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The mission of sortie by jet fighters has decreased gradually. They have bombed the domestic Gaza Strip only. A rare chance to bomb outside Israel was the Iraq War in 2003. The Israeli government and its military have asked the United States to participate in the war. The then-Bush Republican government was a strong pro-Israel. But the President indirectly declined Israel's offer taking world public opinion into consideration. Shortly after the war began, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein provoked Israel. He shot a Scud missile into Israel. Iraqi missiles landed on the occupied West Bank without remarkable damage. But tiny damage had nothing to do with Israel. The way of Israeli is to hit the enemy thoroughly as long as there is an excuse. The Air Force was immediately ready for a counter attack. Fighter pilots stood by to attack Baghdad.

But again, the United States did not allow Israel to counterattack. If Israel had participated in the war, U.S. would receive a backlash from Islamic countries. Pakistan have joined the alliance forces under the justice of liberation of Iraq from a dictator. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have allowed alliance force to pass through their own soil in the same reason.

Israeli Air Force pilots watched the live broadcast of the air raid at Baghdad by CNN television. CNN repeatedly aired the scene that fighter jets slammed straight into the target and launched missiles. Missiles bombed the target exactly. That was a real war but looked like a video game. No TV audience felt pain at all except the citizens in Baghdad.

(To be continued ----)

Areha Kazuya

(From an ordinary citizen in the cloud)