

1790 SECTION THINGS

Chapter 3: The President and Congress

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Part 1: **Starting** the War

War Powers

- US Constitution
 - Congress: power of the purse, power to declare war, power to raise & regulate the army
 - President: commander-in-chief
- War Powers Resolution (1973)
 - 48-hr reporting requirement
 - After 60-90 days, president needs a war declaration or other statute to continue engaging in *hostilities*

Law vs. Politics

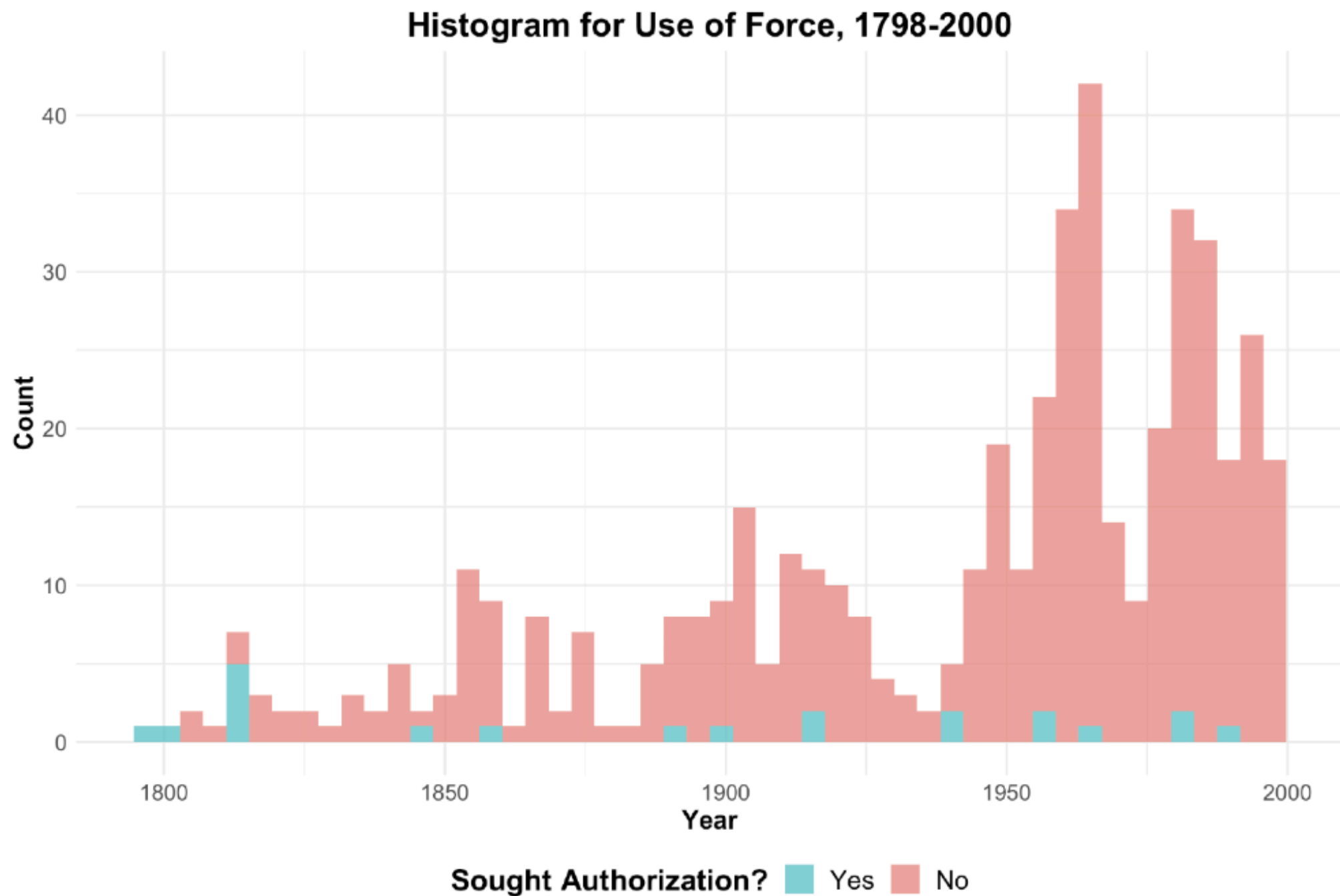


Figure: Irajpanah 2019

**Why do presidents have so much
power over war-making?**

Micro Debate

Should the president be allowed to use military force without express authorization from Congress?

1. Find a partner and choose side
2. 2 rounds of 60 seconds
3. Switch sides —> 2 more rounds
4. Group discussion of highlights

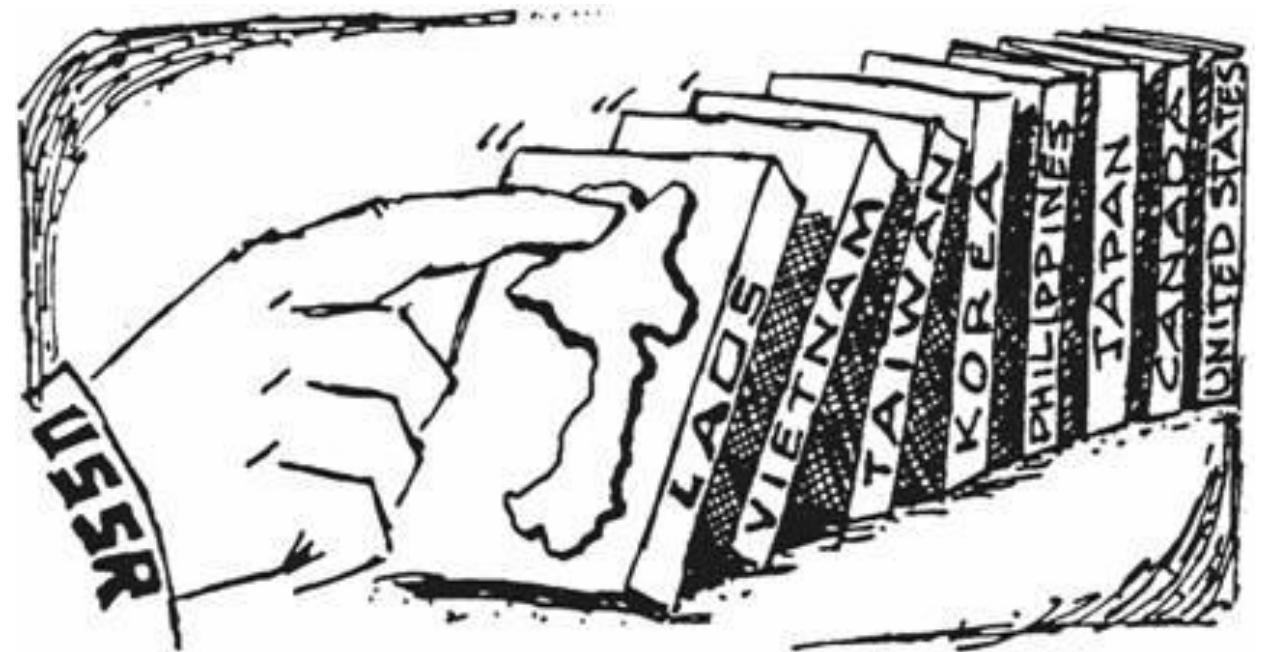


In 2013, Obama sought congressional approval for proposed military strikes in Syria.

Part 2: **Fighting** the War

Context: Vietnam War

- Origins: division of Vietnam after formal decolonization
- US commits to defense of South Vietnam from North Vietnam and NLF
- Motivation: Cold War & domino theory



A Tale of Two Strategies: Vietnam War

JFK emphasized interference in South Vietnamese affairs.



LBJ emphasized fighting off North Vietnamese forces.



Why did JFK and LBJ take different approaches?