The early 1990’s again brought war to the United States Army with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the resultant Persian Gulf War. Despite initial estimates of higher casualties, the war between August 2, 1990 and February 28, 1991, accounted for 151 deaths and 462 wounded among the American forces. Walter Reed was prepared for many more wounded but fortunately for all they did not materialize.

The campus continued to evolve with the addition of several new buildings. A much needed partial solution to the parking issues was answered by the addition of the Rumbaugh Parking Garage in 1993, named in honor of former WRAMC commander, Maj. General James Rumbaugh who helped procure its funding. The Borden Pavilion, built to house behavioral health providers and support personnel as well as clinical investigation activities, was opened in 1995 and named in honor of Lt. Colonel William Cline Borden, Medical Corps, U.S. Army. Dr. Borden was the main mover behind the establishment and naming of Walter Reed General Hospital.

The Mologne House, with 200 rooms and suites, was opened in 1997 and named in honor of former Walter Reed commander, Maj. General Lewis A. Mologne who had a dream of a comfortable, safe, low cost place for soldiers and their families to stay while receiving out patient care or visiting loved ones at Walter Reed.

A long needed new home for the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) was built at the Forest Glen Annex and opened in 1999. In 2001, it was named in honor of Hawaii Senator Daniel K. Inouye, who in World War II was a member of the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team one of the most highly decorated units in the history of the Army. For his service in World War II, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Distinguished Service Cross later upgraded to the Congressional Medal of Honor, and the Purple Heart.
In 1990, Pauline Trost, wife of Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Carlisle Trost, presented to Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher the need for temporary lodging facilities for families at major military medical centers. The Fishers readily accepted the challenge and donated monies to start building two Fisher Houses, one at Bethesda and the other at Walter Reed. In June 1991, President George H. W. Bush dedicated the Fisher House at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD. A second house, at the Forest Glen Annex to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, opened a month later. Since that time two additional Fisher Houses have been opened on the main campus at Walter Reed, the second in 1996 and the third in 2004. Altogether the Fisher Foundation has built almost 40 Fisher Houses on military bases and Veteran’s Administration hospital grounds. The Foundation plans for more than 60 houses by 2011.
A new name. Workers put lettering on the front of Building 2, indicating that it is now the Heaton Pavilion. The name change honors the late Lt. General Leonard D. Heaton, who was commander at WRAMC from 1953 to 1959, and was Army Surgeon General from 1959 to 1969. A ceremony was held September 14, 1994 for the name change.

Source: Stripe newspaper, September 16, 1994, Jerry Merideth - photographer
This photo from the 1950s shows Heaton and his most famous patient, President Eisenhower. Heaton operated on the President in 1956 and became his physician until his death in 1969. They were both avid golfers and became fast friends.

Source: Stripe newspaper, September 9, 1994

Building 2, the “new” hospital, was rededicated on September 14, 1994 to honor Lt. General Leonard D. Heaton. Heaton was Walter Reed Commander from 1953 to 1959. He served as Surgeon General of the Army from 1959 to 1969. As a young doctor, he cared for the injured at Pearl Harbor. In 1946, he started the Surgery Program at Walter Reed and became WRAMC Commander in 1952. Lt. General Heaton died in 1983.

Source: National Museum of Health and Medicine, AFIP, WRAMC History Collection
The Mologne House, a 200-room hotel for patients and their families, was dedicated on May 12, 1997. It was named for Maj. General Lewis A. Mologne, Commander of Walter Reed from June 22, 1983 to August 1, 1988. He took command at a time when Walter Reed was experiencing budgetary, personnel, and morale problems. He reenergized a sense of purpose and value, with an increased sense of teamwork and goal sharing.

Maj. General Leslie Burger (CG WRAMC), Lt. General Ronald Blanck (Surgeon General of the Army), Lt. General Bernhard Mittemeyer (Ret.), and Mrs. Rose Mologne at the dedication of the Mologne House. Mologne House was dedicated to “a soldier’s general.”

Source: Stripe newspaper.
The fountain and courtyard (top) are surrounded by the Mologne House and the old WRAIR building. This stair-case leads up to the front entrance of the hotel (bottom).

Source: Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Directorate of Public Works Archives
Elizabeth and Zachary Fisher funded Fisher Houses at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The first house is at the Forest Glen Annex. The Fishers donated funds for houses built for families of patients hospitalized for long-term care at military posts around the country. The second house can accommodate up to 24 family members of very seriously ill patients.
Source: Stripe newspaper, October 6, 1995

The Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher Houses as they appear today. The groundbreaking for this first house on the Walter Reed campus was October 11, 1995. A second house, shown in the background, was built on campus in 2004.
Source: Borden Institute, Douglas Wise - photographer
A new guardhouse at one of the Georgia Avenue gates.
Source: Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Directorate of Public Works Archives
In 1999, the new Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) building opened at Forest Glen. The building appears much larger than it actually is, as does the hospital (Building 2) on the WRAMC campus. Both were built with interstitial floors to provide access to physical plant and electrical systems.

WRAIR and the Naval Medical Research Institute (NMRI) conduct research and development of products, procedures, and practices aimed at management of infectious diseases, combat injuries, operational medical problems, and chemical and biological threats. WRAIR and NMRI will continue the tradition of research at home and abroad, as well as collaborative work with academia and industry. The new research laboratory center serves as the focal point for combined Army-Navy medical research. In 2008, responsibility for WRAIR was transferred to Medical Research and Materiel Command.

Source: National Museum of Health and Medicine, AFIP, WRAMC History Collection

The old WRAIR building (Building 40) on the WRAMC campus viewed through cherry blossoms.
This building is named in honor of Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii, a soldier, a leader, a legislator, and a statesman. In all his endeavors, on the battlefields of France and Italy in World War II, and to the United States Congress for nearly forty years, he passionately protected and preserved our Nation’s most precious resource, the men and women of the Armed Forces. His consistent courage, his indomitable spirit and his unyielding commitment saved the lives of those he led in battle. These same qualities enabled him as a legislator to bring the military medical research facility to fruition, so that more lives may be saved on future battlefields. The Inouye Building shall stand as a living legacy to a patriot who unceasingly and honorably served the people of the United States of America.

7 September 2001

Senator Daniel K. Inouye
Dr. Clarence G. Newsome, Associate Dean, Howard University School of Divinity, addresses the congregation at the annual memorial tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., January 12 at the Memorial Chapel.
Source: Stripe newspaper, January 19, 1990, Patrick Swan - photographer

Feast of Dedication. Students from the Torah School of Greater Washington commemorate Chanukah, the “Feast of Dedication,” during a cantata in the Walter Reed Hospital’s Joel Auditorium.
Source: Stripe newspaper, December 18, 1998, Beau Whittington - photographer
It was a sea of green and white at Walter Reed as the Army’s premier medical center hosted the first combined graduate medical education graduation ceremony between itself and the Navy’s flagship healthcare facility, the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD.
Source: Stripe newspaper, June 27, 1997

“Buffalo Soldier” SFC John E. Wright of the 9th Cavalry, Tuskegee Airman Leroy A. Battle of the 99th Pursuit Fighter Squadron, and “Buffalo Rangers” George Jackson and Paul Lyles of the 2nd Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne) discuss contributions made by blacks to the armed forces during an African-American Heritage Month program February 4 in the hospital’s Joel Auditorium.
Source: Stripe newspaper, February 13, 1998, Bernard S. Little - photographer
Bunnies begin the first leg of the “Fun Bunny Run” held April 12 at WRAMC (above). The run was sponsored by the Department of Nursing Socialization Association. Students of the Intensive Care Professional Nursing Course and other Department of Nursing personnel participated in the run held for the holiday and for Physical Fitness Readiness Test preparation. Source: Stripe newspaper, April 20, 1990

Advertisement for the sixty-fourth Easter Sunrise Service. Source: Stripe newspaper
Joe Dickens, head gardener at the Department of Psychiatry’s Horticulture Therapy Greenhouse, prepares a few of the facility’s 500 poinsettia plants for delivery to Walter Reed wards during the holidays. Dickens, along with co-workers T. C. Williams, George Blevins, and Robert Coram, used many of the plants to create the center’s annual poinsettia tree in the hospital’s main lobby. The greenhouse was demolished by the end of the decade.

Source: Stripe newspaper, December 17, 1993, Jerry Merideth - photographer
Robert Polhill, accompanied by Maj. General Cameron (WRAMC Commander), entering Walter Reed Hospital following his release from Lebanon, where he had been held hostage for 39 months (from January 24, 1987 to April 1990).

Source: NCP 1262

1992 change of command ceremony in front of the Heaton Pavilion with Maj. General Cameron, outgoing WRAMC Commander and Brig. General Ronald Blanck as incoming Commander.

Source: Blanck Collection
President William J. Clinton is enjoying his conversation with a young patient on Ward 51 during an October 1993 visit to the hospital.
Source: Stripe newspaper, April 28, 2006

President Bill Clinton visiting a soldier wounded in Somalia.
Source: WRAMC History Office, PAO Historical Collection
Col. Catharine Carpenter (left) discusses proposal changes with Col. Baird and Maj. Sullivan (in scrubs) that will transform this delivery room into a birthing room.

Source: Stripe newspaper, June 28, 1991, Bonnie S. Heater - photographer
Lt. Lynn Jinishian provides tender loving care to a premature baby.
Source: Stripe newspaper, February 2, 1990

Maj. Lenhart tends to her son in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit.
Source: Cox Collection, 1992

Source: Murry Collection
Maj. Ernest Lockrow, DO, views a monitor as he performs a total laparoscopic hysterectomy.
Source: Stripe newspaper, Ramona E. Joyce - photographer
Surgeon, Col. Harold Fenster, performs Walter Reed Army Medical Center’s second laparoscopic cholecystectomy for gallbladder removal, October 16, 1990.
Source: Stripe newspaper, October 1990

The public was invited to observe how the Army cares for its soldiers in the field during an open house that showcased a Deployable Medical System at Walter Reed.
Source: Stripe newspaper, March 28, 1997
The Walter Reed Army Medical Center Blood Donor Center sends out the call for donors.
Source: Stripe newspaper, July 17, 1992

A letter written by a Glen Haven Elementary School student to the Walter Reed Precision Drill Team. As part of WRAMC’s Adopt-A-School program the Medical Center Brigade soldiers had recently performed for the students.
Source: Stripe newspaper, April 20, 1990
Ocularist Vince Przybyla paints the iris of a plastic eye. Painting the iris requires a very subtle mixing of paints to get a perfect color match with the patient’s other eye.
Source: Stripe newspaper, September 10, 1993, Barry Reichenbaugh - photographer
A logo created to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Walter Reed Army Medical Center.
Source: Stripe newspaper, April 23, 1999
The Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery honors the unknown dead of several wars. Modern science and DNA testing made it possible to identify the bodies of nearly all the military who died during the Vietnam War. On May 14, 1998, the body of the Vietnam War Unknown was disinterred and brought by military escort to the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, at Walter Reed for testing and identification. Members of the Department of Defense Honor Guard remove the casket of the Vietnam Unknown from a hearse in front of the AFIP Building.

Source: Stripe newspaper, May 15, 1998, Veronica Ferris - photographer
This collection of artifacts from the treatment of President Abraham Lincoln remains on display today at the National Museum of Health and Medicine.
Source: National Museum of Health and Medicine, AFIP, NCP 3395, Mike Rhode - photographer