

[\(Japanese Version\)](#)

[\(Arabic Version\)](#)

July, 2022

## **East of Nakba (25)**

### **Part I. Israel bombs a nuclear plant in Iran**

#### **Chapter 25. U.S. military embarks on (3)**

When the Israeli government revealed its plan to bomb Natanz nuclear facilities and asked U.S. assistance, the White House understood that Israel finally determined to go ahead. It was the U.S. job to utilize the diplomatic power on Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Iraq where Israel convoy use each airspace as the flight route to and from Iran. White House ordered three countries not to interrupt Israel convoy and let them fly on each airspace. Of the three countries, Jordan and Iraq were out of the question because they had no ability to reject U.S. request. The problem was Saudi Arabia which had their own powerful air force combat ability. Israel also had the almost same system as Saudi Arabia. Because both of them had been supplied by U.S.



Washington finally persuaded the King of Saudi Arabia to allow the Israeli plane to fly over. Of course, he added that it also made benefit for neighboring Arab countries including Saudi Arabia to destroy Iran's nuclear facilities. Just after that conversation, U.S. Secretary of Defense made the same offer to the Saudi Arabian Defense Minister. The Secretary of Defense also mentioned that refueling aircraft would meet the jet fighters coming back from Iran over the Arabian Peninsula.

Saudi Arabian defense minister replied to the U.S. Secretary of Defense after two days that he would accept the three bombers to pass over. But he didn't mention anything about the flight for refueling. Secretary of Defense tried to ask back the reason for a moment. But he said nothing. It was quite enough that Israel would bomb Natanz nuclear facilities. Once the facilities had been bombed

successfully, Israel, Saudi Arabia and even the United States itself would get big fruits. The Secretary of Defense stopped the dialogue. He considered that aerial refueling was not a major issue compared with the bombing.

However, the Secretary of Defense did not miss that Defense Minister's way of the talking over the telephone. It sounded a little bit strange. He suspected that Saudi Arabia might carry out an operation advised by the Chief of Staff. His presentiment proved right later. Further misery was taken place.

On the day of the bombing of Natanz nuclear facilities by Israel corps, the local operation center of US Central Command in Doha, Qatar gathered all kind of information. They covered the military reconnaissance satellite, AWACS, and "Harry S. Truman", the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, in the Persian Gulf. It was confirmed in the early morning that three jet fighters took off from an Israeli air force base. Shortly thereafter, one large aircraft and two fighters took off from the same base, too. The first three jets invaded Iran after passing over the border between Iraq and Saudi Arabia. They bombed Natanz nuclear facilities, drove away the chaser and fled out of Iranian airspace. it was exactly the scenario that the Pentagon was heard from Washington. Up to that point.....

But the situation thereafter had changed beyond their expectation. A large aircraft and two fighters, which took off Israeli air base later, dissolved their formation and began to stray respectively. Suddenly a large aircraft disappeared from the radar. A few minutes later, the three fighter jets appeared in the radar from east. They were flying over the Persian Gulf towards the Strait of Hormuz whereas they had to return to Israel. The local operation center at Al Udeid Air Force Base was confused.

(cont'd)

Areha Kazuya

(From an ordinary citizen in the cloud)

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