

EYE ON IRAQ

December 7, 2005

The Iraqi people, with help from coalition nations, continue to succeed in reconstruction, economic development and fighting terrorism

Citizen's tip yields weapons cache, two terror suspects

A tip from a local citizen resulted in the capture of two terror suspects and the discovery of a large weapons cache in western Rashid Dec. 3.

Soldiers assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment received information about terrorists storing weapons in a salt factory. Upon further investigation, Soldiers found the following items: 23 60-millimeter mortar rounds, 20 82-millimeter mortar rounds, two 120-millimeter artillery rounds, 40 fuses, two rocket-propelled grenades, one grenade and 200 rounds of small-arms ammunition.

An explosive ordnance disposal team was called in and destroyed the cache in a series of controlled detonations.



LEFT: Iraqi Minister of Defense Saadoun al-Dulaimi speaks at the Husaybah Youth Center ceremony Nov. 30, to mark the initial assumption of border operations by the Iraqi government. RIGHT: Iraqi Army soldiers raise their flag at the ceremony.



Iraqi government assumes control of borders

A ceremony symbolizing the securing of the borders through cooperation of the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of the Interior and Multi-National Force Iraq.

The ceremony in the Iraqi-Syrian border town of Husaybah was attended by Iraqi Minister of Defense Saadoun al-Dulaimi, Brig. Gen. Ahmed Ali Muhsin al-Khafaggi, Deputy Minister of the Interior for Support Forces and Gen. George Casey, MNF-I commander.



Get it on the Internet at:

http://www.dvidshub.net/?script=pubs/pubs_show.php&id=10&name=Eye%20on%20Iraq

EYE ON IRAQ

December 7, 2005

The Iraqi people, with help from coalition nations, continue to succeed in reconstruction, economic development and fighting terrorism

The Sweet Water Canal, originally constructed in the 1990s, is a partially-concrete-and-earth-lined channel built

through the marshes of southern Iraq, to compensate for the Euphrates River's salinity level throughout the region. Two

million residents of Basrah have long relied upon the 240-kilometer-long Sweet Water Canal to supply their domestic water for cleaning, cooking, bathing, and washing.

According to a Army Corps of Engineers Project Manager of Water Resources, the lack of maintenance by the former regime, the use of a gypsum-rich soil, coupled with the canal's poor design and construction, resulted in canal breaches and the canal lining swelling, particularly in a 20-kilometer stretch through Basrah Governate.

"The situation was further complicated when, after the toppling of Hussein's regime, looters stole the overhead electrical lines, poles and two mobile substations, thereby



Basrah canal runs sweet again for 2 million residents

EYE ON IRAQ

Get it on the Internet at:

http://www.dvidshub.net/?script=pubs/pubs_show.php&id=10&name=Eye%20on%20Iraq

EYE ON IRAQ

Eye on Iraq is an authorized Department of Defense publication. Views expressed are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government or the DoD. The content of this publication is the responsibility of the Multi-National Corps-Iraq Public Affairs Office. Inquiries should be directed to eric.tausch@iraq.centcom.mil.

December 7, 2005

The Iraqi people, with help from coalition nations, continue to succeed in reconstruction, economic development and fighting terrorism

resulting in sporadic shutting-down of the canal's generators," said the manager.

Immediately after the war, several organizations got involved in the project to repair the canal. Officials awarded a contract to design/build contractor, Washington International, Black and Veach (WIBV.) The company began daily patrols to inspect and identify canal breaches and performed soil investigations for the right and left embankments of the canal.

Experts conducted soil-type investigations to find the proper soil adequate to repair the canal, after determining that the soil originally chosen to line the canal in the Basrah region was inappropriate.

In order to speed up the process of empowering the Ministry of Water Resources to operate, manage, and maintain this vital water supply, the PCO moved quickly in the process of acquiring heavy equipment and necessary tools required by the Iraqi ministry. As a result, according to Michael Robson, Non-Construction Program Manager-Water Sector, PCO placed a contract on the international website for bids to provide the heavy equipment, mini buses,



trucks, bulldozers, and front-end loaders necessary to make necessary canal repairs and perform maintenance.

"From signature of contract to delivery of the vehicles was four days. They fulfilled the contract to the last detail," said Robson.

"After delivery, we realized that spares and training were missing from the contract. This [local Iraqi] company provided the spares and basic training for no additional cost.



Get it on the Internet at:

http://www.dvidshub.net/?script=pubs/pubs_show.php&id=10&name=Eye%20on%20Iraq