

Windmills erected to bring Iraqis clean water

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK 3RD HBCT. 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB HAMMER - To assess the water production of two windmill-powered ground water pumps in Narhwan, leaders from 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team and Multi-National Corps - Iraq visited two villages Mar. 1.

The first stop for Col. Ryan Kuhn, deputy commanding officer for 3rd HBCT, and Maj. Chris Hempel, agricultural officer from MNC-I Civil-Military Operations Cell, was the village of al Zatia, where they met with the head contractor for both windmill projects.

Analyzing the windmill-powered pumps potential for potable water production led him to consider using pumps for irrigation, Hempel said.

After al Zatia, Hempel and Kuhn traveled to the village of Hollandia to check on the unfinished windmill project there.

"The windmills are used for the majority of the villagers' drinking water," Hempel said. "It was being trucked in from vendors. With the windmill-powered ground water pumps, they won't have to pay for water."

After he finishes his visit with the 3rd HBCT, Hempel will take the information he gathers about the windmills to MNC-I officials to see what kind of support they can provide to complete the mission.

"This area is unique," Hempel said. "It's the only area with these windmills.



Sgt. Natalie Rostek

Col. Ryan Kuhn, from Clarks, Neb., deputy commanding officer for the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, talks to a contractor and local villagers at a windmill-powered ground water pump in Al Zatia village Mar. 1.

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Farmers union focuses on revitalization

SGT. KEVIN STABINSKY 2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — Sixteen prominent Sayifiyah landowners gathered with members of the Baghdad-7 embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team at Patrol Base Whitehouse in Sayifiyah Feb. 28 for a farmers union meeting.

As security returns to the region, Coalition forces are focusing on restoring the agriculturally-based economy in Sayifiyah. Efforts include reviving the poultry and beekeeping industries, increasing the productivity of vegetable farms and creating new industries like fish farming and chicken processing plants.

All of these efforts were discussed at the meeting, the farmers union's third gathering.

"We're here to restore the area to the farming community it once was," said Mike Stevens, ePRT agricultural adviser.

Enough seeds for 350 farmers were distributed to eight of the landowners whose primary business is vegetable farming. Tomato, cucumber, green pepper, and eggplant seeds imported from Turkey and Spain will be given to the numerous farmers who work the fields, Stevens said.

He called it a self-starter, self-sustainability package that will help farmers gain bigger returns on their produce since the ePRT absorbs the initial cost of jumpstarting production.

Stevens said future investments will target the top five areas of need in the region: vegetables, poultry, irrigation, veterinarian services and herds of cattle and sheep.

A key point underlying the initiatives



Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

Mike Stevens (right) and Silvia Bibi (second from right), ePRT bilingual, bicultural adviser, meet with Sayifiyah landowners before their third farmers union meeting Feb. 28 at Patrol Base Whitehouse.

is increased profits for farmers. Under Saddam Hussein's reign, Stevens said, farmers would receive supplies from the government to run their farms. In return, they owed the government up to 50 percent of their crops. Now, farmers may keep all their produce and set their own prices and areas of market.

Stevens said he hopes to build a strong farmers union, so they can pool profits to buy goods and services such as seeds, animals and machinery.

Toward this end, part of the meeting focused on teaching the landowners democratic and capitalistic concepts. They were encouraged to discuss their own issues to help work out solutions amongst themselves and the ePRT.

Some issues raised were repairing and procuring more tractors and distributing pesticides to kill insects that damage citrus trees.

Stevens reiterated the need for the farmers to work together and take advantage of the zero start-up cost being offered by Coalition programs to increase their collective profits.

"It is about strength in numbers," Stevens said. Working as a group, the farmers can reduce the cost burden of fixing problems and collectively enjoy the benefits of solutions.

In the meantime, the group is focused on existing structures and restoring them to their former pre-war production levels before leaning into new ventures.

"We're off to a good start," Stevens said. "We can't provide everything, but if people can work together we can promise to work hard to help them achieve their goals."

THE Dog Face Daily

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WINDMILLS: Wind-powered ground water pumps installed in Narhwan

From Page 1

This is a 3rd HBCT project and we wanted to get eyeson so we can potentially expand throughout other areas of the country. We will keep monitoring the project's progress at Corps."

The idea for a windmill-powered ground water pump came from a joint effort between Kuhn and leaders of the 489th Civil Affairs Battalion, from Knoxville, Tenn.

Kuhn said he grew up not much differently than the Iraqi villagers he spoke with.

"I'm a farm boy from Nebraska," he said. "If this worked for me in Nebraska where water is hard to come by, there is no reason it wouldn't work out here."

When Kuhn first proposed the idea to local contractors, they thought the project would not work. It was not until Kuhn drew exactly what he wanted on paper, that the contractor was able to research the engineering aspect of a windmill and build it from scratch.

The first windmill was finished in early January. Each structure costs approximately \$20,000, which includes the well, storage tank and a small pump.

Kuhn said he has plans to add solar purification systems to the windmills, bumping their price to \$27,000.

"It's a simple idea that has great value," he said. "This is the first time the wind and sun have been used together to provide clean drinking water anywhere in Iraq. It requires all renewable energy and helps protect the environment. It's simple technology and it can't fail."

The windmills pull water from 30-meter-deep ground wells into 200-gallon holding tanks, Kuhn said. The pump can produce 200 gallons of water every hour and provide water for up to 150 families.

"When we got the first one up, the elders called it a spaceship," Kuhn said. "I told them, 'You can call it what you want as long as it provides water for your village.""

Kuhn said, "One of the elders responded with, 'I know God has not given up on us. We have not had drinking water since 2003."

In addition to water, the windmills will provide villagers jobs, Kuhn said.

The contractor in charge of the project is going to hire local Iraqis to maintain the



Spc. Ben Hutto

Col. Ryan Kuhn and Maj. Chris Hempel discuss a wind-powered ground water pump in Al Zatia Mar. 1.

structures.

"We are hoping to develop businesses from this that will manufacture windmills for Iraq," Kuhn said. "Right now they are shipping in equipment, but we know for a fact that Iraq can manufacture these."

Kuhn believes windmill water production also sends a message to insurgents, he said.

"Insurgents used to be able to control the prices when the water was delivered," he said. "Now that the area is secure, they can't do that anymore. The windmills deliver water for free using the sun and the wind. This puts great pressure on the insurgents."

Kuhn hopes to be able to provide every rural village with a pump. Security has improved and he believes this goal is achievable.

"My dream is to be able to produce enough water so no child will ever have to go long periods of time without water," he said. "Children can play in the streets now and with the windmills, they can come get a drink of water and go right back out and play."

CORRECTION

In yesterday's issue of The Dog Face Daily, the photo caption in the story titled "FORSCOM CG presents safety award to Stewart" should have read: "General Charles C. Campbell, Forces Command commander, presents Lt. Col. Paul B. Gale, 3rd Infantry Division rear-detachment commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. McArthur Dixon, 3rd Inf. Div. rear-detachment command sergeant major, the Director of the Army Safety Composite Risk Management award, Feb. 28 at Stewart's Main Post Chapel."

Safety Thought of the Day

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

• Symptoms are similar to the flu — nausea, vomiting and weakness, no fever.

· Leads to irritability, headaches, rapid

breathing, blurred vision, lack of coordination, disorientation.

• Symptoms tend to clear up when an exposed person moves to fresh air.

Use caution when using heaters to warm work

or sleeping areas, ensure there is an adequate source of fresh air circulating in to the area. • When sitting in stationary running vehicles during cold weather operations open windows to allow fresh air circulation in to the vehicle.

• Portable generators should be placed well away from tents and structures so exhaust fumes don't enter enclosed spaces, work or sleeping areas.

Headline Highlights

Oldest Japanese boxer; Jack the Ripper exhibit

Mother of two becomes Japan's oldest boxer at 44

TOKYO (Reuters) — A 44-year-old mother of two has become Japan's oldest professional boxer after passing the Japanese board's license test.

Kazumi Izaki, who has daughters aged 21 and 14 and herself turns 45 next week, laced up her first pair of boxing gloves in 2001.

"She has passed," the Japan Boxing Commission (JBC) told Reuters Friday. "This is first time she has held a JBC license and she is now Japan's oldest pro boxer."

Under JBC rules, applicants for a license must be under 32 but Izaki was allowed permission to fight because she previously won a Japanese title, albeit one not recognized by the country's governing body. Hiroaki Yokota had held the distinction of being Japan's oldest professional boxer but the 46year-old declined to renew his license.

"I try not to think about my age," the former aerobics instructor told reporters. "I'm a mum but I'm going to give it everything I've got. I wanted to show my children that if you give up, then you're washed up!"

Stop thief, why are you wearing that hanger?

BERLIN (Reuters) — An elderly German who hid a stolen suit under his clothes was caught because he forgot to take it off the hanger, police said Wednesday.

A sales assistant at a men's outfitter in the western city of Aachen noticed the hanger bulging out when the man told her he had decided against buying anything.

"Only a sign saying 'stop me, I'm a thief!' would have made the thief look more unprofessional," police said in a statement.

Jack the Ripper returns

LONDON (Reuters) — Jack the Ripper is about to return to the part of London he made his own private killing ground in one of history's most infamous unsolved crimes.

But in a country that has made headlines in the past week with the conviction of two serial murderers, the inhabitants of the now prosperous but once poverty-ridden East End of London need have no fears.

The return of the 19th century prostitute killer is in the form of an exhibition looking at the era, the area, the victims and the possible perpetrators of the crimes that shocked the nation and have since become a rich seam of popular fiction.

"We explore Jack the Ripper in the context of the East End and explain who lived there and what it was like to live there," said exhibition curator Julia Hoffbrand.

"The murders and the media interest they generated shone a light into a terrible conditions in the area which was riddled with prostitution, dirt, violence and crime," she told Reuters at a preview of the exhibition this week.

The exhibition, which opens in London's Museum in Docklands on May 15 and runs to November 2, also peels away some of the myths surrounding the murderer whose identity remains to this day a topic of heated speculation. It is commonly assumed that the Ripper killed and mutilated five young prostitutes.

But using police records the exhibition reveals that the authorities believed up to 11 murders may have been committed by the same person between April 1888 and early 1891.

"What emerges is the fact that an unknown number of women were actually murdered in the area at the time," Hoffbrand said.

Current theories also tend to focus on the killer being a member of the gentry — and possibly even royalty — wreaking his sadistic revenge on women from the gutter. But Hoffbrand noted that most of the names mentioned in this context did not appear until after World War Two, and speculated that this previously absent class distinction may have been a result of the social upheavals that followed the conflict.

"The people mentioned at the time were Jews — a group that had only recently moved into the East End — doctors and radical socialists. They were all people who lived in the area. The outsider theories came many years later," she said.

The name came from a letter written in red ink in a flowing hand that was sent to the central news agency and starts: "I keep on hearing the police have caught me but they won't fix me just yet..." and was signed Jack the Ripper.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a series of lectures and talks and guided walks down the streets where the Ripper committed his bloody deeds 120 years ago.

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