



**30 for 30 Shorts: *Ali: The Mission*, narrated by John Legend, premieres today on Grantland.com showcasing Muhammad Ali's 1990 mission to free hostages in Iraq**

The next film in ESPN Films' *30 for 30 Shorts* series premieres today on Grantland.com. *Ali: The Mission*

, narrated by musician John Legend, delves into perhaps one of the most important, but least known, feats of Muhammad Ali's remarkable life. In 1990, the boxing legend traveled to Iraq to press a plea for peace and negotiate with Saddam Hussein for the release of U.S. civilians taken hostage after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Ali risked his reputation, health and safety for the freedom of prisoners held by Hussein as "human shields" to deter U.S. military strikes. On January 16, 1991, only six weeks after Ali brought 15 hostages back home to their relieved families, Operation Desert Storm bombarded Iraq.

Check it out [here](#) .

## Check Out Film On Muhammad Ali Freeing Hostages in Iraq

Written by The Sweet Science  
Wednesday, 16 January 2013 17:32

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{loadposition 30\_for\_30\_Shots}

“There are so many stories and myths out there about The Greatest, but this one struck a personal chord with me as I don’t know that people today are even aware of Ali’s immense philanthropic work or this specific mission to Iraq before Desert Storm began,” said the film’s narrator John Legend. “Entertainers and athletes are often blessed with a platform from which to improve the world, and it was an honor for me to be the voice of this film showcasing the incredible journey Ali made that changed the lives of these hostages forever.”

In this *30 for 30* short, directed by Amani Martin (*Benji*, HBO’s *Brooklyn Dodgers: The Ghosts of Flatbush*), former hostages discuss their harrowing tales of captivity, their euphoria in being liberated, and their enduring gratitude to Ali for his selfless, humanitarian mission. ESPN Films’ *30 for 30 Shorts* series is artfully crafted by Blue Moon.

Previous films from the *30 for 30 Shorts* series include *Arnold’s Blueprint*, *The Arnold Palmer* and *Jake*, which can all be viewed on Grantland.com.

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### **deepwater says:**

good for ali. ali to saddam= hey man just let the americans go and we wont bomb you. saddam to ali= ok, I just want to trade my oil without buying dollars first. ali = sureeeeeee. lol. in recent times..... obama to qaddafi = with this war on terror thing you must arrest all al quida or we will bomb you. qaddafi to obama= ok, here are many al quida we have arrested for you. we just want to back the african dinar with gold so we dont have to buy dollars first to sell our oil. obama= sureeeeeeeee lol

### **Bernie Campbell says:**

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Not bad for a friscoe that advertised bug killer! That was about the same time, right?

### **SouthPaul says:**

Excellent watch. Short but informative. Watching the clip of Ali defy and tell the Us government to go \*\*\*\* themselves concerning the draft will forever give me chills. You want this man to go fight YOUR bullshit war but this same man can't even drink or eat in the same establishment as your cracka' \*\*\*? Yea, give that some thought white superiority complex America.

### **deepwater says:**

[QUOTE=SouthPaul;24702]Excellent watch. Short but informative. Watching the clip of Ali defy and tell the Us government to go \*\*\*\* themselves concerning the draft will forever give me chills. You want this man to go fight YOUR bullshit war but this same man can't even drink or eat in the same establishment as your cracka' \*\*\*? Yea, give that some thought/reflection white superiority complex America.

Listen of the day; Thats What It Is by Immortal Technique. If you haven't heard it, do so, cause it's one of the best in the last 20 years of the rap game.

Here it is: [url][http://m.youtube.com/index?&desktop\\_uri=%2F#/watch?v=u1bPwaRV\\_gk](http://m.youtube.com/index?&desktop_uri=%2F#/watch?v=u1bPwaRV_gk)

I think Radam did that little holla' hook.[/QUOTE]

blood for the machine my man. we just got involved in yet another war today against mali. mali is so poor there army practices with no live ammo. they just say bang bang. follow the gold.

### **Radam G says:**

"So poor

### **SouthPaul says:**

Lol, that was indeed an instant classic.