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Preparation Paper

The Security Council 13 November 2001

Decision on Afghanistan

A General Overview

The story of the Afghan nation in the second half of the 20th century has been marked by continuing political instability, social unrest, a more and more uprising religious conflict, as well as military threats from outside.

The Soviet invasion and the American involvement have led to a political vacuum and a severe turndown of the country's economy.

The long-lasting Afghan conflict has led to an open war economy, affecting not only Afghanistan, but also the surrounding areas. Afghanistan has not only become the world's largest opium producer and exporter, but it has used the criminalized funds from this trade to further support the Taliban and other militant and terrorist groups.

The main objective of every organization or institution that is involved in solving the Afghan conflict is therefore to take a multidisciplinary approach on the topic. In order to gain a full insight into the conflict and to construct a consistent set of solutions for the country, it is of great importance to consider political, sociological as well as economic measures. This multidisciplinary approach was not taken after the Russian invasion and American involvement as magnificently shown in the American movie production "Charly Wilson's War". Even though this Hollywood production cannot be cited as an academic reference, the importance of establishing economic prosperity and education is also supported by established academic literature, such as Rubin (2000), who points out that sustainable peace will only be established, when economical measures towards economic stability and education have been taken.

Timeline

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|-------------|---|
| 03 07 1979 | U.S. President Jimmy Carter signs the first directive for secret aid to the opponents of pro-soviet regime in Kabul: CIA starts Operation Cyclone- Arming of Afghanistan's mujahideen |
| 24 12 1979 | Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan |
| 27 12 1979 | Soviet troops dressed in Afghan uniforms execute president Hafizullah Amin and replace him with Barak Karmal |
| 1980 | Barak Karmal, leader of the People's Democratic Party Parcham faction, is installed as ruler, backed by Soviet troops. But anti-regime resistance intensifies with various mujahideen groups fighting Soviet forces. US, Pakistan, China, Iran and Saudi Arabia supply money and arms |
| 29 11 1983 | The UN General Assembly passes United Nations Resolution 37, stating that the Soviet Union should withdraw from Afghanistan |
| May 1985 | The seven principle rebel organizations come together in Pakistan to form the Islamic Unity of Afghanistan Mujahideen to coordinate operations against the soviet army |
| 1986 | US begins supplying mujahideen with Stinger missiles, enabling them to shoot down Soviet helicopter gunships |
| 14 04 1988 | Afghanistan, USSR, the US and Pakistan sign peace accords and Soviet Union commits itself to withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan |
| 11 08 1988 | Foundation of Al-Qaeda in Peshawar by Afghan Arabs |
| 15 02 1989 | Final withdrawal of Soviet Army under last Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. |
| 1989- 1996 | Afghan Civil War- Once the Soviet army left Afghanistan, the various radical Muslim factions began fighting among themselves. |
| 1991 | US and USSR agree to end military aid to both sides |
| 25 04 1992. | Collapse of Mohammad Najibullah's pro communist government. The Mujahideen groups capture the city of Kabul |
| 26 02 1993 | World Trade Center bombing in New York Killing 6 and injuring over 1,000 |

- 27 11 1996 The Taliban capture the capital city of Kabul, after driving out President Burhanuddin Rabbani and executing former leader Mohammad Najibullah
- 23 02 1998 Osama bin Laden publishes a fatwa, declaring jihad against all Jews and Crusaders.
- 15 04 1998 Interpol disseminates first arrest warrant for Osama bin Laden
- 19 10 1999 Resolution 1267 (1999): UN imposes an air embargo and financial sanctions to force Afghanistan to hand over Osama bin Laden for trial
- 05 08 2000 The 2000 al-Qaeda Summit of several high-level al-Qaeda members is held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 12 10 2000 Yemen: The USS Cole is badly damaged by two Al-Qaeda suicide bombers
- 19 12 2000 Resolution 1333 (2000) on the Situation of Afghanistan: UN imposes further sanctions on Taliban to force them to hand over Osama bin Laden
- 20 01 2001 George W. Bush succeeds Bill Clinton, becoming the 43rd president of the United States
- 09 09 2001 Ahmed Shan Massoud, military commander of the Afghan Northern Alliance gets killed by suicide bomber
- 11 09 2001 "Nine-Eleven"- Attacks: almost 3,000 are killed at the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia and in rural Shanksville after American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 crash into the World Trade Center's Twin Towers, American Airlines Flight 77 crashes into the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 crashes into a grassland in Shanksville
- 07 10 2001 The U.S. invades Afghanistan- Start of Operation Enduring Freedom

Recommended Reading

Security Council Resolutions:

http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions.html

United Nations Documentations: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact2001.htm>
Meetings conducted / Actions taken by the Security Council in 2001

Especially: Meeting Record- 13th Nov. 2001: S/PV.4414 (Resumption 1)

See also: Meeting Record from 14th Nov. 2001: S/PV.4415
 And Security Council Action / Vote from 14th Nov. 2001: S/RES/1378 (2001) 15-0-0

CIA- World Factbook- Afghanistan: Facts on economy, background...
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/af.html>

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and Associated Individuals and Entities:
<http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/index.shtml>

Books:

Goodson, Larry P.: Afghanistan's Endless War: State Failure, Regional Politics, and the Rise of the Taliban. Seattle: Univ. of Washington Press, 2001.

Giustozzi, Antonio: War, politics and society in Afghanistan, 1978-1992. London: Hurst, 2000.

Barnett R. Rubin: The Political Economy of War and Peace in Afghanistan, Elsevier, 2000