Commander in Chief

American Government
Do you know someone who has served in the military?
General Douglas MacArthur
What duties and powers are tied to the President’s role as Commander in Chief?

What is the difference between a war and a conflict?
Commander in Chief

- “The President shall be commander in chief of the Army and Navy of the United States.” - Article II, U.S. Constitution

- The President has ultimate authority over military orders, allowing the United States to act decisively when attacked or threatened.
President Clinton’s and the 1996 Strikes on Iraq

- Where is Iraq?
- Transcript
Franklin Roosevelt’s Address to Congress, 1941

- Where is Pearl Harbor?
- Click here to watch

Image Courtesy National Archives
Compare and Contrast

- Who is the audience for each speech?
- What is the goal of the speech?
The War Powers Resolution and the Difference Between a War and a Conflict

- Vietnam and the growing strength of the Executive branch
  - The War Powers Resolution (1973) requires:
    - Presidents to notify Congress of combat operations within 48 hours
    - Presidents to restrict combat operations to 60 days or less without a Declaration of War or Authorization of Use of Force.
What duties and powers are tied to the President’s role as Commander in Chief?

What is the difference between a war and a conflict?