

February 2, 2008

USACE Project Manager Robin Parks honored

By John Connor Gulf Region South District

TALLIL, Iraq — Robin Parks, a U.S. Corps of Engineers project manager in the health care area, was honored for "exceptionally meritorious service" with the Corps' Gulf Region South district.

Parks was presented the Superior Civilian Service Award by Col. Steve Hill, commander of GRS, at an awards ceremony at GRS headquarters here.

Parks served in Iraq from Oct. 28, 2006 until early February 2008. She was directly responsible during that time for more than 113 projects (valued at more than \$146 million) according to her citation. Parks "made it her personal goal to bring quality heath care to millions of Iraqis who suffered through years of neglect," the citation read.

Primary healthcare centers to provide medical services to the people of Iraq were prominent among the projects Parks managed.



USACE Project Manager Robin Parks receives the Superior Civilian Service Award from Col. Steve Hill, GRS commander. (USACE photo by Betsy Weiner)

There are 58 PHC projects in the GRS area, which covers the nine southern provinces of Iraq. Thirty-one are "construction completed or turned over" to Iraqi authorities, Parks said, adding that construction is expected to be completed before long on another dozen or so PHCs.

Parks said that "15 PHC months has been like 30 regular months, but I wouldn't trade this experience for anything."

She added that "this tour, working with healthcare facilities and hospitals, has been much more fulfilling than working on police stations on my first tour" in Iraq.

"Ms. Parks' actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of civilian service and reflect distinct credit upon herself, the Gulf Region Division, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," her citation read.

Note: John Connor is a public affairs officer with the Gulf Region South district, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Iraq. Email requests to *CEGRD.PAO@tac01.usace.army.mil*. For more information on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq, visit www.grd.usace.army.mil.