

Bush's Cabinet: Start of the Gulf War 1991



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Letter From the Chair

Delegates,

Welcome to the Cabinet of President George HW Bush! I am Colin FitzSimmons and I will be your Chair for this exciting conference. I am a sophomore here at George Washington University, studying International Affairs and Arabic! I am a member of the GW Model UN team and Army ROTC Cadet. I grew up in the Chicago suburbs and now live and attend school full time here in DC. Over the course of the day I hope to see fun, lively, and respectful debate from all of you. I hope this can be a learning experience for all of you and keeps you encouraged to do Model UN going forward. I encourage all of you to brush up on your history regarding the Gulf War and each of your character positions. I wish all of you the best of luck and can't wait to see you in the winter! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns for me please direct them to colin.fitzsimmons@gwu.edu, I will be requiring that you CC your advisor on all correspondence, if this is not done then unfortunately you will not receive a response.

Sincerely,

Colin FitzSimmons

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Committee Description

This committee will start on the date of January 16th 1991, a day before coalition forces launched a formal air campaign against the Iraqi Army in order to force them out of Kuwait. US and allied forces are positioned along the Saudi Arabian borders with Iraq and Kuwait as the US has been defending the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since August of 1990 against Iraqi aggression (codename: Operation Desert Shield.)

As a member of this committee, you will take on the role of a real life historical figure that would have likely served as a crucial advisor to President George HW Bush at this time. Although this background guide provides a brief overview of their personal history, please do independent research to ensure you understand the role and background of your character.

As a committee you will collaborate to write and vote on resolutions which affect the US' war effort or public relations regarding the Gulf War. This committee has been dated just before the instigation of Operation Desert Storm to give delegates an opportunity to discuss the best approaches, militarily, diplomatically, and economically to force Iraq out of Kuwait. Your goals as a member of this committee should be to end Iraqi aggression in Kuwait, minimize civilian casualties or destruction to infrastructure, and cultivate domestic and international support for the US.

This committee will follow the 'Historical/Specialized' model and as such the effects of resolutions will occur in real time. Staffers working alongside the chair will create scenarios and emergencies which delegates must react to and create new resolutions addressing.

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Your mission:

Please Note the Following is a Fictional Speech by President George HW Bush meant specifically for this committee, not to reflect the historical record

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Cabinet,

Today, we face one of the most critical junctures in our nation's recent history. The Gulf War is upon us, a conflict that not only tests our military might but also our resolve, our diplomacy, and our commitment to global peace and stability. Our objective is clear: to liberate Kuwait and to restore international law and order. But achieving this goal requires a multifaceted approach, combining military strategy, diplomatic efforts, and robust policies that support our mission.

First and foremost, we must ensure our military forces have every resource they need to succeed. Our brave men and women in uniform are the best-trained and best-equipped in the world, but they need our unwavering support. We must ensure that our defense budget reflects the demands of this conflict. This means immediate funding for advanced weaponry, state-of-the-art technology, and comprehensive support systems that enable our forces to operate effectively and safely. We must also prioritize the well-being of our troops, providing them with the best medical care, mental health support, and family assistance programs.

Secondly, we need to solidify our diplomatic alliances. The coalition we have built is unprecedented, comprising nations from every corner of the globe, united by a common purpose. Maintaining and strengthening these alliances is crucial. We must work closely with our partners, ensuring that their contributions are recognized and

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valued. Our diplomatic efforts must also extend to securing additional support from countries that have yet to join our coalition. By presenting a united front, we not only increase our chances of success but also send a powerful message to Saddam Hussein and the world that aggression will not stand.

Our economic policies are equally important in this endeavor. The Gulf region is a vital source of global energy, and its stability is paramount to the world economy. We must develop strategies to mitigate the economic impact of the war, both domestically and internationally. This includes securing our own energy supplies, stabilizing oil prices, and providing economic assistance to our allies in the region. Additionally, we need to prepare for the post-war reconstruction of Kuwait, ensuring that it can recover swiftly and rejoin the community of nations as a prosperous and stable state.

Public support is another critical factor. The American people must understand the necessity and justice of our cause. We need a comprehensive public relations strategy that communicates our objectives clearly and persuasively. This involves regular briefings, transparent reporting on the progress of the war, and addressing the concerns and questions of our citizens. By keeping the public informed and engaged, we can maintain the broad-based support that is essential for sustained military and political efforts.

Lastly, we must prepare for the aftermath of the conflict. Winning the war is only the first step; we must also win the peace. This requires a long-term vision for the region's stability and prosperity. We need to work with our international partners to develop a comprehensive plan for political and economic development in the Gulf. This plan should promote democracy, human rights, and economic opportunities, addressing the root causes of instability and conflict. By investing in the future of the Gulf region, we can ensure that the sacrifices made during this war lead to lasting peace and security.

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In conclusion, the Gulf War demands our full attention and commitment. By developing and implementing policies that support our military, strengthen our alliances, stabilize the economy, engage the public, and plan for the future, we can achieve our objectives and restore peace to the region. I have full confidence in this Cabinet's ability to rise to the occasion and lead our nation to victory. Let us move forward with determination and unity, knowing that the cause of freedom and justice is on our side.

Thank you, and God bless America.

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Guiding Questions

Please consider the following questions as you prepare for this committee, allow the following to guide your research.

1. What is the best war strategy to ensure success in liberating Kuwait from Iraq?
2. How can the US best mitigate civilian casualties while still achieving their objectives?
3. Does the US have enough technology, a large enough war arsenal, and public support to win?
4. How can the US best work with coalition partners to ensure strategic victory and civil support?
5. How can the US best work with the Government of Kuwait to ensure peace after victory?
6. Should the US pursue further action against Saddam Hussein upon the success of liberating Kuwait?

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Character List:

1. **Dan Quayle, Vice President:** Dan Quayle is an American politician who served as the 44th Vice President of the United States from 1989 to 1993 under President George H. W. Bush. Prior to his vice presidency, Quayle was a U.S. Representative and later a U.S. Senator from Indiana. Known for his conservative views, Quayle often faced criticism for his public speaking and was a frequent target of media satire.
2. **John Sununu, Chief of Staff:** John Sununu is an American engineer and politician who served as the 75th Governor of New Hampshire from 1983 to 1989. In 1989, he became the White House Chief of Staff under President George H. W. Bush, known for his influential role in the administration. Sununu was recognized for his strong management style and conservative political stance.
3. **Brent Scowcroft, National Security Advisor:** Brent Scowcroft is an American military officer and politician who served as National Security Advisor under Presidents Gerald Ford and George H. W. Bush. A retired Air Force Lieutenant General, Scowcroft was known for his expertise in foreign policy and strategic affairs. By 1990, he had played key roles in shaping U.S. responses to international events, including the end of the Cold War.
4. **William Webster, Director of Central Intelligence:** William Webster is an American lawyer and jurist who served as the Director of the FBI from 1978 to 1987, and later as the Director of the CIA from 1987 to 1991. Known for his distinguished career in law enforcement and intelligence, Webster oversaw significant reforms and initiatives during his tenures at both agencies. His leadership was marked by a commitment to enhancing national security and strengthening intelligence capabilities amidst evolving global challenges.

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5. **James Baker, Secretary of State:** James Baker is an American attorney and politician who served as the 61st United States Secretary of State from 1989 to 1992 under President George H. W. Bush. Prior to his role as Secretary of State, Baker held several key positions including White House Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Treasury. Known for his diplomatic skill and pragmatic approach, Baker played a pivotal role in navigating U.S. foreign policy during the end of the Cold War and the Gulf War.
6. **Dick Cheney, Secretary of Defense:** Dick Cheney is an American politician and businessman who served as the 46th Vice President of the United States from 2001 to 2009 under President George W. Bush. Before his vice presidency, Cheney held various government positions, including Secretary of Defense under President George H. W. Bush during the Gulf War. Known for his strong conservative stance and influence on national security policy, Cheney was a key figure in shaping U.S. responses to terrorism and military strategy in the early 21st century.
7. **Nicholas Brady, Secretary of the Treasury:** Nicholas Brady is an American businessman and politician who served as the 68th United States Secretary of the Treasury from 1988 to 1993 under Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. Prior to his tenure as Treasury Secretary, Brady was a successful investment banker and businessman. He is widely recognized for his efforts in managing economic policy during a period of significant financial challenges, including the Savings and Loan crisis of the late 1980s and early 1990s.
8. **James Watkins, Secretary of Energy:** James Watkins was an American admiral and public official who served as the 6th United States Secretary of Energy from 1989 to 1993 under President George H. W. Bush. Before his cabinet role,

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Watkins had a distinguished naval career, including serving as Chief of Naval Operations. Known for his advocacy of environmental stewardship and energy conservation, Watkins played a key role in shaping U.S. energy policy during his tenure.

9. **Ed Derwinski, Secretary of Veterans Affairs:** Ed Derwinski was an American politician who served as the first United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs from 1989 to 1992 under President George H. W. Bush. Before his cabinet appointment, Derwinski was a U.S. Representative from Illinois for nearly 24 years. He was instrumental in establishing the Department of Veterans Affairs as a cabinet-level agency, focusing on improving services and benefits for American veterans.
10. **Carla Anderson Hills, United States Trade Representative:** Carla Anderson Hills is an American lawyer and diplomat who served as the United States Trade Representative from 1989 to 1993 under President George H. W. Bush. Prior to her role as Trade Representative, Hills was the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President Gerald Ford. Known for her expertise in international trade negotiations, Hills played a pivotal role in advancing U.S. trade interests globally, including negotiations such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
11. **Dick Thornburgh, Attorney General:** Dick Thornburgh was an American lawyer and politician who served as the 41st Governor of Pennsylvania from 1979 to 1987 and as the United States Attorney General from 1988 to 1991 under Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. Known for his dedication to law and order, Thornburgh focused on prosecuting drug crimes and improving law enforcement during his tenure as Attorney General. His leadership was marked

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by efforts to uphold civil rights and combat corruption, contributing significantly to national legal reforms.

12. **Thomas Pickering, US Ambassador to the UN:** Thomas Pickering is an American diplomat who served as the United States Ambassador to the United Nations from 1989 to 1992 under President George H. W. Bush. Prior to his role at the UN, Pickering held numerous diplomatic positions, including Ambassador to Israel, El Salvador, Nigeria, and Jordan. Known for his expertise in international relations and diplomacy, Pickering played a crucial role in shaping U.S. foreign policy during the end of the Cold War and the Gulf War era.
13. **April Glaspie, Former US Ambassador to Iraq:** April Glaspie served as the United States Ambassador to Iraq from 1988 to 1990. Her tenure as ambassador became highly scrutinized due to a meeting with Saddam Hussein in July 1990, where her remarks were later perceived as a green light for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. This incident played a significant role in the lead-up to the Gulf War and sparked controversy over U.S. foreign policy in the region.
14. **Saud Nasser Al-Saud Al-Sabah, Kuwaiti Ambassador to the US:** Saud Nasser Al-Saud Al-Sabah served as the Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United States during a critical period in Kuwaiti-American relations, particularly during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. He played a crucial role in mobilizing international support for Kuwait's liberation, advocating strongly for intervention by the United States and its allies. His diplomatic efforts were instrumental in garnering global condemnation of Iraq's actions and securing military assistance to restore Kuwait's sovereignty.
15. **Bandar Bin Sultan Al Saud, Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the US:** Bandar Bin Sultan Al Saud served as the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States

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from 1983 to 2005, making him one of the longest-serving diplomats in that position. Known for his close ties with U.S. political and military leaders, Bandar played a significant role in shaping Saudi-U.S. relations during critical periods, including the Gulf War and the aftermath of the September 11 attacks. His diplomatic efforts often focused on strategic cooperation, defense relations, and regional stability in the Middle East.

16. Michael Stone, Secretary of the Army: Michael P. W. Stone served as the Secretary of the Army from 1989 to 1993 under President George H. W. Bush. He played a key role in overseeing the Army's operations and policies during a period that included the end of the Cold War and the Gulf War. Stone focused on modernizing Army capabilities and enhancing readiness while managing budget constraints and evolving global security challenges.
17. Henry Garrett III, Secretary of the Navy: Henry L. Garrett III served as the Secretary of the Navy from 1989 to 1992 under President George H. W. Bush. During his tenure, Garrett focused on modernizing and restructuring the Navy to meet the challenges of the post-Cold War era. He emphasized naval readiness, technological advancements, and personnel management, contributing to the Navy's role in national defense during a period of significant geopolitical change.
18. Donald Rice, Secretary of the Air Force: Donald B. Rice served as the Secretary of the Air Force from 1989 to 1993 under President George H. W. Bush. During his tenure, Rice focused on modernizing the Air Force to maintain technological superiority and readiness. He oversaw efforts to advance aerospace technology, enhance strategic capabilities, and manage the Air Force's global operations amidst evolving security challenges.

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19. William Studeman, Director of the NSA: William O. Studeman served as the Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) from 1986 to 1989 and then as the Director of the National Security Agency (NSA) from 1988 to 1992. As Director of the NSA, Studeman played a crucial role in overseeing signals intelligence operations and cybersecurity efforts during a period of rapid technological change and global security challenges. His tenure at the NSA coincided with significant developments in intelligence gathering and counterterrorism efforts.
20. Colin Powell, Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff: Colin Powell served as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993 under Presidents George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton. Known for his strategic leadership and diplomatic skill, Powell played a pivotal role in shaping U.S. military strategy during the Gulf War, where he advocated for a decisive and multinational coalition approach to liberate Kuwait. His tenure emphasized joint military operations, technological advancements, and maintaining strong alliances, solidifying his reputation as a respected military leader and statesman.
21. Norman Schwarzkopf, Commander of United States Central Command: Norman Schwarzkopf, Jr., known as "Stormin' Norman," served as the Commander of United States Central Command (CENTCOM) from 1988 to 1991. He played a central role in planning and leading Operation Desert Storm during the Gulf War in 1991, where he commanded coalition forces to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation. Schwarzkopf's leadership and strategic acumen were widely praised for the success of the military campaign, which showcased advanced military technology and coalition cooperation in a rapid and decisive victory.

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22. Alfred Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps: Alfred M. Gray Jr. served as the Commandant of the Marine Corps from 1987 to 1991. Known for his emphasis on readiness and innovation within the Marine Corps, Gray focused on modernizing tactics, equipment, and training during his tenure. He played a key role in adapting Marine Corps capabilities to meet the challenges of the post-Cold War era, including participating in operations such as the Gulf War.
23. Carl Stiner, Commander of United States Special Operation Command: Carl W. Stiner served as the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) from 1987 to 1990. He oversaw the coordination and integration of special operations forces from multiple branches of the U.S. military. Stiner's tenure was marked by his leadership in enhancing the capabilities and effectiveness of special operations units, particularly during operations such as Operation Just Cause in Panama and Operation Desert Storm in Iraq.
24. Les Aspin, Chair of the House Armed Services Committee: Les Aspin served as the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee from 1985 to 1993. Known for his expertise in defense policy and military affairs, Aspin played a significant role in shaping U.S. defense strategy during the final years of the Cold War and into the post-Cold War era. He advocated for military reform, budgetary oversight, and strategic planning, influencing key defense legislation and policies during his tenure in Congress.

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