

(U) IRAQI COMMANDER MEMOIRS ON MISSILES (3)

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(U) REF: JN2211063398 AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 29 OCT 98 P 11 /// EMPTY THE MISSILES.

(U) SOURCE: AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 29 OCT 98 P 11 TEXT:

(U) NATURALLY, WE HAD TO INFORM THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES ABOUT THE SITUATION. HIS DIRECTIVE, WHICH WAS COMMUNICATED TO US BY HIS SECRETARY, WAS THAT WE MUST NOT FILL THEM UNTIL A MILITARY ATTACK HAS ACTUALLY TAKEN PLACE AGAINST IRAQ. BRIGADE 224 GRACIOUSLY FULFILLED THIS DIFFICULT ASSIGNMENT AND WE REFERRED THE EMPTY MISSILES TO MIO FOR REPAIR. I THOUGHT: HOW POWERFUL THESE MEN ARE WHEN THEY WORK IN UNISON FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR COUNTRY AND THE DEFENSE OF THEIR HONOR AND PRINCIPLES?! 31 AUGUST 1990 WE SET OFF IN A CAR, AND IT WAS FASCINATING TO WATCH THE MACHINE SWALLOW UP THE ROAD AS WE SPED THROUGH IN THE DIRECTION OF THE WESTERN DESERT. FOR I DECIDED THAT DAY TO ALSO INSPECT OUR MISSILE UNITS THERE AND REASSURE MYSELF ABOUT THEIR CONDITION. I SWITCHED OFF THE AIR-CONDITIONING AND ROLLED DOWN THE WINDOW TO SEE HOW IT FELT OUTSIDE. THE HOT DESERT AIR HIT MY FACE LIKE A BLAZE OF FIRE, AND I WAS REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE EFFECT IT MIGHT HAVE ON THE MORALE OF OUR SOLDIERS IN THIS DESOLATE PLACE. BUT, THE MORALE WAS HIGH AS I EXPECTED IT. I FELT AFTER ONLY A FEW HOURS THAT I WAS AMONG JOYOUS FRIENDS. THE SIGHT OF THE CLOTH MATERIAL THEY USED FOR CAMOUFLAGE WAS COLORFUL AND LOOKED RATHER FUNNY. BUT THE MEN WERE IN GREAT HARMONY AND THAT MADE ME FEEL COMFORTABLE. A SENIOR NCO SAID: SIR, WE ARE READY TO FIGHT THE ZIONIST ENEMY FACE TO FACE AS YOU WISHED US WHEN YOU WERE A LIEUTENANT. THE MAN TURNED OUT TO BE ONE OF MY STUDENTS WHEN I WAS TEACHER AT THE ARTILLERY

SCHOOL. HE WAS CLOSE TO MY AGE, WHICH WAS WHY DUTY BROUGHT US TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN AFTER A LONG SEPARATION. (DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER OFTEN CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES. INTERNET VERSION IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT [HTTP://WWW.ALARAB-ALYAWM.COM](http://www.al-arab-alyawm.com).JO) THIS REPORT MAY CONTAIN COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL. COPYING AND DISSEMINATION IS PROHIBITED WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE COPYRIGHT OWNERS. (ENDALL) END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

- JN2211063398 AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 29 OCT 98 P 11 /// EMPTY THE MISSILES.

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