

Scholastic News Online/News In-Depth Issue: Iraq Roots of the Conflict

Tensions between the United States and Iraq began more than 10 years ago. Study this time line to understand the roots of the current conflict, then answer the questions.

1975		
1	1979	Saddam Husseln becomes President of Iraq.
1980	1980	Iraq and Iran go to war. The U.S. sides against Iran and sends arms to help Iraq
1		
1985		
	1988	Iraq uses chemical weapons to attack the Kurds, an ethnic group in the northern part of Iraq. The war with Iran ends.
1990	1991	The U.S. attacks Iraq in Operation Desert Storm. After two months, Iraq leaves Kuwait, Iraq promises
	1551	the U.S. adacks in a fit operation beset some. After two includes, had leaves known. If approximent it will stop building chemical weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. It agrees to let the UN conduct weapons inspections.
1995		
	1998	Iraq refuses to let UN weapons inspectors in.
2000	2000	Iraq again turns away UN weapors inspectors. Evidence grows that Iraq is making illegal weapons. Experts also worry that Iraq will align itself with
1	2003	al Qaeda, a terrorist organization. Finally, Iraq agrees to let UN weapons inspectors in. Weapons inspectors finish their tally. The U.S. considers Iraq an urgent threat and asks the UN to
2005	2000	support an attack on Iraq.
This time line is divided into segments. Each segment stands for		
How long has Saddam Hussein been in power in Iraq?		
3. When did Iraq use chemical weapons?Against whom?		
4. How did the U.S. help Iraq in 1980?		
5. Why did the U.S. attack Iraq in 1991?		
6. What important event happened in 1998?		
7. According to the time line, what are two reasons the U.S. currently considers Iraq a threat?		