

Dates	Events
Early 1970s	Rebellious Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) was formed. Syria supported this party.
Late 1974	The filling of Keban and Thawra dams started.
Early 1975	Iraq complained about the flows in the Euphrates dropping from the normal 920 m ³ /sec to an “intolerable” 197 m ³ /sec. Iraq requested that the Arab League intervene. However, Syria said it was receiving less than average flow and dropped out of the Arab League. Both countries amassed their troops on the shared borders and the situation escalated.
June 3, 1975	Intervention and mediation efforts by Saudi Arabia are at last successful and war was averted. Agreement details were not announced.
1977	Turkey announced plans for the "GAP Project", which includes 22 dams and 19 hydropower installations on the Euphrates-Tigris Rivers.
1987	Turkey guaranteed a minimum water flow of 500 m ³ /s and Syria, in return, promised to cooperate in security matters. A few months later, Turkey complained about terrorist activities and accused Syria of supporting them.
January, 1990	The filling of the Ataturk Dam by Turkey started, shutting off completely the flow to the Euphrates River. Even though the interruption was intended to be for only one month, Syria and Iraq boycotted companies involved in the GAP project. Moreover, military leaders from both nations drew up plans for armed retaliation against Turkey. After three weeks, Turkey released water to the Euphrates River.
1992 – 1994	Bilateral security agreements between Syria and Turkey were discussed, with little success. Turkey continued to accuse Syria of supporting the PKK. In 1993, the Turkish Prime Minister declared that if Syria did not ban PKK from its country, there could be no solution to the water problem.
1995	Turkey organized military operations in northern Iraq against PKK members who fled to Syria, thus confirming Turkish suspicions.
August, 1998	Turkey threatened full military action and invasion against Syria for continuing to support PKK rebels.
October, 1998	With the mediation of Egypt, the Adana Agreement, obligating the Syrian government to ban PKK, was signed by Turkey and Syria.