

Postcards from Iraq

People achieving great things in Iraq...



When I worked with 401st Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) in South West Asia (SWA) Qatar from 2004-2006, I used to deal with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and funding projects in Arifjan, Kuwait. I was amazed at the job well done, people doing the work and how quickly it had been done. The Command Sergeant Major at that time told me about the commander walking among the construction, proud of the achievement.

I got the chance to join USACE and came to Iraq in June 2007 for a one year tour. The first thing that met my eyes was how difficult the mission is and how the people challenged the dangers of mortars and rockets to help build the New Iraq. Every day I see and read about new achievements: hospitals, schools, roads, bridges, courthouses and other construction all over the country.

As Army Chief of Engineers and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Commanding General Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp said "If you do your jobs well, no one notices; if you don't, everyone notices. Engineers are often the unsung heroes of the Nation."

I'm honored to have the pleasure and proud of serving with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in this most interesting time.



Samy Ghabbour
Gulf Region Division
Baghdad, Iraq

Multi-National Force-Iraq Commander General David Petraeus thanks Samy Ghabbour for his service in support of the Iraq reconstruction mission. Ghabbour works in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division 's Internal Review office.