

A photograph showing two large, intense fires burning in a desert landscape, likely oil wells. Thick black smoke rises from the fires into a dark, overcast sky. The foreground is a flat, sandy area.

Today in History

February 22, 1991

▲ **Saddam Hussein ordered more than 150 Kuwaiti oil wells to be set alight after the U.S. gave Iraq 24 hours to pull out of Kuwait or face an all-out ground war**

1946: The discovery of the antibiotic streptomycin was announced

1995: A Mississippi judge rejected the traditional “free will” plea by tobacco companies that smokers were aware of the risks of smoking

1996: President Jacques Chirac terminated conscription and scrapped land-based nuclear weapons in France

2006: A bomb attack in Iraq destroyed the famous golden dome of the Askariya mosque in Samarra