

# Space Soldier reenlists in Iraq



MAJ John Hennessey (l.) officiated the reenlistment of SSG Yolanda Rife (r.) in Iraq. Rife's husband Bill, a contractor stationed in Iraq held the flag during the ceremony. *Photograph taken by MSG Dennis E. Beebe*

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Reenlistments are a common occurrence in the Army, but one recent reenlistment stood out among the rest. SSG Yolanda T. Rife is the first U.S. Army Reserve Space Soldier to reenlist in theater. Rife has been here for three and a half months out of her one-year-tour, and her husband Bill, a government contractor, is also located here at the Victory Base Complex, and was able to attend the ceremony. Rife's son is a college freshman, attending Sacramento City College in Sacramento, California and lives with Rife's parents while his own are deployed.

A member of Army Space Support Team 18, Rife took the reenlistment oath from her commander, MAJ John Hennessey on a balcony of the Al Faw Palace at Camp Victory. Rife is assigned to provide Space support to Multi National Corps — Iraq headquartered here in one of Saddam's former palaces.

When asked why she reenlisted, Rife said "I love my

God, my country and the U.S. military." Rife has volunteered to come back into the Army Reserves, volunteered to come to Iraq, and now she has volunteered to stay another six years in the Army.

A veteran of the first Gulf War, Rife previously was in Iraq in 1990-91 in support of the 1st Armored Division, in a Signal Support role. Her plans after this deployment are to MSG Dennis E. Beebe has 24 years combined Active Duty and Reserve experience as a photographer, psychological operations specialist and photojournalist. He has been deployed to Haiti, Korea, Bosnia, Afghanistan and Iraq and has been stationed in various locations in the Continental United States and Hawaii. Beebe is currently serving with the Multinational Corps-Iraq, Joint Operations Center Public Affairs Office.