

Postcards from Iraq

Confidence and Changes



To My Brothers and Sisters:

Here's my short story. August 2007 saw my fear of the challenging tasks that some officers shoulder here. Then came two months of duty at Gulf Region Central district, and four at the International Zone (IZ) Resident Office. Fifty site visits. Indirect fire attacks. Interaction with beautiful, smiling children. This month sees my craving for home, yet also for more duty, more travel, and more excitement.

We all walk away with opinions. Here's mine: the USACE machine grinds its gears. We apply U.S. rules to a very, very foreign country. Yet we perpetuate an historic blessing in that we make fewer mistakes than our enemies; and we plow through curses, sloth, and rumor to ever manage to do it all. Thus we shall guide this country out of dark Darwinism into their own incarnation of the best that imperfect men and women can organize in this world.



Lt. Cdr. Shaulis and friend at a Baghdad hospital.



Lt. Cdr. Scott Shaulis, center, and escort soldiers.

Now to remove the log from my own eye! These six months have grown me from a low position of selfish ignorance into a better man that my God, my wife, and my service shall welcome. I have taken a lot from you. I hope I have given back more.

Pray.

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