

# Postcards from Iraq

A great team  
doing an important mission

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As an Army Reservist with over 20 years service, I never imagined I'd be among those deployed to Baghdad. But this experience has definitely proved to be a highlight of my career. I've learned about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the incredible projects they're overseeing to ensure a better Iraq.

What is especially noteworthy is the way this staff works together and supports each other — the camaraderie and teamwork is just remarkable. We may be in a war zone far from our loved ones — but there's a definite bond you develop with those around you. We're all part of an historic mission and that's what makes this work so motivating and satisfying.

Every day we're making a difference for Iraqi fathers, mothers and their children improving their neighborhoods — things like new water and sewer lines bringing those essential services to their homes in many cases for the first time ever. These are the kinds of efforts that energize us through the long hours this job requires.

There's no question, this assignment has been an opportunity of a lifetime. Working alongside military personnel from all services, our civilians, and most important our Iraqi associates has allowed me to share stories and gain friendships with a variety of terrific people. I couldn't have asked for a better tour.

In April, I'll conclude my one-year deployment and I'm definitely looking forward to seeing my family. I'll be taking home some tremendous memories that will be with me forever. Thanks for this great experience.

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