



U.S. Congressman  
**Nick Rahall**  
*WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**OUR FIGHTING MEN AND WOMEN**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Shortly before Congress adjourned, U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall spoke before the House on the valor of our fighting men and women serving in the Persian Gulf. He also inserted into the Congressional Record a text of a letter he received from a West Virginian, Shawn Reger, who is currently serving in that remote area of the world. The following is a text of that letter:

**MOUNTAINEERS PROUD TO  
SERVE IN PERSIAN GULF**

**HON. NICK JOE RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 1990*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on behalf of a group of soldiers serving today in the Middle East. Like every State in the Nation, West Virginia has its sons and daughters on duty in the current conflict in the Persian Gulf. I am inserting for the RECORD a letter from Rifle Platoon Leader Shawn C. Reger who is proudly serving his country in the region. As an American I am proud of our men and women serving in our armed services, as a West Virginian I am particularly proud of those soldiers from our beautiful State committed to serving the needs of the United States.

SIR: Thank you very much for the flag of the Great State of West Virginia. My platoon and I have it flying over our tents.

My soldiers and I are very aware of our responsibility to protect our country's interests overseas. We are dedicated, and very intent to accomplish any mission we are called upon to execute. In the same light we are proud to be West Virginia's. Everywhere you go you may run into a fellow West Virginian. Once they find out that you are from our great state, you instantly have a friend.

West Virginia has its share of soldiers over here. In proportion it is larger than any other state that I've run into. In my company alone there are quite a few. In my platoon there are four.

So while you are fighting in Washington, D.C., remember that there are soldiers in Saudi Arabia from the 101st Airborne (Air Assault) Division, that appreciate your gift. We will carry it on any operation in which we participate. It's nice to know we have a friend in Washington.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

SHAWN C. REGER,  
 2 LT INF. USAR,  
 Rifle Platoon Leader.