

## **UNIT III ARAB - ISRAELI WARS, 1967& 1973**

1. Causes ,Main Events
2. Role of Air power
3. Lessons learnt

## **UNIT IV IRAN- IRAQ WAR**

1. Causes
2. Highlights of the war
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## **UNIT V GULF WAR I & II**

1. Causes
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## Unit - V

### Gulf War I & II

#### Gulf War I :

Iraqi president Saddam Hussein ordered the invasion and occupation of neighbouring Kuwait in early August 1990. Alarmed by these actions fellow Arab powers such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt called on the U.S and other western nations to intervene. Hussein defied United Nations Security Council demands to withdraw from Kuwait. By mid-January 1991 and the Persian Gulf war began with a massive U.S. led air offensive known as Operation Desert Storm. After 42 days of relentless attacks by the allied coalition in the air and on the ground, US president George H.W. Bush declared a cease fire on 28 February, by that time most Iraqi forces in Kuwait had either surrendered or fled. Though initially considered an unqualified success for the international Coalition, summing up the conflict in the troubled region led to on II Gulf war known as Iraq war that began 2003.

## Background of the Persian Gulf War:

Though the long running Iran-Iraq war had ended in a United Nations brokered ceasefire in August 1988, by mid 1990 the two states had yet to begin negotiating a permanent peace treaty. When their foreign minister met in Geneva that July, prospects for peace suddenly seemed bright as it appeared that Iraq leader Saddam Hussein was prepared to dissolve that conflicts and return territory that his air forces had long occupied. Two weeks later, however, Hussein delivered a speech in which he accused neighbouring national Kuwait of siphoning crude oil from the Rumaylah oil fields located along their command border. He insisted that Kuwait and Saudi Arabia cancel out 30 billion of Iraq's foreign debt and accused them of conspiring to keep oil prices low in an effort to pander to western oil buying nations. Iran had begun amassing troops on Kuwait border. Alarmed by these actions, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt initiated negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait in an effort to avoid intervention by U.S or other powers from outside the Gulf region.

Hussein broke off the negotiations after only two hours and on August 2, 1990 ordered the invasion of Kuwait and not call in outside help to stop it, proved to be a miscalculation. Two-Third of the 21 members of the Arab - League's condemned Iraq's act of aggression, and Saudi Arabia's king and, along with Kuwait government in exile, turned to the US and other members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) for support.

### Iraqi Invasion of Kuwait & Allied Response:

U.S. president George H.W. Bush immediately condemned the invasion as did the government of Britain and the Soviet Union. On August 3, the United Nations Security Councils called for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait; Three days later, King Fahd met with U.S. secretary of Defense Richard, "Dick" Cheney to request U.S. military assistance.

On August 8, the day on which that Iraqi government formally annexed Kuwait - Hussein called it, Iraq's 19th provinces the first U.S. Air force fighters plans to begin arriving in Saudi Arabia.

as part of a military buildup dubbed Operation Desert Shield. The plans were accompanied by troops sent by Nato Allies as well as Egypt and several other Arab nations, designated to guard against a possible Iraq attack on Saudi Arabia.

In Kuwait, Iraq increased its occupation to some 3,00,000 troops. In an effort to garner support from the Muslim world, Hussein declared a jihad or holy war, against the Coalition; he also attempted to ally himself with the Palestinian cause by offering to evacuate Kuwait in return for an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. When these efforts failed, Hussein concluded a hasty peace with Iraq so that he could bring his army up to full strength.

### The Gulf War Behind:

On November 1990, 29th the U.N. Security Council authorised the use of "all necessary means" of force against Iraq if it did not withdraw from Kuwait by the following January 15. By January the Coalition forces prepared to face off against



Iraq numbered some 750,000 including 5,40,000 U.S. personnel and smaller forces from Britain, France, Germany, the Soviet Union, Japan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia among other nations. Iraq for its part had the support of Jordan (Another vulnerable neighbour) Algeria and the Sudan, Yemen, Tunisia and the Palastinian Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Early on morning of January 17, 1991 a massive us led air offensive hit Iraq's air defenser moving swiftly on to its communication networks, weapons plants, oil refiners and more. The coalition effort known as Operation Desert Storm.

### War on Ground:

By mid-February Coalition forces had shifted the focus of their air attacks towards Iraq's ground forces in Kuwait and southern Iraq. A massive allied ground offensive, Operation Desert Sabre, was launched on February with troops heading from northeastern Saudi Arabia into Kuwait and southern Iraq over the next four days coalition forces stormed into Iraq some 120 miles

west of Kuwait, attacking Iraq's armoured reserves from the rear. The elite Iraqi Republican Guard mounted a defense south of Al-Basrah in Southeastern Iraq. But most were defeated by February 27.

### Won of Persian Gulf War:

With Iraq resistance nearing collapse. Bush declared a ceasefire on February 28, ending the Persian Gulf war. According to the peace terms that Hussein subsequently accepted. Iraq would recognize Kuwait's sovereignty and get rid of all its weapons of mass destruction. In all an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 Iraqi forces were killed in comparison with only 300 coalition troops. Though the Gulf war was recognized as a decisive victory for the coalition, Kuwait and Iraq suffered enormous damage and Saddam Hussein was not forced from power.

## Gulf War II:

Iraq war also called as second Persian Gulf War (2003-2011) conflict in Iraq that consisted of two phases. The first of these was a brief, conventionally fought war in March, April 2003. In which a combined ~~st~~ forces of troops from the United States and Great Britain invaded Iraq and rapidly defeated Iraqi military and paramilitary forces. It was followed by a longer second phase in which a U.S. led occupation of Iraq was opposed by an insurgency. After violence began to decline in 2007, the United States gradually reduced its military presence in Iraq formally completing its withdrawal in December 2011.

## Prelude to war:

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 ended in Iraq's defeat by a U.S. led coalition in the Persian Gulf War. In 2002 new U.S. President George H.W. Bush argued that the vulnerability of the United States following the September 11 attacks & 2001 combined with Iraq's alleged continued possession and manufacture of weapons of mass destruction and its support for terrorist group - which



according to the Bush administration included Al-Qaeda the perpetrators of the September 11 attacks made disarming Iraq a renewed priority. UN security council resolution 1441 passed on November 8, 2002. Demanded that Iraq readmit inspectors and that it comply with all previous resolutions. Iraq appeared to comply with the resolution. But in early 2003 president Bush and Britain Prime minister Tony Blair declared that Iraq was actually continuing to hinder UN inspection and that it still retained proscribed weapons other world leaders such as French Pres. Jacques Chirac was German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder citing what they believed to be increased Iraqi co-operation. Sought to extended inspections and give Iraq more time to comply with them. However on March 17, seeking no further UN resolutions on deeming further diplomatic and issued an ultimatum to Saddam, giving the Iraqi president 48 hours to leave Iraq. The leader of France, Germany, Russia and other countries objected to this buildup towards war.

## The 2003 Conflict :

When Saddam refused to leave Iraq U.S. and allied forces launched an attack on the morning of March 20. It began when U.S. aircraft dropped several precision-guided bombs on a bunker complex in which the Iraqi president was believed to be meeting with senior staff. This was followed by a series of air strikes directed against government and military installation and within days U.S. forces had invaded Iraq from Kuwait in the south (U.S. special forces had previously been deployed to Kurdish controlled areas in north). Despite fears that Iraqi forces would engage in a scorched earth policy - destroying bridges and dams and setting fire to Iraq's southern oil wells little damage was done by retreating Iraqi forces in fact large numbers of Iraqi troops simply chose not to resist the advanced northward ~~was~~ from irregular groups of Baath party supporter known as Saddam's ~~Hussain~~ Fedayeen. British forces which had deployed around the southern city of Basra faced similar resistance from paramilitary and irregular fighters.

In Control Iraq Unit of the Republican Guard - a heavy armed paramilitary group connected with the ruling party were deployed to defend the capital of Baghdad. As U.S. Army had marine forces advanced northwestward up the Tigris - Euphrates river valley. They bypassed many populated areas where Fedeyeen resistance was strongest and were slowed only on March 25, when inclement weather and an extended supply line to Baghdad briefly forced them to halt their ~~airborne~~ advance within 60 miles of Baghdad. During the pause, U.S. aircraft inflicted heavy damage on republican guard units around the capital. U.S. forces resumed their advance within a week and on April 4 they took control of Baghdad international airport. Iraqi resistance though at times vigorous was highly disorganised and over the next several days army and marine corps unit staged raids into the heart of the city on April 9 resistance in Baghdad collapsed and U.S. soldiers took control of the city on that day Basra was finally secured by British forces,

which had entered the city several days earlier. In the north, however plans to open up another major front had been frustrated when the Turkish government refused to allow mechanized and armoured U.S. Army unit to pass through Turkey to deploy in northern Iraq. Regardless, a regiment of American paratroopers did drop into the area, and U.S. special forces soldiers joined with Kurdish fighters to seize the northern cities of Kirkuk on April 10 and Mosul and ~~apt~~ April 11 Saddam's hometown of Tikrit the last major stronghold the regime, fell with little resistance on April 13, Isolated groups of regime loyalists continued to fight on subsequent days but the U.S. president declared an end to major combat on May 1, Iraqi leaders fled into hiding and were the object of an intense search by U.S. forces. Saddam Hussein was captured on December 13, 2003. and was turned over to Iraqi authorities in June 2004 to stand trial for various crimes he was subsequently convicted of crimes against humanity and was executed on December 30, 2006.