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—Foreword, Harry S. Truman

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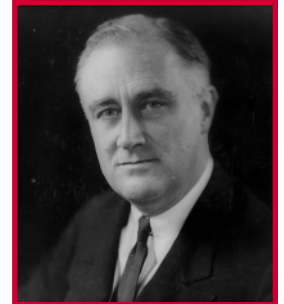


### **HERBERT HOOVER**

Herbert Hoover, a world famous mining engineer and humanitarian administrator, became the 31st President of the United States in 1929. Although his presidency was plagued by the Great Depression, Hoover tirelessly worked to combat the depression with volunteer efforts and government action, none of which produced economic recovery during his term.

### **FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT**

Franklin Delano Roosevelt often referred to by his initials FDR, was the 32nd President of the United States. Elected to four terms in office, he served from 1933 to 1945, and is the only U.S. president to have served more than two terms of office. He was a central figure of the 20th century during a time of worldwide economic crisis and world war.

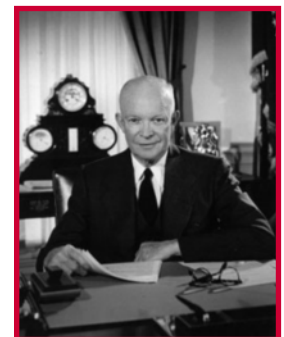


### **HARRY S. TRUMAN**

Harry Truman became the 33rd President of the United States when, as the Vice President, he succeeded to the office upon the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Truman's presidency was challenging to say the least. His eight years in office saw the defeat of Germany and the end of the Second World War, the creation of the United Nations, the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the beginnings of the Cold War, the creation of NATO and the Korean War. Although Truman was the last president to be unrestricted by term limits, he did not campaign for a third term and was succeeded by Dwight D. Eisenhower.

### **DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER**

Dwight David Eisenhower was an American General and politician who served this country proudly as the 34th President of the United States. During the Second World War, Eisenhower acted as the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe and in 1951 he became the Supreme Commander of NATO. As President, he served two terms in which he ended the Korean War, launched the Space Race, enlarged the Social Security program and began the Interstate Highway System.



*“There has been a long-felt need for an orderly series of the Public Papers of the Presidents. A reference work of this type can be most helpful to scholars and officials of government, to reporters of current affairs and the events of history. The general availability of the official text of Presidential documents and messages will serve a broader purpose. As part of the expression of democracy, this series can be a vital factor in the maintenance of our individual freedoms and our institutions of self-government.” —Foreword, Dwight D. Eisenhower*



### **JOHN F. KENNEDY**

John Fitzgerald Kennedy was elected the 35th President of the United States in 1961. At the age of forty-three, Kennedy was the youngest man ever elected to this esteemed position. Because of his youth and charisma, Kennedy's popularity soared to new heights and his private life often resembled that of a famous pop star or actor. Kennedy's short, three year term saw such events as the Bay of Pigs Invasion, the building of the Berlin Wall, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Civil Rights Movement and the early beginnings of the Vietnam War. JFK was assassinated in Dallas, Texas on Nov. 22, 1963 at the age of 46.

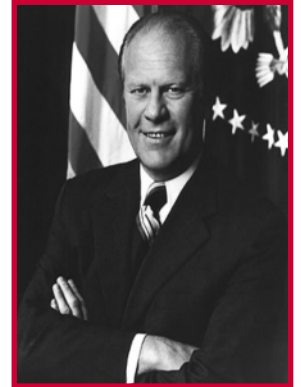


## **RICHARD NIXON**

Richard Nixon was elected the 37th President of the United States in 1969. Under President Nixon, the U.S. followed a foreign policy marked by détente with the Soviet Union and by the opening of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. His centrist domestic policies combined conservative rhetoric and liberal action in civil rights, environmental and economic initiatives. As a result of the Watergate scandal, Nixon resigned the presidency in the face of likely impeachment by the United States House of Representatives.

## **GERALD FORD**

Gerald Ford was the 38th President (1974–1977), and 40th Vice President (1973–1974) of the United States. Ford was the first person appointed to the vice presidency under the terms of the 25th Amendment, upon Spiro Agnew's resignation. Upon succession to the presidency, when Richard Nixon resigned, Ford became the only person to hold that office without having been elected either President or Vice President. Ford's presidency was marked by the Helsinki Accords, the pardoning of Richard Nixon, and an economy suffering from inflation and recession.

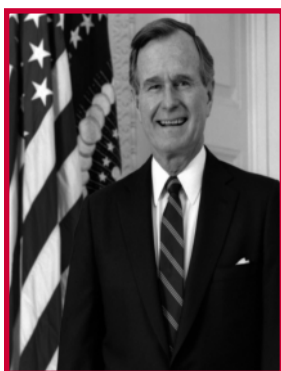


## **JIMMY CARTER**

James Earl Carter was the 39th President of the United States from 1977 to 1981, and the Nobel Peace laureate of 2002. Carter's presidency saw the creation of two cabinet-level departments: the Department of Energy and the Department of Education. He established a national energy policy, removed price controls from domestic petroleum production, and advocated for less American reliance on foreign oil sources. In foreign affairs, Carter pursued the Camp David Accords and the Panama Canal Treaties. He explicitly identified the support of basic human rights as a key component of American foreign policy.

## **RONALD REAGAN**

Ronald Reagan, once a Hollywood movie star, was elected the 40th President of the United States in 1980. Reagan began his presidency by introducing his economic policies, dubbed "Reaganomics." After surviving an assassination attempt in his first term, experiencing a period of economic growth, and ordering a military operation in Grenada, Reagan was reelected in a landslide in 1984. After an arms race with the Soviet Union, Reagan eventually negotiated with Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev to shrink both countries' nuclear arsenals and help bring a peaceful end to the Cold War.

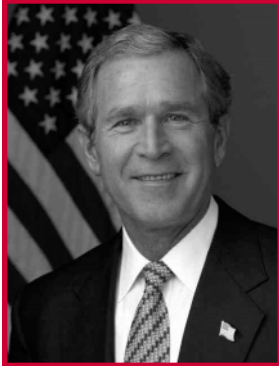
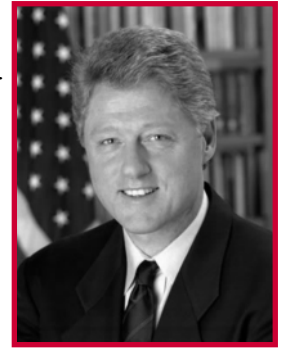


## **GEORGE H.W. BUSH**

George Herbert Walker Bush was the 41st President of the United States, as well as the 43rd Vice President under the Reagan administration. Bush is best known internationally for leading the United Nations coalition against Iraq in the 1990-1991 Gulf War, as well as the deposition of Panamanian General Manuel Noriega. President Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev declared a U.S.-Soviet strategic partnership at the summit of July 1991, decisively marking the end of the Cold War. At home, Bush spearheaded the negotiations of the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement.

**BILL CLINTON**

William Jefferson Clinton was the 42nd President of the United States from 1993 to 2001. Clinton presided over the longest period of peace-time economic expansion in American history, which included a balanced budget and a federal surplus. Clinton's second term was largely marked by impeachment proceedings for perjury, obstruction of justice, and abuse of power. He was subsequently acquitted and remained in office to complete his term.



**GEORGE W. BUSH**

George Walker Bush is the 43rd President of the United States of America and the eldest son of former United States President George H. W. Bush. As President, Bush pushed through a \$1.3 trillion tax cut program and the No Child Left Behind Act and has also pushed for socially conservative efforts such as the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act and faith-based welfare initiatives. After the attacks on September 11, 2001, Bush declared a global War on Terrorism and ordered an invasion of Afghanistan and of Iraq.

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