

JPRS-NEA-85-065

JPRS-NEA-85-065  
8 May 1985

REF 7.00:45/065

5/8/85

IRAQ

#### AL-KARKH WATER COMPLEX NEARS COMPLETION

Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 25 Jan 85 p 7

[Text] At the end of next June the capital's mayor's office will celebrate the completion of the first stage of the greatest water purification and pure water distribution complex in the Middle East.

This announcement was made by the director general of the Baghdad Water Authority. He said that the aforementioned complex, which is the al-Karkh water complex, will meet the pure water needs of 2 million citizens in the area for the next 100 years. This calculation is made on the basis of expectations of the future geographic expansion of the area and its supplying parts of the al-Rusafah area of the capital with 300 million gallons of water per day over and above the needs of the al-Karkh area.

He explained that when the second stage of the project is completed it will provide 1,365,000,000 liters of water per day. Aside from its principal reservoir the project includes four huge ground ones, the capacity of whose northern one is 215,000 cubic meters and whose southern one is 150,000 cubic meters, while the Abu Ghurayb reservoir has a capacity of 78,000 cubic meters and the al-Taji reservoir, 72,000 cubic meters. All of them are connected by a group of pumping stations and a network of transport and distribution pipes 210 km in length and with a diameter of from 60 to 160 cm.

The director general stated that the test operation capacity of the project's first stage, which cost 330 million dinars, was 910 million liters per day. He pointed out that the work of designing the project and the procedures for implementing it are regarded as one of the innovative and creative activities of our national personnel. He said that some stages of the work required non-stop operations and cooling of the concrete with ice to overcome the effects of the high air temperature. Other stages required the digging of deep wells to draw off the water to a considerable depth below the foundation of the structures that were below the water table.

He added that the size of the project and the immensity of its structures required the support of 116,000 concrete pilings to ensure that the project would remain safe and sound under all conditions.

12541

CSO: 4404/235