

What is Geography?

# Students will able to:

- Define Geography
- Explain the 5 Themes
- Analyze the 5 Themes with an example

# What is Geography

- Geography is about spatial thinking
- The questions we want to ask “What is where, Why there, and Why care?”
- This quote comes from By Charles F. Gritzner  
South Dakota State University

# By Charles F. Gritzner

## South Dakota State University

- Please read the article:  
[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/courses/teachers\\_corner/155012.html](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/courses/teachers_corner/155012.html)
- Dr. Gritzner
- Be able to give the examples (Figure 1)
- What is?
- Where?
- Why there?
- Why care?

# 5 Themes of Geography

- Location
- Place
- Human – Environment Interaction
- Movement
- Regions

# Location

- **Absolute Location** – a specific description of the Where of a place, through the use of coordinates, street address, mile markers, etc.
- **Relative location** – a description of the Where of a place by comparing it to the Where of another place. California University of Pennsylvania is 35 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

# Place

- The Physical Description of a place –  
Landscape, Climate, etc.
- The Human Description of a place –  
Economics, Politics, Culture, etc.

# Human – Environment Interaction

- Humans modify their environment
- Humans depend on their environment
- Humans adapt to their environment



# Movement

- Humans
- Goods
- Ideas

# Regions

- Formal Region
- Functional Region
- Vernacular Region

# Major Tool for Geographers - Maps

- Example of 5 Themes
- Now we are going to examine the 5 Themes using the Persian Gulf War.

# Why Did the US go to War in Persian Gulf?

- In March 2017 – Dr. Hal Brands discussed this question at the Foreign Policy Research Institute's Why Does America Go to War? Education Workshop
- <http://www.fpri.org/multimedia/2017/03/tthe-persian-gulf-war-1990-1991/>
- This can be answered by examining smaller questions?

# Why Did Saddam Invade Kuwait?

- Aggression
- Opportunity
- Insecurity

# Aggression

- Saddam was an contentious leader
- Determined to be boss of “Arab world”
- 10:21, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video

# Opportunity

- Iraq had developed quite a powerful military as it fought Iran. Iran had been weakened
- Kuwait was fragile and other Arab countries were not fans
- 11:34, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video
- Let's use Relative Location to examine these issues.

# Iraq – Relative Location





# Insecurity

- Saddam was in trouble economically due to the Iran Iraq War
- Saddam felt Kuwait produced more oil, which caused oil prices to drop. He has trouble paying back debt
- Circle of Danger – “Israel and United States were working with Kuwait against Iraq”

- 13:20, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video

# Border Dispute Between Iraq vs. Kuwait

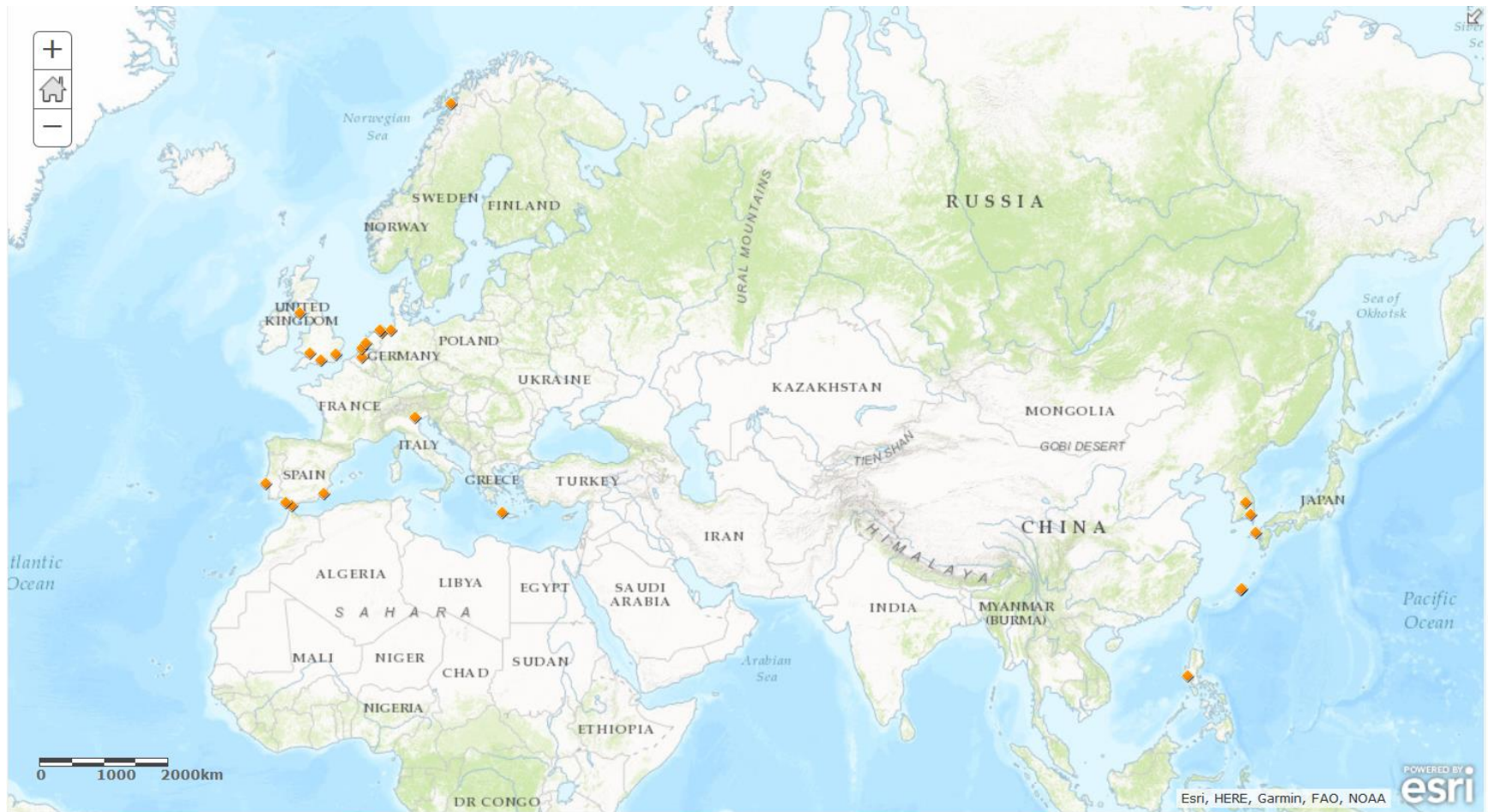
16:20, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video



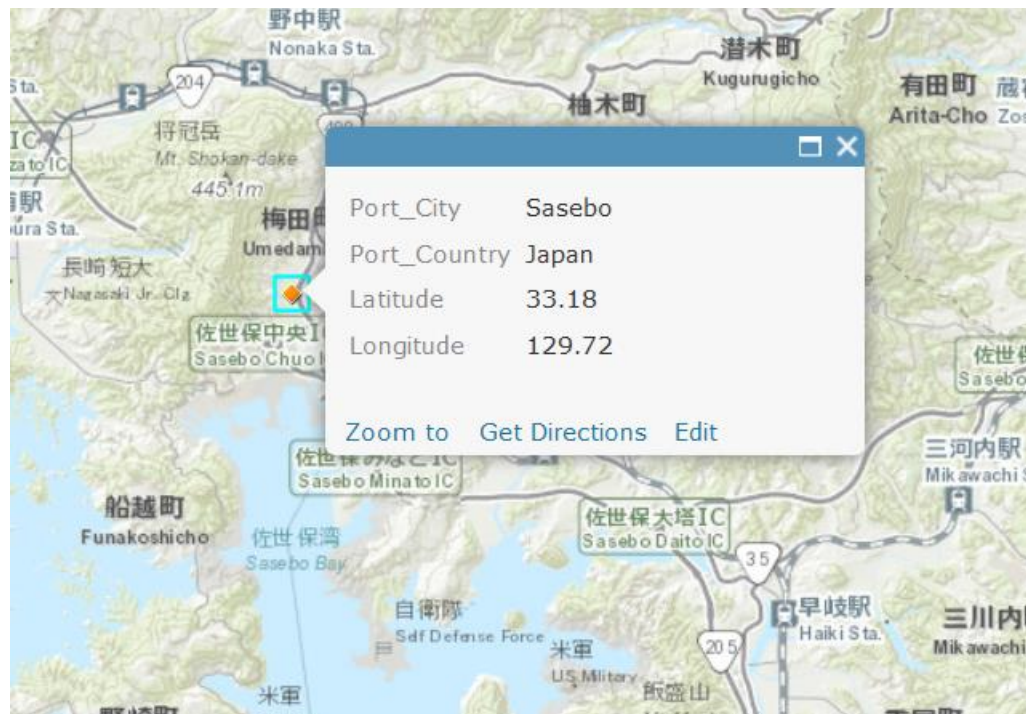
# Geopolitical Issues

- Dr. Brands states that the US moved half of their combat power into the Persian Gulf area.
- Dr. Brands discussed the Global Economics involved in this situation.
- Now let us look at that with the 5 themes

# Map of Cities with American Naval Ships

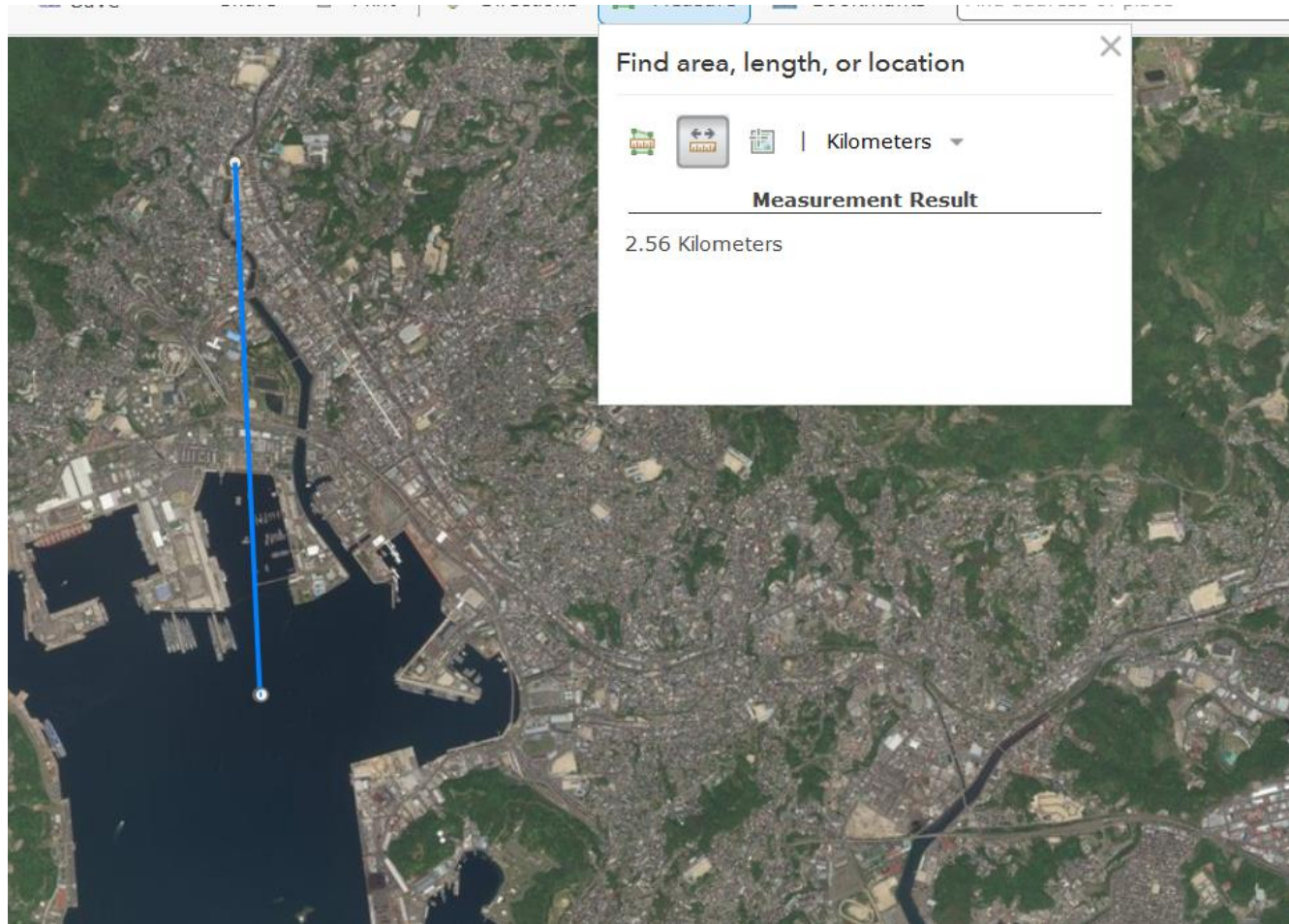


# Points – Center of City





# Imagery and Measure the Distance to the Water



# Place



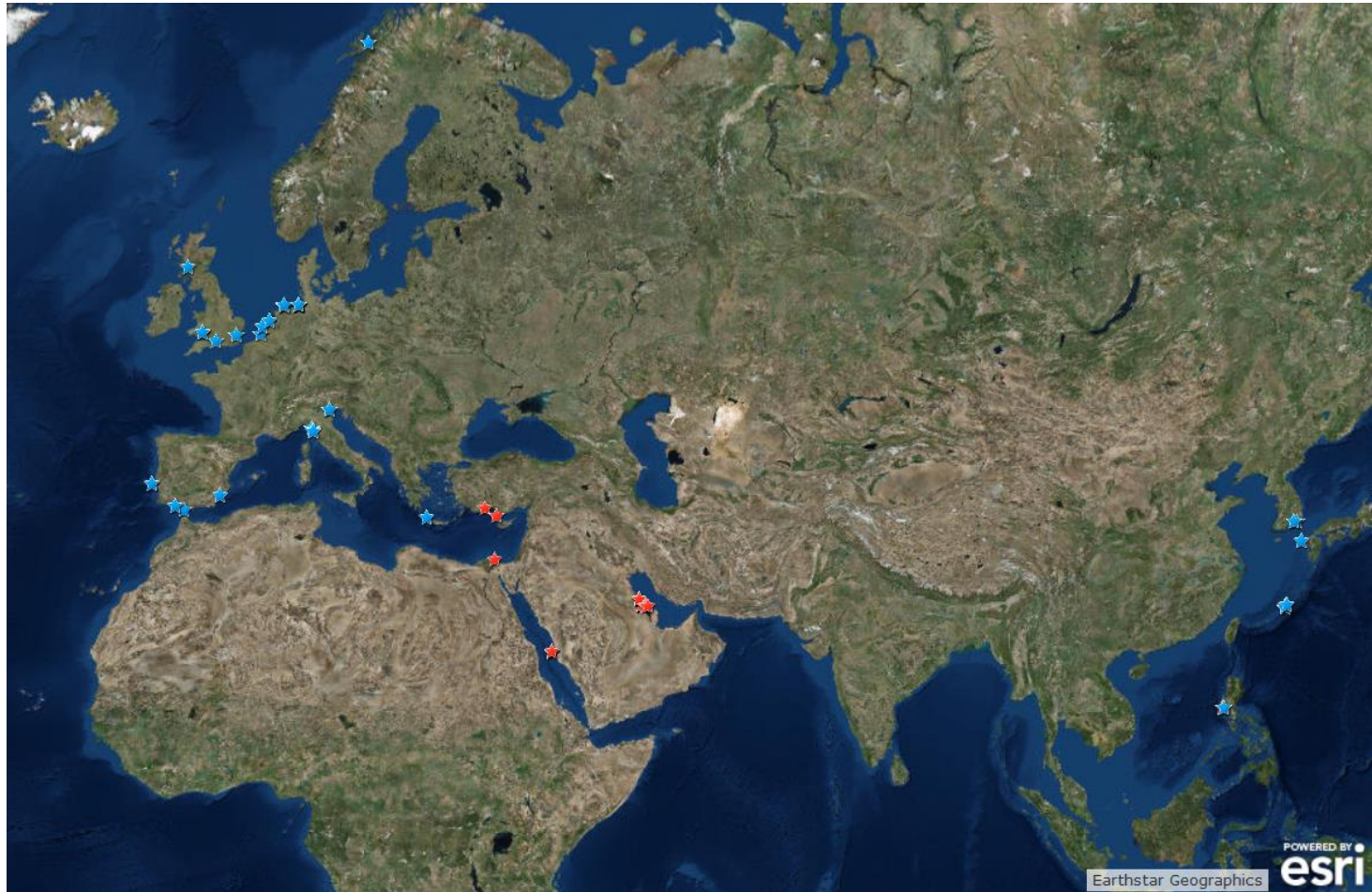


Zoom out – Why were the ships at these locations?

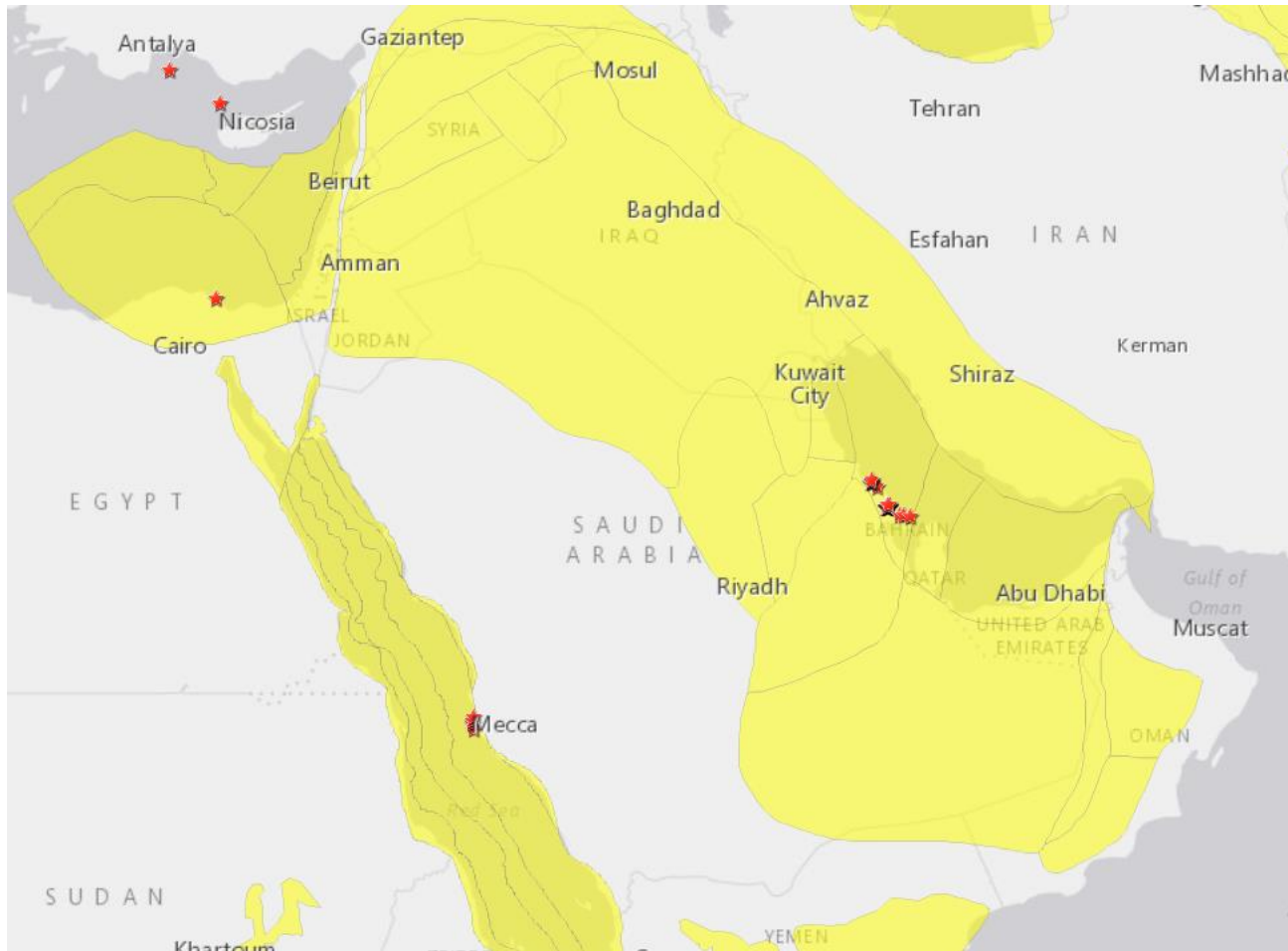




# Before and After

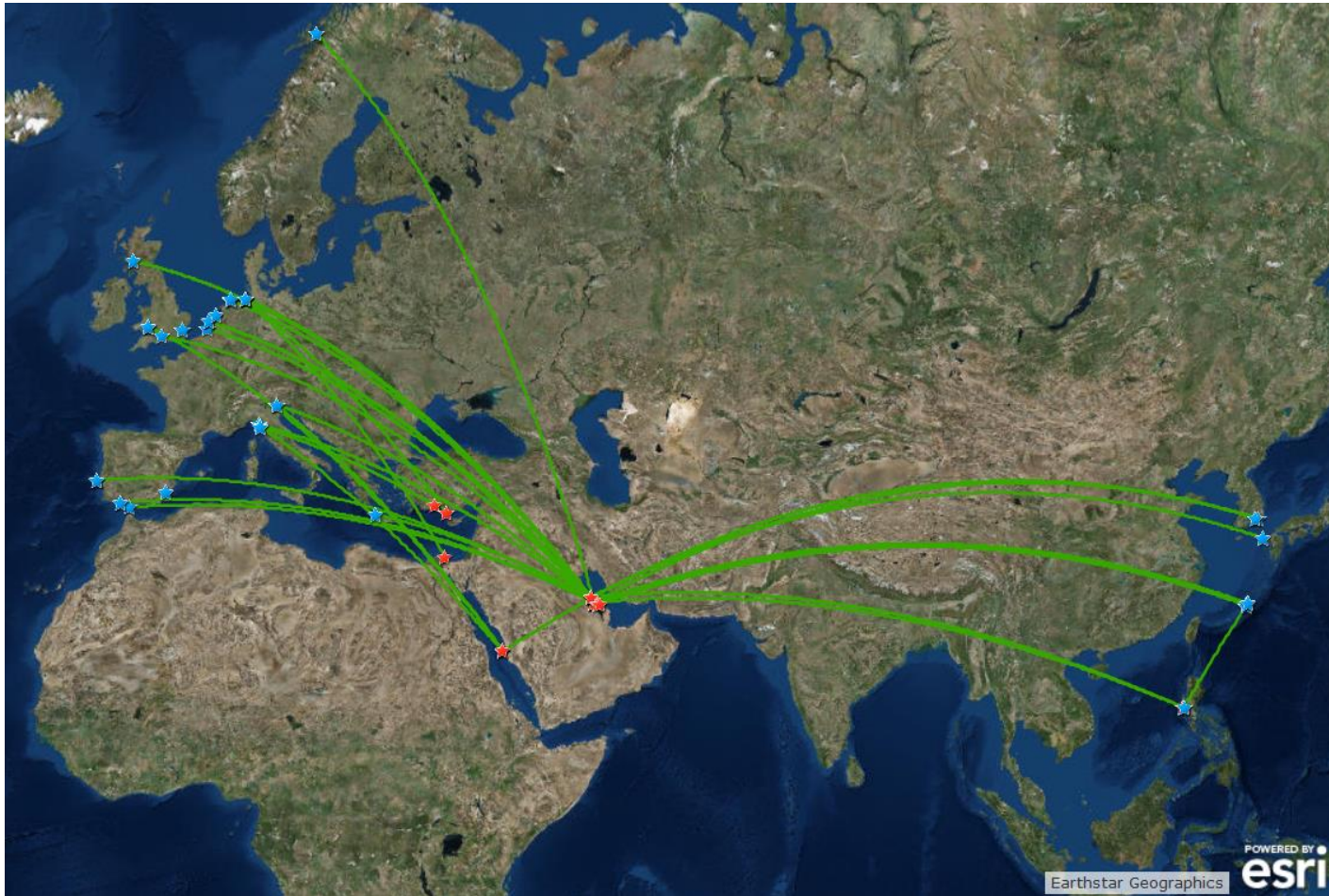


# Human Environment Interaction (Yellow Represents Oil Fields)

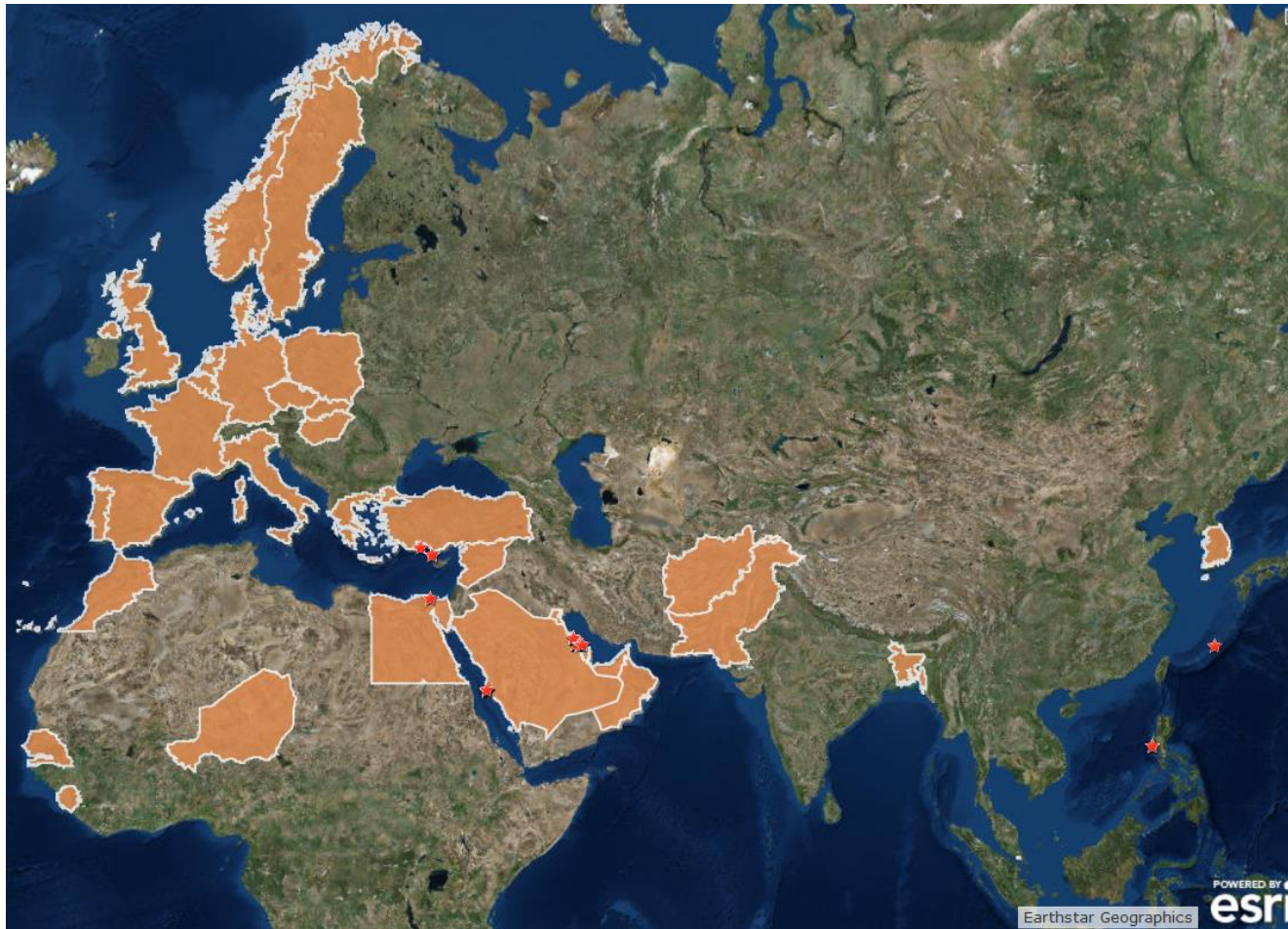




# Movement



# What Changed?



# Final Step

- Discuss with the students the fall of the USSR and ability to move naval power to assist in the Persian Gulf War
- Discuss Dr. Brands points on the amount of oil that Saddam Hussein would have been able to control.

# Bibliography

- Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video,  
<http://www.fpri.org/multimedia/2017/03/tthe-persian-gulf-war-1990-1991/>
- Matthews, James and Cora J. Holt (1991). So Many, So Much, So Far, So Fast: United States Transportation Command and Strategic Deployment for Operation Desert Shield / Desert Storm.  
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- ArcGIS Online <http://www.arcgis.com>

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## – A First Lecture



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- Let's use Relative Location to examine these issues.

## Iraq – Relative Location



Have your students describe Iraq in relative location terms. (To Iran, To Kuwait, To Saudi Arabia, to Persian Gulf, etc.)

Teacher can go to <http://www.arcgis.com> to make map more interactive (Zoom in, etc.)

# Insecurity

- Saddam was in trouble economically due to the Iran Iraq War
- Saddam felt Kuwait produced more oil, which caused oil prices to drop. He has trouble paying back debt
- Circle of Danger – “Israel and United States were working with Kuwait against Iraq”

• 13:20, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video



# Border Dispute Between Iraq vs. Kuwait

16:20, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video



Have your students discuss the issues of Borders.

What Physical Features sometimes form borders?

How do they think other borders are 'Drawn'?

Read this article about the Iran Iraq War - Have students read:

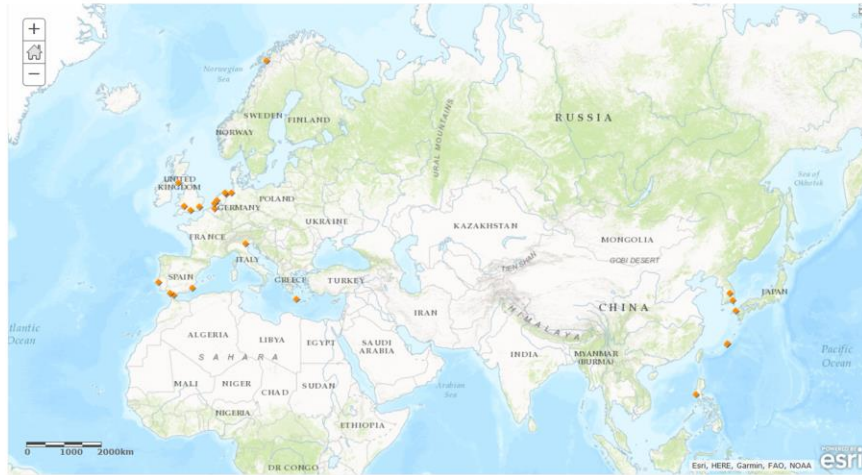
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle\\_east/4260420.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/4260420.stm)

Listen to 16:20 of the video on this topic

## Geopolitical Issues

- Dr. Brands states that the US moved half of their combat power into the Persian Gulf area.
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## Map of Cities with American Naval Ships

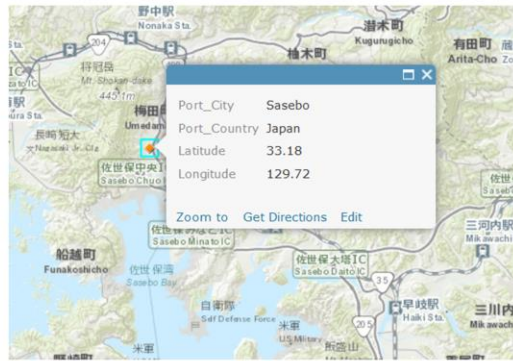


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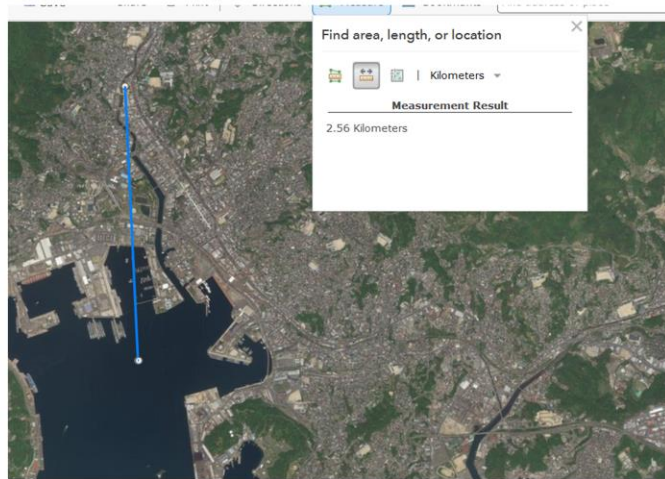
[http://www.history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/resmat/dshield\\_dstorm/somanyso much.pdf](http://www.history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/resmat/dshield_dstorm/somanyso much.pdf)  
p. 263 - 265

## Points – Center of City



The exact point is city's center. It is defined by the Latitude and Longitude – An Absolute Location

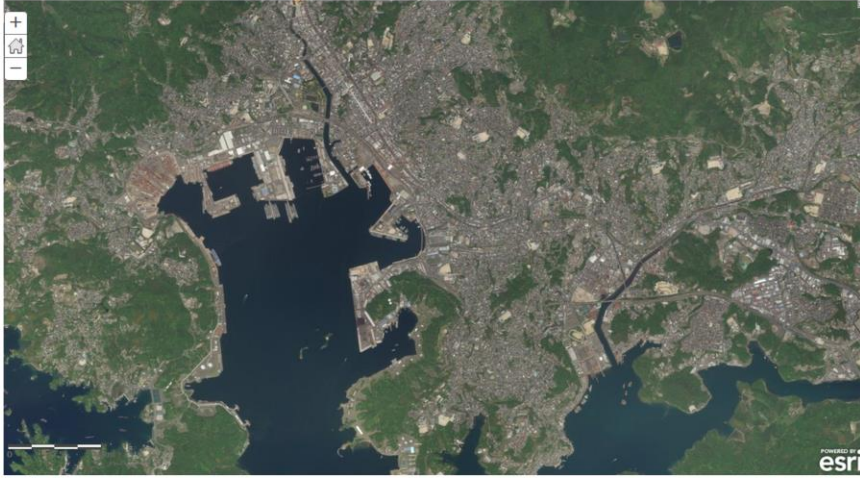
## Imagery and Measure the Distance to the Water



The ships are actually located about 2.56 kilometers from the center of the city to harbors. - Relative Location

This placement of the points in the water are used for this exercise. (Not actual locations of ships)

# Place



Ask students to examine the different points and describe the physical and human landscapes.

Teacher can go to <http://www.arcgis.com> to make map more interactive (Zoom in, etc.)

Zoom out – Why were the ships at these locations?



Ask the students – What does the Red Area represent?

The Red area represents the Warsaw Pact.

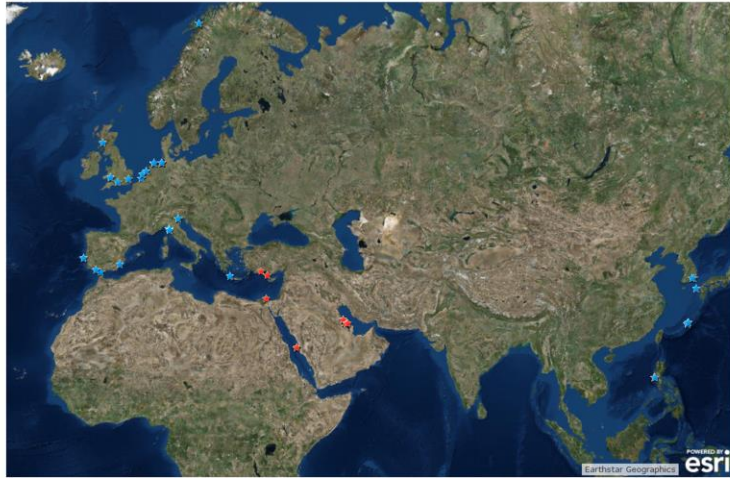
Ask students to read - <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1953-1960/warsaw-treaty>

Then ask the students - what type of region was the Warsaw Pact countries?

The Warsaw Pact was the Functional Region that included the Soviet Union and Eastern European Countries

Listen to 24:59, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video

## Before and After



Blue Stars – US Naval Ships at Foreign Ports Before the Persian Gulf War

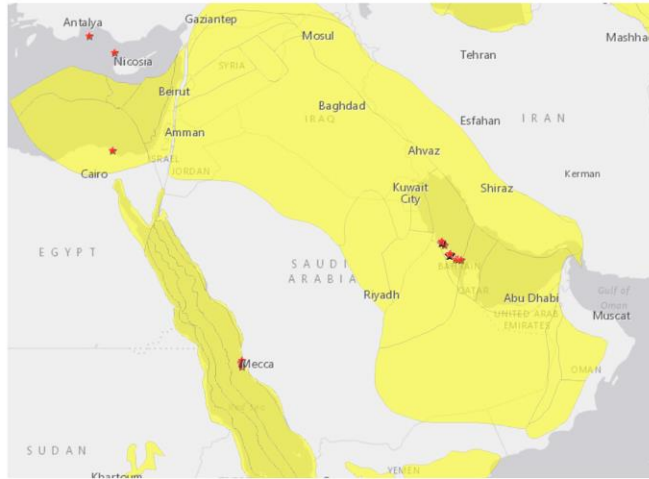
Red Stars – US Naval Ships at Foreign Ports During the Persian Gulf War – This included about 33 ships (Matthews and Holt, 1991). (There were more ships coming from American Ports)

Examine the Change

Listen to 30:20, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video



## Human Environment Interaction (Yellow Represents Oil Fields)



Human Environment Interaction: We depend on oil.

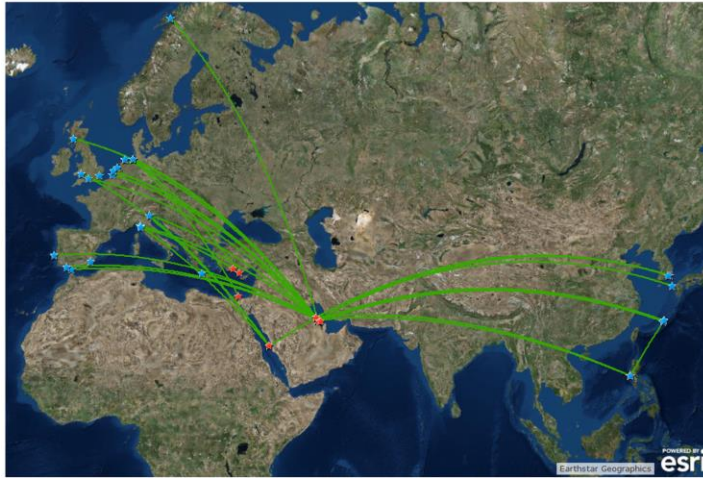
Start a discussion about the connection between Oil, Development and Power

Dr. Brands states that with Kuwait under Saddam's control. He now had 20% of the oil reserves

If he continued to eastern Saudi Arabia (Remember map) – he would have 40 – 50% of oil reserves

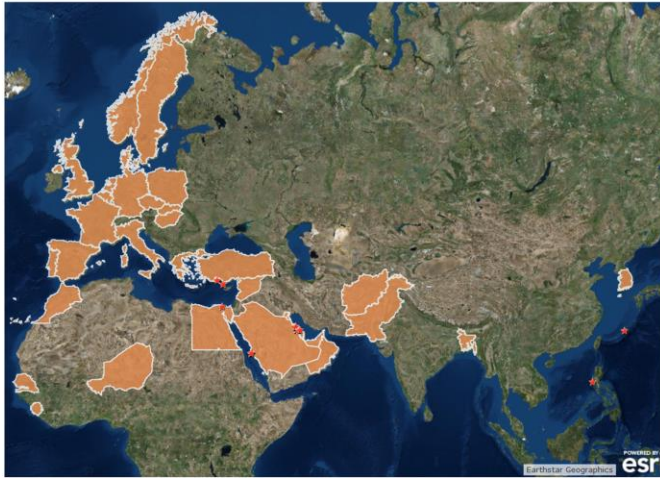
Video 21:00, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video

# Movement



Obviously the movements do not follow this path, but give an example of the movement of these ships.

## What Changed?



Soviet Union fell and Warsaw Pact fell apart

During the Persian Gulf War, the United States formed a Coalition shown in tan.

Examine the states involved in the Coalition. Some of Arab states, some of Eastern European countries (former members of the Warsaw Pact)

28:48, Dr. Brands, Persian Gulf War, FPRI Video

## Final Step

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