

Joe P. Faustina, Jr. Offers Deployment Diary

By Victoria Hooper with Joe Faustina

Joseph P. Faustina, Jr. is a real Corps family member. His Dad, Joseph P. Faustina, Sr., retired from Nashville District five years ago and is now back at Cordell Hull Power Plant as a reemployed annuitant. Joe's Mom, Treina, is a home health nurse. Joe's beautiful daughters are the "apples of his eye." Morgan, 13, plays clarinet in the school band and loves to read, swim, and shop. Lelani, 10, loves animals and sports, and she collects American Girl dolls.

Joe, Jr. came to Nashville District, starting in Operations Division with the fleet, and moving on to Navigation Branch in the



Joseph P. Faustina, Jr. stands with the Corps flag.

I am the COR for all projects, I do close-outs on projects as they are completed and final company evaluations. I do employee evaluations both beginning and end of tour. I have just completed the Deputy Safety Office

kilometers of roads. I am responsible for a security upgrade on the ANA base which has them putting up two kilometers of stone wall, ten fighting positions, and 40 bunkers, a CID building downtown, ten Afghan police compounds, and ten Border Police Post compounds along the borders. But thanks to a great team here, the work is fun as well as challenging. Thank you and the whole district for the support so Nashville can shine while we continue to volunteer to come overseas. We need many more volunteers here and in Iraq."

Joe was recently involved in a "Humanitarian Day" at a local school site. Joe states, "As you see the kids sitting outside on the front steps of the school porch being taught their school lesson, there are approximately 700 chil-



Faustina's daughters Lelani (left) and Morgan

District Office, where he serves as a Civil Engineering Technician.

Joe deployed to Iraq in May 2004 to January 2005. In November 2007, Joe volunteered to serve in Afghanistan. The experience of performing so many different roles in Afghanistan has been unbelievable for Joe. From one of Joe's emails he states, "As a Resident Engineer (in Khost Province) it is my job to make sure the projects are started on time. I hold pre-construction meetings with the contractors, I review and comment on design build plans, I do monthly pay outs in RMS, I



Children enjoying their lesson at an Afghanistan school.

course since I am the Safety Officer for Khost Province. I am responsible for operations and maintenance on the base. I am responsible for the building of three roads and structures along the roads which includes bridges, culverts, and waddy crossings, a total of 100



Faustina 'Living the Dream'

HOW TO APPLY FOR A GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM (GWOT) POSITION

dren, boys and girls, that go to this school. The school has ten rooms that are filled with boy and girls. Usually there are boys' and girls' schools, but since this community is one of the poorest in the area they are taught together and the teachers risk their lives teaching since the Taliban try to break them by keeping them ignorant. The boys sit in the back of the class and there is a ten foot gap between the girls in the older classes. The school is four years old and there is no electricity or a water well, so the children sit in these hot buildings to learn as well as outside in the heat and flies." He continues, "As you see in the pictures, the children are happy and enjoy class. Look at the smiles on their faces; this is why I am here. I enjoy it when I am on our job sites and get to interact with the kids. Most speak some English and they always ask for pens and pencils, which I am out of. If you would like to send some pens, pencils and school items, it would be appreciated." More from Joe, "I know you don't get to see or hear much about the good things that go on here. I just wanted to share this. As I looked at these kids, it reminded me of why I came here. I hope through the construction of the police stations and border post check points, and the Afghan Army camps and paved roads, one day these young children will have a life that is safe and can continue what we started."

If you would like to donate school supplies for Joe to send to this Afghanistan school, please contact the Deployment Support Coordinator, Victoria Hooper at (615) 736-7965.

To volunteer for a position, contact the Nashville District Operations Division, Readiness/Emergency Management Branch.

To see what is available, GWOT positions are posted on several sites, such as ENGLink, (<https://englink.usace.army.mil>), CPOL (<http://cpol.army.mil>), USA-JOBS (www.usajobs.gov), and the USACE homepage has a link to CPOL as well. (<http://www.hq.usace.army.mil>). Then look at GWOT Recruitment Page)

Once you find a position for which you feel you can qualify, you must build a resume in the RESUME builder to link with the position you want. Without the resume being linked with the position, there is no way to be considered for the position. There are a number of ways to find a position overseas. You can use a vacancy an-

nouncement, a placement from division or higher, or by word of mouth.

No matter how you find a position, paperwork MUST be processed through Readiness/Emergency Management Branch for processing. As with most Government processes, there is a large amount of paperwork to be completed. The Readiness/Emergency Management Branch has a step by step instruction to expedite the deployment paperwork. Due to the ever changing deployment requirements, please stay flexible during your pre-deployment preparation.

-- You can reach the staff at the Readiness/Emergency Management Branch at (615) 736-7037, email Kathy.a.grimes@usace.army.mil, or jerry.breznican@usace.army.mil.

Abdulnasir I. Farah Deploys to Afghanistan



Mr. Abdulnasir I. Farah deployed on June 8. He is stationed at Herat, Afghanistan, but as soon as he arrived he was sent to Farah Province for a mission. Abdul is a Power Plant Mechanic A at Old Hickory Power Plant. He and his wife Rahma have three children, a son, and two daughters, who are supporting Abdul well. Abdul's tour is June 8 to December 4, 2008.