

Total Duration: 01:37:37

Start: 00:00:00

End: 01:37:37

File Type: (Audio) Meeting

Periods unaccounted for are blank

This audio file is an undated meeting of Saddam Hussein with high-ranking Iraqi officials regarding the Iraqi-Iranian War. During the meeting several people were talking at once and the quality of sound was distorted in some areas. The details are as follows:

-Time 00:00:03 —00:05:19

The audio file starts with unknown voices and movement of chairs and microphones then Saddam Hussein greets the audience saying: Good morning and kidding with one of them asking Lieutenant General Nizar "How are you?" "Do you feel much better now?" and Nizar replied, "Much better Sir". Then, Saddam addresses his speech to an individual named Abu-Zayd greeting him saying "Welcome", and asking him "You did not marry yet, did you?". He replied "I'm waiting, Sir", then Saddam laughs saying "If women hear what I'm saying, they would say that I am a matchmaker and urging marriage" then he laughs commenting "The Women Union" resuming his speech to Abu-Zayd saying "Abu Zayd insisting on his decision?" and they all laughed.

(TC: Sounds of pictures being taken)

Saddam greets the audience saying, "May Allah grant you a long life" and also: under the special conditions like Al-Qadisiyyah (TC: referencing to the Iraq-Iran War) conditions where the fighting lasted for eight years. When the man always knows by his heart Allah and the people, he realizes the right connection between the present, the future and the past. Therefore, he realizes the connection between the present moment, the forthcoming times and the past as a history and a future, so he does not make a strategic mistake and he may make a mistake that can be expressed in military terms as "Tactical". He can make a subsidiary mistake "by common expression" but he does not allow a mistake to amount to a historical mistake. At the level of the subsidiary mistake, the mistakes could be finished; it could be fixed or could be passed without any big loss. Yet it should not be a historical mistake because sometimes the historical mistake is difficult to pass, or to be fixed or dealt with.

All praises are due to Allah, here the time has passed and our martyrs remained lightening the path for us as a symbol of the martyrdom, the championship and the sacrificing. Your nation remains honorable and recording important and remarkable events in history. Before all this, your hard work will remain one of the deeds that please Allah and are exalted above weakness and indignity, Allah willing. The cruel and difficult situation, a narrow way of thinking may lead people to alternative action that they will regret about it. However, the people who will not regret deeply are those who loose a big loss, may Allah keep them away from the narrow way of thinking and implant peacefulness in their hearts, souls, minds and chests to continue their path.

-Time 00:05:20- 00:05:38 are blank

–**Time 00:05:39 00:07:11** Saddam resumed speaking: All praise is due to Allah, we did not notice any historical mistakes committed by our soldiers during the Iraq-Iran war. We mean the soldiers who participated in the war from the beginning to the end without changing and hesitating. How come, if they were the men who remained in Al-Qadisiyyah (Iraqi-Iranian war) path till the last moment of the military conflict between two wills, trends, methods, two minds and two positions (TC: referencing to Iraq and Iran).

Saddam says: May Allah grant a long life to soldiers, who participated in the battle. All praise is due to Allah; all praise is due to Allah.

Time 00:07:12 00:07:22 are blank

–**Time 00:07:23 00:08:37** Saddam resumed speaking: What happened to Ibn- Al-Hakam? (**Inaudible**), Sabir is the one, who will inform us about this issue, but he is not here today, (**an unidentified officer interrupts**) and said, "Shall Lieutenant Husayn provide us with the latest updates if possible? As some individuals did not attend the meeting, so we will not discuss it. All attendees laughed (**Inaudible**).

–**Time 00:08:38 00:11:15 (an unidentified individual replied):** The Americans are discussing in the Congress, the Democrats criticize George Bush and the Republicans declare that Bush is the one who is responsible for keeping Saddam Hussein and his Regime till present time by allowing the Iraqi scout helicopters and aircrafts to demolish the opposition groups in the North and South.

Saddam replied: It is, as if there was coordination.
(All attendees laugh)

An unidentified individual interrupts: Mr. President, the Republicans' reply was that they have confirmed information stating that the Chief of Army Aviation was ready to take over the regime so we allow them to use the helicopters.

Saddam Hussein says: No, they are wrong; of course the Chief of Army Aviation will not do that, Allah willing, this is something wrong...

An unknown official replied: I told the Chief of Army Aviation, Mr. President and that is what was mentioned in the media and he said, "Do you have to put more pressure on me? This matter may cause a heart attack to me"

Saddam Hussein replied: Hakam, the Chief of Army Aviation will not do that; you want a special way to talk. No, it can not be solved by talks. They (TC: Possibly US Officials) search for them but we do not have them. They have to search for them elsewhere. **Then Saddam Hussein addresses his speech to the whole group saying:** Once, did I not tell you, in their declarations or media, by Allah I do not remember exactly, I asked the Comrades in Command what the news is? The Comrade Tariq `Aziz said that they search for a General, who is popular for both the Army and the people and has many good characteristics. **Saddam comments saying:** I told them that he is not a General and the

characteristics they search for is only a cover or trick, and these are our Generals, who participated in the Iraq-Iran war and its battles.

Time 00:11:1600:11:26 are blank

Time 00:11:2700:16:54: Saddam speaks: we can not say that conditions of the Third World Countries are not considered an anachronism but we can say that it is an indication that your experience differs from others. The countries of the Third World face challenges whether military, economical or political. You can see that such regimes become worried when they face a military challenge, the Army and Command fall down when the country faces a political challenge. Therefore, whether the challenge is economical, political or military, it would destroy everything in these countries. It is known that Iraq has passed all these bitter and cruel conditions and challenges and witnessed immeasurable conditions, by another meaning nothing can be compared to it. Recently, Iraq fought Iran for eight years. The Iraqi-Iranian War lasted for eight years, and I think some countries fought for seven years with the International aid and support **(Inaudible) Saddam asking what kind of information is this? (TC: An indentified individual said the Second World War lasted for seven years only)**

Saddam resumed his speech: Anyway, with this level of fighting in present time, with these bloody conditions and without international aids to support it, the whole world does not witness war like that (TC: Saddam means the Iraq-Iranian war). Eight years of fighting is not easy, I think that such conditions need special men and people, whom we described, to face it for eight years. **Saddam continues:** Eight years of fighting Iran along with their economical and political conspiracies, which were revealed during the ceasefire between us and Iran. However, Iran has repeated these economical and political conspires again during the First Gulf War through military retreat from the beginning accompanied by economical blockade, political and intelligence plots. However, our Army would still army, our nation would be above all nations, and our nation will be the source of donation and giving and you know about the other matters. These are Iraqi people, this is their standard and this is what matches with their high position; any other one except these is not Iraqi. Conspiracies appear along the history as appeared during the time of Prophet Muhammad (Peace and Blessing be upon him). Yet, there are two aspects; one aspect, which the history is based on, and all nations and people will always remember, commend and follow. The other aspect is **(Inaudible)**, so-and-so, Abu-Lahab and this is another matter. Saddam quotes a verse from the Holy Quran saying: "Perish the hands of the father of flame! Perish him."

All praise is to Allah

Time 00:16:5500:18:45 Saddam resumes speaking: Lieutenant General Hamid was in the General Command, he left the Air Force and now he is in the General Command. When we want to write a statement, we always start with one of the Holy Quran verses. Once, something happened with Abu-Zayd as he asked one of the attendants "can you find a suitable verse of Holy Quran for us?"

(Saddam and his group are laughing.) Saddam says laughing: this is just an issue between us besides the verse of the Holy Quran is "Perish the hands of the father of flame! Perish him" as they may think that we have someone named Abu-Lahab. Abu-

Zayd was always a truthful believer; he always says " Sir, I will see..." And I told him: exactly, you think well.

Time 00:18:4600:24:11 Saddam speaking: AbuZayd mentioned Saddah `Ijirdah Peninsula (TC: An Iraqi region located at the Iraqi-Iranian Border that was occupied by Iran). **Saddam is asking the audience** "Who was responsible for Saddah `Ijirdah area during the Iran-Iraq war and the rest positions at the back?

An indetified individual replied: Lieutenant General Yallitshin was responsible for Saddah `Ijirdah. **Then Saddam asked:** Who is Lieutenant General Yallitshin? And who was responsible for the other side? **Another an unidentifed individual replies:** Ahmad `Abd-al-`Aziz and Muhammad Al-'Azzawi, Sir. **Saddam Says: where? An indetified individual interrupts:** that was a strong battle Sir. **Saddam says:** is it right? What is its story? Who can tell me about? **(Inaudible), an unknown individual replied:** He is a Lieutenant General Kamil Yasin, who was waiting for Lieutenant General Muhammad Al- `Azzawi in Lisan`, Ijirdah (TC: A region located at the Iraqi-Iranian Border)

An indetified individual interrupts: Sir, as for Lisan `Ijirdah Area; during the second Tawakalna 'Ala Allah battle, soldiers of the Republican Guard were assigned to take over Al-Majnun Area from the 3rd Corp sector and a part from the 6th Corp sector. The brother Yallitshin was approximately after the first 100 meters from Saddah `Ijirdah. Your Excellency (TC: Saddam Hussien) was in the headquarters of the Advanced 3rd Corp for the follow up movements of the Third Corp. The envelopment team (TC: attack group) of the 3rd Corp was coming from Kushk Al-Basri area angle and surrounding the left side of Lisan `Ijirdah area in order to support the right wing with the Republican Guard's soldiers. The 3rd Corp surrounded Lisan `Ijirdah and almost closed the angle and restrain the Iranian troops and sectors there. The Republican Guard liberated and recaptured more than two third of Al-Majnun and Al-Wajib areas. After that, you Sir told me not to inform Lieutenant General Yallitshin in order to take over all parts of Al-Majnun area. I informed him it is Mr. President's order and you still working on (Operating) the first 200 meters after an hour. I remember till now, Sir that your guidance and the secrecy made him jump one step or move in order to the achieve the required.

Saddam speaks: Lieutenant General Yallitshin was in Al-Majnun area and he wanted to restore parts of it from the Iranians Forces in order to strengthen the defense line. At this time, taking over or restoring a distance of 20 meters, 30 meters or 50 meters was a vital achievement during the war. Lieutenant General Yallitshin wanted to follow this method, which is different from the other methods such as Mass flow method (TC: Mass attack method) and envelopment attack method, which were widely used in that time. When the commanders called me saying that Lieutenant General Yallitshin still was following this method, I told them to inform Yallitshin to stop using the old technique, which he has following in Al-Majnun area (An Iraqi region was occupied by Iran during the Iraqi-Iranian war)

Saddam resumed: Lieutenant General Yallitshin had said that he was doing well. You all were attending and anyone who has a story, go ahead. On the left (TC: Inaudible) then he said: that is what happened, we surpass the first 200 meters then **Saddam interrupts:** Nizar is sitting with us now and the brothers are here.

Lieutenant General Nizar replied: Sir, in fact, during this battle, a lot of good fighters died as martyrs, and Yallitshin was doing well in every battle and his fighters fought in an outstanding way.

Saddam replied: Yes, the history must record this (TC: Inaudible)

An indented individual interrupts: the history has been recorded.

-Time 00:24:11-00:28:49 an indented individual speaking:

The plan used to liberate `Ijirdah area was to march (attack) from the beginning then perform landing operations for troops on its right and left sides so it became liberated. At the same time... **Saddam interrupts him saying:** the attack was from Al-Saddah Peninsula Area in order to avoid clash with the defensive positions of the Iranian Army that were consisting of three defense lines. Then the boats attacked from the right and left by performing landing operation for boats on the right side and the left side of the Ijirdah area. **An unidentified individual said:** Yes Sir, but **Saddam continued saying:** as I remember attacking by boats from the right and left side was done after clearing the area, (TC: An indented individual interrupts saying: Al-Lisan Area), the force that was practically in the front line not more than two platoons, which do not allow deployment of forces. We can not connect the destiny of a corp with the destiny of two platoons. Of course, this is not a proper technique. **An indented individual interrupts him saying:** never, and **Saddam continued saying:** it is not the right technique; these are facts as we remember. The boats did not rush forth deeper.... **an indented individual interrupts saying:** never, than rushing of infantry forces, which were in the front as I remember. **Nizar said:** Right. **Saddam comments:** our technique is not the right technique, Nizar. It is not right to connect the destiny of the whole corp to the destiny of the two platoons; this is not a proper technique. The technique that was used previously, we left it behind and we directed to phases' interference technique (TC: Engagement technique) at the same time the technique of the wide envelopment (Envelopment Attack Method). The surpass technique means surpassing the subsidiary resistance, restricting and surrounding it...etc. This is all that Lieutenant General Yallitshin was thinking about. Yallitshin goes forward according to military measurements that we cannot say is wrong; it is right and didactic generally. It is known that the columns of wings cannot rush unless there is balance in its movement and balance here does not mean equivalence. Is it right Lieutenant General `Abd-al-Jabbar? It does not mean equivalence, but balance has another meaning, it means that the results are connected to effectiveness of movement of columns (Platoons) that have only one duty or one target. What did the Leader do? Is it possible that some columns of wings rush for 10km in the depth and others rush 20km however; we call it a balanced rush. Lieutenant General Yallitshin calculated the balanced rush by the equal heads rush (TC: An old technique of military engagement). As long as, the fighting is going on Al-Saddah, which is the only land for fighting; the march must flow on the right and on the left sides when it comes close the enemy. Yallitshin has followed this technique, as he was not aware of the enemy's progress in the other fronts of the battlefield and focused only on the local battlefield till we gave him orders to

change the technique. Of course, he faced difficulties in performing landing operations on the left side of the extended Al-saddah.

An indented individual interrupts: Sir what happened ..., **but Saddam continued saying:** the landing operations of troops from the right side was supposed to be from Al-

Majnun area side. **An unidentified individual interrupts:** Sir, if you please! And Saddam tell him to continue what he was saying?

Time 00:28:50 00:34:12

An unidentified individual speaks: Mr. President, Al-Saddah area extends from the Iranian lands to Lisan `Ijirdah area hence extends from Lisan `Ijirdah to Al-Saddah area itself till it connects Majnun Area. Therefore, the plan was that the 3rd Corp conducts the two landing operations of troops on the right and from the left sides of Al-Saddah to stop any Iranian progress or movement through Al-Saddah to Lisan `Ijirdah at the same time its extension to Majnun area where the Iranian gets food supplies, therefore they can not defend themselves? The plan of the Republican Guard in Al-Majnun operation is to occupy all parts of A-Majnun area. So when the landing operations trials failed in Al-Saddah, which is connected to Lisan `Ijirdah and extends to Al-Majnun, the Republican Guard developed their work out off his duties and ascended from Al-Majnun to Lisan `Ijirdah. The history and Lieutenant General `Ayyad remember that well. At the same time of landing operations for troops... **(Inaudible):** So Iranians get confused from what happened and we reacted quickly to put an end to the battle by stopping all supplies that Iranian can use in Al-Saddah area that is connected to our land. At the same time, the Republican Guard performed a landing operation for troops in the north ...Saddam interrupts him saying: Late? **The person replied:** yes, our Corp took over Lisan `Ijirdah area and completed his mission but after a while. Indeed, the Iranian fought in Lisan `Ijirdah, but the Republican Guard performed landing operation of forces and put an end to the battle.

(TC: Lieutenant General Yallitshin, one of audience laughed saying we opened the record...) but Saddam interrupts him saying come on Yallitshin defend yourself and Yallitshin continued laughing and saying: I, and General `Ayyad were assigned to one headquarters and do you remember...?

Lieutenant General Nizar Says: May Allah have mercy on Mr. Minster who told me that the Republican Guard occupied your target and I told him Sir, as a matter of fact, we are only about few meters far from the target and the Republican Guard are so far. Actually, the separating line between our target and the Republican Guard's target is small only waterway. We reached to the sector after the Republican Guard Forces about 3 kilometers, even the Chief of Staff came; we performed landing operation for troops in `Ijirdah Junction. It was an organized landing performed by the Brigade Landing Team No. 39. We recaptured Majnun area; we performed landing operations for troops in Al-Baydah triangle and Al-Tarrab area and so on. Saddam interrupts: It means that after the enemy had fallen down. This landing operation was advantaging win not winning defensive positions. **Lieutenant General Nizar resumed saying:** that's right Sir. The Chief of Army Staff ordered me to land troops in Al-Baydah triangle, I discussed this matter with him mentioning the difficulties of performing landing operation of troops for the following reasons; there was electricity pier with five lines in Al-Saddah area, there was a water barrier to protect Al-Saddah from water and the soldiers' position. Then landing the scout helicopters is very difficult and the brother **(Inaudible)** knows that, he is sitting with us. There are no losses without reasons. We landed troops in `Ijirdah junction after occupying it and the casualties were three helicopters. The Chief of Army Staff was convinced with that and told me it is ok. I told him that I did the plan on the

right time as I decided. I and General Diya' arrived in the exact time that was in the plan. There were two Commando Brigades of both sides in Al-Saddah. There was an observation tower in Al-Saddah, where Second Lieutenant of the 1st Commando Brigade ascended and occupied it after we occupied the junction. I told The Chief of Army Staff and finally extended the borders toward the junction and Al-`11jaylah after that, and a big group surrendered and it became a well-fortified point. So Sir, we occupied Al-Baydah triangle and Al-Tarrab, all these happened till 1000 hrs of the second day and this was one of the extra duties as we completed our mission in our fixed times. Mr. Chief of Army Staff and the Intelligence Directorate ...but **Saddam interrupted him saying:** you asked to meet me, but I told you I cannot right now. After that, the official continued saying: Sir, the success of the operation was due to your guidance and instructions through the phone. Do you remember Sir when you told me to go on, and I told you, that I started attacking by the two Brigades from both sides? It is because of you instructions from the start and I told you we are now getting close to the target. This is the truth Sir.

Time 00:34:1300:38:41 Saddam is speaking: All praise is due to Allah, the most important thing is all our men were full of faith, enthusiasm, determination and desire for fighting; all praise is due to Allah. **Then Saddam stopped a while and continued saying:** we did not talk about Al-Faw battle? What do you say about Al-Faw battle, Ahmad? Ahmad replied: In Al-Faw battle, the men had a strong determination and the soldiers wanted to achieve the desirable aims sincerely that what I saw in the Republican Guard whereas I was a Division Commander. Al-Mamlaha area, where many Brigades of Iraqi Army fought, I remember the 6th Brigade of the Republican Guard had managed to occupy all his targets in 45 minutes. Then Saddam Says: the 6th Brigade occupied all targets till the enemy's headquarters; but Ahmad replied: No, Sir, to the previous command headquarters No. 26 of the enemy in Al-Mamlaha area. Saddam says: Yes. Then Ahmad continues says: the commander of the Brigade contacted me saying that he accomplished his target and if there are extra targets, he is ready to do it. Actually, the right Brigade which is 16th Special Forces Brigade faced difficulties because of the area's tough nature as the there was flow (tide) in water and the barrier system was thick, so he can not. I keep supporting the Brigade to stimulate him and raise his spirits in order to be ready for the following battles. As for the 11th Commandos Brigade of the Republican Guard, its mission was to achieve targets of the second phase but the right Brigade did not accomplish his target and I had to accomplish targets of the second phase as I did not complete half the mission. As a result of that, I ordered the Commandos Brigade to carry out the first mission, which is to close the areas that were occupied behind the enemy and as for the second mission is to achieve its targets, which was project No.71. Indeed, and as I remember the minister was present with us.... the period between completing the first phase and the second phase of battle not exceed more than five minutes because the Brigade separated to two divisions. **Saddam interrupts him saying:** There was an interception between phases of the battle. Ahmad replies saying: Yes, Sir. Saddam comments: and this was the first time. Ahmad resumes saying: Among the things that indicate the determination of our soldiers is that most of them fought barefooted. This area has salty concentration so shoes would be filled with salt and mud. Therefore, they had to attack barefooted to be ready for the second phase. What is amazing is one of the squads of the 6th Brigade captured 100 soldiers in this battle and this is documented Sir.

They reached neared the 26th Division Headquarters where the enemy was occupying. Our soldiers made a surprise and strong attack on the enemy. Saddam interrupted him saying: the fighters launched a surprise attack. Then Ahmad continues saying: they launched a surprise attack and the Iranians shout at them saying, "Come attack, attack" and our soldiers say "You come to us" as the soldiers organized their position in order to make Iranian come close to them and start shooting and open fire on them. As a result of that, our soldiers captured 100 Iranian and all these events are documented.

Time 00:38:4200: 00:44:59 Saddam addresses his speech to Lieutenant General Nizar to speak and Nizar speaks: Sir, in fact, all liberation battles are considered one of the most important battles that Iraqi army carried out. Liberation battles are one of the most outstanding battles of the armed forces. It was divided into two phases: the first phase is liberation of land by these battles (Al-Faw battle- the first and the second one Tawakalna 'Ala Allah battle- Muhammad Rasul Allah battle). Liberation battles are chain of battles that lasted nearly almost five years. These were a chain of continuous battles in the Northern sector to purify the northern area that we called it "Muhammad Rasul Allah operations" and it was really a chain of operations. The second phase is destroying the Iranian armed forces to end the war with an obvious victory. Therefore, we can say that Muhammad Rasul Allah and Ramadan operations... then **Saddam interrupted him saying:** they are all operations of land liberation after that Lieutenant General Nizar affirmed his opinion saying yes; it focused on driving the enemy away and achieve land liberation. The main purpose of the third and the forth Tawakalna 'Ala Allah battles is destroying the Iranian military mechanism and weapons. It comes to my mind one thing, which is the first Tawakalna 'Ala Allah battle, regarding Halabjah liberation. Our basic concern is how to hide information and keep it a way especially from the Western and US observation. We were concerned with hiding our intentions and plans from Americans more than Iranians forces. As we can know well the Iranians' limits and capabilities so we can mislead them easily, yet it is difficult with the Americans with all satellites and progressive telecommunications technology they have. The major concern of the Commander-in-Chief, Chief of General Staff and the Military Intelligence is how to hide these operations from the Americans. **Saddam says:** according to our instructions and **Nizar says:** This was your guidance Sir. **Then Saddam says:** the most important thing is not how to hide our troop's concentration or deployment from the Iranian forces because the Iranian will think that it is somehow a kind of maneuvers to deceive and divert their attention from our original target, which is the intention of standing against them in Halabjah area. We have asked the Military Intelligence to put a plan on how to deceive the Americans in spite of all satellites and the high technology means of telecommunications and transportation they have. Moreover, the plan included regulations to carry out our military maneuvers in sectors, with taking under consideration how the Americans do not discover our real intentions of liberating Majnun area. **Lieutenant General Nizar interrupted Saddam saying:** so, for the first time Sir you ordered to put Intelligence Operations Plan. **Saddam says:** Separated operations. **Lieutenant General Nizar replied:** Of course, there were plans for all liberation battles specially Al-Faw battle hence the rest of liberation battles. There were operations plans issued by the Military Intelligence including many documents regarding enemy's movement and information about their activities in the sectors. Therefore, surveillance

satellites cannot interpret these movements' directions logically and the bad or good luck is that the targets that should be released are locating after Al-Faw, which are Shalanhah, Halabjah, Al-Majnun and Al-Zubaydat areas. Even Mr. President... Saddam interrupted him saying: it does not appear to me. **Lieutenant General Nizar says:** Excuse me Sir! Saddam said: It was your decision to choose it. Lieutenant General Nizar replied: It was only one target. Saddam interrupts: No, it did not appear to me, it does not appear to me and continued saying: Do you remember that you said that after Majnun liberation, you would direct to the north for Al-Shalanhah liberation, you would direct to north and after Al-Majnun, you will direct to the north. Every time I ask you ...then **unknown individual interrupts him:** you ask us Sir...then Saddam continued saying: once I asked you to discover the north, then I facilitate some issues and asked you to return from north and told you that the target is Al-Majnun area liberation not the north. (TC: unknown individual interrupts him, (inaudible) said "Muhammad Rasul Allah operations". Saddam continued saying: then after Al-Majnun area liberation and **Lieutenant General Nizar** interrupts, **Saddam says: (inaudible)** but Saddam continued saying: I asked you "what do you choose?" You replied saying "The north", also we said you go to north to discover then after returning from the north and I told you the other target is Al-Zubaydat area liberation. **Lieutenant General Nizar replied:** It was logic Sir. An unidentified individual interrupts: the north was (inaudible) (TC: Lieutenant General Nizar replied: this was camouflage), so, Sir you have changed the direction immediately. Saddam replied: it is known as I summoned commanders to General headquarters and called the commander of the 7th Corp and the commander of the 3rd Corp and some of you were present. Besides, there were the whole General Command, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Chief of Army Staff, and who else? **An unidentified individual interrupts says:** Operations Deputy and Intelligence Director and Saddam repeated saying: Operations Deputy and Intelligence Director. By another meaning, nearly the entire General Command was in the North. **Saddam continued saying:** they did not know that I called the Commanders of the 7th Corp and the 3rd Corp and I told them to get ready as the decision now is liberating Majnun area. (TC: Lieutenant General Nizar resumed: That is right). They discussed the matter with me and told me Sir "we need additional troops besides our troops". I told them it is ok, **(Inaudible)**. **Lieutenant General Nizar says:** Liberating Al-Faw area Sir not Al-Majnun, you said Al-Majnun and **Saddam says:** Did I say Al-Majnun area? **Lieutenant General Nizar** replied: yes, Sir but Saddam correct his speech saying: No, No, I mean Al-Faw area, and this was the decision. Therefore, I asked our brothers in the General Command in the North to come immediately as I have worked with you, after they **(Inaudible)** the commanders of the 7th Corp and the 3rd Corp. I met them the following day **(Lieutenant General Nizar interrupts him saying:** of course, that is right) then **Saddam continued saying:** what are you thinking of? You think that I will give you troops from the Republican Guard in order to continue the fighting in Halabjah as you had the 10th Armored Division of the Army in this direction. **(Lieutenant General Nizar interrupts:** A division of the Republican Guard and Saddam continued saying: And some of the Republican Guards formations. **(Lieutenant General Nizar interrupted him saying:** a modern formation) but and **Saddam continued saying:** you thought that I will discuss the battle with you and I will give you troops from the Republican Guard. I met you and told you that the decision now is liberating Al-Faw area, I mean now, and I have discussed the matter with you then told you to get ready.

After that, the following day you brought troops more than what I expected and the operation began. The liberation battles after Al-Faw is not something and I asked you what the destination is after Al-Faw liberation. You told me to the north then return to Shalabjah area, and we did not discuss it but the most important and decisive decision is Al-Majnun liberation after Shalabjah and Al-Zubaydat after Al-Majnun. It was also the north and may be **(inaudible)**

- **Time 00:48:24- 00:49:26** are blank

-**Time 00:49:47- 00:53:55 Saddam** says: Muhammad Rasul Allah battles. **Lieutenant General Nizar** says: Sir, if you please, I remember that liberation battles were a chain of battles that take one direction but every battle has its own techniques and a special guidance from you. I remember Al-Majnun liberation battle, sorry I mean Al-Faw liberation, and I remember that your guidance was to liberate a land first. I mentioned this situation as we were surprised us, when you called us, we thought that you will give us troops and new guidance to liberate Halabjah area or at least restore parts of the area that the enemy using to attack us. However, you surprised us and told us to fight to liberate Al-Majnun area (Sorry, Al-Faw) (an unidentified individual said: Al-Faw) and **Lieutenant General Nizar** resumed saying: Al-Faw, I beg your pardon, so it really was a surprise. Then the following day your Excellency (TC: Saddam Hussein) ordered to train Brigades in order to liberate Al-Faw area in advance then Saddam interrupted him

saying: beforehand yes. **Lieutenant General Nizar continued saying:** In fact, we used a Brigade and a deficient Brigade, when we met with you we told you the Brigade that you ordered us to train them for Al-Faw liberation is here; you told us that you did not expect all this force to work on liberating.... **Saddam interrupts:** you used this Brigade in

Halabjah battles and **Lieutenant General Nizar** says: yes. Saddam says: All the army forces were gathering or deployed in Halabjah area and we had no intention of withdrawal these troops so we can attack with the Republican Guard forces only at that time along with what can be liberated by the 7th Corps. **Lieutenant General Nizar continued saying:** that is right, the activities and movements of the 3rd Corp and in Al-Majnun area was according to the plan with specific time but the liberation battles were carried out before the exact time planned for it. Indeed, the remaining forces of the 6th Corp and the Republican Guard carried out the accomplished the plan before its exact time. Your initiative or what happened in Shalabjah battle as I remember is Your Excellency, met us a day before the battle and gave us your last guidance among them two points, you asked us what is the time of starting the operation of liberating Majnun (Sony, Al-Faw), we told you six o'clock. **Saddam interrupts asking** Shalabjah or Al-Faw. **Lieutenant General Nizar replied:** Al-Faw, Sir before Halabjah liberation then Saddam interrupts saying: then return to Al- Faw area. **Lieutenant General Nizar** says: We told you sir **(inaudible)** Al-Faw liberation will be at six o'clock and you told us to delay Shalabjah battle for two hours. The Military Intelligence Director told you that the enemy deployed a Brigade as I remember and Your Excellency said everything is excellent. Then you clarified the following two points "why did you say everything is excellent although the enemy has deployed a Brigade or more? Moreover, why did we postpone the battle for two hours?"

When the enemy deployed a Brigade, you said these are new troops, any new troops will be confused till it takes its right positions and it will remain confused for two or three days without knowing the north from the south and their positions are not ready yet. Moreover, you have said that launching of a surprise attack on these forces in the morning will make them confused. The other point, which is postponing the time of the battle for two hours, you told us that the enemy will notice if the army front is calm or not as the enemy expected an attack at the dawn not in the morning because this a classic technique of wars. Indeed Sir, at nine O'clock, as I remember or at half past nine, our troops found all the enemy's troops sleeping and actually the Iranian prisoners (TC: POWS) said "We noticed that the army front was calm so it not possible to launch an attack and we stayed all the night then returned back to sleep". Therefore, there were initiatives or plans during Al-Majnun area liberation, Al-Zubaydat area liberation, the fourth Tawakalna 'Ala Allah battle and 2nd Crops sector. Therefore, your instructions differ from battle to the other. Thank you Sir

– **Time 00:53:56-00:54:28**

Saddam says: Good, all is good

–**Time 00:54:29-00:55:11**

Saddam says: I told General `Adnan sit with us. We are afraid that Salah rush deeply to the depth, this is an assignment, and therefore you have to inform Salah to return. This was an excellent battle.

–**Time 00:55:12- 01:37:37** are blank.

