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**IRAQ: ARMED FACTIONS ACCUSE ANBAR COMMANDER OF 'HIGH TREASON'**

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Asharq Al-Awsat (8 July 2019)

Baghdad - Fadhel al-Nashmi

Iraqi Commander of operations in al-Anbar province Mahmoud al-Falahi was recorded in recently-leaked audio talking to who he said was a CIA agent. In the audio, he disclosed information on military bases and locations of Popular Mobilizations Forces (PMF) in western Iraq.

The audio also revealed that the Iraqi official was asked to provide geographic coordinates of existing PMF military bases especially of "Iraqi Hezbollah Brigades" and al-Nujbaa to be attacked by US and Israeli forces.

Iraqi Defense Minister Maj. Gen Najah al-Shammari ordered the establishment of a commission of inquiry after the recordings were published.

The Security and Defense Parliamentary Committee called for the formation of a committee to investigate the veracity of the leaks, and some members even pointed that Falahi might face the death penalty if the recordings were proven to be true.

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