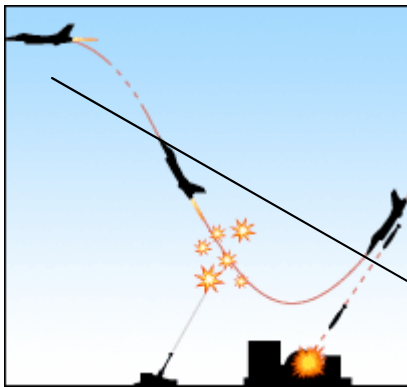




# Hero in town

**Retired Israeli Colonel Zeev Raz  
commander of the F-16  
squadron, led the Israeli raid on  
the Iraqi  
Osirak nuclear reactor,  
destroyed it and Saved Israel !**



**Destroyed by Israeli  
warplanes on 7 June  
1981 before it could be  
fuelled  
10 Iraqi soldiers and  
one French researcher  
killed**



**Raz believes an aerial assault  
on Iran's  
nuclear facilities is possible.  
There are many things that the  
IAF has done over the past few years  
that the public is not aware of,  
and it has made many important  
advances in mid-air refueling.  
Israel can strike the Iranian  
nuclear program,  
Raz said on Israel's Channel 1 TV's  
Political program last week.**

## *Operation Opera*

Perhaps the most famous operation conducted with F-16 fighters was the "Operation Opera", or as it is known to the world - "The raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor". By the end of the seventies, Iraq purchased an "Osiris" class nuclear reactor from France. Israel's intelligence assumed this was a step taken by Iraq to produce