GULF WAR TIMELINE

1990-1991

Note: Entries represent local time where the event occurred, unless otherwise noted.

THE GULF WAR

CHURCH AND WORLD EVENTS

3 Reunification of Germany is finalized

22 Margaret Thatcher resigns as U.K.'s prime minister

NOVEMBER

THE GULF WAR	CHURCH AND WORLD EVENTS
1990	
JULY	JANUARY
18 Saddam Hussein threatens military action against Kuwait24 Iraqi forces begin massing on the Kuwait borderAUGUST	12 Operation Just Cause ends in Panama23 Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia begins to collapseMARCH
 2 Iraq invades Kuwait 6 Saudi Arabia requests assistance from U.S.; UN Security Council imposes trade embargo against Iraq 7 Operation Desert Shield begins 	 3 Lithuania declares independence from the Soviet Union; other Baltic States follow 15 Mikhail Gorbachev becomes president of the Soviet Union
8 Iraq announces annexation of Kuwait	APRIL
10 Twelve Arab states vote to support Saudi Arabia militarily22 President George H. W. Bush issues an executive order, calling selected reservists to active duty	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints releases FamilySearch computer programU.S. launches Hubble Telescope
28 Iraq declares Kuwait to be a province of Iraq	JUNE
SEPTEM3ER 11 President Bush threatens military force against Iraq	22 Checkpoint Charlie is dismantled in Berlin JULY
NOVEMBER	27 Belorussia declares independence from the Soviet Union
29 UN authorizes military intervention if Iraq does not withdraw from Kuwait	OCTOSER

THE GULF WAR

CHURCH AND WORLD EVENTS

1991

JANUARY

- **12** U.S. Congress authorizes President Bush to wage war and end Iraq's occupation of Kuwait
- 17 Desert Storm begins with air and missile attacks in Iraq and Kuwait
- 19 Three Scud missiles explode in Tel Aviv, Israel
- 22 Iraq ignites Kuwaiti oil well tanks
- 23 President Bush urges Saddam Hussein be brought to justice
- **26** Over 75,000 antiwar protesters march in Washington, DC
- **27** Allies bomb Iraqi-held oil facilities in Kuwait to stop Iraq from dumping oil into the Persian Gulf
- **29** Iraqis attack Khafji, Saudi Arabia; U.S. and U.S.S.R. issue communique, offering Iraq cease-fire if it makes "unequivocal commitment" to withdraw
- **31** Saudi and Qatari troops, backed by U.S. artillery, retake Khafji, Saudi Arabia; Iraq captures first U.S. female prisoner of war

FEBRUARY

- 1 Allies bomb ten-mile-long Iraqi armored column heading to Saudi Arabia
- 3 Allied air campaign passes 40,000 sorties
- 5 Syrian troops repulse Iraqi troops at Saudi-Kuwait border
- **6** U.S. F-15 fighters shoot down four Iraqi jets; 120 Iraqi aircraft flown to Iran
- **9** Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev warns military operations in Persian Gulf threaten to exceed UN mandate
- 11 President Bush says alliance is in no hurry to begin ground war
- 12 Allied forces open attacks against Iraqis in Kuwait
- **14** Coalition reports destroying 1,300 Iraqi tanks, 800 armored vehicles, and 1,100 artillery pieces

JANUARY

26 Civil war begins in Somalia

APRIL

27 Latter-day Saint Church completes computerization of membership records worldwide

MAY

- 1 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints calls 500,000th full-time missionary
- 19 Croatia votes for independence in referendum

JUNE

- 7 Mount Pinatubo erupts in the Philippines
- 12 Russia elects Boris Yeltsin president
- 19 Soviet occupation of Hungary ends
- **24** The Russian Republic grants formal recognition to the Church
- **25** Croatia and Slovenia declare independence from Yugoslavia

JULY

1 Warsaw Pact officially disbands

AUGUST

- **27** European Union recognizes independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania
- **31** Kyrgyzstan declares independence from the Soviet Union

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Uzbekistan declares independence from the Soviet Union; Latter-day Saint Church membership reaches 8 million
- **9** Tajikistan declares independence from the Soviet Union
- **21** Armenia receives independence from the Soviet Union

THE GULF WAR

CHURCH AND WORLD EVENTS

- 15 Iraq dismisses coalition terms as a "cruel hoax"
- **16** Iraq's UN ambassador says Iraq will use weapons of mass destruction if U.S. bombing continues
- 18 Floating mines strike two U.S. warships in the Gulf
- **19** Iranian newspaper claims Iraq has suffered 20,000 dead and 60,000 wounded; U.S. Marines strike Iraqi targets in Kuwait
- 22 President Bush issues ultimatum to Iraq: withdraw from Kuwait by noon February 23 to avoid a ground war
- **23** Allies' ground offensive begins at 4:00 a.m.; Iraq sets ablaze about 150 Kuwaiti oil wells
- **24** Allied ground assault begins; Allied casualties are very light; over 5,500 Iraqis captured
- 25 Allied forces reach outskirts of Kuwait City; Iraqi Scud missile hits U.S. barracks in Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia: 28 soldiers killed, 90 wounded; nearly 20,000 Iraqis taken prisoner; 270 Iraqi tanks destroyed
- **26** U.S. reports Iraqi forces are in "full retreat"; Iraqi POWs number 63,000; Saddam Hussein announces Iraq will withdraw completely; residents of Kuwait City celebrate; U.S. Embassy in Kuwait City returned to U.S. control
- **27** President Bush declares Kuwait liberated and suspends offensive operations
- **28** Kuwaiti troops raise flag in Kuwait City; President Bush declares suspension of offensive combat; states conditions for permanent cease-fire

MARCH

- 10 U.S. forces begin withdrawal from Persian Gulf
- **14** The Emir of Kuwait returns to Kuwait after seven months of exile in Saudi Arabia

APRIL

3 UN calls for destruction or removal of all Iraqi chemical and biological weapons

NOVEMBER

6 Last Kuwaiti oil fires (ignited by Iraqis) are extinguished

OCTOBER

- **18** Azerbaijan declares independence from the Soviet Union
- **27** Turkmenistan declares independence from the Soviet Union
- 29 America's Galileo spacecraft is the first to visit an asteroid

DECEMBER

- **4** Terry A. Anderson, a journalist, is released after seven years of captivity in Beirut
- **26** The Soviet Union officially dissolves