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Verified by the supreme committee
On 3/4/1982

Signature
[Illegible]

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Meeting minutes
Of Armed Forces General Command Meetings
And
Speeches of Mr. President, the leader (God may protect him)
In
Armed Forces General Command

Second Committee

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Retired Staff Lt. General Meki Mustafa Ameen Hammodat | Committee Chair. |
| 2. Retired Lt. General Qusai Mahmood Sayeed | Member. |
| 3. Retired Staff Lt. General Subhi Mahmood Ismail | Member. |
| 4. Retired Staff Lt. General Qais Mohammad Ali | Member. |
| 5. Retired Staff Lt. General Salman Hamad Abdullah | Member. |
| 6. Retired Staff Br. General Ghadfar Mehdi Jasim | Member. |
| 7. Retired Staff Br. General Basil Omar Saleh | Member. |
| 8. Captain (Military Security) Nahad Zaker Ahmed Addawry
Security | Military |

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1981

Copy (1)

Serial	Tape number	Tape date	From	To
1	1	1/7/1980	3	77

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Tape number: 1 (Military Movement)

Tape date: 1/7/1981

Distribution committee: Second committee.

Attendees

1. Mr. President, Staff General Saddam Hussein, Armed Forces General Commander (God may protect him).
2. Maj. General Tariq Hamad Al-Abala, Presidency Office Director
3. Staff General Abdul-Jabbar Khaleel Shanshel, Army Chief Of Staff.
4. Lt. General Pilot Hameed Shaaban, Aviation Consultant.
5. Staff Lt. General Abdul-Jabbar Abdul-Raheem Al-Asadi, Assistant Army Chief Of Staff for Operations.
6. Staff Lt. General Mohammed Fathi Ameen Al-Kawaf, Corps I Commander.
7. Staff Maj. General Abdul-Jawas Zanoon, Military Intelligence Director.
8. Staff Maj. General Shaker [illegible] Al-Imara, Planning Director.
9. Staff Colonel Mayser Ibraheem Hammadi Al-Jaboori, Military Movement Director.

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Contents

Assistant Army Chief Of Staff for Operations	He wanted to tell him that the division is not comfortable transferring directly from division ten area of responsibility to division nine area of responsibility at once.
Mr. President, leader	The quick reinforcement wasn't expected by the enemy either.
Presidency Office Director	The reinforcement Sir, they are the kind of....a tank...a rocket they can not impact with it... .not even...
Mr. President, leader	Yes. [Illegible].
Presidency Office Director	Correct Sir. If one uses it...
Mr. President, leader	The same thing yesterday, [illegible] as well. There is no reason for forces to stay at Al-Haweeza. At Al-Haweeza, there is no need for the forces to stay there. Based on this, additional reinforcements have been advanced forward.
Mr. Army Chief Of Staff Planning Director	Yesterday we were in the middle of a battle. But, only the issue of the bridge (Al-Karoon bridge). The situation at the bridge is safe, shortly here; they will give the detailed results... [Illegible].

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Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

Was it worrying us.. .They got a big hit.

Mr. President,
leader

The bridge! (It doesn't belong to any one). I mean, the bridge issue, if that was the intention, it is not a smart case, and within the entire plan...How could a [illegible] happen in the middle of forces area? I mean, if some one is behind transportation lines!! It is possible they are trying to get our attention with the bridge issue to keep (division five) and (division nine) from working together and to protect their wing from any threat.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

No one comes and just crosses the middle of the area. What happened at the battle yesterday Sir. and the battle was at its highest intensity. Yesterday's battle. I can't imagine a battle like that in the area or the middle east area. I mean, they didn't mention this kind of intense armor fighting when they crossed (Swais Canal).

Mr. President,
leader

If just a plane could enter the area and take pictures of the battle field!

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

Sir, I will explain to you the picture of the battle in a simple way. Walls of fire, one in the direction of the enemy, and one in our direction. This is the situation at both artilleries and there are areas I couldn't see.

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Mr. President,
leader Didn't you determine the weapons for them?

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff No, no, I told them it's open.. I told them this battle has its impact.. The enemy armor is on this river, I couldn't see it because of the trees and low land. But, our front companies which we were fight behind them were open. At this time I received a [illegible] telegram from the enemy saying; the forces are finished and them (the enemy) sending open telegrams.

Mr. President,
leader Did you notice how they use trickery! I mean, we never send an open telegram intending to confuse the enemy.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff Sir, we adapt to the situation, to the situation we adapt. We can't, it is not in us! (when I look at this (Al-Haweeza) and (Al-Jafeer)! The path I took form (Al-Jafeer) and after (Al-Jafeer) in the direction of the areas, there is a world out there; There are human masses, vehicles and services only God would know.

Ok, that is if they come from there and the result of the battle is clear tomorrow. If the result of the battle is clear, we won't pay much attention to it. But, the result of the battle is not clear.. After we saw that, we were forced to and told them to cover the road with whatever little forces they have. He has little forces at (Al-Jafeer), he brought them out. The next day, last night, I knew he had little forces to start with, it was small. They reinforced it after this telegram. They were asking for help, their front forces were asking for help form their leadership, they were saying to them; give us a road, let's go...

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Because they couldn't take it, there losses are very big and they had a lot of dead and wounded. After a period, they received a telegram from the General Command, not the field command to retreat, one from the left and one from the right covering each other with movement and fire.

It was some thing, we are talking small groups. They were using (RPG's) and other weapons. See in this, we told the group; it is over. At this time we received the first signal from the tenth armored brigade saying that they are retreating in front of them which means they left their tanks and started to flee. Of course [illegible] that results in this kind of situation, nothing other than the continuation of the momentum against them.. This happened approximately (three thirty) or (fifteen till four).

Mr. President,
leader
Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

Had this happened at (twelve) O'clock, they would have been finished last night, (pushed them) to Al-Karkha until they stopped.

For your information Sir, this tenth (armored brigade). I could tell you, during night movement and when I arrived at about (eight thirty), it was only one battalion at the formation location. The other battalion and the other regiment didn't get there till after. At the (Al-Jafeer) crossing, I noticed a tank battalion unloaded from the carriers moving on a [illegible] and a regiment has not crossed (Shat Al-Arab) yet. They made sure they arrived and were on the formation line with their groups at about (twelve thirty). Their commander visited them, he made sure they are fine and continued the formation. Your honor, I mean, when I left there, I said noon or my be

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Before sun down or even by late evening. They left at one O'clock, it was a suitable time, they had four or five hours left in their hands.

Sir, the battle was continues since the morning and the previous forces were there, they did not leave, they were just setting there. We were fighting and a new (illegible) came, very effective momentum. There was an effective tank there, they may have hit it but they did not accomplish any thing, which was in our favor. A little before dawn, I noticed that the situation was not suitable, I came back and in the way I heard about this crossing operation.

Mr. President,
leader

(Assoonbit), if they would give us (three thousand) of those.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

We have contracted for four hundred (400) tanks...the first shipment has arrived, it is about (200) tanks that are here (with the tenth armored brigade). Three tank battalion and a (guard) battalion) and I think we have an independent [(illegible)] as well as (seven) (eight) (ten) other tanks.

But, if we had another (200) of them, the division would be complete. Its shell is (125) mm which is heavier than the support guns belonging to artillery, isn't that so? Heavier!!

In addition to this big momentum, there was the big bomb and a very high preliminary speed. We think the exit of the shell has a great momentum, I mean when it hits a target, it destroys it, regardless. It appeared in our first scrimmage with them, which was when we were advancing on them, we destroyed a large number of their tanks and they lost their balance.

Assistant for
Operations

Line officers Sir.

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Mr. President,
leader

Their line officers are very good.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

Sir, in addition to the brigade being all open on one side of the second line [illegible]. When you look at it and it is occupying a very large area, [illegible] when they opened up, they saw them because the terrain was wide open and the forces they had at the front weren't that strong, they couldn't withstand it, it was bothering them. How this [(illegible)] came upon them.

This time, their spirits collapsed. When we moved and engaged them, they were defeated. Their telegrams were coming, I did not keep them but all of them convey their disappointment and defeat...

After they issued the order to retreat, one to the left and one to the right. The right side in the direction of (Al-Khafajia) and the left side to (Koot Al-Hawashem).

Armored brigade/ 35 (Deer Yaseen) tank battalion and whatever is left of it were able to see them from the right side and they inflicted them with losses and those as well, they inflicted them with some losses. Armored brigade (Bin Al-Waleed) as well, when the battalion arrived, they were able to stop this side and hit them some.. .and hurt them...

The results, the commander of the brigade says; I destroyed more than (an armored brigade) and captured a large number, he was talking to the corps commander and he seems very excited!!!

Frankly, he told him; I did such and such, I captured such and such, he didn't know the numbers but when we returned, on this road, the case of (Al-Karoon)...you were there (talking to Presidency Office Director), I stayed till the hour.

Mr. President,
leader

Not worrisome...

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Presidency Office Director
 Sir, we saw [acronym], Salah Asker (Armored Director) Goodness; he spoke...and he came here Sir.

Assistant for Operations
 I told him...one may get worried.

Mr. President, leader
 I am comfortable.. .the commander...commander....commander. Never, I am not worried about it;

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff
 Sir, last night, they announced in the news, they said we conducted an enclosure operation and we will capture an entire division. I attributed this operation to the [illegible] telegram. They asked for support and other things.. .he would call them from (his base), he tells them; be patient, we will do some thing for you, some thing more than just support (the air force's)

Mr. President, leader
 He tells them the air forces? He tells them, amazing!

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff
 When we found out about the crossing operation, I told him I fear it is not π In my way back while returning to the corps, I said to him; a blessing (they are a blessing, send corps III). What is the situation? It appears...? He said no, we are surrounding them and God willing tomorrow morning.. .I said; give me whatever basics you have on this, what have you received about this...? It appears that one of the telegrams is Salah Al-Qadi (commander of a mechanized), he was saying, we advanced on them and we [illegible] with large numbers, we have not gotten them at this time, we will postpone the operation till the morning. And I am thinking, where would this large of a number go? Some time I think they will come down to the bottom but praise is to God.

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Mr. Presidency Office Director
 I mean the operations theatre, if the forces need it, when it comes to the theatre of operation, he could assist them. He doesn't have any thing to do with other areas. I mean Sir, their telegrams... You will see some thing remarkable. He now wants, it appears he is engaged or not...

Planning Director
 This is regarding the ones that fled the area...

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff
 It did not appear so with the helicopters. I did not see any thing

Mr. President, leader
 This means they have streamlined their entire front. In (Al-Ahwaz), not in (Al-Hawaz) only, but even from (Deezfool) in front of (the first division) and (the tenth division), they brought the forces and came, this is the right procedure, I mean, they felt that we are solid here so they have to maneuver with the forces.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff
 I saw a communication telegram last night, he was communicating with two divisions, he was communication with (16) and communicating with (92) as well as communicating with an (independent brigade), and these two divisions are together. After that, the Military Intelligence Director said to me, he said these operations were led by brigade (16) with only two companies, one from (16).

Military Intelligence Director
 Two brigades from (division 16) Sir and our brigade was cut from (division 92)

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Planning Director
Mr. Army Chief Of Staff
Mr. President, leader
Mr. Presidency Office Director
Corps I Commander
Mr. President, leader

So they are ready places, so he is spread all over it.

Yes, exactly. Now he was calling the General Command, communicating with (division 16) and (division 92) and another brigade, number (2). Sir, with the results of the battle, from the strategic point of view, you see (give) and (take) just like pulling a rope! Some times we go and some times them. You will notice the battle by its results Sir and praise to God.

I don't get mad about give and take; I get mad when some one leaves their position for no reason.

Meaning weapons. Yes.

Sir, this depends on our soldiers. This is the fifth battle I saw. It happened to me on three occasions, they get defeated in the front and then as they say; he gets the energy, collects himself and fights standing. It happened to me twice in the northern war.

We have to change this tendency in training.. .by education.. .the means are numerous. I know this from a long time ago. You tell an Iraqi to go forward, two of them run! And they take thousands with them. But, if you say to him go back, the first two at the front will go back, go back and also take thousands with them in this fashion.

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We identified this earlier as well.

Corps I
Commander

The other thing is, if the commander is wounded or dies.

Assistant for
Operations

Sir, if this is going to cost us a lot and we don't have the resources, there has to be an assistant with the commander...an assistant with...

Mr. President,
leader

Never, never, never. Wasn't an order issued regarding this? Wasn't an order issued regarding this? And we discussed it. I was thinking an order was issued regarding this because we discussed it.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

Yes, about this, concerning the division commanders.

Assistant for
Operations

This was suggested and based on the officers leaving from here.

Mr. President,
leader

We said....no, no. We name, name. When we tell him there are a number of brigade commander, we tell him; you the brigade commander will be the division commander in the absence of such and such. We don't need to wait for them to ask each other, who is the senior here? And who will be assigned?

It will be pre-named, pre-named!

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director

The senior officer in the location. The division could be open, the senior officer.

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He will take over in the division headquarters Sir.

Mr. President, leader
Meaning he has a need for it, it becomes like theirs.

Corps I Commander
May be The Chief Of Staff, if he is able to lead. But, it exists in other armies; the Indian Army Commander Assistant exists. Commander assistant.

Mr. President, leader
For God's sake in our army, it is practical to the level of a unit [illegible].

Corps I Commander
Yes Sir, by itself (armored / infantry).

Mr. President, leader
The assistant exists.

Corps I Commander
Sir, to the level of a tank battalion and infantry regiment.

Mr. Presidency Office Director
Sir, there is a regiment commander assistant; there is an assistant in principle. But, due to scarcity of officers, he may not be there.. .in principle; he is there Sir.

Corps I Commander
Assistant for Operations
Ok, but it has to be filled, filled by the most qualified officer in the regiment.

Sir, at one time this was canceled, both the commander and the assistant. The issue is that the commander thinks that the assistant is after his job and problems arise. These are all personal issues in contradiction with our interests. So, they said the best thing to do is to

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Cancel the assistant position.

Mr. President
(with Assistant
for Operation
t)

Did you get hurt (Abu-Faras)?

Assistant for
Operation t

No Sir, I am fine.

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director

The last thing is concerning armored.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

Yes sir, he was hurt, at that time, he was hurt. A tank round came like it was launched from artillery. It appears that they were using some of their tanks instead of their artillery because we were at the front borders about (4) kilometers away when the round came. It is unusual for a round to come from within (four) or (five) kilometers.. .it didn't land between us. God protected us and it landed on a sand barrier while we were standing here...

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director

That is correct Sir; we were at the location., even the lunch food was down there.

Mr. President,
leader

You were standing.. .standing?

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff

Yes Sir...we were standing.

Mr. President,
leader

Grouped together? Then why are we talking to the young officers out loud from hereand you are grouped up...

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Military
Intelligence
Director
Mr. President,
leader Battle circumstances Sir.

Mr. President,
leader Yes, I know battle circumstances but at least don't group together...

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director There is a place ...No Sir...it is much protected, even if it was hit with bombs continuously, it will not be impacted.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff Between the sand barrier and the location where we were standing, there is, I think up to the wall (pointing).. .to the wall, it was blasting intensely;

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director I mean, any one entering the shelter (inside), will feel shameful (I swear to God, this is how we explained it Sir. So, we stayed standing up)

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff We avoided it like that. A situation...it came like that with this level (woshhh) and blasted with a very intense blast.

Mr. President,
leader But we have to teach the soldier and we have to teach the officer.. .this is some thing that is well known. If the need arises, you stand up...stand up. But, if there is no need, why

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Give the enemy a free lunch?

Mr. Army But, we were standing there.... because we have a job to do. We didn't just stand
Chief Of Staff there for anything...but this...

Mr. A second bomb from the system to the location. It was a blast...no casualties or
Presidency any thing else inside the location...
Office
Director

Mr. Army No, it hurt him...or nothing only the [illegible].
Chief Of Staff

Mr. President, He was taken!!!
leader

Mr. Army Yes. Yes... to the division headquarters.
Chief Of Staff

Planning Relatively...it was of a low caliber.
Director

Mr. But Sir, our rounds, even one shot will hurt them because they are exposed and
Presidency we are trenched in very good. There is no problem for us. What did these (Krad)s
Office do...? A line of trees!!
Director

Mr. Army Yes, these (Krad)s when they fall, they come in large numbers!
Chief Of Staff

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Mr. President, leader Use it with intensity (become superior with it) with this weapon. There are no limitations yesterday?

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff No... no, we are afraid we will run out of this weapon.
(Laughing)...

Mr. President, leader The air force as well Sir, it is still a weak point because when one of our planes goes up, one of them starts yelling (like a prayer caller).. friendly plane and the other yells... (Friendly plane)...

Mr. Presidency Office There is no II Like horror. Sir, there is not an organized system so all resistance....So, just watch the guys and the kind of fire they open on it.

Director But our air force did a remarkable job yesterday... [(Illegible)]

yesterday. A lot of helicopters passed close to us.

Mr. President, leader

Mr. Presidency Office Director

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<p>Lt. General Pilot Hameed Shaaban</p>	<p>Sir, I noticed the fighter jets; it didn't give them a chance.</p>
<p>Mr. President, leader</p>	<p>The fighter jets, yes... (15) Sorties yesterday, every sortie [(illegible)].. .for all (15) sorties.</p>
<p>Mr. Presidency Office Director</p>	<p>We thought they were (Phantoms), serious. They are (23) Sir but its belly looks like a phantom.</p>
<p>Mr. President, leader</p>	<p>Yes, yes (like an ass)</p>
<p>Mr. Presidency Office Director</p>	<p>Yes indeed.</p>
<p>Lt. General Pilot Hameed Shaaban</p>	<p>My God Sir, the pilots (they fought) in spite of the intense resistance form both sides... from our group and from the enemy, it is up to now Sir.</p>
<p>Mr. President, leader</p>	<p>Yes.. .our group wasn't shorting us.</p>
<p>Assistant For Operation</p>	<p>One would say; God, we didn't see the air force, we saw it twice and the rest, they gave it to us before our eyes using helicopters.</p>

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Mr. President,
leader Helicopters.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff Yes, helicopters...and praise to God; nothing happened to them.

Assistant For
Operation From both sides.. our side and their side.

Mr. President,
leader As for our group.. our group wasn't short to their direction.

Assistant For
Operation The fire is continuing because the front is very orthodox and they are in the middle of it.

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director Artillery Sir, Yes... shells from either side.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff The forbidden area between the two sides is not more than (1000-1500) meters at the most...and then it got tighter at the end.

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director Because our artillery is firing...and their artillery is firing.. They were at a lower level Sir, I mean close to the location, that is why they were scared. They started firing aerial shells on them Sir, they started firing aerial shells on the helicopters but they were far, we could see them...

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Lt. General Pilot Hameed Shaaban Sir, when we told the pilots that we are in a very difficult situation, we challenge you.... They got on the helicopters and the jet fighters and said it is impossible.

Mr. Army Chief OF Staff Yes Sir, yesterday. God bless them, they are a blessing.

Presidency Office Director Yesterday was a battle that never happened before.

Mr. President, leader I hope they were able to photograph the battle yesterday.

Mr. Army Chief OF Staff Sir, the battle yesterday is an example of teamwork.

Mr. President, leader Where is the smart photographer whose commander or leader of an army helps him in understanding its historical value? He comes with a helicopter regardless of the losses and [illegible] to top of our forces to photograph the battles because it is the first battle where the air force is bombing, the artillery, the helicopters, the armored, the infantry and things are going haywire! And all the weapons.

Mr. Army Chief OF Staff All the weapons participated in the battle yesterday and in an organized manner in spite of the planning of the battle which didn't go [illegible]. I mean

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Yesterday was two different situations. At night we were worked [illegible], and we modified it some at day time, every one worked. But, I think the reason everybody was on this level was because they felt the impact of the situation. Every one had a sense of responsibility and wanted to contribute some thing Weren't the pilots like this? Frankly, all the forces were on the same page, yes all of them.

Presidency
Office
Director

Mr. Army
Chief OF
Staff

These people were asking. Everyone wanted to know what happened and how.

Presidency
Office
Director

He named after himself, it is true. I mean yesterday....But Sir; we have to continue the momentum. I suggest now to make sure the corps' commanders realize that the counter attack failed and we need to achieve more important goals in addition to that since they are in a confused state.

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And have no control over it.

Mr. President, leader Yes, when the counter attack fails.. .we start with a wide range counter attack against them from everywhere; we take some targets and make them loose their balance God willing but after the shield they came up with thinking it is the force in the region is crushed

Mr. Army Chief OF Staff Within the last four or five days... .I don't discount that they lost approximately (100) tanks between what is at (Hajeen) and what is here.. .as well as what is close to (Salah) ([illegible])Salah Al-Qadi, Armored commander). Yes, I saw.

Assistant For Operations Presidency Office Director Commander of tank battalion / Tariq (twenty) (Twenty)...itself...

Assistant For Operations Just him and his tanks, (ten).

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff A tank battalion commander?

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Presidency (Ten)...this is from the same armored brigade / 43.
Office
Director

Assistant For These are from the tanks that attacked yesterday, none stop...
Operation

Lt. General We counted (60) tanks for the air force.. .we say only (20). Sir, we counted the
Pilot Hameed effectiveness of the air force yesterday Sir, more than (60) tanks. We should say
Shaaban only (20) and not say (30).

Mr. President, From the air Hameed (Lt. General Pilot Hameed Shaaban), can't distinguish
leader between (a tank) from (an armored vehicle).

Presidency But Sir, they inflicted them...
Office
Director

Lt. General Sir, as for the helicopters, the distinction is normal.
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban

Mr. President, Yes...no...helicopters, Yes...
leader

Lt. General Within (10) maybe (12) or so, the rest, we divided in half [illegible]...
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban

Mr. President, Say a quarter...
leader

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Lt. General A quarter as well, a number of (30) tanks, (35) tanks, like that.
 Pilot Hameed
 Shaaban

Mr. President, Also (20); add them to the (30).
 leader

Army Chief (20) and (30) that is (50).. .we have (30), with (30).
 OF Staff

Mr. President, No...it is...it is...to break down mentally, any method to break them down
 leader mentally even if we didn't destroy some of these weapons...because this gave
 them a moral boost.

Assistant For For a period as well Sir...it is there some times.
 Operation

Mr. President, Their second telegram that said...with an order, when we give the details all the
 leader world knows.. .their situation started to go backwards...

Assistant For Because behind this energy that lasted some hours...after that came this break
 Operation down...

Planning What is up with the bridge, did we hit it?
 Director

Presidency No, they didn't care Sir.
 Office
 Director

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Mr. President, Their defeat made them realize that they will not be able to defeat the Iraqi army.
leader

Presidency Yesterday we got the attention of the world.. Yesterday, all their telegrams are
Office really different...including....wait and surrender telegram...and Assalmeen
Director army...I don't know what that is ...

Mr. President, Even Khomaini himself sent a telegram to (Bani Sadar).
leader

Presidency All of it shows the results and the world will be very interested...
Office
Director

Mr. President, What is the news of our forces? Have they started?
leader

Military Sir, based on....the services are cut off from us.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President, Still?
leader

Military Continuing with artillery to....
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President, Why?
leader

Military ...Unclear voice.
Intelligence
Director

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Planning Director We informed Colonel Mayser (Staff Colonel Mayser Ibraheem Hammadi Al-Jaboori, Military Movement Director) and the rest of the group to continue the momentum.

Mr. President, leader They have not reached their defensive positions.

Mr. President, leader (to the switch operator) Give me corps III chief of staff.

(to the attendees) The blast of a heavy artillery shell kills?

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff No, I don't think so...

Assistant For Operations A lot of shells kill with the blast Sir not the fragments. For that reason, its outer shell is thin. This means the dependency is not only on the fragments themselves, but also on the blast as well. It creates a high pressure environment that tears up the protective barrier and causes a heart attack. That is why the young officer belonging to the intelligence system who died and two others were wounded with him didn't have any thing around them. The other thing is, this officer as well, had no wounds.

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Planning Director
 Mr. President, leader (on the phone)

Sir, corps III Chief Of Staff is with you (on the phone).

Hello.. .good morning Nemit (Nemit Faris Al-Mehyawwi). how are you? How are things with you?

Yes, [illegible] assurance that we won't waste this day because today is a dear day. Leaving them any chance today will allow them to reinforce their positions and wreck havoc on the ground.

Say hi for me to (Abu-Ashaheed) and tell them to depend on God and go ahead. Welcome.

Lt. General Pilot Hameed Shaaban

Sir, the bridge has been destroyed by our planes; they said it has been destroyed since yesterday. It is divided into two sections and the pilots.., came and got on it

Mr. President, leader

Oh my God, were any of our planes hurt?

Lt. General Pilot Hameed Shaaban

Yes Sir, it happened but the pilot ejected safely...he wanted to fire but he couldn't, (MIG 23 jet).

He ejected wounded with a shot to his side and he was taken to the hospital.

(28-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Mr. President, Did he come down with his plane?
leader

Lt. General He and his plane.
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban

Mr. Army Oh my God.
Chief Of Staff

Lt. General The hood didn't open, it looks like it malfunctioned or some thing else. Or a shot
Pilot Hameed hit the mechanism of the hood and he couldn't fire. After inspecting the plane, the
Shaaban plane is still good.. .and the pilot...

Mr. President, And his health-
leader

Lt. General They said they took him to the hospital, he is wounded on his side but they say his
Pilot Hameed situation is good God willing. God willing it is good. They will give us his
Shaaban updates...

Mr. Army He was hit by a round...
Chief Of Staff

Lt. General A major.. .yes, he was hit by a round but praise to God, the bridge.. .They said
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban

(29-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Yesterday when they went to hit it, it was already destroyed. They destroyed it with a hit yesterday, they totally destroyed it, and they say it is split in half.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff Did they say if there is anything left of it?

Lt. General
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban It was open because it was hit yesterday by two pilots, we told them, you should...

Mr. President,
leader We instructed them yesterday, we instructed them on it...

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff You have to pay attention; they open it so it won't be a target.

Lt. General
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban That is a possibility. They found it open and hit again, they say it is destroyed. And if you want us to continue the momentum on it, there is no objection.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff For God's sake, don't leave a trace of it because, I tell you (Haji) meaning Lt. General Hameed Shaaban, this bridge, when it is over water, it is connected

[Page 34:]

Top Secret

In some instances depending on their need, they open it to two pieces...one opening built on this side and the other on the other side or it could be a joint opening.

Lt. General
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban Sir, they hit it yesterday in two places, in on of the ends and in the middle.

Mr. Army
Chief Of Staff Yes, I saw the report. But now, if you find any remnants of it, let them break and destroy it to the end...

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director They are controlling it with fire power as well.

Lt. General
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban The guys are coming as well.. .coming Sir.

Mr.
Presidency
Office
Director Yes, they are coming and they started the battle.

Lt. General
Pilot Hameed
Shaaban After that, how could they handle them?

Mr. President,
leader The air force has to pay attention to the armored forces moving on the road not to be hit while moving on the road.

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Top Secret

Mr. Army Chief We have two battalions moving now.. .the information is that they have not
Of Staff arrived yet.

Mr. President, (14) Ramadan battalion left form....
leader

Military On Al-Koot road.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. Presidency They met us (at Assawira) around (12) O'clock.
Office Director

Mr. President, Ramadan (14) left.. .about an hour ago, from near the corps headquarters.
leader

Military The tenth division has reached (Al-Jafeer) this morning Sir. They might be in the
Intelligence area by now Sir.
Director

Mr. President, The tenth division?
leader

Military The battalion belonging to the tenth division.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President, Yes. But (14) Ramadan battalion also left the corps location about an hour ago.
leader

Mr. Presidency It should be there by dawn.
Office Director

Mr. Army Chief You mean they are on their way. The important thing is the umbrellas over them.
Of Staff Yesterday

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Top Secret

They did not have aerial cover.. the enemy.

Mr. President,
leader But today, it appears that they entered.

Military
Intelligence
Director They have an umbrella on the east, east of Al-Ahawz and Deezfool.

Mr. President,
leader The enemy introduced helicopters today, Nemit told me just now (meaning Nemit Faris)...

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff The enemy introduced?

Mr. President,
leader Our helicopters are involved.. .and instructed to chase their helicopters as well...

Mr. Presidency
Office Director Sir, they have a lot of helicopters but they are not there. When they saw our helicopters, I never saw, never.

Military
Intelligence
Director When The —ME25 takes off, it gets hit.. .they hit it Mr. President... when they see it, they hit it...

Mr. Presidency
Office Director Never, not a missile hit our helicopter;

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Top Secret

Mr. President,
leader

Faster, and it has two machine guns. I tell you, the (Soviets) when they say that they have weapons.. This is all because of (Stalin), he squeezed their bones to focus on weapons and he was right. Don't tell me (the Soviet Union) is spreading its clout on the world if it weren't armed.
"His honor is speaking with Staff Lt. General Mohammed Fathi, corps I commander"

How are things with you?

Corps I
Commander

Good, praise to God Sir. They will replace the (seventh division) with other forces, they want to take the seventh division I have but Sir, I will organize it...The division location comes...

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff

The fourth?

Corps I
Commander

For several reasons, it is better if I get the second.

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Top Secret

First, the current area is the area of the second division.

Second, this brigade has worked in the seventh division area.

Mr. President,
leader

There is no objection, even if you brought...brought the other one.

Corps I
Commander

...Sir, from this point of view, I notice that because the nineties brigades belonging to the (eighth) division... and another brigade will come from the second division.

Mr. President,
leader

But if you take him to (the second), in this case we will get a commander for the second and we will have two transfers.. .to moves instead of one move like the game of chess. If we give you the location of (the fourth) within the unit organization, the commander of the (sixth) will be responsible for the command of the area...But, if you take the (second), we have to send a commander to be there (at the second).

Corps I
Commander

(The second), they have an armored brigade, we can transfer a reserve.

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Top Secret

Mr. President,
leader Then it becomes two moves instead of one move.

Corps I
Commander Yes, when you replace (the previous one) I [illegible] with it because I keep an eye on both commanders and I keep an eye on force training.

 In other words, I send brigade (36) to (Benjween) instead of sending it to (Haj Omran), I send brigade (47) to (Haj Omran) and keep brigade (90) in its current location because brigade (90) commander is one of the best officers, he knows the area and he is energetic so I didn't move him, I kept him in his current location.

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff You mean he will stay at (Jemjamal).

Corps I
Commander ...there are brigades of ...

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff No, we had in mind to send him to (Benjween).

Corps I
Commander No, brigade (36) will go to Benjween.

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff No, brigade (36) goes to Rawndooze.

Corps I
Commander It is better if brigade (47) goes to (Rawndooze), I have seen the commander and force training

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Top Secret

Mr. President, leader	This is in your interest...your interests are within your corps, do whatever you need to do.
Assistant For Operations	Is it brigade (47) (Mohammed Hamadi's) brigade?
Corps I Commander	Faroq.
Planning Director	[Illegible] brigade number.
Corps I Commander	(47).
Mr. President, leader	This (previous one), we wanted to take it from you to cross the...
Corps I Commander	But he had another idea. He wanted his support forces...and this compensates me for it. I said; I have no problem letting go of artillery, another artillery will replace it or let go of a tank, another tank will replace it. And I said; I don't expect you to [illegible] as long as he is responsible for a certain area and the brigades assigned to me are spread there.
Mr. Army Chief Of Staff	We don't want any thing from him, except for a tank to come, we don't want....

(37-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Corps I No, he wants artillery and I told the artillery commander that I have no objection
Commander but if one artillery leaves, another replaces it. But, you, I know...

Mr. Army Chief We agreed the division that comes up with two battalions....two artillery
Of Staff battalions.

Corps I No Sir, not even one battalion.
Commander

Mr. Army Chief Yes, we agreed jut like that...
Of Staff

Mr. President, We are not going to go to the extreme about battalions here.
leader

Planning No Sir, we had detailed meeting about it.
Director

Corps I Division (9) has artillery.
Commander

Mr. Army Chief No, no, two battalions move with a division, you keep two battalions. One for
Of Staff (Benjween) axis and one for...

Corps I Sir, he has (four) battalions.
Commander

Mr. Army Chief And you have the (85) mm and also you have...
Of Staff

Corps I The (85) mm is anti / tank.
Commander

(38-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff That is no problem

Corps I Commander Brigade (38) will come to us, it has an artillery battalion...and three will leave from me.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff Yes [illegible]. You will have (three) and brigade (36) will come and an artillery battalion will come with it for support. This is all we have for this...it is finished.

Corps I Commander One battalion leaves...

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff So, you will only have (Benjween) and (Dezza castle). (Benjween) and (Dezza castle), make each one a battalion...battalion.

Corps I Commander I swear, it is not enough

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff Enough... enough. In all the operations that took place in this area, we never put more than two battalions.

Corps I Commander Ok, what movements are going to take place...?

Mr. President, leader Now it became an organized number... now it became a [illegible] it is a....

(39-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Now the number is organized.

Corps I I now [illegible] a field battalion and a medium battalion...
Commander

Mr. Army Chief What do you want then, is there any thing else?
Of Staff

Corps I No, just this.. .we don't have any thing else. I didn't come for this subject, I
Commander came for another subject.

Mr. Army Chief Easy, easy...then it is simple.
Of Staff

Corps I You mean now the fourth division will come... fourth division location.
Commander

Mr. Army Chief Yes, the fourth...
Of Staff

Mr. President, He is a good officer, the commander of division four....frankly.
leader

Corps I Frankly, from the cooperation point of view, [illegible] (Al-Maeni) is better for
Commander me.

Mr. President, Good, [illegible] (Al-Maeni).
leader

Corps I No, very good...very proud.
Commander

Planning And the artillery commander that will come with him.
Director

(40-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Assistant For Operations He is a strict officer Sir.

Planning Director Please allow me Sir. The division commander and his artillery commander will come.

Mr. President, leader What?

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff Mr. Minister's letter, he said since.

Mr. President, leader I didn't see him let me see him. I heard of his name, I may have seen him but what...

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff He was the commander of the military college.

Presidency Office Director I have not seen him I don't remember his face.

Corps I Commander No, he is a good officer Sir.

Presidency Office Director Yes, I have heard that.

Mr. President, leader What is his function now? Civilian? I don't think he has a civilian job?

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff No Sir, he doesn't.

Mr. President, leader He can't stay.. .stay idle.. .if you don't [illegible].

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Top Secret

Presidency Sir, I heard he is a good officer.
Office Director

Mr. President, Is he in one of the entities?
leader

CompsI Good officer. Sir, he was brigade (27) commander and he is a hard worker.
Commander

Mr. President, I think we forgot the brothers! Are they here?
leader

Presidency Yes Sir, the military office, we forgot them Sir.
Office Director

Mr. President, Are they here?
leader

Presidency Yes Sir.
Office Director

Mr. President, I have a meeting with the Administration and Organization.. .if you need me...
leader

Mr. Army Chief Ok Sir.
Of Staff

Planning You mean artillery and the locations of artillery?
Director

Mr. Army Chief Yes, I know.. .I know.
Of Staff

Planning No, we don't have a problem as far as artillery, only the location of artillery,
Director only the location of artillery.. .what is your command...

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Top Secret

Mr. Army Chief Let the issue stay like this.
Of Staff

Planning Ok Sir.
Director

Mr. Army Chief We switch (Ismail) ([illegible] Salah)...why don't you ask him?
Of Staff

Military We inflict with artillery.
Intelligence
Director

Assistant For It looks like there is not enough time.
Operations

Mr. Army Chief Inflicting with artillery?
Of Staff

Military Yes.. .they can.. .then the ground.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President, A good commander...a hard worker and a quite person, good personality and an
leader officer you can trust.

Assistant For Aren't we thinking about taking armored division (12)...I don't know Sir,
Operations should the ninth commander be in his place?

Mr. President, Umm (the ninth), its commander is there, it is not logical to assign him...it has a
leader problem. Can Qodori go to division (12)?

[Page 47:]

Top Secret

Humm? Considering...what is considered...because he practically done more effort than the other commanders we assigned... [Illegible]!

I mean...

Military
Movements
Director

The momentum is on him

Mr. President,
leader

The momentum is on him. But, it is more than his abilities. This situation becomes...balanced. (Saadi Taama) goes to the third division, commander of division / 12 goes to the first division..., and he goes to division / 12...

Military
Intelligence
Director

May be on (my tongue's) behalf Sir, I suggested to Mr. Minister and that was after he joined.

Assistant For
Operations

From the start, Major General Abdul-Jawas's opinion was...

Military
Intelligence
Director

You mean Major General (Saadi) goes to the third.

Mr. President,
leader

We talked about it, I meant for him to go to the first division to improve it because I was apprehensive about the situation with the first, it was like...

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Top Secret

I will get the details later. Never. Never. I see the situation of the divisions from here.. .from the situation. We need to ascertain this, who do I ask...

Military
Intelligence
Director

This suggestion Sir will guarantee keeping the (first) division in a good level. Jawad (Jawad Asham Rasool), if you went there.

Mr. President,
leader

(The first) is in good shape. We can utilize (Saadi's) situation and (Saadi) goes to (the third) with a wealth of experience, Qadoori ([illegible]), he worked, put out efforts and was patient. Realistically, in armored division (12), he will take a little rest and ...

Assistant For
Operations

His area is excellent.. .he has good staff officers as well; he has a good staff chief...

Mr. President,
leader

But he is not complicated like that mission.

Military
Movements
Director

No Sir, not here, this close...

Mr. President,
leader

Huh!

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Military
Intelligence
Director

There is a chance he may end up in (Somar) area Sir and we have assigned that. The possibilitic great but (Somar) area in corps II is the chosen.

Military
Intelligence
Director

The borders of corps headquarters are close to him...

Military
Intelligence
Director

It is different because his battle (at Abdan) is almost independent, I mean by him self.

Assistant For
Operations

He will need a lot of initiatives and he will need...

Military
Intelligence
Director

The activities on him are from all directions, almost (360 degrees).

Planning
Director

He is lucky because of commanders of brigades especially (Sabeeh). Had the situation got coin] he would have burdened the most. Frankly.

Mr. President,
leader

Yes, Sabeeh has a future in the leadership, good officer, smart officer, patient and brave and he educated as well. It appears that he pays attention to the [illegible] he learned, he pays attention that...

Military
Intelligence
Director

As for theoretical information, he is good.

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Top Secret

Planning Director	He was commander of armored brigade /26 when we were in (corps I)... sorry, I mean armored / 34.
Mr. President, leader	He was a brigade commander?
Planning Director	Yes Sir, (in the first division).
Mr. President, leader	Before the war?
Planning Director	Yes Sir, before he joined (the military academy). He was a brigade commander and after he fin the military academy, he came to the (ministry office).
Military Intelligence Director	His service was little.. .less than a year approximately...
Military Movements Director	He is sick...in addition to having a cholesterol problem.
Mr. President, leader	Huh?
Military Movements Director	Yes Sir, he was transferred because of that.
Mr. President, leader	Less than a year? And then this experience. It is a rough experience.
Assistant For Operation	One time Sir, I heard him reprehending his younger brother.

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Top Secret

It appears that he is a staff officer at the brigade headquarters. Their father (died, God bless him).

Mr. President,
leader

Huh?

Assistant For
Operations

No, before the war. Just by chance I was at the office and I heard him reprehending his brother, it looked like he was crying on the phone as he was reprehending him

Planning
Director
(commenting on
the TV)

No one has mercy for him Sir.

Mr. President,
leader

How much is he carrying on his shoulders (Abu-Khaleel)? And we have never seen in any day (Iranian) shooting a round in the street. Is this music? If he didn't become a military person, it would have been better than this...

Military
Movements
Director

Suppose he didn't become a military person.

Mr. President,
leader

What is this [illegible]? (And talking to the attendees)...yes...yes, fast but not loud, this is if the recorder was close to it, the sound comes out weak. He is supposed to be far from it so the sound of artillery will come out loud.

(48-77)

Top Secret

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Top Secret

I noticed that. Because he is too close to it, the recorder is too close.

Planning
Director
Mr. President,
leader
Assistant For
Operations
Mr. President,
leader
Planning
Director
Assistant For
Operations
Mr. President,
leader
Assistant For
Operations
Planning
Director
Assistant For
Operations

Yes, yes Sir.

Look at it, it is like a shot. Notice its sound, notice. What happened to their air force that day?

Knowing that (24) hours ago Sir, they kidnapped our surveillance officers that went to survey the bridge area.

Huh?

Yes Sir.

They are two officers, one of them is a captain and the other is a lieutenant from the engineering department.

They kidnapped them?

They kidnapped them with helicopters.

From the top or the bridge.

From the top of the bridge and we have not even crossed yet. We postponed the crossing.

(49-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

	A full day and a full night. The ensuing night, the crossing took place
Military Intelligence Director	There was a delay after the crossing as well
Assistant For Operations	After the crossing... also, when they crossed, Azziz stopped (Staff lieutenant Azziz Al-Hadithi), armored brigade / 16 commander.
Military Movements Director	God, we have not heard any thing. As you said yesterday Sir, when information comes, they want small local battles.
Assistant For Operations	They want local battles. While their air force working in one direction and their army works in one direction, the air force was planning on hitting targets that may not mean any thing to the army.
Mr. President, leader	His territory is occupied and he just chops at our territory, I mean...
Mr. Army Chief Of Staff	At that time they were getting deep to hit targets inside the country.
Assistant For Operations	The commander of the air force may have not known that we have crossed. But, it is possible

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Top Secret

The army commander had knowledge. As you know, the air force command, every one of them working in the opposite direction.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff They didn't have any forces there. We were advancing in the direction of Al-Ahwaz and we were on the verge of entering it.. they amassed their forces here for the purpose of defending the city. They were coming here to this area...

Military Intelligence Director They built their expectations on the basis of Al-Mahmara and Al-Ahwaz.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff They might have thought that the purpose for our crossing was to go to Al-Ahwaz...they may have been thinking this way.

Assistant For Operations All the news agencies received our crossing and the purpose of it was enclosure.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff After the crossing.

Planning Director This target was a classic for the air force Sir.

Mr. President, leader A model. Had they come on us while we are crossing

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Top Secret

We would have suffered tremendous loses.

Planning Director It would have been difficult.

Assistant For Operations All there was with the forces was an MIT (57mm) battery.

Planning Director A walking convoy.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff And to mention, their helicopters were not impacted at the beginning.

Mr. President, leader Helicopters!!

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff They were not worth mentioning, they did not work.

Mr. President, leader They are similar to our helicopters.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff After about (20) days.

Mr. President, leader They look like our helicopters? They were in use before our helicopters.. .isn't that so?

Assistant For Operations Our helicopters were used Sir, our helicopters were used.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff Our helicopters were working since the day we visited (to the check points).

Assistant For Operations Our helicopters worked but they were impacted by the shelling of our forces, remember

[Page 56:]

Top Secret

Sir the incident that happened at (Zain Al-Qudes) because of the landing there. One of the commanders of the regiment came out. The same ones were our helicopters, they were our helicopters...

Mr. President,
leader
Military
Intelligence
Director

Yes, they shot it down.

The first time they were used was at the check points, then at division four areas, their helicopters inflicted us with loses...Then they got brave and put a plan for them.

Mr. President,
leader
Assistant For
Operations

The division confused them, their helicopters suffered loses, approximately (70) vehicles in one day, I think

Sir, we have seen the area. Had the division held at least the territories they reached, this wouldn't have happened. The division was holding a territory bigger than what they are holding now.

Military
Movement
Director

(Unclear voice) to the green area...to....Now the enemy has a regiment. This is up here Sir (pointing to the map) yes. to

[Page 57:]

Top Secret

The hills.. .sectors.

Assistant For Operations: This is when we say these territories after sectors (pointing to the map)

Planning Director: Then it finally reaches along (not clear) on (unclear) valley.

Assistant For Operations: I mean, if they spread out in the area after they arrived and told us that there was no road...

Mr. President, leader (commenting on the television): See the storage units, where did it reach after being hit! You see?

Planning Director: Yes Sir.

Mr. President, leader: What is this river?

Planning Director: Sir, I think it is a tank.

Mr. President, leader: This.. .this... a river?

Planning Director: No, a street. [Illegible] street itself.

(54-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Mr. Army Chief No, it is a street.
Of Staff

Mr. President, Now it came to them, correct...
leader

Planning This is a tank belonging to corps I.

Director "Interruption, a comment on the film — a clip of the battle on TV".

Mr. President, We now have a good number of documentary films.
leader

Military Sir, most of the films are form outside and most of them are about us.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President, About us.
leader

Military We have about (16) films, we got them from our attaché's abroad, most of them
Intelligence are form us.
Director

Mr. President, What is this together?
leader

Planning This is (illegible) Sir
Director

Military It is Russian.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President, What is this weak (march), it is sick.
leader

(55-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Assistant For Operation Mr. President, leader	Tired... Tired...the German military march for Hitler!!!
Planning Director Mr. President, leader	Yes Sir, their marches are some thing. One time they had a sports show.... He built a good army. He fought the entire world with it and finally, he destroyed it. He built it but he destroyed it as well. When he first started, Ok, you hit (BoIonia) and got it. It appears fighting became a hobby not a mission. I don't know what it is he wanted to do? And then he hit the Soviet Union.
Attendees Planning Director Mr. President, leader	That is him that is him. His destructive decision was that he didn't go for the western area but he hit the eastern area as well. The involvement of the (America) and him entering the (Soviet Union) that is what it was.

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Top Secret

That is what destroyed him. Had he (avoided) America and the Soviet Union, he would have taken the rest.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff The strange thing in this, what were his intentions with the Soviet Union?

Mr. President, leader Even on the rest, his intentions were not clear.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff The most conflict was on (Dansel).

Mr. President, leader He reached a point where he could impose any terms he wanted. But, he was coveting war without a goal.

Assistant For Operations There is a story written by an Englishman about one of (Hitler's) ambitions, I think we have heard of this. He used to gather all the brave youth of Germany and marry them to the most beautiful German girls. Of course it wasn't a real marriage. He wanted a generation...

Mr. President, leader A pure generation.

Planning Director (The Germaine) generation...

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Top Secret

Assistant For
Operations

I think this is just one of the things they do to tarnish Hitler. In the seventies, I went to East Germany on a trip. We visited some of the military schools on the (Baltic sea).. They took me to a city; they said they wanted to show me the city that Hitler built for the young German boys and girls. It appears it is true Sir.

Mr. President,
leader

No.. .No truth.

Assistant For
Operations

They built an entire city for them. Now the East Germans made it a resort for the retired officer to vacation with their families. There are hotels and life luxuries and it is on the beach Sir. This is the discrimination I expected...

Mr. President,
leader
Planning
Director

No...discrimination [illegible]...

He is not (German) Sir, he was from (Austria)

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Top Secret

Mr. President,
leader

Yes, he is form (Austria) but he is of (German) decent.

Planning
Director

No Sir, they were focusing on the (German) race, mainly this location the, triangle (Hanover — Lweek — Mihayhem —Berlin).

Mr. President,
leader

They consider the majority to be here. But, that does not mean this race is not present in other locations.

Assistant For
Operations

The ruling family (in English) (German), the queen and her father.

Mr. President,
leader

This is one of the reasons that made him not envious; he did not have any hatred towards the (English).

Assistant For
Operations

There was kind of

Planning
Director

To this day, the retreat in (Denkrek) is still a question mark because he could have impeded the retreat of the (British) army.

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff

How many of the (British) army crossed?

Planning
Director

Even those who crossed, he could have prevented their crossing.

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Top Secret

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff You mean he could have prevented even the ones who crossed!

Mr. President, leader This is considered a relation between the races, between the (German) race and (the Saxons).

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff They all go back to one race. In addition to that, the ruling family is of (Germanic) race. (Germans)

Assistant For Operations But not the queen's husband...The queen's husband is (Greek).

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff No, no. This (Philip). Those are (Germanic), those are (Germanic)

Mr. President, leader No, the mother family the tree.

Planning Director Sir, there is a small [illegible] that was prohibited came about lately; its name is (Command Rules) which is the place they call (). This general command center which runs the war. They present certain opinions to the military commanders, he puts these opinions aside and chooses his own that has nothing to do with the opinions that were.

[Page 64:]

Top Secret

Studied. They were withdrawn (destructive decisions).

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff
(commenting on
the TV)

This is a storm [(illegible)]...

Mr. President,
leader

Some of the Arabs said; God, we saw the missiles taking off. Correct, taking off.
What (Cairo) and (Addafer) (and the old days), the war took place and the
sleeping wakes up.

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff

They participated in the show...

Assistant For
Operations

This is remarkable.

Planning
Director

This (Krad).

Mr. President,
leader

(Krad), if this was (Katosha)?

Mr. Army Chief
Of Staff

No, no...(Krad)

Military
Movement
Director

Yes Sir, the same principle.

Mr. President,
leader

These (Krad)?

Planning
Director

Yes Sir.

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Top Secret

Military Movement Director	The Krad (it paid its dues), it raged a sand storm in the skies.
Planning Director	This is (SAM-6).
Military Movement Director	They call it (Kafadrat).
Mr. President, leader	This is (6)?
Military Movement Director	(SAM-6) Sir (Kafdrat), this is a battalion from an armored division.
Mr. President, leader	What is its range...? (6) Km?
Military Movement Director	Yes Sir.
Mr. President, leader	The missile is terrifying.. it is big as well... Ok, how does it give a pilot an opportunity to fire.. is this from [illegible]? For the pilot?
Military Movement Director	The range is (6-8) Km Sir.
Assistant For Operations Mr. President, leader	The target (Phantom) has an indicator in case the missile is directed towards it, it gives it a signal. It gives a signal.. even the (MIG).

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Top Secret

Military Intelligence Director The Jewish pilots used to fire before....fires...

Assistant For Operations He knows that the hit is garneted.

Military Intelligence Director In 1973...the missile hurt the plane but didn't hit it yet and the pilot fired directly.

Mr. Army Chief Of Staff He fired!!!?

Assistant For Operations Because he couldn't avoid him.

Military Movements Director Sir, it appears that they came today an engaged (corps II) forces at the (Dana Khoshek) area as well as (the fourth brigade) at (Mehran) area.

Mr. President, leader Then, this is the counter attack.

Military Movements Director But they did not gain any thing and suffered losses.

Mr. President, leader This is if it is true that it was a counter attack, I mean as an attack, it failed. If they attacked with And was planned

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Top Secret

for all forces and they did not gain any thing, they failed in this....It will frustrate them.

Planning
Director

It was a planned attack Sir... yesterday our reconnaissance noticed their congregations. They were in specific formation yesterday...

Mr. President,
leader

There is a possibility they may repeat it again tomorrow. As he said; they rest ([illegible]). They rest at night ([illegible]) and tomorrow morning they come around dawn.

Assistant For
Operations

Satar (Al-Maeni), commander of division four said...Sir, I think you were listening.. .He said that at night the resort to the villages fearing the rain.. .we hit the villages so at least they come out wet...

Mr. President,
leader

Huh!

Assistant For
Operations

When it rains, most likely they will take shelter in one of the villages in the area.

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Top Secret

Our forces will keep an eye on these villages and shell them...they will flea from there. Where are they going to go?

Mr. President,
leader

Satar (divides) his comments to phases.

Assistant For
Operations

Sir, (Satar) was a brigade commander in corps II, there were operations back then.

Mr. President,
leader

They praise him when he was a brigade commander...

Assistant For
Operations

He was a good brigade commander and (Salem Hussein Al-Ali) was one of the regiment's commanders, he had good regiment's commanders, one of them was (Salem).

Mr. President,
leader

Satar?

Assistant For
Operations

Satar, a brigade commander, Salem, a regiment commander. Satar is not the rank of (Major General.)

Military
Movements
Director

He and Salem were form the same group. But, Salem has two year seniority at the staff.

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Top Secret

Mr. President,
leader

More seniority at the staff...

Military
Movements
Director

He just came back to the service when he was assigned a regiment commander.

Assistant For
Operations

He has not been given his old seniority yet.

Military
Movements
Director

He only lasted a short period in his position, about two months and then he was assigned as commander of brigade /15 in (Basra).

Mr. President,
leader
(commenting of
the TV)

This guy that belongs to special forces is running awkward.. .(with the attendees).. .that means he has determination at this time.

Assistant For
Operations

No Sir, he deserves it now, he should be promoted to Lt. General and Satar be a Major General...

Mr. President,
leader

Satar is not a staff officer?

Assistant For
Operations

Yes Sir.

Mr. President,
leader

Then.. .how.

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Military Intelligence Director	He has two year seniority at the Staff college.
Mr. Army Chief Of Staff	The difference in seniorities. This one given one year and that one given two years. They are all from the same group. It turns out that Satar is more senior when they graduated from the military academy...
Assistant For Operations	Salem would have been more senior than Satar. But, Salem left...suppose he left the service for (3) years and when he returns we did not give him the (3) years. He returned as if...
Mr. President, leader	Salem if Satar?
Assistant For Operations	No.. .Salem.
Mr. President, leader	Then how Salem is is now a Lt. General and Satar is a Major General.
Military Intelligence Director	Sir, seniority in the staff college is three levels, A, B and C. (A) is two years seniority, (B) is one year seniority and (C) is six month seniority. Lt. General Salem had two year seniority, level (A).

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Top Secret

Mr. President, leader	For sure Satar is nominated.
Military Intelligence Director	In the upcoming August round.
Military Movement Director	Him an (Major Hazim Barhawi) Sir.
Mr. President, leader	Hazim's theoretical information is limited but he is very practical.. .he moved up gradually, regiment commander, brigade commander, division commander. His experience allows him to follow the situation based on experience not theory.
Assistant For Operations	At the beginning of the revolution when I was a commander of corps four, he (Hazim) was a regiment commander. This is in 68-69...
Mr. President, leader	He is systematic...
Assistant For Operations	He stayed with the units since then...
Mr. President, leader	He is a good officer, he should be utilized...
Assistant For Operations	The man works.. .he remembers. His regiment at (Dinarta) was occupying (Berees) mountain and (Zenta) strait. We had an organization plan to conduct a replacement

(68-77)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Of regiments every (6) months. When his time was up, I went to visit him and I noticed the systems he set up so any regiment that replaced him will not be able to match him. After the visit, I thanked him and he said; Sir, what do you mean? I said; we can keep you here another six months. He still remembers that...a good officer and one of the best regiment commanders. In 1974 he became a brigade commander...

Mr. President,
leader

A good regiment commander. The military office's report on him was that he is a good officer and a good regiment commander. I saw him at the National Assembly of 1970 or (1971) I think, I presented him with a pistol.

Military
Intelligence
Director

A number of officers were with him as well.

Mr. President,
leader

It was him and Colonel Hazim.

Assistant For
Operations

Hazim Hassan.

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Mr. President, leader	But when I saw Hazim Hassan, I did not know his history. I said to the military office; I see a black spot in his heart. After that they told me that he has retired. This was a long time ago [illegible]...I don't know any thing about him this time and what happened to him.
Mr. Army Chief Of Staff	He is retired, but I think he was assigned to the research center...
Mr. President, leader	I think he came to me one day and submitted a request or I noticed some thing and I transferred him to the research center.
Assistant For Operations	He did not spend much in retirement Sir...he was with me as a chief of staff...
Mr. President, leader	He is (wrapped) around himself like that.
Military Movement Director	He is like that Sir.
Assistant For Operations	He was my Chief of Staff when I was the commander of division four, he was put on retirement. He calls you at night, in the morning

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Top Secret

The next day. You told me for him to come and take his place. But, when he was informed to be put on retirement, he did not stop, he did not give up or any thing, he took his letter....

Mr. President,
leader

Yes...a problem! It is a responsibility of a person to weigh men with a mental and scientific scale because some times you do not know what goes on inside their minds to make them stray away form the righteous path. I mean if some just understand for example, before straying away form the right path and know what is going on inside his mind he could....

Assistant For
Operations

I and brother Lt. General (Al-Haji) (Hayed Shaaban) were talking about the same subject yesterday. Regardless of any relation but I can't imagine a person being this close to you and ...

Mr. President,
leader

I swear (Jabbar Al-Asadi), they sat for more than (24) hours...

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Top Secret

Assistant For Operations	Frankly Sir.. .this is what made us to....
Mr. President, leader	Yes...
Military Intelligence Director	Your schedule is full today Sir.
Mr. President, leader	Yes, basically we were leaving, then we saw you here... so we said let us see what is the story. You take a rest as we.....good night.
Attendees	Good night Sir.
Military Movement Director	This is the situation with corps I Sir...there is nothing else.
Assistant For Operations	I called Sabah regarding Hazim Sir...(Mohammed Afi Saeed) called me this afternoon and said that (Hazim Hassan) was put on retirement.
Mr. Presidency Office Director	Sir, in reality, we used it intelligently, we took advantage of the attack.. .They used the armored forces as a shock at first.. .crying for help.. .Also in the second phase

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Top Secret

The Iranians used their forces in a very smart way taking advantage of armored capabilities. Yes, the first shock, they swept the positions. After that, the battalion engaged (Jabbar's unit) and Al-Qadesia battalion were able to sustain the attack from yesterday till yesterday morning. The guys were there, we arrived when the armored tenth brigade arrived and they were under intense artillery fire yesterday.

In my estimation, there were about (4000) bombs but they stood firm...till the tenth armored brigade arrived.

Assistant For
Operations

Indeed Sir... after the unorganized retreat operation which did not take more than (3) hours or (two hours) and a half till yesterday. The situation was completely contradictory, not by them not retreating and able to stand firm.. .They started fighting them, they started shelling them intensely from yesterday (11) O'clock day and night

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Top Secret

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Top Secret

In all. Yesterday they stood firm fighting them...I mean one doesn't resemble the other...

Mr. President,
leader

This is the same battalion?

Assistant For
Operations

Yes Sir, the same battalion...same units.

Mr. Presidency
Office Director

The commander himself was with the frontline standing firm, he is the one....

Mr. President,
leader

No. The brigade commander, they gave an opportunity to the brigade commander!! May be a communication.. .he did not call.. .they did not give him a chance. There is a battalion that abandoned its location, they said they tried. They surrounded us boy, it was an open communication and they all heard it.. .we are surrounded, any one who comes, retreats and another one fleas with them...they did not give him a chance!! They gave a chance to the commanders!!

Mr. Presidency
Office Director

Yesterday was a bloody fight Sir, it was a battle, and all weaponry participated in it.. .air force...

Mr. President,
leader

The air force did a great job yesterday.

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Top Secret

Mr. Presidency
Office Director With all weapons Sir. The air force wasn't on any ones mind Only you are interested in it. It is true they do a great job but when the tenth armored brigade showed up.

Mr. President,
leader This is the armored attack, when it comes with a mass ([illegible]). To start with, I can't imagine their planes engaging our planes and I can't imagine their armored being able to stand up to our armored in a real war as a direct confrontation. But, this is a group that abandoned their positions and you see all the forces retreating.

Mr. Presidency
Office Director Sir, after only one hour, the situation started to change ([illegible]) in their [illegible] telegrams. After one hour of the end of the beginning of the conflict, the Iranians started with their instructions: Don't retreat; we will take the driver to court... it started [illegible]. Instructions came down, first from the central command to take advantage of this situation and march behind them, they fight them

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Top Secret

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Top Secret

	The road Sir, if it was on the position sir...
Mr. President, leader	An artillery shell landed on his [illegible]?
Mr. Presidency Office Director	On the main position Sir...bombs on the right and on the left.
Mr. President, leader	God bless you...Your visit to them raised their spirits.
Mr. Presidency Office Director	I swear Sir; any of us when we remembers the shelling that landed on the division yesterday and the day before and the firm stand and the stopping of the attack while the enemy was close.. .how? It was like a barrier about (80) cm high, they were trenched in behind it.. .and our tanks in solid position across from them and the shelling was continuous...
Planning Director	God may help you Sir.. .hello. Yes, Yes concerning.. .I thank you...
Assistant For Operations	(on the phone finishing the call) Yes, hello.. .hello Abu-Omar (Hesham Sabah Al-Fakhri). Hello, how are you brother, hello brother, welcome

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Yes... Yes...

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Top Secret

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No	Rank	Full name	Function	Signature
1	Retired Staff Lt. General	Meki Mustafa Ameen Hammodat	Committee Chairman	[illegible]
2	Retired Lt. General	Mahmood Sayeed	Member	
3	Retired Staff Lt. General	Subhi Mahmood Ismail	Member	[illegible]
4	Retired Staff Lt. General	Qais Mohammnd Ali	Member	[illegible]
5	Retired Staff Lt. General	Salman Hamad Abdullah	Member	[illegible]
6	Retired Staff Br. General	Ghadfar Mehdi Jasim	Member	[illegible]
7	Retired Staff Br. General	Basil Omar Saleh	Member	[illegible]
8	Captain	Nahad Zaker Ahmed Addawry	(Military Security Dept. Rep)	[illegible]

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Mr. President
leader With our plans?

Political
Management
Director Yes Sir. 161 destroyed enemy tanks.

Mr. President
leader With this many of their tanks, we only moved (20) tanks

General
Military
Intelligence
Director NO, we move 50%.

Mr. President
leader No, 50% is too much. The pilot does not lie, he hits the target and when the dust goes up around it, he starts to circle around it, over it and forward. In any situation the damage will show on the ground or at the target. Their efforts were remarkable. In the same battle, we can tell who hit the target. Any tank hit by an air missile, we consider it a hit by a plane.

 -Unclear interruption-

Political
Management
Director The number as we remember it was (35) tanks.

Mr. President
leader I remember it in the statement of [acronym], the statement is different from the actual

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Planning Director	Yes Sir
Political Management Director	(in a hissing sound, he reads the content of the statement to be announced) Our forces.....can't hear it....
Mr. President leader	We have a large number of armor...prisoners of war. (hiss)
Planning Director	Sir, [acronym] Maysen said that there are enemy prisoners of war but he did not mention the number.
Mr. President leader (reading the contents of the statement and correcting it) Enemy forces launched a big attack comprised of armor, infantry, and the supporting weaponry. Yesterday afternoon, they attacked our forces from three directions in Al-Khafajia area. Isn't that so The so called Bani Sader, in his telegram to his master Khomaini, the imposter (laughing) to Khomaini the imposter.
Political Management Director	To the devil Khomaini.
Mr. President leader [illegible]	The so called the main counter attack. Our brave forces engaged them in this area with all kinds of weaponry and the battle

(50-59)
Top Secret

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Top Secret

Is still raging between our forces and enemy forces since yesterday afternoon and to the time of this statement. The enemy forces were defeated leaving behind it a large number of weapons and equipment and tanks, the good ones and the destroyed ones as well as prisoners of war. We will update you with the details in the next statement.

The situation - inaudible — up to the time of this statement, our brave forces have recorded the best examples of bravery and heroic steadfastness and a heroic attack where the forces of the enemy retreated leaving behind them a large number of weapons, equipments, operable and inoperable tanks and prisoners of war. We will bring you with details of the situation in the next statement.

Now, in light of the development, the picture became clear.

Political
Management
Director
Mr. President
leader

So, we will not mention the effectiveness of the air force?

Mention it, mention it in the statement...there are such and such in parts of the battle.. .Today, our air force displayed the best examples in supporting our forces in a wide range...and then they conducted aerial sorties from

(51-59)
Top Secret

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From different formations...unclear...good battle.. unclear and inaudible...

-Mr. President, leader leaves the room-

-unclear and inaudible talk-

-The recoding got cut off, a new recording- Mr. President, leader enters the room accompanied by his little daughter Hala and [illegible] the attendees.

Mr. President Who shut the door on us?

leader (to the

Sit down papa Hala...get comfortable.

attendees)

I visited Ramadan 14 tank battalion, we said good bye to him just awhile ago.

Little Hala (Daddy, daddy).

Mr. President (Daddy, daddy), didn't the babysitter come with you? (the nanny)

leader

(answering
her)

Little Hala No.

Mr. President You stayed at the house?

leader

Little Hala Yes.

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Top Secret

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Mr. President Yes, good. You are now a big girl and you can stay by yourself at the house.
leader

Little Hala Daddy, I want a pen.

Mr. President Air force members, even though your pilots always do superior work but today,
leader their work was at the top.

Air Force They are always like that Sir with God's help. They are in the middle of battle
Commander flames.

Mr. President Yes, prosperity is from God.
leader

Air Force We had some minor hits on 8 planes except for one, when they went on a
Commander reconnaissance mission for the bridge, the enemy opened fire on them
 approximately one Km from the bridge, they turned around but they did not see any
 thing.

Mr. President In the line of fire.
leader

Air Force In the line of fire.
Commander

Mr. President What is in that area?
leader

Air Force There is anti-aircraft artillery, the pilot pulled the plan sharply, more than what the
Commander plane can handle and the plane wing came off.

Mr. President Why?
leader

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Aviation Consultant This is because of pressure intensity.. pulling 9 G's. The strong pull impacts the pilot not the plane but some times a human (the pilot) can withstand that and the plane can't.

Air Force Commander This means they have to check the pilot because the wing of the plane is destroyed, how about a human body? The doctors have to check his body with x-rays.

Aviation Consultant There was no impact on him (the pilot), his body can withstand that.

Air Force Commander He is a young pilot with a rank of First lieutenant.

Aviation Consultant Some pilots faint out at only 3 G's, this one withstood 9 G's. Normally a pilot can pull 5-6 G's, how did this pilot pull 9 G's.

Mr. President leader Tomorrow, make your air force effectiveness a little less (don't be greedy).

Air Force Commander Ok Sir, we will not be greedy, we were only efficient on the bridge.

Mr. President leader Yes, the aerial cover on the bridge God willing.

Air Force Commander We will be here by dawn.

Mr. President leader God willing.

Little Hala Daddy, I want a pen and a notebook.

Air Force Commander The reconnaissance missions were good. And also, the last four planes,

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Top Secret

They confused the retreat of the enemy.

Mr. President leader Yes, you did well. This will lead to the weakening of enemy spirits. The planes impacted enemy spirits starting at dawn.

Air Force Commander We, since dawn...

(illegible) We figured this intense pressure by the air force will lead to the destruction of enemy spirits.

Air Force Commander Sir, from dawn, I sent reconnaissance sorties and we focused on their positions and the main positions. We focused on their main positions and started bombing them hard.

Mr. President leader But the Iranian enemy (the air force) is lacking jealousy...they. see their forces being destroyed and they just look.

Air Force Commander I noticed them Sir. Their air umbrellas are afraid of our air umbrellas when they see them in front of them. When they attack, they know they are going to be destroyed. But our pilots, they call each other...are you carrying the wolf (they named the Maverick missile that)

Mr. President leader Our pilots?

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Top Secret

Air Force Commander Yes, our pilots. They call it the wolf, they say as long as you have the wolf to your right, don't worry about them.

Mr. President leader Don't worry about them (laughing).

Aviation Consultant Indeed, it is like a wolf, it is a French made missile and has been installed on MIG 21 planes.

Mr. President leader Congratulations for the promotion (promotion of Br. General Pilot Mohammed Jassam, Air Force commander to a rank of Lt. General on January 6, 1981 schedule).

Air Force Commander God bless you Sir, I am a soldier in the Armed Forces, without a rank.

Mr. President leader We are sure of that, we are sure all of you have this kind of spirit.

[acronym] We said that your recording Sir (Speech of Mr. President leader, on the January 6th, 1981, establishment of the army anniversary) is at seven O'clock.

Mr. President leader Yes?

[acronym] We thought the recoding of your speech has not taken place. Things have changed; we thought the recording is going to be in a different form.

Air Force Commander Sir, yesterday I was very worried when the enemy attacked (armored division 9 area), I said that to you as well as to Mr. Minister Of Defense.

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Mr. President
leader

The honor of all men.. .Notice that victory is attached to a group that is not very good (disorganized), and do a bad thing aillegibleD.The retreat of some groups form their defensive positions such as what happened with the armored division / 9 for example. They change the whole picture. This is not only unacceptable behavior by any one, they are a lost group. It is not fair for all those thousands of men on the frontline fighting there, And the martyrs and others. A small group gets up and leaves their defensive positions; they impact the defensive positions as a whole and leads to their retreat.

What happened to you? you at least fight for two hours — stand firm -

Air Force
Commander

Yes Sir, we were there and we could have gotten involved had they stood firm in their position against enemy pressure. Our forces could have decided the situation with a fourth of the efforts we made today, I swear to that.

Mr. President
leader

Their weapons were not little and not able, their equipment were not bad. What did they have? they were comfortable in their defensive positions and the enemy attacked

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Top Secret

The enemy attacked, his forces appear to be three times bigger than yours while you were inside your positions showing only about a third of you length. The enemy attacked you with all his length and he set a trap for you.

Planning Director
 Mr. President leader
 Ok, whatever occurred to us Sir, and praise is to God, even politically Sir.

Air Force Commander
 Sir, our forces should chase them until they make them cross the area.

Mr. President leader
 They should, we sent a memo for that.. .we told them in it.. .the important thing is not to loose contact with them...you have to continue the momentum against them....Have you received any thing new?

Planning Director
 No Sir, we have not received any thing new but they all say that the situation is fine.. .unclear.

Mr. President leader
 This tank, T-72 will destroy them. We aught to continue the momentum against them today while we are fresh.

Planning Director
 Yes.. .especially this armored division /16.

Mr. President leader
 Yes, don't be stingy in the battle, but their administration seems to have

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Sent these forces without any preparations and not prepared for a long war. First, they did not send enough anti-aircraft weapons with them.

Air Force
Commander

They did have anti-aircraft weapons Sir.

Mr. President
leader

They did have anti-aircraft weapons? But it did not seem to be effective.

Air Force
Commander

Sir, in our latest sorties, the enemy used missiles against our planes....

X

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No	Rank	Full name	Function	[Illegible]
1	Retired Staff Lt. General	[Illegible] Mahmood Al-Doori	Committee Chairman	[Illegible]
2	Retired Lt. General	Hassn Hadeed Khalaf Al-Jabori	Member	[Illegible]
3	Retired Br. General	Kamel Khamees Hamadi Assadat	Member	[Illegible]
4	Retired Staff Maj. General	Basil Omar Saleh Attikriti	Member	[Illegible]
5	Captain	Khalid Jamal Tawfiq Annaseri	(Military Security Dept. Rep)	[Illegible]

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General
Military
Intelligence
Director I informed [acronym] Nemit Faris, corps III commander to not allow the enemy the opportunity to cut off contact with our forces and to keep continuing the momentum.

Mr. President
leader Regardless of the losses, so they will learn a hard lesson.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director We even sent them an official letter indicating this.

Mr. President
leader Send them an official letter from me.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director Yes Sir.

Mr. President
leader An official letter from me to our forces.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director Yes Sir.

Mr. President
leader Tell them to continue the momentum and not to cut off contact with enemy forces. The enemy will absolutely not be given a chance, it is to be chased with all they have and to destruct the largest number of the enemy and chase him.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director Yes Sir. About half an hour ago, our forces were near the deep Al-Karkha river and now the have crossed it heading to harm the enemy. 10th Armored brigade participated in the battle and has captured tanks, the Kheftin type, they are operable and he informed the headquarters of that.

Mr. President
leader Has the 10th armored brigade entered the battle?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director Yes Sir, they entered the battle. We even have elements from the system in the battle.

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Top Secret

In Al-Khafajia, Now they were informed that the brigade commander said that these tanks are a present to corps III commander as a symbolic gesture. An armored regiment joined Ben Waleed armored brigade in the battle and we informed them of your instructions to focus on the Al-Khafajia – Al—aweeza road area.

Mr. President leader This is if they hold this wing and put pressure on the enemy from the right wing where the main attack started, they will contain them.

General Military Intelligence Director Sir that is if they don't alter their retreat direction.

Mr. President leader If they alter their retreat direction, we will push them to Hameed camp and contain them there and that is better for us.

General Military Intelligence Director Also, the 43rd armored brigade is continuing to exert pressure on the enemy and that is a good thing

Mr. President leader Yes, that is the way. The Iraqi.. .I wish God to keep me alive just.. .this is if I could change it.

Planning Director God willing.

Mr. President leader Interesting, why he stops when he sees a tract? You either shell it or stay away from it and go.

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General
Military
Intelligence
Director

We downed two enemy phantom planes.

Mr. President
leader
[illegible]

When it goes forward, it is difficult to stop it and when it sops, who supports it?
But its patience will increase, praise is to God.

This battalion also is brave; it is the battalion from Mousel. If you go back and read the situations, it too downed a number of enemy planes. That is why the enemy didn't attack the mechanized infantry brigade /5 for a long time. Today as well, they downed two enemy planes.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Today's air force work was very distinguished Sir.

Mr. President
leader

Remarkable work today.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Praise is to God; there were no losses in our planes and the damage is very minor Sir.

As for the helicopters Sir, they suffered some damage today. They called today and we gave permission to the Army Air Director to send for what they needed.

Mr. President
leader

Has he been assigned (did Staff Maj. General Sameer Ahmed Ayoub been assigned to his position

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Top Secret

in Army Air[Force]?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

No Sir, he has not been assigned Yet.

Mr. President
leader

Why?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

The instructions of Mr. Minister are for Mr. Army Chief Of Staff to meet with Staff Maj. General Sameer Ahmed Ayoub and get his opinion on the subject of other officers that are more senior. Staff Maj. General Sameer Ahmed Ayoub says that there are a number of officers with a rank of Maj. General we can not do without especially the engineers considering their seniority. The newest of the officers is a Colonel, a Colonel in Army Air, all of them are more senior than him including Colonel Mohammed Abdullah whom he may be promoted to a Br. General this coming June.

Mr. President
leader

All the Colonels are more senior than him?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Yes Sir, all of them are more senior, he is the newest Colonel.

Mr. President
leader

Who amongst the Colonels and Br. Generals available is more suitable to be Army Air Director? I am curious.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Sir, I do not know them.

Political
Management
Director

Only Colonel Mohammed Abdullah in corps II

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Colonel Mohammed Abdullah is the most senior.

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Top Secret

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<p>Planning Director (on the phone with corps III commander)</p>	<p>Yes, destroying 40 enemy tanks....</p>
<p>Mr. President leader</p>	<p>How could this be? We don not want exaggeration from you.</p>
<p>General Military Intelligence Director</p>	<p>The enemy repeated his attack on infantry brigade 18 in corps II area.</p>
<p>Mr. President leader</p>	<p>God is great!!</p>
<p>General Military Intelligence Director</p>	<p>Just awhile ago, I had a phone call with corps II commander regarding the analysis.</p>
<p>Planning Director (still on the phone)</p>	<p>The 10th armored brigade has captured a number of enemy tanks just a short while ago at Al-Qasim. General Nemit, the instructions of Mr. Armed Forces General Commander will reach you on paper, I am telling you verbally to continue the offensive attack on the enemy and do not allow him a chance to reorganize his systems.</p>
<p>Mr. President leader</p>	<p>To reorganize his forces.</p>
<p>Planning Director (still on the phone)</p>	<p>To reorganize his forces, Do not lose contact with the enemy regardless of the reasons, this is an important message General Nemit.</p>
<p>Mr. President leader</p>	<p>The shelling momentum is to be continued with all artillery resources.</p>
<p>Planning Director (still on the phone)</p>	<p>Continue artillery shelling with every thing you have on the front. You will receive the instructions from The Armed Forces General Commander, yes, it has already been issued, and it will arrive to you. Yes.</p>

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Mr. President
leader
Planning
Director (still
on the phone)

Relay my regard to him.

Mr. President sends his regards and salutations. He read the second letter to me, yes. The rest is for the enemy to retreat in three directions, are they the same directions you sent yesterday? Yes, ok. What is at Al-Haweeza now?

Don't loose contact with the enemy, where is the enemy going now, he will enter our defensive positions, isn't that so? If they enter, that means... .tomorrow with dawn. Yes, yes, thank you.

(Phone call is over).

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

The [illegible] letters say they are asking for equipment Sir and.....

Mr. President
leader

Our air force was remarkable today.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Very remarkable Sir.

Mr. President
leader

Yes, we vouch for them, our air force put out an exceptional effort.

Political
Management
Director

Indeed, they are always ready, praise is to God.

Mr. President
leader

Yes, praise is to God. Did they use heavy bombs or only missiles?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

They used missiles Sir.

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Mr. President leader Because if heavy bombs were used, they will impact them (impact enemy forces).

General Military Intelligence Director It is used on enemy congregations.

Planning Director Sir, corps III tells me (on the phone) that as of the latest reports, (40) enemy tanks have been destroyed and armored brigade commander says no, an enemy armored brigade has been destroyed. There are a number of destroyed enemy tanks and there are a number of them still operable and good for use. The enemy is retreating now, whatever left of the enemy - on three directions. Corps III commander thinks these directions are: Koot Al-Hawashem direction, Al-Khafajia direction, Umm Assoqor direction and Al-Haweeza direction, but no one informed him about them.

Mr. President leader When was this latest information received?

Planning Director This letter, they will get it now and we will read this letter to them now.

Mr. President leader This, before two hours?!

Planning Director Yes Sir — the air force was

General Military Intelligence Director For sure Sir, the air force will impact them. I called the commander of the air force and he said, just now he directed 4 planes.

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Top Secret

Mr. President
leader

What is the information on the bridge?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

The air force has hit the bridge, the bridge is hit but we ordered the mechanized infantry brigade / 5 to hit it because it is in its area and close to it.

Mr. President
leader

The mechanized infantry brigade could have sent a force to destroy it.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

We told them that but there are a lot of continuous artillery shelling around it; they could assign a force to cross this bridge.

Mr. President
leader

Yes.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director
[illegible]

We sent them a letter to do that.

Mr. President
leader

That could be useful for us after we destroy the enemy here. The advance east of Al-Karoon river (by our forces), the enemy will not be able to stand firm.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Yes Sir, you are correct Sir. It was determined that Ramadan 14 tank battalion to move within half an hour Sir. At the meantime armored division 10 prepared a tank battalion with its carriers and will move at 700 hour.

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Top Secret

Mr. President leader	God is gracious. If they defeat this one, its fruits will show in others and it will stay place.
Planning Director (on the phone with Maj. General Mayser Ibraheem, Military Movements Director at armored division 9 area)	-greetings- Yes, what is the news? God willing. Yes, I know, yes, the situation is very good. Yes, the instructions God willing are what he told you a few minutes ago, yes, very good, the same instructions as yesterday, it will reach you in the same way, it is for sure, good.
Mr. President leader	This information is to be told to Ben Waleed armored brigade to raise their spirits. He is to be told that the enemy is defeated and has no chance to retreat.
Planning Director (still on the phone) General Military Intelligence Director	...Approximately, yes, good. There is an important point Maj. General Mayser which I mentioned to you here at the operation room, it is to mainly be hard on them, I mean in this case, you have no other choice. Yes, very clear Tomorrow by dawn there will be an inspection. -Unclear interrupting voice-
Mr. President leader	From now on, let us record all telephone conversations.

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General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Yes Sir.
-unclear interrupting voice-

Planning
Director (still
on the phone)

Salutations from some one you know here (from Mr. President, leader) and he blesses your efforts.

Mr. President
leader

Maj. General Shaker, tell him, the information you have, needs to be relayed to Ben Al-waleed armored brigade (the one conducting the enclosure operation around the enemy at Al-Khafajia / armored division 9 area). Tell him that the enemy is defeated so to raise the spirits of brigade members. Also tell him not to allow the enemy a chance to flea.

Planning
Director (still
on the phone)

Yes Sir, as you wish.
...ok, God bless you. Thank you.
(Phone conversation is over).

(To Mr.
President
leader)
Mr. President
leader

Sir, Maj. General Mayser (Movement Director) says this phone conversation is not secure, he also says that the situation is very good and the orders are your honors orders, will be executed by [illegible].

About what?

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Planning Director The instruction from you to continue the momentum and not to allow the enemy any chance and not to let the resistance pockets like the ones at Al-khafajia to repeat and advance. We don't want these things to happen again per your instructions you say the initiative is in our hands and we are controlling the situation and there are enemy prisoners of war as well as destroyed enemy cylindrical launchers.

Mr. President leader Yes, but we want to know the situation.

Planning Director [illegible] Yes Sir, we have captured enemy tanks and it seems that Mr. Army Chief Of Staff and his Assistant For Operations went to Basra to check out the situation with Abdan forces and verify that because they are worried about the forces for the possibility of a hostile attack taking place, the situation is very good.

Mr. President leader The enemy may not be able at this time.

Planning Director No, the enemy is in a big mental breakdown.

Mr. President leader Indeed, those, the people of turbans (Iranian System magnates) will do some thing against their leader Bani Sadar and his situation will deteriorate.

General Military Intelligence Director The air efforts were very big.
Yesterday, they said they sent a letter to Khomani.

Political Management Director The number of tanks destroyed by the planes was large.

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Mr. President leader Yes.. .the battle is in his hands and under his control.

Planning Director That is why he moved with it under his leadership. I said to him (to corps III Chief Of Staff) he has to be careful not to get stuck in a situation. Maj. General Hussein (Maj. Genera Hussein Rasheed Ben Al-Waleed armored brigade of armored division / 3) his mind is very good, it assuring.

Mr. President leader Yes, he is good.

Planning Director Yesterday morning, I agreed with him (corps III commander) to discuss that with Maj. Genera Saadi Tuama Abbas, first mechanizes infantry division commander and Maj. Genera Hesham Sabah, 10th armored division commander. To secure some of the forces as a reserve and in the hands of the corps. It appears that there is the ability to secure only a supporting battle group from the 10th armored division.

Mr. President leader Also?

Planning Director I will send him a memo to prepare a battle group as a reserve in hand and if Ramadan 14 tank battalion arrived plus a battle group; that would be enough.

Mr. President leader Very enough.

Planning Director We pull a battle group and a prominent armor from corps II area. I informed corps II commander of that and asked him to send it within an hour.

Mr. President leader I think we shouldn't insist on corps II on this issue.

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Planning Director We only asked for one Sir. And I told him from division forces but I did not specify which division.

Mr. President leader That leaves the possibility of the enemy attacking at corps II area.

Planning Director Yes Sir, -we got it-

Mr. President leader This is possible because for the enemy, attacking with armor is on a wide range.

General Military Intelligence Director There is the possibility of an attack from the direction of Somar.

Planning Director We don not withdraw our forces from Somar area because the situation we received is that in corps II, they don't support the idea of pulling forces from armored division 12 area, they prefer it to stay just like it is. With this Sir, they have to think about this, so we will have a reserve of forces for them and to not get upset when the enemy attacks their area.

Mr. President leader This is logical, even if the reserve for their forces.

Planning Director Yes Sir.

General Military Intelligence Director And the carriers?

Planning Director I said to him, he has all the carriers.

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General Military Intelligence Director	So to have the carriers with them all the time.
Mr. President leader	Shame on you. How could the enemy remove you, and create this problem for us? You were in your positions, in a good situation. You should have fought them an hour or so and every things would have changed.
Political Management Director	If our forces fought for even half an hour Sir, there was artillery shelling before the enemy attack
Mr. President leader	The results will come out.
Planning Director	In spite of this, there is a benefit in it.
Mr. President leader	The enemy attack was a good shake up for our forces.
Planning Director	God is gracious, God willing, the enemy will be destroyed. This attack was useful in spite of their success, they will be destroyed.
Mr. President leader	Yes.
Planning Director	This is a very important factor. Up to now, the success of the enemy is a strategic success.
Political Management Director	What is the success achieved by the enemy?
Planning Director	Sir, it is a strategic success even on this attack.

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Top Secret

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Mr. President
leader

It is only a mental success.

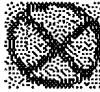
Political
Management
Director

Yes, it is only a mental success.

Planning
Director

Mr. President
leader

Yes, we want to deprive them even this mental success. Didn't we give up this much land in Al-Ahwar. But, they don't consider it land because it is sunken in water and they did not recapture it with their forces because it does not achieve their goals. Is this land our land?



Planning
Director
General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Is it enough If they agreed with the staff association in Al-Mansoria. It will be ready at Al-Mansoris. This road to [illegible] Al-Mansoria's road cuts off. It goes and comes.

Planning
Director

Within an hour, an hour and a half.

Mr. President
leader

Let Ramadan 14 tank battalion move to the front, can they

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Stay there, eat meat and rice as the country boy says.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

He sent them Sir.

Mr. President
leader Of course he sent them, the republican guard special forces moved and suffered losses in their lines (in Al-Mahmara cleansing battle) and we didn't visit them. Just me, I did not visit them.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

They took part in special battles (in Al-Mahmara).

Mr. President
leader They moved with enthusiasm and power (to the front - to Al-Mahmara). They arrived at night and then he dragged them to Al-Mahmara battle. Before their operation, we talked with them here, they moved with all the momentum and they suffered great losses.

Aviation
Consultant

.....
We keep an extra brigade for this area here in Baghdad. We are afraid corps II may need some forces.

Mr. President
leader
Planning
Director

God willing, they will not need them.

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General
Military
Intelligence
Director

As for the terrain Sir. The factor of the terrain has its impact Sir. There was an infantry brigade advancing from four directions Sir.

Mr. President
leader

There is no problem Maj. General Jawad (Intelligence Director). Some times a situation will happen outside expectations. But, is there any one who worries about four tank battalions in its fortified position within the territory and a wolf battalion in the back with two mechanized infantry regiments and a regular regiment. I mean how?

How could we get surprised in hours? This could happen in days and could say that they were under pressure and have been fighting for a week so we have to strengthen them. Not like it happened within hours. If an attack took place, where were our forces? The answer, they ended up south of Al-Karkha river. How this happened? we are not able to smell the air while they are in this situation!

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

The strange thing is they did not inform us.

Mr. President
leader

How could they inform us? Those (armored division 9 forces).

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At Al-Kad, in their retreat, they reached the deep Al-Karkha river; they left their bridges and every thing. We have not gotten their report yet. You will see in the report how they left piles on the ground, how many carriers and how many vehicles of all kinds they left behind. The enemy could make a show out of that, bigger than our show.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director
Mr. President
leader

.....

God willing, whatever made the brave members of the mechanized infantry division / 5 consider this situation, this strong hit they hit them with.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director
Mr. President
leader

If they had stood firm for just minutes, had they opened their tank fire and shot just one round off of each tank and then retreated, that would have been bad and they could have hit at least a percentage of enemy forces coming on to them. The force that stands firm does not give up losses. I wish I know the reason for this so I could punish them.

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Harshly. There is got to be a key for this issue, a key that called; retreat, the enemy is coming, and the retreat started. We all have to go to sleep at night. I don't sleep well at night.

Planning Director Sir, go ahead and take a share of sleep.

General Military Intelligence Director We are here Sir.

Mr. President leader We will go and get some sleep; I am the one who is impacted. When did our forces retreat? And how?

Planning Director/ General Military Intelligence Director ?

Aviation Consultant The planes took off in double formations.

Planning Director If it hadn't for the destruction of this bridge. 9.....

Aviation Consultant They should have destroyed the bridge before sun down.

Planning Director Yes, because they were to move that night.

General Military Intelligence Director If the 9 was not available.

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General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Where is the location of the bridge now?

Planning
Director

I told him north of Attaheri and this is approximate.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Where is the bridge as it is mentioned in the mission report? Where is the report?

Planning
Director

It is in mechanized infantry / 5 areas. It is here, and here is the black bridge on the map, north of Attaheri. For sure it is here.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

This is the same bridge they were to cross.

Planning
Director

Yes, of course and at night they were to cross it quickly. I called by phone, I called Maj. Genera Abdul-Razzaq Yaqoub, mechanized infantry division /5 commander about it.

Aviation
Consultant

Four planes took of towards it, and we will find out its location.

Planning
Director

These planes are specifically for this bridge.

- Intermission_

Mr. President
leader

What is the situation? And what information is available?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Now, the enemy is starting to generally retreat form the front Sir.

Mr. President
leader

But they shouldn't allow them to retreat.

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Planning
Director
(speaking with
[acronym] Qais
Mohammed
Ali from
[acronym]
department

Mr. President
leader (with the
switchboard)

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President
leader

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President
leader

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President
leader (with
one of them)

General
Military
Intelligence
Director (on
the phone with
corps II
commander
Mohammed
Saleh)

Ramadan 14 tank battalion is ready and carriers are being assigned to them

Get me Ramadan 14 tank battalion commander quickly son.

Where is the location of armored brigade 30 now?

Sir, it is spread out: it is not in one location.

In corps II area?

Yes Sir, in corps II area.

All of it is in corps II area?

2 battle groups of it are in armored division 12 as I see it.

Yes... .continue.

-Greetings-

Where is the location of armored brigade 30 now? Yes, the battalion, yes Al-Muthana tank battalion. Al-Muthana tank battalion is in Jai Hamam, Seter Jeel tank battalion is in Yendli. Yes, his order...thanks to you.

-Phone conversation is over-

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Planning Director
General Military Intelligence Director
Planning Director

He is calling them over the phone, what do they have?

2 tank battalions in armored brigade 12 area, a tank battalion in Jai Hamam and a tank battalion in Hamam strait. A battle group from the other battalion of the brigade and a mechanized regiment in corps II area.

Sir, this tank battalion may be, but this one, it can't. Armored brigade 16 which is at Sayed Khaleel and north of Qasar Shereen, this one you may send it, the battalion that is at Jai Hamam.

Mr. President leader (with [acronym] Saber Addori Ramadan 14 tank battalion commander)
Planning Director

Is your battalion all together in its position? Is there any companies form it here or there? Ok, warn them to move to the front. Ok, say hi to all the comrades, thank you.
(Phone call is over)
- unclear and interrupting voice about Ramadan 14 tank battalion and armored brigade 10 -

We now warned you, Tariq tank battalion is with armored brigade 3 for movement. When you destroyed the opposing tank battalion yesterday near the bridge that means this battalion is the top of the bridge.

Mr. President leader
General Military Intelligence Director

This is not rational, are they giving birth to tank battalions?

Sir, I suppose when the enemy achieves a goal here, a lot of [illegible] so to complete the forces and secure communications, this

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Top Secret

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Where did he reach? Sill [illegible].

Mr. President
leader

But this work.....laughing.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

They say that they (the enemy) send in the infantry and then after awhile the tanks advance. But the idea is.

Mr. President
leader

This idea by them is a right idea.

Political
Management
Director

This is what they do.

Planning
Director (on
the phone with
[acronym]
Mohammed
Saleh, corps II
commander

-Greetings-

Are you thinking of securing a tank battalion or armored tank battalion? Because we are in need of 1-2 tank battalions, is it possible you can provide us with that. Write this down and reply to me within half an hour. Yes, this is just in case and for balance, yes in the south. Keep in mind to organize every thing in a good fashion and then inform me so I will consider the situation. When are you going to give me an answer? An hour? Where is he? How are things with you? Do you have any thin in the area? Yes, no problem. Think about this and we prefer them from the close by forces that are on our road Think about it and let me know within an hour and a half. Thank you.

(Phone conversation is over)

-The conversation below took place during the phone conversation above-

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General Military Sir, what we have of information is that the size of the main enemy forces are big
Intelligence and are located here Sir. It doesn't make sense, amongst all directions; this would
Director be the main direction because this direction is the main in Abdan area. The enemy has a brigade that arrived recently; it is a new formation, armored brigade 37.

Mr. President Here (on the map).
leader

General Military It is in Sheik Badeer area.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President What is the size of the armored forces now?
leader

General Military The size of an armored brigade.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President No, the size of armored forces as a whole.
leader

General Military This brigade Sir is an independent brigade, armored brigade 37.
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President Ok, in this case, the enemy has 4 armored divisions.
leader

General Military Yes, in addition to the 37th independent armored brigade, the enemy has 4
Intelligence armored divisions.
Director

Mr. President Then The enemy's armored forces are equal to our armored forces.
leader

General Military The enemy has armored division 92 at Al-Ahwar, armored division 81 and
Intelligence armored division 88 at Zandan and he also has armored division 16.
Director

Political Sir, as for the crossing rafts specific to the mechanized infantry division / 1
Management
Director

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Top Secret

They have moved.

Mr. President
leader

Ok.
(conversation is over)

Planning
Director (on
the phone with
[acronym]
Nemit Faris,
corps III
commander)

Greetings _
2....you couldn't save some forces from them? As a reserve - Yes. They are spread amongst the mechanized infantry division / 1 and this. Where is this battle group? They must have crossed Al-Basteen and headed to Addahlawia, I mean they are headed to Addahlawia, have they went there and we wanted it to be God is great. Yes.. .they are heading to the road between Al-Khafajia and Al-Haweeza.
(Conversation is over).

Mr. President
leader

Who is Shaker talking with over the phone?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

With Maj. Genera Nemit Faris, corps III commander.

Mr. President
leader

Maj. Genera Shakeer, don't stay with them over the phone, you might confuse them.

Aviation
Consultant

Sir, the resources of the mechanized infantry division / 5 are good and it is not possible for the enemy to impact them. How are they going to cross on to them?

Mr. President
leader

No, no, they can do that because this division is solid and its commander is good.

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Top Secret

Aviation Consultant Especially that their entire side is secure. The enemy will not be able to cross the river except on this crossing area (on the map).

Mr. President leader Yes, this is one of the dangerous places, correct. If they could, They would do that.

This was the Minister of Defense assessment yesterday and he was talking about the same thing He is now taking the same direction Maj. Genera Shaker. On this road, he started his advance?

Planning Director Sir (corps III commander) says this is starting to impact the road area between Al-IChafajia and Al-Haweeza — it is here, it seems that he is headed to this area - on the map.

Mr. President leader Yes, this is excellent.

Planning Director Yes Sir.

Aviation Consultant Especially, the aerial reconnaissance tells us that there are no activities on it.

Planning Director We want activities on it so to impact the enemy. To the contrary, we want it.

Aviation Consultant There were about 4-5 tanks.

Planning Director [illegible] We don not want him to conduct river and bridges crossing operation.

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Top Secret

Mr. President
leader Are there rivers and bridges?

Planning
Director Yes Sir, there are two rivers. If it was not for them, there would not have been a problem. This river is straight; they could have advanced from here. What is impacting is that the group is under the command of the brigade commander. The brigade commander is leading this battle group, he warned him not to advance in such a way to get into a bad situation.

Mr. President
leader At this time (the enemy with this kind of capability). The enemy now is like the effectiveness of clans (terrified clans) because when the hostile attack took place and enemy forces took off, now nothing is left at Al-Khafajia, not Khomaini guard nor anything else.
They all came to this area. If they indeed could (meaning the battle group assigned from our forces) reach to a point and cut off the road on the enemy, that would be remarkable.

Planning
Director Has Ben Waleed armored brigade's battle group arrived?
Yes Sir, yesterday. Remember, your honor pulled a battle group and an extra armor from the mechanized infantry division / 5 and sent them to Ben Waleed armored brigade. The brigade commander took advantage of this opportunity of having a battle group under his command and control.

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Aviation Consultant	It came close to Al-Ahwaz Sir and it was dealt with using artillery.
Mr. President leader	It was dealt with by our forces and they downed a phantom plane?
Aviation Consultant	Yes Sir.
Mr. President leader	They did a good job.
Maj. General Pilot Jaafer Ashalcraji (air cell)	Sir, it was downed by the fifth battery, anti-aircraft battalion 86 at 1450 hour near Al-Ahwaz using 57 mm artillery, it was a phantom plane.
Mr. President leader	They did a good job.
Planning Director	Yesterday as well Sir, the air umbrella dealt with enemy helicopters.
Aviation Consultant	Three planes were downed and one of them was a phantom.
Planning Director	They eliminated three helicopters plus a phantom plane.
Planning Director (on the phone with Army Air Commander)	<p>Greetings_</p> <p>Your effectiveness is good and Mr. President, leader always keeps up with your activities. Yes, an enemy phantom was downed, yes, in a dog fight or by surface weapons?</p> <p>By anti-aircraft battalion belonging to the air force that was there...ok Sir...We received a memo saying that their situation is fine and they started</p>

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Top Secret

To get better by the hour. Sir, it seems that they can't see any thing, what is the result of the reconnaissance? I mean there is no, I mean the results of the air hits, I mean pilots' achievements. Yes, we read it Sir, is there any thing to add to it? Yes, thank you.

(Phone conversation is over).

Mr. President leader Send this memo to all pilots, high and not high. Most salutations and appreciation in a formal way. When our forces remove enemy forces, I start to smoke and vice versa.

(Mr. President, leader asking to speak to Mr. Minister Of Defense on the phone, Mr. Minister may be sick at his house.)

Mr. President leader (with Mr. Minister Of Defense on the phone) -Introduction, salutation and peace-
Peace upon you, are you sick? Your voice indicates that you are sick, has the doctor checked you out? Yes, you need two doctors, only ask for two doctors, there is nothing better than two doctors, better than one doctor. Yes, I am very good, God willing. No, I am very strong, there is nothing, I sent

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Top Secret

Army Chief Of Staff with Maj. Genera Tariq (Presidency Office Director). God is gracious. The situation is starting to improve with them in spite of armored brigade / 1 not participating in the battle. Yes, because we told them not to [illegible] unless in a combined form. Yes, from? The enemy? Yes, thank you. (Phone call is over).

Planning Director (on the phone with Air Force Commander) Mr. President leader Yes, there is a built bridge? Yes. It is has a high priority. Yes, more than one plane is assigned to it.

Planning Director Mr. President leader Where is the bridge?

Planning Director This bridge is located at the mechanized infantry division / 5 areas Sir.

Mr. President leader Who was speaking with you on the phone? Air force Commander?

Planning Director Yes Sir, he is the commander of air forces.

Mr. President leader On which phone was he speaking to you?

Planning Director On the government phone Sir. (A special phone).

Mr. President leader (on the phone with Air Force Commander) -Greeting introduction- Our forces' situation is very good today, God is gracious. What is the situation

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Top Secret

With this bridge? Yes, this bridge, our pilots compete to destroy it, yes, that is what I want, yes, good. Don't give the enemy any rest. Yes, good, relay my regards To all pilots. I sent them a special letter from me, to the pilots - thank you. (Phone conversation is over).

I see to inform the leadership of mechanized infantry division / 5 about the bridge.

Planning
Director

Ok Sir.

Aviation
Consultant

For sure, our pilots will deal with this bridge.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Our pilots went to the area this morning and they identified it.

Mr. President
leader

Yes, it has been identifies.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

The unit received a request for an aerial attack in the area based on missiles being there, it has been dealt with.

Aviation
Consultant

Where? In what location?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

This is in the same area, it is Beejan.....

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Top Secret

Planning Mechanized Infantry division Chief Of Staff on the phone asking-
Director This tank battalion, it is not an infiltration operation.

Mr. President Yes?
leader

Planning Tank battalion plus a fighting group that was destroyed.....?....
Director

Mr. President A crossing operation.
leader

Planning Yes.
Director

General Yes, the top of this bridge.
Military
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President But our forces ought to attack them and not leave them alone.
leader

General Yesterday, they were here — on the map.
Military
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President Then, where are our forces?
leader

Political Here Sir.
Management
Director

Mr. President Why, what were our forces doing there? There is no fighting along all this area.
leader

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Top Secret

General Military Intelligence Director	Yes, all of this.
Mr. President leader	You can't see what was there?
General Military Intelligence Director	Did they have infantry there?
Mr. President leader	Also with armor
Planning Director	-low voice, inaudible-
Mr. President leader	Verifies with switchboard operator about his request, mechanized infantry division /5.
General Military Intelligence Director	Ok what is our divisions' intelligence doing? What are they doing? If there are bridges being built by the enemy, and it is summer time and an attack upon them.
Mr. President leader	We will open a course for them for a period of two months till August 25 th , 1981.
General Military Intelligence Director	All intelligence officers from all divisions and corps' will attend. I informed the intelligence school to prepare for this course.
Mr. President leader	Get whatever officers you want in this course because they do not have any work. What are they doing now?
General Military Intelligence Director	What are we to do Sir? This is just battle intelligence, unit, brigade, or a division, each one has his own intelligence responsibility.

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Top Secret

Mr. President leader The enemy is too close to them, they can not conduct any reconnaissance!?

General Military Intelligence Director Reconnaissance (intelligence reconnaissance) Sir has to cover the area for information and reconnaissance because each division supposed to have 3-4 reconnaissance units from the division.

Planning Director (on the phone with Staff Maj. General Abdul-Razzaq Aqqewi, mechanized infantry division / 5 commander) -Greeting introduction-

Staff Maj. General Abul-Razzaq, What is the situation there? What is the information? Yes, there is a bridge at this location, the air force ascertained the presence of a bridge and we asked the air force to focus on it to destroy it along with the opposing elements in the area. We will destroy the bridge that is on the water but you have to inform the front forces of this because our planes will start to deal with it, they have to pay attention to our planes. Did you tell the division commander this? They are aware of this bridge, yes. Did you ask for an aerial hit on it? The hit doesn't indicate so and we got the information, we changed it, this is just for your information. Have you received any new information?

Maj. General Abdul-Razzaq, be careful, and from our side and the air force, we will do our bests. What is the number of vehicles you received to protect the bridge as you told me? It is 22 vehicles. Ok, thank you.

(Phone conversation is over)

- The conversation below took place during the phone call above-

General Military Intelligence Director (The conversation is about the duties of the intelligence officer on the field). This has never been experienced and was never used because this is the first time being tried in the Iraqi army. Sections of the intelligence are present but its duties did not appear in its true fashion at the intelligence department. But, this

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Top Secret

Field intelligence is not one of our duties. The duties of the General Headquarters are related to strategic intelligence. Is it required of the General Headquarters to find out about the bridge? That can't be.

Mr. President
leader

This is not one of our duties.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Of course, it is not our duty. What happened is a shock in the reconnaissance subject. It is true that we survey here and there checking out the field, basically (field reconnaissance). Scouting the field is one of their duties. There is a staff officer at the headquarters; he knows the positions of all corps', divisions, formations and units.

Aviation
Consultant

If this bridge is destroyed, the enemy forces will be surrounded. Just a while ago, I informed the Air Force Third Sector Commander to create an aerial umbrella to oust those, and then the aerial hit will be successful 100%.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

When night comes, they will all be there.

Mr. President
leader

This aerial umbrella has been exposed; its purpose has been exposed.

-low voice, inaudible-

Mr. President
leader

It seems the enemy has brought his armor from every where and made us ineffective while they are in a very effective situation. This is attributed to the ignorance of the intelligence; there is no intelligence on the field.

(18-59)

Top Secret

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Top Secret

- The conversation ended —

Aviation Don't they have information?

Consultant

Planning They have information.

Director

Mr. President Do have mechanized infantry division / 5 (its commander, Staff Maj. General
leader Saad Tuama) have rafts for the purpose of crossing?

Political Sir, I imagine they have rafts because they conducted a crossing operation before.

Management

Director

Planning Sir, this bridge is built on Al-Karoon river north of the city of Attaheri, I mean
Director (on close to enemy positions. If it is possible to provide us with its coordinates so we
the phone with relay that to the mechanized infantry division / 5. Yes. The number there is
Army Forces approximately (22) vehicles carrying bridges. Yes, this is the information and it is
Commander) at the mechanized infantry division / 5 area and when our plane go there. We have
informed our forces there and the destruction of this bridge is a priority because its
being there will create big problems for us.

Our pilots have seen the bridge on the river. So, the pilots have to verify that the
bridge is there because the information of the mechanized infantry division / 5 is
the presence of (22) vehicles carrying bridges and you are saying the bridge is
physically there on the river. The most accurate Sir. Is seeing it with the naked eye
because this will not be wrong. Thus, we ask you to intensify the hits on it and
send us its coordinates especially the time now is 1500 hour. Yes, thank you.

(19-59)

Top Secret

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End of phone conversation —

- The conversation below took place during the phone conversation -

Mr. President Is the bridge built on the river or the (22) vehicles are carrying the bridges?
leader

Aviation As for the information of our pilots, It is built on the river. Isn't that so?
Consultant

General Is the bridge built or are the vehicles carrying the bridge?
Military
Intelligence
Director

Mr. President How would the pilot know it is a bridge, if he hasn't seen it with his eyes?
leader

Aviation Yes, how would he know if he didn't see it?
Consultant

Mr. President How would you distinguish vehicles carrying a bridge? You could say they are
leader tanks.

Aviation This speaker is the air force commander.
Consultant

Planning Yes Sir.
Director

Aviation We prefer for the pilots that have seen the bridge themselves to go. Yes, after them
Consultant (on just in case. Yes, God bless you, your efforts are appreciated. Thank you.
the phone with

- Phone conversation is over —

air forces
commander)

Aviation He said the pilots will go but right now, they are taking a refueling break.
Consultant

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They will go and quickly. And the other ones will go after them.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director
Planning
Director

Did they find out the exact location of the bridge?

No, they couldn't identify it; they say it is north of Attaheri. Also, the mechanized infantry division / 5 have information is that there are 22 bridging vehicles in the division's area.

- low and inaudible voice -

Mr. President
leader

Is this result of what we were talking about, and here is the crossing location, the crossing location is from here (on the map).

Planning
Director

Sir, we are trying to staff a force from corps II.

Mr. President
leader

Issue a warning order to warn Ramandan 14 tank battalion to be sent to the area, move it to the area.

Planning
Director

Yes Sir.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Assign carriers to move them.

Mr. President
leader

Who is the commander of the battalion?

Planning
Director

The commander of Ramadan 14 tank battalion is Lt. Colonel Saber Abdul-Azziz Hussein Addori.

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Top Secret

Meeting minutes
Of Armed Forces General Command Meetings
And
Speeches of Mr. President, the leader (God may protect him)
At
Armed Forces General Command

First Committee

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Retired Staff Lt. General Quduri Jaber Mahmood Addrori | Committee Chair. |
| 2. Retired Br. General Hassn Jadeed Khalaf Al-Jabori | Member. |
| 3. Retired Staff Maj. General Kamel Khamees Hamadi Assairi | Member. |
| 4. Retired Staff Maj. General Basil Omar Saleh Attekriti | Member. |
| 5. Captain (Military Security) Khalid Jamal Tawfiq Annaseri | Military Security Representative. |

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Record 11

1981

Copy (1-2)

Index

No	Tape number	Recording date	From	To
1	Tape number 1	6 January, 1981	1	59

End of side one of tape
-----Not clear
X X X End of tape

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Note: the name of Pilot [acronym] was not mentioned [acronym] [illegible]

Signature
[Acronym]
[Illegible]

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Attendees

- 1- Mr. Staff General
- 2- Lt. General Pilot
- 3- Staff Maj. General
- 4- Staff Maj. General
- 5- Colonel
- 6- Lieutenant

Saddam Hussein, President and Armed Forces General Commander
Hameed Shaaban, Mr. Republic President's Consultant Abdul-
Jawas Zanoon, General Military Intelligence Director Shaker
[illegible] Al-Imara, Planning Director.
Mohammed Younis Al-Ahmed, Political Management Director.
Hussein Kamel Hassan, Mr. President, Leader Company.

(1-59)
Top Secret

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Speaker	Content
Mr. President, leader	This is a letter dated 1/1/1981, it includes the following: We have learned from trusted sources the following: The Iranian forces are preparing to launch an attack in the next 72 hours on the following areas: From the north, Kaylan, west — Benjween — from the south, Al-Khafajia.
Planning Director	Exactly Sir, you ordered it and we relayed it to corps II headquarters. And indeed, we accomplished that.
A phone conversation between Planning Director and [acronym] Abdullah in armored division 10 headquarters	Greeting introduction Where is armored division 10 commander Maj. Genera Hesahm Sabah? Is he close by you? Yes, you want to speak with him on the phone...
Mr. President, leader	If the (commander) is not far.
Planning Director (still on the phone)	Yes, is he close to you? I mean within the headquarters? Yes, tell him to call us on the phone if he could.
Mr. President, leader	If he is far from him, there is no need to call us.
Planning Director	He said he will call us within minutes.
Planning Director (still on the phone)	Maj. Genera Abdullah, call him quickly.. .thank you.

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(Phone conversation is over)

General
Military
Intelligence
Director
Mr. President,
leader

Mr. President, two days have passed and the enemy is attacking Kaylan. Yesterday and today and from four directions Sir.

And the corps has been informed of it.

Yes, they informed the corps of it Sir.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director
(Speaking with
Mr. President,
leader

Sir, there is the treatment of the doctors by the air force which you talked about and left it here.

Mr. President,
leader

There are 11 doctors. I suggested for the air force doctors to travel abroad. I formed a committee for this purpose to find out what they need to travel. Why these complications?

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Yes Sir.

Mr. President,
leader

And the pilots, let them go and travel abroad even if they travel to rest or have fun.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Do you want brother Major Sabah to inform them? (The old companion).

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Mr. President,
leader
Political
Management
Director

Yes, tell him so Major Sabah will inform them.

Ok, aren't the pilots hurt Sir?

Mr. President,
leader

Yes, there are 22 of them, 11 amongst them will need to be sent outside of the country.

Mr. President,
leader (on the
phone with
[acronym]
Hesahm Sabah,
armored
division 10
commander)

-Introductory greetings —
Yes, you helped your brothers at your area in destroying the enemy. Yes, good. But, I don't want your losses to be a lot. Say hello to all. Thank you. (Phone conversation is over).

Mr. President,
leader (with the
attendees)

This (Maj. Genera Hesham Sahah, armored division 10 commander) doesn't care about losses, he doesn't care about losses. He is like Khalid Ben Waleed. He enters the battles and doesn't care about losses. We have to tell him about that, about losses.
In spite of all the losses.. ..his division's losses are not few.

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Top Secret

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Never, the losses in his division are not few;

Planning
Director

The percentage of losses in his division is high.

Mr. President,
leader

Very high but his division kept their spirits and that is the real value.

The conversation below took place during the phone call above.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

I am afraid there may be some misunderstanding between Medical Affairs Director and Brigadier General Ghazi Katafa (First Air Defense Section Commander).

Mr. President,
leader

Brigadier General is always on the move, even his eyes are always moving a lot.

Aviation
Consultant

His eyes are not stationary.

Mr. President,
leader

Yes, they are not stationary.

Aviation
Consultant

But I feel he is straight Sir.

Mr. President,
leader

I don't know because I don't know him.

Aviation
Consultant

His behavior is straight, he is straight.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

But there is a problem between him and the Medical Affairs Director.

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Top Secret

Aviation Consultant	Both of them are spontaneous.
Mr. President, leader	Yes, but whatever there is between them shouldn't impact our interests. Let the problem be between them not on our account. These are pilots.
Planning Director (on the phone with Mr. Minister Of Defense)	Introductory greetings. The latest situation Sir is that armored brigade 10 is on the move now but we are not expecting the brigades to be complete within hours in the area Sir. We hope that our forces will fight the enemy.
General Military Intelligence Director	Maj. Genera Hesahm (armored division 10 commander) is moving very good in his area. If any negatives appear in his area, the reaction will be harsh, this is what we found out from the members of the division, and they are working in a good fashion. This will show when Maj. Genera Hesham is transferred and some one else takes over. He has total control over his division from the time he was at Attaji camp.
Mr. President, leader	Yes, that means the officers don't want him.
General Military Intelligence Director	Sir, some times that is the case but that is a result of not understanding or not realizing.
Mr. President, leader	What? Do we have an army or a union? What are these phenomena's? I

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Top Secret

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Get aggravated by these situations. Didn't I focus on them a lot for reasons I was concerned that under military conduct, the revolution will be taken. Now, this is not acceptable because it became backwards. Now, the military conduct should be iron clad (the iron clad military conduct).

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

It should be iron clad.

Aviation
Consultant

Sir, if we bring back military conduct, it should be under total control.

Mr. President,
leader

It is not if we bring it back, it should be brought back God willing. Either the military conduct is as the old fashion, the fashion of the old Turkish army, the army of Al-Wali or it will convert to the Ba'thist form. We don't want the Ba'thist form nor do we want this form.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

The army should be on a disciplinary basis, we bring back military conduct.
[Illegible].

We want to protect the dignity of a man and his pride but at the meantime of course.

(7-59)

Top Secret

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Top Secret

Mr. President,
leader We wish there is a spirit of discipline and that is with education and training

Planning
Director Sir, Mr. Minister Of Defense sends you his regards.

Mr. President,
leader God bless you.

Aviation
Consultant I did not sleep tonight Sir. I woke up early; I prayed to the supreme God and supplicated to him to afford us victory.

Mr. President,
leader I slept, yes, I slept. You may be surprised. In spite of your knowledge of my sensitivity. I did not expect an Iraqi to retreat even an organized retreat, I mean I despise it, how could an Iraqi use it?

I was upset with one point, the point is how this force gets ousted by a force smaller than or equal to it? But, this is what happened.

With this, fighting is hit and run

Planning
Director/
General
Military
Intelligence
Director God is gracious Sir.

Mr. President,
leader But I wasn't very affected [illegible].

Political
Management
Director Sir, we expected that you did not sleep.

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Top Secret

Mr. President, leader	No, I slept, I do sleep. God is gracious.
Planning Director	Armored division 3 Chief Of Staff called corps III Chief Of Staff and said to him; when the worries of the General Headquarters and the corps go away, our worries go away as well.
Mr. President, leader	Who is he?
Planning Director	Armored division 3 Chief Of Staff And it appears that they are ready for the possible enemy attack on them. Armored division 3 Sir.
Mr. President, leader	No, no, there is not a thing.
General Military Intelligence Director	Sir, per the report of the mission at 1017 hour, our plans spotted 4-5 tanks on the general Al-Khafajia — Al-Haweeza road and they have been taken care of with a direct hit at the meantime they took care of Al-Haweeza.
Mr. President, leader	Good.
Aviation Consultant	And Al-Qurba.
Planning Director	For the second time.
General Military Intelligence Director	And another village close-by. Fire came from it; it was dealt with as well by plane number (2).
Mr. President, leader	This day [illegible] stallions of the air.

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General
Military
Intelligence
Director

They achieved Sir.

Planning
Director

They twisted them.

Aviation
Consultant

Yesterday, we encouraged them and identified the targets for them.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

This is mission number 10's report. The time is 1355 hour. Enemy gatherings and machines were hit north of Al-Karkha Al-Ammia bridge.

Aviation
Consultant

That is what we identified for the air force and was based on visual reconnaissance.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

The result, a gathering of 20—25 machines was hit, the hit was direct, plane number (2) suffered minor damage and the formation returned safely.

Aviation
Consultant

This is mission number 10, praise is to God. On the seeker the circles turn. Are those phantom planes?

Mr. President,
leader

Where? Did they conduct aerial sorties today?

Planning
Director

The air force.

Mr. President,
leader

Was it only today they went to work.

General
Military
Intelligence
Director

Today and with intensity from 730 hour till now.

Planning
Director

Yesterday, the helicopters were effective.

(10-59)
Top Secret

[Page 145:]

The supreme overseeing committee has been informed on 4/22/1997 sequenced in 1/6/1981.

The accuracy of this record has been inspected by comrade Abdul-Jabbar Muhsin.

Signature
Staff Lt. General
Quduri Jaber Addrori
Chief of First Committee
4/22/1993

[Page 146:]

Inspected [illegible]

Signature

Matar Al-Maeni

10/8/1994