



The Enigma of Kharg: The Marines' Landing Amidst Ghosts of the Past and the Trap of Hormuz

Published on 28/03/2026

March 27, 2026 – The Middle East stands at a decisive crossroads. With the failure of negotiations on the 15 points of the US peace plan, the threat of an American landing on **Kharg Island** – the beating heart of Iranian oil exports – has shifted from a theoretical option to an imminent probability. Over 7,000 elite soldiers, including the paratroopers of the 82nd Division and the Marines, are ready to strike. However, the operation will not be the technological "walk in the park" many expect: the risk of ending up in a strategic quagmire is extremely high.

The escalation in the Persian Gulf brings the United States to the brink of a ground invasion. But between fiber optic drones and the nightmare of mini-submarines, victory will not be a blitz: it will be a war of attrition that will require time, resources, and immense psychological endurance.

The Ground Invasion: A Minefield

Donald Trump's objective is clear: to occupy Kharg to strangle the regime's economy and force the Ayatollahs to surrender from a position of absolute weakness. But the reality on the ground speaks of unprecedented asymmetric resistance. The Iranians have learned the lessons of modern conflicts, deploying *Shahed* drones connected by **fiber optics**, immune to any electronic interference (*jamming*). Every American soldier who sets foot on the ground will face waves of technological "martyrs" and Pasdaran entrenched in underground bunkers, ready for desperate resistance to the end.

The Enigma of Kharg: The Marines' Landing Amidst Ghosts of the Past and the Trap of Hormuz

The Enigma of Kharg: The Marines' Landing Amidst Ghosts of the Past and the Trap of Hormuz

The Invisible Nightmare: Ghadir-Class Submarines

While eyes are focused on the mainland, the real deadly danger moves beneath the water's surface. The **Ghadir** submarines, small *midget* class vessels, are Tehran's trump card to turn the Strait of Hormuz into a graveyard of ships.

- **Invisibility:** Only 29 meters long, they operate in very shallow waters where the sonars of large US aircraft carriers struggle to distinguish them from the seabed.
- **Lethality:** Armed with heavy torpedoes and anti-ship missiles, they can strike landing units before they even reach the coast.
- **Sabotage:** They are ideal platforms for laying magnetic mines and releasing raiders for special operations, turning every navigation corridor into a Russian roulette.

The Enigma of Kharg: The Marines' Landing Amidst Ghosts of the Past and the Trap of Hormuz

The Enigma of Kharg: The Marines' Landing Amidst Ghosts of the Past and the Trap of Hormuz

Conclusions: The "Solution" is Not a Blitz

Despite the complexity of the scenario, a solution exists, but it is neither simple nor immediate. Those hoping for a "surgical" victory ignore the nature of asymmetric warfare. To resolve the Iranian knot, Washington will have to account for three determining factors:

1. **Tactical Patience:** A bombing will not suffice. Months of slow and methodical operations of demining and hunting mini-submarines will be needed, inch by inch, accepting delays and heavy logistical losses.
2. **Money and Resources:** The Iranian defense aims to bankrupt the aggressor. The US will have to accept spending millions to shoot down drones worth a few dollars, bearing operational costs that will heavily weigh on federal coffers.
3. **Fatigue and Attrition:** The "solution" will pass through physical and psychological attrition of the troops. It will be a war of nerves against an enemy that does not fear death, where every success must be defended with constant, arduous, and risky garrisoning.

Ultimately, the invasion of Kharg will not be the end of hostilities, but only the beginning of a new and very tough phase. Victory is possible, but the price will not be paid in triumphant press releases, but in a long and arduous management of mud, mines, and the silence of the depths.