

3. The Israelis had won each of 1956, 1967 and 1973 successfully in the wars against the Arabs.

In the war of 1956, the British and the French supported the Israelis as an act of revenge against the Arabs for nationalising the Suez Canal. Nasser took over the canal after Britain and France withdrew offers to finance the construction of the Aswan Dam. Britain believed that if Nasser was not stopped he would continue with what they thought was 'aggression'. The British and the French had secret meetings with the Israeli leaders in Paris and discussed a decision of making a joint attack on Egypt as an excuse to occupy the Suez Canal.

The Israelis were supplied with weapons, aircrafts and soldiers by the British and the French. This made the Israelis strong and when they made a surprise raid attacking the unprepared Egyptians, they easily seized the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula in a few days. The Arabs lost many men as the war had taken place in Egypt. They also lost many weapons as the Israelis had destroyed them. A hundred and seventy Israelis were killed in comparison with a thousand Egyptians massacred. Egypt was destined to lose the war.

After the 1956 war, Arab nationalism increased and so did the demand for revenge by President Nasser. The formation of a united Arab military command that troops along the borders and Nasser's persistence in 1967 that the United Nations leave Egypt, made Israel attack Egypt, Syria and Jordan on the fifth of June of that year. In this war everything took place in six days. This time the Arabs were well prepared for the war and it seemed like they were going to win. The Arabs had been tipped previously by the Russians that the Israelis were going to start a war, so not only should they have been prepared they should have made the first attack themselves why they didn't do this if they were 'united' is a question I ask?

Again Israel made another surprise attack on the strongest military bases in Egypt so that they would not have to worry about any major reprisal raid. Israel was fighting alone in this war without support from a western country but they took General Moshe Dayan's advice, a soldier in the Ministry of Defense and surprise attacked the Arabs before they attacked Israel. The USSR helped the Arabs by supplying them with weapons. As this war was a surprise attack on the Arabs, and with the Israelis' modern training and constant supply of modern arms, this made Israel victorious.

In 1973, President Nasser died and was replaced by Anwar Sadat, who like President Nasser was an Arab nationalist and so he joined with Syria and started another war and this time the Arabs attacked Israel. This time round the USSR gave more weapons to compensate for the two previously defeated wars, just so that they could win.

The war started on "Yom Kippur" a holy Jewish occasion. This was the main reason why the Arabs lost as on such a holy day all the soldiers were on holiday at home with their families. This may seem like a good idea but it was actually the reason behind the Arabs downfall in this war. As the soldiers were sitting at home they were easily contacted and alerted for duty. As this was a holiday for the whole country the streets were empty and it was easy for the soldiers to get to the battle areas and with the help of the USA's latest weaponry worth over \$2.2 billion the Israelis were able to defeat the Arabs mercilessly. The USA's influence in this war was huge and the Arabs mistake was attacking the Israelis on a day they were at home.

However, even though both countries were supplied with weapons by the super powers, the Arabs once again lost. This was because even though they had the technology and weapons, they didn't have the training of how to use them. The Arabs tactics were not good, they needed more training and importantly technique. The biggest mistake of all was attacking on the Jewish holiday day.

Both the Israelis and the Arabs had strengths and weaknesses but the Arabs never seemed to overcome its weaknesses, as the Israelis were able to.

The similarities and differences of all three wars was that in 1956 the Israelis won by raiding their enemy by surprise and because of the help that the French and the British gave, military wise.

The Israelis won again by carrying out another surprise attack in 1967 but this time defeated the Arabs without western help. The Arabs shouldn't have lost in this war as the Russians told them that the Israelis were going to invade but they just waited instead of making a move and attacking first. Why didn't the Arabs attack if they were so called 'united'? This shows the selfishness of President Nasser whose main aim was to become leader. This also shows lack of military plan.

The Israelis mainly won in 1973 because America supplied them with the latest weapons worth \$2.2 billion and because all the soldiers were at home with their families and soldiers were able to get to the battlefield faster.

Unlike the Arabs who couldn't recover in 1967 even though they had a large army the Israeli's were able to recover when the Arabs carried out a surprise attack in 1973, this was because the Israelis were trained and had a military leader and military tactics. This was an advantage for them.

Israel won all three wars with the help of their weapons and modern training. They also stroke the Arabs when they least expected it. Although the Arabs had a lot of military strength they were not trained for war. The Arabs should have learned from the mistakes they made before but in 1973 they lost their final war. This was when the Arabs were forced to accept that they would never regain their own rightful land.

