AUGUST 1990
Iraq invades Kuwait

AUGUST 1990
Operation Desert Shield begins

AUGUST 1990
First U.S. forces arrive in Saudi Arabia

NOVEMBER 1990
Iraq is given deadline to withdraw from Kuwait by mid-January 1991

JANUARY 1991
Operation Desert Storm and air war phase begin

FEBRUARY 1991
Allied ground assault begins

FEBRUARY 1991
Cessation of hostilities declared

MAY 1991
Iraq officially accepts cease-fire terms from the United Nations
August 2010 marks the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the Gulf War, launched with Operation Desert Shield and followed by Operation Desert Storm. VA honors this milestone with a renewed commitment to improving our responsiveness to the challenges facing Gulf War Veterans.

VA offers a number of resources and benefits to address the unique needs of Gulf War Veterans. More information is available at:

- **Web site:**
  www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/GulfWar
- **VA Gulf War Information Helpline:**
  1-800-PGW-VETS (1-800-749-8387)

Environmental Agents Service (131)
Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420
www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/GulfWar

This poster is also available online. To download an electronic version or print your own copy, go to
www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/GulfWar.
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Description of Poster Images

1. Map of Kuwait in black and white.
   Source: Thinkstock.com

   Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DA-ST-92-06697)

3. The battleship USS WISCONSIN (BB-64) launches a BGM-109 Tomahawk missile against a target in Iraq during Operation Desert Storm.
   Source: www.dodmedia.osd.mil (DN-ST-92-08661)

4. Newly arrived Marines are led through an encampment near an airfield during Operation Desert Shield.
   Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DF-ST-91-04461)

5. A check of the Mark 84 2,000-pound bombs is conducted before loading aboard 401st Tactical Fighter Wing F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft during Operation Desert Storm.
   Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DF-ST-92-07650)

6. Oil wells burn and darken the sky with smoke, after being set ablaze by retreating Iraqi forces during Operation Desert Storm.
   Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DF-ST-92-08038)

7. Demolished vehicles line Highway 80, the route fleeing Iraqi forces took as they retreated from Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm.
   Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DF-ST-92-09592)

8. A ground crewman signals as the pilot of a 353rd Tactical Fighter Squadron (353rd TFS) A-10 aircraft brings his plane to a stop during Operation Desert Shield.
   Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DF-ST-91-03740)

9. Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division walk around camp in rain suits, gloves, and M-17A1 protective masks as they condition themselves for the heat of the Saudi summer during Operation Desert Shield.
   Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DF-ST-91-03740)

10. A medical technician from the 363rd Air Transportable Hospital checks a patient’s blood pressure during Operation Desert Shield.
    Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DF-ST-91-06499)

11. An M-1A1 Abrams main battle tank lays a smoke screen during maneuvers in Operation Desert Storm.
    Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DA-ST-92-07814)

12. Family and friends greet members of the 82nd Airborne Division upon their return from Operation Desert Storm.
    Source: www.defenseimagery.mil (DD-ST-92-09054)