



The Iran War is when this imperial impunity is clashing for the first time with a country that can fight back and cause serious damage to the U.S. military and oil economy. The war could spread through ethnic secessions throughout the region, and even lead to a nuclear conflagration. The headstones tell a story: If Iran was the starting point for our massive military expansion, maybe stopping the Iran War is when the American people can finally put our foot down, put an end to this cycle of violence, and say no more endless wars.

Olympia held an “interventions headstones” rally in January 2020, on the “International Day of Action for No War With Iran,” called by Code Pink after Trump’s assassination of Iranian General Soleimani threatened war with Iran. Similar rallies were held in 2024 and 2025. Instead of again finding volunteers to stand with the signs in chronological order, for No Kings Day III in March 2026, I affixed H-frame wire stakes to each (numbered) 30”x 20” headstone, and erected them alongside a title poster (printed at 250%), with a link and QR code to the interventions list, and explanations on the back of the headstones for more information. I’m compiling this kit to enable groups to create their own headstones, to educate their own communities and honor those who have lost their lives in endless wars.

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Coup in<br/>IRAN<br/>1953</b>           | <b>Troops in<br/>SOMALIA<br/>1992-94</b>           | <b>Troops in<br/>SYRIA<br/>2008</b>           | <b>Bombing<br/>IRAN in IRAQ<br/>2019-20</b> |
| <b>Troops in<br/>LEBANON<br/>1958</b>      | <b>Bombing<br/>SUDAN/<br/>AFGHANISTAN<br/>1998</b> | <b>Drones in<br/>PAKISTAN,<br/>2005-21</b>    | <b>Air Strikes on<br/>YEMEN<br/>2023-?</b>  |
| <b>Coup in<br/>IRAQ<br/>1963</b>           | <b>Bombing<br/>IRAQ<br/>1998</b>                   | <b>YEMEN<br/>WAR<br/>2009-21</b>              | <b>Air War for<br/>ISRAEL<br/>2024-?</b>    |
| <b>MIDEAST<br/>WAR<br/>1973</b>            | <b>Bombs in<br/>YEMEN<br/>2000-02</b>              | <b>SYRIA<br/>WAR<br/>2011-24</b>              | <b>Navy off<br/>LEBANON<br/>2024-?</b>      |
| <b>Raiding<br/>IRAN<br/>1980</b>           | <b>UNITED<br/>STATES<br/>2001</b>                  | <b>LIBYA<br/>WAR<br/>2011-?</b>               | <b>Air War on<br/>IRAN<br/>2025</b>         |
| <b>Bombing<br/>LIBYA<br/>1986</b>          | <b>AFGHANISTAN<br/>WAR<br/>2001-21</b>             | <b>Bombing<br/>SYRIA/IRAQ<br/>2014-?</b>      | <b>Bombing<br/>NIGERIA<br/>2025</b>         |
| <b>Shelling<br/>LEBANON<br/>1982-84</b>    | <b>IRAQ<br/>WAR<br/>2003-11</b>                    | <b>Troops in<br/>NIGER<br/>2017</b>           | <b>NO<br/>IRAN<br/>WAR<br/>2026</b>         |
| <b>Naval war vs.<br/>IRAN<br/>1987-88</b>  | <b>SOMALIA<br/>WAR,<br/>2006-?</b>                 | <b>Troops in<br/>SAUDI ARABIA<br/>2019-20</b> |   |
| <b>GULF<br/>WAR<br/>1991</b>               |  |   |   |
| <b>Sanctions on<br/>IRAQ<br/>1991-2003</b> |  |   |   |

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**From Wounded Knee to Iran:**

**U.S. Military Interventions Since 1890**

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**Escalation of This War Could Shatter Iran into Ethnic Enclaves**  
(ZNet, 3/3/26) <https://znetwork.org/znetarticle/escalation-of-this-war-could-shatter-iran-into-ethnic-enclaves/>

# **U.S. INTERVENTIONS IN THE MIDEAST AND AFRICA**

**SEE GLOBAL LIST SINCE 1890:  
[https://sites.evergreen.edu/  
zoltan/interventions](https://sites.evergreen.edu/zoltan/interventions)**



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## EXPLANATIONS ON BACKS OF INTERVENTIONS HEADSTONES

### **Coup in IRAN 1953**                    1

Nuclear threat:

Soviet troops told to leave northwestern Iran after WWII, 1946.

Command Operation:

CIA overthrows democracy (nationalist Mossadegh government), and installs Shah as dictator, 1953.

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### **Troops in LEBANON 1958**                    2

Troops, naval:

Army & Marine occupation against rebels.

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### **Coup in IRAQ 1963**                    3

Command Operation:

CIA organizes coup that killed president, brings Ba'ath Party to power, and Saddam Hussein back from exile to be head of the secret service.

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**MIDEAST  
WAR  
1973**                      **4**

Nuclear threat:  
World-wide alert during war between Israel & neighbors;  
Soviets warned not to intervene.

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**Raiding  
IRAN  
1980**                      **5**

Troops, nuclear threat, aborted bombing:

Raid to rescue Embassy hostages fails; 8 troops die in copter-plane crash.  
Soviets warned not to get involved in revolutionary Iran.

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**Bombing  
LIBYA  
1986**                      **6**

Two Libyan jets shot down in maneuvers, 1981 & 1989.  
Air strikes to topple Qaddafi government, 1986.

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**Shelling  
LEBANON  
1982-84**                      **7**

Naval, Bombing, Troops:  
Marines expel Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and back Christian Phalangist / fascists,  
1982. Navy bombs and shells Lebanese Muslim and Syrian positions, 1982-84.  
241 Marines killed when Shi'a rebel bombs barracks, 1983.

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**Naval war vs.                    8**  
**IRAN**  
**1987-88**

Naval jets:  
Two Iranian jets shot down over Persian Gulf, 1981.

US intervenes on side of Saddam Hussein in Iran-Iraq War, defending reflagged Iraqi oil tankers, striking Iranian ships and oil rigs. USS Vincennes shoots down Iranian civilian jet, 1988.

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**GULF                                9**  
**WAR**  
**1991**

Troops, jets, naval, bombing:  
Iraq countered after invading Kuwait. 540,000 troops stationed in Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, UAE, Israel in Operation Desert Shield, 1990.  
Blockade of Iraqi and Jordanian ports, air strikes on Iraq and Kuwait;  
200,000+ killed in invasion of Iraq and Kuwait; large-scale destruction of Iraqi military  
In Operation Desert Storm, Jan-Feb. 1991. U.S. watches as Saddam suppresses Shi'a uprising, March 1991.

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**Sanctions on                    10**  
**IRAQ**  
**1991-2003**

Bombing, naval:  
No-fly zone over Kurdish north and Shi'a south; constant air strikes and naval-enforced economic sanctions on food, medicine, sanitation, etc., which cause high child death mortality rates.

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**Troops in  
SOMALIA  
1992-94**                      **11**

Troops, Naval, Bombing:  
U.S.-led United Nations occupation during civil war; raids against one Mogadishu faction.

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**Bombing  
IRAQ  
1998**                      **12**

Bombing, Missiles:  
Four days of intensive air strikes in Operation Desert Fox after UN weapons inspectors allege Iraqi obstructions.

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**Bombing  
SUDAN/  
AFGHANISTAN  
1998**                      **13**

Missiles:  
Missile attacks on camps in Afghanistan, pharmaceutical plant in Sudan,  
In retaliation for Al Qaeda attacks on US embassies in East Africa

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**Bombs in  
YEMEN  
2000-02**                      **14**

USS Cole, docked in Aden, bombed by Al Qaeda, 2000.  
Predator drone missile attacks on Al Qaeda, including a US citizen, 2002.

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**UNITED STATES 2001** **15**

9/11 hijacker attacks on New York, Pentagon, and jet in Pennsylvania.  
U.S. military used to overseas wars, but not prepared to defend homeland.

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**AFGHANISTAN WAR 2001-21** **16**

Troops, Bombing, Missiles:  
Massive U.S. mobilization to overthrow Taliban, hunt Al Qaeda fighters, install Karzai regime, and battle Taliban insurgency. More than 30,000 U.S. troops and numerous private security contractors carry out occupation. Longest-ever U.S. overseas war.

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**IRAQ WAR 2003-11** **17**

Troops, Naval, Bombing, Missiles:  
Saddam regime toppled in Baghdad. More than 250,000 U.S. personnel participate in invasion. US and UK forces occupy country and battle Sunni and Shi'ite insurgencies. More than 160,000 troops and numerous private contractors carry out occupation and build large permanent bases.

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**Troops in SYRIA 2008** **18**

Special Forces in helicopter raid 5 miles from Iraq kill 8 Syrian civilians

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**Drones in**                      **19**  
**PAKISTAN,**  
**2005-21**

CIA missile and air strikes and Special Forces raids on alleged Al Qaeda and Taliban refuge villages kill multiple civilians. Drone attacks also on Pakistani Mehsud network.

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**SOMALIA**                      **20**  
**WAR,**  
**2006-?**

Missiles, naval, troops, command operation:  
Special Forces advise Ethiopian invasion that topples Islamist government, 2006;  
AC-130 strikes, Cruise missile, drone attacks and helicopter raids against Islamist Al Shabab rebels; naval blockade against “pirates” and insurgents.

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**YEMEN**                      **21**  
**WAR**  
**2009-?**

Missiles, command operation:  
Cruise missile attack on Al Qaeda kills 49 civilians, 2009; Raids, attacks increase in civil war, 2011, Backing Saudi military assaults on Houthi rebels in Yemen since 2015, which kill thousands of civilians; Massive famine caused by civil war, port blockades.

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**LIBYA**                      **22**  
**WAR**  
**2011-?**

NATO air strikes topple Qaddafi government, backed rebel army 2011; Rebels execute Qaddafi. Civil war erupts; Special Forces raids vs. Al Qaeda-backed forces.  
U.S., Turkey back Islamist government in Tripoli vs. Russian-backed rebels in east.

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**SYRIA**                    **23**  
**WAR**  
**2011-24**

Training Syrian rebels, 2011-24;  
Bombing alleged Syrian government air bases, chemical arms sites, 2017, 2018.

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**Bombing**                    **24**  
**SYRIA/IRAQ**  
**2014-?**

Air strikes and Special Forces against Islamic State (ISIS) insurgents, 2014-?.

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**Troops in**                    **25**  
**NIGER**  
**2017**

Special Forces combat against Islamist insurgents; 4 US troops killed.

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**Troops in**                    **26**  
**SAUDI ARABIA**  
**2019-20**

Mobilizing U.S. troops against Iran in Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), after Iran-backed Yemeni Houthi rebels claim drone attack on Saudi oil installations

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**Bombing**                    **27**  
**IRAN in IRAQ**  
**2019-20**

U.S. strikes at Iran-backed Iraqi Shi'a militias. Shi'a protests at US Embassy in Baghdad. U.S. drone kills Iranian general in Baghdad. Iran missile strikes on two U.S. bases in Iraq. Troops mobilizations in Saudi Arabia, UAE after Yemeni Houthi rebels claim drone attack on Saudi oil installations.

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**Air strikes on**                      **28**  
**YEMEN**  
**2023-?**

Continued drone strikes on Al Qaeda in southern Yemen. US-UK attacks on Houthi vessels and sites in northern Yemen after Houthi attacks on Red Sea shipping during Israel-Gaza war.

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**Air War for**                      **29**  
**ISRAEL**  
**2024-?**

Israeli, U.S., U.K., and Jordanian forces twice shoot down missiles and drones from Iranian attacks carried out in retaliation for Israeli assassinations in Syria, Iran, & Lebanon

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**Navy off**                      **30**  
**LEBANON**  
**2024-?**

Naval show of force to back Israeli war on Hezbollah and seizure of southern Lebanon.

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**Bombing**                      **31**  
**IRAN**  
**2025**

U.S. joins Israeli air war against Iranian nuclear sites. Iran retaliates with missile strikes on U.S. bases in Qatar.

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**Bombing**                      **32**  
**NIGERIA**  
**2025**

Air strikes against Islamic State insurgents in Sokoto, allegedly for attacks on Christians.

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**NO  
IRAN  
WAR  
2026**

33

U.S. & Israel launch massive air war on Iranian military sites, leadership, energy sites, civilian infrastructure, & ships. Iranian missiles retaliate against Israel & Azerbaijan, U.S. bases & energy sites in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Iraq, Jordan, & Syria, U.K. bases in Cyprus. Iran blocks Strait of Hormuz to ships from attacking states.

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