



Celebrating U.S. Constitution, The U.S. and Its Soldiers With Children's Songs

By John Connor
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TALLIL, Iraq—Mitch Peterson, a program analyst with the Gulf Region South district of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, received an email the other day from his sister-in-law back in California and they'd both like to share the contents of that email with others here in Iraq.

Attached to the email were several songs written by Mitch's sister-in-law, Cherry Carl, in connection with Constitution Week in U.S. schools, which ran from from Sept. 17 to Sept. 21 and is intended to celebrate and honor the U.S. Constitution. ([Patriotic Pride Songbook](#))

Cherry, who lives in El Cajon, Calif., taught elementary school there for about 35 years and now teaches teachers at the University of California.

She had been asked to write a poem for use with primary school- aged children but wound up writing several songs instead.

Cherry forwarded her songs to Mitch in the hope that he'd share them with other Americans in Iraq in order to, in Cherry's words, "Let them know that we appreciate what you're all doing here."

The songs are available under "Themes Thruway" on Cherry's website, www.carlscorner.us. The plan, said Mitch, is for the words eventually to be put to music and published on a CD for children.