

IRAQ

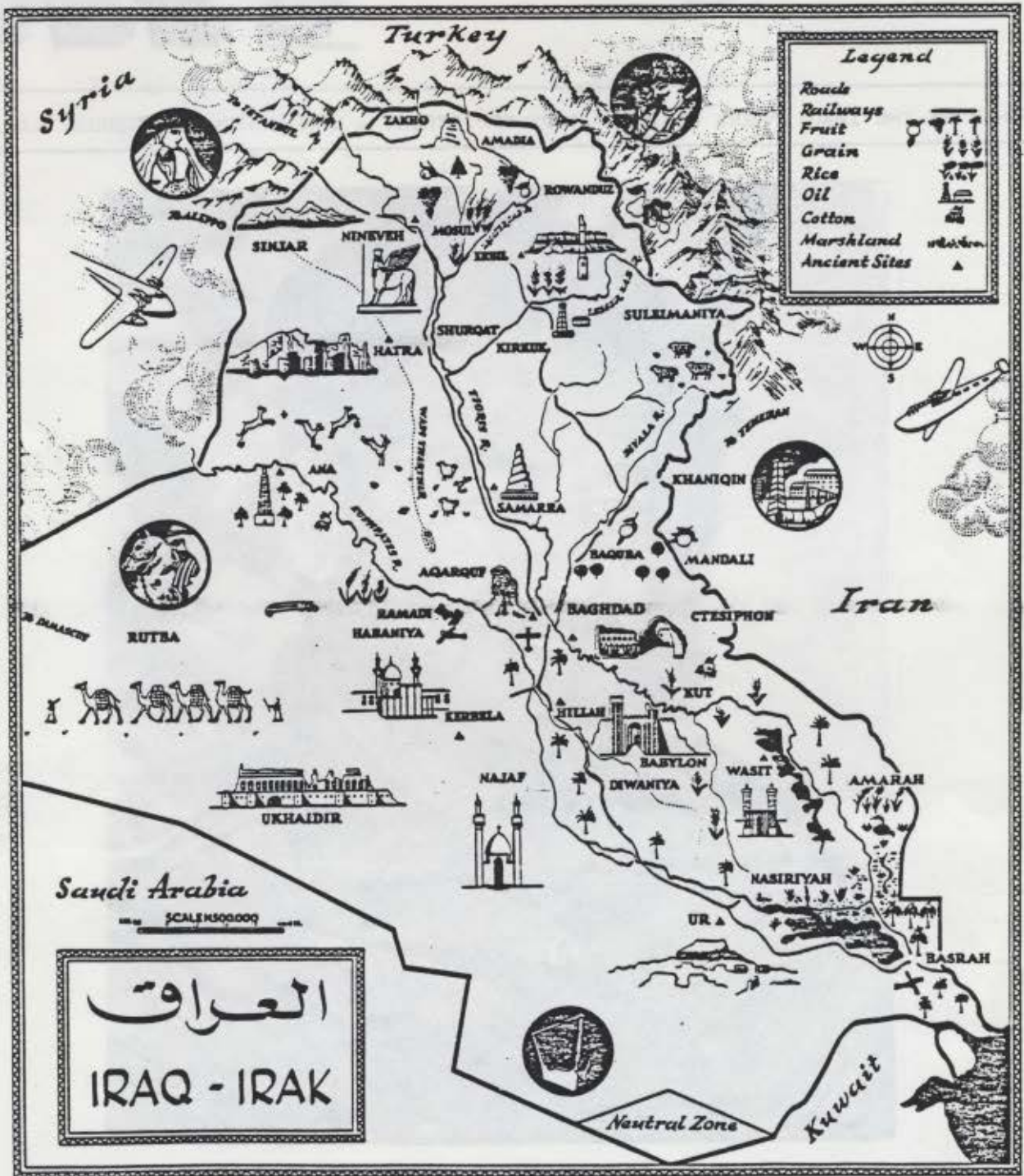
VIEWS & NEWS

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*The aspirations of our people require
that we redouble our efforts and leap
forward from the present towards a
brighter future.*

Saddam Hussein



IRAQ 84

Iraq and Mesopotemia, twin names well known to mankind, past and present, have a deep rooted history that goes back to the sixth millennium B.C. In fact, history started here, in the land of the two rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates, where human progress made its very early advancements. It is in this land that irrigated agriculture, schools, laws and public administration took their first form. The Mesopotamian civilization was responsible for creating the first written languages and texts known since the dawn of history.

Iraq was one of the first regions in the world where cultural and social stability were created

Cities like Uruk, Eridu, Kish, Babylon, Ashur, Nineveh and later Baghdad, are resounding names for a glorious past and flourishing civilizations; from the ancient Arabic, Akkadian, Sumerian, Bablyonian, Assyrian --- and later to the Arab Islamic eras --- all these have kept their remarkable traits in and around the proudly standing remains that are the delights of today's Iraq.

Progressive, revolutionary and triumphant, Iraq finds inspiration in its great history and the nation's magnificent heritage as it develops itself and builds up a better life for its people consistent with their yearnings and aspirations.

Iraq, the cradle of civilization, is situated in the great Arab homeland. It lies north-east of the Arabian Peninsula, and is bounded on the north by Turkey, on the west by Syria and Jordan, on the south by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Arab Gulf, and on the east by Iran.

The size of Iraq is 171,000 square miles with a population of over 14 million.

Two great rivers, the Tigris and the Euphrates, flow through the country for over 1,200 miles and later join in the Shatt Al-Arab waterways to pour in the Arabian Gulf.

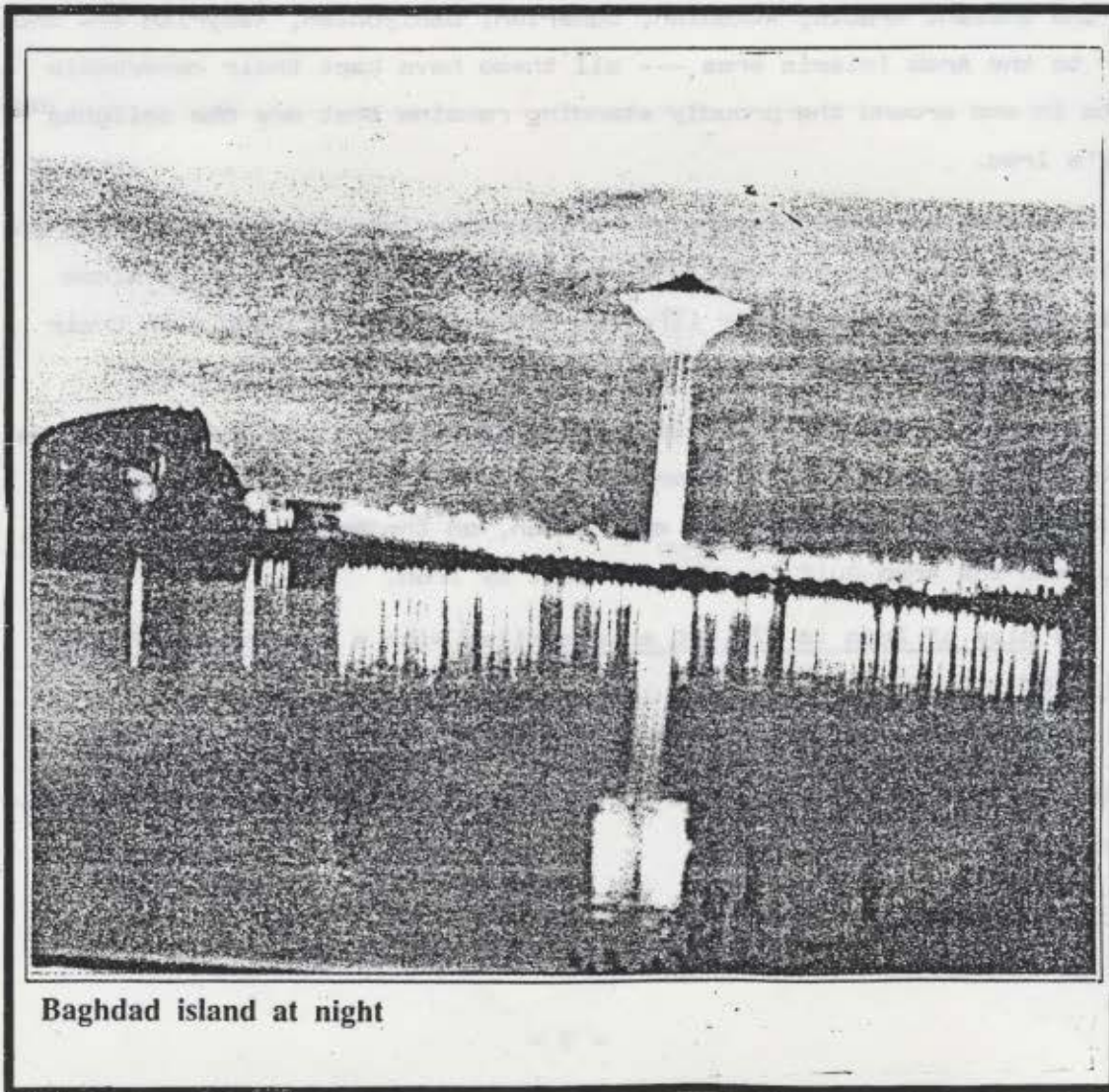
Form of Government

Iraq is a people's democratic republic. The president, who is

elected directly by the people, is the head of the Revolution Command Council and the supreme authority in the country. He is aided by vice-presidents and a prime minister who heads 21 ministries.

Representatives of the Iraqi people are chosen directly by a democratic process and form the National Assembly. The National Assembly is made up of at least 250 members, based on absolute equality of all citizens, men and women, ethnic and religious groups. The first elections were held throughout the country on June 20, 1980 for a four-year term. The next elections are scheduled to take place September 20, 1984.

The present stage is believed by the Iraqi leadership to be the foundation of a national democratic socialist system, wherein government has collective responsibility of all patriotic parties under the leadership of the Arab Ba'th Socialist party. (The Progressive Patriotic Front was formed on July 17, 1973, to achieve this goal.)



Baghdad island at night

JULY - 17

Until July 17, 1968, very little was known about Iraq. The only image most Westerners had of this great country was the "Thousand and One Nights" fairy tale.

July 17th, 1968, marked a major step where Iraq once again is in the forefront of local, regional and world events.

Under the leadership of the Arab Ba'ath Socialist party, Iraq moved in a short period to establish a modern society worthy of international respect.

On the local level, major plans and policies were adopted and implemented to:

- 1 - Free the country from foreign dominance over oil, the major source of revenue, by nationalizing the country's oil industry.
- 2 - Raise the standard of living for the Iraqi citizens through development plans and by using oil revenues to implement these plans.
- 3 - Provide jobs for everyone who needs them.
- 4 - Secure free medical services for all.
- 5 - Offer free education to every student up to college level
- 6 - Eradicate illiteracy among the population through a tough compulsory program.
- 7 - Respect the rights of minorities to preserve their own traditions and languages.
- 8 - Seek and acquire advanced technology wherever found as a prerequisite for national development.
- 9 - Solve the Kurdish problem by granting the Iraqi Kurds Autonomy rule.

The young age of the revolution has witnessed great achievements that were recognized by leading nations, through their business and industrial dealings with the new progressive Iraq.

Since the oil nationalization in 1972, Iraq adopted five year plans to absorb the financial revenues which have been on the increase.

The 1965 - 1969 plans were budgeted (1,863 million dollars), but the 1970 - 1975 plan alone was budgeted at \$6,024 million, and the 1976 - 1979 plan, \$29,859 million. The 1981 - 1985 plan attempts to balance between the various social sectors, but lends especial emphasis to rural development and takes into consideration general economic coordination and integration among Arab countries.

In 1979, Iraq's national income was 9,796 million Iraqi dinars (approx. 23,376 million U.S. dollars), compared to 850 million Iraqi dinars (approx. 2,550 million dollars), in 1969, showing an annual growth rate of 23.5 percent. Wages and salaries have increased considerably, over what they used to be before the revolution with special benefits going to the workers and low income people. Minimum wages have risen by 122 percent.

PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN ADDRESSES THE NATION
ON THE 16TH ANNIVERSARY OF JULY 17 REVOLUTION
IN IRAQ

- We defeated the "War of attrition" the enemy attempted to impose on us.
- New oil pipelines to be built through Jordan, Turkey and Saudi Arabia to increase our revenues.
- Iraq proved to be a trustworthy trade partner.
- We thank our Arab brothers who assisted us in fighting the Iranian aggression.
- The Gulf Security is indivisible and Iraq is capable to defend itself and its Arab brothers.
- The unity of the Iraqi people is deepening and their confidence in their leadership is assured.
- The blockade of the Kharg Island will continue until peace is achieved.
- The bravery of our Armed Forces and their great achievements are unique in the contemporary military history inspite of attempts by some circles to blackout these achievements.

In a major address to the nation, celebrating the 16th. anniversary of the July 17 Revolution, President Saddam Hussein took the occasion to expose the Iranian regime, its schemes, the international poor stand towards the war, the failure of the " war of attrition" against Iraq, and Iraq's determination to defend itself by all means possible while earnestly working for a genuine peace and justice with and through world organizations.

President Hussein said the Iraqi people managed to break the war of attrition the enemy attempted to impose. Endurance and sacrifices were displayed as requirements for steadfastness. The Iraqi people exerted tremendous efforts to squeeze expenditures, increase production and minimize dependence on imports, thus less hard currency was needed. "Within months, the Iraqis proved to the world that they were in sound and strong position and they can be trusted. and after a short hesitation. other states and foreign companies, which were closely watching the situation, recognized the changes that took place in Iraq and resumed their dealings with a trustworthy Iraq," the president said.

Among steps taken by the Iraqi leadership to increase national revenues were doubling the flow of oil through the pipeline across

Turkey since July 1, 1983, which proved to be a success; "We are also seriously considering the building of a new oil pipeline through Turkey, and studies are underway with the Turkish side to extend another pipeline that carries Iraqi gas. Our Saudi brothers have agreed to the construction of a pipeline to export Iraqi oil through Saudi Arabia at the Red Sea. This project is advancing according to schedule, the President said. We are also studying with our Jordanian brothers a project to construct an oil pipeline that carries Iraqi oil to the Jordanian part of Aqaba. The plans for this project had been agreed on with our Jordanian brothers;" President Hussein warned, however, of the Zionist interference in this project and demanded international "tangible and practical guarantees", and not "promise" that the intended pipeline would not be harmed when it passes through Jordanian territories to the Port of Aqaba.

President Hussain thanked his Arab brothers who assisted Iraq in its war efforts to fend off the Iranian aggression which was directed against all of us without exception.

The President praised the unity of the Iraqi people and their confidence in their power and leadership and compared this situation with the one in Iran where "people' suspicious in the judgement of their leadership for continuing the war are growing divisions among the people are clear, crises everywhere with the determination of the economic situation."

Then, he spoke of the Iraqi blockade of the Iranian oil terminal at Kharg Island and how successful it was and the financial, political and psychological damage it caused the regime in Tehran. He asserted that the blockade would continue, adding that Iraq would go on dealing heavy blows to the enemy. He said, "the coming days will witness new activities and new capabilities which Iraq will use in striking the interests of the enemy", and warned, "We mean what we say."

President Hussein criticized the poor stand of some international parties with regard to the war, a stand based on selfish interests and profits. He referred to the state of isolation the Iranian regime is living in and pointed out that the allies of this regime are made up of Zionists, so called Arabs in name, opportunists, arms marketeers and those looking for cheap trade deals, not out of love and confidence in this regime, but in love of profits.

He stressed that the Gulf security is indivisible and Iraq is capable of defending itself and its Arab Brethren in the region.

Addressing the Iraqi Armed Forces, the President said, that last year's battles were decisive in their outcome so well as in their long-term results. He pointed out that inspite of the attempts by some circles to blackout the bravery and the great achievements which are unique in the contemporary military history, "the whole world admitted your great capabilities."

At the conclusion of his speech, President Hussein affirmed that the forthcoming battle will be, with the help of God, a historical and decisive triumph to be added to the glory of the Iraqis, while the enemy will be drubbed. The future generations will remember what the Iraqi people and its armed forces deserved of glory, honor and prestige and what the aggressors received of humiliation, disgrace and dishonor.

(THE PEOPLE AND THE LEADER)



40 industrial projects implemented in 83-84

The Ministry of Industry and Minerals has accomplished 40 productive projects during 1983 - 1984. These included electrical transformers, the phosphate fertilizing industry, tourist coaches, refuse industry, spark plugs, iron structures, mold tools and equipment.

The Ministry also established marketing centers, maintenance work shops and electric networks in a number of provinces.

The output of electrical generators had reached 4,433 megawatts as compared to 561 megawatts in 1968. The number of secondary transformation stations has risen by 261 percent over the period between 1968 and 1982. The number of subscribers in all provinces except Baghdad has also risen by 106 percent. There were only half a million subscribers in 1968, but the total has reached a million and a quarter.

Electricity was supplied to an additional 4,500 villages within the framework of the plan for the electrification of the rural areas in Iraq.

The specialized technical departments are carrying out the current year plan for the lighting of 330 villages by the direct execution method.

Moreover, the Ministry is to use equipment manufactured by the Ministry's factories. They include electric transformers, cables, coaxial cables, electric posts, and electric meters. Three and a half million people have benefited from the rural areas electrification since the July 17 - 30 Revolution.

The mineral industry was not established until after the Revolution. The State Organization for Minerals is now carrying out the task of extracting, marketing and exporting sulphur agricultural, sulphur phosphate fertilizers, marble construction sand, glass sand, classified gravel and construction bricks.

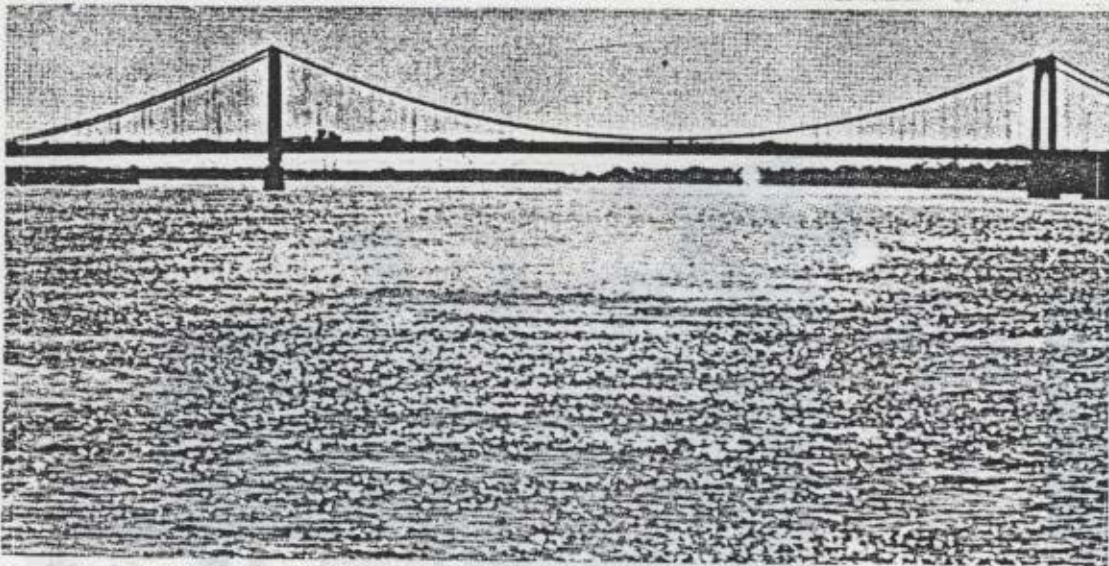
The Organization is also carrying out geological surveys and mineral exploration which serve other developmental sectors.

The State Organization for Engineering Industries include 28 factories which produce 40 different manufactured goods including, Antar tractors, trucks, coaches, electric transformers, iron structural for buildings and houses. It also manufactures chains, steel balls, tools, mold, various bulbs, spark plugs, equipment, agricultural machinery, batteries, dry cells, coaxial cables, and aluminum parts

The State organization for Chemical Industries comprises eleven factories, which produce twelve major products, including various types of tires, pressed wood, and paper.

6 bridges to be opened in July celebrations

Six bridges have been built by General Establishment of Bridges of the Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction. Other bridges are under construction at a total cost of 328 million Iraqi dinar (approx. \$984 million).



The Establishment's Director General told the Iraqi News Agency that the six bridges, which cost 64 million dinars, (approx. \$192 million) will be opened during the celebrations of the 16th anniversary of the July 17th Revolution. The bridges are located in Azamiya, Sinak, Mosul, Meisan, and Basra.

New factories for pre-fab houses in use

Due to the large-scale constructional projects of residential units, three new factories for pre-fabricated housing units have been set up in Baghdad, Kirkuk, and Meisan, each with an output capacity of 500 housing units per year.

Four other factories had already been set up in Baghdad and Basra, each with a total production capacity of 1000 units per year, as well as in Nineveh and Kerbala, each with an annual output capacity of 650.

The new advanced method of pre-fabricated construction of buildings were adopted in line with the rapid construction movement taking place throughout the country.

The architects have taken into consideration the Islamic style and the Arab architectural features in building.



More pre-fabricated housing units are being built

solar energy projects

A pilot project to improve the efficiency of the solar complex has been awarded a patent. The project was carried out jointly by Dr. Mohammed Alwan Al-Abassi, and Dr. Abdul Mahdi Talib Rahmat-Alah from the Solar Energy Unit at the Scientific Research Council (SRC).

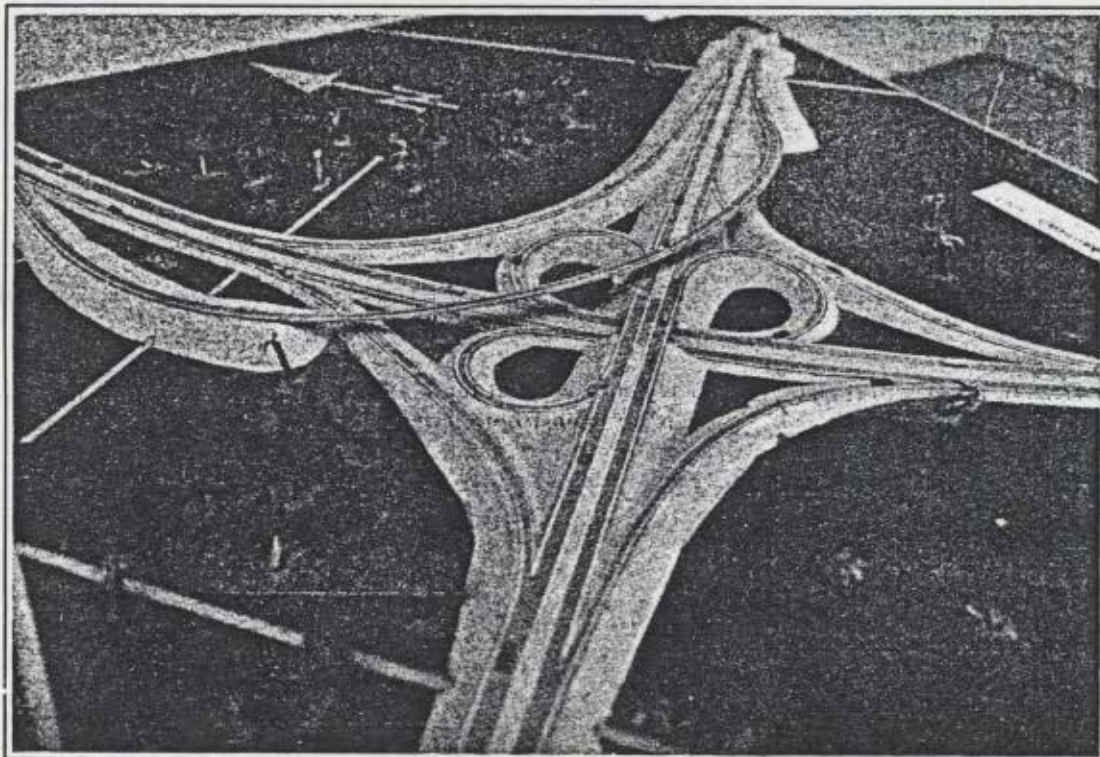
Meanwhile, activities continue at the Scientific Research which will be of high economic return and will also lead to a surge as far as application of researches for industrial purposes are concerned.

Many units and sections have been opened to this end recently in all fields of sciences.

The Geological Research Unit has been given due attention from the Scientific Research Council.

The unit has adopted a research plan to carry out a number of researches as in the field of petroleum and gas exploration.

Effective steps were taken to provide efficient geological staff and the up-to-date equipment sufficient to carry out these researches, and to develop the Geological Research Unit.



One of the high-way link Baghdad with southern Provinces

EDUCATION

and

UNIVERSITIES IN IRAQ

Iraq has never ceased to be the cultural and learning center of the Middle East. From the days of Hamourabi (1792 - 1750 B.C.) to the flourishing time of the Abbasid age (750 - 1258 A.D.), the eyes of the world were focussing on the cradle of civilization, best known today as Iraq.

With the coming of the July 17th Revolution, Iraq started to regain its cultural role and prestige. Students from all Arab and non-Arab countries flocked the Iraqi universities to acquire learning in various fields, ranging from medicine to business and from engineering to theology. Upon graduation, these young men and women are returning to their home countries to assume leadership and responsibilities. Among the many universities in Iraq, we find the following:

1. Baghdad University, in Baghdad. It includes all departments from Medicine to Business.
2. Mustansiriya University, in Baghdad
3. Technology University, in Baghdad
4. Al-Bakr University, in Baghdad
5. Mosul University, in Mosul, Northern region
6. Basrah University, in Basrah, Southern region
7. Salahuddin University, in Arbil
8. Kufa University, in Kufa

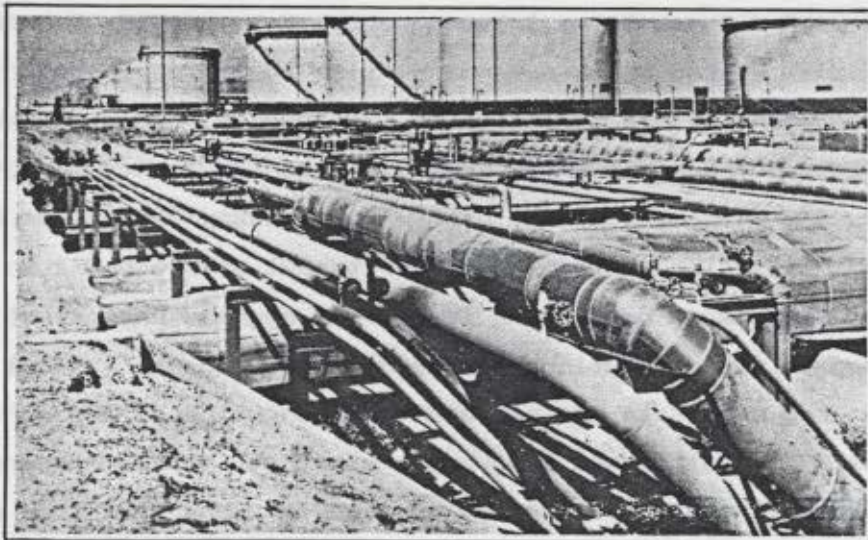
In addition to these major universities, there are also many specialized institutes where undergraduates can study subjects related to industry, agriculture, social studies and economics, as part of a plan to meet the country's ever-expanding requirements in all these fields. It must be noted here that education in Iraq, in all its stages, is free of charge for all citizens.

OIL POLICY

Iraq is a major oil producing country and a founding member of OPEC. In 1978 Iraq's crude oil production accounted for approximately 12.4 % of total Middle East production and 4.4 % of total world production. On June 1, 1972, the Iraqi government declared nationalization of its oil, and was successful in its efforts to market, refine, and ship its oil, ending a half century of foreign domination over the most vital sector in the Iraqi economy.

Iraq is one of the richest countries in oil reserves. It is also the sole country which markets its oil on a 100 per cent national basis to supply more than 50 countries.

Iraq opted from the start for a strategy of balanced growth. This is evident from the emphasis all economic programs and plans placed on the need to strike a balance between the levels of investment in the various economic sectors. The choice stemmed from a common sense decision consistent with the adequate financial resources of the country and the desire to diversify its economy and lessen its dependence on oil.



**Oil Nationalisation Enhanced
Iraq's Economic Independence**

The Iraq-Iran War

"THE TANKER WAR"

U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL CONDEMNS IRAN FOR RANDOM ATTACK ON VESSELS IN NEUTRAL ZONE

Following the Iranian attacks on Saudi and Kuwaiti vessels in the Gulf neutral zone, which prompted the meeting of the U.N. Security Council, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iraq issued on May 27, 1984, a statement clarifying the difference between the legitimate Iraqi attack on Iranian ships in the war operations zone declared by Iraq, and the arbitrary Iranian aggression against ships belonging to other Gulf states sailing far away from the military zone.

The Iraqi statement said, "Ships-owners and seamen realize in advance that failure to heed to the Iraqi warning will expose their vessels to the dangers of the war." "Iran on the other hand, had decided to strike at random against vessels in neutral and international waters, far from the theater of operation and neither approaching nor leaving Iraqi ports."

The statement warned "that any attempt from any quarter to link the new Iranian act of aggression with Iraqi measures arising from the right of legitimate self-defense is an infamous attempt to justify Iranian aggression against states which are not parties in the prolongation of the war and encouragement of the expansion of its arena." "Iraq strikes against vessels entering or leaving Iranian ports in response to Iran's actions against Iraq"; the statement added, "since by military force Iran has prevented free navigation in the Iraqi territorial waters and Iraqi ports, and since Iran insists on continuing its war of aggression against Iraq and refuses to heed to the resolutions of the Security Council and all international bodies calling for a halt to the war and the resolution of the conflict by peaceful means." The statement went on to say that, "the members of the Security Council and world opinion as a whole, know that Iran not only rejected resolution 540 (1983), formally and categorically, but has ignored all diplomatic efforts to prevent the escalation and expansion of the armed conflict."

Exposing the expansionist and aggressive nature of the Iranian regime, the statement reminded the Security Council that, "on February 22, 1984, Iran carried out a large-scale offensive on Iraqi territory and announced

that the objective of the attack was to occupy the Basra region, and consequently, to deprive Iraq totally of its position as a state on the Arabian Gulf with the right to exercise freedom of Commerce and navigation in it in the same manner as other states situated on the Gulf."

The U.N. Security Council, following its debate of the Kuwaiti and Saudi complaints, issued its condemnation against Iran for its attacks on vessels navigating in neutral waters.

Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, inaugurated the conference on behalf of President Saddam Hussein. He said, "The Iranian taking the region in the meaning of a new region in Iran that gave itself without any legal basis, the right to interfere in the internal affairs of the countries of the region." He added, "The Iranian regime has established this as a basis for its policy and its foreign relations."

He said that such a strategy and dangerous movement was behind the Iranian and the crisis in this important part of the world and was the cause of the economic decline of the Gulf region.

He said the world's handling of the war at the early stage had been every attempt to be a conflict of special interests between the warring countries, and that it did not expand further, the war attracted the attention of the world, but it had been described as "the forgotten war". This negative attitude will continue and has a grave impact on the continuation of the war and it was also a dangerous movement on the international level, which leaves the conflict and which prevented any further conflict between the two sides.

He pointed out that the current attention paid to the war reflected in the support of governments of different organizations and countries, as well as world political organizations, is a positive indication that the basis of the international law and human values will prevail over the international relations.

He said the new Iranian regime placed Iraq as the first target within its policy of "exporting the revolution" with the aim of changing the political and social structure of Iraq and the establishment of a new regime.

The Iraq-Iran War

- 18 -

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD IN BAGHDAD TO DISCUSS THE DANGEROUS EFFECTS OF THE IRAQ-IRAN WAR

On July 8th, 1984 an international conference was held in Baghdad to discuss the dangerous effects of the Iraq-Iran war.

Delegates from all over the world, representatives of international organizations and intellectual and political figures had gathered to demonstrate their concern over the continuation of the Gulf war.

Mr. Tareq Aziz, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, inaugurated the conference on behalf of President Saddam Hussein. He said, "The problem facing the region is the emerging of a new regime in Iran that gave itself, without any legal bases, the right to interfere in the internal affairs of the countries of the region." He added, "The Iranian regime had considered this as a basic task which was more important than its domestic affairs."

Mr. Aziz stressed that such a strange and dangerous phenomenon was behind the problems and the crisis in this important part of the world and was also one of the reasons behind the break-out of the Iraq-Iran war.

Aziz said the world's handling of the war at its early stages had been merely thought of as a conflict of special nature, between two neighboring countries, and since it did not expand further, the war attracted less attention to the extent that it had been described as "the forgotten war". This negative stand and attitude had had a grave impact on the continuation of the war and it was also a dangerous phenomenon on the international level, which leaves the conflict and crisis unresolved until their further complication threatens other parties outside the conflicts' area.

Aziz pointed out that the current attention paid to the war reflected in today's gathering of representatives of different organizations and societies, as well as world famed political personalities, is a positive indication that the basis of the international law and human values will prevail over the international relations.

Aziz said the new Iranian regime places Iraq as its first target within its policy of "exporting the revolution" with the aim of changing the political and social structure of Iraq and the establishment of a new regime

parallel to that in Iran under the full control of Khomeini himself, who is considered the one holding the final say on all affairs."

The Iraqi Foreign Minister concluded his remarks by calling on the international community to assume responsibility in ending the Gulf war. "If the international community was sincere and serious about ending the war, it would do so by depriving the party which insists on war and ignores the principles of international relations and international laws from all the means which enable it to continue this irrational and strange policy."

The conferees adopted a working program to be implemented on the international levels. Its main objective is to activate peace groups throughout the world as a mean of bringing world attention and creating awareness of the dangers of this war which must not be the concern of the Gulf region, but the world as a whole, in order to bring a just, honorable and durable solution to the conflict.

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Iraqi Olympic squad named

The Iraqi olympic squad for the coming Los Angeles Games to commence on July 28, has been named by the Iraqi National Olympic Committee (IOC).

The 40 member Iraqi delegation will be headed by Dr. Amir Ismail, First Vice-chairman of the IOC, who also led Iraq in the 1980 Olympics in Moscow.

The IOC delegation also includes, Mr. Falih Akram Fahmi, Chief of the athletic teams, Mrs. Nahida Al-Juburi, Assistant Chief of teams and Mr. Dhia Hassan, IOC member.



Ammo Baba, soccer team



Ismail Khalil, Iraq's only hope in boxing.



Muhammad Taher, talented weightlifter.



Muhammad Abdul Sattar, Arab wrestling champion.

Iraq will take part in four events, wrestling, boxing, weightlifting and football.

The Iraqi football team will be stationed in Boston to play in group II together with Canada, Cameroun and Yugoslavia. Their opening match will be against Canada on July 30, their next match will be against Cameroun on August 1, before they meet Yugoslavia in their last preliminary match on August 3.

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