

In 1990, Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. Within 24 hours, Iraq's military occupied its southern neighbor and controlled nearly 30% of the world's oil supply. Iraq's brutal dictator then set his eyes on Saudi Arabia. President George H.W. Bush recognized Saudi Arabia's important role in the region and launched Operation Desert Shield. As the deployment of American combat forces in Saudi Arabia grew, President Bush issued a mandate to Hussein stating that all Iraqi troops must leave Kuwait by January 15, 1991. The deadline passed with Kuwait still occupied by Iraqi forces. On January 17, 1991, the United States led coalition forces in the liberation of Kuwait, a campaign known as Operation Desert Storm. These operations resulted in several major coalition victories, the removal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the imposition of international sanctions against Iraq and a significantly weakened Iraqi Army.

Roughly 600,000 American troops were deployed in support of both Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm; 375 died. Today, the United States lacks a national memorial dedicated to the courage and sacrifice of its Armed Forces who served during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The National Desert Storm Memorial Association's goal is to dedicate the completed memorial by Fall 2025.

Our efforts have received support from United States Presidents, United States Senators, United States Representatives, military commanders, coalition nations, U.S. Military veterans and their families, and other grateful American citizens.

### **Memorial Timeline**

On May 28, 2014, the United States House of Representatives unanimously authorized construction of a Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial by a vote of 370-0.

On December 19, 2014, President Obama signed into law S.995 authorizing a National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial in Washington D.C.

On March 31, 2017, President Trump signed a bill into law authorizing a memorial to be built near the National Mall in Washington, D.C at an Area-1 location.

On June 21, 2018, the Commission of Fine Arts approved a site for the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield War Memorial. The decision by the Commission of Fine Arts is the final step in the 3.5-year Site Selection process. The National Park Service and the National Capital Planning Commission recommended this same site earlier in 2018.

On November 21, 2019, the Memorial received concept design approval by the Commission of Fine Arts. In October of 2021, the Commission approved a revised conceptual design.

On October 20, 2022, the National Desert Storm Memorial Association went before the Commission of Fine Arts for the final time. The Commission members reviewed and approved the revised design concept and delegated review of the final design to the CFA staff members.

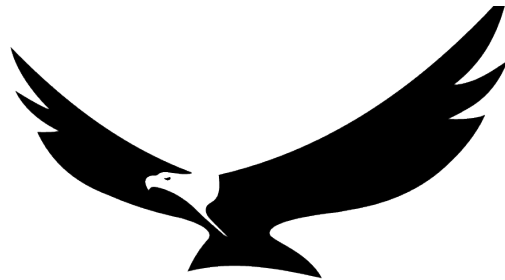
**Location**

The Memorial will fall within the shadow of both the Lincoln and Vietnam Veterans Memorials, abutting the National Mall. The Memorial's site is at the southwest corner of Constitution Avenue and 23rd Street Northwest, Washington, D.C.

**Construction and Funding**

Although we are anticipating the construction of the memorial to commence in 2024, donations are still needed as we cautiously monitor and maneuver through this historic increasing inflationary environment.

The National Desert Storm Memorial Association is a federally recognized, tax-exempt, 501(c)3 structure led by an all-veteran board of directors.



1990 **Desert Shield** 1991  
— AND —  
**Desert Storm Memorial**  
HONORING THE SERVICE AND THE SACRIFICE