

To: Commander 585th Ohio National Guard

From: Major General Georges H. Sada

Re: Your upcoming deployment to Iraq

Date: June 25, 2009

COMMANDERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE 585TH OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

I salute you on this special occasion as you prepare to embark on your vital mission to insure the continued success of the establishment of the New Iraq.

It is because of your courage and sacrifice and the courage and sacrifice of your more than one million American colleagues who have served before you in the Iraq theater since January 2003 that 28,000,000 Iraqis are now free.

As you know better than most, freedom is not free. You and your colleagues have made an incalculable sacrifice on behalf of a people not personally known to you who speak a language foreign to yours.

Please know with complete certainty that every thinking Iraqi is in your debt for your courage, sacrifice and willingness to stand with the new Iraq and her military forces at this critically important time. What is established now can change the course of the middle east for centuries to come.

May God give you every success and may He protect you on your strategic mission over the next several months in Iraq.

Wishing you God Speed.



Major General Georges H. Sada
Air Vice Marshall (retired) Iraq