



U.S. Army Corps
Of Engineers
Gulf Region Division (Prov)

GRD Update

A publication of the Gulf Region Division, Iraq

Edition IV, 8 March 2004

Oil Production at Post-War High

National oil production reached a historic milestone Feb. 28, topping 2.5 million barrels per day for the first time since the Coalition liberated Iraq last spring. The success of GRD's RIO directorate efforts was announced to the world by Robert McKee, outgoing senior advisor to the Iraqi Oil Ministry, in a press conference.

The RIO directorate, which is the successor to the former Task Force Restore Iraqi Oil (RIO), has been working with the Coalition Provisional Authority and various Iraqi ministries and director generals to increase oil production so that exports can bring in funds for other re-building projects.

Col. Emmett DuBose, chief of the RIO

directorate, praised the hard work and initiative of the Iraq workers at all levels, from the ministry leadership to the workers in the Northern and Southern Oil Fields. "This is their resource and they hold their futures in their hands. We are just here to give them some help to get started."

Well over \$5 billion has been brought into Iraq from oil sales to foreign countries in the past year.

RIO is now working on several major projects, including the Al Fathah River Crossing where \$79 million is being invested to put pipelines under the Tigris River, and the Quarmat Ali Water Plant, where \$110 million worth of work will repair a filtration and injection system critical to oilfield maintenance.



GRD Commander Maj. Gen. Ronald Johnson joins in the celebration as Iraqi Minister of Electricity Ahyam al Sammarae, right, and CPA representative Scott Redd, start the first gas turbine generator at the Baiji station.

Generator Dedicated At Baiji

With the flip of a switch for the media cameras, Ahyam al Sammarae, the Iraqi Minister of Electricity; Maj. Gen. Ronald Johnson, Commander, Gulf Region Division; and Scott Redd, deputy director for the Coalition Provision Authority (CPA), ceremoniously started the first of eight 23-megawatt gas turbine generators at the Baiji Thermal Power Station, 220 kilometers north of Baghdad.

While the turbine engine whined as it powered up in the background, the Minister of Electricity gave the crowd of 200 workmen, **(See Generator page 2)**



New Generator Applauded by Large Crowd

(continued from front page)
engineers and guests the
“thumbs-up” sign and a big smile.

In his remarks to those attending, Johnson paid honor to “all of the Iraqi engineers, all of the men and women who work with us to bring progress and improvement to the people of Iraq.”

The Restore Iraqi Electricity Directorate, as part of the Gulf Region Division, continues to work with local Iraqi power plant managers on projects such as Baiji Mobile as an asset of Combined Joint Task Force-7 and the CPA to position the Iraqi people for success in rebuilding their electrical grid.

The power site at Baiji originally consisted of six thermal transfer engines. Only five are currently operational. Prior to the Gulf War, the Saddam Hussein regime attempted to install two 159 MW gas turbine generating sets under the Food for Oil Program. Neither unit was fully commissioned and placed on line.

The Baiji Mobile project consists of installing eight 23-MW dual fuel – diesel and gas – turbine generators at the thermal transfer plant. The initial fuel for these generators will be diesel for at least 30 days before switching over to gas. Once connected to the national grid, all eight will supplement the grid’s power supply at the 132 kilovolt or 400 kilovolt line, adding 184 MW, or an extra half hour of electricity for every home, every shop, every factory in Iraq.



Paul Lauderdale, right, has returned to his job as a hydraulic engineer in the Fort Worth District after overseeing the repairs of cluster pump stations in Iraq's Southern Oil Fields. Before leaving, he climbed atop a storage tank at a South Rumailia Gas-Oil Separation Plant to view the practice of "flaring" or burning off gases trapped in crude oil. With him are Lee Wolf of Walla Walla District and Tom Miller of St. Louis District.



Senior members of the Vicksburg District are serving with the Gulf Region Division. Shown at the crossed swords of the War Memorial in Baghdad are, from left, Leo Phillips, Construction, Joe Lorine, Logistics, Lt. Col. Jim Langan, Deputy Commander, and Mack Ross, Contracting. The district has deployed 24 team members -- 17 to Iraq, two to Afghanistan, and five on active duty in the military.