

BRITISH FATALITIES DURING OPERATION TELIC

There have sadly been 51 fatalities in the course of Operation *Telic*: 50 Servicemen and one civilian MOD fireman. Fuller details for most of the casualties can be found on the MOD website at <http://www.operations.mod.uk/telic/casualties.htm>

21 March

A US Marine Corps CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter crashed south of the Kuwait border with US and UK personnel aboard; there were no survivors. Eight personnel from 3 Commando Brigade died in the accident, along with four US aircrew. The British fatalities were:

Colour Sergeant John Cecil, Royal Marines, from Plymouth

Lance Bombardier Llywelyn Karl Evans, 29 Commando Regiment, Royal Artillery, from Llandudno

Captain Philip Stuart Guy, Royal Marines

Marine Sholto Hedenskog, Royal Marines

Sergeant Les Hehir (pronounced HEAR), 29 Commando Regiment, Royal Artillery, from Poole

Operator Mechanic (Communications) Second Class Ian Seymour, Royal Navy

Warrant Officer Second Class Mark Stratford, Royal Marines

Major Jason Ward, Royal Marines

22 March

Two Royal Navy Sea King Mk 7 Airborne Early Warning helicopters from 849 Naval Air Squadron collided over the northern Arabian Gulf. There were no survivors from the six British and one US crew members aboard. The British casualties were:

Lieutenant Philip D Green, Royal Navy

Lieutenant Antony King, Royal Navy, from Helston, Cornwall

Lieutenant Marc A Lawrence, Royal Navy, from Westgate-on-Sea, Kent

Lieutenant Philip West, Royal Navy, from Budock Water, Cornwall

Lieutenant James Williams, Royal Navy, from Falmouth, Cornwall

Lieutenant Andrew S Wilson, Royal Navy

23 March

An RAF GR4 Tornado aircraft from 9 Squadron, RAF Marham, which was returning from an operational mission, was shot down near the Kuwaiti border by a United States Patriot missile battery. Both aircrew were killed.:

Flight Lieutenant Kevin Barry Main, Pilot, IX (B) Squadron

Flight Lieutenant David Rhys Williams, Navigator, IX (B) Squadron

Two British soldiers from 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) were reported missing, later confirmed as killed, after an Iraqi attack on British military vehicles near Az Zubayr:

Sapper Luke Allsopp, from North London

Staff Sergeant Simon Cullingworth, from Essex

24 March

In separate incidents, two soldiers were killed in action near Az Zubayr, near Basrah:

Sergeant Steven Mark Roberts, 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, from Bradford

Lance Corporal Barry Stephen, 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, from Perth

25 March

Two soldiers from the Queen's Royal Lancers were killed when their Challenger 2 tank was accidentally hit by another Challenger 2 during a period of multiple engagements with Iraqi enemy forces.

Corporal Stephen John Allbutt, from Stoke-on-Trent

Trooper David Jeffrey Clarke, from Littleworth, Staffordshire

28 March

A British soldier was killed in an incident involving light armoured vehicles of D Squadron, The Blues & Royals, on 28 March. Four others were injured. The soldier killed was:

Lance Corporal of Horse Matty Hull, Household Cavalry Regiment

30 March

A Royal Marine officer died of illness:

Major Steve Ballard, 3 Commando Brigade, Royal Marines

A Royal Marine was killed in action during fighting in the area of Basrah:

Marine Christopher R Maddison, 9 Assault Squadron Royal Marines

A soldier was killed in a road traffic accident in Kuwait:

Lance Corporal Shaun Andrew Brierley, 212 Signal Squadron, based in Herford, Germany

31 March

A soldier was killed in southern Iraq during an explosive ordnance disposal operation.

Staff Sergeant Chris Muir, Army School of Ammunition, Royal Logistic Corps, from Romsey

1 April

A light armoured vehicle of D Squadron, The Blues & Royals, was involved in a serious accident during operations in southern Iraq. One soldier died in the accident, and an officer died in hospital in the UK on 22 April from injuries sustained.

Lance Corporal Karl Shearer, Household Cavalry Regiment

Lieutenant Alexander Tweedie, Household Cavalry Regiment

6 April

Three soldiers were killed in action in Basrah:

Fusilier Kelan John Turrington, Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

Lance Corporal Ian Keith Malone, 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, from Dublin

Piper Christopher Muzvuru, 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, from Zimbabwe

30 April

A British soldier was killed in an explosion in southern Iraq:

Lance Corporal James McCue, 7 Air Assault Battalion, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

6 May

A soldier from 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, died in an accident in Iraq:

Private Andrew Kelly, from Tavistock

8 May

An RAF Regiment Gunner died in hospital in the UK, following injuries sustained in an earlier traffic accident in Iraq:

Gunner Duncan Pritchard, 16 Squadron RAF Regiment, based at Honington in Suffolk

19 May

An RAF Policeman died in Kuwait:

Corporal David Shepherd

22 May

A civilian member of the Defence Fire Service died in hospital in the UK, having fallen ill in the Gulf:

Mr Leonard Harvey, from Wattisham, Suffolk

24 June

Six Royal Military Policemen were killed in an incident at Al Majar Al Kabir:

Sergeant Simon Alexander Hamilton-Jewell, from Chessington

Corporal Russell Aston, from Swadlincote

Corporal Paul Graham Long, from Colchester

Corporal Simon Miller, from Washington, Tyne & Wear

Lance-Corporal Benjamin John McGowan Hyde, from Northallerton

Lance-Corporal Thomas Richard Keys, from Bala

18 July

An Army officer collapsed and died in southern Iraq:

Captain James Linton, 40 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

13 August

A Territorial Army soldier died in southern Iraq:

Private Jason Smith, 52nd Lowland Regiment, from Hawick

14 August

A British serviceman was killed during a bomb attack on a military ambulance in Basrah:

Captain David Jones, Queen's Lancashire Regiment, from Louth

23 August

Three soldiers from the Royal Military Police were killed in an attack by gunmen in central Basrah:

Major Matthew Titchener, 150 Provost Company, from Southport

*Company Sergeant Major Colin Wall, 150 Provost Company, from Crawleyside,
County Durham*

Corporal Dewi Pritchard, 116 Provost Company, from the Rhondda

27 August

A Territorial Army soldier was killed in an incident in Ali As Sharqi in southern Iraq:

Fusilier Russell Beeston, 52nd Lowland Regiment, from Govan

23 September

A Territorial Army soldier died in a tragic incident whilst serving at Shaibah near Basrah:

Sergeant John Nightingale, 217 Transport Squadron, from Leeds

OPERATION TELIC – KEY FACTS

- Hostilities commenced against Iraq on 20 March 2003.
- 33 fatalities from all causes sadly suffered by British forces during initial period of operations (to end of April), with 18 since then.
- The UK deployed to the Gulf, during the first three months of the year, some 46,000 men and women, around 10% of the overall Coalition effort.
- Over 5,000 Reservists mobilised – largest number since Suez crisis in 1956 – for initial phases of operation, with more called up since for follow-on operations.
- The movement of personnel and equipment over 3,400 miles from bases in the UK and Germany required 62 shipping and 670 aircraft movements, and was achieved in about half the time taken for the first Gulf conflict in 1990-1.
- The vehicles alone, placed end-to-end, would have covered 82 miles – equivalent of London to Southampton.
- The **Royal Navy** and Royal Fleet Auxiliary deployed 33 ships and 43 Fleet Air Arm helicopters, plus 3 Commando Brigade Royal Marines: some 9,000 personnel in all.
- The **Army** contribution centred on 1(UK) Armoured Division, with 7 Armoured Brigade and 16 Air Assault Brigade as the primary combat formations, supported by 102 Logistics Brigade. In addition, 12 (Air Support) Engineer Brigade supported UK air operations.
- In all, some 28,000 troops from over ninety Army units were committed in whole or in part to the operation.
- The **Royal Air Force** sent 68 combat and 47 support aircraft to the Gulf, plus 27 support helicopters, operating alongside 34 Army Air Corps helicopters, and personnel from some 26 ground support units: about 8,000 men and women in total.
- Over 2,500 sorties were flown by RAF aircraft, with the 13 VC-10 and Tristar tankers dispensing over 8,430 tons of fuel in air-to-air refuelling operations.
- After just one week, intensive mine-clearance operations allowed the first humanitarian aid ship, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary *Sir Galahad*, to dock at Umm Qasr, while the Royal Engineers built a water pipeline from Kuwait to deliver up to 2 million litres of drinking water per day.
- At height of deployment, some twenty tons of mail a day delivered by British Forces Post Office to British personnel in the region.
- Some 10,500 British personnel remain deployed in Iraq and the Gulf at present.

Chronology

7 January	Augmentation announced of Naval Task Group 2003 (already planned to sail for exercises in the Gulf and the Far East).
20 January	Decision to deploy substantial land forces announced.
6 February	Decision to deploy additional aircraft to the Gulf (RAF aircraft had of course been patrolling the No Fly Zones since 1991).
19/20 March	Limited air strikes launched on regime targets in Iraq, with 3 Commando Brigade leading a night amphibious assault on the Al Faw peninsula on 20 March.
23 March	Royal Navy minehunters began operations in the Khawr Abd Allah waterway to make it safe for shipping to use the port of Umm Qasr.
24 March	1(UK) Armoured Division secured Basrah International Airport on outskirts of the city, Iraq's second largest.
25 March	40 Commando Royal Marines, supported by helicopters and aircraft, defeated an Iraqi tank attack.
27 March	Successful engagement with Iraqi armoured column near Basrah.
28 March	Royal Fleet Auxiliary <i>Sir Galahad</i> safely entered Umm Qasr via the cleared channel to deliver 300 tons of emergency humanitarian aid.
30 March	Royal Engineers completed a freshwater pipeline from Kuwait to Umm Qasr, capable of delivering 2 million litres of water per day.
1 April	Troops able to begin patrolling in berets in Az Zubayr.
5 April	US forces reach central Baghdad.
6 April	British troops secure Basrah, encountering little resistance.
13 April	First joint UK/Iraqi police patrols in Basrah.
1 May	President Bush declared major phase of combat operations ended.

ROYAL NAVY

Amphibious Task Group

HMS *Ark Royal*

- Aircraft carrier, operating as a helicopter carrier for *Telic*.
- RAF Chinooks and Fleet Air Arm Sea Kings embarked.
- Suffered seven fatalities when two Sea Kings of 849 Naval Air Squadron collided – a United States exchange officer, and Lieutenants Green, King, Lawrence, West, Williams, Wilson.

HMS *Ocean*

- Helicopter carrier.
- Fleet Air Arm Sea King helicopters provided airlift for the Al Faw assault.
- Lynx anti-tank and Gazelle reconnaissance helicopters of 847 Naval Air Squadron supported 3 Commando Brigade, destroying 33 armoured vehicles.

HMS *Chatham*

- Type 22 frigate.
- Provided naval gunfire support during the amphibious assault on the Al Faw peninsula.

HMS *Marlborough*

- Type 23 frigate.
- Provided naval gunfire support during the Al Faw amphibious assault.

HMS *Richmond*

- Type 23 frigate
- Provided naval gunfire support during the Al Faw amphibious assault.

HMS *Edinburgh*

- Type 42 destroyer
- Provided air defence cover.

HMS *Liverpool*

- Type 42 destroyer.
- Provided air defence cover.

HMS *York*

- Type 42 destroyer.
- Provided air defence cover.

RFA *Sir Tristram*

- Landing ship logistic

RFA *Sir Galahad*

- Landing ship logistic.
- First ship to enter Umm Qasr port after its capture by Coalition forces, carrying 300 tonnes of emergency humanitarian aid.

RFA *Sir Percivale*

- Landing ship logistic.
- Made a follow-up delivery of humanitarian aid to Umm Qasr.

Submarines

HMS *Splendid*

- Swiftsure class nuclear-powered submarine.
- Fired Tomahawk cruise missiles at precision targets in and around Baghdad in the early stages of the campaign.
- Decommissioned on return from the Gulf.

HMS *Turbulent*

- Trafalgar class nuclear-powered submarine.
- Fired Tomahawk cruise missiles at precision targets in and around Baghdad in the early stages of the campaign.

Mine Counter-Measures Group

The MCM Group were responsible for ensuring that the route up the Khawr Abd Allah waterway to Umm Qasr was clear of Iraqi mines. Divers and remote-controlled submersibles were used to investigate some 100 suspicious objects on the seabed, at least three of which proved to be mines and were safely destroyed. *Sir Galahad* was able to start delivering humanitarian aid only eight days after the beginning of hostilities.

RFA *Sir Bedivere* - Landing ship logistic acting as support ship to minehunters

HMS *Bangor* - Sandown class minehunter.

HMS *Blyth* - Sandown class minehunter.

HMS *Sandown* - Sandown class minehunter.

HMS *Grimsbey* - Sandown class minehunter

HMS *Ramsey* - Sandown class minehunter.

HMS *Shoreham* - Sandown class minehunter.

HMS *Brocklesby* - Hunt class minehunter.

HMS *Ledbury* - Hunt class minehunter.

Afloat Support Group

Comprising ten Royal Fleet Auxiliaries, plus the Hydrographic Survey ship HMS *Roebuck*, the Support Group provided the ships with fuel and supplies. *Roebuck* conducted, under very hazardous conditions, a survey of the channel leading into Umm Qasr, while RFA Argus served as a hospital ship, treating not only Coalition wounded but also Iraqi casualties, military and civilian.

RFA *Bayleaf* – Fleet support tanker

RFA *Brambleleaf* – Fleet support tanker

RFA *Orangeleaf* – Fleet support tanker

RFA *Fort Austin* – Fleet support stores ship

RFA *Fort Rosalie* – Fleet support stores ship

RFA *Fort Victoria* – Fleet support tanker & stores ship

RFA *Grey Rover* – Fleet tanker

RFA *Sea Crusader* – Strategic lift ro-ro

RFA *Diligence* – Forward repair ship

RFA *Argus* – Primary casualty receiving ship

HMS *Roebuck* – Hydrographic survey ship

3 Commando Brigade Royal Marines

Suffered ten fatalities during Operation Telic:

- eight killed, along with four US aircrew, when a US Marine Corps helicopter crashed on the first night of operations – Major Ward, Captain Guy, WO2 Stratford, Colour Sergeant Cecil, Marine Hedenskog (all Royal Marines), Operator Mechanic Seymour (Royal Navy), Sergeant Hehir and Lance Bombardier Evans (both Royal Artillery);
- one killed in action – Marine Maddison of 9 Assault Squadron;
- one died of illness – Major Ballard Royal Marines.

Headquarters 3 Commando Brigade

- Commanded by Brigadier Dutton.

40 Commando Royal Marines

- Based at Norton Manor, near Taunton.
- Formed in the Second World War on St Valentine's Day, 1942.
- Deployed to northern Iraq in 1991 for the Safe Havens operation.
- Led the amphibious assault on the Al Faw peninsula on the first night.
- Defeated an Iraqi tank attack on 25 March.

42 Commando Royal Marines

- Based at Bickleigh near Plymouth.
- Supported 40 Cdo at Al Faw and Umm Qasr.
- Led the advance into Basrah.
- Heavily involved in the early distribution of humanitarian aid.

Commando Logistic Regiment

- Composed of Royal Marine, Royal Navy and Army personnel.
- Provides all logistic support for the Commando Brigade, including medical cover and equipment maintenance.
- Based at Chivenor, near Barnstaple.

29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery

- Commando-trained Army unit attached to 3 Commando Brigade, operating helicopter-portable 105mm Light Guns.
- Suffered three fatalities (mentioned above) - Sergeant Hehir, Lance Bombardier Evans, and Operator Mechanic Seymour RN.

9 Assault Squadron Royal Marines

- Operates a variety of small landing and assault craft, which proved vital for operations along the waterways in southern Iraq.
- Suffered one fatality (mentioned above) – Marine Maddison

539 Assault Squadron Royal Marines

- Based at Turnchapel, Plymouth.
- Operates a variety of small landing and assault craft, including hovercraft.

59 Commando Squadron Royal Engineers

- Commando-trained Army unit attached to 3 Commando Brigade.
- Based at Chivenor near Barnstaple.

131 Commando Squadron Royal Engineers (Volunteers)

- Commando-trained Territorial Army unit attached to 3 Commando Brigade.

1(UK) Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment

- Under Major General Robin Brims (attending), controlled British land operations.
- Home base is Herford, Germany.
- Reinforced by personnel from 3(UK) Division HQ and Signal Regiment.
- Now commanded by Major General Peter Wall (attending), who was the Chief of Staff for UK forces in the Gulf during the period of active hostilities.
- Suffered one fatality – Lance Corporal Brierley, killed in a road traffic accident.

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards

- Formation Reconnaissance Regiment equipped with CVR(T) light armoured vehicles.
- Alternative title of "The Welsh Cavalry", recruiting from the Principality, Shropshire and Herefordshire.
- Cap badge is the Hapsburg double-headed eagle, dating back to when the Emperor Franz-Josef of Austria-Hungary was Colonel in Chief of the Regiment.
- During *Telic*, worked closely with 3 Commando Brigade, earning epithet of Commando Light Horse.

28 Engineer Regiment

- Includes specialist amphibious capability with M3 ferries.
- Home based at Hameln in Germany.
- Ferried heavy armoured vehicles across waterways where bridges had been damaged, and was called on to support US forces lacking a similar capability.
- Expertise in small boat operations also called on for river patrol work.

33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)

- The Royal Engineers' specialist bomb disposal unit.
- Home base is Wimbish, near Saffron Walden.
- Suffered two fatalities – Staff Sergeant Cullingworth and Sapper Allsopp, killed when their vehicle was ambushed near Az Zubayr.

11 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Regiment

- Royal Logistic Corps specialist bomb disposal unit.
- Suffered one fatality – Staff Sergeant Muir, attached from the Army School of Ammunition, killed while clearing unexploded ordnance.

30 Signal Regiment

- Provided strategic satellite communications for Operation Telic.
- Home base is Bramcote, Warwickshire.
- Includes a Gurkha Signals Squadron.

1 Close Support Medical Regiment

5 General Support Medical Regiment

1 General Support Regiment

- Royal Logistic Corps unit providing transport, supplies and postal support to the Division.
- Equipment includes DROPS (Demountable Rack Offload and Pickup System) vehicles, designed for the rapid delivery of supplies on 15 tonne pallets.

2 Close Support Regiment

- Royal Logistic Corps unit delivering supplies right up to the front line for 1(UK) Division.
- Equipment includes high mobility DROPS (Demountable Rack Offload and Pickup System).
- Based at Gutersloh, Germany.

1st Regiment Royal Military Police

7 Armoured Brigade Headquarters and Signal Squadron

- Commanded by Brigadier Graham Binns during the period of active hostilities, with Brigadier Adrian Bradshaw (attending) taking over in April.
- Reinforced by personnel from 4 Armoured Brigade and Signal Squadron
- Nickname of “The Desert Rats” earned in Second World War as part of the original force in the Western Desert campaign.
- Badge is a red Jerboa (ie a desert rat).
- Home base is Hohne, near Hanover in Germany.

Royal Scots Dragoon Guards

- Armoured Regiment equipped with Challenger 2 tanks.
- Only cavalry regiment from Scotland in Regular Army.
- Home base is Fallingbostal, Germany.
- Formed in 1971 when Royal Scots Greys and 3rd Carabiniers merged.
- Regimental history, via the Scots Greys (famous for their charge at Waterloo), goes back to 1678.
- During *Telic*, one squadron from the Regiment destroyed an Iraqi tank unit without suffering any losses.

2nd Royal Tank Regiment

- Armoured Regiment equipped with Challenger 2 tanks.
- Can trace history back to B Company, Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps, formed in 1916 as one of the world’s first tank units.
- Home base is Fallingbostal, Germany.
- Suffered one fatality – Sergeant Roberts, killed in action near Az Zubayr

Queen’s Royal Lancers

- Armoured Regiment equipped with Challenger 2 tanks.
- Home base is Osnabruck, Germany.
- Badge is famous “Death or Glory” with a skull and crossed lances.
- Formed in 1993, when 16th/5th and 17th/21st Lancers amalgamated.
- Via the 5th Royal Irish Lancers, can trace its history back to 1689.
- Suffered two fatalities – Corporal Allbutt and Trooper Clarke, killed when another British tank fired on their Challenger.

1st Battalion The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)

- Armoured Infantry Battalion equipped with Warrior vehicles.
- Home base is Fallingbostal, Germany.
- Regiment formed in 1740 from clans loyal to King George to police the Highlands.
- Name “Black Watch” reflects the dark colour of their tartan and their original role of “watching” the Highlands.
- During *Telic*, conducted a successful raid on a B’aath Party headquarters and rescued two Kenyans held prisoner by Iraqi forces.
- Suffered one fatality – Lance Corporal Stephen, killed in action near Az Zubayr

1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

- Armoured Infantry Battalion equipped with Warrior vehicles.
- Regiment formed in 1968 from the amalgamation of four fusilier regiments.
- Regimental Mascot is an Indian Black Buck antelope.
- Home base is Celle, Germany.
- Conducted a successful surprise raid on a B'aath Party headquarters during the operations around Basrah.
- Suffered one fatality – Fusilier Turrington, killed in the attack on the Naval Academy at Basrah.

1st Battalion, Irish Guards

- Armoured Infantry Battalion equipped with Warrior vehicles.
- Formed in 1900 by Queen Victoria in recognition of the performance of Irish soldiers during the Boer War.
- Soldiers presented with a shamrock by a member of the Royal family (for many years HM The Queen Mother) every St Patrick's Day.
- Returned to the UK from their posting in Germany in September 2003.
- Suffered two fatalities – Lance Corporal Malone and Piper Muzvuru, killed in action at Basrah.

1st Battalion The Light Infantry

- Armoured Infantry Battalion equipped with Warrior vehicles.
- Modern day successor to the famous County Light Infantry Regiments, preserving the traditions of the Light Infantry since its creation by Sir John Moore during the Napoleonic Wars.
- Home base is Paderborn, Germany.

1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding)

- Deployed to Gulf in just eight days to provide additional infantry capability.
- Can trace its history back to the 33rd Regiment of Foot raised in 1702.
- Arthur Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington, joined the Regiment in 1793, and commanded it in Flanders and India. The Regiment was renamed in his memory in 1853, following his death.

3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

- Equipped with AS90 armoured self-propelled guns, with advanced fire control systems.
- Recruits from Liverpool and Manchester.
- Provided vital artillery support for 7 Armoured Brigade, knocking out Iraqi artillery and headquarters positions, as well as fifty tanks.

32 Armoured Engineer Regiment

- Home base is Hohne, Germany.
- Equipped with armoured engineer vehicles and bridge-layers, able to conduct engineering operations right up in the front line.
- Had to deal with oil-filled trenches set on fire by Iraqis around Basrah.
- Once Basrah had been secured, constructed a pontoon bridge across the Shatt Al Arab waterway, named Cullingworth Bridge in memory of one of the Royal Engineers from 33 EOD Regiment killed in Iraq.

16 Air Assault Brigade Headquarters and Signal Squadron

- Commanded by Brigadier Jacko Page (attending).
- Home base is at Colchester.
- Formed in 1999 as an amalgamation of 5 Airborne Brigade and 24 Airmobile Brigade.
- During early phases of operation, had task of securing the Rumaylah oilfields in southern Iraq, spread across a large area of desert, and clearing the area of enemy forces. Subsequently assisted 7 Brigade in taking Basrah and took over responsibility for Maysan province to the north, centred on Al Amarah.

D Squadron (Blues & Royals) Household Cavalry Regiment

- Formation Reconnaissance unit equipped with CVR(T) light armoured vehicles. The Life Guards and Blues & Royals each have two squadrons in the reconnaissance role, based at Windsor, and one squadron each on ceremonial duties.
- Provided reconnaissance ahead of 16 Air Assault Brigade, "fixing" three Iraqi divisions north of Basrah.
- By calling in precise artillery fire and air attacks, coordinated the destruction of most of the tanks of the Iraqi 6th Armoured Division.
- Suffered three fatalities – Lance Corporal of Horse Hull, Lance Corporal Shearer, and Lieutenant Tweedie.

1st Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment

- Regiment formed in 1992 as amalgamation of Royal Irish Rangers and the Ulster Defence Regiment.
- 1st Battalion is the General Service battalion, the other battalions in the Regiment being Home Service units with duties in Northern Ireland.
- Secured Rumaylah village and oil installations during the initial advance into Iraq, later securing Al Madina on the Euphrates, and Al Amarah.

1st Battalion The Parachute Regiment

- Home base is at Dover.
- Conducted successful operation in Sierra Leone in 1999.
- Took part in the successful operation to secure Rumaylah and main supply routes.
- Acted as Divisional reserve.
- Involved in the fighting at Al Majar al Kabir in June that claimed the lives of six Royal Military Policemen.

3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment

- Home base is at Colchester.
- Secured oil installations near Rumaylah, then redeployed to assist in the advance into Basrah, securing the Old Town. Finally moved north to Maysan province to restore order in the area.
- Suffered one fatality in an accident – Private Kelly

7 Parachute Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

- Equipped with 105mm Light Guns, easily moved by helicopter or dropped by parachute.
- Home base is at Aldershot.
- Heavily involved providing fire support during the advance across southern Iraq.

23 Regiment Royal Engineers

- Provides engineer support to 16 Air Assault Brigade, and includes 9 Parachute Squadron.
- Bases around the UK are Waterbeach, Aldershot, Maidstone and Ripon.

3 Regiment Army Air Corps

- Operates Lynx and Gazelle helicopters for transport, reconnaissance and anti-tank tasks.
- Based at Wattisham, Suffolk.
- Provided cover during the advance across southern Iraq, working closely with the armoured reconnaissance units to identify and neutralise enemy positions.

13 Air Assault Support Regiment

- Royal Logistic Corps unit formed in 1999 to provide direct logistic support for 16 Air Assault Brigade during rapid air manoeuvre operations.

7 Battalion Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

- Based at Wattisham, provides support in maintaining the Brigade's equipment.
- Suffered one fatality – Lance-Corporal McCue, killed in an explosion on 30 April.

16 Close Support Medical Regiment

- Based at Colchester, provides the Brigade with medical support, including a dressing station and surgical teams.

156 Provost Company

- 16 Air Assault Brigade's Royal Military Police unit, based at Colchester.
- Suffered six fatalities in June at Al Majar al Kabir – Sergeant Hamilton-Jewell, Corporal Aston, Corporal Long, Corporal Miller, Lance-Corporal Hyde, Lance-Corporal Keys.

102 Logistic Brigade

Commanded by Brigadier Shaun Cowlam, responsible for the massive logistic support needed for the British forces to conduct operations.

Based at Gutersloh, Germany:

2 Signal Regiment

- Equipped with the Ptarmigan system providing secure digital communications.
- Home base is at York.
- Includes a Gurkha Signal Squadron.

36 Regiment Royal Engineers

- Based in Maidstone, and includes a squadron of Gurkha engineers.
- Provided engineering support to the logistic operations.

6 Supply Regiment Royal Logistic Corps from Gutersloh and Dulmen.

7 Transport Regiment Royal Logistic Corps from Fallingbostel and Bielefeld.

17 Port & Maritime Regiment Royal Logistic Corps

- Based at Marchwood Military Port.
- Handled unloading of ships delivering equipment and supplies.
- Key role in making Umm Qasr a functional port and receiving humanitarian aid shipped in by RFAs Sir Galahad and Sir Percivale.
- Also includes railway expertise, used to restore the rail link between Umm Qasr and Basrah.

23 Pioneer Regiment Royal Logistic Corps

- Heavily involved in humanitarian and reconstruction efforts.

24 Regiment Royal Logistic Corps

- Includes postal service units, which at the height of the deployment were handling twenty tons of mail a day sent to Service personnel from families and friends.

5 Regiment Royal Military Police

- Based in Edinburgh, with strong Territorial Army element comprising some two thirds of the Regiment.
- Responsible for policing and traffic control on the lines of communication.

4 General Support Medical Regiment

33 Field Hospital

34 Field Hospital from Strensall

202 (V) Field Hospital

ROYAL AIR FORCE

1(F) Squadron – Harrier GR7

- 1 (Fighter) Squadron dates back to the formation of the Royal Flying Corps, when it was originally the operator of Army balloons and airships. It converted to fixed-wing aircraft early during the First World War, and in due course became a dedicated fighter squadron.
- Has operated Harriers since 1969, flying them on operations in the Falklands and Kosovo.
- Current version of the Harrier is the GR7, carrying precision-guided Paveway bombs and Maverick missiles.
- Based at RAF Cottesmore.
- During *Telic* provided Close Air Support to ground forces.

2(AC) Squadron – Tornado GR4A

- II (Army Cooperation) Squadron dates back to the formation of the Royal Flying Corps and was the first squadron to cross the Channel to fight in France in 1914. Has served as a dedicated reconnaissance or Army cooperation squadron for most of its history.
- Operates the Tornado GR4A reconnaissance and bomber aircraft, equipped with very advanced RAPTOR reconnaissance equipment.
- Based at RAF Marham.

3(F) Squadron – Harrier GR7

- 3 (Fighter) Squadron dates back to the formation of the Royal Flying Corps and was one of the first four squadrons sent to France in 1914. During the First World War it converted from reconnaissance duties to become a fighter squadron.
- Has operated Harriers since early 1970s.
- Current version of the Harrier is the GR7, carrying precision-guided Paveway bombs and Maverick missiles.
- Based at RAF Cottesmore.
- During *Telic* provided Close Air Support to ground forces.

4(AC) Squadron – Harrier GR7

- IV (Army Cooperation) Squadron was originally formed in 1912, and was one of the first four Royal Flying Corps squadrons sent to France at the beginning of the First World War. For most of its history, has been a reconnaissance or Army Cooperation unit.
- Has operated Harriers since 1969.
- Current version of the Harrier is the GR7, carrying precision-guided Paveway bombs and Maverick missiles.
- Based at RAF Cottesmore.
- During *Telic* provided Close Air Support to ground forces.

7 Squadron – Chinook helicopters

- Originally formed in 1914 as a reconnaissance unit, 7 Squadron flew heavy bombers in Bomber Command during the Second World War, and post-war was part of the nuclear V-Force.
- Has flown Chinook heavy-lift helicopters since 1982, using them on operations in Kosovo.
- Based at RAF Odiham

8 Squadron – E-3D Sentry AEW1

- Dating back to 1915, 8 Squadron pioneered air operations in support of tank warfare during the latter stages of the First World War. As a fighter squadron in 1960, was deployed to the Gulf to deter Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. Since the 1970s has flown airborne early warning aircraft, first Shackletons, and, since 1991, the Sentry.
- The E-3D Sentry is equipped with a powerful and distinctive radar dish above the fuselage, allowing surveillance of a huge amount of airspace. Carries a crew of controllers directing friendly aircraft and acting as an airborne command centre.
- Based at RAF Waddington.

9(B) Squadron – Tornado GR4

- Formed in 1914 from the Wireless Flight, which had pioneered the use of radio in aircraft, IX(Bomber) Squadron became a dedicated heavy bomber unit between the two World Wars. Joined 617 Squadron as one of the two units specialising in the use of Barnes Wallis' "earthquake" bombs, and took part in the attack that finally sank the *Tirpitz*. In 1982, became the first RAF Tornado squadron.
- Based at RAF Marham.
- Suffered two fatalities during *Telic*, when a US Patriot missile battery mistakenly shot down a Tornado, killing the pilot and navigator – Flight Lieutenants Main and Williams.

10 Squadron – VC-10

- 10 Squadron can be traced back to 1915. After the First World War, it became a bomber squadron, serving in that role until 1945 when it converted to transport duties, taking part in the Berlin Airlift.
- Has flown VC-10s since 1966, the aircraft being dual purpose transports and tankers.
- Based at RAF Brize Norton.

12(B) Squadron – Tornado GR4

- First formed in 1915, 12(Bomber) Squadron has flown bombers since 1923. At the beginning of the Second World War, was flying Fairey Battle light bombers during the Battle of France and suffered appalling losses, including a famous attack on bridges over the Albert Canal that won two posthumous Victoria Crosses.
- Has flown Tornado aircraft since 1993, and took part in Operation *Desert Fox* against Iraq in December 1998.
- Based at RAF Lossiemouth.

18 Squadron – Chinook helicopters

- 18 Squadron was formed in 1915.
- In 1981, became the first RAF squadron to operate the Chinook heavy-lift helicopter.
- Based at RAF Odiham.
- Deployed to the South Atlantic during the Falklands conflict – three Chinooks lost aboard the Atlantic Conveyor, but the surviving fourth helicopter rendered invaluable service.
- During Operation *Telic*, based aboard HMS *Ark Royal* flying heavy equipment ashore for 3 Commando Brigade.

23 Squadron – E-3D Sentry AEW1

- Dating back to 1915, 23 Squadron was a distinguished night-fighter unit during the Second World War. Since 1996 has operated the Sentry.
- The E-3D Sentry is equipped with a powerful and distinctive radar dish above the fuselage, allowing surveillance of a huge amount of airspace. Carries a crew of controllers directing friendly aircraft and acting as an airborne command centre.
- Based at RAF Waddington.

24 Squadron – C-130 Hercules

- Formed in 1915 as the Royal Flying Corps' first dedicated fighter squadron, transferred to transport duties in 1920, in which role it has remained ever since.
- Based at RAF Lyneham.
- Flies the C-130 Hercules, the workhorse of RAF air transport.

27 Squadron – Chinook helicopters

- Formed in 1915, flying the Martinsyde G100 scout, nicknamed the Elephant for its large size: remembered to this day by the elephant on the squadron crest. After WW1 moved to India, serving there, in Malaya and Burma throughout WW2. Reformed after the war as a transport squadron in time to participate in the Berlin Airlift. During the Cold War, served as a bomber unit, flying Tornados during the first Gulf campaign in 1991, before converting to helicopters in 1993.
- Based at RAF Odiham.

30 Squadron – C-130 Hercules

- Formed in Egypt in 1915, was the first UK squadron to see combat in Iraq, based at Basrah to support the British campaign against the Ottoman Empire. In April 1916, conducted the world's first air supply operation, flying 13 tons of supplies in its primitive biplanes to the besieged forces at Kut. Remained in Iraq for the next 23 years.
- Based at RAF Lyneham.
- Has operated the C-130 transport since 1968.

31 Squadron – Tornado GR4

- Formed in 1915, was immediately sent to India where it remained almost without a break until 1947. In 1941, sent its transports to fly supplies and reinforcements to the besieged British forces at RAF Habbaniyah.
- Tornado squadron since 1984, flying operations during the first Gulf campaign and Kosovo.
- Based at RAF Marham.

32 (The Royal) Squadron – HS-125

- One of the first British fighter squadrons, formed in 1916. In WW2, fought in the Battle of Britain, North Africa, Italy and Greece. A transport squadron since 1969, it merged in 1995 with The Queen's Flight and now operates a fleet of VIP transport aircraft.
- Based at RAF Northolt.
- During Operation *Telic*, sent four of its HS-125 transports to the Gulf for invaluable liaison and courier duties. Recently, one of the HS-125s was the first RAF aircraft to land at Mosul since the 1950s.

33 Squadron – Puma helicopter

- Formed in 1916 for Home Defence duties, attempting to intercept Zeppelins. Saw heavy combat during the Second World War, particularly in the Western Desert and Greece.
- In 1971 became first squadron to operate the Puma support helicopter, able to carry 16 soldiers or 2 tonnes of cargo, based at RAF Benson.
- Has flown Pumas operationally in the Gulf in 1991 and in Kosovo. In 2000, sent four Pumas to help with the relief efforts in Mozambique following the disastrous floods.

39 (1PRU) Squadron – Canberra PR9

- 39 (1 Photographic Reconnaissance Unit) Squadron combines the traditions of two distinguished RAF squadrons. 39 Squadron Royal Flying Corps was formed in 1916 to defend London against raids by Zeppelins and, later, Gotha bombers. It served with the Desert Air Force in the Second World War, and took part in the Suez operations in the 1950s. Its number was merged with 1PRU in 1992.
- 1PRU was formed in 1939, drawing on civilian aerial photographic expertise. Its reconnaissance operations, flying unarmed aircraft all over the Third Reich, proved remarkably successful, providing vital intelligence on German activities.
- Based at RAF Marham.
- Operates the Canberra PR9 photographic reconnaissance aircraft. Although the prototype Canberra first flew in 1949, these venerable aircraft, fitted with modern technology and cameras, still offer a unique capability, much valued by US commanders during recent operations in both Afghanistan and Iraq.
- With the conclusion of active combat operations in Iraq, the Canberras have undertaken photographic survey work over the country to aid the production of modern accurate mapping.

43(F) Squadron – Tornado F3

- Formed in 1916, became famous between the wars for its aerobatic displays at Hendon. During WW2, fought in the Battle of Britain, North Africa and Italy.
- Based at RAF Leuchars.
- Has flown the Tornado F3 interceptor since 1990.

47 Squadron – C-130 Hercules

- Formed in 1916, 47 Squadron took part in the often-forgotten campaign against Bulgaria in northern Greece, moving to southern Russia in 1919 to fight the Bolsheviks. Moved to Egypt on colonial policing duties, fighting during WW2 in the Western Desert, East Africa and Burma. Converted to transport duties, took part in the Berlin Airlift.
- Has flown the C-130 Hercules transport since 1968.
- Based at RAF Lyneham.
- Conducted extremely long-range airdrops during the Falklands conflict.

51 Squadron – Nimrod R1

- Formed in 1916 for anti-Zeppelin patrols, becoming a heavy bomber squadron after WW1.
- Since 1958 has flown a variety of aircraft for electronic intelligence gathering, latterly the specialised Nimrod R1 since 1974.
- Detail of the work obviously remains classified, but rendered invaluable service in the Falklands, Gulf in 1991, and Kosovo.
- Based at RAF Waddington.

70 Squadron – C-130 Hercules

- Formed in 1916 for service on the Western Front. After the war, moved to Egypt, then Iraq, where its duties included the Cairo-Baghdad air mail run during the 1920s. Flew transport and bombing missions in the Middle East, North Africa and Italy during the Second World War.
- Returned to the UK in 1975 after 55 years of overseas service, flying Hercules from RAF Lyneham.

99 Squadron – C-17 Globemaster

- Originally formed in 1917 as a bomber unit. Served in WW2 with Bomber Command and in India. During the Suez Crisis, dropped paratroopers at Port Said.
- Disbanded in 1976, 99 Squadron was reformed in 2001 to operate the RAF's new C-17 Globemaster heavy-lift transport aircraft.
- Able to lift 76 tons of cargo, the C-17s have proved themselves invaluable over the last two years, delivering huge quantities of equipment to operations in Macedonia, Afghanistan and the Gulf.
- Based at RAF Brize Norton.

101 Squadron – VC-10

- Formed as a night-bomber squadron in 1917. Flew with Bomber Command during World War Two, when it specialised in jamming German radars and communications. In 1951 became the RAF's first jet bomber squadron with the then new Canberra. Later flew Vulcans, including on operations in the South Atlantic in 1982.
- Has flown the VC-10 tanker aircraft since 1984.
- Based at RAF Brize Norton.

111(F) Squadron – Tornado F3

- "Treble One" Squadron was formed in Palestine in 1917, providing air support to General Allenby's forces fighting the Turks. During the Second World War, it flew Hurricanes and Spitfires during the Battle of Britain and in Tunisia and Italy. In 1957, formed the RAF's aerobatic team as the famous Black Arrows in Hunter aircraft.
- Based at RAF Leuchars, flying Tornado F3 interceptors.

120 Squadron – Nimrod MR2

- Formed in 1918, has just celebrated its 85th anniversary. A distinguished anti-submarine squadron with Coastal Command during the Second World War, playing a key role in the Battle of the Atlantic, it remains a maritime patrol squadron today, flying Nimrod MR2s.
- Based at RAF Kinloss.
- The Nimrods, equipped with a very capable radar system, conducted vital surveillance operations during the Falklands, the 1991 Gulf conflict and recent operations over Iraq.

201 Squadron – Nimrod MR2

- 201 Squadron was originally formed in 1914 as 1 Squadron of the Royal Naval Air Service. When the RAF was formed in 1918 by merging the RNAS with the Royal Flying Corps, the Naval squadrons added the number 200 to their designations, thus 201 Sqn. The squadron became a flying-boat unit in 1929, operating Sunderlands during the Second World War. It remains a maritime patrol squadron today.
- Based at RAF Kinloss.

206 Squadron – Nimrod MR2

- As with 201 Squadron, 206 was originally formed as a Royal Naval Air Service squadron, Number 6, in 1916, being renumbered 206 when the RAF was formed. Flew with Coastal Command in WW2.
- Based at RAF Kinloss.

216 Squadron - Tristar

- Originally a Royal Naval Air Service squadron formed in 1917 flying heavy bombers. After the First World War, became a transport squadron in the Middle East. In 1941, took part in the airlift to supply the British forces besieged in Iraq at RAF Habbaniyah. Detachments later flew air supply missions for both the Chindits in Burma and Tito's partisans in Yugoslavia.
- Has flown the Tristar tanker-transport aircraft from RAF Brize Norton since 1984.
- The Tristar can supply 136 tonnes of fuel to other aircraft in air-to-air refuelling operations.

617 Squadron – Tornado GR4

- Formed in 1943 for the specific mission of bombing the Ruhr dams with Barnes Wallis' famous "bouncing bomb", the "Dambusters" were kept by Bomber Command as a specialist precision bombing unit, flying many more important missions during the war, including, with IX Squadron, the sinking of the Tirpitz.
- Whilst based in the Gulf in 2003, marked their 60th anniversary on 21 March, the day after the start of hostilities.
- Based at RAF Lossiemouth.
- Used the new Storm Shadow cruise missile for the first time during *Tellic* to conduct precision attacks.

Ground Support

12 Engineer Brigade

- Army formation of Royal Engineer units providing specialist engineering support at airfields.

1 Squadron RAF Regiment

- From RAF St Mawgan.

2 Squadron RAF Regiment

- From RAF Honington

16 Squadron RAF Regiment

- From RAF Honington.
- Operate Rapier air defence missiles.
- Suffered one fatality – Gunner Pritchard, who died of injuries following a traffic accident while on patrol in Iraq.

34 Squadron RAF Regiment

- From RAF Leeming.

51 Squadron RAF Regiment

- From RAF Lossiemouth.
- Provided ground protection for forward helicopter bases.

1, 3 and 4 TAC STO

- Tactical Survive-to-Operate teams, with biological and chemical defence expertise.
- From RAF Wittering, Marham and Lyneham.

5131 Bomb Disposal Squadron

- Based at RAF Wittering.
- Specialist bomb disposal unit, which worked closely with Army teams from 33 and 11 EOD Regiments, and Royal Navy explosive ordnance disposal experts from the Mine Clearance Diving branch.

Mobile Meteorological Unit

- Based at RAF Benson, draws on Met Office experts mobilised as Reservists.
- Provides essential meteorological support in the field.

Several tactical units, trained and equipped for rapid deployment anywhere in the world to provide the necessary infrastructure needed for air operations:

- **Mobile Air Movements Squadron**
- **Tactical Supply Wing** – RAF Stafford
- **Tactical Communications Wing**
- **Tactical Imagery** – RAF Marham
- **Tactical Provost Wing** – RAF Henlow
- **Tactical Armament Squadron** – RAF Marham
- **Tactical Medical Wing**
- **Tactical Property Management** – RAF Benson
- **5001 (Expeditionary Airfield Facilities) Squadron** – RAF Stafford
- **Mobile Catering support units**

Suffered two fatalities – Corporal Shepherd, RAF Police, and Mr Harvey, a firefighter.