



Since WWII war has not been declared, but American forces have been involved in multiple military actions, including these:



Korea

When President Truman ordered U.S. troops into Korea in June 1950, he did so without a declaration of war—or any other form of congressional approval. Instead, Truman relied on his power as president and on our role as part of the United Nations, which authorized military action to repel the invasion of South Korea by the North. More than 30,000 U.S. troops were killed in this “forgotten war.”



Vietnam

Lyndon Johnson relied on the 1964 Tonkin Gulf Resolution as a congressional “functional equivalent” of a declaration of war—a blank check, really, that led to about half a million U.S. forces in the region at the height of the war and about 50,000 U.S. deaths.



Iraq

By the time the United States invaded Iraq in 2003, the pattern of presidents going to Congress for an “Authorization for the Use of Military Force” had become the new pattern. Ten years, more than 4,000 U.S. deaths, and trillions of dollars later, Iraq remains a troublesome situation.