

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910972121103321
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Titolo	The case for combat : how presidents persuade Americans to go to war // Edward J. Lordan
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Santa Barbara, Calif., : Praeger, c2010
ISBN	9786612933455 9781282933453 1282933450 9780313380792 0313380791
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (335 p.)
Disciplina	973.09/9
Soggetti	Communication in politics - United States - History Mass media - Political aspects - United States - History Political oratory - United States - History Politics and war - United States - History Presidents - United States - History Presidents - United States - Language - History Rhetoric - Political aspects - United States - History United States History, Military
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Presidential war rhetoric : an overview -- The War of 1812 (1812-1815) -- The Mexican-American War (1846-1848) -- The Civil War (1861-1865) -- The Spanish-American War (1898) -- World War I (1914-1918) -- World War II (1941-1945) -- The Korean War (1950-1953) -- The Vietnam War (1964-1973) -- The Persian Gulf War (1991) -- The War on Terror (2001-?) -- Conclusions.
Sommario/riassunto	This book provides a historical analysis of presidential rhetoric regarding war and examines the similarities, differences, effectiveness, and ethics of the persuasive strategies used by the White House through the history of the nation. In the United States, the decision to use military force typically is made by the president, even though it is

actually Congress that has the authority to commit the nation to war. It is also the president's job to inform the American people when that decision has been made-and to attempt to convince the citizens to support their government in the decision to go to war. The book traces the development of the rhetoric used by presidents to convince Americans to go to war, from the earliest days of the nation to the latest conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. After an overview of the governmental issues related to committing to combat, the author evaluates presidential speeches over the course of ten American conflicts to determine how effective-and ethical-presidents have been in communicating with various publics. Taking neither a pro- nor antiwar stance, this text focuses entirely on the period leading up to the announcement of a formal conflict.
