

# Postcard from Iraq

Lt. Col. Darren Gibbs, U.S. Air Force



I'm an Air Force Civil Engineer on loan for six months to the US Army Corps of Engineers in Balad, Iraq. I'm standing in front of a barrier painted with the Air Force Civil Engineer logo/mascot--Prime BEEF Bull (BEEF = Base Engineer Emergency Force).



My family, "The Gibbsters", the day I deployed from Hampton, Virginia



I bought this "boonie" hat highlighting artisan craftwork and my passion for the Washington Redskins...as well as the war effort and our location. One hat says it all!



Die-hard Redskins fan



My first biathlon at LSA Anaconda—800 meter swim followed by a 5K run. I met my goal...I did it! (and got the T-shirt)



I had my picture taken with "The King" on his birthday. The barrier art has LVIS written on it—Large Vehicle Inspection Site...a play on words.