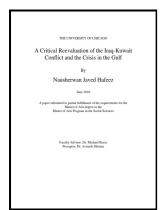
Storm on the horizon - Khafi, the battle that changed the course of the Gulf War

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They wear body armor and carry rifles. Marine outposts stretching inland were overrun by a three-division Iraqi ground attack.

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Caught without warning in the path of the Iraqi juggernaut were small groups of U. Post-war analysis by the 's suggests Iraq planned to utilize the 3rd Armored Division and 5th Mechanized Division to make the actual attack on Khafji, with the 1st Mechanized Division assigned to protect the attacking force's western flank.

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Aerial and ground combat was confined to Iraq, Kuwait, and areas on Saudi Arabia's border. On January 29, 1991, Saddam Hussein hurled three crack armored divisions into Saudi Arabia, determined to stop the American attempt to liberate Kuwait before it began.

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As they were approached by Saudi Arabian troops, they reversed their turrets and opened fire.

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The force was put under the command of Saudi Arabian Lieutenant Colonel Matar, who moved out by 17:00 hours. Marines and Special Forces soldiers, their weapons no match for the Iraqi tanks bearing down on them.

Storm on the horizon: Khafji

They make minimum wage and spend months and years away from their families. The strategic air campaign also targeted Iraq's chemical and biological weapons production and the sites of nuclear reactors. Iraqi power was diminished, but Saddam Hussein was allowed to remain in power, laying the scene for the protracted suffering of the Iraq invasion over a decade later.

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