned judgments and insights on what matters most to policymakers and what means most for American interests. AI won't replace human analysts, but it is already empowering them."

These descriptions not only serve as a portrayal of the functions and operations of the CIA, beyond being a propagandistic tool to showcase the efficiency of the American intelligence agency, but they also reflect certain realities. One such reality is the heightened significance of information warfare in today's context. The information gathered through intelligence and espionage networks has become a primary source of intelligence for decision-makers and planners. Access to information about competitors or adversaries is crucial in strategizing responses to the policies of opposing parties, and it is inherently instrumental in preventing damage or imposing costs on the interests of a system or country. Moreover, in tandem with technological advancements in the contemporary world, the methods of acquiring information and espionage have also evolved.

Capability depends on knowledge

In general, it seems quite natural that capability in competition or warfare is contingent upon knowledge. In other words, a party with more information possesses greater prowess in competition or conflict. A significant portion of the success of Hamas's operations against Israel on October 7 is owed to, or linked with, the intelligence gathered by Hamas over an extended period. Israel's surprise in the face of these operations is nothing but an intelligence failure.

The Islamic Republic of Iran and the Israeli regime are adversaries. However, despite persistent threats against each other, they have not engaged in direct warfare to date. This does not mean that the two parties have no dealings with each other, or that their enmity is confined solely to their overt positions against each other or international forums. According to common terminology, Iran and Israel are engaged in an indirect or proxy war. Over the past few decades, acts of sabotage and terrorist activities have occurred in Iran, with Israel being identified as the main culprit by Tehran's officials. Conversely, Israel has repeatedly accused Tehran of carrying out destructive actions against itself. Nevertheless, neither party has claimed responsibility for any actions within the territory of the other.

However, what has become a widely accepted principle for political and security analysts is that Iran and the Israeli regime, within the framework of a proxy war, are actively striking at each other's interests. Certainly, one of the crucial components in this proxy war is information warfare.

Iran-Israel intelligence warfare

The Israeli intelligence agency, Mossad, alongside the CIA, is recognized as a professional and successful organization in collecting information and conducting espionage. Mossad has, through infiltration and manipulation of certain opposition elements, managed to inflict blows on the Islamic Republic of Iran. Among the most significant actions are the assassinations of nuclear scientists and destructive activities against nuclear facilities, although these acts of terror and sabotage did not lead to the peaceful cessation of Iran's nuclear program.

On the other side, Israelis, in the face of any major explosion in occupied territories or cyber-attacks, have pointed accusatory fingers towards Tehran. Just 20 days ago, Israel's internal security organization, Shin Bet, claimed that intelligence agencies of the Islamic Republic had been reaching out to Israeli citizens through social networks, including Telegram, Instagram, and TikTok, to identify anti-Iranian officials and experts and gather information on the regime's authorities. Shin Bet also alleged that the Islamic Republic had attempted to contact families of Israeli hostages, or even send gifts to them or create gatherings in front of their homes.

Israel's disruptive actions have simultaneously led to a heightened focus by Iran's security and intelligence services on Israeli espionage networks, resulting in significant successes in uncovering these networks. The most recent example of these intelligence strikes was announced just a few days ago. The Ministry of Intelligence of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a statement, reported the identification of a considerable number of Mossad agents in 28 countries across three continents: Africa, Asia, and Europe. According to the statement, "Several spies in Tehran and several provinces of the country have been identified, confronted legally, or placed under security surveillance. Additionally, several Iranian spies residing outside the country have been identified. Depending on the situation of each and the level of relationship between this ministry and the intelligence agencies of the countries where the spies reside, decisions will be made. The details of foreign spies active in countries with effective and practical information exchange relationships with Iran have been provided to those countries. Security services, after taking appropriate measures, have detained or strategically utilized the identified spies based on the accuracy of the provided information and in line with their anti-intelligence strategies."

Israeli intelligence setback

Previously, Iranian intelligence agencies had exposed a terrorist plot referred to as a "major operation", revealing their capability in the realm of information warfare against Israel. According to this operation, with the support and design of Zionists, a terrorist sabotage operation was planned in an industrial facility related to missile construction in one of Iran's cities. However, security apparatuses thwarted the terrorist operation through surveillance and pre-emptive actions, leading to the identification and arrest of individuals associated with it.

The recent success of the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence in uncovering Mossad espionage networks in 28 countries marks a more severe blow to Israel's intelligence service. Despite Israel establishing a formidable military and security hegemony, a similar dominance has been created for its intelligence system. Various acts of terrorism worldwide are attributed to this robust Mossad intelligence network. However, Hamas's attack on occupied territories on October 7, and the failure of the Israeli military to achieve its objectives after four months of field warfare have raised questions about the effectiveness of this military and security dominance.

Now, four months after that significant surprise and intelligence failure by Israel against Hamas, the regime faces another major setback in terms of information and security from Iran.

The identification of this extensive spy network, while dealing a heavy blow to the Israeli regime, also indicates Iran's upper hand in the information warfare. The detention of Israeli spies not only prevents planned terrorist activities but inevitably provides new clues about Israel's espionage plans in Iran and other countries.

In essence, the Ministry of Intelligence's discovery is the first step in exposing the intelligence vulnerabilities of the Israeli regime. Gradually, based on shared information from Iran with the intelligence services of other countries, new dimensions of Israel's espionage network may become evident.

Returning to the initial remarks of this writing, William Burns appropriately emphasizes the importance of information and modern methods of information gathering. However, the notion that the CIA and Mossad are invincible professional organizations with no one capable of confronting them is akin to the propagandistic claims about America's global role and the uncontrollable power of Israel. Today, just as America's power and international relations have waned, and the vulnerabilities of the modern Israeli army have become apparent, counter-espionage methods in other countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, have challenged the dominance of the CIA and Mossad in the field of information.