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| 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 m3/sec to an “intolerable” 197 m3/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 m3/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. |