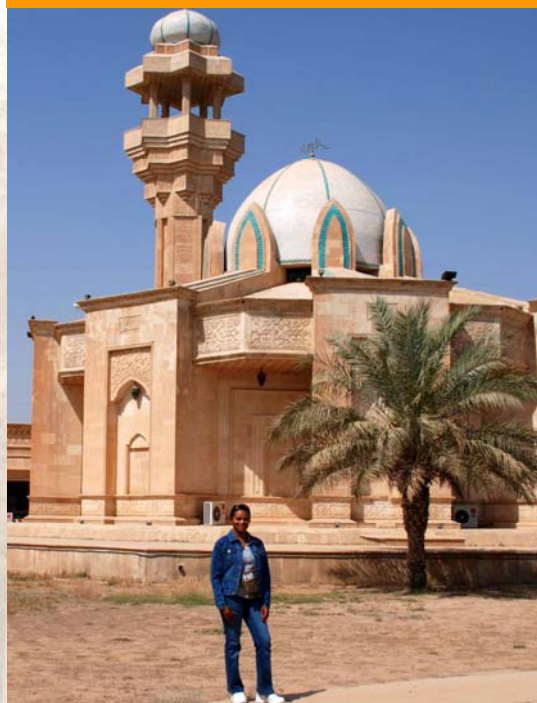




Sandy Nixon tries the MNC-I Chief of Staff's chair in Baghdad's Al Faw Palace HQ and visits the mosque on Victory Base.



Postcards from Iraq

Witness to incredible projects

Sandy Nixon, Procurement Technician,
Gulf Region Division Central District HQ,
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE), Baghdad, Iraq



My tour here in Baghdad has been for six months. There are not enough words to explain the incredible experience of witnessing the numerous USACE projects that are being constructed here in Iraq. I did not get an opportunity to go "outside the wire" (outside of the Victory Base Complex where I work and live) to actually see the rebuilding and the construction of the Iraqi communities. But working in the Gulf Region Division Central District (GRC) Contracting Division, I was constantly aware of the many projects that were going on like the building of schools, improvement of water treatment plants and electrical projects.

The many people who volunteer to help in the rebuilding of Iraq are amazing; the time and sacrifices they make each and every day to complete projects and to ensure Iraqis have a better quality of life is incredible. In addition to what is going on outside the wire, the GRC Contracting Division where I work has a Contracting Team that is dedicated to making sure that these projects are solicited and awarded on short timelines.

In addition to all the long hours and the hard work, the GRC Team Morale Welfare and Recreation Committee (of which I am a member) is continually planning and coordinating events to help keep morale at a high level, creating a positive and less stressful atmosphere. The events are always great and well planned. I will miss the GRC Team.

I would not trade this experience in for anything and can't wait to share what I have learned and experienced with family, friends, and coworkers back at home.

To my family, friends, and coworkers I would like to say THANK YOU. Your love, support, prayers, emails and care packages meant a lot, again, thank you.

Sandy

For more information on challenging GRC jobs in Iraq visit: <http://cpolwapp.belvoir.army.mil/coe-gwot/>

At Baghdad's "Flintstone Village," built for Saddam's grandchildren, Sandy looks over the nearby lake.

