In Iran, Israel Rattles the Cage

by Hugh Fitzgerald

No one has claimed credit for the two recent cyberattacks on Iran's Transport Ministry. But we can hazard a guess as to who was most likely behind them.

here:

> A large explosion was heard in Iran's capital on Saturday, according to the Iranian Fars News agency.
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> Later reports indicated that the explosion was caused by a stun grenade — a device which explodes with bright light and a loud sound — which had been set up to go off in a park near an adjoining hospital building, a TV reporter said.

More important, the explosion was set off near the headquarters of the state radio and television.

> *Tehran Deputy Governor Hamid Reza Goudarzi, who is in charge of security issues in the city, visited the site.*
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> *"Just one explosion took place inside Mellat (People) Park," he told the semi-official Tasnim news agency.*
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> *Asked whether the incident was an attack, Goudarzi said: "We are investigating the dimensions and causes of the incident and we will provide information after we are sure."*
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> **Deputy Security Chief for Tehran Province Hamidreza Goudarzi has been quoted by the IRGC-affiliated Tasnim News as saying that the incident is under investigation, it was unclear at this time what caused it, and it is unknown whether or not it was an act of terrorism.**

This explosion in the Tehran park was mainly an attempt to disturb the equanimity of the authorities. In a hundred sundry ways — with major attacks on nuclear facilities, petrochemical plants, power plants, missile sites, nuclear scientists, cyberwarfare with the Stuxnet computer virus, and sabotage at Natanz that destroyed thousands of centrifuges — the Islamic Republic's nuclear project has been under severe assault. But other attacks, less deadly — including the cyberwarfare that caused "unprecedented chaos" in the railroads, or this stun gun explosion the next day — serve as less-deadly reminders that the Islamic Republic's enemies neither slumber nor sleep, and can strike where they will.

And on Saturday, there was a second cyberattack on the website of the Transport Ministry, discussed *Jihad Watch*.