CONGRESS, NATIONAL SECURITY, AND PUBLIC OPINION

Today it’s the Congress' role in making defense policy that we discuss. To limited extent it also includes media, interest groups, and public opinion. Congress is one of many masters: OSD, JCS, President/NSC, but potentially most powerful----appropriations, legislation, investigation/oversight

INSTITUTIONAL CONFLICTS built into system; unavoidable/intentional

- Congress vs. President
- House vs. Senate
- Legislative vs. Appropriations Committees
- Republican vs. Democrat
- Staff vs. Elected

I. Congress vs. President

Not just partisan; institutional - Intelligence, Pork
Constitutional Powers - War, resources, approval, treaties
    What is balance - President's resources, experience
    Crises; Strategies
Has relationship changed over time? Cold War, Vietnam, Professional
Historic investigations - Truman Committee, Church
    Too much oversight----Inquiries, Reports, Staffs, SDI
    Too little oversight
    obstacles----USS Bates, USS Rivers

II. House vs. Senate

How do they differ? Powers and Personalities
Internally
    What drives Congressmen? Job, rank, expertise - real?
    What drives a Senator? Tower, Nunn, Cohen
Change of party ruins party
III. Legislative vs. Appropriations

Alaska and Hawaii
Russell

IV. Republican vs. Democrat

Cold War
Vietnam
Gulf War I Vote
Gulf War II Vote

V. Staff vs. Elected

Goldwater Nichols
Everyone is running for the office and knows little.

How did policy get made?

- Somalia and CNN Effect
  Emotion of TV, loss of control by policy makers vs. how journalism works
  Bureaucracy/ House Committee; Andrew Natsios and Big Dig
  Senator Kassebaum
  Presidential election

- Bosnia and Deals
  No appropriations
  Dole
  Readiness Accounts and Supplemental

Why another story? - Things that go wrong.

Not our fault
Not our deal

Political context hard to accept

"You can't handle the Truth"

> Gulf War I - Good War made less good: Where is Saddam? Humanitarian
  Crisis - Kurds
Somalia - Where is Addid? Blackhawk Down, Blame Aspin, UN

Rwanda - What Genocide?

Bosnia/Kosovo - It is the Holocaust, It is the fate of NATO, It is the dominos effect.

Army too heavy; Army too light

Go Ahead Make My Day - vote on Gulf II