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General overseeing Iraq reconstruction promoted

By Patricia Ryan Gulf Region Division, Baghdad, Iraq



Maj. Gen. Jeffrey J. Dorko receives his promotion from Commanding General Raymond T. Odierno, Multi-National Force-Iraq in a ceremony at the Annex chapel, GRD Baghdad, Iraq. (USACE photo by Hussain Al Taie)

Baghdad, Iraq - Brig. Gen. Jeffrey J. Dorko, out-going commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Gulf Region Division, received a promotion to the rank of Major General on October 9 in a ceremony presided over by the commanding general of Multi-National Force-Iraq, Gen. Raymond T. Odierno.

"The greatest resource in Iraq is the people," Dorko said, as he addressed the audience which included U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, Mr. Ryan Crocker, Iraqi dignitaries, military and civilian personnel as well as contractors and Iraqis who work for GRD.



Maj. Gen. Jeffrey J. Dorko, Gen. Raymond T. Odierno and Maj. Gen. Michael R. Eyre salute the flag during the change of command ceremony, October 9, 2008, in Baghdad, Iraq. (USACE photo by Douglas Roberts)

Dorko, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and native of Marblehead, Ohio, is departing Iraq to his new assignment as deputy commander for Military and International Operations at Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Washington, D.C., where he will continue to be intricately involved in the Iraq reconstruction mission. He will be replaced at GRD by Maj. Gen. Michael R. Eyre, whose previous assignment was commander of the 416th Engineer Command.

During Dorko's tenure as commander, he oversaw completion of more than 500 projects in support of the mission of GRD to provide quality, responsive, full spectrum engineering in Iraq.

"The mission isn't to rebuild Iraq; it's to help rebuild Iraq, because the Iraqis are the ones doing the real rebuilding," Dorko said in his farewell speech.

The projects include renovation and construction of hospitals, primary health-care facilities; municipal buildings; water and wastewater treatment facilities; police stations, border forts, courthouses and prisons; electrical power generation and transmission; distribution systems and roads; seaports and airports.

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