

U.S. PRESENCE in Southwest Asia

STANDARDS:

SS7H2 Analyze continuity and change in Southwest Asia (Middle East).

d. Explain U.S. presence and interest in Southwest Asia, including the Persian Gulf conflict and invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq.



U.S. Presence in Southwest Asia

Persian Gulf, Afghanistan,
& Iraq

U.S. Presence

- The United States has great interest in maintaining stability in Southwest Asia to **safeguard the supply of oil** and to **combat terrorism**.
- Beginning in the late 20th century, the US has had a major presence in this area of the world.



Persian Gulf Conflict

Operation Desert
Storm

Kuwait

- In 1920, the country of **Kuwait** was created.
- As a result, Iraq lost its access to the Persian Gulf.
- **Saddam Hussein, Iraq's dictator**, wanted to get this access back and to acquire access to Kuwait's many oil fields.
- **Iraqi forces invaded Kuwait in August 1990.**



Kuwait City





Saddam Hussein aka “Butcher of Baghdad”



August 2nd, 1990 –
Iraq invades Kuwait



Desert Storm

- In order to survive the attack, the small country of Kuwait knew it would need allies.
- The US was concerned about this invasion, as a lot of the country's oil came from Kuwait & Saudi Arabia.
- In January 1991, the United States led by **President George H.W. Bush** and a group of other countries started "Operation Desert Storm", a military mission to recapture Kuwait.

Did you know?

- There are two US Presidents named George Bush. They are father and son.



George H. W. Bush (Senior)
US President from 1989-1993
Involved in Persian Gulf War



George W. Bush (Junior)
US President from 2001-2009.
Involved in Invasion of
Afghanistan





A US Nighthawk – one of the key players in Desert Storm.

Desert Storm

- The coalition employed missile attacks and used ground forces to quickly drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait in just six weeks.
- By February of 1991, the Iraqi government agreed to a truce and withdrew from Kuwait.
- Iraq left, but not before Saddam Hussein had his soldiers set nearly 1,000 oil fields on fire, causing immense environmental damage.
- Both Iraq and Kuwait were badly damaged during the war.



Oil fires set in Kuwait
by Iraqi forces.



Destroyed military & civilian vehicles along the “Highway of Death”, a six mile stretch of road between Kuwait and Iraq.



UN Embargo

- When Iraq invaded Kuwait, **the United Nations tried to protect Kuwait's oil**. They imposed an embargo that prevented Iraq from exporting oil or importing goods.
- The UN would not lift the embargo until Iraq destroyed its **weapons of mass destruction**(WMDs) and promised to stop making nuclear weapons.
- This process began in 1991, and when the UN inspection team left in 1998, there was speculation that only 85% had actually been destroyed.



UN weapons inspector taking samples
at an Iraqi factory in 2002.

THE PERSIAN GULF WAR



HISTORY



This war was fought over oil...

As Iraqi troops retreated, they lit the Kuwait oil fields on fire to destroy them.

Using special explosives, U.S. troops put them out and restored the oil supply.

**The war lasted 100 hours/4
days**



**After the war ended,
Saddam Hussein
remained President of
Iraq.**



Desert warfare changed our image...green uniforms gave way to brown camouflage on everything. Was it a good decision to leave Saddam in-charge? Give us your opinion



Afghanistan Invasion

Operation Enduring
Freedom

Bin Laden

- In 1996, the Taliban (an extremely religious group) established power in Afghanistan.
- The anti-American Taliban was thought to be harboring **Osama bin Laden's terrorist group al-Qaeda**, whose goal was to bring an end to Western influence in the Middle East.
- The U.S. government identified **bin Laden** as the most likely suspect responsible for the September 11th, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.



Osama bin Laden

9/11

- On September 11, 2001, **al-Qaeda attacked three targets in the United States.**
- The terrorists hijacked four planes.
 - Two planes crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City.
 - Another airplane crashed into the Pentagon in Virginia, just outside of Washington, DC.
 - The fourth plane was intended to hit the White House, but crashed in rural Pennsylvania.
- **Over 3,000 people were killed in these attacks.**

Watch the BrainPOP! video to learn more
about 9/11

<https://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/ushistory/september11th/>



Two days after the September 11 attacks, **U.S. President George W. Bush** stated: "The most important thing is for us to find Osama bin Laden. It is our number one priority and we will not rest until we find him."

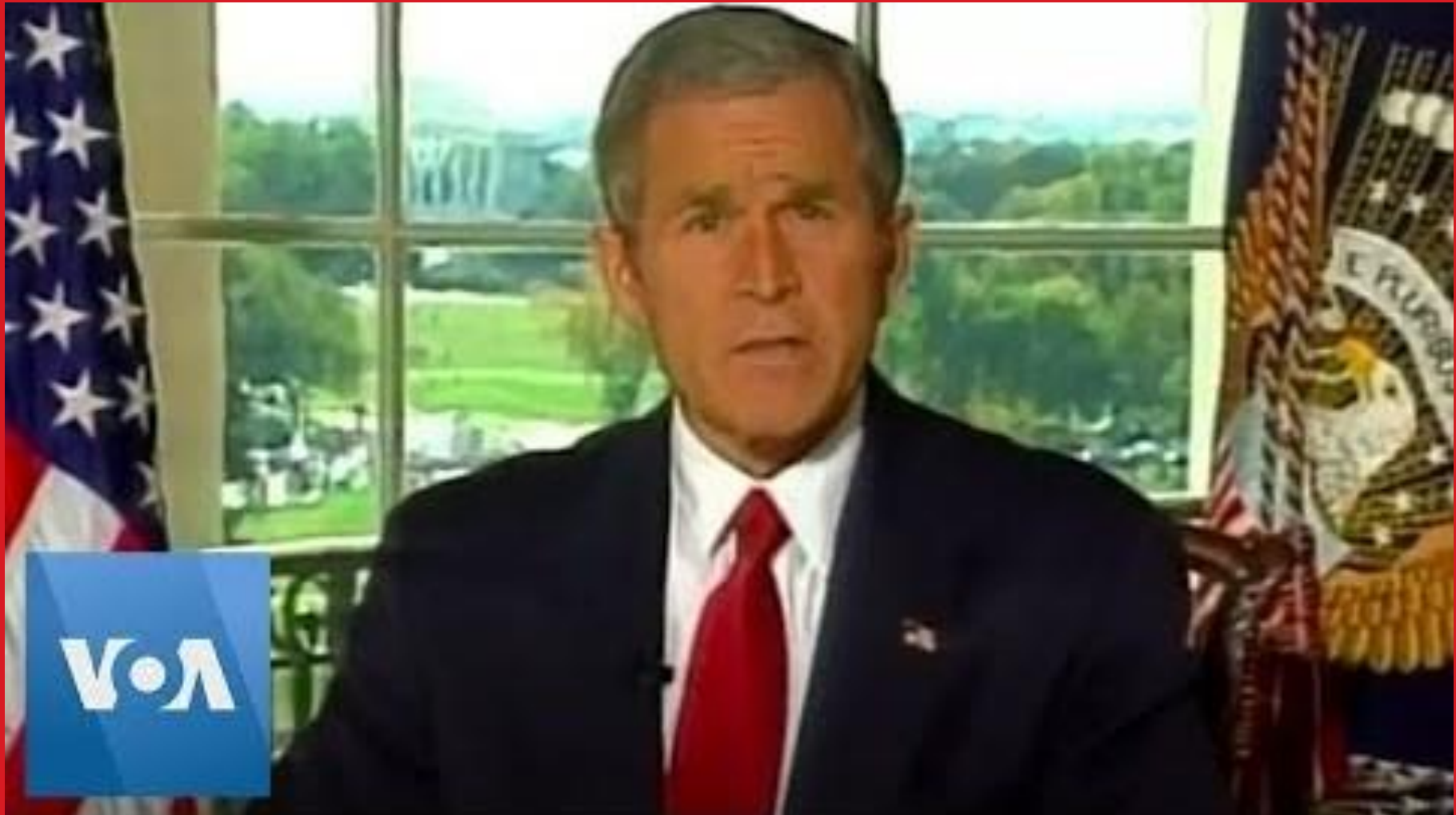


Al-Qaeda

US Invasion

- Sources in the **U.S. government** believed that the Taliban was allowing Bin Laden and his followers to hide out in the mountains of Afghanistan.
- Under the leadership of President George W. Bush (son of former US President, George H. Bush) **U.S. troops entered Afghanistan on October 7th, 2001**, to disable the Taliban and locate bin Laden.

President Bush Announces First Strike on Afghanistan (24 seconds)





**Afghanistan is Landlocked
with the Himalayan Mts. to
the NE, the country has
deep foothills that create a
natural defense and rich
fertile valleys for crops**



Democracy

- After launching a series of attacks, the Taliban was defeated.
- The U.S. helped form a new democratic government in Afghanistan.
- Efforts to locate bin Laden failed, and he went into hiding for the next ten years.



U.S. troops in
Afghanistan in 2001.





2004 – Hamid Karzai became the first democratically elected president of Afghanistan.

The End

- On May 2, 2011, at 1:00 am, Navy SEALs raided Osama bin Laden's compound in Pakistan.
- **Bin Laden was shot and killed** in the raid.
- His body was taken to Afghanistan for identification, then buried at sea within 24 hours.
- According to U.S. officials, bin Laden was buried at sea because no country would accept his remains.

Osama bin Laden's compound in Pakistan where he was found in 2011.





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WILLIAM
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ALEXIS FLORES



SEMION
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JASON DEREK
BROWN



USAMA BIN
LADEN



GLEN STEWART
GODWIN



EDUARDO
RAVELO



JOE LUIS
SAENZ



JAMES J.
BULGER



VICTOR
MANUEL
GERENA



USAMA BIN LADEN

Murder of U.S. Nationals Outside the United States; Conspiracy to Murder U.S. Nationals Outside the United States; Attack on a Federal Facility Resulting in Death

REWARD: The Rewards For Justice Program, United States Department of State, is offering a reward of up to \$25 million for information leading directly to the apprehension or conviction of Usama Bin Laden. An additional \$2 million is being offered through a program developed and funded by the Airline Pilots Association and the Air Transport Association.

Usama Bin Laden is wanted in connection with the August 7, 1998, bombings of the United States Embassies in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and Nairobi, Kenya. These attacks killed over 200 people. In addition, Bin Laden is a suspect in other terrorist attacks throughout the world.

Bin Laden is the leader of a terrorist organization known as Al-Qaeda, "The Base". He is left-handed and walks with a cane.

SUMMARY

SCARS &
MARKS

ALIASES

DESCRIPTION

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Iraq Invasion

Operation Iraqi
Freedom

Iraq

- Why did US go back to war with Iraq?
- After the UN inspection team left, many **Americans believed that Hussein was hiding weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) throughout the country, as well as providing aid to members of al-Qaeda.**
- In **2003**, the United States, Great Britain, Australia, & other countries launched a military invasion of Iraq called “Operation Iraqi Freedom”.

How did the war begin?

On March 17, President Bush gave Hussein 48 hours to leave the country or face a military strike. He refused.





U.S. marines enter a palace in Baghdad.

U.S. marines fire a M198 Medium Howitzer.



Results

- Saddam Hussein's government collapsed quickly, and the military operation was over in less than two months.
- No WMDs were ever found.
- In December 2003, Hussein was captured, tried, and sentenced to death.
 - He was executed in December 2006.

What happened to Saddam?



He was captured in December 2003. He was charged by the Iraqis with war crimes committed against the residents of Dujail in 1982, after an assassination attempt failed.

Charged with the murder of 148 people, illegal arrests of 399 others, and torture of women and children.



He was found Guilty and sentenced to die. The hanging was carried out in 2006 on live TV in Iraq.

Did everyone agree
with the invasion?

Many did not agree with this decision.
Russia and other countries claimed it
was not justified.

What do you think?

Iraq Today

- Rebuilding Iraq after the invasion has been difficult.
- In 2005, Iraqi citizens took part in free elections to establish a new democratic government.
- U.S. forces remained in Iraq until the new Iraqi government was secure and stable.
 - In **December 2011**, the **U.S. forces withdrew**.
- Unfortunately, there is still conflict in Iraq today, as the Shia and Sunni Muslims are fighting one another for power of the country.

