(<u>Japanese Version</u>) (<u>Arabic Version</u>)

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(SF novel) East of Nakba (23)

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However, at the morning-meeting of the flight plan in the base camp, the senior officer told them that there would be no possibility of interception by the Royal Saudi Air Force. They were informed that a top government official secretly notified the United States details of the airstrike plan few days ago. Then, the US informed Saudi Arabia not to intercept Israeli jets. It was agreed upon between the United States and Saudi Arabia to allow the passage of Israeli fighters. The pilots were instructed to make a detour when they reached near the Hafar al-Batten Air Force Base in Saudi Arabia. They were requested to change the flight course deep inside Iraqi territory and to fly south of Samawah. The airspace in Iraq was wholly controlled by the US air force. There was no fear that Israeli fighters would be intercepted.

Three jet fighters did not face scramble from the Hafar al-Batten air base. It was confirmed by US military reconnaissance satellites. Three pilots were relieved a little bit and continued their flight at high altitude toward their target, Natanz in Iran. They were confident that Saudi Arabia could not resist the request of the United States. It was the unwavering conviction of the Israeli army that Israel and the United States had a strong relation with trust and Saudi Arabia had no veto.

At this moment, there was a hectic movement inside the Hafar al-Batten air base.

(To be continued ----)

Areha Kazuya (From an ordinary citizen in the cloud)