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Nota di contenuto	The role of energy exports in determining the importance of the Iranian threat -- The strengths and weaknesses of Iran's naval forces -- The Iranian air force : a weak and aging force -- Linkages to Iran's ballistic missile and nuclear programs -- Focusing on the broader threat from asymmetric forces -- "Closing the Gulf" : Iran's real world military options for asymmetric warfare -- US and Arab Gulf options for competing with Iran's asymmetric forces -- The wild cards shaping the Iranian maritime threat.
Sommario/riassunto	"The Arabian Gulf is now involved in a massive arms race, triggered largely by the fear that Iran will try to use its military forces to intimidate or dominate its neighbors. Iran has threatened to close the Gulf and carried out a wide range of large military exercises to show its capabilities. And Iran has steadily increased its ability to exploit the threat of conventional and asymmetric warfare to maritime traffic in the Gulf. The buildup of Iran's naval, air, and missile capabilities poses a

wide range of threats to maritime traffic into and outside of the Gulf. One potential target of this threat is the steady increase in bulk cargo shipments into the Gulf, Arabia Sea/Gulf of Oman, and Red Seas -- shipments that are of steadily growing strategic importance to each of the other the Gulf states"--Publisher's web site.

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