Corps of Engineers in Iraq

Rebuilding Electrical Infrastructure

by Hugh Lowe
What’s it like?

- Have you ever reached up to scratch your ear and your ear lobe felt rough and scaly like alligator skin?

- Have you walked out after lunch and the hot wind felt like holding the hair dryer straight at your face about six inches away with the temperature set on high?
What’s it like?

- Do you usually dump your shoes in the morning or look under the bed covers before getting in at night to check for scorpions, camel spiders, gademas or vipers?

- Do about half the guys you work and live with carry AK-47’s and have an RPG launcher stashed back in their room in case the situation gets touchy? If so, then you have some idea of what it’s like to live in Iraq.
Why go to Iraq?

Could it be for the scenery?
Why go to Iraq?

- People have asked me why would you ever want to go to Iraq?
- My son thought I was crazy
- My wife told me I should rethink my decision.
- My co-workers looked at me like I had really gone off the deep end this time.
So, why go?

- So why would I go to Iraq?
- I felt like I supported the President’s decision to change the regime there and that now I owed a debt to the ordinary Iraqi citizen to help put their country back in order.
- I felt like I had the skills and experience that would be useful in this country where the electrical infrastructure had been decimated.
- As a student of the Bible, I wanted a chance to possibly see the ancient city of UR where Abraham was raised, or to see the site of the Garden of Eden.
Why go?

- Jeremiah 29: 10
- The truth is this: You will be in Babylon for a lifetime. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and bring you home again. For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.
Abraham’s monument at Ur
Camel Spider
Obligatory Cleric Billboard Photo
Not the UGLY Truck
Fort Bliss, TX Firing Range
Frankfort, Germany
Camp Wolverine, Kuwait
Basrah International Airport, Iraq
Basrah International Airport, Iraq
My new branch chief said -

- I’m sending you to Buzurgan
- You’re going to love it.
Amarah
Irrigation Project
Heat Problems in Iraq?
Buzurgan
Buzurgan to Amarah 138-kv
Buzurgan to Amarah 138-kv
Buzurgan to Amarah 138-kv
Buzurgan to Amarah 138-kv
Buzurgan Electric Generating Station
Buzurgan
Buzurgan
Problems

- Gear Box
- Transmission voltage: 100-150 kv
- Relay wiring errors
- Inadvertent input to relays
- Vibration at the generator input shaft
- Sabotage to the oil industry
- Relays installed in outdoor cabinets
- SF-6 circuit breakers
- Personalities
- Ethics of Iraqi contractors
- Gas Compressor motor overheated
Gear box install
Sliding gear box into package
Ooops
We’ve got a long way to go before we get alignment
Nobody told us---
Gear box alignment
Having this clearance saved a lot of sheer tubes.
Dual fuel nozzles
Chillers to cool combustion air
Top view of chiller banks
Air Filter and Heat Exchanger
Tank farm for water & diesel fuel
PLC Control Screen
Gas Compressor Motor
2000-HP Motor toasted
Gas compressor motor bearing

- Discoloration on the shaft.
- Babbit Debris
Nasiriyah
Nasiriyah – Let’s see if we damaged anything by defeating the four-hour lock out!
Houston – I think we have a problem
Uh-oh
Do you think there’s anyway to cover this up?
On line and producing power
International effort
Thank Heaven for Concrete Roof
In spite of the problems, we had some fun
Iraqi Desert Fox
Smoking the water pipe
Nimrod crew
Brits meet with Ministry of Electricity
Kids: The Future of Iraq
Needing a helping hand
Southern Oil Company Poster

With OUR Oil
We Realize Our Ambitions

wise investment of oil will keep future generations' rights

بنفطنا نحقق أحلامنا

Insurgency suppression team
Ackmed and Hyter guarding our camp
Iraqi Freedom Day
Appreciation!
Questions?