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Citizen-soldiers answer the call.

Desert Storm
Commemorative issue
Soldiers and airmen of the National Guard,

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 go to the more than 75,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard federalized in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In the spirit of the original Minuteman, guardmembers 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 of victory.

Each and every Guard family played a critical role in Desert Shield and 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 those trying times—the family, as always, provided the bedrock foundation for the spirit and winning attitude of the warriors.

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.

This commemorative Desert Storm issue is just a small token of thanks for a job well done.

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

JOHN B. CONAWAY
Lieutenant General, USAF
Chief, National Guard Bureau
Guard helps draw line in the sand

“This will not stand...this aggression against Kuwait.”

President Bush

August 7, 1990, U.S. troops began moving into the region. Before it was over, 75,000 Guardsmen had mobilized and, at the peak of the war about 43,000 were deployed to the Gulf.

Sgt. Dennis Trammell of the 1137th Military Police Company, Missouri Army Guard, is ready to load up and move out. (photo by Maj. Ken McNevin)

A C-141 from 172nd Military Airlift Group, Mississippi Air Guard, is first U.S. aircraft to touch down in Gulf, seven days after invasion of Kuwait.

A convoy of the 1168th Transportation Company, Iowa Army Guard, moves along a main supply route in Kuwait in rush to supply equipment and weapons to frontline troops.

Maryland Army National Guard soldiers arrive in Saudi Arabia.
Citizens answer the call

Maj. George Lanning, commander, 206th Transportation Detachment, Oregon Army National Guard (ARNG), is greeted by Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts. Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, former Oregon Adjutant General and current ARNG director is in the background.

by Lt. Col. Les Stadig
Editor

Superintendent George Lanning was making final plans on Aug. 24 for his first staff meeting of the 1990 school year at Amity School District in Oregon. He had hoped to welcome 90 employees back from summer vacation and give guidance for the upcoming year.

A phone call interrupted his work — a call ordering him to report to the Military Department immediately.

In less than three weeks, Lanning, a major in the Oregon Army National Guard and commander of the 206th Transportation Detachment, was pulling duty as an Army soldier in the Persian Gulf. For the next nine months, Lanning would be “absent” from school.

This citizen-soldier's story is not unique. Tens of thousands of National Guard soldiers and airmen quickly set aside civilian endeavors and made arrangements for their spouses and children. Some had to write their first wills. Others had to arrange for child care. Many either had to notify employers or if they owned their own business, employees. Others had to drop out of college, defer marriages, or miss seeing their children born.

As citizen-soldiers were ripped away from their civilian lives as doctors, teachers and truck drivers, Americans realized it was in a war buildup like it hadn’t seen since the last time its neighbors were mobilized in massive numbers — the Korean War.

The results were numerous —
• Tremendous public support for the war effort;
• A surge of volunteerism by National Guard personnel;
• An alert process that saw all called and mobilized Guard units report within 72 hours;
• An amazing 19 out of every 20 Guardsmen meeting deployment standards immediately;
• Early and continuous Guard involvement in the war;
• Great success stories by the more than 43,000 citizen-soldiers who were more than one-third of all reserve forces deployed to the war theater;
• Many employers giving federalized employees more pay and benefits than required by law;
• Local, state and federal legislation introduced to improve the financial and legal support for citizen-soldiers and their families;
• A clear demonstration of the Guard’s ability to operate some of the world’s most sophisticated weaponry;
• An unprecedented movement of people and supplies halfway around the world to sustain combat operations;
• Not a single U.S. aircraft lost in air-to-air combat, while the Iraqis saw over 3,300 tanks, and numerous command and control centers, bridges and transportation routes destroyed, mostly from the air;
• A restoration of pride to many Guard veterans who had returned from war.

"Many reasons have been offered, but the most fundamental is that the Total Force Policy involved our citizen-soldiers, which involved America's grassroots, which, in turn, involved the Nation itself in a total war effort."

Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway

"The most homecoming parades since World War II."

Today, as U.S. military leaders study the lessons learned from the Persian Gulf War, parts of the Total Force Policy have come under scrutiny — Is it prudent..."
Amity School District kindergarten students welcome back Superintendent George Lanning (photo by Shan Gordon).

Defense policy to rely heavily on Guardsmen like Lanning to perform key combat and support missions in a large-scale military contingency?

Guard leaders answer with a resounding “Yes.” And, facts support their answer (see related Army and Air Guard stories in the next few pages).

After closely examining all the pros and cons of the execution of the Total Force Policy in the war, one is left with an inescapable conclusion. In the wake of the Vietnam era, with its protest, draft-card burnings, drug-abuse, crisis of leadership, lack of public support, lack of clearly defined objectives, and limited use of citizen-soldiers, the performance of the National Guard in Operation Desert Storm was a success almost beyond any seasoned military analyst’s expectations, let alone predictions from as few as five years ago.

Why?

“Many reasons have been offered, but the most fundamental is that the Total Force Policy involved our citizen-soldiers, which involved America’s grassroots, which, in turn, involved the Nation itself in a total war effort,” said Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway, chief of the National Guard Bureau.

While the accomplishments of the Guard in the war zone are numerous and well-documented, the herculean effort on the homefront has not received as much attention, or credit.

Guard members and volunteers staffed 471 family-support centers throughout the country and served more than a quarter of a million families from all services.

Finance, personnel and medical specialists were activated to fill voids left stateside when active-duty personnel deployed to the Gulf.

In addition, while some 75,000 Guard members supported Desert Storm, thousands more performed other important federal and state missions to include responding to 336 state emergencies and conducting illegal drug interception/destruction support activities in every state and territory.

And the extended Guard family was equally as important to the ultimate success of America’s war effort.

“We had tremendous support from home and employers throughout our entire deployment,” said Lanning. “We received hundreds of letters of encouragement, cards and care packages.”

Re-deployment after the war was quick for combat units. However, many Guard units with support roles like transportation, maintenance and ordnance, were required to stay in Southwest Asia long after the shooting had stopped.

Lanning’s 206th Transportation Detachment was one of these. After helping many units redeploy, the 206th arrived home in May.

Just before the school year ended, Superintendent George Lanning was back at his educational post, lecturing and showing Gulf War slides to his employees, his students and neighbors.

Victory in hand, the warriors returned home to grassroots America.
Army Guard does well in Total Force test

by Master Sgt. Frank Jordan
Maine Army National Guard

The Army National Guard's (ARNG) involvement in Operation Desert Storm was the acid test of the Total Force Policy from many points-of-view.

Before the war, the following questions were asked:

- How would Guard personnel respond to a call-up?
- How fast could they deploy?
- How successful would citizen-soldiers be once they became a part of the Army?
- How would the Guard care for the families left behind?

After the war, the questions were answered.

- How did Guard personnel respond to the Presidential Call-Up and Partial Mobilization?
  Almost a thousand Army Guard soldiers volunteered before being called up.
  All 398 units called arrived at their respective mobilization station within 72 hours of federalization.
  Once there, 94 percent of Army National Guard soldiers were judged deployable by the Army. Of the remaining 6 percent, three-quarters were rated non-deployable simply because they hadn't attended initial training.

By the end of the war, more than 62,000 ARNG soldiers were federalized from 48 states, two territories and the District of Columbia.

- How fast did they deploy?
  Almost 38,000 ARNG citizen-soldiers deployed to Southwest Asia, two-thirds in less than 45 days. A Multiple Launch Rocket System battalion from Oklahoma had elements firing rockets within 48 hours of arrival in theater. In all, they fired more than 900 rockets.

- How did Army Guard soldiers perform in the war?
  The 212th Engineer Company from the Tennessee Army Guard was the first U.S. unit to cross the Iraqi border as it led the barricade and mine breaching effort at the front.
  Two combat brigades participated fully in the war. They were the 42nd Field Artillery Brigade from Oklahoma and the 196th Field Artillery Brigade from Tennessee. British Brigadier Harmerbick, commander of the 4th Armoured Brigade, recalled the 142nd's support, "By golly, they were good!"

ARNG postal units handled as much as 298 tons of mail in a three-day period. The unit work demand was such, that they only had a half day off on Thanksgiving and a half day off on Christmas. This was the only time off during their entire mobilization.

An element of Missouri ARNG's 1138th Military Police unit was the only qualified prisoner-of-war processing unit in Panama during Operation Just Cause and voluntarily entered active duty to continue their mission. This same unit was federalized for Operation Desert Storm.

Many other citizen-soldiers filled vital roles as truck drivers, maintenance technicians, medics, communications experts, chaplains, and public-affairs specialists.

- What kind of support did the Army Guard give to families?
  The Guard staffed 433 family support centers throughout the country. Some 210,000 families, representing all service components, used these centers.

Perhaps the success of the Total Force Policy can best be summed up by Lt. Gen. Gus Pagonis, the Army’s logistics chief in the war: "This command could not function — could not have functioned — and would not have accomplished one objective had it not been for the reserve components. The greatest compliment was from General Vuono (then Army chief of staff). He had no idea who was active duty, or reserve or who was National Guard and, of course, that's the way it has been."
Members of the 10th Military History Detachment (North Carolina Army Guard, Raleigh) in Iraq, supporting the 82nd Airborne Division, Feb. 27, 1991. (photo by Maj. Dennis Levin).

Self-propelled howitzer of 142nd Field Artillery Brigade, Arkansas Army Guard, moves toward enemy position during first day of ground war (photo by Maj. Kim Kimmey).


Staff Sgt. Charles Boruff, Tennessee Army Guard, works on Iraqi tanks in Kuwait. (photo by Master Sgt. Frank Jordan).
RF-4s from the 106th TAC Reconnaissance Squadron of the 117th TAC Reconnaissance Wing, Alabama Air National Guard, over the desert of Southwest Asia.

Volunteerism

Key to Air Guard's success

by Capt. Phil Blahut
Associate Editor

"Always Ready, Always There" is the National Guard's motto.

The motto became reality when more than 12,500 Air National Guard (ANG) men and women responded to the call of duty for Operation Desert Storm.

Many of them didn't even wait for the "call." By the time the Presidential 200,000 personnel call-up was initiated on Aug. 24, 1990, there were already 2,700 Air Guard volunteers performing critical missions.

In fact, seven days after Saddam Hussein's Army stormed across the Kuwait border on Aug. 2, 1990, the first U.S. aircraft to fly into Southwest Asia was an Air Guard C-141 from the Mississippi ANG's 172nd Military Airlift Group that touched down in Dharhan, Saudi Arabia.

The pilot of that aircraft, Lt. Col. Harold Cross, recalls the long flight that started in Jackson, Mississippi, made several stops in the States before taking crew rest in Torrejon, Spain, and then pushing on into Dharhan, Saudi Arabia. "Although it was a long day, we were very energetic," he said. "We were willing to do anything we were asked to do."

Later, but still before any ANG unit was activated and before the aerial bombardment of Iraq, many Air Guard volunteers like Cross would fly strategic-airlift C-5s and C-141s into the theater.

The result was that in the first month, the Air Guard, together with the Active Air Force and Air Force Reserves, airlifted almost twice the amount lifted during the peak month of the Vietnam War. Compared to the airlift operation in Panama, the airlift effort in those first thirty frantic days in the Gulf was triple the tonnage over three times the distance!

Additionally, ANG volunteers flew and maintained shorter-range C-130 tactical-airlift, KC-135 aerial-refueling, RF-4 reconnaissance, and EC-130 special-operations aircraft.

A typical example from the first days of the operation involved a request to the 167th Tactical Airlift Group, a C-130 unit from Martinsburg, West Virginia. A late evening call to the unit for forty aerial-port personnel to voluntarily deploy in support of air-cargo operations had more than 100 takers within a few hours.

By the time the war was over, more than 5,000 men and women of the Air Guard had served in Southwest Asia.

Other major achievements included:

- Air Guard F-16A fighter-bombers bombed key targets in Iraq within the first 24 hours of the air offensive. By the time the war was over these units from the 169th Tactical Fighter Wing, South Carolina, and the 174th Tactical Fighter Wing, New York, had flown over 3,550 missions and unloaded 3,500 tons of ordnance.
- The 117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Alabama, and the 152nd Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Nevada, flew more than 360 combat missions.
- Air refuelers poured more than 200 million pounds of fuel into more than 14,000 coalition aircraft — thousands of feet above the ground. That's enough fuel to power a C-130 100-passenger aircraft around the earth 80 times!
- Aeromedical personnel cared for about 1,000 litter and 1,500 ambulatory patients.

But in retrospect, it is the volunteer spirit of the ANG that stands out.

There's always that question that when the balloon goes up, how will we react," said Cross. "We had never tested volunteerism to this level... In retrospect, our volunteerism potential was much more highly energized than we had predicted.

"We were proud to do it. "We are reconstituted and ready to do it again."
Top, airman working with bomb detail wears sunglasses to protect eyes from glare in Saudi Arabia desert. Left and below, F-16s from New York Air National Guard on the flightline.
New York, South Carolina F-16s participate in first daylight raids

by Kathleen Jewell
National Guard Public Affairs

As the United States and its allies waged war against Iraq in the early morning hours of Thursday, Jan. 17, Air National Guard F-16 units from New York and South Carolina joined their active-duty counterparts in the first daylight raids of Operation Desert Storm. The raids were part of an air campaign described by eyewitnesses as one of the most intense air battles in history.

Just 17 hours after President Saddam Hussein ignored the United States deadline to withdraw Iraqi forces from occupied Kuwait, a squadron of F-15E fighter bombers took off from an air base in central Saudi Arabia at 12:50 am. (Jan. 17) (4:50 pm. EST Jan. 16) in the first military action of Operation Desert Storm.

Several hours later in daylight sorties, Guardsmen from the 138th Air National Guard Fighter Squadron, based in Syracuse, New York, and the 157th Tactical Fighter Squadron, based in Columbia, South Carolina, came under intense enemy anti-aircraft fire. Many pilots were flying their first combat mission.

"There was a lot of stuff being fired at us — just about everything but the kitchen sink was coming up through the clouds at us," said Capt. Thorne Ambrose, 36, of Columbia, South Carolina.

"There were smoke trails in the blue sky above us where some of the SAMs (surface-to-air missiles) were going," he said. "I saw one just go straight up behind me, just straight up in the sky and blow up.

"We were up in the target area probably 10 or 15 minutes. It just seemed like time stood still. There were times that I was supersonic and it just seemed I wasn't going anywhere.

"I had only 40 miles to go, and it seemed like I couldn't get there, to the border... Feet don't fail me now!" Ambrose related to press pool reporters.

A fellow pilot from South Carolina's 157th "Swamp Foxes," a squadron of the state's 169th Tactical Fighter Group, was quoted describing how all the wing's fighters survived continuous anti-aircraft fire. Capt. Jay Johnson, also of Columbia, said, "Hopefully, all the electronic stuff we have and the tactics that we're using are working, and probably, God was looking out for us, too, because it was really very heavy up there."

Johnson related how flying in combat concentrates the mind because it's real and "people are trying to kill you...I have a wife who's three months pregnant, and I can't believe I'm here."

"The Boys from Syracuse," the 138th F-16A unit from Syracuse, flew their missions with the 157th. The 138th is unique in that it is the first Air Force unit flying F-16A aircraft dedicated to close air support, including bombing missions.

Unexpected bad weather during the first day hampered some of the daylight raids against Iraq, forcing some of the F-16A pilots to return to base with full bomb loads.

"We wish the weather was a little bit better so we can go in and do our job," said Capt. Ted Limpert, 31, of Syracuse. Limpert, an attorney in civilian life, and flying his first combat mission with the 138th, said that more experienced pilots, who were veterans of the air campaign in the Vietnam War, flew that Thursday morning and afternoon as mission commanders.

Before the war was over, the weather would improve and the 138th and 157th would drop, in some 3,600 missions, the equivalent of almost 15,000 family-size cars worth of bombs on Iraqi military targets.

Bombs, bombs, and more bombs... 24 hours a day... transported, built-up, fuzeed, loaded, dropped... and do it all over again and again. F-16 from Syracuse awaits in the background. (photo by Master Sgt. John Luszcz, 174 TFW)
If you spent time there, you remember this acronym

by Master Sgt. Frank Jordan
Maine Army National Guard

KING KHALID MILITARY CITY, Saudi Arabia — KKMC, a name familiar to thousands of National Guard soldiers.

Most Americans have no idea of where it is or what took place there.

Soldiers who served here will never forget it. And not because it reminded them of the creature comforts of home.

During the war, KKMC was a huge Saudi Arabian military training center used as a support center for the U.S. Army's VII Corps. It also supported all the logistics bases such as Log Base Bravo and Log Base Echo.

In one of the greatest logistical efforts of all time, when the war started, massive quantities of supplies such as food, ammunition, water, and gas stored here were moved quickly to the front for combat divisions which were surging toward the enemy at breakneck speed. Guard elements helped refuel the miles-long armada of armored vehicles, sometimes at 30 miles an hour, as it swept around the western side of the entrenched Iraqi Army in one of the most awesome flanking actions in history.

But besides the logistical feat accomplished here, the newly arrived soldier was instantly struck by the harshness of the living conditions.

National Guard soldiers, like all other troops in the field, lost weight on a steady diet of the infamous Meals-Ready-to-Eat (MRE's) and T-ration.

However, most troops in earlier wars didn't fight in the desert. National Guard soldiers here experienced driving rain storms and blinding sand storms where they literally couldn't see two feet in front of them. They also experienced cold nights with wind wailing across the flat desert, blowing tents over. Putting the tents back up again in the middle of the night must have often seemed a futile effort because of the repeated moves from one location to another, requiring the tearing down and resurrection of the same wind-swept tent.

Then there was the sand. Lots of it, in the eyes, ears, mouth, everywhere. The wind is blowing. Heat whips around your body like an electric hair dryer. The eyes and actions were the giveaway.

Hot weather takes on a new meaning. Temperatures of 115 degrees were not uncommon. When the wind blew in the heat, it whipped around the soldier's body like an electric hair dryer, only hotter.

A soldier in his Army-issue brown T-shirt was almost always dusty, except for the lines caused by sweat running down his or her face. The eyes were usually red, irritated by the constant dust.

The customary "appendage" was the water bottle, tucked into the pants packet. The water was like a hot cup of coffee, not the greatest thirst quencher in a spot where the soldier sorely needed it.

The wind, when not like a blow dryer, often resembled a tornado, catching the desert sand and twirling it into a funnel that grew in size as it zigzagged across the flatness, dusting everything in its wake.

The sand was not like the variety on American beaches, more like talcum powder. As the soldier strode, his combat boots sank into the fluffy powder, creating rising puffs of dust that enveloped the ankles. It flew everywhere. Any moving vehicle just made it worse. If the soldier wore glasses, he also carried a rag to clean them.

And with the dust, came the flies—pesky and annoying.

The Guard soldiers ranged in age from 19 to 59. There was a father and son team, working side by side. There was a sister and her brother, she a captain, he a private first class. There were mothers who left their children and spouses behind. There were fathers and grandfathers whose maturity and experience was a lifeline for the younger soldiers.

The younger soldiers were changed. The eyes and actions were the giveaway. They were not kids anymore.

These same people a few months earlier had been someone's neighbors, such as the kid who delivered newspapers and mowed lawns through his high school years. They became truck drivers, teachers and nurses.

The members of the National Guard companies didn't gripe much. They dreamt about their departure dates... when they knew them. They knew their missions and wanted to finish them... so they could get on with their lives.

They'll remember KKMC.
Guard units federalized for war

Alabama
109th Evacuation Hospital
Hq and Hq Co., 111th
Ordnance Bn.
92d Quartermaster Co.
Hq and Hq Det., 12th
Medical Gp.
92d Medical Co.
214th Military Police Co.
Hq and Hq Co., 22dth
Support Gp.
Hq and Hq Co., 440th
Ordnance Bn.
638th Ordnance Co.
64th Ordnance Co.
715th Maintenance Co.
Hq and Hq Det., 731
Maintenance Bn.
778th Maintenance Co.
781st Transportation Co.
900th Maintenance Co.
1128th Transportation Co.
1135th Quartermaster Co.
1155th Military Police Co.
1156th Transportation Det.
1206th Quartermaster Det.
1207th Quartermaster Det.
1208th Quartermaster Det.
1209th Quartermaster Det.
121st Postal Co.
1659th Transportation Det.
225th Combat Communications Sq.
23d Combat Communications Sq.
1st Bn 20th Special Forces Co.
Hq and Hq Co., 20th Special Forces Gp.
2d Bn. 152d Armor
656th Ordnance Det.
946th Quartermaster Co.
Hq and Hq Co., 1103d
Transportation Bn.
117th Security Police Flight
187th Security Police Flight
187th Services Sq.
117th Services Sq.

Alaska
176th Security Police Flight

Arkansas
25th Support Center
1st Bn. 142d Field Artillery
2d Bn. 142d Field Artillery
142d Field Artillery Brigade
Hq
146th Evacuation Hospital
Hq and Hq Det., 217th
Maintenance Bn.
22d Quartermaster Co.
1122d Transportation Co.
188th Tactical Clinic
189th Tactical Hospital
119th Adjutant General Co.
204th Medical Det.
212th Signal Bn.
216th Medical Co.

Arizona
222d Transportation Co.
259th Engineer Co.
353d Ordnance Det.
198th Armored Division
855th Military Police Co.
1404th Transportation Co.
222d Quartermaster Co.
222d Transportation Co.
162d Tactical Fighter Gp.
161st Air Refueling Gp.
356th Signal Co.
2220th Transportation Co.
162d Medical Sq.
162d Resource Management Sq.
161st USAF Clinic
161st Security Police Flight
162th Security Police Flight
162d Services Sq.
161st Services Sq.
161st Civil Engineering Sq.
162d Civil Engineering Sq.
162d Mission Support Sq.

California
143d Military Police Det.
Hq and Hq Co., 185th Military Police Bn.
Hq and Hq Det., 185th
Transportation Bn.
224th Transportation Det.
270th Transportation Co.
649th Military Police Co.
970th Military Police Co.
600th Medical Det.
1113th Transportation Co.
2666th Transportation Co.
146d Aeromed Evacuation Flight
144th Services Sq.
162d Combat Communications Gp.
234th Combat Communications Co.
149th Combat Communications Sq.
147th Combat Communications Sq.
149th Combat Communications Sq.
222d Combat Communications Sq.
261st Combat Communications Sq.
870th Military Police Co.
129th Resource Management Sq.
146th Resource Management Sq.
129th Tactical Clinic
146th Tactical Hospital
144th USAF Clinic

Colorado
Co. A, 142d Military Intelligence Bn.
193d Military Police Det.
Hq and Hq Det., 217th
Medical Bn.
220th Military Police Co.
928th Ambulance Co.
497th Medical Clearing Co.
1157th Transportation Det.
1158th Transportation Det.
146th Aeromed Evacuation Flight
149th Combat Communications Sq.
140th Tactical Fighter Wing
140th Security Police Flight
89th Public Affairs Det.
140th Tactical Hospital
240th Services Flight

Connecticut
142d Medical Co.

Delaware
249th Engineer Det.
Hq and Hq Det., 736th
Support Bn.

Florida
Hq and Hq Det., 202d
Medical Gp.
211th Ordnance Det.
269th Engineer Co.
325th Maintenance Co.
563d Signal Co.
700th Military Police Co.

Georgia
122d Rear Area Operations Center
138th Medical Clearing Co.
190th Military Police Co.
Hq and Hq Co., 265th
Engineer Co.
1148th Transportation Co.
731st Military Police Co.
Hq and Hq Co., 48th Infantry
Bde.
1st Bn. 108th Armor
1st Bn. 121st Infantry
2d Bn. 121st Infantry
114th Transportation Co.
148th Support Sq.
222d Quartermaster Co.
166th Maintenance Co.
202d Ordinance Det.
1st Bn. 230th Field Artillery
259th Engineer Co.
440th Engineer Co.
231st Ordnance Det.
116th Security Police Flight
116th Training Center
116th Civil Engineering Sq.
116th Security Police Flight
116th Services Sq.

Iowa
34th Military Police Det.
134th Ambulance Co.
190th Military Police Co.
209th Medical Co.
1134th Quartermaster Co.
1133d Transportation Co.
1166th Transportation Co.
224th Joint Staff Sq.
185th Tactical Fighter Gp.
224th Engineer Bn.
1197th Medical Co.
3554th Maintenance Co.
132d Tactical Hospital
132d Security Police Flight
132d Services Sq.
185th Civil Engineering Sq.
132d Civil Engineering Sq.

Idaho
146th Public Affairs Det.
124th Security Police Flight
124th Services Sq.

Illinois
Hq and Hq Det., 108th
Medical Bn.
233d Military Police Co.
1090th Transportation Co.
1544th Transportation Co.
1644th Transportation Co.
126th Air Refueling Wing
264th Combat Communications Sq.
933d Military Police Co.
182d Tactical Clinico
126th USAF Clinic
126th Security Police Flight
126th Services Sq.
183d Services Sq.
182d Civil Engineering Sq.

Indiana
838th Transportation Det.
1018th Postal Co.
1438th Transportation Co.
122ND Security Police
138th Finance Unit
181st Tactical Clinic
181st Security Police Flight

Kansas
170th Maintenance Co.
190th Air Refueling Gp.
184th Tactical Clinic
190th USAF Clinic
190th Security Police Flight
184th Security Police Flight
190th Services Sq.

Kentucky
133d Public Affairs Det.
137th Transportation Det.
217th Quartermaster Det.
223rd Military Police Co.
475th MASH
1st Bn., 623d Field Artillery
2123d Transportation Co.
436th Military Police Co.
123d Tactical Clinic
123d Security Police Flight
123d Services Sq.
123d Civil Engineering Sq.
165th Weather Flight

Louisiana
39th Military Police Co.
199th MASH
527th Engineer Bn.
812 th Air Ambulance Bn.
1063d Transportation Co.
1086th Transportation Co.
1097th Transportation Co.
1090th Transportation Det.
3073d Maintenance Co.
159th Services Sq.
Troop A 25th Cav
1st Bn. 141st Field Artillery
1st Bn. 158th Armor
2nd Bn. 156th Infantry
3d Bn. 156th Infantry
199th Maintenance Bn.
256th Engineer Co.
Hq and Hq Co. 256th Infantry Bde.
159th Services Sq.

Massachusetts
181st Engineer Co.
704th Transportation Det.
722d Military Police Co.
972d Military Police Co.
1058th Transportation Co.
102d Civil Engineering Sq.
102d Security Police
267th Combat Communications Sq.
102d USAF Clinic
102d Security Police Flight
102d Services Sq.
102d Civil Engineering Sq.
102d Fighter Interceptor Wing

Maryland
Hq and Hq Det., 29th Aviation Gp.
200th Military Police Co.
290th Military Police Co.
1229th Transportation Co.
135th Mobile Aerial Port
135th Tactical Airlift Gp.
175th Security Police
231st Combat Communications Sq.
135th Military Aerial Port

Maine
Hq and Hq Det., 28th Support Bn.
3620th Transportation Det.
101ST Air Refueling Wing
112th Medical Co.
101st USAF Clinic
101st Services Sq.

Michigan
144th Military Police Co.
148th Military Police Det.
207th Evacuation Hospital
460th Quartermaster Co.
745th Ordinance Det.
1009th Transportation Det.
1073d Maintenance Co.
1439th Engineer Det.
1440th Engineer Det.
1461st Transportation Co.
1776th Military Police Co.
127th Security Police
127th Tactical Support Wing
172d Tactical Air Support Sq.
210th Military Police Bn.
1072d Maintenance Co.
1108th Security Police Sq.
191st Services Sq.
191st Civil Engineering Sq.
110th Civil Engineering Sq.

Minnesota
1090th Maintenance Co.
257th Military Police Co.
109th Aeromed Evacuation Flight
133rd Resource

Mississippi
Hq and Hq Det., 112th Military Police Bn.
114th Military Police Co.
1202d Air Ambulance Co.
191st Air Ambulance Co.
131st Security Police
139th Security Police
239th Combat Communications Sq.
113th Military Police Co.
624th Quartermaster Co.
768th Transportation Co.
183d Military Airlift Sq.
180th Security Police
183d Aeromed Evacuation Flight
230th Combat Communications Sq.

Missouri
35th Rear Area Operations Center
1137th Military Police Co.

Montana
103d Public Affairs Det.
120th Services Sq.
120th USAF Clinic
120th Security Police Flight
120th Services Sq.
120th Civil Engineering Sq.
120th Fighter Interceptor Gp.

North Carolina
Hq and Hq Co., 30th Support Gp.
121st Transportation Det.
130th Military History Det.
139th Rear Area Operations Center
210th Military Police Co.
211th Military Police Co.
212th Military Police Co.
362d Public Affairs Det.
Hq and Hq Det., 540th Quartermaster Bn.
Hq and Hq Det., 690th Maintenance Bn.
691st Maintenance Co.
731st Maintenance Co.
1450th Transportation Co.
1459th Transportation Co.
263rd Combat Communications Sq.
156th Aeromed Evacuation Flight
1st Bn. 130th Aviation
130th Finance Unit
514th Military Police Co.
1451st Transportation Co.
1457th Military Aerial Port Sq.
1457th Resource Management Sq.
145th Tactical Clinic
145th Security Police Flight
145th Civil Engineering Sq.

North Dakota
131st Quartermaster Det.
132d Quartermaster Co.
133d Quartermaster Det.
134th Quartermaster Det.
Hq and Hq Det., 136th Quartermaster Bn.
191st Military Police Co.
Hq and Hq Det., 191st Medical Bn.
842d Medical Det.
119th USAF Clinic
119th Security Police Flight
119th Services Sq.
119th Civil Engineering Sq.

Nebraska
24th Air Ambulance Co.
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<td>116th RAO, 241st Transportation Det., 244th Transportation Det., 141st Air Refueling Wing, 242d Combat Communications Sq., 256th Combat Communications Sq., 201st Evacuation Hospital, 1041st Security Police Flight, 141st Adjutant General Co., 141st USAF Clinic, 141st Services Sq.</td>
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Honor Roll

The National Guard pays special tribute to its soldiers and airmen who died during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

These Guardsmen and women paid the highest price for answering the call to duty in the liberation of Kuwait. Their families are also remembered here as they carry the burden of loss and begin to rebuild their lives.

We salute the following men and women for the ultimate sacrifice they gave in serving their country. This honor roll is current as of Oct. 1, 1991.

Army National Guard

Spc. Cindy M. Beaudoin
142d Medical Company, New Haven, Connecticut

Pfc. Tyrone R. Bowers
144th Quartermaster Company, Hammon, New Jersey

1st Lt. Vicki L. Boyd
126th Medical Company, Sacramento, California

Sgt. Tracey D. Brogdon
325th Maintenance Company, Lake Wales, Florida

Sgt. Calvin G. Burr
D Company, 560th Engineer Battalion, Thomasville, Georgia

Staff Sgt. Dallas R. Cooper
126th Medical Company, Jefferson City, Missouri

Capt. Sashal Dawn
126th Medical Company, Sacramento, California

Sgt. Robert L. Durrell
1208th Quartermaster Company, Linville, Alabama

Staff Sgt. Jesse Ealy
134th Engineer Company, Carthage, Mississippi

Pvt. 2 Dorothy L. Falls
1404th Transportation Company, Show Low, Arizona

Pfc. Pamela Y. Gay
83rd Personnel Services Company, Sandstone, Virginia

Sgt. Mark J. Gologram
838th Military Police Company, Youngstown, Ohio

Lt. Col. Joe H. Hancock
130th Support Center, Smyrna, Tennessee

Spc. Wade E. Hector
744th Transportation Company, Claremont, New Hampshire

Staff Sgt. James P. Hendricks
211th Military Police Company, Clyde, North Carolina

Sgt. Eric C. Hill
148th Support Battalion, Sparta, Georgia

Pfc. Kenneth J. Jackson
1454th Transportation Company, Concord, North Carolina

Spc. Thomas R. Jarrell
214th Military Police Company, Alexander City, Alabama

Sgt. Francisco Martinez
947th Medical Company, Las Animas, Colorado

Chief Warrant Officer
Carol L. McKinney
126th Medical Company, Jefferson City, Missouri

Spc. Bobby L. McKnight
1454th Transportation Company, Concord, North Carolina

Sgt. Randal C. Mills
624th Quartermaster Company, Waynesboro, Mississippi

1st Sgt. Joe Murphy
102nd Maintenance Company, Brooklyn, New York

Sgt. Norman R. Rainwater
155th Engineer Company, Waverly, Tennessee

Pvt. Todd C. Ritch
744th Transportation Company, Claremont, New Hampshire

Staff Sgt. Stephen R. Robinette
1165th Military Police Company, Butler, Alabama

1st Lt. Peter J. Rose
Detachment 1, 1267th Medical Company, Lincoln, Nebraska

Staff Sgt. Linda S. Simonds
126th Medical Company, Sacramento, California

Staff Sgt. James M. Smith, Jr.
900th Maintenance Company, Brunswick, Alabama

Spc. Otha B. Squares
324th Military Police Company, Youngstown, Ohio

Spc. Carlton A. Stokes
1438th Transportation Company, Camp Aterbury, Indiana

Sgt. Lawrence N. Welch
107th Maintenance Company, Sparta, Wisconsin

Spc. Roger V. Wyche
210th Military Police Company, Sylva, North Carolina

Air National Guard

Maj. Barry K. Henderson
117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Birmingham, Alabama

Maj. Stephen B. Schramm
117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Birmingham, Alabama

Maj. Barry K. Henderson
117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Birmingham, Alabama

Maj. Stephen B. Schramm
117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Birmingham, Alabama
Above: A destroyed Iraqi tank sits in front of an oil well burning out of control in Kuwait (photo by Master Sgt. Frank Jordan).


Howitzers of the 142nd Field Artillery Brigade, provide intensive fire support for ground operations. (photo by Sgt. Maj. Tom Magness).

An RF-4 of the 117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Alabama Air National Guard, readies for take-off from an air base in the United Arab Emirates.
Guard, Reserves totally integrated

by Maj. John R. Randt
Indiana Army National Guard

DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA — Gen. Gus Pagonis has a favorite story.

When Gen. Carl Vuono, former Army chief of staff, visited American Army units in Saudi Arabia, he could not distinguish the difference between active component soldiers and National Guardsmen.

The soldiers of Pagonis’s 22nd Support Command looked, acted and functioned in an identical manner.

“We totally integrated the force,” said Pagonis, the Army’s top supply officer in Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

Pagonis, who remains in Saudi Arabia directing the American Army’s redeployment, says his command was composed of 75 percent National Guard and Army Reserve troops.

“We totally integrated,” said Pagonis. “We did what everybody said was supposed to be done and these guys proved it can be done.”

In fact, some active component soldiers were assigned to National Guard units, he said. Conversely, some National Guard troops found themselves in regular Army units.

As a consequence of seeing the work first hand, Pagonis has become one of the leading voices in the Army praising National Guard work.

“Not one tactical operation in this war was curtailed, delayed, postponed or cancelled for the lack of logistical support and 75 percent of this command is reserve components,” said Pagonis.

National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers were among those visited by Vuono.

“The greatest compliment was from General Vuono,” said Pagonis. “He had no idea who was active duty, or reserve or who was National Guard and, of course, that’s the way it has been.”

Pagonis’ staff officers like to tell the story about the energy and vigor displayed by National Guard units and soldiers.

We often would have to consider problems that confronted our logistical units,” said one staff officer. “By the time we went back to the unit with a solution, we typically found the Guardsmen had already solved the problem and moved on. They did not wait for a solution to be given to them.”

That dedication and grit was consistent, said Pagonis.

“The pace over here was seven days a week — 20 hours a day,” he said. It is April 10. The pace of shifting the Army home is going full speed.

Pagonis’ support command is tasked with bringing home 12,000 tracked vehicles, 103,000 wheeled vehicles, 1,950 helicopters, 26,000 containers and 1.7 million tons of cargo.

Using a microphone to send his voice to the far reaches of the big building, Pagonis outlines the success of National Guard, and Army Reserve support.

“What you have accomplished will go down in the military history books as the greatest tactical and logistics exercise in war ever conducted in the history of mankind,” he said.

“You can be truly proud of your
personal effort and the effort of all the
dispatching 4,500 trucks daily to move the
Army's supplies."

Earlier, with the ground war looming,
the command organized the simultaneous
movement and supply of both the
XVIII and VII Corps. Scheduled to take
place in 21 days — it was completed in 14.
In a lightning end run, the two corps
outflanked the entire Iraqi Army in Kuwait
and achieved a quick and relatively easy
victory.

"That's the movement of 150,000
troops with their tanks and trucks," said
Pagonis. "That has never happened before
in history."

To support the move, the 22nd
Support Command developed a number of
hidden logistical bases deep in the Saudi
Arabian desert near the Kuwait border.
They were in place before combat troops
arrived. Bases such as Charlie and Echo
provided troops with food, water, ammuni-
tion and repair parts.

"We know the only way to win the
war was to get the logistics forward so the
combat arms would not have to come
back," says Pagonis. "Combat arms did
not have to slow down because the logistics kept right up with them."

The experience of the Gulf War
exceeds any recent examples, he says. For
example, the giant REFORGER exercise
held annually in Germany only involves the
movement of 10,000 soldiers and four
shiploads of equipment. The operation
benefits from a year of planning. By
comparison, the 22nd Support Command
daily moved 10,000 sol-
diers into Saudi Arabia and
unloaded 15 ships.

There was no time
for advance planning for
the Gulf War. The Army's
supply effort began from
scratch with the arrival of
Pagonis and 10 staff mem-
bers within days of the
Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

In all, the supply
effort was supported by
500 shiploads of equipment
and a tremendous air bridge
of supplies from the Air
Force.

Day-by-day, under
the direction of the 22nd
Support Command and
with strong National Guard
support, that effort was
reversed. The equipment
of the Gulf War was being
cleaned and loaded on
ships and aircraft for
shipment home. The
material to be returned
would only fill 400 ships;
approximately 100 ship-
loads were consumed by
the Coalition armies and
the fighting.

Why did it work so
well?

"We have super
stars," says Pagonis.
Guard chiefs discuss the war

by Lt. Col. Les Stadig
Editor

No one likes war.
But in a touch of irony that often occurs in historic events, the Gulf War was a blessing in disguise for the National Guard.

It proved its people were ready when needed, able when tested, and will therefore be more depended on in any future conflicts, according to three Guard generals.

Individual volunteers of both the Army and Air National Guard were among the first U.S. forces present in the Persian Gulf after Iraq invaded Kuwait, said Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway, chief of the National Guard Bureau (NGB).

“Whole units followed those first individual volunteers and arrived in theater within days of President Bush’s authorization to use the Guard,” he said.

Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, director of the Army National Guard (ARNG), added: “Those folks (ARNG) who were called and deployed were able to perform their mission in a very, very short time. We had over 40 organizations commanded by a colonel or lieutenant colonel, and many smaller organizations deployed to Southwest Asia. And all did a magnificent job.”

The Air Guard’s war involvement was also a success story, according to Maj. Gen. Philip G. Killey, director of the Air National Guard (ANG). Even before a single unit was activated, volunteers from the 172nd Military Airlift Group of Mississippi, and the 105th Military Airlift Group of New York, responded by sending C-141 and C-5 aircraft to the Gulf.

“In all, more than 250 Air Guard units or portions of units were mobilized, and more than 12,500 personnel,” said Killey. “Every mobilized unit responded faster than regulations specify — with all required personnel and equipment — and professionally performed their mission with — and alongside — their Reserve and active-duty counterparts.”

As the war buildup grew to that of a potentially large conflict, ARNG brigades, consisting of about 5,000 soldiers each, were mobilized.

Five Army Guard brigades were called, and two deployed into combat.

“The 1st of the 158th Artillery, attached to the 142nd Field Artillery Brigade, definitely showed it could perform its war-time mission,” said Conaway, “by firing artillery within 48 hours of the time it arrived in theater on February 22.”

Rees attributed the achievements to good training.

“This is a success story that would never have been possible at any other time in the history of reserve organizations,” he said.

The other three maneuver brigades trained in the continental United States while awaiting deployment to combat.

“They, (brigades in Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi) in fact, met the expected readiness criteria on the day they were called,” said Rees, “but in addition, they were asked to achieve higher levels of readiness.”

The war experience showed the Air Guard that it truly is melded with its current equipment infrastructure and facilities at deployed personnel are cost-effective, efficient and essential members in the Total Force Policy.

The bottom line?
“The National Guard is an organization of quality people, quality equipment, and quality systems capable of accomplishing its peace and war-time missions,” said Conaway.
The Guard responds

How did the war affect you?

Andy Shuman
Staff Sergeant
Bangor, Maine

I take great pride in being an American called to duty, serving out of my sense of duty to my country, family and unit. Serving in a foreign nation gave me a greater appreciation for the freedoms, quality of life and national pride we enjoy as Americans.

Gerardo Soto
Specialist
San Antonio, Texas

In this war, I was older and more focused than the first time I saw combat. When our unit returned to Kelly AFB, there was a huge crowd of people—families, friends and comrades. Our commander asked all of us who served in Vietnam to deplane first. It was so different then when we returned from Pleiku.

Michelle Sousa
Specialist
Tolland, Conn.

Many things stand out about my time in the Gulf, but the most vivid is the volume of mail addressed to “Any Soldier.” I thought that was the greatest link between us and the folks back home. I’ll never forget the support we received from neighbors, friends and relatives.

Roy D. Botkins
Sergeant
Frankfort, Ky.

I now see how important the role of the National Guard is in the defense of my country. After serving in Operation Desert Storm, I feel more pride as a National Guardsman than I ever felt during my six years as an active duty soldier. It’s not for the money, it’s for our country.

Edna Iron Horse
Sergeant
Wewoka, Okla.

My experiences in Operation Desert Storm changed me a lot. It has shown me that I have numerous responsibilities that I didn’t realize were all that important. You don’t know how important you are until a situation like that comes. As an American Indian, I am proud I was able to do my job and complete it.

Dennis L. Story
Staff Sergeant
Washington, D.C.

What struck me most was the total and complete disregard we all had for our differences in ethnic backgrounds, religions, wealth and state of origin. During the war, we were all on the same side, fighting for the same principles. The cooperation reminded me of a family when it is faced with an emergency.
National Guard activity during Gulf War

LEGEND
- **Green** - Army - Desert Storm
- **Red Triangle** - Army - other missions
- **Blue Triangle** - Air - Desert Storm
- **Blue Arrow** - Air - other missions
- **Red Check Mark** - Drug Interdiction

GRAPHIC BY: JOSPEH LEWIS
Alabama
Volunteers from Alabama's 117 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing provided the first tactical reconnaissance assets in the theater of operations. Members of the 226 Combat Communications Group also served on a volunteer status in Saudi Arabia.
Alabama had 27 ARNG units with some 3,700 personnel activated that deployed to the Gulf region, representing 10 percent of the entire ARNG contingent in country. A number of significantly sized units were also activated and served in various overseas locations. The 111 Ordinance Group was the last ARNG unit in the nation to return from the Gulf.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 21,233
ANG Assigned: 3,118
Federal Budget: $156,012,000

Arkansas
Nearly 3,000 soldiers and airmen of the Arkansas National Guard were activated in support of Operation Desert Storm. This represented 34 percent of the total assigned strength. Of special note, the 142 Field Artillery Brigade was highly praised before the House Armed Services Commit-tee by the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff. This was in addition to similar accolades from the field by the British commander of the 4th Armored Brigade.
Arkansas' three-mile-long welcome home parade was the longest in the nation, and was attended by entertainer Bob Hope, singer Marie Osmond and Miss America Marjorie Vincent.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 9,654
ANG Assigned: 2,226
Federal Budget: $117,686,000

California
A dozen California Army Guard units served overseas in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm in Saudi Arabia, Honduras and Germany. Four transportation units entered Iraq with the allied assault forces while several military police companies guarded installations and enemy prisoner-of-war camps.
Over 500 California Air National Guard members were activated to fill vital positions overseas, in Europe and in the war zone. Medical, airlift, engineering, services and communication specialties were represented among the many who volunteered before unit activations were announced. All three of California’s fatalities were women, killed in a helicopter crash in Honduras while flying a nighttime emergency medical evacuation mission. In all, over 1,800 Californians answered the call to duty.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 5,429
ANG Assigned: 1,264
Federal Budget: $60,266,000

Colorado
Seven units of the Colorado Army National Guard were called to active duty, including two transportation detachments, one military police company, three medical units and one public affairs detachment. All but the public affairs detachment deployed to the theater of operations. The 1158th Transportation Detachment was the first ARNG unit to arrive in Saudi Arabia. The military-police company provided security for the enemy prisoner of war camp, while the medical units were split into several elements and were assigned a number of critical missions throughout the area of responsibility.

Delaware
Two Delaware Army National Guard units were deployed during Desert Storm. The 249 Engineer Detachment served for six months and provided engineering support at field locations, and the 736 Service and Supply Battalion which served for seven months, provided showers and change and laundry services.
The 142 Aeromedical Evacuation Flight was among the first such units responding to the call for volunteers. Five Air Guard units were eventually activated for over four months and served in the Gulf region. Eight Delaware Air Guard C130H aircraft flew a total of 3,913 hours and maintained a 100 percent mission reliability rate and a 100 percent safety record. A crew from...
the 142 Tactical Airlift Squadron flew one of the
first C-130 missions into Kuwait International
Airport to begin the process of rebuilding the
devastated country.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 2,258
ANG Assigned: 955
Federal Budget: $31,598,000

District of Columbia
Six Army units and personnel from four
Air units from the District of Columbia were
activated and deployed to the Gulf region, rep-resenting
over 900 men and women. The Army units
included a transportation company, a MASH unit, a
military police battalion, and three military-police
companies. Air personnel included members of a
TAC hospital, a resource-management squadron
and a combat-communications squadron.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 2,229
ANG Assigned: 1,466
Federal Budget: $58,722,000

Florida
Nearly 1,600 Florida Army National
Guardsmen from communities across the state
were mobilized in support of Operations Desert
Shield/Storm. Of the 17 units mobilized, nine
deployed overseas: eight to Southwest Asia and one
to Germany.

In addition to those called, 105 Army
Guardsmen volunteered, as well as 96 members of
Florida’s Air National Guard. The first two units
alerted were the 743 and 325 Maintenance Compa-
nies. These were also the first to be mobilized and
deployed in country.

During hostilities, the 199 Medical
Company (Ambulance) conducted 167
medevac missions and provided support to nine
different military installations. Two aircraft from
the 199th were part of an eight-piece Army
helicopter team that performed in the National
Victory Parade in Washington, D.C.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 12,225
ANG Assigned: 1,578
Federal Budget: $112,525,000

Georgia
The 48th Brigade was the first roundout
unit to mobilize. Its 4,200 members were sent to the
National Training Center. More than 5,000 Georgia
Army and Air Guardsmen were mobilized, making
the state the second largest contributor of Guard
members to the war effort.

Family assistance centers were establish-
ed across the state to aid families of mobilized
Guardsmen, as well as members of all services,
with financial, social and other problems connected
with the mobilization. Food banks and family
support groups were also set up at family-assis-
tance centers across the state.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 11,150
ANG Assigned: 3,500
Federal Budget: $129,678,000

Guam
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 493
ANG Assigned: 153
Federal Budget: $4,200,000

Hawaii
A massive, joint public-private sector
effort to welcome home the more than 8,500 men
and women of Operation Shield/Storm was held in
Hawaii. Army Guard recruiters collected thousands
of leis made by public-school students statewide,
while other Army ad Air Guard personnel volun-
teerred to greet returning aircraft and ships, often
late at night or on the weekends. From March to
June, more than 250 volunteers, 110 schools ad 79
businesses participated in the homecoming
activities. Whether they returned by air or by
sea at Hickam AFB, Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station
or Pearl Harbor Naval Base — in large groups or
by the handful — every effort was made to provide
returning service members a traditional Hawaiian
homecoming.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 3,537
ANG Assigned: 2,070
Federal Budget: $76,479,000

Idaho
Idaho’s 3,537 Reserve Component Tank
Commanders Course and Combat Vehicle Transi-
tion Training Team provided 31 armor instructors
to train tank crews from the 48th Infantry
Brigade Mechanized who had been activated for
service in Operation Desert Shield.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 3,626
ANG Assigned: 1,344
Federal Budget: $76,615,000

Illinois
Seventeen Illinois Guard units were
federally recognized in support of Desert Shield and
Desert Storm. An overseas deployment in support of an
international exercise took 18 F-16s from Spring-
field to Denmark. A new multi-million dollar air
base in Peoria is near completion and coming in
under budget. There were two disaster readiness
exercises designed to test the state’s forces rapid
response in an emergency. One involved a scenario
centering on a major earthquake in the New
Madrid fault line.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 11,564
ANG Assigned: 3,668
Federal Budget: $121,819,000

Indiana
Six Indiana units, four Army and two Air,
represented the state in the Persian Gulf war. In 186
days, 177 Indiana soldiers sorted and distributed 10
million pounds of mail, while others travelled more
than 3.2 million miles transporting heavy equipment.
Another unit drove more than 40,000 miles conduct-
ing convoy operations. Meanwhile others filled
medical vacancies, guarded airfields, and processed
the pay of incoming and departing personnel.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 14,702
ANG Assigned: 2,511
Federal Budget: $118,785,000

Iowa
Deploying almost a quarter of its total
strength, the Iowa National Guard conducted a wide
variety of wartime taskings in the Persian Gulf.
These included transporting over 100,000 tons of
supplies over 2.1 million miles; providing military
and humanitarian medical support in Saudi Arabia,
Iraq and Kuwait; escorting ad guarding enemy
prisoners of war; distributing over 13 million gallons
of water in support of VII Corps operations; and
conducting Department of Agriculture customs
inspections.

Units mobilized but not deployed to the
Persian Gulf participated in engineer support in
Germany; aeromedical support in Kansas, Oklahoma,
and Texas; humanitarian civil engineering in Belize;
and drug interdiction support in the Bahamas.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 7,987
ANG Assigned: 2,112
Federal Budget: $110,202,000

Kansas
More than 250 airmen, including flight
crews, maintenance personnel and other ground
essential personnel from the 190 Air Refuelling
Group, Kansas Air Guard were deployed in support of
Operation Desert Storm. The Group accomplished
air refueling missions using KC-135 aircraft.
Meanwhile, the Kansas Army Guard was represen-
ted by the 170 Maintenance Company which
concentrated its efforts on inspection and repair of
vehicles critical to the operation of the war plan.

Upon their return, a number of significant
homecoming ceremonies were held around the state
honoring the airmen and soldiers deployed for duty.
Strength: ARNG Assigned: 7,047
ANG Assigned: 2,482
Federal Budget: $104,318,000

Kentucky
More than 1,400 Kentucky National
Guard members participated in Operation Desert
Storm. Nine units and hundreds of volunteers
performed missions as diverse as water purification, equipment and supply processing, media relations and film and video documentation of the war.

Kentucky's 1st Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery (8" SP) supported elements of the XVIII Airborne Corps during the ground offensive. A heavy equipment transportation company carried loads as far as the Euphrates. Military police processed thousands of enemy prisoners of war and the mobile surgical hospital cared for the ill and injured during post-war humanitarian efforts.

In the states, C-130s of the 123 Tactical Airlift Wing moved personnel and equipment throughout the U.S. in support of Desert Storm. Specialists drove over 700,000 miles over Saudi Arabia. Before the conflict ended, a total of Federal Budget $161,249,000 of these, some 3,750,000 pounds of jet fuel were delivered by Dover Air Force Wing's tanker task force offloaded to the first Maine Army National Guard unit. During Operation Desert Shield/Storm, the Massachusetts National Guard, with 150,000 miles of desert roads, saw active duty during the Persian Gulf crisis. Duty included driving trucks deep into the area of operations.

Boeing C-17 aircraft, representing about half of these were deployed to the Persian Gulf, and the remainder were deployed to various locations stateside. On the Army side, an equipment maintenance company, air ambulance unit, military police and health services detachment were activated, while the Air Guard provided an aeromedical-evacuation flight, elements of a fighter-interceptor group, a security-police flight and a medical squadron.

Maryland

Reporting to Dover Air Force Base, members of Maryland Air Guard's 135 Mobile Aerial Port Flight assisted in the massive airlift mission for Operation Desert Storm. The flight, working 12-hour shifts, unloaded trucks and planes, sorted cargo, built pallets and loaded these onto departing and arriving aircraft.

Soldiers from two military police companies, a transportation company and an air traffic control group deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of operations in theater. The MPs stood guard over 16,000 Iraqi prisoners, transportation Specialists drove over 700,000 miles over Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq carrying ammunition, food and prisoners of war, while the air traffic controllers set up operations in Eastern Saudi Arabia to provide essential air traffic management for air operations in the Persian Gulf.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 7,796
ANG Assigned: 2,977
Federal Budget: $130,371,000

Mississippi

Over 6,500 Mississippi National Guard members, representing 70 units and 57 communities, saw active duty during the Persian Gulf crisis with more than 1,300 deployed to Saudi Arabia. A C-141 Starlifter of the 183 Military Airlift Squadron was the first United States military aircraft to fly into the area of operations.

Military police units guarded Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf's headquarters; a Mississippi quartermaster company earned citations for leading three convoys through unmarked mine fields to safety; and a service and supply company was cited for operating at 120 percent of capability 24 hours a day while logging 150,000 miles on vehicles, issuing six million gallons of fuel and 5,000 tons of supplies with no injuries or loss of vehicles. The 155th Armored Brigade was mobilized, but not deployed to the Gulf.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 12,469
ANG Assigned: 2,917
Federal Budget: $151,740,000

Michigan

Of the 13 units and over 1,500 soldiers from the Michigan National Guard who were mobilized for Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Detroit's 210th Military Police Battalion stayed in the region the longest. Departing Michigan on Jan. 7, the unit spent 242 days in Saudi Arabia. The unit's colors remained in Saudi Arabia as part of the National Guard's residual force. The original members were replaced by volunteers from Michigan's National Guard, whose mission of customs operations in Dharan will probably continue well into 1992.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 12,264
ANG Assigned: 2,997
Federal Budget: $161,249,000

Minnesota

During Operations Desert Shield/Storm, members of four Army and four Air units were either called up or volunteered for active duty.

About half of these were deployed to the Persian Gulf, and the remainder were deployed to various locations stateside. On the Army side, an equipment maintenance company, air ambulance unit, military police and health services detachment were activated, while the Air Guard provided an aeromedical-evacuation flight, elements of a fighter-interceptor group, a security-police flight and a medical squadron.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 10,837
ANG Assigned: 2,515
Federal Budget: $125,661,000

Louisiana

The Louisiana National Guard mobilized more soldiers for Operation Desert Storm than any other state. Over 6,400 soldiers, roughly 50 percent of the Army strength, was mobilized to serve as aviators, military police, maintenance ad transportation specialists, medics, engineers, infantrymen, artillerymen and armormen.

The 159 MASH and the 527 Engineer Battalion served key roles in the breach operation which allowed penetration deep into Iraq at the start of the ground war. The 256 Infantry Brigade, roundout to the Fifth Infantry Division, passed every active Army requirement necessary to be deemed ready for combat, however, the cease fire occurred before the brigade was called to action.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 12,191
ANG Assigned: 1,620
Federal Budget: $89,375,000

Maine

Maine's 101 Air Refueling Wing was called to active duty in support of Desert Shield, and during the first month of it's activation, the wing's tanker task force offloaded 3,750,000 pounds of jet fuel to deploying fighter and airlift aircraft. Nearly half the wing was tasked with direct support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm, including aircrews, maintenance, medical, security, firefighter and services personnel.

In August 1990, the first Maine Army National Guard unit was federalized for service in Saudi Arabia. Before the conflict ended, a total of four units from the Army Guard were federalized in support of Desert Shield/Storm, with the last unit returning in August 1991.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 3,046
ANG Assigned: 1,429
Federal Budget: $46,108,000
Montana

More than 95 Montana Army and Air Guard personnel were mobilized in support of Operation Desert Storm. The Army’s 103 Public Affairs Detachment was tasked with various missions including information, public information and media escort.

Additionally, 12 Army volunteers were deployed to various theaters. On the Air side, 70 members of the 120 Fighter Interceptor Group were activated to a number of state-side locations.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 3,476
ANG Assigned: 1,104
Federal Budget: $51,022,000

Nebraska

Two helicopter-equipped medical evacuation units of the Nebraska National Guard were mobilized and deployed to Operation Desert Storm. Included were 117 members of the 24 Medical Company (Air Ambulance) and 25 personnel of Detachment 1, 1267 Medical Company. Detachment 1 merged with and deployed with its parent unit of the Missouri Army National Guard. The 24th deployed independently.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 4,504
ANG Assigned: 1,063
Federal Budget: $49,355,000

Nevada

Nevada’s 152 Tactical Reconnaissance Group flew critical aerial surveillance missions photographing potential Iraqi and Kuwait targets during Operation Desert Shield. During Desert Storm, the Group’s pilots conducted bomb-damage-assessment missions and eventually flew over 1,000 combat flying hours and 290 combat-flying missions. The unmanned aircraft took over 19,000 photographs using over 300,000 feet of film.

Nevada also provided an Army Guard military police company, which provided security for an enemy prisoner-of-war camp in Saudi Arabia.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 1,756
ANG Assigned: 1,108
Federal Budget: $44,075,000

New Hampshire

Logging more than one million miles in the desert sands of the Gulf region, New Hampshire’s 744 Transportation Company was deployed to Saudi Arabia in January 1991 in support of Operation Desert Storm. An air-ambulance unit was also activated and remained state-side, assigned to aeromedical-evacuation support in Kentucky and Wisconsin.

Nearly 600 members of the 157 Air Refueling Group deployed to various assignments within the U.S., Europe and the Middle East. Some 322 sorties were flown, refueling 950 aircraft. The unit off-loaded 7.6 million gallons of fuel, logging 1,529 flight hours.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 2,260
ANG Assigned: 1,036
Federal Budget: $31,978,000

New Jersey

A number of complete units and elements of other units within the New Jersey National Guard were mobilized in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm. Among these was the 170 Air Refueling Group, offering air-to-air refueling services to deployed aircraft. A transportation detachment was deployed to the Gulf region to plan safe transportation routes in the desert, and to conduct essential vehicle-safety inspections. A second transportation detachment was deployed to their mobilization site, but remained there until their release. Meanwhile, the 144 Supply Company was deployed to the theater of operation where they operated equipment, transportation and maintenance-storage facilities.

Two medical units, one Army and one Air, were activated and sent to state-side medical facilities to assist in the processing and treating of American casualties and returning prisoners of war.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 9,215
ANG Assigned: 2,844
Federal Budget: $119,893,000

New Mexico

Supporting Operation Desert Storm, three Army and two Air units from the New Mexico National Guard were activated, affecting 260 individuals. A medical company evacuated casualties by helicopter; a security police flight provided resource protection and base, perimeter and flightline security; and a transportation company moved heavy or oversized cargo and assisted in the removal of enemy equipment from the battlefield.

Units mobilized but not deployed to the Persian Gulf provided food service support to Holloman AFB and provided air-defense artillery instructors to Fort Bliss.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 4,204
ANG Assigned: 1,059
Federal Budget: $35,767,000

New York

Eleven New York Army National Guard units and over 1,000 soldiers answered the call for activation during Operation Desert Storm. The 244 Medical Group became the command and control headquarters for five hospitals operated by Army National Guard and Army Reserve units. Two military police companies were mobilized and helped operate separate prisoner-of-war camps.

Three transportation units combined to log more than three million miles hauling troops, ammunition, water and other supplies in support of combat units.

The maintenance companies were called to active duty and performed major and minor repairs on front-line vehicles and other support vehicles. A number of other smaller units were also activated but remained state-side during the conflict.

New York also provided an Army Guard air operations command and control detachment was deployed to the Gulf region.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 16,303
ANG Assigned: 5,904
Federal Budget: $224,706,000

North Carolina

Twenty five units were federalized during Desert Storm and Desert Shield. The state was a First place winner for the second year in a row of the Army’s Communities of Excellence Award. The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Nat Robb, accepted $250,000 from the Chief of Staff of the Army, matching last year’s cash outlay. A contributing factor in the state’s winning entry was a program initiated by the state chaplain designed to aid the families of soldiers and airmen deployed to the Gulf region. The program raised more than $750,000.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 12,109
ANG Assigned: 1,529
Federal Budget: $104,410,000

North Dakota

Thousands of miles from home, members of the 838th Medical Battalion created their own version of the March of Dimes WalkAmerica in conjunction with the event held every April in their hometown, Bismarck. Unable to collect donations on foreign soil, unit members contacted a radio station in Bismarck to ask local citizens to pledge donations for the mileage that the soldiers walked and jogged around their desert perimeter in Saudi Arabia.

The additional publicity and yellow ribbon support for the troops made the fund-raising event in Bismarck the most successful ever. Ironically, while the troops battled blowing sand and searing temperatures, the walkers in Bismarck fought with blowing snow and temperatures in the 30s on event day.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 3,945
ANG Assigned: 1,187
Federal Budget: $63,209,000
Ohio

Almost 1,650 members of Ohio's Army and Air National Guard were deployed in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm, reporting stateside, to Saudi Arabia, Germany and the United Kingdom. During this period, seven regional Family Assistance Centers were established throughout the state, providing information and referral services to relatives of deployed soldiers and airmen. In central Ohio, the National Guard, in conjunction with several corporations, private citizens and media, helped coordinate Operation Desert Relief, which collected non-perishable goods for the servicemembers in the Persian Gulf. Totalling half a million pounds of donated supplies, the operation stands as the largest airlift operation for any war or conflict coordinated primarily by civilian organizations.

A multilateral organization called the Ohio Task Force for Operation Desert Storm brought together representatives from a wide variety of political, military and private entities for the purpose of ensuring that families of mobilized Guardmembers received maximum support on the federal, state and local levels. The task force assisted in the state's two-day conference for military support group leaders, where speakers discussed how to organize and maintain effective community support groups, conflict and stress management, and reunification counseling.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 13,654
Federal Budget: $189,355,000

Oregon

During Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, more than 320 Oregon National Guardmembers from six Army and Air units were called to active duty to support the effort. Of those, 250 were actually deployed to the Gulf region for duty that lasted from five to nine months.

The 206 Transportation Detachment became the first Oregon Army Guard unit to be sent to active duty since the 41st Division was called to service in 1941. In fact, their deployment date coincided exactly with the date the 41st was activated 50 years earlier—Sept. 16.

The only other unit called to duty and sent to Saudi Arabia was the 2186 Maintenance Company, Oregon Air Guard units partially activated. The 142 Civil Engineers, Services Flight, Tactical Clinic and Security Police Flight Strength: ARNG Assigned: 7,876
ANG Assigned: 1,968
Federal Budget: $104,033,000

Pennsylvania

Nearly 2,000 Pennsylvania National Guard members served during Operations Desert Shield/Storm. Among their achievements were thousands of hours of special-operations flights and air-to-air refueling missions by Air Guard personnel. Army Guard troops were among the first in any ground assault into Iraq. Many other personnel provided critical support services such as communication, security and maintenance.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 18,257
ANG Assigned: 4,590
Federal Budget: $162,610,000

Rhode Island

A military-police battalion and two subordinate military-police companies were deployed during Desert Storm and stationed in the Persian Gulf, carrying out missions as diverse as battlefield-support, customs duties and prison-off-war responsibilities. Air Guard members were deployed to England to assist in the airlift operations that were headquartered there, and several members of a communications squadron were stationed in Saudi Arabia.

Members of the 143 TAG Hospital were deployed to the Washington D.C. area to provide medical support to returning Desert Storm soldiers and airmen.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 2,675
ANG Assigned: 1,498
Federal Budget: $39,920,000

South Carolina

More than 2,400 Army and Air Guardsmen, representing 12 Army Guard units and two Air Guard units, were activated for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Among the missions were rear-area operations, military police and transportation. A South Carolina evacuation hospital unit provided medical support at a hospital at King Khalid Military City.

On August 9, 1990 two men from the 228th Signal Brigade arrived in Saudi Arabia within hours of the lead elements of the 82nd Airborne Division, making them the first Army Guardsmen to arrive in SWA.

The 605th Medical Group arrived with more than 350 personnel and equipment and the Air Guard personnel provided air traffic control and all communications support for the Al Khafji Air Base operations.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 14,124
ANG Assigned: 1,342
Federal Budget: $89,816,000

South Dakota

Six South Dakota Army National Guard units were activated, consisting of two transportation detachments, two transportation companies, and a medical group and a medical company. One detachment, involved in movement control, monitored and planned air, sea and rail movement of equipment, supplies and personnel. The transportation companies hauled supplies and equipment from Saudi Arabia into Iraq and Kuwait.

The medical company provided medical support to lead elements during the push into Iraq, and the engineers provided command-and-control support for combat engineer activities.

Several South Dakota Air National Guard members were activated and served in a number of stateside locations.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 4,149
ANG Assigned: 979
Federal Budget: $48,077,000

Tennessee

With 40 units, 18 Army and 22 Air, from the Tennessee National Guard activated during Operations Desert Shield/Storm, the state had the highest number of Guard personnel in the Gulf theater at one time of any state in the union. The first of the state's units were activated in August, 1990, and at least one unit still remains in the region. Unit personnel from the 251 Service and Supply Company, the unit with the longest service in the Gulf, have been rotated out and replaced with a fresh crop of Tennessee volunteers.
Texas

The Texas Army and Air National Guard sent 600 men and women to serve in the liberation of Kuwait. Another 1,600 were activated for assignments from Oklahoma to the United Kingdom. A total of two Air units and eight Army units were called, along with small cells and volunteers with special military job skills.

The 36 Mobile Aerial Port Squadron was the first unit activated on Aug. 24, 1990. Company G, 149 Aviation, was the last unit home from the Middle East and was released from active duty on June 17. Both units are from Grand Prairie.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 14,973
ANG Assigned: 3,875
Federal Budget: $143,719,000

Utah

The Utah National Guard mobilized approximately 21 percent of its strength in support of Operation Desert Storm. Nearly 1,700 soldiers and airmen served in a variety of missions including the production of 14 million gallons of drinking water; guarding 25,000 Iraqi prisoners of war; providing interrogation and translation services; and operating an evacuation hospital.

The Air Guard flew approximately 400 war-related air-refueling missions, and a number of squadrons within the Utah Air Guard were activated to stateside and European locations.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 6,117
ANG Assigned: 1,583
Federal Budget: $88,927,000

Vermont

The Vermont National Guard deployed three Army units to Saudi Arabia, and several other Army and Air units were deployed to numerous stateside locations in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm, conducting various critical operations.

During the conflict, Vermont businesses came to the aid of the military members of the state by establishing the Vermont Desert Storm Family Assistance Fund. The fund had an original goal of $50,000, but through the generosity of many of these businesses and hundreds of citizens, the fund exceeded $250,000 by war's end.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 3,489
ANG Assigned: 1,022
Federal Budget: $47,766,000

Virginia

Virginia Guard units helped breach the defenses into Iraq for the VII Corps' drive to the Euphrates; provided personal protection to key generals planning the logistics effort and the ground offensive; conducted the administrative processing for the Iraqi prisoners; and worked around the clock to push supplies and fuel to advancing combat units.

In all, 10 Army Guard units were called from Virginia, with eight of them serving in the war zone. Selected Air Guard personnel were called up to help run stateside bases.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 9,450
ANG Assigned: 1,318
Federal Budget: $86,805,000

Washington

Washington Air Guard air-refueling tankers supported the build-up in Desert Shield, the air war in Desert Storm, and the ground war that followed. The 141 Air Refueling Wing began volunteer duty four days after the Iraqi invasion, and four months later when elements of the wing were mobilized, 300 people had already served in a voluntary status.

On the Army side, the 1444 Transportation Detachment was joined by the 241 Transportation Detachment, the 116 Support Center and the 541 Personnel Service Company. More than 160 Army Guard soldiers served in Southwest Asia and CONUS locations during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 6,938
ANG Assigned: 2,520
Federal Budget: $85,953,000

West Virginia

For more than seven months, the 130 Tactical Airlift Group performed airlift operations for the Gulf War as part of the 1630 Tactical Air Wing. The 130th flew over 5,000 hours, representing some 850 missions, 3061 sorties, delivering over 11,000 tons of material and 8,818 personnel.

The 130th performed an outstanding 98 percent utilization rate during the deployment for their C-130H aircraft.

First Battalion, 201st Field Artillery (155 SP) fired missions in support of the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 6th Light Armored Division (FR).

The 130 Mobile Aerial Port Squadron was called to active duty at Dover AFB, handling loading, unloading, and rigging of equipment and other cargo, with some members of the squadron pulling temporary duty in the Persian Gulf. The 130 Tac Clinic was activated to Andrews AFB, Maryland and England. Over 357 personnel from the 130 TAG were called to active duty throughout the year. Meanwhile, the 167 Tactical Airlift Group mobilized their Aeronomedical Evacuation Unit, the first such unit to be activated.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 3,662
ANG Assigned: 2,104
Federal Budget: $69,945,000

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Army National Guard units deployed during Operations Desert Shield/Storm included three transportation units, an engineer company, evacuation hospital, a maintenance company and a military-history detachment. One transportation company traveled almost half-a-million miles, hauled about 10,000 pounds of equipment, transported 7,500 prisoners of war and completed 1,107 missions. The engineer company completed a number of construction projects, including excavating and preparing Patriot missile sites. Treating enemy and friendly casualties, the evacuation hospital was kept quite busy. The historical detachment was charged with gathering combat photos, artifacts and conducting interviews.

On the Air side, Wisconsin's 128 Air Refueling Group was one of the first activated and deployed to the European theater before moving into the area of responsibility. Becoming a part of a provisional wing, the 128th operated air refueling throughout the duration of the war, and during the period immediately following the end of hostilities, the unit was tasked with supporting the combat air patrols which were called in to enforce the cease-fire.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 8,930
ANG Assigned: 2,107
Federal Budget: $111,785,000

Wyoming

In November, 1990, soldiers of Wyoming's Army National Guard Air Ambulance unit, along with volunteers from other Wyoming units, reported for active duty at Cheyenne. From there, they moved to their mobilization station at Fort Carson, Colorado. After shipping their UH-1s and other equipment to the Gulf region, the soldiers were deployed to Saudi Arabia, arriving in country in January 1991. They flew medical evacuation missions in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq, primarily in support of the 3rd Armored Division. In May, the unit's soldiers were returned to Wyoming and released from active duty.

Strength: ARNG Assigned: 1,802
ANG Assigned: 957
Federal Budget: $35,672,000

Compiled and edited by
Capt. Celso I. Martinez
'Dust-off' takes new meaning

NORTHERN SAUDI ARABIA—
The term "dust-off" was first used as a radio procedure word in Vietnam. In the Saudi Desert the term takes on a different meaning.

Goggles and scarf are a must during a sandstorm, but even with a storm in progress, the mission continues.

A helicopter, just back from Southern Iraq, hovers nearby as it prepares to land for fuel.

Things are fairly quiet this day, but in recent days the 1267th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) of Missouri, has seen almost every type of job one could imagine.

Sick and injured soldiers, both U.S. and Iraqi prisoners, were air evacuated during Desert Storm combat. Frequently, victims of traffic accidents were snatched from collision sites along busy Saudi highways—highways crowded with trucks hauling supplies through the desert.

Chief Warrant Officer David Bradley, a pilot, says he remembers two young soldiers he hauled one day.

"We were up at this MASH in Iraq and this blue eyed, blond American kid came out. He had a broken foot or ankle that resulted when his track vehicle had hit a mine.

"Along with him was a dark haired, dark eyed Iraqi kid," Bradley recalled. "He was all bruised and cut up and just wearing a pair of shorts. They were both ambulatory so we evacuated them into a pair of side facing seats. I gave the American kid a stick of Big Red chewing gum and pretty soon I looked and than fasten his seat belt."

A few moments later Bradley looked back again during his preparation for takeoff. "The G.I. had helped put a blanket around the Iraqi kid and was showing him how to fasten his seat belt."

This unit knows the cost of conflict. It was the 1267th that suffered the loss of three of its members in a Texas crash last December as helicopters were flown to port for shipment to the Gulf.

Do the members of the 1267th still think about those who died in the crash?

"You bet," responded one soldier. "We think about them every day. I miss them every day."

The war reached out a second time to touch pilot Bradley. In civilian life he runs an aviation service and gives flying lessons.

In 1990 a young man came to him to learn to fly, a youngster just released from Army active duty.

In 1991, that young man, Steven Farnen, was re-called to active duty and sent to Saudi Arabia. He was killed in the Scud attack on a barracks in Saudi Arabia as the ground war wound down.

"We'd talked when we were flying (last year after Desert Shield had begun) about how I might get called up," says Bradley. "I asked him if he thought he might be re-called. He said he was a truck driver and they always need truck drivers. It was a shock when I heard about it."

Even though American casualties from combat were light, there were still thousands of soldiers in Saudi Arabia, and as expected, numerous medical emergencies.

The 1267th also did routine hauling of passengers. In one instance it even took prisoners.

"We were flying an officer, a colonel, to look at a hospital in Iraq," recalls Capt. Harold Wadley of Jefferson City, Mo. "We saw four of them (Iraqis) walking across the middle of nowhere. We circled around 'em to see if they had any weapons. Once we could see that, we landed." Wadley, got out of the helicopter along with the colonel, and another soldier.

"We gave them some water and MREs (G.I. field rations)," Wadley said, "and tried to tell them to stay put because there wasn't room for them on the helicopter. The colonel gave their coordinates (map position) to a rescue team later."

The 1267th flies UH-1 "Huey" helicopters. Some of the birds and some of the unit members served in Vietnam. Now, as they look back on their experiences in the Gulf, they know that other meaning of the term "dust-off" as it applies to an air ambulance company in a combat zone.

Song request from Saudi

There's nothing worse than getting a constant busy signal when you're in a hurry and especially when you're more than 7,000 miles away from home.

Sgt. Charlie Lang, a helicopter crew chief serving in the Gulf with the 24th Medical Air Ambulance Company, decided after two failed attempts to call to his wife, that he couldn't wait any longer. He started flipping through his personal telephone book in search of a neighbor's phone number so he could ask them to go across the street and get his wife off the line.

He didn't have the number but he did come across KZKK-96, a Lincoln, Neb., radio station he regularly called for song dedications.

"I got a hold of Jim (Patrick) at the radio station and he couldn't believe I was calling from Saudi Arabia just to dedicate a song to my wife," Lang said. "I said, "Well, actually I tried to call her and the line was busy, so... if you want to you could put a plug in for me and tell her to get off the phone because her husband is trying to call."

Patrick, a disc jockey who has a morning radio show with Carol Daniels, was happy to oblige. In addition to playing "Battle Hymn of Love" by Kathy Mattea, he made the announcement.

Lang said he waited a couple of minutes and again dialed his wife, Spec. Trish Lang, herself a Nebraska Army National Guard member and a KZKK listener. Sure enough, he got through.
Even though the 48th Brigade didn’t fight in the Persian Gulf, they were ready if called, and Hussain knew it, according to Gen. Burba, commander FORSCOM.

Gen. Burba expresses pride in 48th Brigade

by Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor
124th PA Detachment

Elected officials and top Army leaders described members of the 48th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) as heroes, even though they never got a chance to fight in the Persian Gulf.

“I have never been more proud of a group of soldiers,” said Gen. Edwin H. Burba Jr., at a welcoming home ceremony for the brigade’s 4,500 members.

“In the dying days of the desert war, you were combat ready,” added Burba, commander, Forces Command in Atlanta.

“We put these great units through one of the most demanding and uncompromising training programs I’ve ever seen,” said Burba.

“She responded with absolute pure brilliance. You are champions, heroes, and what a powerful signal you sent,” he said.

“What a marvelous legacy you have left in the world.”

About 3,000 well-wishers turned out for the welcome home ceremony on March 23 at Donovan Field. They included Georgia’s two U.S. Senators - Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Wyche Fowler, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Also on hand were U.S. Reps. Lindsay Thomas and Buddy Darden, Hinesville Mayor Buddy DeLoach and the Adjutant General of South Carolina.

Besides Burba, the speakers included Georgia Gov. Zell Miller; Lt. Gen. James W. Cryer, 2nd Army commander; and Col. Don Davis, commander of the 48th Brigade.

After a visit with the 48th at Fort Irwin, Nunn had said the soldiers were not ready for combat. But before the Fort Stewart ceremony, he said the soldiers had completed their extended training in the Mojave Desert with “flying colors.”

“They deserve credit for what they’ve done,” he said. “I think they were very much a part of the victory in the Persian Gulf. They were ready to go when called.”

Davis said the brigade made significant contributions to the war effort.

“We were the first brigade to successfully breach the Iraqi (trench) complex obstacle at the NTC,” he noted. “The information gained from that crossing was forwarded to our comrades to be used in their training.”

“It doesn’t matter that we didn’t get a chance to fight,” he said. “We won our own victory at the NTC. What we accomplished there was as demanding as what our fellow soldiers in Saudi Arabia suffered through.”

Governor Miller noted that the brigade didn’t get to go to the Middle East, but they “still helped to win the war.”

“You were working out the new tactics and techniques that were then used by our troops to sweep so rapidly through Kuwait and southern Iraq,” he said.

Nunn predicted the 48th’s experience will contribute to the nation’s deterrent capability.

“I believe they deserve a real hero’s welcome at home,” the senator added.

Questions POW

Mississippians get pumped up in dust bowl; some disappointed they missed 'mother of all battles'

by Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor
124th PA Detachment

FORT IRWIN, Calif.—Some members of Mississippi's 155th Armored Brigade are disappointed they missed the war against Saddam Hussein, but many said they were pumped up for their battles at the Army's National Training Center (NTC).

"A lot of us have been here before. We kind of know what's going on so I think we'll do well," said Spc. Jamie Adams of Smithdale. The 155th, a Mississippi National Guard unit that was mobilized in December, is comprised of two armor battalions, an infantry battalion, a forward support battalion, an engineer company, a cavalry troop and a field artillery battalion. The brigade's 3,900 soldiers drill at armories in 41 Mississippi communities. Headquartered in Tupelo, the 155th is a showroom unit for the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood Texas. Members of the Mississippi unit took part in an NTC rotation last summer.

Attached to the 155th is the 800-member 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry (Mech), from McAllen, Brownsville and Edinburg, Texas. Most members live in the Rio Grande Valley, near the border, and speak proudly of their Mexican heritage and often address each other in Spanish.

"As physical and mentally ready for this job," said Spc. Jamie Adams of Smithdale. The 155th, a Mississippi National Guard unit that was mobilized in December, is comprised of two armor battalions, an infantry battalion, a forward support battalion, an engineer company, a cavalry troop and a field artillery battalion. The brigade's 3,900 soldiers drill at armories in 41 Mississippi communities. Headquartered in Tupelo, the 155th is a showroom unit for the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood Texas. Members of the Mississippi unit took part in an NTC rotation last summer.

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"A lot of us have been here before. We kind of know what's going on so I think we'll do well," said Spc. Jamie Adams of Smithdale.
Legislator turned pilot holds town meeting via telephone

Twenty-six microphones were positioned about the hearing room so more than 200 people would have equal opportunity to ask Maj. E.J. Thomas questions and listen to his testimony via telephone.

A fourth-term Ohio State Representative, Thomas had arrived in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia just days before. And literally a couple hours before his telephone testimony, Thomas had flown one of numerous aerial refueling missions in his Ohio Air National Guard KC 135 tanker.

Missions were flown within 20 or 30 miles of the Iraq border. State Representative Thomas had introduced a bill into the Ohio Legislature just before being activated to serve in Southwest Asia. The bill addressed aviation safety and approaches to airports.

Naturally, during the course of the testimony people began asking how things were going in the Gulf.

"Somebody had asked about tall towers on aircraft approaches, and that opened the way for conversation on the way we deal with approaches in Saudi Arabia," says Thomas.

Ultimately, Thomas' bill passed through the legislature.

Thomas, a flight commander with the 160th Air Refueling Group of the Ohio Air National Guard, is also a realtor, and says his three part-time jobs equal one-and-one-half full-time jobs.

The 160th served on active duty in the Gulf from early January 1991 through mid-May.

The only taste of homecooking that a troop could get was at the local "Wolf Burger" which served hamburgers, french fries and hotdogs. All manned by National Guard personnel, Wolf Burgers like this one operated by the 1245th Transportation Company of Oklahoma, were very popular eateries (photo by Master Sgt. Frank Jordan).
Children in war zone

by Tech. Sgt. John Malthaner
New York Air Guard

Parked on a runway in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, the C-5 Galaxy had definitely seen gentler times. Peacetime humanitarian missions to Armenia, Jamaica and Puerto Rico in no way resembled the horrors of this day.

This would be the third trip downrange for the New York aircraft and nine-person crew since the war's beginning four days ago on Jan. 16. During these unpredictable days the crew kept chemical gear as close to themselves as they did their wallets.

The two previous flights to the region had convinced the crew of the need for this precaution.

On the first flight they no sooner unloaded their cargo than the tower urged them to make a hasty departure due to an unconfirmed report of inbound enemy fighters. The nighttime departure was made even more interesting by an unidentified vehicle in the middle of the runway. Thus the take-off would be executed on a perilously short runway.

On the second flight, the air raid siren blared as the aircraft was taxiing, and the crew had to deplane with haste.

By this, the third trip, the 105th Military Airlift Group crew was a study in horror, all but 12 of the passengers were young children. "As a father and husband," said Deluca, still perturbed, "I couldn't believe someone would leave their wife and kids in a potentially dangerous area when they could have flown them out months ago."

To help expedite the on load, each member of the crew assisted. "They were happy to be getting out of the country," recalled Muller. "As fast as we were putting the kids in the seats they were falling asleep."

That sleep would be short. Muller was on the passenger deck listening to the banter in the cockpit over his headset, when flight engineer, Tech Sgt. Bill Rogers screamed, "Holy s---, Patriot! Patriot!" Almost simultaneously, two Patriot air defense missiles took off intercepting an incoming Iraqi Scud. The resulting boom, less than a mile away shook the C-5 like a dog shaking water from its fur.

Trying to remain cool, Muller looked out into a sea of concerned parents. "A lot of the kids were crying," he recalled. "I felt every set of eyes on me."

Without hesitating, Weaver hit the evacuation horn. He and the rest of the crew in the cockpit hurried to get the kids off. "No one, I mean no one, came out to help us," Weaver said. "The flight line looked like a ghost town."

"I had resolved that we were going to die. I remember holding some of the kids, waiting for the end. There was no bitterness. No fear. It went beyond emotion."

Col. Paul Weaver

Youngsters were handed down the steps to crew members who raced for cover with two or three tots each—tucked like a papooses inside their flight suit, or over their shoulders. "We had a continuous flow going back and forth to the bunker," Deluca said.

Since there was more than one shelter, many children were separated from their parents.

The most shocking reality was that 70 percent of the tots did not have chemical protective masks.

After an hour the crew was given permission to return to the plane. The children and their parents arrived by bus. Moments before reloading was completed, another air raid siren sounded. Still rattled from the first Scud attack, the children began to panic. Again, they were "bag-dragged" down the stairs and hustled to a shelter. This time there was no attack.

Another 20 minutes passed without scud attack, so the crew again returned to the plane. Weaver recalls pleading with the tower for permission to take off. He was denied.

That's when the air raid alert sounded again. "I called and asked the
tower if this was an actual attack," said Weaver, now cuffing his hands to his mouth to make a point, "They said, 'Yes it is!"

Passengers were not waiting for an invitation. Children instinctively attached themselves to a crew member for the trek to the shelter.

"You had no problem feeling the sense of urgency," said Weaver. "Fighter jets were taking off in numbers. Even the people on the ground were running faster."

Halfway between the plane and the bunker, the ground shook again. This time a Patriot intercepted a Scud directly over their C-5. "I can remember having one child under each of my arms with another wrapped around my neck. The one hanging onto my neck said, 'I'm letting go,'" Weaver said, his face now flush at the memory. "I told him, 'Don't you dare!'"

Upon reaching the shelter, Deluca, Weaver and Muller did their best to calm the children. "Most of the kids were crying and most of the parents were either panic stricken or very angry. They were really losing it," Deluca said.

A short time later an Army lieutenant colonel, in full chemical gear, asked Weaver to step into a private hallway. There, the colonel told Weaver that chemical agent was present. "I looked at him and said you've got to be kidding me. Are you sure?" said Weaver sharply. The answer was yes. (Later it was learned that an airman had suffered an epileptic seizure, one of the symptoms of nerve agent.)

Deluca recalls Weaver's face upon returning to the main shelter. "He had this look on his face," Deluca said. "Usually when he addresses me he says 'Doc,' this time he said 'Joe, we're in condition black. Is there anything we can do for these kids?'"

Weaver already knew the answer. As he looked around the room, he watched as Muller was playing with some of the children, the children unaware of their impending doom.

Deluca sang the "Mickey Mouse" song with others. He says, now smiling, it's the only song he knew. Weaver looked around the shelter for the children he had carried. He said he felt a bond with those youngsters as strong as the bond he has with his four at home.

Then something incredible happened. Deluca described it as "the most emotional thing I've ever seen." Each military person in the room took off his protective masks.

Weaver, Deluca and Muller knew there were others in their crew who could carry on in their absences.

"I had resolved that we were going to die," said Weaver. "I remember holding some of the kids, waiting for the end. There was no bitterness. No fear. It went beyond emotion. I knew there was no way I could have ever faced myself (by masking), while watching children die around me. Ever." Added Deluca, "It was the first time all day that I felt at ease."

Twenty minutes went by when the Army colonel re-entered the room. He said that a mistake had been made.

"As soon as the last passengers were on the aircraft I started to taxi," Weaver said.

After eleven hours of fighting a head wind back to Spain, the crew and their new civilian family parted.

"I remember the feeling of separation I felt from friends I served with in Vietnam," said Deluca. "It was the same here. We'd been through something very unique and different together. We were no longer strangers. When we left it was like we were Uncle Joe and Uncle Paul Weaver to them. I know we hugged them just as tightly as they were hugging us."

Added Weaver softly, "When I think about that day in the shelter, I view life from a totally different perspective."
New Yorkers move special weapon

by Maj. Brian D. Gomula
New York Air National Guard

A phone call interrupted me as I watched war coverage on television last January. Little did I know the call would involve the New York Air Guard in a highly coordinated effort to break the Iraqi War machine.

The 109th Tactical Airlift Group (TAG), headquartered in Schenectady, would be the New York player in the effort.

"Can you do an airlift to Eglin Air Force Base, Florida on a very short notice?" asked the caller, Jerry Yarter, of Watervliet Arsenal, NY.

He went on to give me an unclassified brief of the mission explaining that it was war-related and that it had White House interest.

Of course, the 109th would take the mission. It would be our silent contribution that would turn out to be the bomb heard around the world.

The heart of the project was already under construction at the Arsenal: a penetrator—a weapon of a shape and dimensions that could penetrate concrete bunkers, specifically those used by Saddam and his Iraqi military leadership.

With time at a premium, this new weapon had to be designed and engineered while the manufacturing process was being developed. The penetrator was fashioned from available material—a cannon barrel.

Dimensions of the penetrator would be 18 feet long by 16 inches in diameter, and weighing about five thousand pounds. It would be fitted with explosives and a laser guidance system.

Special F-111 aircraft would deliver the finished product on the final leg of its journey into the laps of the Iraqis.

Working around the clock, seven days a week, crews were able to deliver the first two penetrators to Eglin AFB by 7 a.m., February 17 on 109th aircraft.

Shipment from the Arsenal to Eglin had been completely coordinated and executed by the 109th with less than 24 hours notice.

Workers at Eglin outfitted the penetrating bombs with laser guidance systems and filled them with molten explosives.

Next the two completed bombs were transported to Nellis AFB, Nev., for test firing. The first bomb, dropped from an F-111, struck the target and plunged more than 100 feet into the earth. The second bomb easily blasted through a series of concrete slabs, demonstrating the weapon’s ability to penetrate the hardest Iraqi bunkers.

With testing complete, the 109th was put on alert to deliver the “real present” to the Gulf. Before that, however, on Feb. 23 and 24, the 109th delivered penetrators number three and four to Eglin for fitting with lasers and filling with molten explosives. Bombs were quickly loaded onto an awaiting C-141, so quickly that they were still warm from the molten explosive.

On Feb. 27, the penetrating bombs were dropped from an F-111 flying at over 20,000 feet. Both entered the bunker at Abu Ghurab, one of the main Iraqi command and control centers.

A Pentagon source was quoted as saying, with confidence, that the bombs had killed most of the Iraqi leadership. That may explain why no upper echelon Iraqi military representatives attended the capitulation meeting with General H. Norman Schwarzkopf.

The 109th TAG, the Watervliet Arsenal, Eglin AFB, the Pentagon, and the White House worked hand-in-hand on the mission that may have played a major role in bringing the war to an end.

The 109th had indeed delivered “the bomb” heard around the world.

Born after storm

Paula Bouldin, wife of Staff Sgt. Paul Bouldin of the Illinois National Guard’s 233rd Military Police Company at Springfield, holds her newborn son, Jacob at their hospital room in Springfield. Mrs. Bouldin was coached through labor by her husband — via telephone from his active duty station in Saudi Arabia. Sergeant Bouldin was sent to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Desert Storm, and came home May 14 to his wife and new baby (photo by Bob Arnett).
Shi'ite refugees carrying belongings file towards Delaware Air National Guard C-130 in Safwan, Iraq (photo by Capt. Vince Gambal).

**Humanitarian effort**

**C-130s serve as mercy ships**

*by Capt. Vincent Gambal*

*Delaware Air National Guard*

SAFWAN, IRAQ — After the Gulf war, several minority factions within Iraq turned against Saddam Hussein — the Kurds in the north and the Shi'ite Muslims in the south. Saddam's surviving Republican Guards turned their guns on their rebelling countrymen near the city of Basra. In the crossfire, many civilians fled to the refugee camp at Safwan in the American-controlled zone in southern Iraq.

In late April and early May, Air Force C-130 Hercules transports evacuated over 4,500 Shi'ite refugees out of Safwan to a more secure camp near Rahfa in north central Arabia. Members of the 166th Tactical Airlift Group (TAG), Delaware Air National Guard and the 139th TAG, Missouri ANG, were heavily involved with the refugee shuttles, moving between 600 and 800 people a day.

Many Guardsmen mentioned that the refugee mission was certainly the most rewarding mission they had accomplished during Desert Storm, but it was also the most emotional. Capt. John Groff, an aircraft commander said, "It was a great feeling knowing that we were helping these people start a new life."

For most Guardsmen, it was their first time in Iraq and was a chance to hunt for war souvenirs, to listen to members of the 3rd Army tell war stories, and for photo opportunities.

The excitement and novelty quickly turned somber when the busloads of refugees pulled up to the cargo ramp of the aircraft.

There were young women with babies, school-aged children and elderly men and women who needed help walking up the ramp. Their entire lives were now wrapped in the small plastic shopping bags they carried. A few weeks earlier, these people were the "enemy." Now, the United States was helping them escape persecution in their own country.

On board, the children were excited about being on an American airplane. They looked and acted like young children the American aircrew knew back home. They warmed up to the crew members when the crew passed out candy and played games with the children. Groff recalled how he took some photographs of the children with his Polaroid camera. "When the parents saw the instant photos, they became very excited and signalled with their arms for me to take their picture, also."

Although the adults seemed grateful; many were visibly shaken by the ordeal. Perhaps it was fear of their first flight, but most likely it was fear of their unknown futures in Saudi Arabia.

Watching those people board buses in Rahfa — one for men and boys, one for women and girls — was something the Delaware and Missouri Air Guardsmen will never forget. Groff concluded, "I really felt sorry that they had to go through that, but at least they did have the chance to start their lives over."
Kobar Towers lifestyles

by Master Sgt. Frank Jordan
Maine Army National Guard

KUWAIT CITY, Kuwait—Kobar Towers, in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, is temporary home for Army and Air National Guardsmen awaiting transport back to the United States.

One Army Guardsman, Sgt. George Coatney of the New York says Kobar Towers reminds him of projects he has seen in American cities; hundreds of buildings five to eight stories high, side by side, street after street in sharp contrast to the dusty and flat desert.

Approximately 30 thousand troops are waiting here now for redeployment. After the Americans leave, this housing will be used for the Saudi people.

An empty sand lot in the middle of the project serves as a recreation area. A tent in the lot serves laundry and dry cleaning pick-up and drop-off point. A nearby tent houses the Saudi information center. Here Americans can get information on Saudi customs and culture.

Scattered about the project are hamburger and pizza stands with long lines of troops in desert "camies" waiting for their favorite junk food.

Across the street are over 200 new arrivals to the Towers sprawled on the sidewalk using rucksacks as pillows, waiting to move into one of the buildings.

Understandably, the new troops had dirty, wrinkled uniforms covered with a white coat of dust and sweat. They had probably just spent hours riding in a dusty convoy.

A feeling of pride welled up inside. We are all part of the same military—the Army National Guard.

I thought of the tradition—of other wars, and the way history repeats itself—the same scene just different names and faces.

As I walked across the street to them I hollered, "are any of you National Guardsmen?" One soldier answered, "Hell no," but he was outnumbered by Guardsmen saying they were from places like New York, Michigan and Puerto Rico.

Two National Guard soldiers from Michigan, Staff Sgt. Rick Balderson, and 1st Sgt. Jim Johnson, just minutes from Detroit, had been assigned to the 207th Evacuation Hospital. They related their experiences of treating American, British, Kuwait, Saudi Arabian, and Iraqi Republican Guard troops.

They indicated that some of the Iraqi troops wanted to be captured. Many were seriously wounded but easy to work with.

The Republican Guard soldiers required military police guards around the clock.

Balderson said he didn’t feel any resentment about treating them. "Hell they’re human beings. You can’t help but feel compassion for them."

Sgt. Magaly Castro of the New York Army National Guard, who had been stationed at Ryahd, said the SCUD missile attack really scared her. "I prayed a lot as my mother had taught me years ago.

"I’m glad to be going home. It has been quite an experience. I just want to go back to my job in the Veterans Administration center as a claims clerk, and yes, I will remain in the Army National Guard," she concluded.

The 13th Evacuation Hospital, a Wisconsin Guard unit, has proven to be good at improvisation while on duty in the Persian Gulf.

To compensate for a shortage of intravenous fluid, the unit created a recipe; a bottle of Saudi distilled water, some table salt, and a dash of antibiotics.

When it was determined that the 13th was low on ventilators—machines that force air into the patient’s lungs—Milwaukee surgeon Col. Guenther Pohlman instructed everyone in camp in the technique of ventilating by hand.

But perhaps the crowning trick was turning Meals Ready to Eat into gourmet "chili"—MRE beef slices mixed with the "bean component" and tabasco sauce.

Other "inventions" include cardboard boxes taped together to make dressers and desks, and a sand-filled bottle pulley system to automatically pull the latrine door shut.

When in doubt, improvise.
War is the ultimate 'teacher'

Photos and story by
Master Sgt. Frank Jordan
Maine Army National Guard

KHOBAR, Saudi Arabia—As I walked into a briefing of the 740th Transportation Company, I found six soldiers ranging in age from 19 to 26, from farming communities of South Dakota. These young soldiers were not talking about college or dates like their contemporaries. Instead, they were talking about SCUD attacks, protective chemical clothing, fear of the unknown, and death.

On Jan. 16th, the unit moved to Logistical Base Echo, a desolate place approximately 50 miles from Iraq. Their mission was to deliver ammunition and supplies to 18th Airborne Corps, 101st Airborne Division, and other combat units.

When the war kicked off, these soldiers would be hauling ammunition and supplies right up to the front. A truck company, the 740th operates huge "915s." In civilian language, they are best described as over-the-road tractor trailers.

These young drivers covered in excess of one million miles on loose sand and mud. They drove in sand storms where visibility was no more than two feet, not unlike blizzards common to Eastern South Dakota in winter. Some times it was cold, but usually temperatures in the cabs hovered over 100 degrees.

Spc. Shelly Hart, 19, of Aberdeen, has sparkling eyes and a warm smile. As she joined the conversation, she rarely looked old enough to be out of high school. When she spoke, however, I found her to be mature beyond her age. She had seen places and done things that most people will never experience in a lifetime.

She spoke about her mom, and the day she got the phone call activating her for duty in Saudi Arabia. She worried how her mother would react.

"She told me the day she got the phone call activating her for duty in Saudi Arabia. She worried how her mother would react. "She told me it was going to be okay." Around the tent at the faces of Paula, David, Shelly, Renee, James and Byron. They looked so young. I wondered how many might be alive or wounded by tomorrow. I wondered if gas would be used against them."

Aas continued, "As I studied their faces, I could see that they weren't worried about themselves. They were worried about each other."

Aas admits that assigning each member to missions was the toughest things he ever had to do. When he handed Paula her assignment, he looked into the eyes of a young woman ready to go. "I knew she could drive, but a nagging voice deep down inside kept asking, 'Does she have enough experience?'"

"I felt like I was handing out a death sentence way down deep," he recalled. "I worried about each and every one of them, but they came through with flying colors—nobody hurt. They were well trained and it paid off."

"I would put them up against any driver in the world," he said with pride.

Spc. Shelly Hart
Even as the war raged on, the Guard was kept busy...

On many other fronts

RESPONDING TO STATE EMERGENCIES AND NATURAL DISASTERS:

Nature didn’t change its ways just because there was a war, and as a result, neither did the National Guard.

During Fiscal Year 1991, more than 3,500 citizen-soldiers were called to state active duty to provide assistance to victims in 22 floods, 16 fires, 14 winter storms, 13 tornadoes, six hurricanes, one volcano, one earthquake, one drought and a typhoon. In addition, Guardmen responded to 261 other state emergencies.

When floods ravaged Louisiana, 114 Louisiana Guardsmen evacuated and secured victims in the northern part of the state, as well as cleaned up debris. Flooding in Mississippi caused the activation of 214 Guard soldiers who then restored order, sandbagged levees, and protected the property of flood victims. In a third flood in Indiana, 284 citizen-soldiers were called on to provide the same assistance.

When Hurricane Bob produced massive destruction to communities in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, 967 Guard personnel helped with security and cleaning efforts.

After a series of tornadoes struck in Kansas, killing 22 people and destroying millions of dollars worth of property, 290 Army Guard soldiers were called in for security and cleanup assistance.

During a civil strike in Montana, when state employees walked off their jobs, Army and Air Guard personnel maintained the peace.

When Mt. Pinatubo erupted, destroying Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, many Guam National Guard personnel provided assistance to the families of U.S. airmen who had to be transported to Andersen Air Base in Guam.

In addition, 215 Guam citizen-soldiers helped their own islanders last December when Typhoon Russ struck with winds in excess of 160 mph.

The chart at upper right shows the Guard’s involvement in state emergencies during this period.

NATIONAL GUARD MILITARY YOUTH CORPS PROGRAM:

This pilot program is designed to reclaim disenfranchised youth by challenging them to engage in a rigorous program of education, personal and skills development, and work in service to their communities.

The program is based on a military model, applying the discipline, esprit d’corps and rigorous challenges faced by personnel entering the Armed Forces.

The National Guard has been chosen to run this pilot program because of:
• Its unique federal/state relationship and the ability to integrate federal and state programs;
• The geographic proximity of Guard facilities to communities in need; and
• Because of the broad and diverse demographic base of its members to act as role models, instructors and volunteers.

NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM:

This is another pilot program in which the National Guard is working with the Presidential Council of Physical Fitness and the schools to establish physical-fitness competitions, in which the teams can progress through school, state, regional and national competitions.

The intent of the program is to emphasize to youth the importance of physical fitness and show them ways to attain it.

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS:

At the height of Operation Desert Storm, the National Guard operated 471 family-support centers in local communities across the nation. These centers served more than a quarter million family members of every branch of the service.

Some of the assistance included referral services to local agencies; and advice on military pay, benefits and entitlements. All told, more than a half million phone calls were answered.

The family support program was developed in 1984 when the National Guard recognized the need for providing support to families of Guard personnel and other members of the Total Force mobilized for war or called for natural disasters.

Because of long-range planning, an "all-volunteer" family-support network was ready when duty called during the Gulf War.

MUSIC IS UNIVERSAL:

To spread goodwill overseas, the National Guard supports U.S. embassies abroad by sending some of its 68 bands on tours overseas. In 1991 during the mobilization, nine bands toured in such places as Africa, the Pacific, Europe, the Carribean, Latin America and Canada. Since 1988, 56 bands have spread goodwill around the globe.
HUMANITARIAN ACTIONS:

During the war, the National Guard continued activities to improve its neighborhoods, especially if the less advantaged could benefit from the efforts.

For the third year in a row, the Guard provided transportation and manpower to help the Boy Scouts collect food for the needy. With 80 million cans of food collected, the Guard and Boy Scouts raised the three-year total to 222 million cans!

Homeless residents affected by cold weather in California, Massachusetts and Arizona were assisted through efforts of National Guard personnel and their armories. Forty-two armories were used and citizen-soldiers helped with security, setting up cots, food and other comforts.

'DRUG USE IS LIFE ABUSE':

In conjunction with its drug interdiction/eradication efforts, the National Guard has adopted the slogan, "Drug Use is Life Abuse" and implemented a drug-demand reduction program at national, state and community levels.

Working through support groups at the state and unit levels, Guard personnel are reaching out to their communities, educating and training youth groups and school children. They also sponsor and provide referral services and man hotline assistance phone centers.

Forty-eight states have started drug-demand reduction programs, using the logo shown below.

TRAINING AND EXERCISES IN ADDITION TO DESERT STORM:

Even though many National Guard personnel were federalized to active duty in support of Operations Desert Shield and Storm, there were many other training exercises that took place simultaneously.

More than 5,000 Army National Guard engineers, medical and veterinarian units, and other support personnel from Missouri and Alabama deployed to Panama. There, in an exercise called "Fuertes Caminos 91," they used their heavy equipment and skills to build bridges and roads, and treat hundreds of local residents and livestock.

Another exercise, "Display Determination," took place in Turkey and involved 1,700 combat and support troops.

In Germany, 1,379 Army Guard soldiers from 20 states provided reinforcement for NATO forces during exercise "Reforger-91" or "Return of Forces to Germany."

Almost 6,900 Air Guard engineers deployed a total of 138 times in base-emergency exercises called "PRIME BEEF." Seventy-five of the deployments were to Latin America, Israel, Europe, the Caribbean and Canada where these specialized engineers built schools, community centers and roads, and renovated medical and military facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS:

Like other Americans, National Guard personnel are concerned about protecting the environment. Both the Air and the Army Guard continue to make great strides in the protection of the environment with active programs of preservation of natural resources. The National Guard takes seriously its unceasing efforts at maintaining a posture of "preventive" environmental management.

THE GUARD'S SECOND 'WAR':

While some 75,000 guardsmen served in support of the Gulf War, thousands of other citizen-soldiers were fighting another "war" at home.

National Guard personnel from all 54 states, territories and the District of Columbia expended three-quarters of a million workdays in Fiscal Year 1991 supporting local, state and federal law-enforcement agencies in their battle to stop the flow of drugs into the country or destroy the "home-grown" variety.

On any given day, some 2,100 Guard members could be found in the air, on the ground and at coastal ports of entry supporting law enforcement. Activities included:
- aerial surveillance;
- inspection of commercial cargo at land entry points, seaports and international airports;
- transportation of law-enforcement personnel and contraband;
- specialized training; and
- numerous radar and aerial-photography missions.

All told, citizen-soldiers participated in more than 5,800 separate operations in FY91. Were they successful?

In the 12-month-period, Guard personnel helped destroy almost 20 million marijuana plants and confiscating more than $47 million.

They also aided in the seizure of:
- 116,863 pounds of processed marijuana;
- 63,890 pounds of cocaine;
- 1,610 pounds of heroin;
- 916 pounds of opium;
- $29 million worth of other drugs;
- 1,991 vehicles; and
- 1,636 weapons.

The bottom line — Guard-supported missions resulted in 6,152 arrests and stopped almost $50 billion worth of illegal drugs from reaching America’s neighborhoods.
Georgia MPs form security force for critical Saudi supply port of entry

by Spc. Stephanie Frank
124th PA Detachment

FORT GORDON, Ga.—After securing the port of Dhahran and the main supply route from the Kuwaiti border to Kuwait City, Georgia’s 190th Military Police Company returned home.

The Army National Guard unit from Atlanta had spent nearly seven months on active duty in the Persian Gulf before touching Georgia ground on April 5th.

“It’s good to be back,” said Capt. Joe Hoffman, company commander.

“We’ve been in the Army a long time and now it’s time to get back to our families.”

Soldiers played “We Will Rock You” and “We Are The Champions” on the final bus ride from the Bush Air Field to Fort Gordon near Augusta.

They proudly filed through the pouring rain into the post gymnasium where families anxiously cheered. While making a final formation, children dashed across the floor to hug their moms and dads.

All the keynote speaker could say is “Ladies and gentlemen, welcome 190th Military....”

Loved ones dashed onto gymnasium floor and into the soldiers’ open arms.

The tears shed in late September, 1990, were tears of sadness and uncertainty; this time they were filled with joy and hope.

The 190th was the first National Guard Military Police Company to set foot in the Middle East. Unsure of what awaited them, they served with the 716th Military Police Battalion of Fort Riley, Kan., under the 89th Military Police Brigade of Fort Hood, Texas.

The first and main mission for the citizen-soldiers was securing Saudi Arabia’s Port of Dhahran. The western port was a strategic entry point for supplies and the nearest port to Kuwait. The 190th along with Saudi soldiers guarded the harbor for nearly three months.

The most visible security job was that provided at the location where the M1 tanks were converted to M1A1s.

On the last day of the ground war, the 190th moved into Kuwait. “We were the only corps echelon unit to secure a main supply route into Kuwait City,” said Hoffman.

“They moved us into Kuwait while the buildings were still on fire, cars burning up and roads blown up,” said 1st Sgt. Thomas Daily, Jr. “We went from the Kuwait border all the way to Kuwait City.”

“Several of our squads had the mission that took them into Iraq,” he added.

The 190th also handled security for the peace talks in Basra, guarding Allied Forces Commander Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, Prince Charles and President Bush.

Daily said it best: “Throughout the whole campaign, this company has been busy from one end of Saudi Arabia all the way to Iraq.”

Gas station in the sky

Maine’s 101 Air Refueling Wing was called to active duty in Support of Desert Shield, and during the first month of their activation, the wing’s tanker task force off-loaded 3.75 million pounds of jet fuel to deploying fighter and airlift aircraft, enough to power the average car around the earth 450 times! Nearly half the wing was tasked with direct support of Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, including aircrews, maintenance, medical, security, firefighter and services personnel.

Mishap almost claims Kansas Air Guard crew

A freak accident high above the Saudi Arabian desert nearly resulted in disaster for a KC-135E aircraft crew of the 190th Air Refueling Group, Kansas Air National Guard.

During their rendezvous with thirsty coalition fighters, the KC-135E encountered severe turbulence believed to have been caused by another aircraft two and one-half miles ahead. The aircraft, heavily loaded with fuel, rolled violently to the right, then immediately reverse rolled to the left with such force that the number one and two engines snapped off, dropping to the desert.

In seconds, the craft lost 4,000 feet and fire lights began flashing on the instrument panel.

Maj. Kevin Sweeney, commander, ordered boom operator, Senior Master Sgt. Steve Stuckey, to look out the cargo area window at the left wing and get a status report.

Stuckey yelled into his headset, “Sir, we’re missing both engines, there is no fire! We’re loosing fuel!”

After the crew was able to stabilize the craft, they dumped or lost 135,000 pounds of fuel, enabling them to sustain a flight level necessary to return to base near Jeddah, an hour away.

After a safe landing, an immediate investigation revealed that four of the six remaining bolts holding the right engines on were also defective.

“It wouldn’t have taken much turbulence at all to have lost the last two sources of power,” said Col. Charles M. (Mick) Baier, then the 1701st Provisional Air Refueling Wing commander.

Sweeney said, “Training and flying experience saved them.”

The unit had been activated for service in December and returned home to a cheering crowd of some 8,000 to 10,000 friends and relatives, March 14.
'Desert Storm' call-up fifth for Guard in last 50 years

by Renee Hylton-Greene
Historian, National Guard Bureau

Members of the National Guard are part-time soldiers. But for more than 350 years, they have become full-time soldiers when their country needed them. One year ago, as Guard units were being mobilized for active duty in the Gulf War, the National Guard was commemorating the 50th anniversary of its mobilization for active duty during World War II. Desert Storm marks the fifth military mobilization of National Guard units in 50 years.

World War II

The National Guard was called to active duty “for one year of training” beginning in September 1940. Putting the Guard on active duty doubled the size of the U.S. Army. In August 1941, Congress extended the one year of service by an additional year. Thus, when the attack on Pearl Harbor brought the U.S. into the war, 300,004 Guardsmen were already serving on active duty. The first U.S. Army division to ship overseas, the 34th, was from the National Guard, and is credited with more days in combat than any other WWII division. The first Army units to fight the Japanese in the Pacific were all from the National Guard. North Dakota’s 164th Infantry landed on Guadalcanal in October 1942 to reinforce the Marines, the first U.S. unit to fight offensively in WWII. Other National Guard regiments joined the fight during the next two months, on Guadalcanal and in New Guinea.

Korean War

The first of almost 185,000 Army and Air National Guard personnel were called to active duty in August 1950, less than two months after North Korea invaded the South. Army National Guard engineers and field artillery units began arriving in South Korea in January 1951, and by summer made up a high percentage of the Army’s non-divisional artillery and engineer assets in the combat zone. Three National Guard artillery units which supported the Marines won Presidential Unit Citations, and the last unit to leave North Korea after the Chinese Communist intervention was a National Guard infantry regiment. Two Guard infantry divisions fought in Korea, and six Air National Guard fighter squadrons flew combat missions over North Korea.

Berlin Crisis

When the Soviets erected the Berlin Wall in the summer of 1961, the U.S. responded with a show of military force. A total of 44,371 Army National Guardsmen in 106 units, including two infantry divisions, reported for active duty. The Air Guard mobilized 21,067 personnel in 40 squadrons. Twenty of those squadrons were stationed in Europe to increase the U.S. presence there.

Vietnam

When the Secretary of Defense announced the only major Reserve Forces call-up for Vietnam in April 1968, 11 Air National Guard squadrons were already on active duty as a response to the North Koreans’ seizing of the U.S. Navy ship Pueblo. Three additional Air Guard flying groups were mobilized, and four Guard tactical fighter squadrons distinguished themselves in air combat while stationed in South Vietnam. Thirty-four Army National Guard units were mobilized in May 1968, and more than 6,000 Army Guard personnel served in the Republic of Vietnam itself.

Desert Storm

The first Air Guard units were alerted for active duty less than 24 hours after Iraq invaded Kuwait. More than 11,000 Air Guard members served on active duty, with more than 1,200 more volunteering for duty during the crisis. The first Army Guard units reported for active duty within three weeks of the invasion. More than 62,000 men and women of the Army National Guard were mobilized, and nearly 38,000 of them served in the combat zone.

After the World War II recapture of Manila, capital of the Philippines, men of Ohio’s 145th Infantry, 37th Infantry Division, head north to continue the fight.
Mission complete ..
back to loved ones
Home at last!