

Post WW2 Global Conflict

The Cold War

This conflict started after WW2 and was between the United States and the Soviet Union. This was a war between ideologies with the states trying to promote capitalism and the soviets promoting communism. These two countries saw each other as threats and began to recruit countries to their cause. These two countries never came to arms against each other but there was fighting going on around the world, some examples include the Vietnam war and the Korean War. The closest that these two countries came to starting WW3 was during the Cuban missile crisis. With both sides having nuclear weapons they could destroy the world if they had used them. Canada sent troops to try and stop fighting between capitalist and communist forces across the world. The Cold War eventually ended in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union.



Vietnam war

The Vietnam war began during the Cold War with Vietnam split in two, the north and the south. Vietnam was under the control of the French until they led a successful uprising after WW2 taking back

what was originally theirs. Elections were meant to be held to bring the country together but these failed. China would then support the communist north and the Americans would support the south, the Americans supported the south to avoid the spread of communism in Asia. The Paris Peace Accords were signed in January, 1973 which kept the peace until 1975. The Americans refused the elections that would unite the country so the northern Vietnamese started an uprising and took over the south making Vietnam a communist country. Canada played the role of peacemaker in this conflict helping with negotiations.



The Korean War

This conflict began on the 25th of June, 1950 when North Korea's armed forces invaded South Korea. Korea was under the control of Japan during WW2 but nearing the end of the war the United States and Soviet Union claimed victory over Japan's forces in Korea. Korea was then divided into the north and the south with the Soviet Union occupying the north and the United States occupying the south. Elections were started to try and bring about a government over the entire country but the Soviets forbade these elections and made their own government in North Korea. With the Soviets making their own government in the north the United Nations created a government in South Korea. Thinking that they could take over the entire country by force the Soviets and Chinese supported North Korea and invaded the south. The United Nations and United States wouldn't allow this and they would support South

Korea. The Canadians played a part in starting the elections and after these failed they helped provide military assistance to South Korea. The fighting continued until the 27th of July, 1953 when an armistice was signed.



The 1958 Lebanon Crisis

This situation was brought about on July 14th, 1958 with the Christians and Muslims of the area in unrest. The Muslims in Lebanon wanted to join the Syrians and Egyptians in the United Arab Republic but the Christians were pro-western and wanted to join with western countries. Syria then provided the Muslims with weapons and gave them what they needed to start an uprising against their president. With things getting out of control the President of Lebanon called for an American intervention. The Americans came to help protect against the Muslim attacks and talked about making peace with Syria

and Egypt. The Americans urged the groups to elect a neutral representative to become president but neither side took a liking to this. The Conflict ended on September 22nd, 1958 when the president of Lebanon ended their time in office. This settled the Muslims down as their main quarrel was with the president. Canada took in refugees fleeing from the country of Lebanon to escape the fighting.



The Cuban Missile Crisis

This situation happened during the Cold War on October 15th, 1962. Things between America and the Soviet Union had been very tense during the Cold War with both sides trying to rally as many countries to their side as possible. When the Americans learned that the Soviet Union had placed nuclear missiles in Cuba the tension spiked and it seemed that nuclear war could be imminent. The Americans placed a naval blockade around Cuba until further notice. This rising tension ended on the 28th of October, 1962 when Nikita Khrushchev agreed to dismantle the nuclear weapons in exchange for John F. Kennedy's word that he wouldn't attack Cuba. Canada was hesitant to take the side of the Americans as they were in the line of fire as well and if they made a move they may aggravate the Soviet Union and cause them to fire on Canada.



The Persian Gulf War

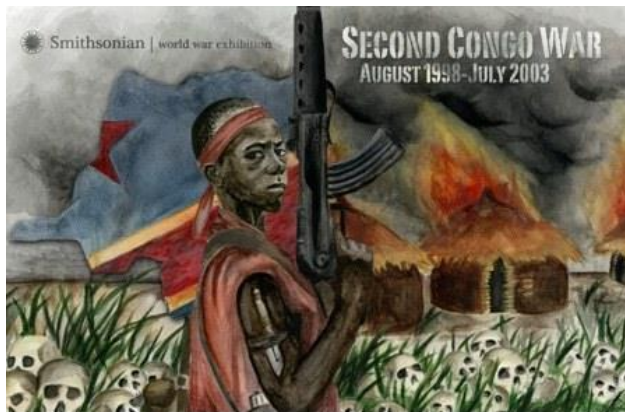
The Gulf war started when Iraq's leader Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. He attacked Kuwait to gain control of the country's natural oil reserves and claim them for Iraq. This was when the UN stepped in and told the Iraq forces to leave or they would use force. Iraq invaded Kuwait on the 2nd of August, 1990. The USA and many United Nations countries allied with Egypt and Syria to attack the Iraqi forces when they declined the UN's offer to leave. The Western European countries and US forces were mainly in this conflict to protect the natural oil reserves of the country. This conflict lasted from August the 2nd, 1990, to February the 28th, 1991. Canada helped in this effort by providing both naval and air forces to help the troops on the ground, this was the first time Canadian women saw combat roles.





Second Congo war

Also known as the Great War of Africa, the Second Congo war was started by the ending of the first Congo war. In the first war two Rwandan groups were fighting the Hutu and the Tutsi. This fighting overlapped into the Congo with the Tutsi winning with the help of the Ugandan army. This put a man by the name of Kabila into power over the newly named Democratic Republic of the Congo. Kabila later turned on his former allies the Rwandans and the Ugandans and helped the Hutu army to regroup in the Congo. This would result in the Tutsi and Ugandan troops attacking the Congo. This conflict ended in July of 1999 when peace accords were signed. Kabila was then assassinated and his son was made president which would lead to the Ugandan and Rwandan forces leaving the Congo. These two conflicts lasted from October, 1996 to July, 1999. Canada helped in this conflict by accepting refugees at the time.



War on terror / the 9/11 attacks

This wasn't any regular war as it consisted across many years and is fought just about everywhere in many different ways. This war on terror began on September 11th, 2001 with the 9/11 attacks, as these opened the eyes of the world towards the destructive potential of terrorism. This war has continued from then to present day whether it's the invasion against Afghanistan or increased security in airports. The 9/11 attacks were against the United States World Trade Center towers and to openly attack the states when they were one of the largest world leaders was unheard of. The amount of devastation and killing that happened during these attacks showed the world that terrorism had just reached a new level as they had the means to create far more destruction than ever before. The entire world was affected by these attacks including Canada, most notably with increased security at airports.



War in Afghanistan

The war in Afghanistan began with the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001. These attacks were the works of the al-Qaeda terrorist group who hijacked planes and used them to attack the World Trade Center towers in New York. These terrorists were led by Osama bin Laden and were being sheltered by the Taliban in Afghanistan. The United States led the invasion against the Taliban and al-Qaeda groups and were supported by Canada, Britain, and Afghan opposition militants. These groups would continue to hunt down members of the al-Qaeda and Taliban until 2014. Osama bin Laden wouldn't be killed until 2011 as he had escaped to Pakistan. Canada helped provide army, navy, and aerial support in Afghanistan giving the United States a helping hand in this hard time.



Iraq War

America went to war with Iraq when they found out that the Iraqi government under Saddam Hussein was manufacturing weapons of mass destruction. On March 17th, 2003 the Americans began to invade Iraq moving to take Baghdad and aiming to capture Saddam Hussein. They met resistance from the governments military but they were quickly dispatched due to a lack of communication and organization. The Iraqi forces also just didn't have the means to fight against the American troops. The fighting stopped on May 1st and Saddam Hussein was captured on December 13th when he was put to death for crimes against humanity and officially ending the conflict in Iraq. The Canadians didn't support with troops but they took in refugees fleeing Iraq.





[My sources](#)

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