

The 80's and Beyond

The End of the Cold War and Post-Cold War Tensions

End of the Cold War

Mid 1908's

Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev

- No longer afford arms race
- political, social, economic reform
- Allowed for greater individual freedom and living conditions in Russia

Other members of the USSR began to demand similar reform

Soviet Union Collapses by 1991



Consequences of Soviet Collapse Tiananmen Square

Communist China experimenting with reform

- Allowed capitalist ideals in some areas of the economy

1989 - Tiananmen Square Protests

Chinese pro democracy protesters

- took to the streets hoping for reform
- Red Army soldiers killed a large, unknown number of protestors (100's - 1000's)

China's government remains dedicated to the ideologies of Communism







BBC Photojournalist

Jeff Widener Recounts his experience during the Tiananmen Square Massacre

Civil War in Yugoslavia

Yugoslavian Prime Minister Josip Tito died in 1989
— Tensions broke out into ethnic conflict
— Rise of Ethnic Nationalism

Yugoslavia made of 6 small Republics
- Serbia
- Croatia
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Macedonia
- Slovenia
- Montenegro

"I am the leader of one country which has two alphabets, three languages, four religions, five nationalities, six republics, surrounded by seven neighbours, a country in which live with eight ethnic minorities"

- Josip Tito



Civil War in Yugoslavia

UN unable to control the violence

1995 - NATO becomes involved - Launches air strikes against the Serbians

Warring factions eventually agree to ceasefire - American troops join UN troops

1998 Serbian forces invades Kosovo - Islamic peoples of Kosovo persecuted, murdered, and displaced.
- '99 - NATO mobilized officially for the 1st time

- Canada participated in controversial airstrikes against Yugoslavia to stop the spread of violence to its neighbours.

Raised questions about Canada's Role in NATO & effectiveness of the UN to keep peace.



The Persian Gulf War

1990, Iraqi forces invade Kuwait (oil rich nation)

UN demands withdrawal - Saddam Hussein refuses

U.S.A. mobilizes against Iraq
Canada promises support (military personal & Supplies)

Canadians questioned Canada's role in supporting the war

New laser guided missiles changed the face of war again

Coalition won stunning victory - Iraq left in ruins

George Bush Sr. Announces "New World Order" - The U.S.A would act as a "Global Police Force"



Genocide in Rwanda

Legacy of Colonialism

Rwanda is divided by two major ethnic groups

- Tutsis
- Hutus

France - Colonial Power placed the Tutsis in political power - Hutus Overthrew them

Hutus-led government began mass-murdering the Tutsi population

UN peacekeepers under Canadian Lieutenant General Romeo Dallaire - begged for help from the USA

USA denies help fearing defeat

Genocide swept Rwanda

- Close to 1 Million murdered



9/11 Attacks

Sept 11, 2001: Terrorists part of the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda hijacked 4 planes

2 crashed into the world trade center, 1 into the Pentagon and 1 into a field

2976 people died

George Bush Jr. declares "War on Terrorism"

NATO nations in support began enacting anti-terrorist legislation and protective measures





9/11

[How the Day Unfolded](#)

War in Afghanistan

1 month after 9/11, U.S.A with English support attack Afghanistan

Wanted to destroy al-Qaeda and their leader Osama bin Laden

Wanted to destroy the Islamic fundamentalist Taliban government who supported the terrorists

Soon after, al-Qaeda and Taliban leaders fled into Pakistan

Canada's involvement as support and security

- Help secure the country from internal and external threat
- Foreign nations helped reconstruct Afghan government and infrastructure

2001 - 20% opposed CDN involvement
2009 - 54% opposed CDN involvement



War in Iraq

2003 - USA decided to invade Iraq to "disarm Iraq of weapons of mass destruction"

This war not supported by a broad coalition of nations

Canadian government didn't support the war

Most nations were not convinced that Iraq was prepared to use WMD or even had any.

U.S.A & Brit. defeated and occupied the country

4000 American soldiers dead
500,000 Iraqi Civilians dead

Last american troops left Iraq 2011


