



Irrigating India: My Five Years as a USAID Advisor

by Sol Resnick as told to Elaine Minow Resnick, published by P.B.Publishing, a division of Printstar Books, \$12.95

Reviewed by Lorne Graham Wilson, Ph.D. – Hydrologist Emeritus, University of Arizona

Following World War II, teams of professionals, under the auspices of the U.S. Agency for International Development, dedicated themselves to improving the lives of villagers in third world countries. Sol Resnick, one of the finest representatives of this group, worked alongside native villagers in drought stricken regions of India to construct small-scale irrigation projects. Working under difficult and often dangerous conditions, he

demonstrated the effectiveness of a large number of village-scale projects as opposed to fewer large-scale schemes. Following his experience in India, he had an acclaimed academic career at the University of Arizona.

Resnick's hydrological expertise was sought in countries throughout the world. In looking back over a life of accomplishments, he feels the best five years of his life were those spent in India. I worked with Dr. Resnick for more than 20 years and was always delighted when he reminisced about his experiences in India. This memoir allows his recollections to be shared with a wider audience. Told in his usual modest style with his fine sense of humor, I strongly recommend this memoir to both technical and lay audiences. It should be required reading for those contemplating assignments in the Peace Corps.

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