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Of the three routes, the Syrian-Iraq route is the shortest and the physical risk is minimum. However, the dispute over the territory of the Golan Heights shadows the serious problem with Syria. Syria is a regional military power. It could result into a full-scale war between Israel and Syria. This idea was rejected first.

Which plan should be chosen, to fly over Turkey or to fly over Saudi Arabia and Iraq? Turkey and Israel are under the same umbrella of the U.S. Iran is an enemy to Israel and a potential threat to Turkey. In other words, if the enemy of Israel is the enemy of Turkey at the same time, it means that the enemy's enemy is an ally. The Israeli military believed that Turkey was less political risk than Syria.

However, there was the anti-Israeli sentiment persistently in Turkey caused by the two incidents taken place several years ago. One was the inspection by Israeli authorities against a Turkish ship off the coast of Gaza. The other was the insult by an Israeli diplomat to the Turkish ambassador related to the Turkish TV program.

(To be continued ----)

Areha Kazuya (From an ordinary citizen in the cloud)