

JULY 26, 2019



HISTORIAL SECURITY COUNCIL STUDY GUIDE

Letter from The Director

Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome each of you to the Birla School Pilani Model United Nations Conference 2019. I look forward to chairing the Historic Security Council this year, and hope to see intelligent solutions, constructive debate and compromise through the course of the conference.

Before I delve deeper into the topic, I would like to give you a small insight into what I am expecting from each of you this year. Over the past 4 years, I have been part of various specialised agencies in India, each of which has been a rewarding experience. However, through the course of these years I have also noticed that there is a greater focus on fun, a greater emphasis on radical ideas and a greater importance given to winning, than ever before. This year, I hope that we can once again aim to have realistic solutions, backed up by research and critical thinking. I expect each of you to focus on resolving the crisis at hand rather than creating more problems, for the world is already ravaged by them. Do not treat this conference as a competition, but rather as a platform for collaboration and compromise, yielding well thought out solutions.

The Security Council is based in the year 1990 and will discuss the Persian Gulf War. The Cold War period marks one of the darkest periods in the world's history and is a glaring example of the failure of the United Nations' diplomacy in the height of the tensions between the East and the West. The Middle East has always been a volatile region. Events after the Gulf War have only snowballed and violence has been the symbol of this war-torn region. This makes it all the more important for us, students in 2019, to learn from the mistakes of the past and to try to come up with long-term solutions for these crises, which brought out the worst in mankind.

Come August, I expect each of you to upkeep the high standards of debate, lobbying, paperwork and research which makes BSPMUN the most challenging Model United Nations conference in the country.

“The sharpest and most quick-witted human being you will ever come across. Impressing your director at this year's HSC is going to be one of hell of a task: Karan has been part of the CMUN 'trademark HSC' for the past three years and knows everything there's is to know about the Security Council. Beside boasting a stellar MUN record, Karan is known for his proficiency in physics and calculus. An absolute genius who kills it at the gym, be sure to lobby with your director as well(I promise you, there's a lot to learn).”
Rajdeep Mehta, Director, Interpol's Special Summit on Organised Crime

A little about myself, I'm a 12th grade student in Birla School Pilani with the experience of many national MUNs and debates undermybelt.

If you have any questions or concerns about this committee or topic, please feel free to contact us at hardikmaheshwari3@gmail.com

Until August,

**Hardik Maheshwari, Secretary General,
President,
The Historic Security Council**

WHAT IS THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL?

The Security Council is the executive body of the United Nations. It has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations. The structure of the Security Council was discussed by the superpowers at the Dumbarton Oaks conference in 1944, and its first session was held on January 17th, 1946. It is the most powerful body of the UN as it is capable of taking military as well as economic action against a foreign aggressor. The Council is composed of 5 permanent members (United States of America, United Kingdom, Soviet Union, China, and France) and 10 non-permanent members as elected by the United Nations general assembly. The decisions taken by the Security Council lead to major changes in the geo-political history of the world.



United Nations Security Council Logo

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC:

This year, the Historic Security Council will be discussing the Persian Gulf War, 1990-1991. The committee will commence on July 22nd, as tensions rise in the middle east due to the imminent invasion of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein. Iraq threatens to annex a

neighbouring country and assert control over most of the world's oil resources. As the first conflict in the post-cold war era, in a world dependent on oil from the Persian Gulf, the Iraqi aggression posed a threat to the prospect of a better, safer world in the wake of the cold war. As members of the Security Council, delegates will be expected to find a peaceful solution to the crisis and prevent the breakout of war.

CRISIS COMMITTEE DYNAMICS:

Being a historic as well as a crisis committee, delegates are expected to be aware of the following: -

1. The committee is to begin on July 22nd, 1990. Delegates will be tasked with addressing the situation at hand, from a global perspective. The main focus of the committee will be to find possible solutions to prevent the invasion of Kuwait.
2. Delegates are to make sure that they do not refer to any events taking place after July 22nd, 1990.
3. Delegates must also ensure that they do not refer to any organisations created after the start date or any treaties and conventions that have not come into force.

Events leading up to the Crisis:

Nixon's Twin Pillar Policy:

After the British Government announced its intention to withdraw all troops from the 'East of Suez' in 1968, the responsibility to maintain regional peace in the middle east fell

upon the United States government. The Nixon administration created the 'Twin Pillars Policy', which was designed to protect American interests in the region. Essentially, this policy allowed the United States to rely on Iran, and to a much lesser extent, Saudi Arabia, to act as a moderating influence and maintain stability among the Gulf States, in accordance with US economic and political interests. In return, the United States supplied the Shah of Iran with vast amounts of American arms, as well as tactical and technical information. This change in US foreign policy was pivoted around a militarily strong, pro-US Iran, and by 1972, Iran became USA's single largest arms purchaser. The Nixon Doctrine offered the United States numerous strategic benefits. Between 1974 and 1979, the Shah established relations with all the Gulf States, maintaining the free flow of cheap oil to international markets and placing a check on Soviet influence. Little did the United States know that its reliance on regional actors would leave it highly vulnerable during the unprecedented Iranian revolution and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Iranian Revolution of 1979:

From the early 1950s to the 1970s, the Iranian economy was rapidly expanding. Most of it was directed toward high-cost projects and programs by the government. Social discontent mounted in the 1970s, culminating in the revolution at the end. The petroleum revenues continued to be a major source of income for Iran in the 1970s, but world monetary instability and fluctuation in the Western oil consumption threatened the country's economy. There was a decade of massive economic growth, heavy government spending and a boom in oil prices led to high rates of inflation and the stagnation of Iranian buyers. In addition to the ever-mounting economic difficulties, the socio-political repression by the regime of Mohammad Pahlavi increased in the 1970s. Any and all opposition parties like the National Front were outlawed and marginalised. All protests were met with censorship by the media, harassment, detention and for most civilians

taking part, torture was commonplace. For most of the time, the secular intellectuals were fascinated by the populist appeal of Ayatollah Khomeini. It was because of his preaching of the evils of the Pahlavi regime, and accusations against the Shah of irreligion and subservience to foreign powers that the citizens began to think, that with the help of the ulama (religious scholars), the Shah could be overthrown and a successful government set up. The Shah's dependence on the United States, his close ties with Israel and his regime's ill-considered economic policies fuelled the potency of dissident rhetoric with the masses.

In January 1978, instigated by what were apparently slanderous remarks against Khomeini made by a Tehran newspaper, thousands of young madrassas took to the streets, followed by thousands of Iranian youth – mostly unemployed immigrants from the countryside. They began to protest the regime and the Shah, weakened by cancer and stunned by the sudden outpour of hostility against him, assumed the protests were part of an international conspiracy against him. Many people were killed by the government forces in anti-regime protests, serving only to fuel the violence in the country. Khomeini coordinated the upsurge of opposition, demanding the Shah's abdication and in January 1979 – the Shah and his family fled Iran. The Regency Council and the Prime Minister Bakhtiar appointed by the Shah was unable to bring into effect a compromise with Khomeini or the National Front. On the first of April, Khomeini declared Iran an Islamic Republic.

Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan:

Moscow supported the communist government when they seized power over Afghanistan in 1978. Infuriated at the crimes against Muslim religious leaders and those of the Islamic faith, an anti-communist rebel group, the Mujahideen, quickly emerged. In 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan by sending in 30,000 troops in support of the Afghan Communist Government in its conflict with the anti-Communist Islamic guerrillas, the Mujahideen. The soviet troops immediately assassinated the leader,

Hafizullah Amin and placed a pro-soviet leader, Babrak Karmal, in his place. Although the exact reasons for the invasion remain unclear, it was widely regarded that the invasion was the first step by the Soviet Union in a series of attempts to control the oil flow from the Gulf region and to prevent the spread of the Islamic revolution that had begun in Iran.

Seeing the soviet aggression as an extension of the cold war, President Jimmy Carter formed alliances with China and Israel to support the Mujahideen against the USSR, while the CIA provided the Mujahideen with sophisticated weaponry, financial aid, and tactical advice.

The invasion of Afghanistan was widely regarded as a failure of the Soviet Union, resulting the loss of billions of dollars and 15000 troops. The humiliating defeat coupled with vast expenditure partly led to the downfall of the USSR in 1990.

Carter Doctrine:

After the Shah of Iran was overthrown in 1979, the United States, which had heavily relied on Iran to maintain stability, now lacked the military strength to protect its interests in the region. Furthermore, revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini strongly opposed the United States and wanted to overthrow the regimes in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other Gulf Arab states. These events coupled with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, propelled the Carter administration to dramatically change its foreign policy in 1980, by introducing the Carter Doctrine. The Carter doctrine recognised the Persian Gulf as a region of strategic and economic importance. President Jimmy Carter announced that the United States would employ military force if necessary, to prevent any world power from destabilising the Gulf region. By 1983, the federal government implemented the Rapid Deployment Force (RDF), later renamed U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM). Thus, the United States laid the foundation for it's naval, terrestrial and aerial military infrastructure in the Gulf region.

Iran-Iraq War:

The major war in the latter half of the twentieth century between Ruhollah Khomeini and Saddam Hussein laid the foundation for the Persian War of 1990. Post the 1979 Iranian revolution, Iraq tried to take advantage of the chaos ensuing in Iran. However, the invaders were quickly repelled and Iran regained most of the lost territories by 1982. This attempt at the encroachment of Iranian territory pushed Iran on to the offensive for the next six years, right up until the end of the war. During the war, Iraq was regarded by the West and the Soviet Union as a counter-measure to the post-revolutionary Iran. The Soviet Union wanted to keep its alliance with Iraq going and had hoped to use the threat of reducing arms supplies to Iraq as leverage for forming their alliance. They were caught unawares by Saddam's threats to find new arms suppliers in the West and China if they did not provide him with the weapons he wanted. The United States lacked relations with either of the warring nations due to the Iranian Revolution and the Iran hostage crisis from November 1979 to January 1981 and because of Iraq's alliance with the Soviet Union as well as their hostility towards Israel. Behaving as the harbingers of peace, the United States made an outreach to Iraq beginning with the restorations of diplomatic relations in 1984, seeing Iran's success of repelling the Iraqi invasion and Khomeini's refusal to end the war in 1982. To keep Iran away from Soviet influence and protect the other Gulf states from the threat of Iranian expansion, the United States began to provide support to Iraq. It is highly debated in the global community as to whether the direct combat that took place between Iran and the US was for the benefit of Iraq or for separate issues between the United States and Iran. They supported Iraq by providing technological aid, intelligence, chemical and biological warfare technology and military equipment, and satellite intelligence. Over 30 countries provided support to either Iran, Iraq or both of them; the Stockholm International Peace Institute showed that over 90% of Iraq's arms and ammunition were provided by the Soviet Union, France, and China together. Both nations set up large, extensive clandestine networks through which they

obtained weapons over the course of the war. Iraq also made extensive use of shell corporations (front companies) in order to hide their acquisitions received from their eleven allied nations. The Security Council made an attempt at brokering peace but was left hanging by the Iranians. They claimed that seeing as the United Nations did not come to Iran's aid to repel the Iraqi invasion, they were subtly favoured towards Iraq. Whilst also combating Iran directly, the United States also indirectly supplied weapons to Iran via a complex and illegal programme known as the Iran-Contra affair. These secret sales were to help secure the release of hostages being held in Lebanon as well as to help the Contras rebel group stationed in Nicaragua; this ultimately resulted in a major scandal. The other major supplier to Iran was North Korea, who also acted as a third party in weapons deals between Iran and the Communist bloc. The other major supporters of Iran were Libya and Syria, breaking Arab solidarity. Yugoslavia, Spain, and Portugal sold weapons to both countries. Neither side was aided militarily by Turkey, but both sides enjoyed Turkish civilian trade during the course of the conflict. The Iraq-Iran war lasted from September, 1980 all the way, with the invasion of Iran by Iraq, finally ending in August 1988 with Iran accepting a United Nations brokered ceasefire. Iraq wanted to replace Iran as the dominant Persian Gulf state and was worried that the Iranian revolution would lead the Iraqi Shi'ite majority to rebel against the Ba'athist government. This was preceded by a long history of border disputes and now Iraq had planned to annex the oil-rich Khuzestan Province and the east bank of the Shatt al-Arab. Iraq had hoped to take advantage of Iran's post-revolutionary chaos but made limited progress in their invasion and were quickly repelled. Simultaneously, Saddam Hussein also funded and supported a revolt by the Arabs in Kurdistan against Iran. There was an attempted assassination on the Iraqi Deputy Prime minister in South Iraq and Hussein placed the blame on the Iranians, deeming this as his reason for invasion. The international community remained fairly silent about the invasion as the Islamic

Iranian government had made a lot of enemies over time. They continually insulted prominent members of the global community, especially the United States: the ongoing hostage situation in Tehran only worsened relations between the two countries; and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR): Iran banned all communist parties from the country and the USSR was already allied with Iraq. Both nations had armies that were disorganised and suffered mainly from bad planning. In 1982, the people of the country signed up to fight in the war against Iraq and the Iraqi army was soon repelled out of the country. This invasion led to Iran being on the offensive until the end of the war. Saddam ordered the army to retreat back to the pre-war territories and offered war reparations as a form of peace between Iran and Iraq, but Iran refused and instead made an attempt to invade Iraq and set up a Shia government. They invaded and conquered the port of Basra to try and cut Iraq off from the sea, but the Iraqi army fought back and won using chemical warfare. The Iranian army stationed themselves along the Iraqi border and kept on trying to invade the country but could not make it past the trenches that had been created. Iraq began to bomb the major Iranian cities in order to destroy morale, although this idea backfired on them. Iran aligned themselves with the rebellious Iraqi Kurds who wanted to rebel against Saddam Hussein. The Iraqis retaliated to them by bombarding their villages with all forms of biological and chemical warfare, thereby crushing any uprisings. The next warring act that took place was that Iraq bombed the Iranian oil tankers in the hopes of crippling their economy; they retaliated by using their superior navy to block the Strait of Hormuz, via which Kuwaiti ships used to supply oil to Iraq. This action brought the superpowers into the war. The nations aligned themselves between the warring nations and most of them sent ships to the Strait in order to safeguard their supply of oil. Iran was pledged support both economically and militarily by China, Syria, Libya, Israel and North Korea, but a majority of the nations supported Iraq, making Iran understand that there was no way that they would be allowed to win the war.

Nevertheless, they continued to refuse the United Nation's peace proposals up until 1988 when Iraq gained new military equipment and weaponry. They once again tried to conquer Kurdistan but failed as they had with all other invasion attempts. Under immense international pressure and tired of war, both sides agreed to the peace treaty and the war was finally over. Officially a stalemate as was recorded by the world, both nations claimed victory but neither of them had obtained nothing more than large debts from the war. Iraq's \$14 billion debt to Kuwait was one of the major reasons for Saddam's invasion of Kuwait on the 22nd of September, 1990.

Who is Saddam Hussein?

Saddam Hussein Abd al-masjid al-Tikriti is the President of Iraq. Prior to his rise to power, he was the chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council. He is a leading member of the Arab socialist Ba'ath party (later changed to the Baghdad-based Ba'ath party), the ideological group that argues for Arab unity, pride and promotes socialism. He had been recognised by the public as the true power behind the then-President, al-Bakr, in the early 1970s.

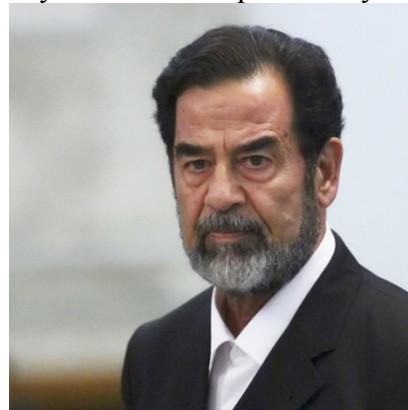
As a child, he was born into poverty and he was made to live with an uncle in Baghdad. He joined the Ba'ath party in 1957 and was forced to flee the country two years later after he made a failed attempt at the assassination of the then-Prime minister Abd al-Karim Qasim. The Ba'athists took power in 1963 but were overthrown the same year and so, Saddam was sentenced to spend the next seven years in prison. He escaped prison and became a leader of the Ba'ath party, becoming an integral and vital part of their coup in 1968 that placed the party back into power.

Shortly after becoming president in 1979, Saddam sought to dominate the Arab world through his Baathist charter. He sought to decrease US influence in the region, raise global oil prices and keep Shiite Iran in check. His decision to invade Iran's oil fields in 1980 led to the eight-year long Iran-Iraq war that left the country's economy crippled.

Despite the large foreign debt accrued by Iraq over the course of the Iran-Iraq war, Saddam continued to expand his military prowess and his army.

In Saddam's dictatorial rule, torture and terror are instruments of state policy. Crimes against humanity, fear and mistrust have proliferated and all citizens are subordinated to the state. Any person, organisation or authority that attempts to challenge him will meet a similar fate. It is up to the international community to ensure that this aggressive, autocratic behaviour will not be tolerated.

The most recent update that we have is that the army is poised for an invasion of Kuwait and are lined up along the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border, but the world nations are hopeful of these ensuing peace talks, hoping that Saddam will be convinced to not invade Kuwait. There have no further instructions to any branch of Iraq's military as of now.



Saddam Hussein, (p. 21.7.1989)

Reasons for the potential invasion of Kuwait by Iraq:

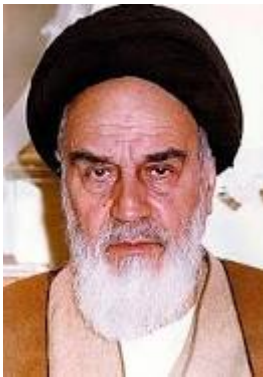
Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, a nation smaller than New Jersey with a huge stake in the oil industry, was the culmination of many complex reasons, some stemming from the Iran-Iraq war, while others were immediate to the conflict.

Iran-Iraq war

After the 8-year war between the two nations finally ceased, Iraq emerged as the stronger military power. The Iraqi standing army had greatly increased in size, and with support from western countries like France and USA,

Iraq managed to increase the strength of the Air Force and Navy. On the contrary, Iran's military was significantly weakened and coupled with the complete cutoff of western supplies, Iran's air force was reduced by almost 90% during the years of the war. Hence, the Persian Gulf was left without any powerful force to oppose Saddam Hussein's aggression.

When the war ended, Iraq was left with a huge standing army of approximately 900,000 men, who could not be reintegrated into the Iraqi economy which had been devastated after the war. Iraq was left with crippling debts to her neighbours, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. These countries, which lacked the military infrastructure to protect their borders from revolutionary Iran, had loaned Saddam huge amounts during the war. Estimates suggest that Iraq owed Kuwait a staggering 14 billion USD in addition to billions of dollars in debt to the USA, France, Saudi Arabia, and unpaid military contractors. The Iraqi economy would take years of painstaking redevelopment and reconstruction to recover, none of which appealed to Saddam. Instead, he had an opportunity to invade Kuwait, the richest gulf nation, erase his war debt, and take control over Kuwait's oil resources.



Ruhollah Khomeini, former President of Iran
Iraq's military buildup

After the 8-year war between the two nations finally ceased, Iraq emerged as the stronger military power.

During the war, American companies provided Iraq with technology to develop radar systems and missile guidance. The United States provided Iraq with \$500 million worth of arms and equipment. In 1984, more than half of France's total arms exports went to Iraq.

Iraq also obtained French Mirage f-1 fighter planes and other high-tech equipment from France. On the contrary, Iran's military was significantly weakened and coupled with the complete cutoff of western supplies, Iran's air force was reduced by almost 90% during the years of the war. Hence, the Persian Gulf was left without any powerful force to oppose Saddam Hussein's aggression. It was Iraq's huge buildup of sophisticated weapons and technology that gave Saddam the confidence to invade Kuwait.

Land dispute

Historically, Kuwait belonged to Basra, a province of the Ottoman Empire. After the defeat of the Ottoman Empire during World War I, the British unified the three provinces—Mosul, Baghdad and Basra to form Iraq. Since Iraq gained independence in 1932, it has claimed Kuwait as part of its rightful territory, even though the Kuwaiti Royal Family has ruled since 1756. In 1961, just weeks after Kuwait gained its independence, the British were forced to place Iraq under severe military and political pressure to deter them from invading the Kuwaiti borders. Once again in 1973, units of the Iraqi military occupied a narrow strip along the Iraq-Kuwait border, under the guise of protection against an alleged invasion by Iran. Iraqi forces remained there for several years despite opposition from Kuwait. Furthermore, by annexing Kuwait, Iraq would gain control over the islands of Warba and Bubiyan. Owing to their location, this would give Iraq access to major portions of the Gulf coastline, which was strategically of vital importance, as Iraq was virtually landlocked.

Oil disputes

The Rumailia oil field, one of the largest in the world, is located in southern Iraq, 32 km away from the Kuwaiti border. At an emergency meeting of the Arab League in May 1990, Saddam Hussein accused Kuwait of erecting oil rigs near the border and slant drilling into Iraqi oil reserves by angling the equipment under the border. He insisted that Kuwait owed Iraq at least 2.4 billion dollars for the illegal use of its oil fields.

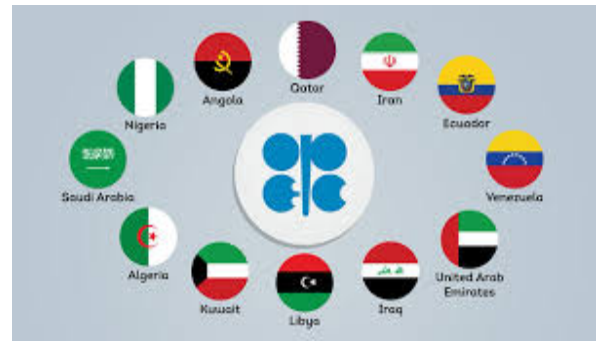


Persian Gulf, 1990
Economic warfare

At the same Arab League Summit, Saddam attacked the Gulf states, particularly Kuwait for exceeding OPEC oil production quotas, lowering oil prices, not forgiving Iraq's war debt and refusing to loan Iraq more money for post war reconstruction. From Saddam's perspective, Iraq had single-handedly protected its neighbours from revolutionary Iran, and held the other Gulf states responsible for the redevelopment of Iraq after the war. He accused the Gulf nations of 'economic warfare' against Iraq. Publicly, the Kuwaitis seemed unwilling to offer economic support to Iraq, although Saddam threatened military action. In a statement to American ambassador April Glaspie, Saddam stated that "The price of oil at one stage dropped to 12 dollars a barrel and a reduction of \$6 billion to \$7 billion in the modest Iraq budget is a disaster."

Immediate cause

On July 10th 1990, at a meeting of the oil ministers in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait agreed to limit its oil production and strictly follow OPEC quotas in an attempt to appease Iraq. After the Jeddah meeting, Saddam threatened military action against Kuwait if they did not agree to his demands: to return 2.4 billion dollars as compensation for stolen oil from Rumailia oil fields; to write off all of Iraq's war debts and provide Iraq with financial assistance; to raise oil prices up to 22\$ a barrel and abide by OPEC oil quotas. Although the Kuwaiti delegation appeared ready to compromise, Saddam rejected all their compromise offers.



The member nations of the OPEC



Arab League Summit, 1990

Country Stances as of the 22nd July, 1990:

1. United States of America:

During the 1980s, the United States and Iraq developed a relationship of necessity, with the United States greatly contributing to Iraq's military build-up. However, the invasion of Kuwait poses a serious threat to US interests in the Gulf. The Iraqi threat could lead to much higher world oil prices and oil embargoes, and damage US credibility, neither of which the US could afford after Vietnam. As Deputy Secretary Lawrence Eagleburger put it, "Iraq's aggression could set all the wrong standards", especially for the post-cold war world. The United States believes that naked aggression from a regional dictator should not be allowed by the international community.



George W. Bush, former President of the United States

2. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

Although the USSR heavily supported Iran during the Iran-Iraq war, in 1986, when they took notice of the significant Iranian gains, they increased their military aid to Iraq. However, due to the major unrest and uprisings taking place in the Soviet Union, their significant participation in the upcoming war is questionable.

After the end of the Cold War, the USSR has been rife with uprisings but they too are trying to prevent war at all costs. They are now working towards upholding world peace.

3. France:

France has a minor involvement in the war seeing as they have sent 19000 troops to take part in the upcoming war. They have two warships and an additionally sent frigate stationed in the Persian Gulf.

4. United Arab Emirates:

In the last one week, the UAE has been conducting extensive flight tests and air refuelling exercises, meant as a warning signal to Iraq.

The UAE will be supporting Kuwait as Iraq would control a major portion of the oil outflow if they invaded and conquered Kuwait. That would be extremely hazardous to the UAE's economy and main source of income.

5. United Kingdom:

The United Kingdom is a part of NATO and after the first threat of invasion by Saddam, all NATO nations formed a coalition and

rushed over 700,000 troops into Saudi Arabia in order to protect their inflow of oil. The UK provided approximately 19000 troops.

6. Saudi Arabia:

Saudi Arabia is said to be taking an active part in the ensuing war seeing as it will be an impedance to the modus operandi of the entire oil and petroleum industry in the Middle East. They will be assisting Kuwait and have made efforts to convince Saddam Hussein to not invade Kuwait.

7. Kuwait:

Although poised on their toes for a potential war against Iraq, Kuwait has supposedly made peace with Saddam Hussein in the UN-brokered peace talks, in which it was stated that Saddam would not invade Kuwait. Kuwait is also fearful of the invasion as that may lead to severe damage dealt to their oil fields and hence, their main source of income.

Freeze Date Situation

As of the 22nd of July, 1990, Iraq has begun to set the stage for the invasion of Kuwait.

Tensions between the Gulf states have reached a breaking point, and all the countries are unsure of what their next move should be. The only information we have, is that a division of the elite Republican Guard, Iraq's best forces, has moved from central Iraq towards the Kuwaiti border. At present, 35,000 Iraqi troops have been mobilized and stationed on to Iraq-Kuwait border. It is unclear whether Saddam intends to invade, or his actions are just a ruse to frighten the Kuwaitis into complying to his demands. Either way, it is up to the UNSC to ensure that this matter is dealt with so that the fragile peace in the Gulf region remains undisturbed.

Timeline of important events leading up to the War:

1961:

June 19: Kuwait gains independence from the British colonisation.

June 25: Iraq claims sovereignty over Kuwait; British are forced to intervene to deter Iraqi military action against Kuwait.

1969:

Nixon doctrine introduces the USA 'Twin Pillars Policy' based on Iran and, to a much lesser extent, Saudi Arabia, as the USA regional pillars.

1973:

March 20: Iraqi forces invade and briefly occupy the Kuwaiti border post at al-samitah.

April 28: Iraq asserts it claims over two Kuwaiti islands, Warba and Bubiyan, that control Iraq's limited access to Persian Gulf waters.

1979:

January 16: Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the Shah of Iran, is removed from power. On February 1st, the revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini proclaims Iran as an Islamic republic.

July 17: Saddam Hussein becomes President of Iraq.

September 20: The Soviet Union invades Afghanistan.

1980:

January: Three weeks after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Carter Doctrine comes into play, asserting that the United States will use force if necessary to protect the Persian Gulf.

September 22: Iraq launches a full-scale invasion of Iran, beginning the eight-year war between the countries.

1988:

August 20: A cease-fire is brokered between Iran and Iraq, bringing an end to the war.

1990:

February 24: Saddam Hussein outlines a new offensive against Israel and USA.

July 10: Kuwait agrees to abide by OPEC oil production quotas in a meeting of oil ministers in Jeddah but does not concede to Saddam Hussein's demands.

July 15: A division of the elite Republican Guard moves from central Iraq towards the Kuwaiti Border; by July 21, 35000 troops are on the Iraqi border near Kuwait.

July 17: Saddam Hussein threatens military action against Kuwait if it does not comply with his full set of demands.

July 22: President of Egypt, Hosni Mubarak, travels to Baghdad to discuss the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait with Saddam Hussein. Saddam ensures Hosni Mubarak that he will not attack Kuwait.

Aim of the committee:

The world is once again facing a crisis. After the two Great Wars that have taken place in the 20th Century, the Cold War and the countless other proxy wars fought between nations, the world and the international community is demanding an era of peace among nations.

All delegates are expected to be exceptionally well-prepared on the topic in question. They must work as a committee in order to 1) Resolve the immediate crisis and find a peaceful resolution to the imminent invasion of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein; 2) Assist the war-torn nations in the Middle East regain peace in their respective nations as well as between all the nations in the region; 3) Induce an era of stability and peaceful cooperation amongst the nations of the world to prevent another Great War from happening.

Seeing as this committee is a Crisis committee, any directives passed during committee after an update must include an address to the update as well.

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