SHOW OPEN AND MUSIC (24.75”)  

TEASES  

Coming up on 21st Century…  

[SYRIA TEASE]  

Making movies in no-man’s land: (Sound up: “I said to them: why don't we put these all together in a film?”) The Palestinian refugees who starred in their own films. (14.00”)  

[TRINIDAD & TOBAGO TEASE]  

Lured by quick money… vulnerable women get caught up in crime “Sound Up: He told me to carry one kilo of cocaine”… crisscrossing international borders with illicit drugs… (12.88”)  

ANKOR INTRO #1 (21.74”)  

Hello and welcome to 21st Century. I'm Daljit Dhaliwal.  

[SYRIA TEASE]  

Stranded in the desert, forgotten by most of the world, chased away by violence. That was the lot of several hundred Palestinian refugees who tried to flee the land they grew up in: Iraq. But the refugees found a creative way to change their lives for the better. Here’s their story.
# Iraq’s Refugee Filmmakers

**SCRIPT – SEGMENT # 1 (12’45”)**

## Video and Audio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video</th>
<th>Audio</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REFUGEES SAYING GOODBYE AND HUGGING</strong></td>
<td>NARRATION: Heartfelt goodbyes … and tears. (4.28”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REFUGEE CAMP</strong></td>
<td>It has been a long time. Many of these refugees – Palestinians who fled from Iraq – have been waiting for years to find a better life. They had given up hope – but now that’s changed. (12.35”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REFUGEES IN CAMP</strong></td>
<td>The Al Tanf camp, where they have been stranded, is in the no-man’s land between Syria and Iraq… It’s a desolate place. (9.65”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IRAQ VIOLENCE SCENES</strong></td>
<td>In 2006 hundreds of Palestinians, who had grown up in Iraq, set out across the desert. (6.37”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WAR CAPTIVES</strong></td>
<td>They were fleeing an upsurge in horrific violence – Palestinians were often the targets. (6.31”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUILDINGS BOMBED</strong></td>
<td>Yet when they arrived at the Al Tanf border crossing, this is as far as they got. No country would let them in. (6.53”)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The UN refugee agency set up this tent city in the desert – assuming it would stay here for only a few weeks. (6.09")

Then the weeks turned into years… (1.66")

“People began to be forced out when the militias arrived.” (2.60")

NARRATION:

Ali Salboud has been in Al Tanf for two years. In Baghdad he worked as a journalist. He was kidnapped twice … and let go both times. But his family and colleagues did not escape the country’s wave of sectarian violence, often carried out by militia groups. (15.94")

“We were told that we had to leave our home. We moved to the Dora area. Soon after that Dora became violent with people being displaced by force. They threatened families, telling them they had to leave their homes. We went to stay with my parents in Za'faraniyya. Then my brother was kidnapped. We still don't know where he is today. I was also threatened at work. My editor was murdered and I was advised to disappear for a while. “ (28.34")
ALI AND FAMILY

Ali entered Syria illegally with his family and went into hiding for months. Eventually they turned themselves in, hoping to be relocated to a new country, and they were sent to al Tanf. (10.84")

ALI AT CAMP SCHOOL

Ali soon established himself as a key figure in the camp – becoming the principal of Al Tanaf’s small school, where he teaches science. Many of the young refugees, including 13-year-old Shehab, look up to him. (13.16")

SHEHAB ON CAMERA

“He’s become my mentor – he’s like my father. My childhood was taken from me when I left Iraq. But it’s the reality I have to deal with, whether I like it or not.” (10.65")

NARRATION:

Nidaa Hassan’s family also suffered at the hands of militias. Masked men burst into her home and dragged away her husband – all this in front of her children. A month later, she went to the Baghdad morgue where she was shown a series of photos of mutilated bodies. (17.82")

NIDAA ON CAMERA

“You had to be attentive because you only saw each photo for five seconds. You hardly had any time. Then my husband’s
photo appeared, very briefly. “ (7.95”)

ARCHIVAL PHOTO OF NIDAA AND FAMILY

NARRATION:

She had to go home and tell her children that their father was dead. (4.44”)

NIDAA: (In Arabic)

“My daughter asked me: ‘Mum is Dad dead? Did you see him among the dead bodies?’ I said yes. They started shouting and screaming. My son Abdul-Rahman didn't say a word, he just wept incessantly. I held them all, all of them. And a voice in my head said to me: You need to be strong; you need to be strong to care for your children. You are all that they have left. “ (32.12”)

NARRATION:

NIDAA PACKING BOXES

Nidaa borrowed money, bought false passports and fled to Damascus. She hid there for a year. (5.46”)

But life as an illegal immigrant offered no future for her family. They, too, turned themselves in and were sent to al Tanf in July 2009. (9.84”)

GENERAL SHOTS CAMP

Many of these refugees have been uprooted several times – and they are all completely dependent on the UN refugee agency, and other aid groups. (8.40”)
Food and water have to be trucked in from Syria. (3.88")

The camp does have a few facilities – including a basic medical centre – and from time to time the barren stretches along the desert road become a playground of sorts … but it’s a life of isolation and monotony. (14.41")

Mutasem Hiyati is the UN refugee agency’s man on the ground. He grew up in a refugee camp himself. (5.78")

“We never expected that this would take three or four years. We imagined, and planned on the basis that there would be a solution in a couple of months – because it’s unacceptable that these people are left in such a situation. “ (10.84")

Helping refugees relocate to a new country often takes years … and gaining the world’s attention and assistance isn’t easy, especially when as many as two million Iraqis have fled their home country. (11.94")

It was Ali – the ex-journalist who realized one day that he had a solution on his doorstep – a way to raise awareness of Al Tanaf. (8.72")
ALI'S COMPUTER SCREEN

“...The boys used to be bored most of the time. I had a small digital camera and a computer so I went back to my old work, and became an amateur videographer. I would film in the camp and organize screenings, then I said to them: why don't we put these all together in a film? “

(15.21”)

NARRATION:

REFUGEES CHANTING/ HAPPY

There were happy moments ... but also disasters... (8.19”)

CAMP FIRE

Fires ... that reduced tents to ashes in minutes... (3.18”)

SNOWY CAMP

Snow.... sand storms... (7.37”)

FLOODS

...And floods that destroyed what little the refugees had ... but even then they kept a sense of humour. (9.62”)

ALI: (In Arabic)

“...It was so miserable that all the boys could do was laugh – there was a big pool of water and they were imagining themselves as Abu Dhabi National Geographic. “

(8.87”)

“...Any group that came, either a relocation delegation or a visitor, we would give them...
copies of the films. These copies were widely distributed, and they appeared on the internet. “ (9.94")

“Sometimes me and the guys would look at these films and think how were we able to achieve all this with such modest means? So it makes us proud.” (11.40")

NARRATION:

GRAPHICS OF “EVANA DREAMS” FILM

One of the most successful films focused on a young girl living in the camp – it was called “Evana Dreams. (28.06")

EVANA: (In Arabic)

“I like the camp; I like all the people that are in it. If it wasn’t for the storms and the rain and the wind it would have been a normal life for me. But we don’t want tents, we want houses. We want children to go out and play outdoors and to be happy. Not just for me, for all the children. I like all the people here in the camp.” (11.50")

NARRATION:

Films like this, along with the persistent efforts of the UN refugee agency, did eventually succeed in bringing the attention of the world – and that, in turn, brought practical results. (11.50")

ALI: (In Arabic)

“I have received my bags today and will
begin packing. I am pleased; this is the moment I've been waiting for. “ (6.50”) 

NARRATION:
Ali is going to Italy. He’s one of the last to leave. The first group of Al-Tanf refugees left for Chile in 2008 – then several European countries opened their doors … as well as Canada. (8.25”) 

Over 750 refugees have found new homes so far. (2.44”) 

Definitely worth a celebration. (2.00”) 

EXCHANGE BETWEEN ALI AND SON: (In Arabic) 
FATHER: “Leave it here – we can’t take it with us.” (1.34”) 
BOY: “No, I want to put it in the other bag.” (1.34”) 
FATHER: “Leave it and they will send it to us later.” (2.13”) 
BOY: “No.” (0.50”) 
FATHER: “There isn’t enough space, my love.” (1.41”) 
FATHER: “Aren’t you going to miss your friends here? “ (1.53”) 
BOY: “Are there any left? “ (0.50”) 
MOTHER: “Not a single one of his friends is left. They have all gone. He's the last one here. “ (3.81”)
BAGS BEING PACKED

NARRATION:
The joy at finally being able to escape Al Tanf camp is tempered by other feelings. (5.53")

ALI ON CAMERA

“The weather has been strange and since nine this morning that I have been wandering around the camp, like a person who is going to be losing something. I have strange, mixed feelings – I’ll not have to worry about fires anymore – and thank God I’ll be able to keep my children safe. But I am afraid of the unknown and I don’t know what my destiny is going to be. I’m sad thinking about all the friends I’ve made in the past two years. I love them and they love me. “ (35.43")

GENERAL CAMP VIEWS

“I’ll be able to keep my children safe. But I am afraid of the unknown and I don’t know what my destiny is going to be. I’m sad thinking about all the friends I’ve made in the past two years. I love them and they love me. “ (35.43")

ALI CRYING

“This is the hardest thing. The thing that I fear the most – is the moment of farewell. “ (6.06")

NARRATION:

In another corner of the camp … the moving truck has arrived. Household goods are packed up. (6.72")

BIG MOVING TRUCK

NIDAA PACKING IN HER TENT

Nidaa is also moving her all her belongings. She is going to another refugee camp in north-eastern Syria where there is brick housing and a safer environment – but it’s
only another temporary solution and it’s a long way from the new life she craves. 

(14.32")

**NIDAA ON CAMERA**

I feel so scared but I am hoping there will be a solution for me, and for my children – and soon. Not in two years or three years, because time is going by. My children just think they are wasting the years. My children want to study. (18.72")

**NARRATION:**

It’s time for goodbyes. Unlike Ali, young Shehab is still waiting to hear which country he will go to. (7.34")

**REFUGEES SAY GOODBYE**

For some of the refugees it will be years before they see their brothers, mothers, sons and daughters again. And yet, the memories of their life together in Al Tanf will always be preserved – thanks to their films. (13.53")

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**ANCHOR INTRO #2 (19.17")**

**[TRINIDAD & TOBAGO INTRO]**

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the global drug trade is worth some 523 billion dollars. Caught in the middle are unsuspecting women, tempted by dealers to work as couriers. We spoke to two of them in Trinidad and Tobago. Here’s our story…
**SCRIPT – SEGMENT #2 (10’45”)**

**Trinidad and Tobago: Just One Trip**

<table>
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<th>VIDEO</th>
<th>AUDIO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANIMATION – HIBISCUS</td>
<td><em>(NATSOT – DRUG MULE SKIT)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“He told me he would give me money. He told me he would pay for my mother to get well. He told me he could solve all my problems. He told me I had to make one little trip to London.” <em>(14.34”)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANIMATION OF AIRPLANE FLYING</td>
<td>NARRATION:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The film, “Eva Goes to Foreign”, shows how some women are enticed into the drug trade. <em>(5.90”)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NICOLE’S PROFILE IN CAR</td>
<td>It’s a scene that 33-year-old Nicole knows only too well. <em>(4.00”)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NICOLE IN CAR</td>
<td>Nicole, who has asked us not to use her real name, became a drug ‘courier’– a person who carries drugs for traffickers. <em>(6.17”)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARS AND STREETS</td>
<td>It all began one day in 2005 when she met a friend in downtown Port-of-Spain, the capital city of Trinidad &amp; Tobago. Nicole told him she was desperate. <em>(13.30”)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NICOLE: (In English)
“I was talking to him about problems I was having at home with my husband. We were separating. He wasn’t caring for the kids and things were a bit hard.” (11.69”)

NARRATION:

NICOLE AT A BAR
With three children to feed, it was getting harder to support her family by herself.
Nico needed some quick cash. (6.71”)

NICOLE: (In English)
“A girl passed by with her flashy car and he told me what she does. “ (5.00”)

NARRATION:

PEOPLE IN STREET
Her friend said that the girl was a courier.
Nicole was intrigued. She thought this could help her start a new life in the UK.
Her friend said he could help her out. (10.38”)

NICOLE: (In English)
“He introduced me to his friends. He told me to carry one kilo of cocaine and he would give me some money. It was probably 500 US.” (12.46”)

NARRATION:

HANDS HOLDING PACK OF COCAINE
Not much money compared to the street value of one kilo of cocaine – 70,000 US dollars in the UK. But for Nicole, every dollar counted. (10.13”)

13
NICOLE ON CAMERA

NICOLE: (In English)
“I said well why not. I'll carry it.” (2.00”)

ANIMATION: SILHOUETTE OF WOMAN

NARRATION:
And with that, Nicole became one of the many couriers in Trinidad and Tobago. The twin-islands’ strategic location makes it an ideal trans-shipment point for traffickers. According to the Caribbean Community and Common Market, CARICOM, some 310 metric tons of cocaine transit the Caribbean to Europe every year. Almost half of that is seized by customs. But drug couriers keep trying. (27.87”)

NICOLE WALKING THROUGH CORRIDOR TO BEDROOM

The dealers contacted Nicole two weeks after the initial rendezvous. They took her luggage and packed it. She collected it from them at the airport. (9.88”)

(NATSOT - NICOLE IN CAR TO AIRPORT)

NARRATION:

NICOLE CLOSING CAR TRUNK AND WALKING INTO AIRPORT

Ticket in hand, Nicole attempted to smuggle what she thought was one kilo of cocaine into England. (6.33”)

NARRATION:

NICOLE AT AIRPORT

She was nervous … her first hurdle was getting onto the plane. But Nicole got lucky. (5.47”)

14
NICOLE: (In English)

“When we reached the airport, they had two flights in the same line. The flight was boarding, so they just took everybody and started to let them pass through… I didn’t get checked.” (13.52”)

NARRATION:

Nicole had managed to evade customs in Trinidad… (3.30”)

NARRATION:

But her luck ran out when she got to London. (3.20”)

NICOLE: (In English)

“An immigration man stopped us. He said: 'We believe that you have an illegal substance.'” (6.13”)

NARRATION:

They checked her suitcase. Instead of one kilo of cocaine, they found four. (7.57”)

NARRATION:

Charged with narco-trafficking, Nicole was sentenced to seven years in prison. (5.43”)

15
“She was devastated by the sentence. I think at one time she protested her innocence but in the end I believe she pleaded guilty. I think to get a lesser sentence.” (10.02”)

Olga Heaven is the founder of Hibiscus – the charity that commissioned the video about Eva. She’s helping foreigners navigate the justice system. (8.57”)

“There is an assumption by women carrying drugs that if I go to this country I’m going to get away with it. This is what the organizers are telling them. I think we need to try and break that.” (9.30”)

What they don’t tell them is that drug trafficking sentences can stretch from five to 15 years. (5.80”)

Some drug couriers get caught before they even leave the island. This young woman, whom we will call Tammy, is a British citizen. She got caught when she tried to smuggle cocaine into England but was stopped on her way out of the Caribbean. She claims that she was tricked by her
“He asked me to take some chocolates, Trinidadian sweets, back to England for a friend.” (6.75”)

The police didn’t buy her story. Tammy’s friend coaxed her into swallowing dozens of cocaine pellets and to take some in her luggage. But before she set foot on the plane, police arrested her. She denied it was cocaine and insisted it was chocolate. (18.19”)

“He said to me if this was really chocolate you would bite it, right? And he asked me to bite it. So I bit it. After five minutes, I couldn’t stand, almost fainted, and the police officers rushed me to the hospital.” (15.35”)

Tammy was lucky to survive. Others aren’t as fortunate. Many drug couriers die each year from accidentally overdosing on their smuggled goods. This woman died when cocaine pellets burst inside her. (14.03”)

“I have actually witnessed a lady who came...
into the UK from Madrid, but she originated from South America. (5.38")

**NARRATION:**

**FEMALE OFFICER ON CAMERA**  This customs officer asked us not to use her name. (2.40")

**CUSTOMS OFFICER:** (In English)

“…And what had happened is that she had swallowed the packages, and some of them she had to re-swallow because of the length of time. And one of the packages burst and she died upstairs in the immigration holding area.” (13.37")

**NARRATION:**

**BAGS ON CONVEYER BELT**  Every year, UK customs discover thousands of women from West Africa and the Caribbean carrying illicit drugs. (7.53")

**CUSTOMS OFFICER:** (In English)

“A lot of girls come through. If they are carrying drugs, they appear nervous or agitated.” (4.74")

“Sometimes they dress themselves up to look very smart and it doesn’t look quite right when you have a lot of people still in their holiday outfits.” (8.95")

**NARRATION:**

**OFFICER ON CAMERA**  With new technology, it’s harder to trick customs officers. (3.26")
CUSTOMS OFFICER: (In English)

“We also have body scan machine which is very similar to an x-ray but not quite so powerful. And that will enable us to see all the intestines and the stomach area and we will be able to see any packages that are there.” (15.91")

NARRATION:

Body searches, machine scans and canine checks help to deter would-be traffickers. And warning videos like “Eva Goes to Foreign" have stopped some couriers. (9.93")

HEAVEN: (In English)

“There has been a fantastic decrease – in fact, I would say up to 85% or 90% decrease in the numbers of women who are bringing drugs from Jamaica. And also from places like Nigeria and Ghana for example that is cut down by 95%. We also launched a campaign in Trinidad and the number has dropped dramatically.” (18.67")

NARRATION:

But with tighter security at airports, traffickers are becoming smarter. (3.73”)

PHILBERT: (In English)

“We have people being very ingenuous in
the way they move drugs out of Trinidad and Tobago.” (6.65”)

NARRATION:

James Philbert is Acting Commissioner of Police in Trinidad. He says traffickers are constantly searching for new ways to move their drugs. (7.44”)

PHILBERT: (In English)

“… Embedding the drugs into furniture then using the drugs as bits of artifacts.” (3.80”)

“Every conceivable method is being employed to take drugs out of the country.” (5.78”)

NARRATION:

But stopping drugs from coming in, is another challenge. (3.69”)

Trinidad’s many ports and harbours are ideal for traffickers. Policing the waters is a strain on Trinidad and Tobago’s resources. But the international community is helping with intelligence, surveillance radars, and aerial patrols. And the coast guard is already putting that intelligence to work. (20.79”)
NATSOT – STOPPING SMALL BOAT

COAST GUARDS ON BOAT

With fast boats for missions both offshore and close to land, these marine patrols are effective. (9.23")

TWO BOATS

This small boat was just fishermen on the way home. But this one, recently intercepted, was loaded with more than 800 kilos of drugs. (8.97")

POLICE CAR WITH POLICEMEN

Police say that drug smugglers are also moving firearms into the country leading to a spike in gun-related crimes, as criminal gangs fight for their share in the drug trade. (11.12")

PHILBERT ON CAMERA

"We can attribute a lot of the crime to the fact that the drugs are present and drugs are trafficked in Trinidad and Tobago." (7.83")

NARRATION:

POLICE ON STREETS

Police are responding with heavily armed foot patrols in Port-of-Spain neighbourhoods. (4.90")

Their constant presence is intended to reassure and protect the public. (4.34")

TRAFFICKERS WITH GUNS

But the traffickers aren't giving up. (1.77")
PHILBERT ON CAMERA

PHILBERT: (In English)
"The drug pushers are very, very strong in pursuing what they want done. People still come here, unsuspecting people, who think that one trip could make them wealthy for the rest of their lives." (13.59")

NARRATION:

TAMMY WALKING OUT OF DOOR

For Nicole and Tammy, they learned the hard way. (2.00")

NICOLE IRONING

Tammy is serving a five-year prison sentence while Nicole is out on parole. She is back with her family leading a quiet life. (8.49")

Nicole cautions anyone looking to make quick money from smuggling drugs to think twice. (5.84")

NICOLE: (In English)

NICOLE ON CAMERA

“You might think you have the biggest problem and this is the only way. This is not the only way. You'll have more problems down the road.” (7.00")

CELL DOOR CLOSING

[SHOW CLOSE] (8.00”)

That’s all for this edition of 21st CENTURY. I’m Daljit Dhaliwal. We’ll see you next time. Until then, goodbye.
CREDITS #39 (38.97”):

21st Century

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