KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR 1990 – 1991
“This aggression will not stand,” and, "This is not a war for oil. This is war against aggression."

President George H. W. Bush

“Many thousands of members of the National Guard and other Ready Reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces have been called to active duty for Operation DESERT STORM. The service of the Guard and Reserve soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines will be crucial to the American victory over Iraqi aggression.”

Honorable Dick Cheney
Secretary of Defense

“Soldiers, sailors airmen and Marines of the United States Central Command...You are a member of the most powerful force our country, in coalition with our allies, has ever assembled in a single theater to face such an aggressor. You have trained hard for this battle and you are ready. During my visits with you, I have seen in your eyes a fire of determination to get this job done quickly so that we may all return to the shores of our great nation. My confidence in you is total. Our cause is just! Now you must be the thunder and lightning of Desert Storm. May God be with you, your loved ones at home, and our country.”

General H. Norman Schwarzkopf
17 January 1991
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Cargo Courier – KyANG.
Special Collections, Photographic Section, Kentucky Historical Society.
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133rd Public Affairs Detachment – Philip K. Miller and David Altom.
137th Transportation Detachment – Scott McCowen.
196th Field Artillery Brigade – William G. Clark, Jr.
217th Quartermaster Detachment – Charles Barnes
475th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) – James Gilreath, Karen Likens and Natalie Lonkard.
2123rd Transportation Company – Robert Hayter.
CONTENTS

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR................................................................. 1

Desert Storm: The Air War............................................................................................ 2

Desert Storm: The Land War...................................................................................... 3

The Aftermath of the War.......................................................................................... 4

The Aftermath of the War......................................................................................... 5

KENTUCKY IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR.................................................................... 7

KENTUCKY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR................................. 18

137TH TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT ............................................................... 19

217TH QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT................................................................. 24

2123RD TRANSPORTATION COMPANY and DETACHMENT 1.............................. 33

133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT............................................................... 35

133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT............................................................... 36

133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT............................................................... 37

133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT............................................................... 38

133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT............................................................... 39

133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT............................................................... 40

133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT............................................................... 41

1ST BATTALION 623RD FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION........................................ 50

475TH MOBILE ARMY SURGICAL HOSPITAL...................................................... 114

223RD MILITARY POLICE COMPANY................................................................. 130

438TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY................................................................. 133

438TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY................................................................. 134

438TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY................................................................. 135

KENTUCKY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS AFFECTED BY THE KHAMISIYAH 2000 HAZARD AREA 10 – 13 MARCH 1991........................................................................ 142

KENTUCKY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ELEMENTS DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR................................. 144

DETACHMENT 1/199TH MEDICAL COMPANY..................................................... 145

KENTUCKY AIR NATIONAL GUARD MOBILIZATION OF INDIVIDUALS FROM THE FOLLOWING UNITS IN SUPPORT OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR.......................................................... 147

123RD TACTICAL AIR WING IN SUPPORT OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR............................................................................. 148

123RD TACTICAL HOSPITAL.................................................................................. 151

123RD TACTICAL HOSPITAL.................................................................................. 152

123RD CIVIL ENGINEERING SQUADRON.......................................................... 154

123RD SERVICES FLIGHT..................................................................................... 155

123RD SECURITY POLICE.................................................................................... 156

165TH WEATHER FLIGHT..................................................................................... 157

123RD Airlift CONTROL ELEMENT (ALCE)...................................................... 158

123RD JUDGE ADVOCATE.................................................................................... 158

CONGRATULATORY LETTERS TO MEMBERS OF THE KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD......................................................... 160

MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS: UNIT........................................................................ 164

MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS: INDIVIDUAL........................................................................ 166

PERSIAN GULF WAR TIMELINE............................................................................. 172

1990...................................................................................................................... 172

1991...................................................................................................................... 172

RANK ABBREVIATIONS......................................................................................... 174

BIBLIOGRAPHY/SUGGESTED READING................................................................ 175
BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

The Persian Gulf War was caused by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on 2 August 1990, and had two major phases.

"By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including sections 121 and 673b of title 10 of the United States Code, I hereby determine that it is necessary to augment the active armed forces of the United States for the effective conduct of operational missions in and around the Arabian Peninsula. Further, under the stated authority, I hereby authorize the Secretary of Defense to order to active duty units of the Selected Reserve."

George Bush, Executive Order 12727, Ordering the Selected Reserve of the Armed Forces to Active Duty, 22 August 1990.

The first phase was Operation Desert Shield—a largely defensive operation in which the United States and Saudi Arabia rushed to build up the defensive forces necessary to protect Saudi Arabia and the rest of the gulf, and the United Nations attempted to force Iraq to leave Kuwait through the use of economic sanctions. The United States then led the UN effort to create a broad international coalition with the military forces necessary to liberate Kuwait, and persuaded the United Nations to set a deadline of 15 January 1991 for Iraq to leave Kuwait or face the use of force.

The second phase, known as "Desert Storm," was the battle to liberate Kuwait when Iraq refused to respond to the UN deadline. The fighting began on 17 January 1991 and ended on 1 March 1991. The UN Coalition liberated Kuwait in a little over six weeks, and involved the intensive use of airpower and armored operations, and the use of new military technologies. The Gulf War left Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein in power, but it destroyed nearly all of Iraq's conventional forces and allowed the United Nations to destroy most of Iraq's long-range missiles and chemical weapons and capabilities to develop nuclear weapons. Saddam Hussein almost certainly saw the seizure and annexation of Kuwait as a means of solving Iraq's economic problems, of greatly increasing Iraq's share of world oil reserves, and as a means of demonstrating that Iraq had become the dominant power in the region. Kuwait was capable of adding at least 2 million barrels a day of oil to Iraq's exports of roughly 3.5 million, and offered the opportunity to double Iraq's total oil reserves, from 100 billion to 198 billion barrels (representing nearly 20% of the world's total reserves).

Although he continued to negotiate his demands on oil revenues and debt relief from the Persian Gulf Arab nations, Saddam Hussein ordered his troops to the Kuwait border in July 1990, built up all of the support capabilities necessary to sustain an invasion, and then ordered his forces to invade on 2 August 1990. Kuwait had not kept its forces on alert, and Iraq met little resistance. It seized the entire country within less than two days; within a week, Iraq stated that it would annex Kuwait as its nineteenth province. Iraqi forces also deployed along Kuwait's border with Saudi Arabia, with more than five Iraqi divisions in position to seize Saudi Arabia's oil-rich Eastern Province. Saudi Arabia had only two brigades and limited amounts of airpower to oppose them.

Saddam Hussein may have felt that the world would accept his invasion of Kuwait or would fail to mount any effective opposition. However, Saudi Arabia and the other gulf states immediately supported the Kuwaiti government-in-exile. The Council of the Arab League voted to condemn Iraq on 3 August and demanded its withdrawal from Kuwait. Key Arab states like Algeria, Egypt, and Syria supported Kuwait—although Jordan, Libya, Mauritania, the Sudan, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) supported Iraq. Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and most other European
nations as well as the United States, Canada, and Japan condemned the invasion. U.S. President George Bush announced on 7 August that the United States would send land, air, and naval forces to the gulf.

Equally important, the end of the Cold War allowed the United Nations to take firm action under U.S. initiative. On the day of the invasion, the Security Council voted 14–0 (Resolution 660) to demand Iraq's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait. The United States, Britain, and Saudi Arabia led the United Nations in forming a broad military coalition under the leadership of U.S. Army Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf that deployed the military forces necessary to enforce the United Nations' sanctions and to defend Saudi Arabia. This was the defensive military operation code-named “Desert Shield.”

On 29 November 1990, the United States obtained a Security Council authorization for the nations allied with Kuwait “to use all necessary means” if Iraq did not withdraw by 15 January 1991. Key nations like the United States, Britain, France, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and several others began to deploy the additional forces necessary to drive Iraq out of Kuwait.

In 1990–91, the United States deployed a total of 527,000 personnel, over 110 naval vessels, 2,000 tanks, 1,800 fixed-wing aircraft, and 1,700 helicopters. Britain deployed 43,000 troops, 176 tanks, 84 combat aircraft, and a naval task force. France deployed 16,000 troops, 40 tanks, attack helicopters, a light armored division, and combat aircraft. Saudi Arabia deployed 50,000 troops, 280 tanks, and 245 aircraft. Egypt contributed 30,200 troops, 2 armored divisions, and 350 tanks. Syria contributed 14,000 troops and 2 divisions. Other allied nations, including Canada, Italy, Oman, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates deployed a significant portion of their small forces.

Iraq responded by building up its military forces in the Kuwait theater of operations to a total of 336,000 troops and a total of 43 divisions, 3,475 battle tanks, 3,080 other armored vehicles, and 2,475 major artillery weapons. This buildup on both sides made full-scale war steadily more likely and triggered a number of political debates within the West and the Arab world over the need for war. The most important of these debates took place within the United States; largely because of President Bush's political leadership, the Congress, after Bush gained UN endorsement, requested such authorization on 8 January 1991. On 12 January the House of Representatives by 250 to 183 and the Senate by 52 to 47 voted to authorize the use of force.

Though a number of new efforts were made to persuade Iraq to leave Kuwait in late December and early January, Saddam Hussein refused to withdraw under any practical conditions. Baghdad also continued to expand its military capabilities in Kuwait and along the Iraqi border with Saudi Arabia, and continued its efforts to convert Kuwait into an Iraqi province. As a result, the UN Security Council voted to ignore yet another effort to negotiate with Iraq. On that date, 15 January 1991, President Bush ordered the military offensive to begin.

**Desert Storm: The Air War**

The Gulf War began early in the morning on 17 January when the United States exploited its intelligence and targeting assets, cruise missiles, and offensive airpower to launch a devastating series of air attacks on Iraqi command and control facilities, communications systems, air bases, and land-based air defenses. During the first hour of the war, U.S. sea-launched cruise missiles and F-117 stealth aircraft demonstrated they could attack even heavily defended targets like Baghdad.

Within three days, a mix of U.S., British, and Saudi fighter aircraft had established near air superiority. In spite of Iraq's air strength, UN air units shot down a total of thirty-five Iraqi aircraft without a single loss in air-to-air combat. Although Iraq had a land-based air defense system with some 3,000 surface-to-air missiles, the combined U.S. and British air units were able to use electronic
warfare systems, anti-radiation missiles, and precision air-to-surface weapons to suppress Iraq's longer-range surface-to-air missiles. As a result, Coalition air forces were able rapidly to broaden their targets from attacks on Iraq's air forces and air defenses to assaults on key headquarters, civil and army communications, electronic power plants, and Iraq's facilities for the production of weapons of mass destruction.

Victory in the air was achieved by 24 January, when Iraq ceased to attempt active air combat. A total of 112 Iraqi aircraft fled to Iran, and Iraq virtually ceased to use its ground-based radar to target UN aircraft. This created a safe zone at medium and high altitudes that allowed U.S. and British air units to launch long-range air-to-surface weapons with impunity. The UN air forces were also able to shift most of their assets to attacks on Iraqi ground forces. For the following thirty days, UN Coalition aircraft attacked Iraqi armor and artillery in the Kuwaiti theater of operations, as well as flying into Iraq itself to bomb Iraq's forward defenses, elite Republican Guard units, air bases and sheltered aircraft, and Iraq's biological, chemical, and nuclear warfare facilities.

Iraq's only ability to retaliate consisted of launching modified surface-to-surface Scud missiles against targets in Saudi Arabia and Israel, which had remained outside the war: forty Scud variants against Israel and forty-six against Saudi Arabia. U.S.-made Patriot missiles in Israel shot down some Scuds, but although the United Nations carried out massive “Scud hunts” that involved thousands of sorties, it never found and destroyed any Scud missiles on the ground, which demonstrated the risks posed by the proliferation of mobile, long-range missiles.

Iraq's Scud strikes could not, however, alter the course of the war. Iraqi ground forces were struck by more than 40,000 air attack sorties; U.S. authorities estimated that airpower helped bring about the desertion or capture of 84,000 Iraqi soldiers and destroyed 1,385 Iraqi tanks, 930 other armored vehicles, and 1,155 artillery pieces before the United Nations launched its land offensive. They also estimated that air attacks severely reduced the flow of supplies to Iraqi ground forces in Kuwait and damaged 60 percent of Iraq's major command centers, 70 percent of its military communications, 125 ammunition storage revetments, 48 Iraqi naval vessels, and 75 percent of Iraq's electric power-generating capability.

**Desert Storm: The Land War**

By 24 February 1991, airpower had weakened Iraq's land forces in Kuwait to the point where the UN commander, General Schwarzkopf, felt ready to launch a land offensive. Early that morning, UN land forces attacked along a broad front from the Persian Gulf to Rafha on the Iraqi-Saudi border. This attack had two principal thrusts: a massive, highly mobile “left hook” around and through Iraqi positions to the west of Kuwait to envelop the elite Republican Guard; and a thrust straight through Iraq's defenses along the Kuwaiti border designed to fix the forward Iraqi divisions.

The “left hook” was carried out by a mix of U.S., British, and French armored and airborne forces. The armored VII Corps deployed four armored divisions, one of them British, for the main thrust. Its western flank was protected by the U.S. XVIII Airborne Corps, composed of three U.S. divisions—the 82nd Airborne, the 101st Air Mobile, and the 24th Infantry (Mechanized)—and the French 6th Light Armored Division. They advanced toward the Iraqi cities of Salman, west of Kuwait, and Nasiriya on the Euphrates River, and attacked in an arc to the northeast toward the main routes of communication leading north from Kuwait toward Basra in Iraq. French forces led the attack toward the Iraqi lines of communication along the Euphrates. U.S. armored, mechanized, and attack helicopter forces advanced rapidly toward Basra in the leading edge of the “left hook.” British forces guarded the U.S. flank and attacked to the northeast across the gorge of al-Batin along the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border.

The other thrust—directly north through the Iraqi positions along the Kuwaiti border—was carried out by the I Marine Expeditionary Force, and an all-Arab corps composed primarily of the Saudi Army and Egyptian units. These forces rapidly penetrated Iraq's forward defenses and advanced
so swiftly that Iraq's shattered ground forces in Kuwait could only launch scattered counterattacks. As a result, the allies rushed toward Kuwait City, Wafrah, and Jahrah.

Though some Iraqi Republican Guard units fought well, the bulk of Iraq's army consisted of poorly trained conscripts with low morale and little motivation. Many Iraqi troops fled after putting up only brief resistance and others were taken prisoner. As a result, UN forces reached their major objectives in Kuwait in half the time originally planned. At the same time, the Coalition continued its air attacks, dropping a total of 88,500 tons of ordnance. U.S. and British air units used 6,520 tons of precision-guided weapons and destroyed or damaged 54 bridges. These attacks helped to end the war by cutting off Iraqi land forces from the roads along the Tigris River north of Basra, although UN forces did not have time to encircle fully or cut off all Iraqi forces, or to use airpower to destroy the retreating Iraqi forces around Basra.

By 26 February, Coalition land forces were in Kuwait City, and U.S. forces had advanced to positions in Iraq to the south of Nasiriya. Many of these advances had taken place at night and all occurred in spite of major rainfalls, substantial amounts of mud, and weather problems hampering the ability to provide air support. These advances effectively ended the war.

Baghdad radio announced on 26 February that all Iraqi forces would withdraw from Kuwait in compliance with UN Resolution 660. A day later, President Bush declared that the United States would halt military operations early in the morning of 28 February, a week after the land offensive had begun. A cease-fire was negotiated on 3 March and formally signed on 6 April. Iraq agreed to abide by all the UN resolutions.
The Aftermath of the War

The Gulf War achieved the United Nation's original objectives of liberating Kuwait while producing remarkably one-sided losses. Iraqi military casualties totaled an estimated 25,000 to 65,000, and the United Nations destroyed some 3,200 Iraqi tanks, over 900 other armored vehicles, and over 2,000 artillery weapons. Some 86,000 Iraqi soldiers surrendered. In contrast, UN forces suffered combat losses of some 200 personnel from hostile fire, plus losses of 4 tanks, 9 other armored vehicles, and 1 artillery weapon. U.S. battle deaths among the 532,000 Americans included 122 from the army and Marines (35 to friendly fire) and 131 noncombat fatalities. The navy losses were 6 and 8; in the air force 20 were killed in action and 6 in other deaths. The allied forces of 254,000 suffered 92 combat deaths. Although Coalition aircraft flew a total of 109,876 sorties, the allies lost only 38 aircraft versus over 300 for Iraq. This was not only the lowest loss rate in the history of air warfare but a lower loss than the normal accident rate in combat training. The terms of cease-fire were designed to enable UN inspectors to destroy most of Iraq's remaining missiles, chemical weapons, and nuclear weapons facilities.

The Gulf War reshaped the face of modern warfare. It demonstrated a dramatic increase in the importance of joint operations, high-paced air and armored operations, precision strike systems, night and all-weather warfare capabilities, sophisticated electronic warfare and command and control capabilities, and the ability to target and strike deep behind the front line, marking what might be the beginning of a revolution in military affairs. It also demonstrated the growing importance of the mass media in shaping the conduct of operations, and the need to carefully consider collateral damage, casualties, and the impact of instant TV coverage of military operations.

The Gulf War did not, however, bring stability to the gulf or drive Saddam Hussein and the Ba'ath Party elite from power. Indeed, he suppressed Kurdish and Shi'ite rebellions in 1991. In 1998, Iraq still had the largest army in the gulf region. It seemed to retain some long-range missiles, some ability to deliver chemical weapons, and most of its prewar biological weapons capability. Though it had lost most of its nuclear weapons production facilities, it retained much of its nuclear weapons technology. Baghdad was also able to launch terrorist activities against Kuwait and drive most of the UN mission in Iraq out of the country. Iraqi agents plotted to assassinate President Bush when he visited Kuwait on 14–16 April 1993, and Iraq conducted a major military buildup near the Kuwaiti border in October 1994.

The failure to drive Saddam Hussein from power, and Iraq's actions since the war, have led many to argue that the United Nations should have expanded its war-fighting objectives and invaded Iraq to force Saddam Hussein from power. Some military analysts have argued that even a few days of additional fighting would have proved decisive in overthrowing Saddam Hussein. There is no way to resolve such debates, but it seems unlikely that a few days of additional fighting would have done more than kill more Iraqis, since many of the Republican Guards had already escaped to the north of Basra and half the Iraqi Army and most of Saddam Hussein's security forces remained intact. Expanding the goals of the war might have driven Saddam Hussein from power, but it might also have caused an Iraqi civil war and divided the country, led to bloody urban warfare, and forced a lengthy UN occupation of a sovereign and hostile state. Instead, the United Nations maintained economic sanctions and an embargo on military supplies against Iraq for years after the Persian Gulf War.
“Make no mistake, our Total Force Policy is alive and well. This has been clearly demonstrated during Desert Storm and Desert Shield. The Guard and Reserve were critical to the success of the mission. We simply couldn’t have done it without them.”

General of the Joint Chiefs of Staff,
Colin Powell
KENTUCKY IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

August 2, 1990 saw the invasion of Kuwait by neighboring Iraq, an event that both shocked and outraged the world. Spearheading a twenty-one member United Nations coalition, the United States initiated Operation Desert Shield, the largest military buildup since the Vietnam War.

On January 17, 1991, Americans at home watched as Operation Desert Shield turned into a Desert Storm. A six-week air campaign preceded what came to be known as "The One-Hundred Hour War," leading to the swift liberation of Kuwait.

Once again Kentuckians found themselves on the forefront of the assault. From Fort Campbell came the 101st Airborne (Air Assault) Division, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and the 5th Special Forces Group. Fort Knox sent elements of its 194th Separate Armor Brigade. Together, the two bases sent 21,500 men and women into battle.

Because of the size and intensity of the planned offensive, reserve components from all over Kentucky were called to duty, performing such diverse missions as ensuring the transportation and accountability of equipment and supplies, providing direct fire support, battlefield medical support and refugee relief, water purification, film and video documentation of military actions, security and handling of prisoners of war. Some reservists served as replacements for active duty units called to action.

U.S. Army Reserve units deployed from Kentucky included the 100th Division (TNG), the 807th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, the 888th Medical Detachment, and the 5010th Army Hospital.

Kentucky can be especially proud of the 1078 Kentucky Army National Guard men and women who went to the desert and performed so valiantly during Desert Storm . . . the soldiers of the 137th Transportation Detachment . . . the 217th Quartermaster Detachment . . . the 2123rd Transportation Company . . . the 475th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) . . . the 133rd Public Affairs Detachment . . . the 1/623rd Field Artillery Battalion . . . and the 223rd and 438th Military Police Companies.1 During the offensive our artillery battalion was given the mission of providing fire support for the coalition forces while our heavy equipment transportation company traveled as far as the Euphrates carrying the load for the advancing troops. Our military police processed thousands of enemy prisoners of war and our Mobile Army Surgical Hospital cared for the ill and injured during a post-war humanitarian relief effort.

Back home the C-130's of the 123rd Tactical Airlift Wing moved personnel and equipment throughout the U.S. in support of Desert Storm, while our engineers assisted in a variety of state and local projects.

Of the 23,210 Kentucky service members from both the active and reserve forces who served in Southwest Asia, only six lost their lives. For that we must be thankful.

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1 Individual volunteer members from both the Army and the Air Guard brought the total Kentucky National Guard participation to 1397.
IN SENATE

SPECIAL SESSION 1991

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 42

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1991

A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor of the men and women committed to obtaining peace in the Middle East.

WHEREAS, Kuwait, a peace-loving nation located in the Middle East, was oppressively captured on August 2, 1990, by a destructive tyrant, Saddam Hussein of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Operation Desert Storm is a result of peace-loving countries acting collectively against threats to this peaceful nation by an aggressive country; and

WHEREAS, the United States has, for more than two hundred years, been the leader of the free world and the protector of democracy for the rights and liberties of small nations such as Kuwait; and

WHEREAS, Iraq's invasion of Kuwait resulted in the diffusion and total breakdown of Kuwait's society; and

WHEREAS, the peace-loving countries of the world, recognizing the dreadful injustice derived from the seizure of Kuwait, have addressed every possible means for a peaceful solution to this contemptible event; and

WHEREAS, under the United Nations Security Council resolutions 660, 661, 662, 664, 665, 666, 667, 669, 670, 674, 677 and 678 relating to the crisis in the Persian Gulf, the United States has positioned a multinational force against Saddam Hussein to restore the legitimate government of Kuwait; and

WHEREAS, due to Saddam Hussein's refusal to evacuate
Kuwait and his denial of all efforts for peace presented to him, the United States Congress passed Senate Joint Resolution No. 2 on January 12, 1991, to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 678;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. That the Senate recognizes and appreciates the commitment of the men and women of our military forces involved in Operation Desert Storm, and that our prayers contribute to the armor for battle, knowing that God will give them the strength and courage to survive the perils of this war.

Section 2. That this honorable body commends the people of Kentucky for their unfailing support for the United States military forces involved in the Persian Gulf crisis, and joins with the families and friends of our troops in their anxieties and continuing apprehensions over the safety of their loved ones during these dark and uncertain hours.

Section 3. That when the Senate adjourns this day, Tuesday, January 29, 1991, and each day thereafter during this Extraordinary Session, it does so in honor of the
brave and courageous men and women representing our country in Operation Desert Storm.

Proclamation
by
Wallace G. Wilkinson
Governor
of the
Commonwealth of Kentucky

To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

WHEREAS, President George Bush has proclaimed the days of April 5-7, 1991 as National Days of Thanksgiving; and,

WHEREAS, Bells will be rung across the country at 12 Noon Pacific Standard Time on April 7 to celebrate "the liberation of Kuwait and the end of hostilities in the Persian Gulf"; and,

WHEREAS, In a spirit of thanksgiving for the many prayers that have been answered concerning the liberation of Kuwait and the Persian Gulf conflict, let us join in this celebration;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WALLACE G. WILKINSON, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim April 7, 1991 as

A DAY OF THANKSGIVING

in Kentucky.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort, this the 23rd day of March, in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-one and in the year of the Commonwealth the One Hundred Ninety-ninth.

Wallace G. Wilkinson
GOVERNOR

Bremer Ehrler
Secretary of State
General Schwarzkopf and Kentucky Desert Storm veterans at the 1991 Kentucky Derby. Photographs courtesy of Mike James and the staff of the Cargo Courier.
Victory Parade, New York City’s Canyon of Heroes, 10 June 1991. Major John W. Smith, commander of the 623rd Field Artillery is in the center. Photograph courtesy NGB.

On 9 May 1992, a monument honoring all of Franklin County, Kentucky’s Desert Shield and Desert Storm service men and women was unveiled at Juniper Hills Park in Frankfort, Kentucky. Photographs courtesy of the Public Affairs Office, Kentucky National Guard.
Dedicated in honor of over 200 brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces from Franklin County who served in a combat or support role as part of the United Nations Coalition Forces in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm during the Persian Gulf War which defeated the aggressive actions of Iraq and liberated the occupation of Kuwait.

Erected from funds raised by the Desert Shield/Storm Support Group of the Franklin County Chapter of the American Red Cross.
The plaque placed at the Kentucky’s War Memorial, tells the story of Kentucky’s involvement in the Persian Gulf War. The plaque and monument are located in the Frankfort Cemetery. Text for the plaque was written by Dave Altom, a Persian Gulf War veteran who served with the 133rd PAD.
KENTUCKY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

137TH TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT

Commander: SSG William R. Hurt.
Strength: 9.
Activation date: 27 August 1990.
Mobilization date: 30 August 1990.
Return date: 03 June 1991.
Home station: Danville, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Knox, Kentucky.
Gaining command: HHC, 7th Quartermaster Group, 22nd Support Command (SUPCOM).
Mission: Processing of equipment entering the theater.
Geographic area of operation: Ports of Dammam, Jubail, and Kuwait City.
Notes of interest: This is the first Kentucky Army National Guard unit activated for the war.

Personnel Roster

Boswell, Cleta M.  PFC
Carrier, Mark A.  SPC
High, Rhonda L.  SPC
Humfleet, William R.  SGT
Hurt, William R.  SSG
McCowan, Samuel S.  SGT
McKitric, David L.  SPC
Miller, Wendell D.  PFC
Russell, Phillip C.  SSG
Sowers, John S.  SPC
137th at Fort Knox, Kentucky, prior to deployment.
SSG William Hurt and PFC Cleta Boswell.
217TH QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT

Commander:  SFC Charles R. Barnes.
Strength:  14.
Activation date:  27 September 1990.
Mobilization date:  30 September 1990.
Return date:  25 May 1991.
Home station:  Danville, Kentucky.
Mobilization station:  Fort Knox, Kentucky.
Gaining command:  1208th Water Distribution Company, 370th Quartermaster Battalion, 475th Quartermaster Group, 22nd Support Command.
Mission:  Water Purification and Distribution.
Geographic area of operation:  Saudi Arabia (Dahrhan, Half Moon Bay, Log Base BASTOGNE).

Personnel Roster

Anglin, Frank S.  SPC
Barnes, Charles R.  SFC
Beasley, George C.  SPC
Evans, James A.  SGT
Hendrichs, Anthony A.  SGT
Henson, Steven S.  SPC
Humphrey, Lonnie W.  PV2
Lark, Gregory T.  SPC
Morrow, Ronnie L.  SPC
Record, James C.  SPC
Sapp, Garland H.  SGT
Sims, John G.  SPC
Smith, Roy, G.  PFC
Tillett, Timothy R.  SPC
2123RD TRANSPORTATION COMPANY
and DETACHMENT 1

Commander: CPT Robert Hayter.
Strength: 142.
Activation date: 11 October 1990.
Mobilization date: 14 October 1990.
Return date: 02 June 1991.
Home station: Bowling Green/Richmond, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Campbell, Kentucky.
Mission: Heavy equipment transportation throughout the theater.
Geographic area of operation: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait.
Notes of interest: Unit was scattered throughout the theater, going through Kuwait City with XVIII Airborne Corps and as far as the Euphrates in Iraq with VII Corps.

Personnel Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agee, Gregory S.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Cash, Michael M.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akridge, Ronald W.</td>
<td>SSG</td>
<td>Cash, Vernon W.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcorn, Dexter G.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Chenault, William K.</td>
<td>SSG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcorn, Melvin L.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Chitwood, Randall R.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldridge, Donald F.</td>
<td>SFC</td>
<td>Coffey, Tony D.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
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133RD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

Commander: CPT Philip K. Miller.
Strength: 13.
Activation date: 07 December 1990.
Mobilization date: 10 December 1990.
Return date: 03 May 1991.
Home Station: Frankfort, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Campbell, Kentucky.
Mission: Provided command and public information products, escorts for civilian media pool.
Geographic area of operation: Saudi Arabia (Dammam, TAA ROOSEVELT, AL Qaysumah, King Khalid Military City); Iraq, and Kuwait.
Notes of interest: Served with combat maneuver units as couriers for Department of Defense (DoD) media pool products; produced command information radio program as well as historical video documentaries of VII Corps actions during the operation and the humanitarian relief effort that followed the end of hostilities.

Personnel Roster²

Altom, David W.          SGT
Bayes, Ronald J.        SFC
Botkins, Roy D.         SGT
Collier, Robert S.       SSG
Dedman, Robert L.       SPC
Ham, Robert W.          SSG
Koko, John R.           CPT
Miller, Phillip K.       CPT
Nutter, William N.      1LT
Pillow, Robert W.        SSG
Roberts, Cameron, R.    CPT
Schaefer, Robert W.     SGT
Tackett, Scott A.       SPC

² Orders 4-1, 133rd Public Affairs Detachment, dated 6 December 1990.

[Images of soldiers in desert uniforms]
Commander: MAJ John Wayne Smith.
Strength: 433.
Activation date: 09 December 1990.
Mobilization date: 10 December 1990.
Return date(s): 06-17 May 1991.
Home stations: HQS & HQS Battery       Glasgow, Kentucky.
              A Battery              Tompkinsville, Kentucky.
              B Battery              Campbellsville, Kentucky.
              C Battery              Monticello, Kentucky.
              Service Battery        Springfield, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Campbell, Kentucky.
Gaining command: 196th Field Artillery Brigade, 24th Infantry Division, XVIII Corps; 1st Cavalry Division, VII Corps.
Mission: Providing fire support.
Geographic area of operation: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait.
Notes of interest: Worked with 101st and XVIII Airborne Corps as well as VII Corps; given mission to provide fire support to 6 coalition divisions.
Additionally, the following Kentucky Army National Guard personnel were assigned to the 196th Field Artillery Brigade:

    Clark, William G., Jr.    MAJ
    Doyle, Earl L., Jr.       COL
    Satchwell, Edgar L.       SGM
COL Earl Doyle (left), and MAJ William G. Clark Jr. (below). Both members of the Kentucky Army National Guard served with Tennessee’s 196th Field Artillery Brigade during the war. Photographs courtesy of Bill Clark.
Citation for Service During Operation Desert Storm

HQS, 1st BN, 623d Field Artillery
Glasgow, Kentucky
9 December 1990 to 21 May 1991

Is hereby recognized for service during Operation Desert Storm. You responded rapidly to the call of the President to participate as part of the total force in support of the United Nations' peace resolution in the Middle East.

You served with pride and distinction during Operation Desert Storm, and your service to the National Guard, the United States of America and to the free nations of the world is recognized and greatly appreciated.

[Signature]
Director, Army National Guard

[Signature]
Chief, National Guard Bureau
### Personnel Roster

**Headquarters and Headquarters Battery**

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Chandler, Timothy G. SPC
Claywell, Brian D. SPC
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Copas, Boyd L. SGT
Copas, Eddie N. SGT

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England, Robert L. SPC
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Anderson, Joseph D.  SPC  Hancock, Terry W.  SGT
Benningfield, James L.  SFC  Hardin, Christopher D.  PV1
Bowen, James E.  PFC  Hatfield, Brent L.  SPC
Bowen, John E.  PFC  Hatton, Dale C.  PV2
Burrus, Eric F.  PV2  Hawthorne, Dennis R.  PFC
Burton, Rollin D.  SPC  Hines, John B.  SPC
Campbell, Gregory A.  PFC  Jewell, Matthew L.  PV1
Campbell, Jeffrey W.  SGT  Johnson, Boyce E.  SSG
Chumley, Thomas E.  SPC  Johnson, Paul A.  SGT
Cook, Brian A.  SPC  Jones, Donald J.  SGT
Coomer, Mitchell O.  PFC  Kearney, Danny D.  SPC
Cox, William K.  SSG  Kern, Gregory R.  SGT
Crane, Vernon L.  PFC  Kerns, Terry V.  SSG
Creek, Randall A.  SGT  Knifley, Terry L.  SSG
Daugherty, Cleaver T.  PFC  Lafollette, Michael W.  PV1
Davis, Mark A.  SPC  Leonard, Denver A.  PFC
Doss, Lewis E.  SPC  Lile, Marty R.  SGT
Fair, Joseph E.  1SG  Livers, David L.  SGT
Fair, Terry M.  SGT  Luttrell, James R.  SGT
Ford, Eric W.  SGT  Marcum, Larry D.  SSG
Fox, Michael L.  SSG  Miller, Byron K.  SGT
Fuller, Richard D.  PV1  Moses, Rex H.  PFC
Gearlds, Duane A.  SSG  Murphy, William K.  SGT
George, Ronald D.  SPC  Napier, Gregory A.  SPC
Glover, Charles D.  SPC  Osbourne, Francis M.  1LT
Gribbins, Gary K.  PFC  Penick, Brian T.  SGT
Hagerty, Howard H.  SPC  Phillips, Glen E.  SPC
Hahn, Edward C.  SPC  Porter, Thomas L.  CPT
Ray, Ricky L.  SPC  Tucker, Rickie L.  PV1
Ray, Twymon J.  SGT  Underwood, Charles C.  SFC
Reeves, Barry A.  SPC  Underwood, David W.  SPC
Reynolds, Michael D.  1LT  Underwood, Ricky V.  SSG
Roark, Timothy R.  SPC  Vetter, Kendall L.  SGT
Rodgers, Jimmy W.  SPC  West, Bradley D.  PV2
Schneider, John F.  SPC  Whalen, Roger L.  SPC
Shofner, Randall J.  SFC  Whittington, Chester W.  SGT
Skaggs, Jerrit L.  PFC  Wilson, James O.  SPC
Skaggs, William E.  SPC  Wooldridge, Tony M.  SSG
Stargel, Rodney D.  SPC  Wright, Bobby D.  SPC
Tapscott, Oval T.  SSG  Wright, Edward E.  SSG
Taylor, James A.  PV1  Wright, Ronald W.  SPC
Thompson, Rickey J.  SSG  Wright, Thomas O.  SPC

[Imagery of military operations and personnel in various settings, including camps and training grounds.]
### C Battery

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475TH MOBILE ARMY SURGICAL COMMAND

Commander: COL Joseph J. Dobner.
Strength: 239 (157 activated/82 augmentees).
Activation date: 21 November 1990.
Mobilization date: 24 November 1990.
Return date: 30 April/07 May 1991.
Home Station: Frankfort, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Knox, Kentucky.
Gaining command: 341st Medical Group, 332nd Medical Battalion, 2nd Corps Support Command (COSCOM), VII Corps.
Mission: Battlefield surgical support; Humanitarian relief.
Geographic area of operation: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait.
Notes of interest: Provided humanitarian relief in Eastern Iraq following Desert Storm, caring for more than 1500 Iraqi Nationals, including 300 enemy prisoners of war, for problems ranging from malnutrition to severe trauma.

Personnel Roster

Abercrombie, Paul N.  SGT
Adamski, Elizabeth M.  SSG
Addams, Orville O.  SPC
Adkins, Trina L.  PFC
Akers, Melissa G.  PFC
Akey, John L.  CPT
Ballard, Cathy A.  PV2
Ballard, Harry M.  SPC
Baxter, Larry A.  CPT
Beeman, Carol J.  1LT
Benson, Donald W.  SSG
Bivins, Michael D.  PFC
Blackburn, Stephen F.  MAJ
Boardman, Douglas E.  SSG
Boone, Leslie C.  PFC
Brashear, Burtis E.  2LT
Brewer, Donald R.  SPC
Bright, Johnnie A.  SPC
Bromagen, Luther O.  SPC
Brown, Ivan M.  SFC
Brown, Michael D.  PFC
Buchholz, Elizabeth N.  1LT
Bullock, Robert V.  SPC
Bustin, Andrew G.  MAJ
Cadrette, Michael S.  2LT
Carl, Terrence  1SG
Cartwright, Louindy C.  SGT
Chappell, Garry W.  SGT
Clatos, Gary N.  SPC
Clay, Richard D.  PFC
Collard, Cheri A.  CPT
Collins, James A.  SSG
Collins, Lee O.  SPC
Comer, Drena C.  SGT
Conner, Barbara A.  SPC
Cook, Joel C.  SGT
Cooper, Grover B.  SSG
Cooper, Shirley A.  SSG
Cornell, Deborah S.  1LT
DeMeyer, Raymond G.  CPT
Dobner, Joseph J.  COL
Doyle, James B.  SSG
Drane, William J.  1LT
Dunaway, David B.  SSG
Dunaway, William N.  SGT
Eastham, Ann B.  1LT
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223rd Military Police Company

Commander: CPT Gary L. Lane.
Strength: 157.
Activation date: 03 January 1991.
Mobilization date: 06 January 1991.
Return date: 14 May 1991.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Campbell, Kentucky.
Mission: Security, handling and processing of enemy prisoners of war.
Geographic area of operation: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait.
Notes of interest: Accompanied 24th Infantry Division to the Euphrates.

Personnel Roster

Adams, Cassandra F.  SPC
Adams, George D.  SPC
Adams, Ronnie G.  SGТ
Anderson, David L.  PFC
Atcher, Mark D.  SSG
Baker, Sean D.  PFC
Bartlett, Lyndel  SGТ
Becht II, Donald L.  PV1
Begley, Billy J.  PV2
Bertram, Paul W.  PV2
Bevil, Kevin S.  SSG
Bierod, Paul A.  SGT
Board, Michael L.  SFC
Bowens, Jacqueline M.  SPC
Brown, Charles J.  SPC
Burgin, John D.  SPC
Burgin, Robert D.  SPC
Campbell, Stephen  SGТ
Childress, James B.  SPC
Clem, Michael W.  PFC
Coe, Jennifer A.  2LT
Colon, Troy A.  PV1
Constantine, Gregory M.  SSG
Cooksey, Barry K.  SPC

Coulter, Ricky W.  SPC
Cox, Allen D.  SSG
Crutcher, Bruce D.  SGT
Curry, Leonard L.  SGT
Dearing, Clifford H.  SGT
Dempsey, David A.  SSG
Dowell, Pamela K.  SPC
Duckett, David H.  SSG
Duddy, David J.  SPC
Duvernois, Pierre A.  SSG
Edelen, Charles H.  SPC
Elliott, George B.  PFC
Fleischer, William R.  SPC
Franklin, Albert J.  SSG
Franklin, Larry R.  SPC
Frantz, Terrence J.  1SG
Fromer, John T.  SPC
Gallenstein, Gary W.  MSG
Gatz, John C.  SPC
Goebel, David L.  SGT
Goodall, Kerry A.  PV2
Goodlett, Danny K.  SPC
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<tr>
<td>Woolsey, Michelle L.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Zimmerman, Perry L.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
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438TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

Commander: CPT Shaun A. Scully.
Strength: 136.
Activation date: 07 January 1991.
Mobilization date: 10 January 1991.
Return date: 02 September 1991.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Knox, Kentucky.
Gaining command: 89th Military Police Brigade, VII Corps.
Mission: Installation security, Main Supply Route (MSR) patrol.
Geographic area of operation: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait.

Personnel Roster

Acree, Beverly J.  PFC    Cooper, Robert E.  PV2
Adams, Shontelle C.  SGT    Corum, Jeffrey S.  SPC
Albari, Peggy L.  SGT    Cossaboon, Rodney R.  SPC
Arnold, David L.  SPC    Cottongim, Dale W.  SPC
Arnold, Jefferson M.  SGT    Cox, Raymond M.  SSG
Bailey, Kenneth E.  SPC    Dahl, George D.  PFC
Banta, Tracey M.  SPC    Dalton, Vern C.  SGT
Barto, Stephen S.  SGT    Davenport, James E.  SFC
Bates, Gerald A.  SPC    Davenport, Wannie M.  SPC
Bauer, Daniel L.  SPC    Davis, Rudy R.  SFC
Bauman, Richard L.  SFC    Devuono, Joseph D.  PV2
Baxtron, Michael G.  SGT    Dews, Daniel C.  SGT
Beaverson, Brett N.  1LT    Dunn, Michael T.  PFC
Benge, Jack M.  SFC    Eaton, Anthony W.  SSG
Boldin, Gary A.  SPC    Elswick, Gary S.  SGT
Bollinger, Dawn R.  SPC    Ennis, Paul C.  PV2
Bond, Eric R.  PV2    Fauver, Edward A.  SPC
Booth, Barbara A.  SGT    Fields, Lauretta A.  SGT
Bosan, Essex W.  PFC    Finley, Roy H.  PV2
Buckman, Kevin R.  SSG    Fremow, John M.  SGT
Buechele, William K.  SSG    Garner, Daniel L.  SPC
Burns, David W.  SPC    Gavin, Thomas C.  SFC
Butrum, Terry W.  SPC    German, Paul A.  PFC
Carpenter, Mark L.  SPC    Gordon, Bruce J.  PV2
Carter, Jamie L.  SGT    Green, Barry D.  SSG
Congleton, Lowell S.  SSG    Green, Terry W.  SSG
<table>
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<td>Groves, Wendolyn G.</td>
<td>PV2</td>
<td>Penn, Joseph M.</td>
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<td>Guttman, Charles E.</td>
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<td>Privett, Richard L.</td>
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<td>Harris, Jeffery R.</td>
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<td>Richard, Bennie</td>
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<td>Henry, Dennis R.</td>
<td>MSG</td>
<td>Rondo, Dorsey A.</td>
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<td>Ruhe, Elizabeth A.</td>
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<td>Sandhu, Jagat S.</td>
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<td>Huff, Michael L.</td>
<td>PV1</td>
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<td>Shively, Harvey L.</td>
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<td>Kayrouz, Gerald L.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Stevens, Rosa D.</td>
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<td>Kessler, Tinagay R.</td>
<td>1LT</td>
<td>Tarrence, R. L. C.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
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<td>Korfhage, John F.</td>
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<td>Taylor, Theresa L.</td>
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<td>Kuklinski, Anthony A.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Thomas, Will</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Lamb, Ian R.</td>
<td>SSG</td>
<td>Towner, Tina M.</td>
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<td>Lawrence, Darren W.</td>
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<td>Leitner, George W.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Ward, Gregory M.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
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<td>Lewis, Edward L.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Ward, Medea A.</td>
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<td>Little, Arthur R.</td>
<td>PFC</td>
<td>Warner, Billy R.</td>
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<td>Long, Steven J.</td>
<td>PFC</td>
<td>Welch, John W.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
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<td>Macomber, Brett E.</td>
<td>PFC</td>
<td>Wells, Kerry S.</td>
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<td>Marcum, Roger L.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Wells, Willie L.</td>
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<td>Martin, Vincent A.</td>
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<td>Wheatley, Paul B.</td>
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<td>McCue, Edward M.</td>
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<td>McGowan, Elexia S.</td>
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<td>White, Sherlissa D.</td>
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<td>McGuire, Robin L.</td>
<td>1SG</td>
<td>Wilson, Audwin W.</td>
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<td>Milburn, Stanley C.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Winder, Richard A.</td>
<td>PFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Willie M.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Youngblood, Randall D.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
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KENTUCKY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS AFFECTED BY THE KHAMISIYAH 2000 HAZARD AREA 10 – 13 MARCH 1991
The Khamisiya Ammunition Storage Facility was a site approximately 25 square kilometers in area and consisted of two sections: one of 88 warehouses; the other of 100 hardened concrete bunkers surrounded by an earth berm and security fencing.

In March 1991, combat engineers and Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) teams of the U.S. Army, conducted a demolition operation. The entire storage complex, containing massive quantities of munitions, was set to be destroyed. On 10 March, all explosive charges were detonated, and witnesses stated that the resultant explosion yielded an impressive mushroom cloud.

It was not known at the time, but destruction of ordnance at Khamisiya is thought to have consequently released nerve agents such as sarin and cyclosarin into the atmosphere. Computer-generated models based on atmospheric conditions project that clouds of nerve agents would have drifted south and reached allied troops. Records also show that Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) sensors monitoring the air soon reported traces of nerve agents. These NBC detection units were military units of several allied countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, and Poland.

It was unclear for a long time whether or there had been chemical weapons at Khamisiya, partly because of an alternate name used by the Iraqi military (Tal al Lahm), and partly because there were other munitions storage locations in the area, including Talil Air Base and in the nearby town of An Nasiriyah. By 1996, it became clear to the Department of Defense that nerve agents were present at the Khamisiya storage facilities. In April 2002, the United States Department of Defense released two reports related to operations at Khamisiyah during the Gulf War. The first report is a final version of its case narrative U.S. Demolition Operations at Khamisiyah. The second was a technical report detailing the modeling and risk characterization of possible chemical-warfare-agent exposure in the Gulf War.

Some Gulf War veterans that were in the area have reported symptoms that meet the definitions of Gulf War Syndrome, while others report no symptoms. The U.S. Department of Defense is continuing investigations, has kept up attempts to keep track of veterans and monitor changes in personal status, as well as informing veterans and the public of any research-related progress. The U.S. Veterans' Administration continues to treat veterans who report symptoms related to or resembling Gulf War Syndrome. The following units of the Kentucky National Guard were in the area at the time of detonation:

133rd Public Affairs Detachment
2123rd Transportation Company
1/623rd Field Artillery Battalion

475th Medical Hospital (MASH)
438th Military Police Company
KENTUCKY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
ELEMENTS DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF
THE PERSIAN GULF WAR
DETACHMENT 1/199TH MEDICAL COMPANY

Commander: CPT Aaron T. Barrier.
Strength: 21.
Activation date: 01 February 1991.
Mobilization date: 01 February 1991.
Home station: Frankfort, Kentucky.
Mobilization station: Fort Bragg, South Carolina.
Mission: Medical transport.
Geographic area of operation: CONUS.

Personnel Roster

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<tr>
<td>Barrier, Aaron T.</td>
<td>CPT</td>
<td>Huffaker, Eric L.</td>
<td>SSG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cays, Earnie D.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Markwell, David R.</td>
<td>SSG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chrisenberry, Dale L.</td>
<td>CW4</td>
<td>McDaniel, James W.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark, Steven B.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>McNally, John G.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coomer, George R.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Phillips, Curtis L.</td>
<td>CW3</td>
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<td>Crabtree, Russell B.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Phillips, Lonnie W.</td>
<td>SSG</td>
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<td>Deweese, Clair L.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Richmer, Patrick J.</td>
<td>WO1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlow, Richard A.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Spurlock, James E.</td>
<td>CW4</td>
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<td>Harrod, James C.</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Thursby, Todd O.</td>
<td>1LT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heitz, Susan R.</td>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>Turner, Michael E.</td>
<td>CW3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hickman, Dwayne</td>
<td>SGT</td>
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Departure of 1/199th from Frankfort, Kentucky.
KENTUCKY AIR NATIONAL GUARD
MOBILIZATION OF INDIVIDUALS
FROM THE FOLLOWING UNITS IN SUPPORT
OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR
123rd TACTICAL AIR WING
IN SUPPORT OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

Operation Desert Shield/Storm challenged all wing components to new levels of proficiency on the ground and in the air. The unit also had at one point over eleven percent of its authorized troop strength on active duty.

General Merrill A. McPeak, Air Force Chief of Staff, said: "This was certainly the largest airlift in history. We moved an army halfway around the world and set it up from scratch. It's really something like moving Oklahoma City, all its people, all its vehicles, all its food, all of its household goods halfway around the world. In essence, we're doing the equivalent of a Berlin Airlift every six weeks – a magnificent performance, and one only the United States, I think could have achieved."

In retrospect, the 123rd Tactical Air Wing ground support activities averaged above Air Force standards in three primary areas: Mission Capable (MC), Total Non-Mission Capable due to Supply, (TNMCS), and Total Non-Mission Capable due to Maintenance (TNMCM). Nearly thirty-two percent of the total Air Force airlift mission was dedicated to the Persian Gulf conflict. The 123rd TAW had the same ratio, thereby explaining the high MC rate for the wing.

The significance was even greater considering how new the wing was to the C-130 program. The Air Force standard called for seventy percent MC rate. The unit, however, averaged 73.06% according to the monthly maintenance summary. The Saudi Area of Operation Rate (AOR) was somewhat higher at eighty-four percent and reflected the expected level of supply support and maintenance.

Aircrew members were also equally put to the ultimate test. Over 1240 sorties were flown between August 1990 and March 1991. About twenty-seven percent, or 322 sorties flown were in support of Operation Desert Storm. The average sortie length was 2.5 hours. Major Larry A. Ortkiese's aircrew logged the longest sortie of 7.5 hours on 21 October 1990. Total hours flown were 3,100 with 967.7 hours designated Operations Desert Storm mission generated.

The Kentucky Air National Guard answered the call for support for Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm by the activation of numerous unit personnel and the activation of the 123rd Tactical Hospital. The first group to be called was the nine members from the 123rd Services Flight (SVF) who were deployed to Little Rock AFB, Arkansas. One other group to be deployed were the eleven members from the 165th Weather Flight (WF) which were interjected with the Army's 20th Special Operation Group at Ft Bragg, North Carolina.

From the outset of the wing's participation in Operation Desert Storm, those Kentucky Air National Guard units, or personnel from selected units were: forty personnel from the 123rd TAC/Hospital, activated on 25 January 1991; twelve personnel from the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron, activated on 27 January 1991; thirteen personnel from the 123rd Security Police, activated on 13 February 1991; nine personnel from the 123rd Services Flight, activated on 10 February 1991; eleven personnel from the 165th Weather Flight, activated on 17 February 1991; and three personnel from the 123rd TAW Airlift Control Element (ALCE), activated on the 11 and 14 March 1991. The last day for any personnel to remain on extended active duty in support of Desert Storm was 31 July 1991.

Major Karl V. Dick, 123rd TAC/Hospital, was recognized for his services as clinical administrator at Malcom Grow USAF Medical Center at Andrews AFB, Maryland, during the Gulf War deployment. Colonel M. Richard Fragala, director of hospital services at the facility, commented on Major Dick's performance in a letter to Brigadier General John L. Smith, 123rd TAW/CC, in that...
upon his arrival, Major Dick immediately mastered the computer system and set up a database in which the tracking the arrival, processing, and deployment of personnel within the facility may be accomplished.

MSgt James Mull, 123rd TAC/Hosp., was recognized for his services while being assigned to the Environmental Health Service SPGM, at the 23rd Tactical Fighter Wing (TFW) Hospital, England AFB, Louisiana, for the period of 26 November 1990 through 9 December 1990. Some of the accomplishments for which MSgt Mull was praised for were: conducted ten (10) facility sanitation inspections; consulted with entomology personnel concerning roach problems in the NCO and Officer's Club's; and helped update regulations and Operating Instructions (OI's). This letter was received too late to be included into the 1990 history of the 123rd TAW, but is included at this time since MSgt Mull's contributions to the 123rd TAC/Hospital, during the Gulf War were appreciated.

Captain Harry Schulman, 123rd TAC/Hospital, was recognized for his contribution to the Alcoholism Rehabilitation Center (ARC) program at Malcom Grow (USAF) Medical Center, Andrews AFB, Maryland, Washington D.C., for the period of January – March 1991. Captain Schulman received praise for his educational lectures to recovering alcoholics.

TSgt Richard Szatkowski, 123rd TAC/Hospital, was sent a letter of appreciation in behalf of his performance while deployed to Malcom Grow (USAF) Medical Facility at Andrews AFB, Maryland, for the period of 4 February – 22 March 1991. TSgt Geoghegan was singled out from his peers for his organization of updated order control system in an effort to conserve time and money.

CMSgt James E. Oney, 123rd TAC/Hospital, was also recognized for his superior services to the 23rd Medical Group, England AFB, Louisiana, during a five (5) month period from October 1990 through February 1991.

Sergeant John Bowe, 123rd TAC/Hospital, being assigned to the Environmental Health Services (SPGM), 23rd TFW Hospital, England AFB, Louisiana, for the period of 23 November 1990 through 23 December 1990, was signaled out for his performance and task accomplishment. Sergeant Bowe accomplished twelve (12) facility sanitation inspections; rations control log started; relieved, or re-wrote fifteen (15) OI's; and introduced a new Sgt to the program. This letter was likewise, received too late to be included into the history for 1990.

Eve (3) personnel from the 165th WF: Major Timothy J. Grump; MSgt Michael E. Walters; and SSgt John W. Perry were the only KyANG members to actually serve in Iraq in order to help in the Protection Relief Program for the post-war Kurdish refugees.

Captain Randall A. Kindler, 123rd TAC/Hospital, received a letter of appreciation for his services to Operation Desert Storm, serving as an Orthopedic Physician Assistant in an exemplary manner. Captain Kindler provided high quality surgical first assistance in operating suite.

Lieutenant Colonel Gary L. Napier, 123rd TAW/JA, was recognized for his services during AFT at Pope AFB, North Carolina. During his one-week stay, Lieutenant Colonel Napier accomplished an Air Force regulation (AFR) 36-discharge packet; briefed several base agencies on a special event for dependents in support of Desert Shield/Storm; researched and provided a legal opinion concerning copyright laws and the applicability of them to a base agency; reviewed two (2) substantial claims for the government, and one line of duty determination; reviewed the By-Laws and
Constitution of an on-base private club; and rendered an opinion concerning the rights of civilian creditors to repossess personal property.

In January 1991, The Department of Defense (DoD) announced that the 123rd TAW would undergo yet another aircraft conversion – this time to the C-130H.

The above photos show members of the 123rd Services Flight going through mobilizations stations at Standiford Field ANG Base. Deployments for Desert Shield and Desert Storm place Kentucky Air National Guard personnel across Europe, the Middle East and other U.S. military bases. *Photographs courtesy of The Cargo Courier.*
In Support of Operation Desert Storm
123rd Tactical Hospital

Strength: 40.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.
Gaining command: Malcom Grow USAF Medical Center, Andrews AFB, MD. 317th USAF Contingency Hospital, USAF Europe (USAFE), APO, NY. 23rd Medical Group, England AFB, LA.

Personnel Roster
The following personnel were deployed to Malcolm Grow Medical Center, Andrews Air Force Base, Washington, D.C.

Bibb, Donnetta R.  A1C
Bowles, Mary S.  A1C
Butler, Douglas W.  MAJ
Copperwaite, Kathryn S.  SGT
Dick, Karl V. Jr.  MAJ
Fowler, Larry A.  MSGT
Geoghegan, Michael L.  MSGT
Granstrom, David E.  CAPT
Greentree, Sonja L.  SSGT
Hager, Michael S.  A1C
Hall, Ronald W.  MAJ
Kindler, Randall A.  CAPT
McConnell, James A.  SRA
McCrillis, John M.  MAJ
Middleton, Larry R.  SSGT
Schulman, Harry H.  CAPT
Skinner, Terry M.  MSGT
Szatkowski, Richard T.  TSGT
Turner, Mary M.  SSGT
Zeller, Terri L.  SSGT

The following personnel were deployed to 317th USAF Contingency Hospital, USAF Europe (USAFE), APO, NY.

Abel, Kristina S.  SRA
Ali, Ton A.  SSGT
Carrillo, Connie S.  CPT
Cleveland, Sandra J.  MAJ
Conner, Angela C.  SRA
Embry, Michael A.  SSGT
Fetchko, Ronald G.  SMSGT
Harbin, William G.  SSGT
Hornback, Charles L.  SSGT
Johnson, Coszetta E.  SRA
Roberts, Archie L. IV  SRA
Smith, Carl L.  SSGT
Smith, Rita C.  SRA
Summers, James W.  TSGT
Swenson, Christopher J.  SRA
Thomas, Pamela J.  SGT
Williams, Kenneth W.  SGT
Worley, David H.  2LT
Young, Shelia L.  SGT

The following personnel were deployed to 23rd Medical Group, England Air Force Base, Louisiana.

Bowe, John M.  SGT
Mull, James  MSGT
Oney, James E.  CMSGT
123rd Civil Engineering Squadron

Strength: 12.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.

Personnel Roster

Akridge, Robert E.  SRA
Baylor, Kevin E.  SSGT
Bradley, Terry W.  SSGT
Carraway, Dale L.  MSGT
Dossey, Randall W.  SRA
Garera, Joseph G.  TSGT
Loafman, Darryl J.  SGT
Schmidt, Anthony J.  SSGT
Scott, Keith A.  SSGT
Thomas, Norman A. Jr.  SRA
Wickliffe, Bradley B.  SSGT
Young, Mark A.  SRA
123RD SERVICES FLIGHT

Strength: 09.
Activation date: 10 February 1991.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.
Gaining command: Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas.

Personnel Roster

Bailey, Johnny B. Jr.    A1C
Floyd, Sonya E.         SGT
Garretson, Ronald E.    SSGT
Grimes, Paul M.         SSGT
Ison, Beverly A.        SGT
Kays, Mary F.           TSGT
Montgomery, Erle D.    TSGT
Waliga, Jon W.          SSGT
Wright, Robert E.       SSGT
123rd Security Police

Strength: 13.
Activation date: 13 February 1991.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.
Gaining command:

Personnel Roster

Austin, Lotus J.  SSGT
Benge, Richard L.  TSGT
Burt, Christopher S.  SSGT
Childress, Jimmy D.  AMN
Ervin, Leslie R.  SRA
Grimes, Bruce D.  SGT
Hartlage, Earl J. Jr.  SSGT
Jackson, Timothy R.  SRA
Kelton, Charles H.  AMN
Kohlsdorf, Douglas W.  SSGT
McDaniel, Perry D.  SSGT
Myers, Michael A.  SGT
Rose, Samuel N. Jr.  SRA
165TH WEATHER FLIGHT

Strength: 11.
Activation date: 17 February 1991.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.
Gaining command: 20th Special Operation Group (Army), Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Personnel Roster

Anderson, James E. SRA
Burch, Paul H. SSGT
Fenley, Charles T. MAJ
Furman, Richard A. TSGT
Gump, Timothy J. MAJ
Hight, Dan A. TSGT
McLeod, Brendan J. SRA
Murphy, Daniel L. SSGT
Nelson, Forrest P. LTC
Perry, John W. III SSGT
Walters, Michael E. MSGT

---

4 Maj Gump, SSgt Perry and MSGt Walters were the only Kentucky Air National Guard personnel to actually serve in Iraq. They served as part of the Protection Relief Program for post-war Kurdish refugees.
123RD AIRLIFT CONTROL ELEMENT (ALCE)

Strength: 03.
Activation date: 11-14 March 1991.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.
Gaining command:

Brown, Roy C. Jr. SSGT
Burge, Gary M. LTC
Gering, Jerome A. SMSGT

123RD JUDGE ADVOCATE

Strength: 01.
Activation date: 10 September 1990.
Home station: Louisville, Kentucky.

Napier, Gary L. LTC
SrA. Cossetta Johnson, left, and SrA. Angela Conner of the 123rd Tactical Hospital were reunited with family members upon returning home in March. The two women were among nearly 150 KyANG members activated during Operation Desert Storm, in which many remain on active duty at military bases in the United States, Europe and the Middle East.
CONGRATULATORY LETTERS TO MEMBERS OF THE KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD
Congratulatory Letter from
Lieutenant General John B. Conaway
To Members of the Army and Air National Guard.⁵

It is times such as these when words hardly seem adequate to convey the appreciation and admiration of a grateful nation. My heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the more than 75,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard who were federalized in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

In the spirit of the original minuteman, Guard members from all walks of life left families and civilian jobs to answer the call of the nation.

The professionalism and dedication that has been the hallmark of your service in the National Guard contributed immensely to the great military success of Desert Storm. In support and combat roles, Guard units performed vital missions.

To our fallen comrades in arms, we offer our prayers. To their loved ones, we offer our support and sympathy and the assurance that they will remain in our hearts and memories. To the families, it is important for them to know that the sacrifice of their loved ones was not in vain. And to those who have returned it is forever important that we honor those who paid the ultimate price for victory.

Each and every Guard family played a critical role in Desert Shield and Desert Storm. From providing support to deployed family members while waiting anxiously on the home front, to the countless hours helping and supporting the thousands of families in need of assistance during these trying times – the family as always, provided the bedrock foundation for the spirit and winning attitude of the warriors.

To the soldiers and airmen, know that you are forever changed, touched by what you have seen, shaped by what you have experienced, bonded with those whom with you have shared this trial. Know in your heart, most importantly, you were and forever will be equal to the challenge – you are Americans at their best.

God Bless, you, the National Guard and the great nation we all serve proudly.


⁵ Lt. Gen. (Ret) John B. Conaway served as Chief of National Guard Bureau during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Prior to his assignments in Washington D. C., Conaway served as a member of the Kentucky Air National Guard. He retired in November 1993.
Congratulatory Letter from Governor Wallace G. Wilkinson To Members of the Kentucky National Guard.\textsuperscript{6}

To the Kentucky Guard Family:

Martha and I want to thank you for all you have done for the Guard. The Kentucky Guard's role in Desert Storm has been a source of great pride to all Kentuckians. Our Guard, both in the Gulf and at home, is the best of Kentucky.

Our soldiers and families have made great sacrifices. We have made every effort to help our Guard families. I have put in place a hotline number, 1-800-372-7601, to deal with any family issues.

We are grateful for all the work you have done and for all the support from our Guard members and their families.

Sincerely,

Wallace G. Wilkinson

\textsuperscript{6} Wallace G. Wilkinson served as the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, from 1987 to 1991. Image courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society.
Congratulatory Letter from
Major General Michael W. Davidson
To Members of the Kentucky National Guard.7

Dear Fellow Guard Member:

On behalf of the Kentucky National Guard, and on behalf of all Kentuckians, I want to thank you for your service in Desert Storm. We are proud of what you did.

You are now a part of the next generation of leaders for the Guard. You and your unit have done what we all train to do --- to mobilize and deploy when the country needs us. Our younger soldiers will need your experience and leadership in the coming years.

Welcome home and thanks for a job well done.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL W. DAVIDSON
Brigadier General, KyNG
The Adjutant General

7 MG (Ret) Michael W. Davidson served as The Adjutant General of the Kentucky National Guard from 1987 to 1991.
MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:
UNIT
Campaign Streamer

Southwest Asia Service. There are three campaigns for the Southwest Asia War. The streamer is tan with a black border and center stripe. On each side of the black center is a green stripe. A grouping of red, white, and blue stripes are centered on each side. The sand colored ribbon with red, white, blue, green, and black stripes represent the desert and the colors of the United States and the coalition members. The following inscriptions in white are authorized:

DEFENSE OF SAUDI ARABIA 1990-1991
LIBERATION AND DEFENSE OF KUWAIT 1991
SOUTHWEST ASIA CEASE-FIRE 1991-1995
MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS: INDIVIDUAL
The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was established by President Eisenhower per Executive Order 10448, dated 22 April 1953, for service between 27 June 1950 and a date to be announced. On 17 June 1954, the Chief of Staff approved establishment of 27 July 1954 as the termination date for award of the NDSM. Executive Order 11265, dated 11 January 1966, amended Executive Order 10488, to include a termination date and authorized the Secretary of Defense to establish periods of eligibility subsequent to 31 December 1960. Eligibility for award, commencing with the period after 31 December 1960, was established by DOD Directive 1348.7, dated 1 April 1966, and terminated effective 15 August 1974, per letter from Manpower and Reserve Affairs, subject: Termination of Eligibility for the National Defense Service Medal, dated 30 June 1974. The NDSM was again authorized by memorandum, dated 20 February 1991, from Secretary of Defense Cheney for active service on or after 2 August 1990 with no termination date established. The termination date was later established as 30 November 1995. The NDSM was reinstated by memorandum from The Deputy Secretary of Defense, dated 26 April 2002, from 11 September 2001 to a termination date to be determined in the future.
Southwest Asia Service Medal

The Southwest Asia Service Medal is a military decoration of the United States armed forces which was created by order of President George H. W. Bush on March 12, 1991. The decoration is intended to recognize those military service members who performed duty during the years of the Persian Gulf War. The medal was designed by Nadine Russell of the Army's Institute of Heraldry.

The Southwest Asia Service Medal is awarded for military service between August 2, 1990 and November 30, 1995 for participation during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. To be awarded the decoration a service member must also have served in the geographical land areas of any of the following nations: Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates.

Between January 17, 1991 and November 30, 1995, service members who performed duty "in support of" the Persian Gulf War are eligible to receive the Southwest Asia Service Medal if duty was performed in either Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Syria, or Jordan.

For those service members who performed "home service" during the Persian Gulf War, such as support personnel in the United States, the Southwest Asia Service Medal is not authorized. The decoration is also not authorized for those who performed support of the Persian Gulf War from European or Pacific bases.

The Southwest Asia Service Medal is authorized four campaigns of service, each denoted by a service star (or campaign star) awarded with the medal. Each recipient of the medal should wear at least one campaign star. Authorized campaigns are as follows:

- Liberation and Defense of Kuwait: January 17 to April 11, 1991;
- Cease-Fire Campaign: April 12, 1991 to November 30, 1995
- Operation Provide Comfort: June 1, 1992 to November 30, 1995.

US Service members who participated in one or more of the above mentioned campaigns are also authorized to receive the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia) and the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), foreign military decorations issued by the governments of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.
The Nuth al-Tahrir al-Kuwait (Medal for the Liberation of Kuwait) was instituted by King Fahd ibn Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia for service during the Liberation of Kuwait campaign.

The Saudi Arabian version of the Kuwait Liberation Medal is awarded to members of the Coalition Forces who participated in Operation Desert Storm and the liberation of Kuwait between the dates of January 17, 1991 and February 28, 1991. It is considered the rarer of the two versions of the medal, as it recognizes service in a relatively short period of time (only a few months) whereas the Kuwaiti version of the medal is granted for service over several years. For this reason, the Saudi Arabian Kuwait Liberation Medal is considered senior in precedence to the Kuwaiti version of the medal.

The Saudi version of the Kuwait Liberation Medal consists of a silver star of fifteen rounded points (with shorter rounded points between them) surmounted by a gilt medallion which contains a wreath tied at its based and a crown at its top. In the center of the gilt medallion is a silver representation of the Earth, over which is superimposed a gilt representation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Above the gilt medallion are the crossed swords and palm tree taken from the Royal Cypher. Beneath the gilt medallion is a swallow-tailed scroll with its ends folded back and point upward so they follow the contour of the gilt medallion. On the scroll are the words, LIBERATION OF KUWAIT in English, and the same inscription above it in Arabic.

The ribbon bar to the medal bears a gilt device consisting of crossed swords (point up) superimposed over a palm tree. This device is taken from the Royal Cypher. The device is not used on the suspension ribbon to the actual medal.

Service must have been performed in support of Operation Desert Storm and the liberation of Kuwait, between 17 January 1991 to 28 February 1991. Eligible areas include: The Persian Gulf, The Red Sea, that portion of the Arabian Sea that lies north of 10 degrees north latitude and west of 68 degrees east longitude, The Gulf of Aden, The total areas of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. In addition, those personnel must have: been attached to or regularly serving for one or more days with an organization participating in ground and/or shore operations; been attached to or regularly serving for one or more days aboard a naval vessel directly
supporting military operations; actually participated as a crew member in one or more aerial flights supporting military operations in the areas designated above; or, served on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days during the qualifying period. Note: That time limitation may be waived for personnel who actually participated in combat operations.
Liberation Medal
(Kuwait)

The Wisam al-Tahir (Liberation Medal) was issued by the government of Kuwait for service during the Liberation of Kuwait campaign.

The Kuwait Liberation Medal was approved by the Kuwait Council of Ministers for award in five classes, generally according to the rank of the recipient. The medal was offered by the Chief of Staff of the Kuwait Armed Forces on July 16, 1994.

A nation of seafarers and ship builders, Kuwait chose as their coat of arms, the traditional dhow. Falconry is the sport of Kings in the Persian Gulf, and the falcon in the arms is seen as a symbol of Kuwaiti prowess. The official symbolism of the colors is black symbolizes battlefields, white is for deeds, green is for the meadows, and red is for the blood of Kuwait enemies.

Fifth Class Medal: A Bronze medal with enamel, 1 9/16 inches (40 mm) in diameter suspended from a bar by a wreath. The obverse bears the Coat of Arms of the State of Kuwait. The Coat of Arms consists of the shield of the flag design in color superimposed on a falcon with wings displayed. The falcon supports a disk containing a sailing ship with the full name of the State written at the top of the disk. At the top of the medal is the inscription "1991 LIBERATION MEDAL" in Arabic letters. The reverse side is the map of Kuwait on a rayed background.

The US military accepted only the fifth grade version for all personnel. Awarded to members of the Military Coalition who served in support of Operation Desert Shield or Desert Storm in one or more of the following areas between 2 August 1990 and 31 August 1993: Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden, that portion of the Arabian Sea that lies north of 10 degrees North latitude and west of 68 degrees East longitude, as well as the total land areas of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

The Government of Kuwait offered the Kuwait Liberation Medal to members of the Armed Forces of the United States by letter dated 16 July 1994. The medal was accepted by Secretary of Defense William J. Perry per memorandum dated 16 March 1995.

The Kuwait version of the Kuwait Liberation Medal is considered junior in precedence to the Saudi Arabian version of the medal.
PERSIAN GULF WAR TIMELINE
(May 1990 – April 1991)

1990

May 28-30: Iraqi president Saddam Hussein says that oil overproduction by Kuwait and United Arab Emirates is "economic warfare" against Iraq.

July 15: Iraq accuses Kuwait of stealing oil from Rumaylah oil field near the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border and warns of military action.

July 22: Iraq begins deploying troops to the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border and building a massive military buildup.

August 2: About 100,000 Iraqi troops invade Kuwait. Kuwait is in Iraqi control by the end of the day.

August 6: The U.N. Security Council imposes a trade embargo on Iraq in a 13-0 vote, with Cuba and Yemen abstaining. President George H. W. Bush orders the deployment of U.S. armed forces to defend Saudi Arabia in an operation named, OPERATION DESERT SHIELD.


August 8: Saddam Hussein proclaims the annexation of Kuwait.

August 9: U.N. declares Iraqi annexation of Kuwait void.

August 10: Hussein declares a “jihad” or holy war against the U.S. and Israel.

August 12: Naval blockade of Iraq begins. All shipments of Iraqi oil halted.

August 28: Iraq declares Kuwait as its 19th province and renames Kuwait City as al-Kadhima.

September 14-15: United Kingdom and France announce the deployment of 10,000 troops to Saudi Arabia.


1991

January 3: U.S. Defense Department censors war reporting by the press.

January 9: Talks in Geneva, Switzerland, between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz end with no progress.

January 12: Congress grants President Bush authority to wage war.

January 16: The White House announced the commencement of OPERATION DESERT STORM: offensive action against the forces of Iraq under the provisions of U.N. Security Council/U.S. Congressional resolutions.

January 17: The war begins at 2:38 a.m. Baghdad time when AH-64 Apache attack helicopters destroy Iraqi radar sites, later F-117 Nighthawk Stealth Fighters bomb Baghdad and Iraqi forces. Operation Desert Storm begins.

January 18: Iraq strikes with Soviet-made SCUD missiles on Israel. The U.S. deploys Patriot missiles to Israel and Saudi Arabia.

January 22: Iraqi troops begin blowing up Kuwaiti oil wells.

January 25: Iraqi troops begin “environmental war” by dumping millions of gallons of crude oil into the Persian Gulf.

January 29: Iraqi forces invade the town of Khafji in Saudi Arabia. Iraqi forces are soon engaged by Saudi Arabian and Qatari troops with U.S. Marine artillery.

January 31: Iraqi forces capture Melissa Rathbun-Nealy, the first female Prisoner of War since World War II.
**February 1:** Iraqi forces are driven out of Saudi Arabia. Allied Forces win the Battle of Khafji. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney warns U.S. will retaliate if Iraq uses chemical or unconventional weapons.

**February 8:** Total U.S. troop strength in the Gulf over half million.

**February 12-13:** A bombing raid by U.S. forces against Baghdad kills 400 Iraqi civilians in an air raid shelter, and three major bridges.

**February 19:** Soviet-Iraqi peace plan rejected by President Bush. Oil spill in Gulf now estimated at 1.5 million barrels.

**February 22:** U.S. President George H. W. Bush issues a 24-hour ultimatum: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait to avoid start of a ground war.

**February 24:** Allied Forces invade Iraq and Kuwait at around 4 a.m. Baghdad time. General Schwarzkopf implements the Gulf War’s critical “left hook” maneuver as conceived by General Grant’s 1863 Civil War campaign at Vicksburg. The U.S. Army is the first to enter Iraqi territory.

**February 25:** An Iraqi SCUD missile hits U.S. barracks near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 28 U.S. troops.

**February 26:** Saddam Hussein orders the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. About 10,000 retreating Iraqi troops are killed when Allied aircraft bomb them, it is called the "Highway of Death".

**February 27:** U.S. Marines and Saudi Arabian troops enter Kuwait City. The U.S. Army’s 1st Armored Division engages the Iraqi Republican Guard in the Battle of Medina Ridge in Iraq. President Bush declares Kuwait liberated.

**February 28:** By Presidential order all Coalition offensive operations ceased at 0800 local time.

**March 1:** The cease-fire plan is negotiated in Safwan, Iraq.

**March 17:** First U.S. troops arrive home.

**April 11:** The U.N. Security Council declared a formal cease-fire, ending the Gulf War.
RANK ABBREVIATIONS

Army:
COL – Colonel (O-6)
LTC – Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)
MAJ – Major (O-4)
CPT – Captain (O-3)
1LT – First Lieutenant (O-2)
2LT – Second Lieutenant (O-1)
CSM – Command Sergeant Major (E-9)
SGM – Sergeant Major (E-9)
1SG – First Sergeant (E-8)
MSG – Master Sergeant (E-8)
SFC – Sergeant First Class (E-7)
SSG – Staff Sergeant (E-6)
SGT – Sergeant (E-5)
SPC – Specialist (E-4)
PFC – Private First Class (E-3)
PV2 – Private (E-2)
PV1 – Private (E-1)

Air:
Lt Col – Lieutenant Colonel
Maj – Major
Capt – Captain
2nd Lt – Second Lieutenant
CMSgt – Chief Master Sergeant
SMSgt – Senior Master Sergeant
MSGt – Master Sergeant
T Sgt – Technical Sergeant
SSgt – Staff Sergeant
SrA – Senior Airman
A1C – Airman First Class
A mn – Airman
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