**War in Afghanistan**

**Part 1- Declaration of War**

**The Case for War**

* Following September 11th, 2001, the Taliban government in Afghanistan denounced the attacks on America
* **Taliban-** Government in Afghanistan during 9-11 that created a safe-haven for Osama bin Laden from 1996 to 2001
* The Taliban insisted that they had no idea of the attacks and would give up bin Laden if the United States provided evidence directly linking him
* The United States did not provide this evidence to the Taliban government
* **Mullah Omar-** Leader of the Taliban who claimed he would fight the United States if they invaded without giving evidence of bin Laden's involvement in 9-11
* **Colin Powell-** Secretary of State at the start of the War in Afghanistan
* On September 23rd, Powell said that the U.S. government would, "in the near future" release "a document that will describe quite clearly the evidence linking bin Laden to this attack."
* The evidence was not made public but instead shown to Pakistan's leaders who later stated that the materials they had seen "provided sufficient basis for indictment in a court of law"
* On September 28th, a delegation of eight Pakistani religious leaders tried to persuade Mullah Omar to accept having religious leaders examine the evidence and decide bin Laden's fate
* Mullah Omar was noncommittal. The U.S. government remained opposed to any negotiations with the Taliban
* **Donald Rumsfeld-** Secretary of Defense during the beginning of the War in Afghanistan
* On October 7th, the State Department gave the Pakistani government one last message to the Taliban: Hand over all al-Qaeda leaders or "every pillar of the Taliban regime will be destroyed.

**Legal Basis for War**

* **Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Terrorists**- Congress authorized the use of U.S. Armed Forces against those responsible for the 9/11 attacks; signed by President Bush
* The Bush administration, for its part, did not seek a declaration of war and labeled Taliban troops as supporters of terrorists rather than soldiers
* This defined them as outside the protections of the Geneva Convention and the due process of law
* **United Nations-** International organization made up of 193 Countries that try to promote peace and cooperation between nations
* Although the United Nations Security Council did not authorize the U.S.-led military campaign, it was widely seen to be a legitimate form of self-defense under the UN Charter
* Critics claimed that the invasion was illegitimate because the 9/11 attacks were not "armed attacks" by another state, but were perpetrated by non-state actors

**Research (Create an extra slide answering the following questions on each)**

* **Find a Picture and Label Each Person (One Slide)**
* Mullah Omar
* Colin Powell
* Donald Rumsfeld
* George Bush
* Dick Cheney
* **Northern Alliance in Afghanistan (One Slide)**
* What is it?
* Who was their leader?
* What is their link to the United States and the War in Afghanistan?
* **Hamid Karzai (One Slide)**
* Who is he?
* When did he come to power?
* How did he come to power?