

**“Transcripts of Meetings between Saddam and
Senior Iraqi Officials Discussing Military Tactics
During the War with Iran, Including the Use of
Napalm and Cluster Bombs, Tank Maneuvering,
and Attacking Oil Refineries”**



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Key: Translator comments, clarifications, and additions are italicized in brackets.
Classification markings, parentheses, and ellipses are from the original Arabic document.

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Military Logistics Director	Seven self-propelled cannons and another one today. That would be a total of eight self-propelled cannons.
President Leader [<i>Saddam Hussein</i>]	Part of the division?
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, some of the divisions destroyed tanks that were operational because they were not able to pull them out quickly.
President Leader	No!
Military Logistics Director	There are recovery vehicles at the transportation units. We could assign two of them to work with the divisions. The 9 th Armored Division is especially in need of it.
Secretary of Diwan	I think the 4 th Infantry Division destroyed approximately eight tanks.
President Leader	What a waste. The price of each tank is 800,000 Dinars.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	Could they disconnect some parts of these tanks so the enemy would not be able to restart them until they are able to recover them by disconnecting the transmission or another part?
Military Logistics Director	It is possible then for the recovery operations to use the civilian service. It is reliable.
Minister of Defense	What is the civilian service?
Planning Director	It is available and authorized.
Military Logistics Director	It is possible to have a civilian campaign gather the spoils.

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Minister of Defense	It could be arranged, Sir. We need it.
President Leader	The civilian campaign is ready. Let us know.
Planning Director	It is authorized, Sir. It is authorized to use any means necessary by coordinating with the related governor.
Minister of Defense	The governors shall be contacted by phone in order to launch a <u>large campaign</u> .
President Leader	Staff Lieutenant Colonel Subayh 'Omran shall issue a letter in that regard now.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	Tell Staff Brigadier General Tariq Hamad Al-'Abdullah (The Diwan Director) to issue a letter to all the governors of Basra and Maysan in this regard.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	I think a letter should be issued to forbid the destruction of enemy armor [<i>that have been seized</i>].
Planning Director	Sir, it should also be sent to the governors of Diyala and Wasit.
President Leader	And the governors of Kut and Diyala.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Staff Lieutenant Colonel Subayh 'Omran said that some [<i>Iraqi</i>] units are destroying the [<i>enemy's</i>] armor.
President Leader (continuing)	...to use all civilian capabilities that are under the jurisdiction of the local department, all the government institutions and facilities at their governorates, in order to assist the army in clearing out the war spoils. To assist the army in clearing out the war spoils and any other needs by coordinating with the corps and divisions commanders and informing us upon completion.

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	It was left behind because they are advancing now.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	Do you have anything else?
Minister of Defense	Let us see if Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Rida Abd-al-Wahid has returned or...
President Leader	Is this Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Rida our friend?
Minister of Defense	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	He is credible. However, he doesn't know what is going on. Therefore, he is...he is busy thinking about this issue. He will come to meet with us and spend two or three days here. Where is Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Rida now? Has he been assigned the division?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, I believe he was assigned two days ago.
President Leader	Follow-up with him. We are afraid that he is waiting for someone to invite him here.
Minister of Defense	If they would make a request for us at the office now---
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	According to what we know, not yesterday but the night before that.
Minister of Defense	I think that Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Rida should be with me or assigned to the Military College because he needs to rest for two or three weeks, in order to regain his balance.

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President Leader	Let him come here first and stay for a while to participate. Find him: I want you to find him wherever he is.
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, he called and said, "I will come now, consider me..."
President Leader	Yes, in order for him to continue his work and improve his state of mind, then it would be simple. Whenever we mention the name of the 30 th Armored Brigade, he cannot rest. (Laughing)
Secretary of Diwan (On the phone with Staff Lieutenant Colonel Abd-al- Amir 'Alwan at the Diwan of the Defense Ministry)	- Greeting introduction - Tell Staff Colonel Tariq Kadhum Al-Shawka to call Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Rida 'Abd-al-Wahid upon his return to the Diwan [<i>illegible</i>]. He will join today in the Diwan of the Ministry and when he joins, call me so that I can tell him to come here (The Central Command). Thank you. - The phone call ended -
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Were there tasks assigned to the Defense Force?
Planning Director	Sir, Staff Colonel Muhammad Saleh said, "I called the Air Defense Commander and informed him about the tasks."
President Leader	Khamenci stated that the Iraqis remained at Susingard for 24 hours, then they were kicked out...he said it during the Friday sermon.
Minister of Defense	If that is so, let him come here and pray.
President Leader	Did the iron (the bombers) move?
Minister of Defense	The Air Force Commander called me and said that one of them has some [<i>illegible</i>]

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	- so we removed them and replaced them with the triple ... ten or fifteen minutes before Your Excellency arrived. I am sure they have taken off by now.
President Leader	Yes, good
Minister of Defense	I told him, "trust in God."
President Leader	Have you made an arrangement for him with the Air Force sectors?
Minister of Defense	This is their job, Sir.
President Leader	No, this is not only their job. Yes, they could be under fire now.
Minister of Defense	Let us get Air Defense [<i>on the phone</i>].
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, which Air Defense sector, so that we can call them directly from here?
Minister of Defense	Staff Captain Mazhar Farhan must explain to us through the central phone. What is the number for the central phone of Tammuz Base?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The central phone book is in the closet on the right hand side
Minister of Defense	He did not tell me that he needed this; there could be communications between them through the central phone.
President Leader	I don't think so. He is probably waiting for you.
Minister of Defense	Sir, the foreign media.

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Staff Colonel Sami Qassem	There were two aircraft shot down in Yammuna.
Minister of Defense	The Iranians are talking about the issue of Ahwaz, Muhammara, and Abadan They are saying, "The locals are saying that some parts of the refinery were not damaged. We need to finish destroying the refinery with the artillery."
President Leader	Then, why did you say they destroyed it? The refinery cannot be struck with the RPG launchers because there are a number of refineries.
Minister of Defense	A number of refineries, Sir...
President Leader	Yes, therefore, they would be attacking the refineries with the artillery ... in depth. Let them find out about these aircraft (bombers). They could cause us a catastrophe (if they strike them) in the event the Air Defense was not aware of them. Yes.
Minister of Defense	I had the Air Force Commander on the phone, I told him ...
President Leader	With Staff Captain Mazhar Al-Farhan (Commander of Tammuz Air Base).
Minister of Defense	You did not get Staff Captain Mazhar Al-Farhan on the phone for me?
Military Logistics Director	Sir, there was an enemy aircraft shot down at 'Amara sector and the pilot of this aircraft is being held prisoner at the hospital.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	I think there were two aircraft shot down.
Minister of Defense	Two aircraft?

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Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir, at Yammuna. One of the pilots was killed and the other held prisoner at the hospital.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The enemy was able to locate the headquarters of the 3 rd Corps.
Planning Director	No. They are searching for the ordnance and fuel storages in order to strike them and the 3 rd Corps Headquarters.
Minister of Defense	Have they targeted anything in their raids?
Planning Director	Not yet.
Military Logistics Director	Sir, the enemy's aircraft passed over the 20 th Mechanized Infantry Brigade and the 5 th Infantry Division. However, the enemy's air operations and the artillery bombing were very small. I have spoken with the Chief of Staff of the 5 th Division and he said that the bombing of the enemy's artillery has been reduced and the enemy's air campaign has been limited.
Army Chief of Staff	If the issue is to withdraw according to the enemy's artillery campaign, in this case it would be important to monitor it.
Planning Director	Yes, it should be under surveillance.
Army Chief of Staff	The enemy's Air Force activities may have been reduced due to the damages that we inflicted upon them yesterday, which caused them a setback. Therefore, they are afraid to carry out any air raids against us because we have missiles that could have a tremendous effect on them. As for the reduction of the enemy's bombing...
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	That means they gathered artillery at a different location. Is it possible?

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General Military Intelligence Director	This means that it is being transported to a different location.
Army Chief of Staff	You must look for it.
Planning Director	There is air reconnaissance conducted against their movements.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yes, all of their artillery.
General Military Intelligence Director	Sir, the recent reconnaissance reports indicate that they have not seen anything in front of the 10 th Armored Division sector and the 1 st Mechanized Infantry Division. We were surprised and we are working on examining that.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The air reconnaissance is indicating this. This is a strange situation.
General Military Intelligence Director	This now is the report of the...
Military Logistics Director	This information has been examined.
Planning Director	These railroad intersections...
Army Chief of Staff	This must be bombed.
President Leader	It is very important.
Planning Director	It is the result of studying the railroads' connecting points.
Minister of Defense	Yes.

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Planning Director	The enemy's railroad connecting points that run from the northern direction to the south are two connecting points. One turns near a valley and has two bridges with walls on both sides of the tracks. If these railroads are destroyed, it will impact the transport and the holding operations from the north to the south.
Minister of Defense	Where is this location?
Planning Director	Yes, Sir, do you want me to find out its position?
Minister of Defense	Where is Khorramabad located?
Planning Director	Sir, Khorramabad is located near Malawi crossroad, north of Dezful. That one (pointing on the map).
Minister of Defense	This is Malawi.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
Minister of Defense	That is to say, it is located north of Malawi?
Planning Director	Yes, Sir, this is Malawi, from here Khorramabad, this is the crossroad. Sir, it is a crossroad that continues in the same direction. This is Atuwban on their side, it continues in the direction of Kermanshah near a fork, from there it heads toward Khorramabad. Therefore, the railroad tracks that...
Minister of Defense	None of you were able to contact any of them? (Speaking about the commander of Tammuz Air Base).
Secretary of Diwan (<i>Speaking with the Minister of Defense</i>)	Sir, all the telephone lines to the Commander of Tammuz Air Base, Staff Captain Mazhar Al-Farhan, are busy. It is... the telephone of the Base Commander... and the telephone of the operations room, because they have two phones and the bombers are ...

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	This has been going on for two days. This is the second day of air raids against Afikhar, the stations in Tuz-kharmatu area and Kirkuk. These raids took place yesterday and today at 1230.
Minister of Defense	What are these stations?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They are the railroad stations.
Military Logistics Director	Sir, this is the path of the railroad stations.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They are train stations and they contain trucks. They think that they also contain R-17 Missiles.
Military Logistics Director	They also think it could be supplies.
Military Logistics Director	They could bring these supplies and go back.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations (Reading a position):	At 1150 an air raid was carried out by an enemy aircraft against the area of Kirkuk, which targeted Hourriyah Air Base. It was engaged by our ground force and then shot down.
Military Logistics Director	There was an air raid caused by another aircraft as well.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	This aircraft could be the one that attacked Afikhar and then headed to Kirkuk.
Military Logistics Director	This is a possibility, Sir.
Political Guidance Director	Was that the first or second aircraft?

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Minister of Defense	What is the total number of the enemy's aircraft that were shot down today?
Military Logistics Director	Sir, there were two aircraft at Al-'Amarah.
Escort	And one aircraft in Salah-al-Din.
Military Logistics Director	And the fourth aircraft was shot down in Salah-al-din; that would be a total of five aircraft. Then we have seen ...
Minister of Defense	An aircraft was shot down in Shamran.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir, one aircraft was shot down in Shamran, considering that it did not fall in our lands, it would be the seventh aircraft that was shot down.
Minister of Defense	Right, it would be counted if it was witnessed when it was shot down.
Military Logistics Director	This is the sector of the 10 th Armored Division half an hour ago. There was an air raid near the radar, which they have not informed us about yet. In other words, at this point a total of six aircraft have been shot down... They [<i>the enemy</i>] could have conducted twenty-five sorties during their air raids.
Secretary of Diwan	There were eight infiltrations.
Military Logistics Director	Eight infiltrations?
Secretary of Diwan	However, they carried out (24) infiltrations.
Military Logistics Director	This penetration has not been exposed; this is what is exposed. As for the number that was reported, it was issued by the technical devices.
Secretary of Diwan	Only one was issued by the technical devices.

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Planning Director	For the entire day?
Minister of Defense	In the electrical power plants at Karnak dam, 45 kilometers west of the capital of Tehran there is a bridge...
General Military Intelligence Director	Northwest of Tehran.
Planning Director	Northwest of Tehran, Sir.
President Leader	This is a target. Confirm it as a target; also the dam. It is not important whether or not the dam is hit.
Planning Director	Sir, I informed the Minister of Defense that I went to the thing Your Excellency ordered.
President Leader	Yes.
Planning Director	And it appears that there are two dams, which is also confirmed by Military Intelligence. There is one dam at Dazz River, which is this dam that is mostly talked about, as you remember, Sir. The other dam is as important, located at a branch of Karun river that runs toward the Suleiman Mosque. It is a dam with approximately the same description and location as indicated on the map.
President Leader	This dam has a power plant as well.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir, an electrical power plant approximately (500) [unspecified]. These are the details, Sir. The technicians from the Ministry of Irrigation were with us and they will draw up a work plan for both dams and what will be submerged by these dams?...Of course, keeping in mind that this dam we have here, for if in his Ministry [continued on next page]

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	the General Military Intelligence Directorate has a complete report on the entire area that could be submerged with water, pointing to the overlays...and we have this report, Sir. However, given the fact that this new dam is also located on the Karun river, if it's destroyed or the water level rises, the rising water would definitely extend to the same area, Sir, and there will be a report on this as well. The two dams that Your Excellency pointed out are located northeast and northwest of Tehran, one of them is located near Karag and I think it is used to provide water to the city of Tehran, also to provide limited amounts of water to the district of Tehran.
President Leader	And the dam would flood Tehran.
Planning Director	Sir, according to our information and the information provided by the Ministry of Irrigation, it is not of the magnitude that Your Excellency is suggesting.
President Leader	It would not flood it?
Planning Director	No, Sir.
President Leader	Are there any power plants on it?
Planning Director	Yes, there is one power plant on it, Sir.
President Leader	Then let us strike it. We are not losing anything whether or not Tehran is flooded. The damage would be in the power plant.
Planning Director	Okay, Sir, until we have the complete information about it.
President Leader	And until it is confirmed tomorrow as a target.

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Planning Director	Yes, today, Sir, God willing.
President Leader	When you complete the information, and if completed today, God willing, then the next day it should be one of our air force targets.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
General Military Intelligence Director	One of the power plants is (90) thousand kilowatts and the other (22,500) kilowatts.
Planning Director	(22,500) Kilowatts.
Minister of Defense	This is quoted from Khomeini's speech.
President Leader	Khomeini stated in his speech, "We must fight them whether we win or lose. We must fight together, we all must fight and I pray to God that the situation does not get worse than this, so that these people understand who they are facing and stop their childishness and games. Peace be upon you." Then the arrogance began.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	He received the news.
President Leader	This means that he received the news.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	If the air force destroys these artillery...and Khasrawi.
Planning Director	This would be significant.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Also, conduct an armed reconnaissance and an area reconnaissance.

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Military Logistics Director	Where is Khasrawi?
Planning Director	Khasrawi is located on the river.
Military Logistics Director	Conduct a reconnaissance on the road in southern 'Abadan.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They did not bomb 'Abadan heavily with artillery.
Army Chief of Staff	There could be coordination.
President Leader	Yes. [<i>Laughing</i>]
Minister of Defense	Sir, how can we deal with these situations? Should we send it in a letter?
President Leader	Write it down, yes, and then send a thank you letter. Staff Brigadier General Tariq Hamad Al-Abdallah [<i>Head of the Diwan</i>] will assign an office to write them.
Minister of Defense	Do you want us to contact Brigadier General Tariq Hamad 'Abdallah by phone?
President Leader	Sent to Brigadier General Tariq Hamad Al-Abdallah.
Minister of Defense	Sir, does the Head of the Diwan still have the rank or not?
President Leader	Without a rank.
Minister of Defense	Should we refer to him as Mr. Tariq?
President Leader	Chief Director of the Diwan, the word Mister is not suitable.
Planning Director	The word Mister should be used at the Da'wa Party.

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The security forces must get active.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir, the security forces must get active.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They must get active.
Planning Director	One of my relatives told me that a group in Basra launched some kind of a small box at them, the size of a match stick box that landed on his face and exploded, and tore apart a part of his body...
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Also, an incident at the gas station took place a few days ago. That is to say, this is how some operations occur using the agents from the Da'wa Party and there are some incidents that have occurred in Basra. I told him, [<i>perhaps referring to one of his relatives</i>] "Why are you worried?" He said, "I am not worried."
President Leader	Are these the small things that they are throwing at them? This is minor. They are much bigger than that. They are not afraid of these things.
Planning Director	They also mentioned to me the gas station incident that Your Excellency is aware of.
President Leader	Yes, I am aware of that.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	They captured them, captured a large group of them in Basra.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Good. That is to say, our people are brave.

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President Leader	Yes.
Planning Director	Sir, our people need to get more active.
President Leader	They are excellent, and so is the security. That is to say, almost none of the incidents got out of their hands.
Planning Director	Yes, they are good.
President Leader	They told me that they handled the issue well with them [<i>the perpetrators</i>] and now they are dealing with them forcefully. We gave our people the authority to execute them immediately.
Planning Director	My relative told me about these issues. He also said, "My cousin was in the Special Forces. He died as a martyr in Muhammara..."
President Leader	Yes, our condolences.
Planning Director	So I told him this situation is simple. His fate is just as the fate of others and he is not loved more than the others.
President Leader	Yes.
Planning Director	Therefore, Sir, they are targeting Basra specifically. That is to say, in the areas of pure Arabs.
President Leader	They are focusing on these areas. However, these individuals will be exposed. Then we will get rid of them because the battle has become clear and explicit now. Therefore, they will have to come out. Then we will deal with them with force. Whenever they stick their heads out we will cut them off.
Planning Director	I am well aware of this.

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President Leader	Yes, this is for the Foreign Ministry and the leadership of the Intelligence.
Minister of Defense	However, I think that members from the General Military Intelligence Directorate should accompany them. If the mentioned department does not have enough members, a number from the security department could go, because this is a vital issue.
Military Logistics Director (On the phone with the Chief of Staff of the 6th Armored Division Staff Colonel Nazih Al-Sarzu)	- Greeting introduction - Is there any development in the subject that we discussed this morning?...Yes, does he have a central phone line? Yes, (932210) yes...your voice is not clear...could you call us on a different phone. What is your central phone number?...From the Corps office I will tell the Staff Colonel Sami Qassem (from the Military Logistics Directorate) to call you because this phone is not clear.
President Leader	I cannot find the remark that you pointed out.
Minister of Defense	Pardon me, Sir?
President Leader	I read it and I did not find the remark in it.
Minister of Defense	Sir, I don't know about the previous radio broadcasting. How can it possibly still be operating even now? Because of this daily contact from the first day of the war, there is more coordination.
President Leader	Yes, 15 individuals from Susingard, which is Khaffajiya, were executed, isn't that so?
Minister of Defense	Yes.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	It was broadcasted by Damascus radio station.

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Minister of Defense (Speaking with the Planning Director)	No, why? What did you benefit from?
Planning Director	I benefited from the maps.
Minister of Defense	Consider this not tanks...links...one rope connected to the other...do you think this is more difficult than a tank falling into a ravine, turned over onto its back. It was on a bridge at (Shaikh Wisal). A tank was moving in order to cross the bridge and the right side of the tank went off track. When it was crossing the bridge it looked like this. Therefore, the tracks pulled it in this direction and turned over. During that time, I was the commander of the intelligence headquarters of Sulaymaniyah. Using two other tanks, I turned it back on its tracks. I pulled it with both tanks and the driver got in it and drove it. It had gone down 10 meters and in 90 minutes I pulled it out and saved it. Therefore, should they have abandoned it and left it behind?
Planning Director	Sir, I want to remind you of a situation. If you remember, it happened at the strait of Barsrini, when the enemy advanced on it (the Northern Operations). There was a tank moving and before it crossed the Barsrini bridge, this tank fell off of this hill called (Jazma) of the yellow hill, fell into a valley called (Wadi Rubar-Rawinduz), and went all the way down. We brought two tanks and the commander of a tank battalion from the 30 th Armored Brigade was with us as well. I asked them, "What should we do with it, should we destroy it?" they told me, "No, Sir, we will save it by the evening." Indeed, it was pulled up by two tanks and two bulldozers and was saved. It fell into Rubar as you remember, Sir.
Minister of Defense	Yes, yes.
Planning Director	And the tank was saved as normal, which I remember you gave me [illegible] for the headquarters [continued on next page]

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	of the brigade at that time. This means whoever wants to make an effort...
Minister of Defense	Do you mean the tank that slipped off the road of Hamlatun?
Planning Director	No, Sir, a different one.
Minister of Defense	It took place at the Strait of Barsrini, as you mentioned before.
Planning Director	The tank incident at Barsrini. Do you remember it, Sir, when the...
Minister of Defense	The one you were talking about. I remember it.
Planning Director	That took place in Kurak.
Minister of Defense	There was a tank incident took place on Hamilton Road that leads to Bikhial. When a tank slipped approximately 25 meters down into the dirt ground and there were vertical columns at the bottom that reached 250 meters high. The tank stopped 3 meters away from the columns. I was thinking about the troops inside of it and that there was nowhere to unload, so what did we do? We set up explosives around the perimeter and set them off, and then we began removing the dirt and rocks with the tractors, in order to clear an area for the towing tanks. The tanks that were going to pull it out.
Planning Director	Sir, did the second incident occur on Kurak Road? Do you remember?
Minister of Defense	Yes, yes.
Planning Director	Sir, we also transported some of the rescue equipment by helicopters.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The Brigadier General Isma'il Yasin was saying, "I saved it and drove it across the bridge."

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Minister of Defense	Good for him.
Planning Director	He participated in that as well.
Minister of Defense <i>(On the phone with the Minister of Internal Affairs Sa'dun Shaker)</i>	- Greeting introduction - I have a note that you are asking me to call you at the 2763 number, which could be the phone number of Mr. Tariq Aziz and they could have been mistaken about who you are ... yes. Good, thank God ... Thank you. - The phone call ended -
Minister of Defense <i>(On the phone ...)</i>	- Greeting introduction - Is Mr. Tariq Aziz there? He is not there? They left me this wrong number (2763). Thank you ... How are you doing, it seems that the Da'wa Party is active now. Good ... Thank you. - The phone call ended -
Attendees	Where did they come up with this number? This is the number of the Baghdad Security Director (2763).
Political Guidance Director	The number of Mr. Tariq Aziz is 236.
Minister of Defense	Where did this number come from? This is the number of the Baghdad Security Director.
Secretary of Diwan	Should I get it for you, Sir?
Minister of Defense	Call Staff Major 'Abd-al-Qadir Muhammad Jassem. He wrote this number for me. Ask him about it and from where he got it.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations <i>(On the phone with the Deputy Air Force Commander for Administration and Logistics, Captain Faruq Ahmed)</i>	- Greeting introduction - Is the Air Force Commander there? Yes, Who is he? ... Staff Colonel Safa'? Let me speak with the Commander or Staff Colonel Safa'. If Staff Colonel Safa' is there, where is he? Yes, Captain Faruq, you are aware of the situation.

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<p><i>[continuing the phone conversation]</i></p>	<p>The 10th Armored Division at Dezful sector with enemy units in front of it that have become armored divisions supported by a number of artillery battalions. The artillery battalions of the division is supported by 4 -5 additional battalions. The position of these battalions is...from Naderi Bridge to the east of Karkha River. <i>[Illegible]</i> the isolated area between Karkha River and Duzz River. They could even be around or to the east of the city in an isolated area. You did not see these units. There were many reconnaissance sorties against this division and we received a mission report for each sortie, saying these units were not at that location. While the enemy's units, defense position, all defense preparations and ten artillery battalions were present there, all types of artillery, starting with the 130 mm self-propelled artillery to the Grad and more. It is not acceptable to have this large enemy concentration, which is an armed division plus ten battalions of artillery, and when we asked for air reconnaissance, the answer was "nothing seen in the area". How is that possible? Did the enemies wear invisible hats? Where did they go? Yes, true, he is saying "I saw our units on such and such distance, which he gave a good and accurate position of our troops, while the enemy is directly in front of them and Karkha River is between our troops and the enemy's troops...</p> <p>The areas of Dezful and Naderi Bridge are in the enemy's hands. Our units are west of Karkha River while the enemy's troops are to the east of Karkha River, holding full defense positions, in addition to the troops they received as support units, approximately five artillery battalions and other things. Therefore, if our air reconnaissance were not effective today, the enemy could prepare to strike the 10th Armored Division. Therefore, we should strike them before they strike our division. Yes, thank you.</p> <p>- The phone call ended -</p>
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Minister of Defense	Sir, that is to say, the important thing is to solve this issue.
Minister of Defense	Yes, they are definitely targeting everything.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They conducted five air reconnaissance flights and their reports did not indicate any sightings.
Minister of Defense	I do not think they have conducted an accurate reconnaissance.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The enemy has an armored division and ten artillery battalions and they are attacking the 10 th Armored Division daily. I am worried because most of these artillery battalions that joined the enemy's position have not been used yet...two Grad battalions in addition to what they previously had a 130 mm artillery battalion, two regiments of infantry plus the 2 nd Infantry Brigade, and what's left of the 2 nd Brigade and the 37 th Armored Brigade, in addition to their flights being ineffective today. As you know, the enemy has artillery support, armed helicopters, and an air force which could inflict damage on us if they used it to attack us.
Minister of Defense	Yes. Where is Ibn-al-Walid Armored Brigade positioned now?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Ibn-al-Walid Armored Brigade has a large army at Shayb area or near Fakkah.
Minister of Defense	Is Fakah located on Shayb axis?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	It is on the axis from there. That is to say, behind them, although I am not sure. Staff Colonel Myassar (Military Logistics Director), please confirm that.

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Minister of Defense	Okay, then where is the remainder of the force?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Where did they position the remainder of the Ibn-al-Walid Armored Brigade?
Military Logistics Director	One large battle group with the brigade headquarters.
Minister of Defense	How much of the forces that we need can we take from the 9 th Armored Brigade?
Army Chief of Staff	We can move on with the 11 th Infantry Division.
Minister of Defense	Yes, why are we waiting? We said yesterday that we are worried it could be too late. The position of the 9 th Armored Division helps more than the other divisions. We are using it as reinforcement.
Army Chief of Staff	We shall return the 9 th Armored Division.
Minister of Defense	Are we just talking here and continuing to discuss it every hour? That is to say, didn't we discuss it today, talk about it yesterday, and issue recommendations?
Military Logistics Director <i>(On the phone with Chief of Staff of the 3rd Corps)</i>	- Greeting introduction - Sir, we need to know the distribution of Ibn-al-Walid Armored Brigade. Yes ... Shaib... Yes ... That is to say, the brigade is short one tank battalion ... A battle Group at Shaib and the rest at Fakah, in Fakah area, they are all in a concentrated formation. Do you have anything in the direction of the 10 th Armored Division and north of it? ... That is to say, the force that moved during that time to clear Imam Na'er. Did it return yet? Thank you, Sir. He is right here, Sir. Do you want to speak with him? Just a minute, Sir.

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Minister of Defense	Could our artillery reach Dezful?
Army Chief of Staff	Yes, Sir.
Minister of Defense	Okay, why don't you attack the bridge with the artillery in order to prevent the enemy from receiving reinforcements?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, the bridge is under the enemy's control.
Army Chief of Staff	Do you mean Dezful Bridge?
Minister of Defense	Why won't we destroy it with the artillery in order to prevent the enemy's reinforcement from passing between Gilan and Dezful (he means the bridge of Dezful)?
Planning Director	The artillery did not destroy the bridges of Dezful.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	These bridges are similar to Khalid Ibn-al-Walid Bridge and the 17 th of Tammuz Bridge.
Minister of Defense	It doesn't matter! However, if you attack it with an artillery battalion, what is it going to do to it?
Planning Director	It is out of range, Sir.
Minister of Defense	Out of range?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Out of the artillery range.
Minister of Defense	Has the range been examined?

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Planning Director	What?
Army Chief of Staff	The bridge.
Planning Director	The bridge of Dezful is out of range.
Army Chief of Staff	Even if we positioned the artillery in the front, the artillery shells cannot destroy the bridge.
Planning Director	This is one aspect, Sir.
Army Chief of Staff	Let us discuss it from the tactical aspect. What can they do with this bridge? Do they have defense preparations now? Rather, does the open position of their units suggest that it is an offensive openness or is there another operation? Our information indicates that the enemy's units are on the river, securing their positions and planting mines.
Minister of Defense	Does the enemy possess Luna missiles?
Army Chief of Staff	Sir, they have Grad missiles while we have Luna missiles.
Minister of Defense	Okay, why don't we use the Luna missiles against their positions?
Planning Director	I am sure it was struck yesterday.
Military Logistics Director	They struck it.
Planning Director	The base?
Military Logistics Director	The base, the day before yesterday, during the night.

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	[<i>illegible</i>].
Minister of Defense	Then they [<i>the enemy</i>] deserve that.
2nd Corps Commander	Yes, they do.
Minister of Defense	They should die.
Air Force Commander	Sir, even the slit trenches must be covered, in order to protect them from the cluster bombs.
2nd Corps Commander	We have local iron, wood, tin ribbed plates and cement. The Army Chief of Staff saw that and I told them many times to take the reinforcement materials from Qasr-e-Shirin, Sumar, and Gilan, or wherever they find these materials in order to secure their positions. Should they secure their own positions, or should I secure it for them? I don't know. There are a large number of bulldozers in Diyala province and the province did not fall short of providing these bulldozers, especially Diyala's governor, who fulfills what we need from them, in addition to what we have available in the army.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Even the Iranian equipment?
2nd Corps Commander	And even Iranian equipment.
President Leader	They are learning, just keep pushing them ...
2nd Corps Commander	I was with the comrade members of the Military Office at the division headquarters and there was a small ravine that contained 50 vehicles parked beside each other and there was not an officer present to distribute them [<i>continued on next page</i>]

	<p>or to request spreading these vehicles. That is why a large number of their vehicles were burned when they were attacked by the enemy's helicopters. Then I asked the commander of the 4th Infantry Division, "What are these vehicles?" He said it is...so I told him, "Whenever you see the driver getting out of the vehicle, he should be ordered to move it and park it away from other vehicles." How about the exercises that we previously conducted? We have stressed these issues during the last exercises, especially during every analytical conference and they returned to their bases to implement these exercises. They are disregarding the issue of the vehicles, therefore, I say anyone who cannot protect himself will be injured and we cannot do anything for him.</p>
<p>President Leader</p>	<p>Yes, of course.</p>
<p>2nd Corps Commander</p>	<p><u>Paratroopers' resistance force.</u> <u>The Commander.</u> The commander of a Mechanized Infantry Regiment from ... "We will mention his name when the regiment is assigned." <u>The Formation:</u> A mechanized infantry regiment from the 12th Armored Division less one company of special forces. This company will be joined with a tank battalion forming a large army for the battle in Sumar, which is the regiment of this company. in order to maintain two full regiments in Naft-e-Shah and Naft-e-Khana. <u>The Mission:</u> Fighting the paratroopers and the infiltrators in the area located behind the defense positions of the divisions. <u>The Location:</u> The mountain chain area of Saudi Arabia in order to be in a central position... A part of it is in Drawishka and the other part is in Sa'diyya, so that it would be near all the sectors. <u>The Air Defense:</u> The mobilization of the weapons and the members of the Air Defense for the divisions will be assigned according to the battle system of each division. <u>The Field Artillery:</u> The mobilization of the artillery will be assigned according to the formation of each division as well. "Some of the division commanders are asking for additional artillery power, of which they are saying they do not have enough." This is not allowed, because it was set according to specific rules. <u>Luna Missile 39 Artillery Battery:</u> Remains under the command of the corps and opens in the area of Drawishka, even though we do not have the ordnance for these batteries, Sir. If the Luna Batteries do not get equipped with ordnance, then pull it out?</p>

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Army Chief of Staff	Has the ordnance been issued for it?
2nd Corps Commander	What is the amount of the ordnance? It consists of eight missiles that they sent to us as a second reinforcement.
Army Chief of Staff	From the installations.
2nd Corps Commander	The battery brought 16 missiles with it when it arrived.
Army Chief of Staff	These are to be used only with approval.
2nd Corps Commander	Yes, when we used the Luna against some positions, we obtained your approval first. Then we struck the area of the Strait of Bay-Taq. In addition, we used it to bomb Sarbil-c-Zahab and behind it before our units reached it. We used it twice during your visit to us and we were striking specific targets and we informed you that we were using it.
Army Chief of Staff	Of course, so it would not be there left unused.
2nd Corps Commander	No, I mean it is now without ordnance. Therefore, you either pull it out or supply us with the ordnance. However, this battery equipment must have a purpose and that is why I must mention it.
President Leader	This is a legitimate request. You either pull it out or re-supply it with the ordnance.
2nd Corps Commander	As for the field artillery...

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President Leader	We need to discuss it and decide either this or that--
2nd Corps Commander	<p>The battlefield artillery of the corps and the division must prepare the firing plans including the efficient fire support.</p> <p><u>Engineering:</u> [Illegible]. The concentration of the engineering units will be among the divisions, according to the battle of each division.</p> <p><u>The Mission:</u> Assisting in digging out the trenches and shelters for all the individuals, weapons and vehicles, also planting the mine fields, improving the roads and temporary paths, for the purpose of maintenance, assisting the troops in the missions of deception and concealment, and water supply.</p> <p><u>Communications Battalion of the Corps:</u> Providing the transportation between the corps headquarters and the headquarters of the divisions, the 32nd Special Forces Brigade, and the paratroopers resistance force through the following routes. Yes ... these are the coordination recommendations.</p>
President Leader	These are common issues.
2nd Corps Commander	<p><u>General Issues:</u> All units must take notice of the following issues, when taking their positions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The necessary deployment, in order to avoid the enemy's air and artillery attacks. 2. Complete the digging and covering of the trenches and shelters for all individuals, weapons and vehicles. This point was mentioned by the Air Force Commander. 3. Plant the mines and set up the barbwire in front of the defense positions. 4. Take the necessary measures to prevent the infiltration and fighting of the paratroopers within each division's sector. 5. Sending out the ambushes and patrol units outside the range of the defense positions in order to fight the enemy's helicopters from all directions. 6. Pay special attention to watching the wings continuously and ensuring the handling of any threats that may arise. [Continued on the next page]

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	<p>7. Providing the protection of the transportation lines for the brigades and the administrative areas of the divisions.</p> <p>8. Preparing a local independent reserve force within each division's sector.</p> <p><u>Administrative Affairs:</u> A replenishment park shall open to compensate the corps in - Sir, at the bottom of this valley - the road that runs from Qasr-e-Shirin to Gilan and after Qasr-e-Shirin, a field ordnance park shall open for the corps there.</p>
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	It is far away.
Planning Director	Toward the front?
2nd Corps Commander	Yes.
Army Chief of Staff	Sir, the location of this is too far toward the front.
2nd Corps Commander	<p>When the rain season comes I will not store any ordnance in it, only water and food, because the rain will flood and close most of the roads leading to the units' sectors that I have mentioned. The road will not be usable except for the road leading to the 6th Armored Division sector and the paved road of Qasr-e-Shirin. The paved road of the oilfield was destroyed after our tanks and vehicles used it. The Army Chief of Staff and I saw it. Now it serves as storage only for food, fuel, and reinforcement materials that are used in this area. The ordnance is issued through the ordnance storage that is located in the sector. The supply store of Mandali is reinforced to ensure the preservation of the troops in Naft-e-Shah, Naft Khana, and Sumar on the roads that are used by the transportation [continued on next page]</p>

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	detachments, taking the necessary measures to provide for their needs and, in addition, leading the units of each defense sector. All divisions must use the least amount of members and administrative vehicles, without the need to open the administrative echelons, with all members on the front in order to avoid dumping. For the administrative echelons, to be issued only for the members that can maintain them, the remainder should be accumulated in Drawishka and in the rear so they will not be a target for the enemy's aircraft and the enemy's artillery attacks and so they will not burn any more of our vehicles.
Minister of Defense	Why would they need this?
2nd Corps Commander	So that the divisions do not open their administrative areas on the rear. They will only take what they need and leave the rest.
President Leader	The plan did not indicate setting out the ambushes and the night patrols in front of the tanks' defensive positions?
2nd Corps Commander	Sir, normally, when controlling the land the patrol units will set out, these issues are obvious to us.
President Leader	They did not implement them, because they had already studied all these principles that you referred to. However, they are not implementing them.
2nd Corps Commander	...Taking the necessary measures to prevent the infiltration and fighting the paratroopers within each division's sector...This is concerning the infiltration, when and where the infiltrations occur? Don't you think it occurs during the night?
President Leader	Despite that, the plan should include sending out the ambushes at night to the front defense positions.

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2nd Corps Commander	<u>The Command and Signal:</u> <u>The Headquarters:</u> Sir, it will remain as is. That is to say, it will carry out the reformation according to the planning guidance that we received from the General Command.
President Leader	Now, it is dinner time. Let us eat quickly.
2nd Corps Commander	Please excuse me, Sir. I must leave because the division commanders are waiting for me.
President Leader	Why, don't you want to have dinner?
2nd Corps Commander	Then I would be late, Sir.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Either way, you will not have the time to meet with the division commanders.
2nd Corps Commander	No, I told them to wait for me until the morning.
Military Logistics Director	Sir, leave the plan with us.
Planning Director	Leave it with us, Sir.
Military Logistics Director	We will also discuss it here.
Planning Director	We will write comments to the command about it.
President Leader	The Corps commander must first prepare, especially the main comments, because he could change some of his ideas.
Planning Director	The comments are ready, Sir.

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President Leader	If we changed a comment, you can let him know about it.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The Corps commander could call the commanders of the divisions now, because they are waiting for him.
2nd Corps Commander	No, not all of them, just the commanders that I need for tomorrow's operation.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Tomorrow morning we will see ...
2nd Corps Commander	Because I told them and we agreed, especially since they are coming from distant locations.
President Leader	Staff Lieutenant General Abdallah?
2nd Corps Commander	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	Are you not able to decide between meeting with the division commanders and discussing these ideas [<i>the plan</i>]?
2nd Corps Commander	Okay, let us discuss the ideas, Sir.
President Leader	One of the two things--
2nd Corps Commander	We will discuss.
President Leader	... It is either we postpone the discussion of these ideas with you or you can inform the commanders of the divisions to return to their jobs and tomorrow...
2nd Corps Commander	No, Sir, we will discuss them so that I can be ready. Sir, if I tell the division commanders to leave.

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President Leader	Yes.
2nd Corps Commander	And tell them to come back in the morning. That is to say, they will reach their sectors and they would have to come back to the corps headquarters immediately in order for them to arrive at my headquarters and if I did not go...they are waiting there. They are three division commanders.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They could stay at the headquarters.
President Leader	They can stay at your headquarters.
2nd Corps Commander	I told the commanders to wait there for me.
President Leader	You told them to remain at the headquarters, right?
Minister of Defense	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	Because we must discuss it.
Minister of Defense	We must discuss it with the 2 nd Corps Commander, in order for him to return and discuss it with the division commanders.
President Leader	So that they would be notified and they would not be waiting for him, and they can rest and sleep at his headquarters...Let us have dinner.
Minister of Defense	What are you carrying?

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2nd Corps Commander	These are the instructions of the People's Army. I completed this before you sent us the guidance, which I had the staff officer that brought you the directions review. I finalized it before I sent it to you. Do you want me to read it before we discuss it? Do you want me to read it again?
Planning Director	Never mind, Sir!
2nd Corps Commander	Do you want to discuss it - the People's Army?
Planning Director	Whether it is the People's Army or something else.
	- dinner is over -
President Leader	This mobilization is necessary for the next year and four months, which would be a total of (10) years.
Deputy Prime Minister	The Iraqi Army went to war loaded (charged).
President Leader	What are the air force targets for tomorrow?
Air Force Commander	Yes, Sir, let them tell me...
President Leader	Start. Tomorrow we will give you less time to sit down.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	If Your Excellency would sit in this direction.
President Leader	Yes, I will sit there, right, so that I can see the map.

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	So that you will not be disturbed by the phones.
President Leader	Abbas? [<i>the correspondent</i>] — Change my seat tomorrow, son. I want to sit there.
Correspondent Abbas	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	All of these things should be moved there. We will move there to sit down.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The distribution systems of the Iranian oil pipelines are considered a good target for the air force.
Air Force Commander	Where?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	In Dezful.
Air Force Commander	We struck it before, among a part of the enemy's installations, which they were evacuating.
Deputy Prime Minister	A message was sent concerning the ceasefire and yesterday, I received a letter from His Majesty King Hussein, which was a very encouraging letter.
President Leader	We should broadcast any letter we receive during this period.
Minister of Defense	We are moving in the right direction internationally, Sir.
President Leader	Yes.

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The oil goes to Majseid Suleiman and will be distributed...part of the oil lines run toward Abadan and part goes to...
Minister of Defense	I viewed the newscast today [<i>illegible</i>] of the 3 rd and 4 th of October and I found, just as we said, that there is a reference or an indication by some sides, thinking (or they would like to think) that we have a weak position. When they see our strikes against the enemy, they will realize that we do not only talk.
Deputy Prime Minister	As of yesterday and today, we will be firmly established. That is to say, especially after the air strikes, because there is a battle on the ground.
President Leader	We can blind the enemy on the ground. However, the cities, like Tehran, in particular, we cannot. No, assign tomorrow's missions to the Air Force Commander so that he can carry out his missions.
Army Chief of Staff	The hydropower station.
Air Force Commander	And we will strike the two dams near Dezful tomorrow.
Army Chief of Staff	Where are they located?
Air Force Commander	Daz dam and Ridashah dam.
President Leader	We hope.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	And the nuclear station?
Air Force Commander	Where is it located?

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	It is facing the east of Majsed Suleiman.
Air Force Commander	They went there, the coordinates were not accurate, therefore, they wrote, "not found."
Minister of Defense	Can we reach it?
President Leader	If our pilots fly there to see Samurra' Station and Hamrin Station dam, they would have an idea about it. It is located right beside the dam.
Air Force Commander	They received complete information about it.
President Leader	It must be located on water.
Air Force Commander	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	There are large water entrances near or above it...The water is coming from here and this is the dam.
Air Force Commander	Sir, the coordinates of the dam do not indicate the presence of a river or water. I was surprised when they said these are the required coordinates. They moved on the exact given coordinates and they did not find the target. They swept the area within (10-15) kilometers, but they could not stay too long in the air, because they had other small targets, consisting of oil complexes and warehouses, which they struck and then returned.
President Leader	Have we seen this film before?

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Minister of Defense	Yes, Sir, this film was presented and we saw it.
Army Chief of Staff	It would be useful if we view the films that we have not seen yet.
Minister of Defense	Sir, this film shows the advancements on Qasr-e-Shirin.
President Leader	Could that be an exercise?
Minister of Defense	No, Sir, this is an actual advancement on Qasr-e-Shirin. The positions of the mortars will be shown soon.
Deputy Prime Minister	No, this is not footage from the battle. These are national songs.
Minister of Defense	No, this is the battle of Qasr-e-Shirin.
President Leader	It is true, look how the fighter operates, strongly lifting himself up.
Minister of Defense	And the tank is moving on the left.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yes, this is a village.
President Leader	Yes, it is a battle.
Minister of Defense	This is an armored vehicle BRDM advancing.
President Leader	Yes, this film was shown previously...the commander of the battalion.
Deputy Prime Minister	Is he a singer for the army?

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Air Force Commander	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	In spite of this, we should continue moving step by step.
Air Force Commander	As you wish, Sir. Would you like to view the position of the aircraft, Sir? This is the entire wing of aircraft [<i>presumably pointing to the film</i>]. These are operational, Sir, and these are being repaired. They will all be repaired and this group...I have this amount [<i>of aircraft</i>] stored. Concerning the Sukhoi aircraft, there are more than 20 aircraft that we can use...or MiG-21.
President Leader	Yes, very good.
Air Force Commander	I have 84: 30 pilots for the MiG and 7 for the Sukhoi. They completed their training at Sa'd Air Base and Walid Air Base. Starting Saturday, they will begin operating. I have set up arrangements and informed the Defense Minister. Sir, do you want the position to remain at your location?
Minister of Defense	I am afraid we may have to leave the location.
President Leader	He will look at it and turn it back to you.
Air Force Commander	I will show it to you, Sir, so that you can review it.
President Leader	Then do you want to begin with Staff Lieutenant General Abdallah?
Air Force Commander	Okay, Sir, do you need anything from me?

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2nd Corps Commander	If they were actually present some of them might go crazy because we launched six Luna missiles on the Strait of Bay-Taq and within a 1 kilometer radius. Therefore, they were either killed or went insane.
President Leader	Is it possible that they have not become insane until now?
2nd Corps Commander	We launched six missiles against them on two occasions, four and then two.
Minister of Defense	I wish we would have continued launching the missiles against them.
2nd Corps Commander	I don't have any more missiles.
Minister of Defense	We will bring you more missiles.
General Military Intelligence Director	Sir, we previously thought that any future reinforcement from the center is...
Minister of Defense	Where are the R-17 missiles now?
Military Logistics Director	They will leave Baghdad and head to NaSiriya, Sir.
President Leader	Is Kharg going to be his target?
Minister of Defense	Sir, I suggested - if he would listen to me, I think the first strike should include bombing the area between Naderi and Dezful, and the second strike should be carried out against Dezful City, and then continue to strike Kharg.
Planning Director	We need it for the phase. Naderi is a problem, Sir.

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President Leader	It is not important, but we are worried that our units will be hit.
Minister of Defense	Sir, there is no room for error in this.
President Leader	Yes, there is room for error.
Minister of Defense	There is room for error of no more than 1, 2, or 3 kilometers.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, there is a difference between the maps and the interlocking of the maps.
Planning Director	The interlocking!
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The maps do not continue on one of the interlocks.
2nd Corps Commander	Precisely.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	That is why errors occur.
Minister of Defense	What is the permitted error?
President Leader	If the strike is against the city of Dezful, it could be possible.
Planning Director	It could be struck.
Minister of Defense	Sir, the distance between Karkha River and Karun River is approximately 10-12 kilometers, 3 kilometers is within the margin of error. Therefore, we should strike it at the center of that distance, between Karkha River up to Dezful, inside [illegible], they will [continued on next page]

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	be either dead or insane as a result of the strike. That is to say, Sir, we would only be worried about the 10 th Armored Division. However, with the assurances in place, I think we could strike this sector with three Luna missiles every four days.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, strike them with the R-17 missiles.
2nd Corps Commander	Sir, do you mean with the Luna missiles?
Minister of Defense	With the Luna missiles.
2nd Corps Commander	Yes, it has a range of 67 kilometers.
Minister of Defense	Yes, that is if we have more of the Luna missiles stock than the R-17's.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
Minister of Defense	It would be possible for us to use the Luna missiles against Dezful and others.
Planning Director	Sir, we indeed did that yesterday. We began striking the air base in Dezful the day before yesterday, Sir.
Minister of Defense	Our defense positions must be reinforced.
Planning Director	That is why the two batteries are located there, which consist of four launchers within their sector.

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President Leader	The Luna missiles will be useful to them. These missiles are very useful during the preparation stage of launching a counterattack. Then, the morale of the enemy will be weak and they will be mentally and physically exhausted when launching their counterattack.
Minister of Defense	They will not be able to have a counterattack because they are going to die inside the struck area.
President Leader	Strike them with the Luna missiles then.
2nd Corps Commander	Sir, if we launch the four Luna missiles, which have a 1 kilometer killing radius, every individual within the 1 kilometer radius will definitely be dead, just like throwing the fishing explosives in the water.
President Leader	Just as explosives in the water.
2nd Corps Commander	That is the impact of the missiles.
Minister of Defense	I think we should launch twelve Luna missiles along their defense positions.
Planning Director	Sir, we have eight launchers in the sector of the 2 nd Corps.
2nd Corps Commander	There are four launchers.
Minister of Defense	The enemy is now basing his hopes on the counterattack which their leader Abu-al-Hasan Bani-Sadr speaks about...these people...we will destroy them and then we will direct the missiles against the center of Dezful City, also using twelve missiles against the center of the city, Sir.

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President Leader	Yes, in addition to that.
Minister of Defense	Twenty four missiles will be launched against them, which will destroy them directly and quickly.
Planning Director	Sir, we only need eight launchers.
Minister of Defense	The Luna missile has solid fuel, right?
Planning Director	Yes, Sir, it has solid fuel.
Minister of Defense	Does the R-17 missile require preparations?
Planning Director	One to two hours.
Minister of Defense	During the night?
Planning Director	The work occurs during the night, Sir.
Minister of Defense	Launching the missiles against the enemy's targets will begin with the first light and end with the last light. If we did not have information available at the central section more than this present force, we can consider it as (X) of a percentage in a worst case scenario and then evaluate the rating of the assignments. Do we need this number of units at the sector of the 2 nd Corps? If the answer is no, then which units can we release? And I think it should be considered a first priority task in order to reinforce the sector of Bsaiten.
2nd Corps Commander	This recommendation was not mentioned to me. The recommendation did not include how many troops we can possibly release. It was based upon keeping the troops that I have [continued on next page]

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	as a defense position.
Minister of Defense	This will not affect you, because this is just an idea. However, after you return you can consult with the officers there and then call us and let us know.
Planning Director	Sir, there are two things. We can either discuss the remarks that are ready, concerning the issues put forth before dinner or have some time to brief the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces and you about the remarks that were put forth. After that, the decision will be left up to you. Our remarks are ready
2nd Corps Commander	We can discuss the issue now.
Minister of Defense	We only need the summary. We do not want to get into the introduction, closing, or the details. What is the issue in a nutshell?
Planning Director	Sir, in terms of principle, we prefer or suggest assigning specific responsibilities to the divisions. There are two main directions. The first one is the road of the Strait of Bay Taq-Qasr-e-Shirin, and the second one is the Gilan road. The second road, Sir, is Islamabad - Gilan - Mafraq - Sayyed-Ahmed, which also leads to the position. This is in a section of the Qasr-e-Shirin sector. Therefore, these two roads enter a mountainous area and are better seized by the infantry. Generally the corps has done that. However, we prefer to have a headquarters the size of an infantry division that would be in charge of all directing, with the armored force behind it. What is the size of this armored force? The size is specified here in this study [<i>continued on next page</i>]

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	up to the level of regiment (within). Therefore, the infantry will hold the main front points, which would be positioned with the armored elements in the rear, ready for counterattacking and destroying the enemy. It is important that the limit of responsibility is clear and for the units to operate among their original command. The other thing, the technique to seize these positions, is here and if your Excellency allows me, we can present it. We feel—[<i>Interrupted</i>]
2nd Corps Commander	We will discuss them one by one.
Planning Director	There are more troops assigned to the Sumar sector than it should have and there are more troops assigned to the Badra sector than we thought. There is an overlapping assignment of troops in general in both the Sarbil-e-Zahab and Gilan sectors. This is the general framework and if it is acceptable, the details are here.
2nd Corps Commander	I believe that none of the things you have mentioned contradict what I have said before.
Planning Director	No, Sir.
2nd Corps Commander	All of the 8 th Infantry Division is responsible for the road of Bay-Taq - Sarbil-e-Zahab. The 2 nd Infantry Division is responsible for the road of Gilan - Qasr-e-Shirin, which we positioned to hold the defense positions and the armor in the rear. The limits...the limits of responsibility will be placed...these are detailed technical issues, separating the borders and the headquarters. I have not contradicted any of the points that you have indicated.

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Planning Director	No, I ...
2nd Corps Commander	We can discuss any sector other than the sector of Sumar and Mehran. The division commander in Mehran sector is asking me to assign him an artillery battalion, a tank battalion, and another regiment of mechanized infantry. I took one regiment from the 12 th Armored Division commander, Staff Brigadier General Mohammad Ismail, and he continued to ask me to return it to him. The mechanized brigade and the infantry brigade will not be enough to hold Sumar basin and it would require additional troops to control it.
Planning Director	Sir, it is important for us to identify where the main intersections are.
2nd Corps Commander	The main intersections are the two highest points at the main junction.
Planning Director	This is only one main intersection.
2nd Corps Commander	The road that is the source of the artillery threat of the enemy, which means it has enemy troops on it.
Planning Director	It is an area below Khan.
President Leader	Abu-Ziyad [<i>Tariq Aziz</i>], tell them [<i>the Iranians</i>] in Farsi, "If you destroyed half of the Iraqi force, this must be added to what you have [<i>mentioned that you</i>] destroyed in your previous reports, which the Iranian people have heard. Therefore, according to your reports, the Iraqi army has lost every battle or lost three quarters of its forces. Now the Iranian people should ask you for the victory that you have been promising them, on a land without an army."

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Deputy Prime Minister	This <i>[illegible]</i> in general, which simply means what he said was clear.
President Leader	In all simplicity.
Deputy Prime Minister	According to their claims, approximately two thirds of the Iraqi air force and ground force have been destroyed and half of the Iraqi naval force has been wiped out. All this and the actual war has not yet begun.
President Leader	Okay.
Minister of Defense	Then what are they waiting for? Let them begin.
President Leader	<i>[They are praying]</i> It is needed during this period the ...
	<i>[The conversation below occurred during the phone call above]</i>
2nd Corps Commander	How about the Strait of Harnan?... As a reserve for the entire sector, that is to say, what did you place in it?

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Tape No. 1

Date of recording: October 6, 1980

Attendees

1. President Leader, the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Field Marshal Saddam Hussein.
2. First Lieutenant General Staff Pilot Adnan Khairallah, Deputy General Commander/Minister of Defense.
3. Staff First Lieutenant Abd-al-Jabbar Khalil Shanshal, Army Chief of Staff.
4. Staff Lieutenant General Abd-al-Jabbar Al-Asadi, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations.
5. Staff Brigadier General 'Abd-al-Juwad Dhannoun, General Military Intelligence Director.
6. Staff Brigadier General Wajr Shayya', Planning Director.
7. Staff Colonel Miyassar Ibrahim Hammadi Al-Jibouri, Military Logistics Director.
8. Staff Colonel Mohammad Younis al-Ahmad, Political Guidance Director.

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President Leader	I find it proper to connect it [<i>unspecified</i>] with the headquarters.
Minister of Defense	This one is that way to start.
President Leader	Its situation is like this from the beginning, connected to the headquarters. We are the ones directing it toward the targets that we choose.
Planning Director	Here is what is related to the dams, Sir. We gathered them and told the Minister of Irrigation about them. There will be some required issues of this size, the size of [<i>illegible</i>].
President Leader	I wanted to know whether we should begin destroying it from now, so that the dam will not continue storing up the water until winter, while the enemy is storing up the water that he will open it on our troops later on.
Minister of Defense	Sir, this is the method they have reached in the current operation for bridging on the Karun river.
President Leader	No, as a study to have before our eyes to see whether it is beneficial to destroy the dam. How do we destroy it, so that it will not keep any collected water?
Planning Director	Sir, we made arrangements based on the transparent plan prepared at the General Military Intelligence Directorate. In the plan, the Directorate confirmed the size of the region that will possibly be flooded should the dam be destroyed. Let us discuss what are the procedures that we need to follow at the military ground operations level? I mean what will be the position of our troops there? Thus, Sir, I will call the authorized officer now. I requested him to be present, and called the Minister of Irrigation this morning and he promised that he would send experts specialized in this regard. The results shall be submitted to see if we need to go there, check our position, and find out what is needed to be done there.

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President Leader	And tell the...
Planning Director	They are two paragraphs: the first one...
President Leader (continuing)	Tell the Minister of Irrigation that we need to know when does the dam stores the power that we can use to lift up the doors of the dam and flood the region? And which region shall be flooded with water? So you have this?
Planning Director	We have this region.
President Leader	You have this region... that is it. So, regarding the period of time where the stored water is the most in the dam, when is the right time for us to destroy the dam and for the water to gush out without flooding this region, in a way we do not let the stock [of water] to gather and flood this region due to a human act?
Planning Director	What is the right time for. . . Sir, the second paragraph, please?
President Leader	What is the right time? I mean, what is the right time for us to destroy the dam without allowing this action to flood the region.
Planning Director	It is clear, Sir, without allowing this destruction to flood the region. Yes, Sir. Should the bombers be connected to them directly, Sir?
President Leader	Yes, for military movement purposes... that and the R-17 missiles.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir. The R-17 missiles are under the command of the general Headquarters, Sir. I mean they are not connected to a corps or...?

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President Leader	That is it then, this one will be under the command of the general headquarters.
Planning Director	Yesterday, it was 25% of the ground support because it is (41). (11) sorties of support make 15%.
Minister of Defense	We want to do more counts of the aircraft and the declining capabilities of the Iranian Air Force.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The Air Force Commander believes that yesterday, what they had left (the enemy) was about (100) aircraft until yesterday. We asked him the same question about the minimum number of aircraft that were downed in addition to the operating aircraft... he expects the number to be more than that so far.
Military Logistics Director	He explains, saying... Qadisiyya... (24), Sir, in direct engagement.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The Mechanized Infantry Brigade had 14 casualties yesterday.
Minister of Defense	What casualties?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, casualties in people and equipment... battle losses. They were at the wing because the wing was protecting the Division's wing.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations (on the phone with the 2nd Corps Commander, Staff General 'Abdallah Abdf-al-Latif al-Hudaythi)	"Greetings"

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	That interim Command... yes, you mean you are coming here today? I believe you should instruct your people during this period to gather information on the enemy there and carry out an operation against him... okay... you should not circulate this... okay, Mr. President Leader wants to talk to you.
President Leader	Hello... he hung up. (On the phone)
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations (On the phone with the 2 nd Corps Commander)	No, Sir, the line could have been cut off due to a failure because he heard me. (he asks the Planning Director to check and repair the central line) Did the telephone line get cut off by you? Mr. President Leader wants to talk to you.
President Leader (On the phone with the 2 nd Corps Commander)	How is the situation in Gilan? Yes, go ahead and finish making your arrangements, and do your calculations as long as you are coming to us today, so that we can discuss this issue when you come here. Keep in mind that we do not want to disperse your troops, because if we all agree on you being with these troops we will assign you with some units from the Popular Army to be with you under your command and care. Goodbye. - The phone call ended -
Military Logistics Director	The least we need is tank carriers, because we are about to... Sir, you did not see this yesterday.
President Leader	This letter.

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Military Logistics Director (on the phone with the 3rd Corps Chief of Staff, Staff Brigadier General Mohammad Juwad [illegible])	<p style="text-align: center;">“Greetings”</p> <p>Yesterday evening, a pontoon and amphibious company moved your way... it moved at the 2300 hours in the evening from here, did you receive the letter, Sir? You have it, but we need to recommend guidance for them in Basra, which will be sent to the 3rd Armored Division, because the commander has asked for it, Sir. Yes, Sir, I mean if the corps commander is at his headquarters, you will notify him of it and that it has been received so that he can recommend a location for it, meaning the pontoon company. Also tell him this is what he asked for since he called us yesterday and asked for it... thank you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- The phone call ended -</p>
Army Chief of Staff (on the phone with the armament and supply director, Staff Major General Usama Mahmoud Al-Mahdi)	<p style="text-align: center;">“Greetings”</p> <p>The rest?... yes, how is his situation?... good... yesterday, the Air Force Commander said... yes... did the Poles have tanks? It's all right, I know. However, emphasize this to them... yes. Why don't you check it out, why not?... yes, focus with them on the request... yes.</p>
Planning Director	No, liaison.
President Leader	For the movement purpose.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir. I mean in order for us to explain the order of Your Excellency, we should practically leave this to the air force if it is around the general headquarters. However, using it against the targets shall be at the order of the general headquarters.
President Leader	Yes.
Military Logistics Director	I mean we should say in the guidance...
President Leader	Yes... it should not take off.

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Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	It should not take off or carry out any activity, except for training activities with an order from the general headquarters.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir. This means that the general headquarters will be in charge of all of its [<i>unspecified</i>] matters.
President Leader	This means that no one, except for the general headquarters, can load it with bombs or issue it an order to bomb any place in the world.
Planning Director	The use of bombers shall be by a central order issued by the general headquarters.
President Leader	And the use of bombers shall be for military or war purposes based on the terminology used.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
President Leader	Directly by order from the general headquarters, and not through the air force. When we issue an order to the squadron commander, we shall tell him to carry out the following actions...
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
Planning Director	Yes, Sir.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Staff Colonel Miyassar, you shall be associated in this case and not...
Minister of Defense	So this name...
Military Logistics Director	You shall be associated with the general headquarters for the movement purposes.

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Minister of Defense	Yes, this means the President will assign it.
President Leader	Yes, but you do not know what he is; he is not the President or the...
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The only bombers we have are the TU and the Badger.
President Leader	Yet, he [unspecified] issued official statements about the Khomeini and other state officials, in which he refuses to fight. However...
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, we also have the Badger.
President Leader	Bombers (I mean aircraft bombers).
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Bombers... the Badgers are one type of the bombers.
President Leader	The TU bomber and the Badger bomber.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The TU and Badger aircraft... these are their squadrons.
President Leader	Because the weapons these aircraft have are of type...
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They are the bombers of the Air Force and the Special Forces of the Ground Force. The submarines of the Navy are strategic weapons that are not assigned with missions, except by the General Command of the Armed Forces.
President Leader	Yes.

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Considering that in terms of command, the Special Forces are used behind the enemy and the submarines voluntarily work outside [<i>unspecified</i>], and so do the bombers.
President Leader	Yes, we have two types of weapons that are included here: the R-17 missiles and the bombers for security purposes related to the country.
Army Chief of Staff	Sir, any weapon used beyond the depth of the division will be at the formations level based on the nature of the operations. When it comes after them [<i>the formations</i>], the large formations remain and the weapon will be strategic and limited to the General Command of the Armed Forces. All of these commands will depend on the 17 bomber commander of the Navy as a whole. Of course, this is not what is happening now. However, it started to happen in the immediate support requests. As for the commander 17, a decision will be issued about him.
Minister of Defense	Sir, I have a remark. These last paragraphs, I believe a notice should be issued about them one way or another. This position, despite our principles, faith, and respect for countries officially, we are very powerful.
President Leader	And we are highly prepared to continue fighting until Iran gives in to our legitimate rights.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	This is mentioned in the statement, Sir.
President Leader	Yes.

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Military Logistics Director (on the phone with a staff officer at the Air Force Command Headquarters)	<p style="text-align: center;">"Greetings"</p> <p>What are the numbers of the bombers squadrons in Tammuz Air Base? The TU and Badger bombers? 18, 36... okay... which one is the TU and which one is the Badger? Yes... the tenth squadron... thank you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- The phone call ended -</p>
Minister of Defense	Regarding the letter of...?
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir.
Minister of Defense	There are armor officers that are not associated with the state's departments. Some belong to the Political Guidance while others belong to other departments. Those are pulled immediately and used normally in the corps at the present, and then they go back to their departments. I have approved a letter about this that will be confirmed in the phone call to the officer administration directorate to pull them via wire.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir.
Minister of Defense	We have officers who graduated from the military academy. They were added to the General Borders Directorate for more than two years, and they are armor officers. This also needs to be confirmed in terms of withdrawing them. Non-commissioned officers shall be pulled wherever they are.
Military Logistics Director	Through the Armor Directorate, Sir.
Minister of Defense	And also the reserve of officers and non-commissioned officers. Do we have a Public Relations officer at the Joint Logistics Center?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yes, Sir.

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Minister of Defense	Public Relations officer...a liaison officer for the purpose of coordinating with other ministries?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Public relations have ended with the department [<i>he probably meant that public relations do not have authority when things are turned over to the department</i>]...military development and education.
Political Guidance Director	Development and information.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Public relations remained in the department, Sir (Political Guidance Department)...the official spokesman.
Minister of Defense	I saw a piece saying "Public Relations" at the Joint Logistics Center."
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yes, he is the official spokesman and not the Public Relations spokesman.
Minister of Defense	The official spokesman for other ministries, how? I mean what about the dams and vehicles issue?
Military Logistics Director	Sir, each one of those has a representative that will be sent.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The mobilization and statistics director shall coordinate with regard to mobilization issues, and so does the planning director at the Operation Department who shall coordinate with regard to related issues.
Military Logistics Director	Two representatives shall come from the Ministry of Defense and other ministries, such as Industry and Irrigation, etc. . .
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Now representatives from the Ministries of Irrigation, Oil and others shall arrive in the Planning Directorate.

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President Leader	Who shot the aircraft? It was one of the People's Army fighters using a machine gun.
Military Logistics Director	Where did this take place, Sir?
President Leader	In Baghdad, before he was shot down, he launched all his bombs on civilian neighborhoods of the city.
Army Chief of Staff	Do you remember, was it two years ago?
Military Logistics Director	Sir, it was more than two years ago.
Political Guidance Director	They took courses before joining the General Borders Directorate because they are originally on the account of the (borders).
Army Chief of Staff	On the account of the borders?
Political Guidance Director	Yes, originally they were on the account of the borders from the time they joined the Military College. This is what I mean.
Army Chief of Staff	Every officer who joins the armor courses is registered on file.
Military Logistics Director	No, those who requested reconnaissance said, "We can try to cross."
Planning Director	You do not have any crossings or troops.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, the notification is taking place with...
Staff Lieutenant Colonel Qays Muhammad Ali, Staff Officer in the Military Logistics Directorate	It is a 35 ton load. It could be dropped on Amara and this could be an unloading operation at Basra.

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Military Logistics Director	It was indicated in the mission report that at 1045 there was an air raid carried out against Kirkuk using one aircraft that targeted the oil installations and the residential areas, which was confronted by our ground forces. It is possible that it was shot down, and the search for it continues. Only one enemy aircraft against Kirkuk.
President Leader	They are tired.
Military Logistics Director	On the 1100 hour, there was an air raid.
President Leader	It is clear, throughout the day the enemy's counterattack has been with one and two aircraft at this level.
Military Logistics Director	There was a hostile air raid that took place against the Taqtaq area.
President Leader	Yes.
Military Logistics Director	Sir, by this raid they are targeting the oil installations that are located at the Taqtaq-Shwan crossroad.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yes, it is close.
Army Chief of Staff	There is not even one barrel of oil there.
Military Logistics Director	No, there is drilling for a company, Sir.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Nearby and they started retaliating.
General Military Intelligence Director	This is the alternative.

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	That is to say, there is a flame there.
Military Logistics Director	Even if the report indicated that the aircraft targeted Taqtaq bridge.
Army Chief of Staff	Taqtaq bridge?
Military Logistics Director	Our ground resistance forces confronted them and forced them to retreat; no losses.
Army Chief of Staff	This is the sword of justice.
President Leader	The enemy is tired and the brave men will go on.
Army Chief of Staff	We must make sure of this.
President Leader	Yes.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Maintaining strong momentum against the enemy...
President Leader	Strike them. Strike them.
Army Chief of Staff	We must confirm this situation.
President Leader	Yes.
Army Chief of Staff	We must conduct an assessment of this situation, in order to confirm it. Once I have it confirmed ...
President Leader	This situation was predicted, Abu-Muthanna (Army Chief of Staff).

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Army Chief of Staff	Yes.
President Leader	First of all, their aircraft that we shot down were not few despite the different numbers of aircraft that were [<i>reportedly</i>] shot down. That is to say, we have shot down several of them. The number of aircraft that we shot down during the field of operations is not wrong. That is to say, the number of their aircraft that were shot down is not a small number. In addition, the aircraft fuel and bombs are not available to them.
Army Chief of Staff	They don't have fuel?
President Leader	They do not have aircraft bombs and fuel left. Even if the Americans told the Iranians that they would supply them, the latter would have to establish an air bridge. Don't you think it would take them some time to get supplies?
Military Logistics Director	The reconnaissance of Kermanshah — Shah Abad road and the surrounding area of Shah Abad indicates no presence of military troops along the main road from Kermanshah to Shah Abad. Reconnaissance of the surrounding area of Shah Abad showed no presence of military troops. There are no more than five civilian vehicles on the main road headed toward Kermanshah, spread along the road.
Army Chief of Staff	We have received an urgent letter regarding that concern yesterday.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir.
Army Chief of Staff	He passed it to us quickly.
Military Logistics Director	Concerning the transportations.

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Minister of Defense	By the strength of God, in two weeks with this momentum we shall make them fall.
Military Logistics Director	I think we should examine the situation in Muhammara.
President Leader	Yes, examine the situation in Muhammara with regard to the arrival of their units. Yes.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, I think they are now concentrating on this aspect because of the situation of the air force.
Military Logistics Director	(Calling the 3 rd Armored Division's Headquarters)
President Leader	Listen to the air raids that took place today to get an idea about the enemy's position for two days and where he reached.
Minister of Defense	Sir, I think they started getting tired and their aircraft have stopped, except for their raids against the vital targets, launching their bombs and then returning.
President Leader	They are sending their aircraft to nearby areas... they are watching an isolated village or any other target. Despite that, this farmer is emerging from between the trees to shoot them. Look... this party is the reason why I have approved of the People's Army since 1969. There was no contentment in this army until that year. I think the first formations of the army began in 1973.
Planning Director	The first formations of the army started in 1970.
President Leader	They began in 1971.
Minister of Defense	It is an organized force, Sir.
President Leader	One must understand the power of the people when they become organized. Our army will take its missions, even the Republican [continued on next page]

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	Guards units. If the situation calls for them, they will answer.
Minister of Defense	We have prepared them, Sir.
President Leader	Therefore, our army can be completely free of worries and not have to look back. So, if these people spread out under each tree with a machine gun in their hands, it would not be like an army taking over a land with unarmed people. Now I am sure that if the enemy tries to conduct a parachutist landing or an airdrop landing by helicopters in any location in Iraq, they will be encircled by the residents of the area in all directions and in contact with them because they are armed, before they can reach their target, make arrangements, and advance.
Minister of Defense	It is a large organization of people (The People's Army).
President Leader	And believers.
Minister of Defense	Believers, and spread throughout all the Iraqi lands.
Planning Director	After this practical experience, after this war, from this period, there will be lessons to learn. That is to say, the situation is bigger [<i>than the present</i>].
	- The phone call below took place during the above conversation -
Military Logistics Director (On the phone with the Headquarters of the 3rd Armored Division)	- Greeting introduction - Yes ... any development with the situation? Nothing ... Is there any enemy aircraft? ... Okay, there are not... but not for yesterday's aircraft... Yes, an artillery bombing...

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	This is to say in general, that the enemy's activities are not strong. Yes, you have not received anything yet? Yes ... that is to say, is the air power, the intensity of air force today like the intensity of yesterday? Don't know ... yes ... good ... okay ... Thank you.
Military Logistics Director	The ships continue to sail in the Shatt-al-Arab.
Army Chief of Staff	Why?
Military Logistics Director	Concerning the ships, Sir, he was saying an Iranian ship headed toward the Muhammara Port, which was attacked with the 106 mm artillery gun by our troops and engulfed in flames. This took place half past the 1300 hours.
President Leader	These people, don't they have ports? Why are they coming here? It could be that their other ports are not as vital as this one.
Military Logistics Director	It is an Iranian ship.
Minister of Defense	Some of their products are naturally from here with the railhead from Muhammara.
President Leader	Or because it is nearby, so that they can be supplied with a few barrels of oil from the gulf countries.
Military Logistics Director	They were attacked with 106 mm artillery guns by the 3 rd regiment of the 49 th Infantry Brigade that engaged in firing skirmishes against them. At half past 2300, a Chinese ship entered the Shatt-al-Arab toward Muhammara.

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President Leader	To where do you mean?
Military Logistics Director	In the direction of Muhammara. The enemy began shooting at this Chinese ship and it was engulfed in flames, which veered off to the enemy's side and fourteen of its crew swam toward the Iraqi side.
Minister of Defense	They came to us?
President Leader	Okay, where was it headed, to Muhammara?
Military Logistics Director	Sir, it could be a transport ship that headed here. It seems that this ship has no communications. They are not directing the ships. They might inform them that this is a firing zone. Otherwise, they would not have come.
Army Chief of Staff	It must have lost its way and direction, and did not know where the location was.
Military Logistics Director	It could actually be a Chinese ship coming to Muhammara.
Political Guidance Director	Do they come only through the Shatt-al-Arab?
President Leader	Huh?
Political Guidance Director	Sir, I said do they come only through the Shatt-al-Arab?
President Leader	Only through the Shatt-al-Arab? Where are they from the world news?
Military Logistics Director	It is puzzling. He did not say why it was hit by the Iranians if it has an Iranian flag?
President Leader	Are the bombers located in a shelter at the Walid Air Base?

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Minister of Defense	Sir, the bombers are not placed in shelters because they are too large. However, they built a trench-like ravine with an approach that has well-arranged edges and ground.
President Leader	Is it Walid Air Base?
Minister of Defense	It was in Walid Air Base. Part of it is located in Yemen and three of them are now located in Habbaniya Base.
President Leader	How many are now located inside the country?
Minister of Defense	Not all of them, Sir. However, I think there were only three located in Habbaniya.
President Leader	If they were placed in Walid Air Base, we must not discount the Syrians and Israelis. That is to say, it is true that the air base at Walid is far from the Iranians. However, what would prevent the Syrians? They could strike it. These are the aircraft that affected the Iranians in depth, even Israel.
Minister of Defense	There is nothing to stop them, unless they wait for—
President Leader	I think we should leave three of them in our hands and place them in separate positions. The rest of them should be located in Yemen. Whenever one of these three breaks down, we can pull another out to replace it and so on. This way there will be three of them operational with us at all times and the rest will be located outside Iraq.
Army Chief of Staff	One aircraft in Walid Air Base and the other in Tammuz Air Base.
Minister of Defense	We could even place them in Saudi Arabia because they [<i>the Saudis</i>] told us, "We have an international airport with such and such."

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	They suggested that we should be at King Khalid Base in order to be protected from the effect of the sun since it offers a chance of concealment in the shadow as it is near Syria.
President Leader	That is to say, it doesn't make a difference and Yemen has welcomed this. Therefore, we can call the Tammuz Air Base commander, Staff Colonel Pilot Mazhar al-Farhan, in order to see when it would be prepared and so it would also be
Minister of Defense	Staff Colonel Miyassar may call now.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	To the Commander of Tammuz Air Base.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, are we going to have an agreement with Saudi Arabia on the increase of their oil production.
President Leader	Our oil?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Their oil. Our information indicates that they increased their oil production by more than one million barrels a day.
Minister of Defense	Do you mean for them to increase production?
Army Chief of Staff	No, they are saying 750 thousand. We should ask them to maintain this level of production. If not, to decrease it.

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Army Chief of Staff	I know. However...
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Then the world will not feel the impact of stopping the oil production in Iraq and Iran.
Army Chief of Staff	They and Venezuela have...
President Leader	True.
Army Chief of Staff <i>(On the phone with the Commander of Tammuz Air Base)</i> <i>(Asking the Minister of Defense)</i>	- Greeting introduction - Sir, would like to speak with him?
Minister of Defense	Yes.
Army Chief of Staff <i>(On the phone)</i>	Yes, the Minister of Defense is with you on the phone.
President Leader	Ask him when his bomber aircraft will be ready.
Minister of Defense <i>(On the Phone with Tammuz Air Base Commander)</i>	- Greeting introduction - How is your air base? We hope that the morale among your members is high? When will your bombers be ready? Good job ... Yes, call me when they are ready.
President Leader	Could we build some shelters for these aircraft?
Minister of Defense <i>(Still on the Phone)</i>	It would have been possible now. Call them and tell them. On the contrary ... Yes, brother, whatever you see on your way, bomb it ... Thank you. - The phone call ended -

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President Leader	Did you specify any target for him? Ask him which target was specified to you.
Minister of Defense	He said, "Sometimes when we find a target on our way back, we also destroy it."
President Leader	Ha ... He noticed the same thing (I was talking about).
Minister of Defense	All of the air force will be informed about it tomorrow.
President Leader	All aircraft must be informed that some aircraft sometimes return with their load still on board, returning with their ammunition. However, we have informed them that whoever does not find his target should launch it on the cities and then return.
General Military Intelligence Director <i>(On the phone with the Air Force Command)</i> <i>(Speaking to the Defense Minister):</i>	- Greeting introduction - Is the commander there? The Minister of Defense would like to speak with him... Okay, yes. Thank you. - The phone call ended - Sir, he is outside the headquarters, but he will be back soon.
Minister of Defense	Sir, I have pointed out the economic impact of the war on Iraq.
President Leader	Our economy is strong.
Minister of Defense	Our economy is strong and it is evident that until now, people are not pushing each other over bread and there are no shortages of bread and other supplies.
President Leader	The people are at ease, they are eating well.
Minister of Defense	The people are at ease.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	It is the exact opposite, Sir. I have heard that there was a shortage of some supplies before the war. However, now all are available.

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President Leader	Now there will be more supplies, do you know why Abu-Ali Because a large number of these people will leave, which is going to save us the Indian-Egyptian mouths that we are feeding and the other foreigners will leave. That is why the supplies will increase. Previously they were counted among the population in terms of food supply. However, now they are outside of these calculations. Yes.
Minister of Defense	However, with the development plan, the goals and other issues...
President Leader	Who wrote it? He must be a westerner.
Minister of Defense	I don't know, the speech...
President Leader	Westerners.
Minister of Defense	The speech of Michael Carlo [<i>Monte Carlo</i>] — the French News Agency.
President Leader	Yes.
Minister of Defense <i>(On the phone with the Air Force Commander)</i>	- Greeting introduction - Sometimes when the pilots return without finding their targets, they usually still have their load and they are saying that it is an order from the Central Command. I noticed that the Iranian aircraft struck even Taqtaq. Our air force is saying that they have orders to return with their load if they did not find their target. I think you should look into that...
President Leader	No, this is confirmed, because some of the aircraft have returned that way.
Director of Political Guidance	Sir, concerning the Iranian prisoners, should we set up a meeting for them with the foreign and Arab media?

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President Leader	Yes, it is possible. However, consult with the intelligence because some of the—
Political Guidance Director	We will take care of them, that is to say, we will get them good clothes to wear and then we will choose a number of prisoners to talk to our newspapers about the way they are treated.
President Leader	Coordinate this with Comrade Barzan Ibrahim (Intelligence Director).
Political Guidance Director	With Comrade Barzan Ibrahim?
President Leader	Yes.
Minister of Defense <i>(Still on the phone)</i>	Some of these aircraft returned with their load based on this order, which could be the diligence of one of the comrades there. However, this is a war, brother, and as you know, they did not spare the children, the electricity nor any civilian target, hospital, or military targets. I want you to let all of them know that if they could not find their assigned target and still have their load to strike any target, okay, inform all of them, yes... Do you think one of the people around you had told them within the considerations that we deal with? Inform all the airbases of this order? Yes, good job... How would you explain that? Is it the shortage of bombs? Yes... We must strike the enemy hard ... Yes ... good job ... Trust in God ... Thank you. - The phone call ended -
<i>(Speaking with the President Leader)</i>	Sir, they are not always returning with bombs, but with guns and even without missiles.
President Leader	Yes.
Minister of Defense	And against these small targets, they [<i>the Iranians</i>] conducted today an air raid against the college. They were shot down in air combat.
President Leader	By our pilots?

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Minister of Defense	Yes, the enemy targeted Kirkuk, and was shot down. One aircraft was headed to Kirkuk, and was shot down. The other aircraft came up to the college, and was shot down by air combat.
President Leader	Very good for air combat.
Minister of Defense	Yes.
President Leader	I wish they filmed this air combat.
Minister of Defense	Yes.
	(Laughing)
Minister of Defense	The Air Force commander also said that there is no activity of the enemy in Tabriz today and this is the second day.
President Leader	Yes, true.
Minister of Defense	Yes.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	That is to say, they were placed in these positions, in order to give an impression that such location has this amount.
Minister of Defense	It seems that they are running out of ordnance.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They would be in the front and our tanks would be a little to the rear.
Minister of Defense	Unless they are trying to distract us with a camouflaging and deception operation.
President Leader	What would be the enemy's goal? And what is left?

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Minister of Defense	The aircraft assigned to strike the dam have been loaded and soon the TU aircraft that were loaded at Walid Air Base will take off.
President Leader	Heading for the station.
Minister of Defense	Yes, they were loaded and they are now taking off from Walid Air Base. In 45 minutes they will return and reload. They will remain here ready in this area until they receive an assignment.
President Leader	Did you tell him they will remain here?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yes, I know that the aircraft will remain with them.
President Leader	Yes, they are here...a load of bombs...
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	This is the morning position of the 10 th Armored Division that we received.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir, this is the information that I received just now.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	This is the second strike against the enemy in Dehloran.
Military Logistics Director	Yes, Sir, they informed us that the force is there. We sent out the air force aircraft but they did not see anything in front of the opening of Jilal.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	The air force aircraft indicated that they were also in front of the valley.

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Military Logistics Director	Sir, the air report indicated that they were in front of Ayn-Karzan in Tayyeb area.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	True.
Military Logistics Director	In Ayn-Karzan, the report mentions Tayyeb here.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yesterday, when the aircraft took off and I engaged with them in air combat, they were able to escape and then they returned again.
Minister of Defense <i>(On the phone with Air Force Commander)</i> <i>(Speaking with the President Leader)</i>	... Why? Tell them we don't want anyone to return ... Yes. It is a technical impact... Why are you swearing to me. Stop, much obliged ... I will confirm it and inform you. God willing, I will be thinking about you my brother. No, that is all. I have confidence in you without swearing... Thank you. - The phone call ended - The Air Force Commander says that this situation had a lot of impact. He stated, "I gave all of them an order and there is a group of my staff here hearing me, have they neglected anything so that I would have to send them back?" However, he indicated that this occurred due to a shortage in the containers because when they launch the bomb, the container launches with it. Some of these occur for technical reasons, he said. We told them to bring the containers back to look at them and find out what the problem is.
President Leader	Yes.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	He is using them effectively. The 2 nd Infantry Division Commander, Staff Brigadier General Hazim Sulayman Al-Barhawi, is the only person who is using them there at the sector - also heavy artillery.

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President Leader	Excellent, right?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	This is excellent, Sir. Now we will examine with the military movement director... I called the Navy because of the bombing of Abadan City. They are now bombing Fao, Siba, and all of our cities there.
President Leader	With the artillery?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Yes, with the artillery.
President Leader	We need to destroy their artillery so that they do not harm us.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	We just examined it with the Director of Military Logistics and we will coordinate with the Air Force Command in order to strike this artillery, which is located in the rear of Khosrow Abad.
Minister of Defense	The ground is designed to prevent it from being hit.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	It cannot be hit and the ground may not be useful, except for the road.
Minister of Defense	It could be positioned in the rear.
President Leader	It is impossible to conceal it.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They are going to examine it.
General Military Intelligence Director	Sir, they will call the Air Force Commander today.

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Minister of Defense (Reading)	Yes. The Israeli Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, has denied today, the presence of ships carrying military equipment at Aqaba Port in Jordan for Iraq. Okay, why the Minister of Agriculture? Is Ariel Sharon a commander at the front?
President Leader	Yes, these people [<i>Israelis</i>] always do that, whenever any of their commanders achieves victory or fails, they will appoint him to a civilian job, I do not know why...I think because it is a country at war. However, if our civilian people understood the military principles, then most of our losses would not have happened. God willing, when our army is strong and the numbers of the commanders increases, we will pull some of them out and assign them to civilian institutions. We will pull them and support...
Minister of Defense	By God, Sir, if this could be a principle.
President Leader	We would handle their issue within the law, especially the individuals that we need to assign to civilian institutions, where they do not lose their military pension. We have already begun the process.
Minister of Defense	Sir, if a decision would be made where all staff officers who complete their service in the Armed Forces, except for the high ranking ones, would be the first and the second line after the minister in each ministry.
President Leader	Abu-Ali, there are circles that they would not be able to fill in. However, there must be an institution, for example, where there would be two deputies. One of them would be military personnel, and each ministry should have a military representative...as well as all the other institutions and departments. Some of the institutions are directed by military personnel, such as the railroad and the port institutions...That is to say, there are a number of installations and institutions that must be headed by military personnel.

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Tape No. 2

Date of recording: October 6, 1980

Attendees

1. President Leader, the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Field Marshal Saddam Hussein.
2. First Lieutenant General Staff Pilot Adnan Khairallah, Deputy General Commander/Minister of Defense.
3. Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister.
4. Staff First Lieutenant Abd-al-Jabbar Khalil Shanshal Army Chief of Staff.
5. Staff Lieutenant General Abd-al-Jabbar Al-Asadi, Deputy the Army Chief of Staff for Operations.
6. Staff Lieutenant General Abdallah Abd-al-Latif Al-Hudaythi, 2nd Corps Commander.
7. Staff Major General Pilot Muhammad Jassam Khash Al-Jiburi, Air Force Commander.
8. Staff Brigadier General Abd-al-Juwad Dhannun Muhammad, General Military Intelligence Director.
9. Staff Brigadier General Shakir Wajr Shiya', Planning Director.
10. Staff Colonel Miyassar Ibrahim Al-Jibouri, Military Logistics Director.
11. Staff Colonel Muhammad Saleh Yunis, Secretary at the Diwan of Defense Ministry
12. Colonel Muhammad Yunis Al-Ahmed, Director of Political Guidance.
13. Staff Lieutenant Colonel Subayh Omran Tarfa, Secretary at the Diwan of Defense Ministry
14. Lieutenant Hussein Kamel Hassan, Escort of the President.

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Speaker	Content
President Leader	Let Staff Lieutenant General Abd-al-Jabbar view it.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Sir, it is a coincidence that I told the Air Force Commander twice that I need it.
President Leader	Right!
Minister of Defense	Sir, I don't want the aircraft to be piled up.
President Leader	Yes, we are going to spread them out. The Syrians and the Iranians sent a project team concerning this issue a few days ago.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	We have eavesdropped on a message.
President Leader	We need to resist — laughing —
Minister of Defense	Yesterday, they issued a letter that was circulated among all Iranians. I think it was sent openly.
President Leader	Yes.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Saying that the Syrian and Libyan officers searched the sectors and investigated such and such and so on.
Military Logistics Director	And then they returned to Tehran.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Just as I mentioned to Your Excellency during the conference that...

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Minister of Defense	I did not bring up the...
Military Logistics Director	Yes, that is why they are present as it appears and they are raising the issue...
President Leader	Yes, what would we need from them if they raise the issue? We have already said it, again and again, defending our rights within our homeland and defending our honor. Therefore, we are not afraid of the Soviet army, the American army, the Israeli army, or any other army. Even with equality, we do not place ourselves above anyone even if it was a friend, (these six are above these six). If you notice Staff Lieutenant General Abd-al-Jabbar, any strikes against the third shoulder will not hurt. What can they do to rescue Iran? How could the Syrian army help the Iranians, if they could not stand on their own feet?
Director of Political Guidance	Whoever is not able to stand on his own feet (rely on his force), no one can make him stand up.
President Leader	No one will come to his rescue ... Whoever falls will be finished. Here are the weapons and here is the society.
	- President Leader leaves the Command Headquarters -
Minister of Defense	Why don't we assign troops to go to the secure section of Muhammara City?
Military Logistics Director	Sir, they are going to the secure section of Muhammara because even the 3 rd Armored Division's commander, Staff Brigadier General Qadduri Jaber Al-Duri, was present there with the Special Forces.
Director of Political Guidance	Sir, do you mean sending civilian members?
Minister of Defense	During the press conference, the foreign journalists asked me... These journalists paralyze... As you know, these people will say what is good for them and what is against them.

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Director of Political Guidance	Sir, these people were in the first operation.
Secretary of Diwan	I think they have fire extinguishers.
Minister of Defense	Yes.
Secretary of Diwan	We should just improve it.
Minister of Defense	We signed a contract yesterday for five fire extinguisher equipment which cost six million.
Secretary of Diwan	Is it for the Air Force, Sir?
President Leader	What do you need for the Tharthar project?
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, there are 60 ton capacity dump trucks.
President Leader	Iraqi?
Secretary of Diwan	No, they are American, which we have received.
President Leader	No, I mean, this company, is it used for the roads or by another company, and who owns it? Do the dump trucks belong to Iraq or the company?
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, I think we bought them at that time.
President Leader	If they are ours, pull them out. Tell the Staff Brigadier General Tariq Hamad Al-Abdallah (Chief of Diwan) to pull them out for you. This is more important than anything else.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir, we will first speak with the Military Engineering about the scaffolds, and, at the same time, whether they are available at Shawar and Qadisiyah camp.

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<p>General Military Intelligence Director <i>(On the phone with Staff Officer from the Anti-aircraft Directorate)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- Greeting introduction -</p> <p>Did anyone call you regarding some special instructions on how the People's Army can use the anti-aircraft weapons? No one has told you...Yes...any discussion? No, this is another issue that is related only to an order from the Commander in Chief to enlighten the fighters of the People's Army, yes. What altitude should it be on?...Then work on preparing it so that we can contact the television officials in that regard...and you should have the explanation tools ready. Yes, the weapon that is suitable for this altitude is such and such... You know what type of weapons the People's Army has. Yes, you can coordinate with the Chief of Staff of the General Command of the People's Army Ghazi Mahmud Al-'Omar ..Yes. Never mind! Not us, Because there is a small percentage of our comrades in the People's Army that has these types of weapons and they are spread out to more than one location in Baghdad. Therefore, we need to deliver the orders to them concerning the use of anti-aircraft weapons. What is the suitable altitude to shoot down an aircraft? That is to say, for example, shouldn't the aircraft be 2000 meters high in order to shoot it down? Because there could be an altitude limit for these weapons, right? The goal is to enlighten the fighters with regard to handling the air targets and you should prepare posts at your location, in order to be ready when we call you in this regard. If you have it, if it is possible for you, call me on the defense phone, the government phone, or the central phone.</p>
<p>Minister of Defense</p>	<p>Okay, what about Shawar and Qadisiyah camps, what are they doing with these scaffolds?</p>
<p>Secretary of Diwan</p>	<p>Sir, I think they are using them to set up pavilions for themselves around the battlefield. They are used along the pavilions for these purposes, Sir.</p>
<p>Minister of Defense</p>	<p>Yes...Are the Qadisiyah and Shawar camps complete?</p>
<p>Secretary of Diwan</p>	<p>Yes, Sir.</p>

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Minister of Defense	The important thing is for them to continue working.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir. Yesterday, 14 vehicles of 35 tons ordnance capacity were emptied out in Basra sector.
Minister of Defense	How many vehicles?
Secretary of Diwan	14 vehicles, 35 tons. Sir, there is cooperation between the group commander and the Governor of Basra to collect all the spoils. He gave him ground transportation vehicles and today we stored the ordnance that as in the storages located on the Muhammara-Ahwaz road. He spent last night at the 'Amara sector so that he can make evacuation arrangements today in the sector of the 10 th Armored Division and the 1 st Mechanized Infantry Division. We have drivers, of course, from...
Minister of Defense	They must seek the help of God and governors as long as we are busy.
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, I also told him to consult today...
Minister of Defense	However, there must be a control system since it is related to ordnance, the light ones in particular, as they can be tampered with.
Secretary of Diwan	There will be officers and soldiers under their supervision, just loading the ordnance and 120 mm ammunition for the cannons of the Centurion tanks, which they found in large amounts.
Minister of Defense	I examined one of the positions and found that it contains some of the 130 mm and 155 mm Russian ammunition, rocket launchers RBG-7, and 14.7 mm ammunition. It is a lot of Eastern Russian-made ordnance.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Staff Colonel Miyassar, where is the copy of the spoils position that was returned to you?

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Military Logistics Director	It is here, Sir.
Secretary of Diwan	It appears that some of the Armored Personnel Carrier BMP-I and BTR-50 and the 113 M Command are used by some of the formations. I told him to write and register their numbers and they will always use them.
Minister of Defense	Yes, it is okay. I approve. However, it must be registered.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir. We need to compensate them for the Armored Personnel Carrier Command because they broke down many times with us. As the Armor Director told me, they repaired 40 tanks in the sector of the 5 th Mechanized Infantry Division, whereas it was returned to the division with full operation. They formed a platoon led by an officer with a rank of lieutenant colonel rank. He is Lieutenant Colonel Hussein Rawi.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	They sent this to the 1 st Mechanized Infantry Division because it has failures.
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, they will move today to this sector.
Minister of Defense	Lieutenant Colonel Hussein Al-Rawi is good.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir. Lieutenant Colonel Hussein Al-Rawi, this needs an officer because these detachments are in the rear and need someone to direct them and follow-up on their issues. It appears that the remaining broken down vehicles that are on the road are listed in the losses status report. Yes.
Minister of Defense	We are afraid they will increase their losses.
Secretary of Diwan	No, it is not in their interest to do that. Each one of our tank battalions has 44 tanks. Therefore, their combat capabilities are good, compared to the enemy's forces, which have 25 tanks at the present.

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Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Twenty-five tanks, that is, if all were operational.
Secretary of Diwan	Sir, how many are not operational? He mentioned that to me.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	No, to the Iranian enemy.
President Leader	The enemy.
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	Because the information we have from the Intelligence indicates that the enemy has less than this number among his battalions.
President Leader	How many tanks does each Iranian battalion have?
General Military Intelligence Director	It has 53 tanks.
President Leader	So, why were you saying 25 tanks?
Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations	There are approximately 50 operational tanks in each battalion.
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, most of them are in the repair facilities being repaired. They also have a shortage in their ranks.
President Leader	The enemy's tank battalions?
Secretary of Diwan	Yes, Sir and this depends on the situation of reserved materials.
General Military Intelligence Director	They currently have 25 tanks in each battalion.

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