

Postcards from Iraq

A new challenge in my life

By Debra S. Ramirez

Gulf Region Division Central District, Baghdad, USACE

I felt led to do this challenge in my life and feel honored to be part of the Gulf Region Division Central District, Camp Victory, Baghdad Iraq.

I serve as an Administrative Support Assistant in the Executive Office. Our Command averages a 15% turnover in personnel every month and one of my most rewarding duties is welcoming our newly-arrived GRC military, civilians & contractors to our team and overseeing their in-processing. I also assist the Command Group in a variety of other administrative duties.

I want to thank my GOD ALMIGHTY, my family, the Corps of Engineers and the Department of the Army, South Central CPOC, for this opportunity to serve my country and be part of this tremendous mission of helping Iraqis rebuild their country. It's such a blessing to see the positive impact we're having on Iraqi families as we improve essential services many of us stateside take for granted, such as electricity, running water, sewers, schools, hospitals, fire stations, roads, bridges, etc.

On our own time we collected donations for orphanages, a woman's center, schools. It was truly a joy the day we visited the orphanage and saw the smiles on those children's faces when we started handing out gifts. My heart goes out to each of them on the challenges they continue to face.

It's almost time to go home!! I've been here since 14-Jan-06. I will be departing in August 2007. I have lots of great memories to take home. God Bless Everyone!

Debra S. Ramirez, South Central CPOC, Redstone Arsenal, AL



GRC HQ Admin Asst. Debra Ramirez



Some of the youngsters at the Iraqi orphanages we've helped.



Brig. Gen. Michael J. Walsh and Debra Ramirez