

# Postcards from Iraq

'Proud of being a part of this great reconstruction effort'

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It hasn't seemed like a year since I arrived, but now it's time to turn my duties and responsibilities over to CSM Orville Wang from the 34<sup>th</sup> Engineers out of North Dakota. We've had many outstanding individuals pass through our organization during the past year and I've had the pleasure to meet them all and work directly with several. What a great mixture — Army, Navy, Reserve Forces, and civilians from all over and every individual working toward a common goal. What an outstanding effort!

I've visited our different offices and site locations, seeing everyone and the projects the district is involved with: fire stations, water purification, electrical upgrades, sewer, schools, police stations, health clinics. The progression and accomplishments since I first arrived are amazing. This is the

definite result of team effort and dedication that could not have been done without each and every one in the Central District. I depart holding my head up high and proud of being a part of this great reconstruction effort and important part of Iraq's history which will increase the quality of life for the Iraqi people for generations to come.

To those leaving, I want to thank you for your service and dedication. And to everyone, again I express my thanks for all you have done and a special thank you goes out to your families for their support. I hope my time here has made a difference and that I am leaving things a little better than when I arrived. This has been an indescribable experience for me and I could not have asked for a better deployment. Thank you!

*"A man's got to have a code, a creed to live by. I won't be wronged, I won't be insulted, and I won't be laid a hand on. I don't do these things to other people and I require the same from them."* — John Wayne from his final movie "The Shootist"

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