

# Postcards from Iraq

## Making A Difference with Bridges and Healthcare...



My stay here at the Gulf Region Division in Iraq has been rewarding. I've met and worked with some outstanding people. To my amazement, I had the opportunity to personally engage with high-level government and military officials both from the U.S. Government and Government of Iraq which in my wildest dream I never thought would happen.

I found myself in many intense situations which would normally deter you from completing your task, but with the help of my outstanding staff we were able to overcome and complete the task.

I worked on many \$2.2 billion in projects, nearly 1,500 overall, which I hope will contribute to the restoration of the Iraq.

I had the opportunity to fly on helicopters and various aircraft. I was able to ride in a few armored vehicles. I went into the neighborhoods and saw how the people of Iraq were surviving.

I contributed to a committee which was put together to solve the problem with the insurgent activity associated with recent bridge attacks.

I was also able to accomplish the task of providing the much needed Primary Healthcare Centers to the people along with working on the Basrah Children's Hospital – a priority of the First Lady Laura Bush. The hospital is the Iraqi version of a St. Jude's hospital here in Iraq.

The Iraqi people that I had the pleasure of working with were excellent and I take away a little bit of the Iraqi culture with me. I would like to thank them for allowing me to be a part of their community and sharing in their culture.

I missed my family while I was gone. If it wasn't for the support of my family, especially my wife Kimberly, I wouldn't have been able to succeed in my task. I would like to say hello to all my kids Megan, Samantha A., Samantha B., Victoria, Nicholas and Gregory. Also, hello to Ma and Dad...I'll see you all soon.



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Here are some photos of me during a site visit to the recently destroyed bridge in Baghdad. I contributed to a committee helping to solve these issues.