

**Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM) - Approved Operations**  
**Current as of: 24 March 2026**

<b>Operation / Task Force - Description<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
<b>MARITIME MONITOR</b> – NATO maritime surveillance of cargo transported through the Adriatic Sea to the former republic of Yugoslavia.	1-Jun-92	1-Dec-92
<b>PROVIDE PROMISE</b> – Multinational operation to support humanitarian relief activities in Bosnia-Herzegovina.	2-Jun-92	15-Feb-96
<b>DENY FLIGHT</b> – NATO enforcement of the no-fly zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina.	12-Apr-93	2-Dec-95
<b>SHARP GUARD</b> – NATO maritime enforcement of UN embargo against the former Yugoslavia. U.S. participation was amended by the November 94 Nunn-Mitchell Act to exclude U.S. enforcement of the arms embargo against Bosnia. NATO enforcement actions ended in June 1996 and the operation was terminated in September 1996, following the lifting of the UN embargo and associated economic sanctions.	15-Jun-93	20-Sep-96
<b>Task Force Able Sentry</b> – Support to the UN Preventive Deployment force in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Upon expiration of the UN mandate in February 1999, U.S. forces remained in place and were renamed Task Force Sabre, tasked to protect U.S. facilities and equipment. They were relieved in June 1999 by the U.S. national support element to KFOR-Task Force Falcon (Rear).	12-Jul-93	31-Mar-99
<b>UPHOLD DECOMCRACY:</b> 1) United Nations Mission Haiti; 2) U.S. Forces Haiti; and 3) U.S. Support Group Haiti	1-Apr-95	31-Jan-00
<b>JOINT ENDEAVOR</b> – NATO Implementation Force operation to implement the military aspects of the Dayton Peace Agreement in Bosnia-Herzegovina.	20-Nov-95	19-Dec-96
<b>PROVIDE COMFORT</b> – Combined Task Force to enforce the no-fly zone in northern Iraq above the 36th parallel and to support coalition humanitarian relief operations in northern Iraq.	1-Dec-95	31-Dec-96
<b>JOINT GUARD</b> – NATO Stabilization Force (SFOR) to deter resumption of hostilities and to stabilize the peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina in accordance with the Dayton Peace Accords (preceded by NATO Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR and followed by JOINT FORGE). Operations DELIBERATE GUARD and DETERMINED GUARD were the respective air and naval components	20-Dec-96	20-Jun-98
<b>JOINT FORGE</b> – NATO SFOR follow-on force (FOF) providing a continued military presence to deter resumption of hostilities in Bosnia-Herzegovina and to contribute to a secure environment that will promote the re-establishment of civil authority in accordance with the Dayton Peace Accords. Operations DELIBERATE FORGE and DETERMINED FORGE are the respective air and naval components. The U.S. contribution to SFOR was Task Force Eagle.	21-Jun-98	2-Dec-04
<b>Hurricane Relief</b> – Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita	27-Aug-05	27-Feb-06
<b>JUMP START</b> – National Guard forces deployed to Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California to assist the Department of Homeland Security with securing the southwest U.S. border.	15-May-06	15-Jul-08
<b>UNIFIED RESPONSE</b> – Service members deployed to provide relief assistance to the people of Haiti following a 7.0 magnitude earthquake on 12 Jan 2010.	14-Jan-10	1-Jun-10
<b>UNITED ASSISTANCE</b> (Ebola relief) – Service members deployed to the land area, territorial waters out to 12 nautical miles, and air space of: Benin, Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.	16-Sep-14	30-Jun-15
<b>OAKEN STEEL</b> – Service members deployed to the land area, territorial waters out to 12 nautical miles, and the air space of: South Sudan, Republic of Djibouti, and Uganda.	12-Jul-16	26-Jan-17
<b>DoD Support to Customs and Border Protection</b> – Service members deployed to the U.S. land area 100 nautical miles from the international border within Texas (and the city of San Antonio), New Mexico, Arizona, and California; and the adjacent U.S. waters out to 24 nautical miles.	7-Apr-18	13-Aug-25

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<p><b>DoD Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Operations and Activities</b> – Service members deployed for 30 days (consecutive/non-consecutive) for a DoD COVID-19 operation/activity, or who were re-assigned from their normal duties to primarily perform duties related to DoD COVID-19 operations or activities for at least 30 days, or whose qualifying service resulted in the member contracting the virus.</p>	31-Jan-20	1-Jun-23
<p><b>Operation CAPITOL RESPONSE I and II, and the Presidential Inauguration</b> – Service members deployed to the National Capital Region (District of Columbia, the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's; the Virginia counties of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William) who meet AFSM eligibility criteria contained in DoD Manual 1348.33, Volume 2, "DoD Manual of Military Decorations and Awards - Campaign, Expeditionary, and Service Medals," or who contracted COVID-19 based on their service, or who had their service terminated in order to comply with COVID-19 measures.</p>	6-Jan-21	23-May-21
<p><b>Operations ALLIES REFUGE (OAR) and ALLIES WELCOME (OAW)</b> –</p> <p>- The area of eligibility (AOE) includes: Peterson SFB, CO; Dulles IAP, VA; Philadelphia IAP, PA; Ft Sam Houston, TX; Fort Bliss, TX; Ft. McCoy, WI; Holloman AFB, NM; Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst, NJ; Marine Corps Base, Quantico, VA; Ft. Lee, VA; Ft. Pickett, VA; Camp Atterbury, IN; Tampa, FL; Rota, Spain; Sigonella, Italy; Stuttgart, Germany; Wiesbaden, Germany; Ferizaj, Kosovo; Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo; Kaiserslautern (Ramstein AB; Rhine Ordnance Barracks; Landstuhl Regional Medical Center), Germany; Ali Al Salem AB and Camp Buehring, Kuwait; Al Udeid AB, Camp as Sayliyah, and Camp Doha, Qatar; Abu Dhabi and Al Dahfra, United Arab Emirates; Shaikh Isa AB, Bahrain; and, Prince Sultan AB, Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>- Service members at locations not included in the AOE for the Humanitarian Service Medal approved for OAR may use August 29, 2022, as the start date to determine eligibility for the AFSM for OAR and OAW.</p> <p>- As an exception, the requirement that a Service member deploy in order to qualify for award of the AFSM is waived for members at locations providing direct support, such as those physically receiving, housing, sustaining, or providing medical support, to evacuees, provided the member was reassigned from their primary duties to provide full-time support to the evacuees for at least 30 days, consecutively or non-consecutively, during the designated period of award.</p> <p>- As an exception, due to the expansive nature of OAR and OAW, award is authorized to Service members at non-listed AOE locations, provided the member: 1) was at a location providing direct support, such as physically receiving, housing, sustaining, or providing medical support, to evacuees; and, 2) meets the additional AFSM award criteria, to include criteria outlined in this memorandum.</p>	31-Aug-21	1-Apr-22
<p>Note 1: The Military Departments are responsible for determining individual eligibility for approved AFSM operations and approved designated areas of eligibility. Please refer individual eligibility questions to your respective Military Department.</p>		