



The Old Ironsides Report



Saturday, October 18, 2003

Engineers end farmers' 33-year wait for water

By Spc. John S. Wollaston, 3rd Brigade PAO

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Thirty three years. That is how long the farmers of Shamlyt, a small community three miles northwest of Baghdad have waited for drinking water in their homes.

And now, thanks to the efforts of the Task Force 1st Armored Division's 70th Engineer Battalion, the farmers' wait is over.

"We first asked the Iraqi Government to provide us with drinking water in 1970," said one village resident. "And we waited and we waited. Four years ago, they told us they were going to build the pipeline. Then two years ago they told us that another district in Baghdad was going to get the pipeline and we would have to wait yet again. Now thanks to (the U.S. Army) we are finally going to get our water."

During those years that the residents of Shamlyt waited for drinkable tap water, they drove daily into Baghdad to obtain potable water.

And while the farmers had plenty of water for the fields over those same 33 years, the water flowing through the cisterns and irrigation canals was anything but drinkable.

"The water you see flowing over there," said LT. Col. Anthony Wright, 70th Engineer Bn. commander, pointing to the water flowing into an irrigation canal, "Is just fine for the crops but you sure wouldn't want to fill your glass with it."

To get the pipe to run water from the city out to the small farming community, the engineers had to look no further than the streets of the Kadhymiya district of Baghdad.

"We had all of this pipe just laying round over there," Wright said. "It wasn't being taken care of and it was being stolen. We bundled it up and we'll use it to run the water four kilometers from the city out to the farmers."



A bucket loader begins the task of digging a trench for a new water pipeline from Baghdad to the farming community of Shamlyt. The residents first asked for the pipeline in 1970.

Enough pipe was collected to run a water line to each house without having to purchase any additional pipe to complete the job.

The manpower and equipment for the pipeline project comes from Iraqi contractors and laborers. The combat engineers are providing technical assistance and the pipe.

In keeping with their local traditions and customs, the farmers sacrificed a sheep prior to the start of the digging.

With, the sheep's blood soaking into the dirt where the digging was to begin, Wright stepped over the sheep to the applause of the farmers.

"According to their tradition," Wright said, "it's supposed to bring good luck."

NEWS

Bush Pressing Global Leaders for Iraq Aid

TOKYO (AP) - President Bush, a \$1.5 billion pledge from Japan in hand, is pressing other world leaders to be generous toward wartorn Iraq even as the White House battles demands at home that Baghdad repay some proposed American reconstruction aid. For Japan's contribution, Bush delivered personal thanks to Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi at Tokyo's Akasaka Palace Friday. On a less agreeable subject concerning economic relations, Bush made clear his opposition to Japan's intervention in currency markets.

Box Cutters Found in Bags Left on Planes

WASHINGTON (AP) - Box cutters and mysterious notes were found in bags left in the lavatories of two Southwest Airlines planes. The discovery prompted government officials to order stepped-up searches of the more than 7,000 aircraft in the nation's commercial fleet. Officials said they did not believe the bags were placed there as a prelude to a terrorist attack.

House Passes \$87B Iraq, Afghanistan Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) - The House, putting concerns for the U. S. troops ahead of questions about administration postwar policies, passed by a comfortable margin legislation granting President Bush's request for \$87 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The vote was 303-125.

Authorities Issue Subpoena in Ferry Crash

NEW YORK (AP) - Federal investigators said Friday they have issued a subpoena to determine if the pilot at the helm of the Staten Island ferry that crashed, killing 10 people, was using prescription drugs. They also said the vessel was at full throttle as it hurtled into the pier. National Transportation Safety Board Chairwoman Ellen Engleman said at a news conference Friday that the ferry was doing 16 to 17 mph when it crashed.

SAFETY TIP Electrical Fire Safety

Overloaded outlets or faulty wires can cause fires. Be sure to use a power strip when connecting electrical items.

- Spot problems before they cause fire or shock
- Recurring problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers.
- Feeling a tingle when you touch an electrical appliance.
- Discoloration of wall outlets.
- A burning smell or unusual odor coming from an appliance or wiring.
- Sizzling sound at wall switches or outlets.
- Flickering lights.
- Always have an operational Fire Extinguisher available (\geq 10lb).

In Other News...

Popular downloading service courts bigger audience

ANDREW DANSBY, Rolling Stone

With an opening message of "Hell froze over," Apple launched its iTunes Music Store for Windows, making the popular music downloading retail service available to millions of new users.

Now Windows users will have access to the same catalog of songs which have been available to Apple owners for the past six months. In that time, the iTunes Music Store has become the busiest provider of paid music downloads, with more than 13 million songs purchased at \$0.99 each. iTunes expects to have more than 400,000 songs to offer buyers by the end of the month, representing all five major labels and more than 200 independents.

The service has been popular with current releases -- Fountains of Wayne's "Stacy's Mom" is currently the most popular track, with OutKast's new single, "Hey Ya!" just behind it -- as well as a vessel to offer exclusive material. Both Ben Harper and Sarah McLachlan are offering material for purchase and download only through iTunes. Also new to the service is its Celebrity Playlist where the likes of Billy Corgan, Michelle Branch, Missy Elliott and Michael Stipe offer up their favorite songs.

In other iTunes news, three significant independent labels -- Matador, Kill Rock Stars and SpinArt -- struck partnerships with the service, making available music by the likes of Sleater-Kinney, Interpol, Guided by Voices, Mark Eitzel and others.

Springer May Run for Ohio Governor

AKRON, Ohio (AP) - It seemed Jerry Springer's final thought on politics was, he wasn't going to get involved again. Now he's talking about running for governor of Ohio.

The talk show host, who's a Democrat, spent about \$1 million this year to determine voter support for a possible U.S. Senate run in a primary, and eventually a possible campaign against Republican incumbent Sen. George Voinovich.

Chaplain's Thought for the Day: God Conquered

Here is a saying that you are probably familiar with:
Veni, Vidi, Vici -- I came, I saw, I conquered

Let me add another: Veni, Vidi, Dei Vici -- I came, I saw, God conquered

Remember the 12 spies sent into the land of Canaan? Ten came back and said, "There's no way we can conquer this land! The people are too big and too strong! Let's go back to Egypt!"

Only Joshua and Caleb had faith that God would keep his promise. Their attitude was, "We came, we saw, and we are confident that God will conquer."

How about you? Ever felt like a grasshopper compared to some of the obstacles you face? If the Lord is on your side (or more accurately, if you are on the Lord's side), though, the victory will be yours.

Veni, Vidi, Dei Vici!

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October 18, 2003

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2003				As of: Friday, October 17, 2003 6:02:00 AM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0:00	AROUND THE HORN		AUSTIN CITY LIMITS : - LOS LOBOS/RA TDOG		PRIMETIME	0:00
0:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				0:30
1:00	SPORTSCENTER		THE ENTERTAINERS	CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG	HEADLINE NEWS	1:00
1:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		FRANKLIN : - FRANKLIN IN TWO PLACES/FRANKLIN'S STAR	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	1:30
2:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT	I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER	THE VIEW	THE WILD THORNBERRIES : - TYLER TUCKER, I PRESUME	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	2:00
2:30				THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	CBS EVENING NEWS	2:30
3:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT		A BABY STORY : - BABY STOPP	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - CUSA: TULANE @ LOUISVILLE	THE NEWSHOUR	3:00
3:30			B. SMITH WITH STYLE			3:30
4:00	FRIDAY NIGHT FIGHTS - LIGHTWEIGHT: MICHAEL CLARK VS ANTONIO RAMIREZ	OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE	WHILE YOU WERE OUT		HANNITY & COLMES	4:00
5:00			THE AMAZING RACE : - I WASN'T EVEN GOING TO TOUCH YOU UNTIL YOU SLAMMED MY HEAD BACKWARDS!		THE NEWS WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS	5:00
6:00		HEADLINE NEWS	GILMORE GIRLS : - THOSE LAZY-HAZY-CRAZY DAYS	YU-GI-OHI (TV-7) : - THE GAUNTLET IS THROWN	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	6:00
6:30	ESPNEWS	ESPNEWS		THAT'S SO RAVEN : - THE PARTIES	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	6:30
7:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT	HEADLINE NEWS	ANY DAY NOW : - BOYS WILL BE BOYS	ENDURANCE	LARRY KING LIVE	7:00
7:30		HEADLINE NEWS		THE BEST OF : - DRIVE-INS		7:30
8:00	INSIDE THE NFL	CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG	SISTER ACT	WWE RAW!	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	8:00
8:30		FRANKLIN : - FRANKLIN IN TWO PLACES/FRANKLIN'S STAR				8:30
9:00	SPORTSCENTER	THE WILD THORNBERRIES : - TYLER TUCKER, I PRESUME		ROBOTICA : - EPISODE 2	PAULA ZAHN NOW	9:00
9:30		THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS				9:30
10:00	NHL - WASHINGTON CAPITALS @ DALLAS STARS	YU-GI-OHI (TV-7) : - THE GAUNTLET IS THROWN	THE VIEW	HEADLINE NEWS	NIGHTLINE	10:00
10:30		THAT'S SO RAVEN : - THE PARTIES		NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	AIR FORCE TV NEWS	10:30
11:00		ROBOTICA : - EPISODE 2	A BABY STORY : - BABY STOPP	ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	11:00
11:30			B. SMITH WITH STYLE			11:30
12:00		ENDURANCE	WHILE YOU WERE OUT	HEADLINE NEWS	DATELINE NBC	12:00
12:30	NFL LIVE	THE BEST OF : - DRIVE-INS		ESPNEWS		12:30
13:00	SPORTSCENTER	ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT	THE AMAZING RACE : - I WASN'T EVEN GOING TO TOUCH YOU UNTIL YOU SLAMMED MY HEAD BACKWARDS!	ONE ON ONE : - POPART	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:30				ACCORDING TO JIM : - CARS AND CHICKS		13:30
14:00	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - CUSA: TULANE @ LOUISVILLE	WWE RAW!	GILMORE GIRLS : - THOSE LAZY-HAZY-CRAZY DAYS	THE PRACTICE : - NEIGHBORING SPECIES	CNN SATURDAY MORNING	14:00
15:00		ONE ON ONE : - POPART	ANY DAY NOW : - BOYS WILL BE BOYS	LAW & ORDER: SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT : - WASTE	20/20	15:00
15:30		ACCORDING TO JIM : - CARS AND CHICKS				15:30
16:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT	THE PRACTICE : - NEIGHBORING SPECIES	SISTER ACT	HEADLINE NEWS	SATURDAY TODAY	16:00
16:30				SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE (03'-04') : - JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE		16:30
17:00	SPORTSCENTER	LAW & ORDER: SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT : - WASTE				17:00
17:30	COLLEGE GAM EDAY					17:30
18:00		HEADLINE NEWS	THE VIEW	LIVE IN HOLLYWOOD	WALL STREET JOURNAL	18:00
18:30		NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS			AMERICA'S BLACK FORUM	18:30
19:00	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - MICHIGAN STATE @ MINNESOTA	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - BIG TEN: PURDUE @ WISCONSIN	A BABY STORY : - BABY STOPP	SPORTSCENTER	NEWS FROM CNN	19:00
19:30			B. SMITH WITH STYLE			19:30
20:00			WHILE YOU WERE OUT	BASEBALL TONIGHT	HEADLINE NEWS	20:00
20:30					AIR FORCE TV NEWS	20:30
21:00			THE AMAZING RACE : - I WASN'T EVEN GOING TO TOUCH YOU UNTIL YOU SLAMMED MY HEAD BACKWARDS!	ESPNEWS	DATELINE NBC	21:00
21:30				INSIDE THE NFL		21:30
22:00	ESPNEWS	ESPNEWS	GILMORE GIRLS : - THOSE LAZY-HAZY-CRAZY DAYS		20/20	22:00
22:30	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - SEC: FLORIDA @ ARKANSAS	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - BIG TEN: IOWA @ OHIO STATE		COLLEGE FOOTBALL - BIG XII: TEXAS TECH @ OKLAHOMA STATE		22:30
23:00			ANY DAY NOW : - BOYS WILL BE BOYS		FOX NEWS LIVE	23:00