

# Postcards from Iraq

## Why I came back for another 6-month tour

By Sherry Gaylor  
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Chief of Contracting, Gulf Region Division Central District

My friends call me crazy and my family thinks I should probably be committed but somehow I just can't help myself when the call for help is sent to our districts.

Even after 11 deployments, some of which were in pretty difficult places (Afghanistan, Kosovo, Macedonia, Bosnia), I still have a passion for my job.

As Chief of the Contracting Office at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division Central District, it's not only a challenge, but there are such great rewards at the end of the day and at the end of your tour. Working with all the unique individuals that cross your path and solving problems make each day a little different. While the news back home might look bleak, all one has to do is look at the faces of the military we support to know we're making a difference.

What's really unique about this assignment is I have the honor of working here at Camp Victory with my oldest son David, who jokingly said, "look at us Mom, who would have ever thought we'd be sitting across from each other in the DFAC (dining facility), both in ACU's and in a war zone", how much prouder could a Mom be.

Never in your civilian career will you ever face a greater challenge than

working in Iraq. So what's stopping you — venture outside your box and see a whole new world and make a difference.

Meet and work with different people from different backgrounds, meet new friends and make new memories — you won't regret it.

I know I sure won't. Who knows I might be back.

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Sherry Gaylor provides training to local Iraqi construction firm owners about the bidding process and what a winning proposal is all about.

