

Postcards from Iraq

Do You Want Adventure, Excitement, Challenge and Job Satisfaction? Go U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq

My story really starts in Camp Doha, Kuwait, the evening I saw the plane hit Tower Two of the World Trade Center. I knew then I would be spending more time in the Middle East than I had planned. I just didn't know at that time I would be spending over six years in the Middle East with almost five years working in and around Baghdad, Iraq.

As the only Quality Assurance guy working all of northern Kuwait before the war, I was privileged to see the Army amass before my eyes. I left the desert one evening with the U.S. Army snug in their camps. When I returned early the next morning, the might of the Army was scattered for miles across the desert. It was truly an awe inspiring site to behold. I was really honored and humbled to witness this sight.

I have been extremely fortunate. I've been to Babylon twice, been near the Ziggurat, and Ur, and made five road trips from Baghdad to or from Kuwait.

Thanks to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), I was able to work outside the Forward Operating Bases (FOBs), building schools, water projects, bridges, canals, roads, fire stations, one large medical clinic, a courthouse and other government buildings.

I've really been honored to work for the U.S. Army and USACE. The challenges we meet at all levels of USACE are daunting, but with perseverance and dedication USACE has made a major contribution to the health and welfare of the Iraqi people. Everyone in the good ole USA should be proud of the contributions and sacrifices made by the hard working patriotic folks of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq.



Iraqi army General Nasser and Andy May.

I am very happy to have met and worked with the Iraqi people. They are some of the finest people I have ever known. From the laborers to the sheiks, they are honorable, good-hearted people, and they deserve a chance for a better life.

I was pleased to be able to interact with great leaders like Maj. Gen. McCoy, former commander of the USACE Gulf Regional Division, and General Nasser of the Iraqi Army's crack Al Muthanna Brigade.

I am happy to have had this chance to contribute to the mission. The mission to help the Iraqi people overcome the tyranny of Saddam Hussein, and the mission to help protect the people of the United States of America.

Thanks!

Andy May

Project Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Iraq



Andy on the Tigris River banks.