

Postcards from Iraq

The 'Right-hand Man'

By Staff Sgt. Ricky Wells

Command Sgt. Maj. Administrative Non-commissioned Officer



Sgt Ricky Wells marks a birthday milestone in Iraq with Command Sgt. Major Alcivar .



Wells' duties carried him to remote locations throughout Iraq. GRD has three districts, 10 area offices and 27 area resident offices throughout the country.

My experience with GRD has been a very unique one. Being the "right-hand man" to the Division Command Sergeant Major, my hobbies here were "WORK", as stated by my former boss, Command Sgt. Maj. Alcivar.

It was a never ending learning process that I enjoyed, even though, sometimes it became frustrating. Over this past year, I've developed as a better person, leader and Soldier. Each day was something different, whether it was planning a mission to Basra to visit projects or getting fussed at by Bonnie because she needed ice for the command general's dinner event. I was able to visit different parts of the country, such as: Taji, Diwaniyah, Balad, Erbil, Tikrit, and Mosul. I've seen the Corps of Engineers at its finest, doing what we do best. (...with the help of a few hundred million dollars!)

I've met some great people and learned about their culture. I've even found out how fast I *REALLY* am, thanks to the C-RAM (counter-rocket artillery and mortar) siren!

All-in-all, it was great, it's over and it's time to go home! There's a Cadillac at someone's car lot with my name on it!

Staff Sgt. Ricky Wells
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Fellow GRD members gather to celebrate Wells' promotion to Staff Sgt.



Wells receives end of tour awards from Command Sgt. Maj. Prater.