**Recent History & Trouble in the Middle East Review Sheet**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*The creation of the nation of Israel in 1948 has caused a tremendous amount of conflict in the Middle East. The U.S. became this nation’s strongest ally after World War II, which has made us unpopular with other countries in the region.

\*The Cold War ended when the communist Soviet Union split into more than 15 different countries in 1991.

\*The Persian Gulf War, fought in 1990-91, started because Saddam Hussein and the country of Iraq invaded Kuwait.

\*The U.S. and their allies were able to easily defeat Iraq in the Persian Gulf War because new technology gained in the Cold War was far superior to Iraq’s technology.

\*September 11 terrorist attacks were on the Twin Towers in New York City, The Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and a hijacked airplane that crash landed in Pennsylvania. Osama bin Laden was the mastermind behind the September 11 terrorist attacks. President George W. Bush declared war on terror and began attacking terrorists in Afghanistan.

\*In 2003, President George W. Bush announced an invasion of Iraq because he suspected Iraq was making nuclear weapons. The War in Iraq lasted 8 years because after Saddam Hussein was gone, it took many years to try to set up a peaceful government.

\*The U.S. is disliked by many in the Middle East because the U.S. supports the nation of Israel, which many believe was wrongfully taken from the Palestinian Muslims and given to the Jews. The U.S. has tried to control countries in the Middle East for their own good, including putting Saddam Hussein in power and then removing him from power in Iraq. The U.S. has used drones to kill terrorists in many Middle Eastern countries, sometimes killing civilians.

\*The War on Terror began because of the terrorist attacks that took place on September 11th, 2001. It started mostly in Afghanistan, but now includes attacks on terrorists in many countries.

\*Terrorism is when a group tries to make people fearful by committing acts of violence.