



Topic Synopsis
Historic Security Council, The Gulf War

I. Background of Topic

The Iraqi Invasion of Kuwait has just taken place and tensions are rising on the global scene. The main reasons for this invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces attempting to conquer Kuwait as part of a belief which held that it was a territory of Iraq, and tensions with Kuwait such as accusations of slant drilling into Iraqi oil fields. Humanitarian issues also became critical when allegations of human rights violations began to surface. This conflict has become a world issue due to the aggression displayed by Iraq against a peaceful nation, and the threat to oil interests in the area on top of the instability seen in the region. Your country is a member of the UN Security Council, and must now deal with the internal issues involving civilians in Kuwait, the degree of action that should be taken against Iraq, and the level of involvement you believe the UN should take in this conflict.

II. UN Involvement

The United Nations first became involved with the passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 660 which condemned the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, and stated that Iraq was to withdraw immediately to pre-invasion positions. Due to Iraq's unwillingness to withdraw another resolution was passed. United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 reaffirmed the previous resolution, and implemented economic sanctions. Finally, United Nations Security Council Resolution 665 authorized the deployment of a naval blockade to enforce the trade embargo. Actions taken were done almost solely by the Security Council which took the lead in monitoring this conflict by passing resolutions 660, 661, 662, 664,



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665, 666, 667, 669, 670, 674, and 667 to respond to this conflict. These resolutions dealt with not only the military aspects of the issue, but the humanitarian aspect regarding the refugees, and the violations of international law committed by Iraq. In relation to international law they deemed the annexation of Iraq illegal as well as the detainment of third party nationals.

III. Possible Solutions

As this is a very complex problem with many different ways to approach the situation possible solution can range from merely condemning Iraq to full blown military action, or from deciding that Iraq is violating international law to sending actual humanitarian aid. This is a very diverse topic meaning it would be in every delegate’s best interest to check all aspects due to the fact that this committee has the potential to go in many different directions. The best solution for this situation is of course diplomatically since we are all aware of the military solution for this problem and the untold number of deaths that resulted as such. In this end all members of this council should focus on how to solve this issue in a way that improves the world as a whole for this is the role of the United Nations

IV. Bloc Positions

European Bloc- Allied themselves more closely with the US, and provided the most support for the operations taking place during The Gulf war.

Middle Eastern Bloc- A majority of Middle Eastern countries supported the U.N. coalition, and provided support or troops with the notable exception of Libya.

Latin, Asian, African blocs- many nations from these areas saw this as an internal issue between states in the Middle East. However, they are more likely to side with the US due to their influence on the international community.



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V. Guiding Questions

1. To what extent do you believe your country should involve itself in the conflict?
2. What do you believe is the best course of action to take in response to Iraqi aggression?
3. What are your countries priorities, and reasons for involvement in this conflict?
4. Can this situation be resolved through peaceful and diplomatic means?
5. What is to be done regarding the people affected by this conflict?