

**Forum: Historical Security Council**

**Issue: Cenepa War (1995)**

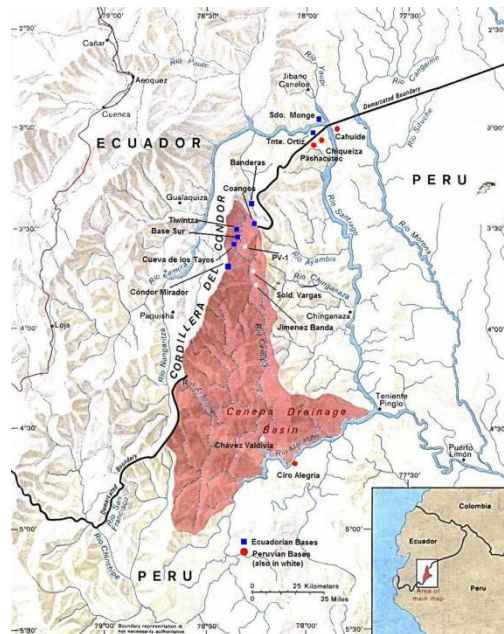
**Student officer: Federico Xu**

**Position: Deputy-President**

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## Introduction

The Cenepa war was a 34-day war that happened between Ecuador and Peru to **fight** for the Cenepa Valley which now is in Peru's territory. Before the Cenepa War, there has been earlier military confrontations. One in 1941 which ended with a peace treaty that was broken by Ecuador and lead to another confrontation that happen in 1981.



**Figure #1: The conflict zone in Cenepa War**

The war happened because Ecuadorian outposts were found near the Cenepa River however the Peru government says that the outposts are violating the border of Peru. They were followed by general mobilization by both sides. On February 28, a ceasefire was signed and in March 1995, Peru and Ecuador called it up to be a demilitarized zone. The final demarcation of the border was signed on October 26, 1998.

## Key Terminology

### Military Confrontations

Conflicts or battles between armed forces of different nations or factions.

### Demilitarized Zone

An area where countries have agreed upon withdrawing military forces.

### Demarcation

The action to fix the border or limits of something.

### Mobilization

Mobilization means the government moving troops preparing for action.

## Background

### Cenepa Valley

The majority of all hostilities during the conflict occurred in the Cenepa Valley. The Cenepa river was located inside the borders of Peru and was used to keep the livestock and was great for fishing. It was one of the essential natural resources of Peru.

### Peru Ecuador War (1941)

This was the first war between Peru and Ecuador happened in 1941 and after the fall of Columbia, Ecuador became independent. However, the border was very vague which led to the war breaking out. Ecuador wants to expand its border with treaties, however, this has made Peru angry. Leading to the outbreak of a war having Peru invade the border of Ecuador.

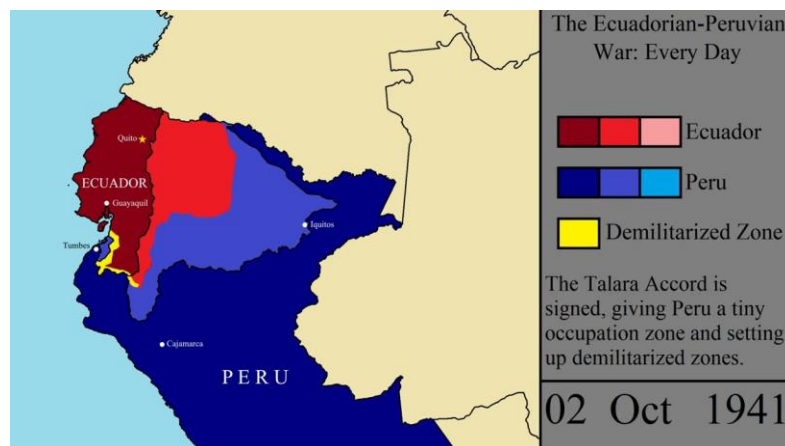


Figure #2: The Size of Ecuador and Peru

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Resolved in mass destruction, the newborn Ecuadorian government was not prepared for the war. They hoped that the USA could help them due to that they were neutral in World War II. This led to them setting up a peace treaty, however with the USA being involved in the second world war heavily. Leading to Peru attacking again and the downfall of Ecuador.

### 1981 Peru Ecuador war

In 1981 Peru and Ecuador started another war due to Peru was near the border of Ecuador which led to an outbreak between both sides. This war started on January 22 but quickly ended on February 10 with the United States and Argentina helping to form an agreement known as the Protocol of Rio de Janeiro. The Protocol of Rio de Janeiro, having withdrawn Troops from both sides, also created a Joint Military Commission to oversee the peace.



**Figure #3: The Land change after Protocol of Rio de Janeiro**

## Major Parties Involved

### United States of America (USA)

During the long-running war between Ecuador and Peru, the USA had wanted both sides to reach peace. This was due to an interest in maintaining the general coherence

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between South American countries under the backdrop of the ongoing war on drugs in both Latin and South America. The 1941 and the 1981 peace treaty was signed due to the help of America being involved and helping to keep the peace between both nations. With the help of America and other countries, peace is resumed.

### Argentina

Argentina played a major role in the war that happened in 1981 along with America, Argentina helped to make sure that the two nations achieved peace and that no more firearms would be fired at the borders. Argentina wanted both sides to achieve peace and did not favor one side over the other.

### Brazil

Brazil among the other countries had participated in diplomatic efforts to reach peace between both nations. The effort helps to assure that there is no further escalation between the two countries.

### Chile

Chile was the final country of the four who participated to make sure that peace can be achieved between the two countries. Chile helped to end the war in peace in 1995 to finally settle the war with the help of the neutral countries.

## Timeline of Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description/Note</b>
<b>2 Oct 1941</b>	This was the first war outbreak between Peru and Ecuador, with Ecuador still in the process of clearing up territorial disputes. The border was unclear which led to the war happening with Ecuador losing the war. The Rio Protocol, signed on January 29 <sup>th</sup> of 1942 had ended the dispute for the time being
<b>22 Jan 1981</b>	This was the second major outbreak with Peru once again fought into Ecuador due to the border was unclear. This started with an unarmed helicopter near the unclear border.
<b>10 Feb 1981</b>	The war quickly ends with the help of United States of America and Argentina setting up a peace treaty that shrinks Ecuador in land size.

<b>26 Jan 1991</b>	This was the start of the Cenepa war with Peru attacking Ecuador once again due to the outpost that Ecuador has setup near the Cenepa valley.
<b>28 Feb 1991</b>	This was the end of the war with America Brazil Chile and Argentina helping to settle the issue final time.

## Previous Attempts/Solutions

Conflict has been seen between the two countries multiple times now. Started in 1941 and finally ended in 1991. This 50-year war had the same solution each time. Which is with the help of other countries form a peace treaty. Due to the huge military strength difference. The treaty was all formed with outside countries coming in and interfering with the war. To ensure that the treaty is formed and strengthened with outside countries making sure the peace is kept.

## Potential Solutions

Potential solutions can include having the United Nations or other third parties make sure that war does not break out between the two nations. They can set up a treaty that has clear borders to make sure that no misunderstanding will happen. If a war does break out with the help of third parties' peace can be achieved faster and can help set up another treaty. However, these are only temporary solutions. A more permanent solution would likely involve more comprehensive agreements on borders, territories, as well as security guarantees to ensure that any provocation or violation does not occur. An example of this would be in the form of Peru signing a treaty of non-aggression against Ecuador with potential consequences being listed in the treaty for violations.

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