Honoring America's Persian Gulf War Veterans

The VFW ensures they will never be forgotten

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Monday, April 11, marks the 25th anniversary of the official cease fire of the Persian Gulf War. As the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) reflects on the conflicts leading up to the Persian Gulf War, we take this opportunity to honor and acknowledge the service and sacrifice of the many Gulf War veterans who selflessly sacrificed to free a nation from evil's tyrannical grasp.

After six weeks of intensive bombing against Iraq and its army, the massive ground war in Kuwait – ultimately lasting only 100 hours – began. As the dust settled, an Iraqi army had been defeated, and thousands of its troops had surrendered or been taken as prisoners of war.

Each of the nearly 700,000 U.S. Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen who served in the Kuwait theater fought bravely – contributing to an exceptional example of U.S. military prowess. Although the war lasted mere days, victory came with a high price tag, ultimately leaving 467 wounded, 374 service members dead, and two servicemen who still remain missing in action.

This year, even as memories of the swift victory fade, the VFW encourages every American to pause as we salute the service and sacrifice of all Gulf War veterans. Remembering their dedication and determination to keep America safe ensures their sacrifices will never be forgotten.

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