

Women In War



Hospital corpsmen set up a communications station at a field hospital, 1991.



Members of the 16th Military Police Brigade prepare to deploy, 1991.



Two soldiers load a vehicle in Saudi Arabia, 1991.

Operations DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM

Approximately 24,000 Army women served in the Persian Gulf, along with 4,000 women in other service branches. Never before had women served on such a large scale nor played such an integral part. Army women participated in the initial invasion into Kuwait and Iraq. Fourteen women were killed and two taken prisoner of war by Iraqi forces. Two women commanded battalions for the first

time in war and 270 served with Patriot Missile battalions in Saudi Arabia, Israel and Turkey. Their action in various unit formations made a lasting impression on those who served with them. Shortly after the war Congress passed legislation allowing women to serve aboard military vessels and fly aircraft engaged in combat missions.