1973-1975: Henry Kissinger (US Secretary of State) engaged in 'shuttle diplomacy', going back and forth between Israeli, Egyptian and Syrian capitals in order to arrange treaties of disengagement, leads to Israeli military withdrawals.

**Camp David Agreement:**
- 1978: US president Carter invited the Egyptian and Israeli leaders to Camp David. For 13 days the three men and their advisers discussed a peace settlement.

- Main points of the peace treaty:
  - Israeli forces were withdrawn from Sinai
  - Egypt to regain all of Sinai within three years
  - Israeli shipping to have free passage through the Suez Canal and the Straits of Tiran.

- **Treaty of Washington 1979**: signed by Egyptian and Israeli leaders, which confirmed what they had agreed at Camp David.

**The Iranian Revolution**

Iran is 3 times as big as Iraq, in both land area and population, and borders with Iraq to the west and Russia to the North. Iran is a Muslim country but its people are mostly non-Arab and do not speak Arabic. Moreover, it is mostly made up of Shia, not Sunni Muslims.

**Iran under the Shah**

Shah = title of the King/Emperor of Iran. At the start of the 20th century, Iran was ruled by the Shah. Iran was independent but the oilfields in the south were owned by a British company that paid the Shah's government for the right to exploit the oilfields. The profits went to the British.

After WWII: a number of Iranians demanded that their government take control of the oilfields. The leading nationalist was Mohammad Mossadeq, member of the Iranian parliament. Mossadeq gained massive popular support and was appointed Prime Minister in 1951. The parliament ultimately passed a law to nationalise the oil industry. In retaliation the British company withdrew its workforce, persuaded other Western oil companies not to buy Iranian oil and imposed a blockade on Iran's ports.

**Overthrowing Mossadeq's government**

Iran's income oil sales dwindled but Mossadeq remained acclaimed by Arab states for standing up and asserting Iran's independence. The British tried to persuade the US to join them in overthrowing Mossadeq by claiming that the Soviet Union might extend its influence in Iran.

In 1953: they used threats and money to pressurise the Shah into dismissing Mossadeq and replacing him with a more pro-Western PM. Mossadeq was put on trial and imprisoned while that Iranian parliament was closed down.

The Shah's new govt. signed a treaty with the US in 1955, and joined Britain, Turkey and Iraq in the **Baghdad Pact.** The Shah was a useful ally: reliably anti-Soviet, reformist: he transferred some of Iran's land from the biggest landowners to poorer farmers, raised the literacy rate, increased the number of schools... Iran grew wealthy on the income from the oil industry.

Opposition to the Shah: huge wealth gap, dependence on the non-Muslim West caused anger, criticized the Shah's extravagant show of wealth, resentment of the Baghdad Pact. The increasing opposition to his regime was led by the Muslim religious leaders, the mullahs.

**Islamic Revolution: 1979**

Leader of the opposition: Ayatollah Khomeini. (Ayatollah: among Shia Muslims, the most senior scholars, experts in interpreting the Koran). In 1978: huge strikes and demonstrations calling on the Shah to abdicate. Repression by the army and secret police. The govt introduced martial law in September, crushed the revolts.

October: wave of strikes which brought most of the industry, including oil production to a halt. January 1979: the Shah left Iran to receive treatment for cancer, never returned. Khomeini declared an Islamic Revolution. Most of the army sided with Khomeini, the Shah's last PM fled the country.