

# Casualties are mounting in the Persian Gulf

by Bonar Tucker

"I'm tired of taking the easy way out. I want to try the hardest thing I can."

Those words were spoken by Lance Cpl. Michael E. Linderman Jr., 19, as one of the reasons he joined the Marines 15 months ago. With no idea of an upcoming war, Linderman looked forward to continuing his education with military benefits.

But on Tuesday, loved ones said their final goodbyes to Linderman at his funeral.

Linderman was one of 11 killed on Jan. 29 when three light armored vehicles were ambushed near the Saudi Arabian border. An Iraqi tank is suspect for hitting the vehicles. One was completely destroyed, one was partially destroyed and one vehicle was able to escape.

Linderman was the brother-in-law of John Glynn, *Yellin' Rebel* assistant editor. He was married to Glynn's sister, Christy.

"He had some pretty rough times," Glynn said. "They were so bored over there in the desert."

Glynn said through letters and pictures he had learned about life in the Persian Gulf. Linderman had slept during the day and did

the driving at night.

"They had a lizard for a mascot and once painted a stripe on a beetle. They made the best of it, I think, but they were really bored," Glynn said.

According to Glynn, the night the news reported the attack, he had a class to attend.

"I called my sister about 6 p.m. to see if everything was alright before my class at 7 p.m. She was worried that perhaps the survival assistant officers might be bringing her bad news concerning Michael," Glynn said.

After talking for a while, Glynn said he told her not to worry. If the bad news hadn't come yet, it probably wouldn't.

"When I got home after class," he said, "I could tell immediately what was wrong by the looks on everyone's faces."

Glynn said he doesn't want to see it come to a ground war, but he said he's pretty sure it will come to that.

"We just can't let him take a country," Glynn said, referring to Hussein. "Hitler took a country."

He added, "Saddam's not going to quit. They've got to get rid of him. But Bush needs to really think about it."

Glynn spoke of his brother-in-



Courtesy of John Glynn

Dion Stephenson (left), 22, and Michael E. Linderman (right), 19, were both killed in action.

law being in the heat of the desert working as a driver in a tank with two-inch-thick metal.

"It had to be so hot in there," he said. "There's no air conditioning."

Glynn said he is grateful for the support shown to the troops.

"The university support has been really great," he said. "I've read about other universities protesting and it means a lot to have

UNLV behind the troops." In this time of loss, he said, "The support helps so much."

Glynn said his sister will receive her husband's Purple Heart medal.

## If draft is reinstated, few options will be available

(CPS)—As the war in the Persian Gulf enters its third week, still no one in Washington, D.C., is willing to do much more than guess if Congress will reinstate the military draft.

The only certain thing is that young American men who don't want to fight will have few sanctuaries to turn to.

Most of the escape routes have, in effect, been closed.

"I see huge, huge problems" for people trying to escape the draft, said Conrad Joyner, a political science professor at the University of Arizona.

Canada, where many U.S. draft dodgers fled during the Vietnam War, no longer will help. Since the war in Vietnam ended, Canada has passed immigration and employment laws that make it virtually impossible for draft refugees to live there today.

Campuses also provided a safe harbor during most of the Vietnam war, when a "student deferment" from the draft helped thousands of men keep from having to go into the armed forces as long as they were registered for a small load of college courses.

Now there's no such thing as a student deferment, although collegians would be allowed to finish their semester before having to report. College seniors would be allowed to finish their academic year.

Young men who can prove to their local draft board they are homosexual or a conscientious

objector can get out of serving, though it will take some effort. But do these men and their families even need to be worried about the draft?

"Right now I would say we really don't know," admitted Cord Bruegmann, a staff member for the CCCO, a draft and military counseling agency based in Philadelphia.

"The likelihood has increased" since the war started, but not in a way that people should be overly worried, Bruegmann added.

Most U.S. government officials consistently have denied the draft will be imposed.

As late as Jan. 17, the Selective Service issued a statement stating "the agency has no indication that a draft is needed. Neither Congress, the White House nor the Department of Defense indicates a draft is under consideration, and the president has said a draft is not necessary."

Yet not all U.S. government officials are discounting the possibility.

"Nobody is yet speaking of re-instituting the draft, but if the war goes beyond 90 days, it would be seriously discussed, if not necessarily adopted," Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, told the Associated Press.

And Arizona's Joyner thinks if the war escalates to prolonged ground fighting, a draft will be needed to support and replenish the troops. "I see it coming."

While many oppose instituting the draft, the University of Michigan's student newspaper has called for reinstatement.

"However unjust the war might be, the greater injustice lies in the fact that the poor and people of color continue to shoulder the majority of the fighting," said an editorial in the Michigan Daily.

"If the sons and daughters of our president and members of Congress were required to fight alongside the others in Saudi Arabia, these officials might act with a little more hesitation," it continued.

It would take a congressional vote to reinstate the draft, and the selection could start within hours of approval.

The first step would be holding a lottery to decide which of the 1.8 million 20-year-old men in the U.S. would be drafted first.

The lottery would be open to the public, held in an auditorium where Selective Service officials would have two clear drums.

One drum would hold 365 slips of paper (366 if it is a leap year) imprinted with the dates of the year. The other drum would hold slips numbered one through 365 or 366.

A draft official would then draw a slip from each drum, matching a date to a number. Men turning 20 on the date drawn with the number 1 would be called first.

## How Iraqi ground forces are dug in

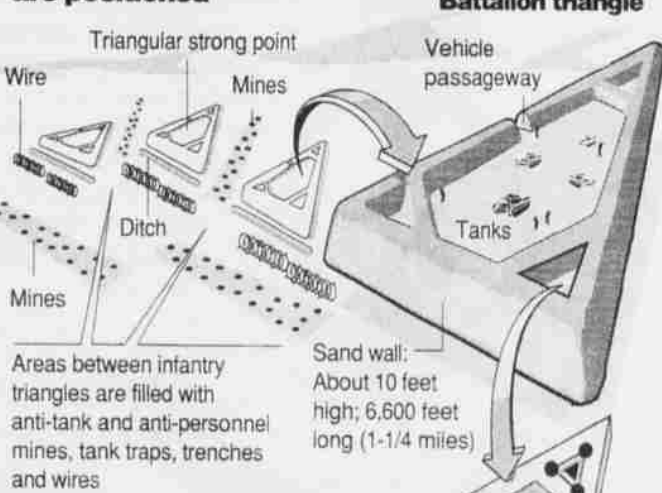
According to reports, the Iraqi army is dug in all along the Kuwait-Saudi and Kuwait-Iraq borders. Iraqi troops may be using defenses they developed during the Iraq-Iran War: huge, triangular sand berms arranged in triangular defense configurations.

**Carpet bombing:** Term for nearly constant precision-strategic bombing of target area; in this case, saturation bombing of Iraqi troop concentrations; B-52Gs carry out bombing from very high altitudes.

**Iraqi division:** Approximately 12,000 troops with two infantry brigades (3,000-4,000 troops each) and a tank brigade in the rear; each triangular berm holds a battalion (600-800 troops).



## How division triangles are positioned



## Company triangle

In the corners are triangles for companies (about 150 troops) and so on down through platoons and squads

SOURCE: Chicago Tribune, Defense Department, Center for Defense Information

## B-52s carpet bomb Iraq, Kuwait

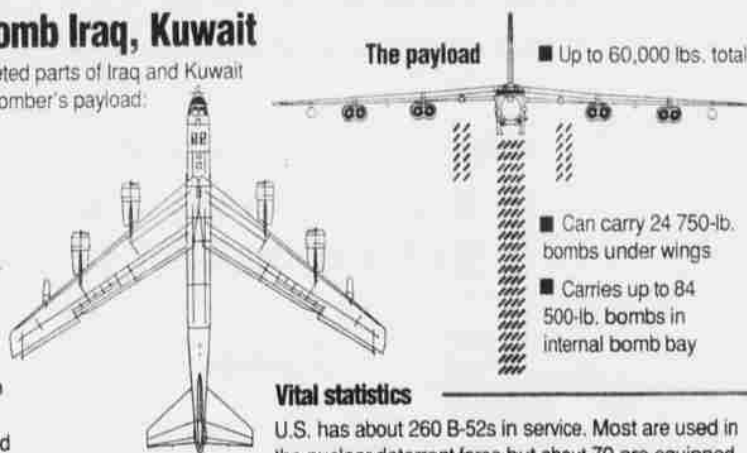
Gigantic B-52s have blanketed parts of Iraq and Kuwait with bombs. A look at the bomber's payload:

### Where they came from

Bombers reportedly are based somewhere in Saudi Arabia and Egypt

- **Builder:** Boeing Co.
- **First flight:** 1952
- **Crew:** Six
- **Length:** 161 feet
- **Wing span:** 185 feet; two B-52s side by side are longer than a football field
- **Max. speed:** 595 mph

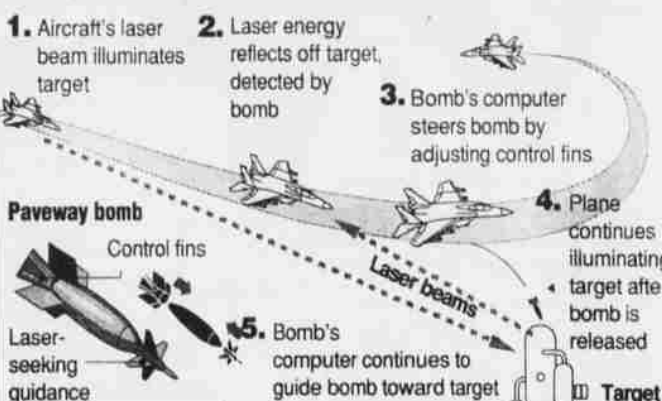
SOURCE: Wichita Eagle, USNI Military Database



### Vital statistics

U.S. has about 260 B-52s in service. Most are used in the nuclear deterrent force but about 70 are equipped for conventional bombing missions.

## How planes deliver laser-guided bombs



SOURCE: U.S. Air Force, Jane's Weapon Systems, Modern Air Combat; Research by LILY DOW