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 of action against enemy forces in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM from March 21 to April 24, 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 achieved a sustained and heavy combat. Utilizing the devastating combat power of organic aviation assets, with the awesome power resident in the ground combat elements, I MEF destroyed nine Iraqi Divisions...
This awesome display of combat power was accomplished simultaneously freeing the Iraqi people from more than 30 years of oppression and reestablishing basic infrastructure across the country. During the 33 days of combat, to the transient nature of the civil-military operations, the I MEF sustained a tempo of operations not seen on the modern battlefield, conducting major river crossings, maintaining the initiative, and sustaining the forces. The ferocity and duration of the campaign was possible through the skills and determination of the Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coalition Partners comprising the I MEF at all levels, all echelons, and in all occupational fields. The officers and enlisted personnel of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (REIN) reflected great credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

For the President,

[Signature]

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:
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:**

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