

The Marines of Iraqi Freedom 2003

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Middle School and regular High School students

Directions: Analyze the following documents. Use the documents and your knowledge of American History, to answer the questions that follow each document. Your answer will help you write a short essay related to the documents

Document A: Letter from the Secretary of the Navy



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

3 November 2003

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION to

I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

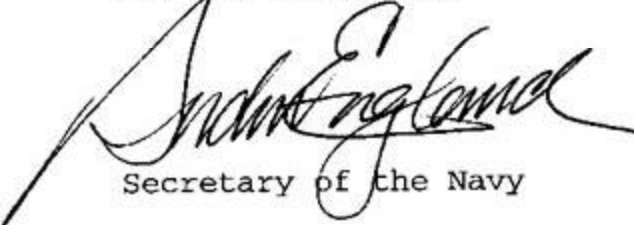
for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance in action against enemy forces in support of Operation IRAQI from 21 March to 24 April 2003. During this period, I Expeditionary Force (MEF) (REIN) conducted the longest series of coordinated combined arms overland attacks in the history of the Marine Corps. From the border between Kuwait and Iraq, to the culmination of hostilities north of Baghdad, I MEF advanced nearly 800 kilometers under sustained and heavy combat. Utilizing the devastating combat power of organic aviation assets, along with the awesome power resident in the ground combat elements, and maintaining momentum through the herculean efforts of the service support elements, I MEF destroyed nine Iraqi Div

This awesome display of combat power was accomplished simultaneously freeing the Iraqi people from more than 3 of oppression and reestablishing basic infrastructure country. During the 33 days of combat, to the transi civil-military operations, I MEF sustained a tempo of ope never before seen on the modern battlefield, conducti major river crossings, maintaining the initiative, and sus forces. The ferocity and duration of the campaign w possible through the skills and determination of the S Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coalition Partners comprisi at all levels, all echelons, and in all occupational fie their outstanding courage, aggressive fighting spiri untiring devotion to duty, the officers and enlisted pers I Marine Expeditionary Force (REIN) reflected great cred themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the Mari and the United States Naval Service.

For the President,



Secretary of the Navy

1. What is the Presidential Unit Citation?
2. What are the requirements for the PUC?
3. Why did the I MEF earn the PUC?
4. How many days was the I MEF engaged in combat?

Document B:



Google images

1. What is happening in the picture?
2. What is the main idea of the picture?
3. What does this tell you about conditions in Operation Iraqi Freedom I?

Document C:



Google images

1. What is going on in the picture?
2. What type of uniform are the Marines wearing? Why?
3. If the Marines are in a desert environment, why are they wearing green biological suit?

Document D:



Google images

1. What type of vehicle is pictured?
2. What is the main function of the type of vehicle?
3. Why would this vehicle make it possible to travel great distances?
4. What items are located on the exterior of the vehicle? Why?

Document E:



Google images

- 1.** What is pictured?
- 2.** What does this tell you about the enemy?

Document F:



Google images

1. Describe what is taking place in the picture?
2. What does this tell you about the obstacles I MEF had to overcome?

Essay Question

Directions: Using the information in the documents provided, you're your knowledge of History, write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, a body of several paragraphs, and a conclusion.

Why did the I Marine Expeditionary Force earn the highest unit award in Operation Iraqi Freedom I? Include a discussion of the requirements to earn the Presidential Unit Citation, What I M.E.F. had to endure during OIF I, what types of vehicles and gear used by I M.E.F.