

Postcards from Iraq

My time in Iraq ...

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It's been a challenging and rewarding experience.

I was assigned as the NCOIC at Gulf Region Division Central District's International Zone Resident Office. Our team included 45 U.S. and Iraqi engineers overseeing 150 construction projects totaling \$550 million.

It was a challenging environment and we had to coordinate our efforts with a number of different maneuver units, Government of Iraq Ministry officials, and community leaders to meet our mission.

But the rewarding thing for me was when all our efforts came together and we could see the positive impact we were having on some very needy Iraqi families.

To help them get clean, drinking water and modern health care and view their kids smiling — those were the moments when you knew we were making a difference. That was the driving daily motivation to continue to push forward and get these essential services back up and running.

What more could you ask from a deployment?

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SFC Perry Foster checks the pumps that will be used for a \$1.8 million Ghazaliya Sewer Collapse Repair Project.