

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 19, 2019 **CONTACT:** Jill Etter, Director of Communications **PHONE:** (210) 508-9953 **EMAIL:** <u>jill.etter@ndswm.org</u>

## Breweries Raise Funds to Build The National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial

A Maibock/Helles Bock has been crafted by a brewery in Texas to launch a nationwide opportunity for breweries to raise funds in support of the Memorial at the National Mall in Washington D.C.

Washington, D.C. – The National Desert Storm War Memorial Association is pleased to announce that The Bold Republic Brewing Company in Belton, Texas has crafted and is now brewing Capt Jack. Two additional breweries in Texas are also actively brewing Capt Jack.

Jonathan Ross Edwards (AKA Capt. Jack) was a pilot who was killed during Operation Desert Storm in 1991. In honor of Capt. Jack and in an effort to raise funds to help build the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial in Washington D.C., any brewery in America can apply to also brew Capt Jack as a fundraiser for the Memorial.

The Bold Republic Brewing Company and the Chamber of Commerce in Belton, Texas will be hosting the Penelope Street Patriot Fest where Capt Jack will be officially released. All proceeds from the festival will help fund the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial.

"We are sincerely humbled by the overwhelming support from the leaders and citizens of Belton, Texas," said Cee Freeman, Vice President of the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association. "Capt Jack is a tangible and creative way to honor an American Hero for his dedication, service and ultimate sacrifice. The Memorial in Washington D.C. will commemorate and honor all those who served during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm."

CAPT JACK RELEASE EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC EVENT NAME: Penelope Street Patriot Fest LOCATION: The 200 block of Penelope Street in Belton, Texas. DATE: Saturday, July 6, 2019 Hours: 12 pm – 5 pm In 1991, the United States of America sent a powerful message of international unity and cooperation to Saddam Hussein by opposing and ejecting Iraq's occupying forces and liberating the peaceful nation of Kuwait. The mission undertaken by the United States Armed Forces during Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield was a remarkable example of American leadership, values, and sacrifice in the pursuit of freedom.

The Memorial's design will commemorate the historical significance of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm while honoring the service and sacrifice of the United States of America and Coalition military personnel who liberated Kuwait from Iraq and defended Saudi Arabia. The Memorial is projected to be completed by 2021.

In December 2014, President Obama signed the Memorial's enabling legislation. In March 2017, President Trump signed the law authorizing the Memorial to be built near the National Mall in Washington, D.C., in an Area – 1 location. In June 2018, a site located in close proximity to the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial received approval.

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Since 2011, the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association (NDSWM) has worked to achieve its singular mission, construction of the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial. Our task is the completion and dedication of the memorial on Veterans Day, 2021. The law that authorizes us to build the Memorial prohibits the use of federal funds to pay any expense to establish this commemorative work. NDSWM is a federally recognized, tax-exempt, 501(c)3 structure led by an all-volunteer board of directors.