

U.S. Presidents Reference Library

Research Bibliography

2020

21 March 2020 08:45

Entries are listed in chronological order.

Web links included in this bibliography were valid as of the date entered.

A Man for All Seasons

The American Interest, 20 March 2020

Nicole Penn

<https://www.the-american-interest.com/2020/03/20/a-man-for-all-seasons/>

-- "George Washington was neither a saint nor a scoundrel. He was, above all, an institutionalist—and it is this Washington we need today.

Dan Abrams: How John Adams' toughest case changed legal history

salon, 18 March 2020

Dean Obeidallah

<https://www.salon.com/2020/03/18/dan-abrams-how-john-adams-toughest-case-changed-legal-history/>

-- Discusses Abrams book "John Adams Under Fire." Abrams, who is chief legal affairs correspondent for ABC News, is also the author of "Lincoln's Last Trial."

Why We Should Abolish the Electoral College

The New York Times, 17 March 2020

Josh Chafetz

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/17/books/review/let-the-people-pick-the-president-jesse-wegman.html>

-- A book review of "Let The People Pick The President: The Case for Abolishing the Electoral College" by Jesse Wegman.

2000 Years of Disbelief: John Adams

Patheos, 16 March 2020

James A. Haught

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/daylightatheism/2020/03/2000-years-of-disbelief-john-adams/>

-- The fifth segment of a series on renowned skeptics throughout history, drawn from "2000 Years of Disbelief: Famous People With the Courage to Doubt", Prometheus Books, 1996.

Former President Jimmy Carter to stay home from church amid Coronavirus outbreak

WJCL22abc, 14 March 2020

<https://www.wjcl.com/article/former-president-jimmy-carter-to-stay-home-from-church-amid-coronavirus-outbreak/31537098#>

-- The former president's pastor says that Carter and his wife will stay home from church Sunday amid the Coronavirus outbreak, according to the Atlanta-Journal Constitution. Carter is a regular attendee at Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, Georgia.

In 1918, the Spanish flu infected the White House. Even President Wilson got sick.

The Washington Post, 14 March 2020

Michael S. Rosenwald

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2020/03/14/flu-woodrow-wilson-coronavirus-trump/>

-- How the Spanish flue impacted Washington, D.C. when in the fall of 1918, including how the pandemic infected the president, his personal secretary, his eldest daughter and members of the Secret Service.

Presidents Forge Their Legacies in Crises

The New York Times, 11 March 2020

Peter Baker

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/11/us/politics/president-leadership-crisis.html>--

-- Comparing President Trump's actions in the coronavirus outbreak with George Bush confronting Hurricane Katrina and the 2011 terrorist attacks, James Buchanan failing to stop the South from seceding, and other crises faced by American presidents.

Harry Truman Nuked World War II Japan to Save 500,000 Lives

The National Interest, 10 March 2020

Tom Nichols

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/harry-truman-nuked-world-war-ii-japan-save-500000-lives-131112>

-- A discussion of whether Harry S. Truman should have ordered the use of nuclear weapons ("special bombs") against Japan in August 1945.

President for life: Putin invokes FDR as he moves to erase Russian constitutional term limits

Washington Examiner, 10 March 2020

Joel Gehrke

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/defense-national-security/president-for-life-putin-invokes-fdr-as-he-moves-to-erase-russian-constitutional-term-limit>

-- Russian President Vladimir Putin referred to Franklin Roosevelt's four terms as to guide U.S. through the great depression and World War Two as justification for his plan to allow him to serve until 2036.

Why Harry S. Truman Recognized the State of Israel

JewishPress.com, 10 March 2020

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

<https://www.jewishpress.com/indepth/opinions/why-harry-s-truman-recognized-the-state-of-israel/2020/03/10/>

-- The story of childhood friend and business partner of Truman, Eddie Jacobson, and his emotional White House visit years later when he asked Truman to accept a visit from Chaim Weizmann. The story mentions the marble statue in the Oval Office of former president Andrew Jackson, who Truman called his "hero".

Op-Ed: How Democrats dealt with the Bernie Sanders of 1944

Los Angeles Times, 8 March 2020

Benn Steil

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2020-03-08/bernie-sanders-joe-biden-democratic-national-committee-milwaukee-convention-franklin-roosevelt-henry-wallace>

-- Comparing Bernie Sanders, running for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020 with FDR's former vice-president Henry A. Wallace.

A perfect memorial for an imperfect man, Ulysses S. Grant

The Washington Post, 6 March 2020

Michael Hewitt

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/local-opinions/a-perfect-memorial-for-an-imperfect-man-ulysses-s-grant/2020/03/05/a64aef78-527c-11ea-b119-4faabac6674f_story.html

-- The author, a nuclear energy consultant, describes the statute of Grant in front of the U.S. Capitol.

John Adams Defended Enemy Soldiers in Court. 250 Years After the Boston Massacre, Here's How That Case Is Still Shaping Legal History

TIME, 5 March 2020

Dan Abrams and David Fisher

<https://time.com/5795110/john-adams-trial-trump-impeachment/>

-- On the 250th anniversary of the Boston Massacre, when British soldiers shot and killed five colonists, this article summarizes the events and the authors also discuss their book "John Adams Under Fire".

Students Start New Chapter of John Quincy Adams Society

The Phoenix, 5 March 2020

Clare D'Amato

<https://swarthmorephoenix.com/2020/03/05/students-start-new-chapter-of-john-quincy-adams-society/>

-- Swarthmore College has started a new chapter of the John Quincy Adams Society. The nonpartisan student organization, which was founded in 2016, is centered around international foreign policy and has chapters at dozens of colleges.

The Mirror That Shakespeare Holds Up to America

The Wall Street Journal, 5 March 2020

James Shapiro

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-mirror-that-shakespeare-holds-up-to-america-11583426780>

-- John Quincy Adams was a famed abolitionist, but his strong aversion to racial mixing came out in his reaction to 'Othello'.

Tribute to Abigail Adams wins trio a 'Hamilton' trip

The Chronicle, 4 March 2020

Jason Hawk

<https://chroniclet.com/news/204643/tribute-to-abigail-adams-wins-trio-a-hamilton-trip/>

-- A musical tribute to "founding mother" Abigail Adams, won three sophomores from Amherst Steele High School a trip to Broadway to see the musical "Hamilton" and meet the cast.

Charlottesville will celebrate the end of slavery as an official holiday instead of Thomas Jefferson's birthday

CNN, 3 March 2020

Alaa Elassar

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/03/us/charlottesville-ends-thomas-jefferson-birthday-holiday-trnd/index.html>

-- The city located in the heart of Virginia has replaced celebrating Jefferson's birthday with a new holiday—Liberation and Freedom Day—to mark the beginning of emancipation for 14,000 enslaved residents.

Woodrow Wilson House and the Art of Hovsep Pushman

The Armenian Mirror-Spectator, 3 March 2020

<https://mirrorspectator.com/2020/03/03/woodrow-wilson-house-and-the-art-of-hovsep-pushman/>

-- All about the painting "L'Esperance" which hangs in the Wilson House in Washington, D.C., the artist, and the significance to Armenians.

Marin Voice: This country has a long history of disputes over presidential elections

mij, 1 March 2020

Michael Hartnett

<https://www.marinij.com/2020/03/01/marin-voice-this-country-has-a-long-history-of-disputes-over-presidential-elections/>

-- The article reminds of the long history of irregularities in American presidential elections. However it finds some Democrats claims that Trump's election including cheating not supported by the facts.

Think Trump is ‘outrageous?’ He’s nothing compared to these past presidents

New York Post, 29 February 2020

Kyle Smith

<https://nypost.com/2020/02/29/think-trump-is-outrageous-hes-nothing-compared-to-these-past-presidents/>

-- Woodrow Wilson, Lyndon B. Johnson, and Franklin D. Roosevelt are suggested as presidents who are guilty of far worse acts than whatever one thinks Trump has ever done.

All the presidents’ books

The Washington Post, 28 February 2020

James T. Kloppenberg

https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/all-the-presidents-books/2020/02/27/d5c795f2-4927-11ea-b4d9-29cc419287eb_story.html

-- A review of “Author in Chief: The Untold Story of Our Presidents and the Books They Wrote” by Craig Fehrman.

Harry Truman, Too, Was a Self-Described Democratic Socialist

moderndiplomacy, 25 February 2020

Eric Zuesse

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/02/25/harry-truman-too-was-a-self-described-democratic-socialist/>

-- Several citations from “Public Papers, Harry S. Truman, 1945-1933, October 10, 1052” in which comments are made about the various programs that were referred to as socialism by opponents of Adlai Stevenson during his failed campaign to succeed Truman.

How Genghis Khan Inspired Thomas Jefferson on Religious Freedom

KPFA/94.1, 24 February 2020

<https://kpfa.org/episode/letters-and-politics-february-24-2020/>

-- A conversation with Jack Weatherford, author of Genghis Khan and the Quest for God.

Commentary: The Presidents Adams confronted the cult of personality

Fredricksburg.com, 22 February 2020

Nancy Isenberg & Andrew Burstein

https://www.fredericksburg.com/opinion/commentary-the-presidents-adams-confronted-the-cult-of-personality/article_7a59de2d-37c4-5099-a33f-552e8b874f2f.html

-- How both presidents (John and John Quincy) protested the cult of celebrity during their own presidencies.

Gene Therapy: President's Day suddenly not so hard on Buchanan's legacy

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 18 February 2020

Gene Collier

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/gene-collier-columns/2020/02/18/Trump-presidential-ranking-44-Gene-Therapy/stories/202002180055>

-- Where Buchanan stands in rankings of the best and worst presidents as time goes by. He is improving, a little.

On Presidents Day 2020 the Department of the Interior Celebrates the Conservation Legacy of Theodore Roosevelt

Sierra Sun Times, 17 February 2020

<https://goldrushcam.com/sierrasuntimes/index.php/news/local-news/22037-on-presidents-day-2020-the-department-of-the-interior-celebrates-the-conservation-legacy-of-theodore-roosevelt>

-- A Department of Interior article describing the life long passion of former president Theodore Roosevelt's with the nature and the outdoors— including hiking, rowing, bird-watching, hunting and taxidermy. He also visited and enjoyed many public lands, such as Yellowstone National Park.

How well do you know America's presidents?

Antelope Valley Press, 16 February 2020

William P. Warford

https://www.avpress.com/news/local_news/how-well-do-you-know-america-s-presidents/article_1a9db894-5078-11ea-8b43-23afb69ff255.html

-- A quiz to test your knowledge of the U.S. presidents. For example, "Which president was the first to be a Boy Scout?" and "Which is the only president to be buried in Washington?"

A select shelf of books by our writerly presidents

The San Diego Union-Tribune, 15 February 2020

Richard Lederer

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/columnists/story/2020-02-15/a-select-shelf-of-books-by-our-writerly-presidents>

-- An account of the many books written by presidents. Including, Grant's *Personal Memoirs*, Herbert Hoover's 16 books, and Jimmy Carter who has written about 20 books.

Then Again: When Calvin Coolidge wooed Grace Goodhue—a story of opposites attracting

VTDIGGER, 9 February 2020

Mark Bushnell

<https://vtdigger.org/2020/02/09/then-again-when-calvin-coolidge-wooed-grace-goodhue-a-story-of-opposites-attracting/>

-- Bushnell is the author of "Hidden History of Vermont" and "It Happened in Vermont." His article tells a funny story about the the courtship of Coolidge and his future wife.

Richard Szlosek: Hopes paper shines more light on Coolidge's rise to presidency

Daily Hampshire Gazette, 12 January 2020

Richard Szlosek

<https://www.gazettenet.com/Szlosek-letter-31825554>

-- Article references how Calvin Coolidge was "thrust into national prominence as the vice presidential candidate of the Republican party and nation's the nation's spotlight would shine on Northhampton."

Can A Presidential Memoir Really Give An Honest Picture?

npr, WAMU 88.5, 11 February 2020

Steve Inskeep

<https://www.npr.org/2020/02/11/804750343/can-a-presidential-memoir-really-give-an-honest-picture>

-- Discusses historian Craig Fehrman's new book "Author in Chief: The Untold Story of Our Presidents and the Books They Wrote".

Annual commemoration marks President Millard Fillmore's 220th birthday

WBFO/npr (Buffalo/Toronto), 7 January 2020

Kyle S. Mackie

<https://news.wbfo.org/post/annual-commemoration-marks-president-millard-fillmore-s-220th-birthday>

-- A year-long series of programming exhibits and events throughout Western New York to salute, celebrate and explore the 13th president will be held in 2020.

Ohio's Ulysses S. Grant finally getting his due from history

The Columbus Dispatch, 2 January 2020

Marty Schladen

<https://www.dispatch.com/news/20200102/ohiosquos-ulysses-s-grant-finally-getting-his-due-from-history>

-- Former president, Ulysses S. Grant's reputation is improving from poor-to-middling, to being considered "our first civil rights president" by E.C. Fields, who impersonates the 18th president and has studied the both his military and presidential career.

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