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(U) REF: JN2511081498 AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 3 NOV 98 P 11 /// CLOSE TO IRAQ.

(U) SOURCE: AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 3 NOV 98 P 11 TEXT:

(U) I FELT THE WEIGHT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND STAYED UP TILL LATE IN THE NIGHT PLANNING PRACTICAL MEASURES TO PUT THOSE ORDERS IN PLACE, NOW AND THEN LIGHTING A CIGARETTE AND SURVEYING THE MAP HUNG ON THE WALL BESIDE ME. PALESTINE, ONE OF THE MOST SCENIC SITES IN THE WORLD, WAS ONE OF ITS

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FEATURES. EARLY THE NEXT MORNING APPROXIMATELY 0600 HOURS THE DOOR OF MY OFFICE JOLTED ME OUT OF MY SLEEP. HE FOUND ME HUNCHED OVER MY PAPERS WITH A KETTLE OF TEA PERCHED ON THE HEATER AND EMITTING A WHISTLE AS IF ANNOUNCING THE OUTBREAK OF WAR. 9 JANUARY 1991 (SUBTITLE) THAT WHOLE DAY AND PART OF THE NIGHT WAS OCCUPIED WITH CHARTING A THOROUGH PLAN TO DISTRIBUTE THE ROCKETS AND CONVENTIONAL WARHEADS AND FUEL. THE PLAN COVERED AREAS IN THE SOUTH AND WESTERN REGIONS OF THE NATION--IN AL-RAMADI OF AL-ANBAR GOVERNORATE; AL-'AMARAH IN MISAN GOVERNORATE; AND IN AL-NASIRIYAH OF DHI QAR GOVERNORATE. FOLLOWING IS A BREAKDOWN OF THE PLAN: 1--TEN ROCKETS FOR BRIGADE 224 AND AS MANY FOR AL-RAMADI AS A SECOND LINE. 2--EIGHT ROCKETS FOR BRIGADE 223, PLUS FOUR VEHICLES. 3--TEN ROCKETS EACH FOR THE CITIES OF AL-'AMARAH, AL-NU'MANIYAH, AL-SUWAYRAH, AT A MEDIUM LEVEL ALERT FOOTING. 4--FOUR ROCKETS FOR THE CITY OF AL-NASIRIYAH, EIGHT FOR AL-BATHA' REGION AT A MEDIUM LEVEL ALERT FOOTING. 5--ROCKETS IN OTHER AREAS WERE PLACED AT A LOW LEVEL ALERT FOOTING. 6--THE SPECIAL WARHEADS WERE DISPERSED IN OTHER PLACES AROUND THE COUNTRY. I SPENT THAT NIGHT PLANNING UNTIL DAWN. I ISSUED ORDERS THAT THE TRAINING MUST CONTINUE AND SPECIFYING THE DUTIES ASSIGNED TO BATTALION 227, "ABABIL," AND I EXAMINED THE FORMATION OF A JOINT TECHNICAL BATTALION SO AS TO ECONOMIZE ON OUR EFFORTS. I ALSO CONSIDERED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AUXILIARY CONTROL CENTER AND A DIVISION OF LABOR AMONG THE BRIGADES AND WHETHER EACH SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A SPECIFIC REGION OR WHETHER THEY SHOULD ALL BE CONTROLLED CENTRALLY. I ISSUED ORDERS SPECIFYING WHETHER THE ROCKETS SHOULD REMAIN DEPLOYED ON VEHICLES OR WHETHER THEY SHOULD REMAIN ON THE GROUND READY FOR ACTION, AS WELL AS CONCERNING OTHER SMALL DETAILS. I INSTRUCTED THAT 14 ROCKETS BE AT THE READY IN BAGHDAD. I NOTICED THAT THE COMMANDERS WERE ABSOLUTELY COMFORTABLE WITH THOSE MEASURES, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THEY ADDRESSED SPECIFICS. I HAD STEPPED INTO AN AREA THAT THEY CONSIDERED TO BE INTEGRAL TO THEIR SPECIALIZATION, INCLUDING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE IRON LEVERS THAT EVERY BRIGADE NEEDED FOR LOADING. I ALSO INTERVENED IN SUCH AREAS AS THE TECHNICAL BATTERIES AND THE FIRST MAINTENANCE UNIT. THE REASON WAS THAT I FELT THAT WAS NECESSARY IF WE WERE TO GUARD AGAINST ANY CONFUSION OR LACK OF COORDINATION WHEN MILITARY ACTION BEGAN. (MORE) 3 NOV [REDACTED] 10 JANUARY 1991 (SUBTITLE) I REQUESTED A DETAILED CHART OF ENEMY TARGETS IN "AL-KHAFJI" AND "RA'S AL-MISH'AB" FROM THE OPERATIONAL ROCKETS CONTROL CENTER AND THEY OBLIGED. ON 15 JANUARY 1991 I DIRECTED THAT THEY AMEND THEIR PLAN SO THAT IT WOULD PROVIDE FOR A SIMULTANEOUS STRIKE AT THE TWO TARGETS AND THAT ALL UNITS BE PREPARED TO COLLECTIVELY HIT ANY ONE OF THE TWO. I SPELLED OUT MY INSTRUCTIONS IN SOME DETAIL TO SATISFY MYSELF THAT I WAS BEING FULLY UNDERSTOOD. I ALSO SATISFIED MYSELF WITH RESPECT TO THE MEASURES BEING TAKEN AT THE CENTER IN REGARD TO THE EXERCISE IN THE SECOND BATTALION OF BRIGADE 225 OF EACH OF THE SECOND CORPS AND THE COMMAND OF THE FORCES OF JIHAD. ALSO ON THAT DAY CORRESPONDING TO 24 JUMADA AL-AKHIRAH OF THE HEJIRAH YEAR 1411, I SUBMITTED A REPORT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT INCORPORATING THE ADDITIONAL TARGETS ABOUT WHICH WE HAD BEEN ALERTED BY THE GENERAL MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE ON 9 JANUARY 1991. MY PLANNING WAS BASED ON THE PRESIDENT'S DIRECTIVES THAT HE HAD ISSUED ON 6 JANUARY 1991 AND WHICH I RECEIVED ON 8 JANUARY 1991. HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT HAD ALREADY GIVEN CLEARANCE FOR OUR CHOICE OF TARGETS IN TEL AVIV AND HAIFA AND THEIR ENVIRONS AS PRIORITY TARGETS IN THE EVENT OF A STRIKE BEING LAUNCHED AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENTITY. I EXPLAINED IN MY REPORT THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE ROCKET CORPS INSOFAR WITH RESPECT TO STRIKES AT THE

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CONCENTRATIONS OF THE AMERICAN ENEMY AND ITS ALLIES WERE BASED IN SAUDI ARABIAN TERRITORY. IT EMERGED THAT STRATEGIC ROCKETS WERE NOT MUCH USE AGAINST CERTAIN TARGETS, PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT WERE SOMEWHAT DISTANT OR SMALL IN SIZE OR ABOUT WHICH WE KNEW VERY LITTLE. ACCORDINGLY, WE SETTLED INSTEAD FOR "DHAHRAN" AS A FIRST PRIORITY SAUDI TARGET FOLLOWED RESPECTIVELY BY "DAMMAM," "AL-JUBAYL," AND "HAFR AL-BATIN." BEFORE THAT, AS OF 13 AUGUST 1990, ENEMY TARGETS IN "DHAHRAN" AND "MUJAMMA' BAQIQ" HAD FOR US A LOWER PRIORITY. I EXPLAINED THAT OUR CAPABILITIES HAD BEEN STEPPED UP SO THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO LAUNCH ROCKET ATTACKS AT 14 BASES. I PROPOSED THAT WE HIT TARGETS IN TEL AVIV WITH EIGHT ROCKETS AND IN HAIFA WITH SIX. AS FOR ENEMY TARGETS IN "RIYADH," "DHAHRAN," AND "MUJAMMA' BAQIQ," I SUGGESTED THAT WE HAD THREE CHOICES: 1--FOURTEEN ROCKETS TO BE LAUNCHED AT ENEMY CONCENTRATIONS IN "RIYADH" OR "DHAHRAN" OR "MUJAMMA' BAQIQ". 2--TO HIT ENEMY TARGETS IN "RIYADH" AND "DAHRAN" ONLY. 3--TO HIT ALL OF THE THREE TARGETS. THE TIME FRAME THAT I PROPOSED FOR AN ATTACK ON THE ZIONIST ENTITY WAS 22 HOURS, FOLLOWED 10 HOURS AFTERWARDS BY AN ATTACK ON ENEMY TARGETS IN SAUDI ARABIA. (MORE) END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

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