

Postcards from Iraq

Setting the foundation ...

By SSG Zane Q. Martens
Intel Analyst

Gulf Region Division Central District HQ
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

On Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, it's no surprise Physiological (breathing, food, water) is the first step and foundation of a person's needs. Safety (security of body, of employment, of morality) is second on this list...however, when most go to war, they go with the mission of helping people by using force against the opposition.

Ninety-five percent of our resources go towards step-two on Maslow's list. This leads to a shaky foundation. Those that have no clean drinking water, sewage running down the street, polluted air, limited electricity, and disease in every facet imaginable are less likely to fight to protect their nest. But if you give them a nest worth protecting or show them there is a better life for them and their children; then they will stand up to those that continue to oppress them.



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I was lucky enough to be part of the five percent that got the mission to go over to help build this severely damaged country and show the people there can be something better. There is nothing more rewarding to see than the countless impact statements of completed projects. When you see a project will provide sanitary water to 30,000 people, health care clinics that will give people the first opportunity in their lives to get medical attention, schools that will give those the opportunity to learn to read and write, and that is only naming a couple instances. It seemed like almost everyday we were completing one or several projects that helped literally thousands upon thousands of people.

Of course the suppressors do not want these projects to be completed, because when the "hearts and minds" are won; their stranglehold is lost. So they run constant interference, but they do not share our resolve. Therefore we will leave this country a better place.

SSG Zane Q. Martens
Engineer Brigade 40th Infantry Division
California Army National Guard
Onland, CA

