

U.S. Presidents Reference Library

Research Bibliography

January - March 2022

6 April 2022 11:40

Entries are listed in chronological order.

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

Biden's trip to Europe: A triumph, a walk back, and no clearer end game

Politico, 27 March 2022

Jonathan Lemire

<https://www.politico.com/news/2022/03/27/joe-biden-russia-policy-success-elusive-00020688>

-- President Joe Biden's trip to a war-rattled Europe rallied allies and delivered a threatening, if unscripted, message to Russia's Vladimir Putin. But he returned home with few, if any, concrete answers as to how the brutal invasion of Ukraine actually would end.

Biden promises Western allies would respond if Russia uses chemical weapons

NPR, 24 March 2022

Franco Ordonez

<https://www.npr.org/2022/03/24/1088335739/watch-bidens-press-conference-after-talks-with-nato-allies-on-russia-ukraine-war>

-- "It would trigger a response in-kind," Biden told reporters. "Whether or not you're asking whether NATO would cross, we'd make that decision at the time." Biden is in Brussels meeting with NATO allies for emergency talks as Russia's invasion of Ukraine enters its fourth week. At a press conference at NATO headquarters on Thursday, Biden said that more weapons were flowing into help Ukraine as Western leaders met to discuss contingency plans in case Russia aggression intensifies.

Biden says he'd be 'very fortunate' to face Trump in 2024 presidential election

CNBC, 24 March 2022

Dan Mangan

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/03/24/biden-says-hed-be-fortunate-to-face-trump-in-2024-presidential-election.html>

-- Biden's swaggering remark comes as the Democrat faces low public approval ratings and as Trump has signaled he likely will seek the Republican presidential nomination in 2024. Biden defeated Trump by more than 4 percentage points in the popular vote, and by 74 Electoral College votes in the 2020 election.

Ex-Trump official praises Biden for uniting the West against Putin

CNN Business, 23 March 2022

Matt Egan

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/03/23/business/russia-sanctions-ukraine-biden-mcmaster/index.html>

-- Former Trump national security advisor H.R. McMaster said Russian President Vladimir Putin has been caught off guard by the West's united front deploying tough sanctions in response to the invasion of Ukraine--and that the Biden administration deserves credit for helping foster that unity.

Readout of President Joseph R. Biden Jr. Call with President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China

The White House, 18 March 2022

-- The conversation focused on Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. President Biden outlined the views of the United States and our Allies and partners on this crisis. President Biden detailed our efforts to prevent and then respond to the invasion, including, by imposing costs on Russia. He described the implications and consequences if China provides material support to Russia as it conducts brutal attacks against Ukrainian cities and civilians.

Biden's presidency has never been so hectic. Here's why he's at ease.

Politico, 13 March 2022

Laura Barron-Lopez and Christopher Cadelago

<https://www.politico.com/news/2022/03/13/bidens-presidency-hectic-ease-00016827>

-- Joe Biden is trying to get a historic Supreme Court Justice nominee confirmed while managing the worst military crisis in Europe since World War II. Those around him say he's more at ease than at other points during his presidency. His Senate tenure, they add, is the reason why. "One of the things we always had to do when we were working on Judiciary was pull him away from Foreign Relations. He was always juggling both of them constantly," said Victoria Nourse, Biden's top lawyer on the panel in the early 1990's who later went on to serve as his chief counsel in the Vice President's office. "It's normal for him. It was normal 30 years ago, even before the vice presidency."

Joe Biden's indispensable leadership

The Economist, 12 March 2022

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2022/03/12/joe-bidens-indispensable-leadership>

-- The administration has played a weak diplomatic hand on Ukraine skilfully. But the crisis is only beginning. His administration's response to Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine has been prompter, bolder and more effective than even the most faithful Atlanticist could have predicted. NATO is united behind American leadership and pushing the boundaries of collective defence. The penalties imposed on Russia's economy are unprecedented and mounting.

Biden's State of the Union address won't help Democrats politically

The Hill, 6 March 2022

Douglas E. Schoen, Opinion Contributor

<https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/596914-bidens-state-of-the-union-address-wont-help-democrats-politically>

-- Facing lagging poll numbers and an international crisis in Eastern Europe, President Joe Biden delivered his first State of the Union address on Tuesday. His remarks on Ukraine, policing, and COVID-19 were clearly the strongest. Biden's reframing of his economic plan and his monotonous listing of big spending priorities were major flops.

Michael Reagan: President Biden's nothing address

Limaohio.com, 5 March 2022

Michael Reagan - Syndicated Columnist

<https://www.limaohio.com/opinion/columns/499804/michael-reagan-president-bidens-nothing-address>

-- Last week we wondered what President Biden was going to say in his first State of the Union address that was new, upbeat or important. Unfortunately, this we found out. Nothing. Biden meandered around for an hour. He pretended his 13-month string of failures at home and overseas was some other country's nightmare.

As Biden Pivots, Democrats Seek to Salvage His Domestic Agenda

The New York Times, 2 March 2022

Zolan Kanno-Youngs, Jonathan Weisman and Emily Cochrane

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/02/us/politics/biden-pivot-moderate-agenda.html>

-- The president repackaged his sweeping domestic policy plan with more centrist language, but it remained unclear whether Congress would resurrect key elements of his agenda. His State of the Union address on Tuesday was the start of an election-Year push to reframe his domestic agenda away from the sweeping aspirations of his first year in office and toward more practical and politically appealing goals.

When Soviets invaded Czechoslovakia, Nixon promised not to 'embarrass' LBJ

The Washington Post, 1 March 2022

Ronald G. Shafer

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2022/03/01/nixon-lbj-russia-czechoslovakia/>

-- Late on the night of the military invasion of a small Eastern European country, the U.S. president phoned a leading political rival to give him the news and suggest how he should comment. You might "say this concerns you, that it dismays you," but said, but that "you're not trying to second-guess" the president. The response (from LBJ): "I won't say a d--- word that's going to embarrass you, you can be sure of that."

Biden sends 7.000 troops to Germany

The Hill, 24 February 2022

Jordan Williams

<https://thehill.com/policy/defense/595712-biden-sends-7000-troops-to-germany>

-- President Biden on Thursday directed an additional 7,000 troops to deploy to Germany to help bolster NATO's defenses as Russia forges ahead with its military incursion against Ukraine.

Graham Urges Biden to 'Personally' Take Action Against 'War Criminal' Putin

Newsweek, 24 February 2022

Aila Slisco

<https://www.newsweek.com/graham-urges-biden-personally-take-action-against-war-criminal-putin-1682524>

-- Senator Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) is urging the Biden administration to "personally" punish Russian President Vladimir Putin and "his cronies" for attacking Ukraine. Graham described Putin as a "war criminal" for invading Ukraine, while insisting that Biden "continues to misread the moment" in a statement obtained by *Newsweek* on Thursday.

Kathryn Tkel on playing Jackie Kennedy in 'Change Agent' at Arena

DC Metro-Theatre Arts, 24 February 2022

Sophia Howes

<https://dcmetrotheaterarts.com/2022/02/24/kathryn-tkel-on-playing-jackie-kennedy-in-change-agent-at-arena/>

-- Kathryn Tkel's amazing performance as Jackie is a highlight of Arena Stage's acclaimed drama *Change Agent*, written and directed by Craig Lucas.

Obama, Bush and Carter condemn Russia's "unjustified" attack on Ukraine

AXIOS, 24 February 2022

Shawna Chen

<https://www.axios.com/russia-ukraine-obama-bush-d5b4dad4-30e9-4185-a2b4-1087aa2ed822.html>

-- The former presidents condemned Russia's attack on Ukraine on Thursday, calling it "unprovoked and unjustified" and urging people around the world to stand with Ukraine. "Russia's attack on Ukraine constitutes the gravest security crisis on the European continent since World War II." Obama said is a statement that Russia attacked "not because Ukraine posed a threat to Russia, but because the people of Ukraine chose a path of sovereignty, self-determination, and democracy.

Romney swipes Obama, Trump and Biden after Russia invades Ukraine: 'The '80s called and we didn't answer'

Fox News, 24 February 2022

Lawrence Richard

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/romney-obama-trump-biden-russias-invade-ukraine-80s-called-didnt-answer>

-- Putin's impunity predictably follows our (U.S.) responses to his previous horrors in Georgia and Crimea, our naïve efforts at a one-sided 'reset,' and the shortsightedness of 'America First.' The '80's called and we didn't answer.

Joe Biden is no Jack Kennedy

Spectator World, 23 February 2022

Leon Hadar

<https://spectatorworld.com/topic/on-russia-joe-biden-is-no-jack-kennedy/>

-- JFK caused Russia to blink over Cuba, while Biden gave everything away from the start.

New one-man play covers the life of Jackie Kennedy's husband Aristotle Onassis

New York Post, 23 February 2022

Cindy Adams

<https://nypost.com/2022/02/23/new-one-man-play-covers-the-life-of-aristotle-onassis/>

-- This one-man play, titled 'Onassis', covers his rise to power, marriages, his whole life.

The Surprising True Story of How the Kennedy's Political Dynasty Began

Town&Country, 22 February 2022

Neal Thompson

<https://www.townandcountrymag.com/society/tradition/a38844566/kennedy-family-political-dynasty-jfk-book-excerpt/>

-- The family has given us senators, ambassadors, and a president--but their rise started in a most unexpected way. P.J. Kennedy, the grandfather of John F. Kennedy, got his start in local Boston politics in the 1880s-and began a family tradition that continues today.

Biden's Truman Moment

The Dispatch, 21 February 2022

Gary Schmitt

https://thedispatch.com/p/bidens-truman-moment?utm_source=url

-- In the wake of the Ukraine crisis, the Biden team could simply hope to return to some status quo with the expectation that it can once again focus on its domestic agenda. Or, instead, President Biden could see the current crisis as his Truman moment. Starting in 1947, and despite his desire in the wake of World War II to focus on enacting a progressive agenda, Harry Truman began to make the case for reversing America's strategic slide to deal with the threat posed by Communist expansion on both ends of the Eurasia continent.

It's Time To Cancel Presidents Day

Politico, 21 February 2022

John F. Harris

<https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2022/02/21/its-time-to-cancel-presidents-day-00010410>

-- By elevating myth over reality, the holiday does a disservice to history. The presidency itself, like so many aspects of American culture, is now in the middle of ideological crossfire between left and right. Is there a way that the center can find its voice in arguments about the presidency? Yes, there is. A good way to start would be to cancel the day we mark today: "Presidents Day." A better name would be Citizens Day.

Crises keep travel-hungry Biden close to White House

The Hill, 20 February 2022

Alex Gangitano and Brett Samuels

<https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/594971-crises-keep-travel-hungry-biden-close-to-white-house>

-- President Biden wants to leave Washington more and promote his policies directly to the American people, but outside circumstances -- such as the resurgence of the pandemic or the threat of war between Russia and Ukraine -- keep pulling him back to the White House.

If Joe Biden Doesn't Change Course, This Will Be His Worst Failure

The New York Times, 20 February 2022

Ezra Klein, Opinion

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/20/opinion/afghanistan-starvation-biden.html>

-- Ninety-five percent of Afghans don't have enough to eat. Nearly nine million are at risk of starvation. The U.N.'s emergency aid request, at more than \$5 billion, is the largest it has ever made for a single country. And we bear much of the blame. We turned a crisis into a catastrophe. In August, President Biden withdrew American troops from Afghan soil. But even as we left Afghanistan's land, we tightened a noose around its economy. When we abruptly cut off foreign aid, we sent it into a tailspin.

The contorted Presidential Records Act is a bipartisan scam to hide White House mischief

USA Today, 20 February 2022

James Bovard, Opinion columnist

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2022/02/20/bush-obama-trump-all-use-presidential-record-act-hide-history/6803334001/?gnt-cfr=1>

-- Former presidents should forfeit any right to confidentiality of their papers on the day they sign a (very lucrative) contract to write a memoir.

The LBJ delusion about Biden

CNN, Opinion, 20 February 2022

Timothy Naftali

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/02/19/opinions/why-lbj-had-success-and-biden-didnt-naftali/index.html>

-- President Joe Biden is most often compared to and judged against President Lyndon Baines Johnson, the architect nearly two generations ago of the modern American social safety net and a powerful warrior against poverty and racial injustice. But, so far, the legislative comparison stops there: with ambition, not achievement. The similarities and the differences between these two Presidents tell the story of our own political Moment and should be a cautionary tale about the conditions that usually produce transformational change in this country.

Biden: Russian threat to invade Ukraine still 'very high'

Associated Press, 17 February 2022

Vladimir Isachenkov, Yuras Karmanau, Darlene Superville and Lorne Cook

<https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-europe-russia-united-states-moscow-029f7416b35e905901ea10bf3019dafb>

-- Fears of a new war in Europe resurged Thursday as U.S. President Joe Biden warned that Russia could invade Ukraine within days, and violence spiked in a long-running standoff in eastern Ukraine that some worried could provide the spark for wider conflict.

Biden orders release of Trump White House logs to Congress

Associated Press, 16 February 2022

Colleen Long

<https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-donald-trump-united-states-congress-dana-remus-833698eba6e222cdc3dfa128c44b0c99>

-- President Joe Biden is ordering the release of Trump White House visitor logs to the House committee investigating the riot of Jan. 6, 2021, once more rejecting former President Donald Trump's claims of executive privilege.

Biden overshadowed by Obama as the former president engages in unseemly politicking

NBC, 10 February 2022

James Antle III, Washington Examiner

<https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/biden-overshadowed-obama-former-president-engages-unseemly-politicking-ncna1288945>

-- Former President Barack Obama's Thursday talk to House Democrats is a stunning break from the norm that erstwhile holders of the nation's highest office keep their domestic political activities to a minimum. Obama is speaking to them as Democrats try to navigate the midterm elections and revive a stalled legislative agenda--things the current president would normally be expected to address. This latest display could help cement a new status quo that encourages former presidents who are constitutionally barred from holding office to overstep their boundaries.

Inside the Fox News That Donald Trump Helped Build

The New York Times, 5 February 2022

Jeremy W. Peters

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/05/business/trump-fox-news.html>

-- In late 1995, Roger Ailes ran CNBC, and he invited Mr. Trump, a 49-year-old developer of condos and casinos, on the show and sounded a bit star-struck as he asked his guest to explain how a Manhattan multimillionaire could be so popular with blue-collar Americans. Trump answered by flipping his host's assertion around. It was because of who hated him: other people with money. "The people that don't like me are the rich people. "I sort of love it."

JFK assassination expert: Lee Harvey Oswald lone gunman theory is 'bulls--t'

New York Post, 5 February 2022

Heather Robinson

<https://nypost.com/2022/02/05/jfk-assassination-expert-lone-gunman-theory-is-still-bulls-t/>

-- Dr. Cyril Wecht was the first non-government forensic pathologist to gain access to the National Archives to examine the Kennedy assassination materials in 1972. He discovered that Kennedy's brain was missing as well as many shocking lapses in the official probe into his death. Wecht declared in 1978 that Oswald did not act alone. His latest book, "The JFK Assassination Dissected" summarizes his six decades of research in the subject and pokes holes in the conclusion made by the seven-man Warren Commission that Oswald, without any help, shot and killed Kennedy when his motorcade drove past the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

'This is unacceptable:' After Biden reversed Trump's Muslim ban, advocates say little has changed

USA Today, 5 February 2022

Marc Ramirez

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2022/02/05/muslim-ban-after-biden-repealed-trump-policy-many-still-limbo/6654524001/?gnt-cfr=1>

-- When President Joe Biden lifted a ban barring U.S. entry from people from primarily Muslim countries on his first day in office, immigrant and refugee advocates rejoiced. But advocates now say little has changed, and most applicants have yet to be reunited with their families or even notified of their status.

Trump's GOP: Party further tightens tie to former president

ABC News, 5 February 2022

Sam Metz and Steve Peoples, Associated Press

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/trumps-gop-party-tightens-tie-president-82688233>

-- Party leaders at the Republican National Committee's winter meeting this past week left no doubt that the GOP is choosing to serve Donald Trump and his political interests before the next presidential election.

Pence says 'Trump is wrong' to say then-vice president had the right to overturn 2020 election

CNN Politics, 4 February 2022

Steve Contorno and Eric Bradner

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/02/04/politics/pence-january-6-trump/index.html>

-- Speaking at the Federalist Society Florida Chapters conference near Orlando, Pence delivered his strongest response yet to Trump's ongoing efforts to relitigate the 2020 presidential election, calling it "un-American" to suggest one person could have decided the outcome. Pence warned against conservatives who continue to insist the vice president can alter an election, and said it could be a problematic position for Republicans in the next presidential contest.

Fact Sheet: President Biden Reignites Cancer Moonshot to End Cancer as We know It

The White House (Briefing Room), 2 February 2022

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/02/02/fact-sheet-president-biden-reignites-cancer-moonshot-to-end-cancer-as-we-know-it/>

-- Biden-Harris Administration Sets Goal of Reducing Cancer Death Rate by at least 50 Percent Over the Next 25 Years, and Improving the Experience of Living with and Surviving Cancer.

George W. Bush Donated to Nephew's Campaign and 2 Leading Trump Critics Last Year

People, 1 February 2022

Virginia Chamlee

<https://people.com/politics/george-w-bush-made-campaign-donations-last-year-to-nephew-anti-trump-republicans/>

-- The former president made donations to Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney, as well as Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski. He also donated to Glenn Youngkin, the newly elected governor of Virginia.

Woodrow Wilson Library partners with other presidential sites for series on racial reckoning

NBC29, 1 February 2022

Tara Todd

<https://www.nbc29.com/2022/02/01/woodrow-wilson-library-partners-with-other-presidential-sites-series-racial-reckoning/>

-- The Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum is partnering with other Presidential sites for a new kind of conversation. It focuses on views and policies of U.S. presidents toward minority populations. The Reckoning: A Series on U.S. Presidents and Racial Inequality program is a Zoom webinar with the goal of telling the whole story in an objective way, according to Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum President and CEO Robin von Seldeneck. The program introduces a different president every month. There's a moderator, a representative from the presidential site, and public historians who share information based on research and primary documents.

Biden Undermined Faith in Elections

The Atlantic, 29 January 2022

Peter Wehner

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2022/01/biden-election-comments-undermine-faith-democracy/621398/>

-- The president is heightening the distrust in democracy that he promised to reduce. Whether one agrees or disagrees with the reforms Republicans have been pushing in several states, the notion that they amount to a "21st-century Jim Crow assault" is indefensible.

Republicans Relish Biden's Troubles, Eyeing a Takeover of Congress

The New York Times, 28 January 2022

Annie Karni

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/28/us/politics/republicans-midterms-congress.html>

-- The president's woes have delighted Republicans, who have been seeking to rehabilitate themselves in the eyes of the voters after the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol. Mr. Biden's troubles have frustrated Democrats, prompting calls for a major course correction.

Bill Clinton Quote on Stephen Breyer's 'Sheer Excellence' Resurfaces in Wake of Retirement

Newsweek, 26 January 2022

Meghan Roos

<https://www.newsweek.com/bill-clinton-quote-stephen-breyers-sheer-excellence-resurfaces-wake-retirement-1673348>

-- Comments former President Bill Clinton made in 1994 while nominating Stephen Breyer to become a new Supreme Court associated justice resurfaced Wednesday as word spread that Breyer is planning to retire. Breyer "will bring to the Court a well-recognized and impressive ability to build bridges in pursuit of fairness and justice," Clinton said at the time.

What the Fate of Joe Biden's Presidency Hinges On

The New York Times, 20 January 2022

Matthew Yglesias, Opinion

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/20/opinion/joe-biden-presidency.html>

-- President Biden's first year in office has been frustrating for many of his supporters. He has disappointed his more leftist supporters by refusing to take aggressive unilateral action in some areas where he has discretion, and he has disappointed his more moderate supporters by choosing to take aggressive actions in other areas. The nature of the White House is that even things that are not the president's fault are the president's problem.

Biden predicts Russia will invade Ukraine, warns Putin

AP News, 19 January 2022

Aamer Madhani and Matthew Lee

<https://apnews.com/article/antony-blinken-jen-psaki-vladimir-putin-sergey-lavrov-congress-1df536e9a832830dc3bae2e89aef4116>

-- President Joe Biden said Wednesday he thinks Russia will invade Ukraine and warned President Vladimir Putin that his country would pay a "dear price" in lives lost and a possible cutoff from the global banking system if it does.

'It's a tough time': why is Biden one of the most unpopular US presidents?

The Guardian, 18 January 2022

Lauren Gambino, in Washington

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/jan/18/joe-biden-approval-ratings-first-year-democrats>

-- Puzzle of Biden's unpopularity has some pieces within his control and some not, experts say, as Covid casts a shadow over his first year in office. Much of his domestic agenda is stalled on Capitol hill, impeded by members of his own party. The virus is once again raging out of control, hospitalizing more Americans than at any previous point during the pandemic. Diplomatic talks have so far failed to pull Russia back from the brink of war with Ukraine. After winning more votes than any presidential candidate in American history, Biden is now - just 12 months later - one of the country's most unpopular presidents.

Joe Biden spent a quarter of his first year as president in Delaware

New York Post, 17 January 2022

Steven Nelson

<https://nypost.com/2022/01/17/biden-spent-quarter-of-first-year-as-president-in-delaware/>

-- President Biden spent 28 percent of his first year as commander in chief back home in Delaware, worrying transparency advocates who note that he exempted his homes from visitor log disclosure. Critics are concerned about who may be seeking to influence public policy while paying Biden or his family a visit in Delaware.

After Biden's first year, the virus and disunity rage on

Associated Press (AP), 16 January 2022

Zeke Miller and Calvin Woodward

<https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-one-year-07788eba2c1eb84de0edf3dbe3f2d412>

-- From the inaugural platform, President Joe Biden saw American sickness on two fronts--a disease of the national spirit and the one from the rampaging coronavirus--and he saw hope, because leaders always must see that. "End this uncivil war," he implored Americans on Jan. 20, 2021. Of the pathogen, he said: "We can overcome this deadly virus." Neither malady has abated.

Eisenhower's warning about the military-industrial complex is still valid

Chicago Sun Times, 16 January 2022

William Lambers

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/2022/1/16/22884021/eisenhower-farewell-warning-military-industrial-complex>

-- With people profiting from armaments and their development, there will inevitably be the push for more weapons. President Dwight Eisenhower's farewell address of Jan. 17, 1961, is just as relevant today as back then. Eisenhower said in his speech, "This conjunction of an immense military establishment and a large arms industry is new in the American experience. Yet we must not fail to comprehend its grave implications. Our toil, resources and livelihood are all involved; so is the very structure of our society."

Faint echoes of Ford pardoning Nixon in possible Netanyahu plea deal-analysis

The Jerusalem Post, 16 January 2022

Herb Keinon

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/article-692690>

-- While what is being discussed is a plea, not a presidential pardon like the one that completely cleared Richard Nixon of any crimes, there are still parallels. The basic parameters of this deal would reportedly have Netanyahu convicted of fraud and breach of trust, his jail sentence commuted to community service, and a determination that his actions constituted "moral turpitude," thereby barring him from politics for the next seven years.

Biden-Cheney 2024 would be a terrible idea. Just ask Abe Lincoln.

MSNBC, 14 January 2022

Hayes Brown, Opinion Columnist

<https://www.msnbc.com/opinion/biden-cheney-2024-would-be-terrible-idea-just-ask-abe-n1287532>

-- New York Times columnist Tom Friedman is pretty sure he's found the cure for America's rampant polarization. We need only take our cure from Israel politics and put a Democrat and Republican together on the same ticket in 2024. Unfortunately, this has been tried before--and it wound up being a mess that led to the country's first presidential impeachment. There was a time when candidates from separate parties formed a single ticket. Abraham Lincoln, who became our first Republican president when he took office in 1861, won his second term as a candidate on the Nation Union Party ticket. In the process, he ditched his first vice president, Hannibal Hamlin, for Democrat Johnson of Tennessee.

Joe Biden is no Jimmy Carter. He should wish he was.

The Washington Post, 14 January 2022

Jonathan Alter

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2022/01/14/jimmy-carter-biden-comparisons/>

-- The comparison is more complicated - and flattering - than critics realize. Representative Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) tweeted that "Joe Biden is the new Jimmy Carter." Senator Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) claimed that Biden is "worse than Carter." Carter has even crept into Democrat's rhetoric: In a recent interview, Vice President Harris described a "level of malaise" amid the new surge in coronavirus cases, an echo of the "malaise speech" Carter delivered in July 1979. (Carter never used that word; he described the country as suffering from a "crisis of confidence.")

How historians view Trump--and how Trump sees himself

CBS News, 9 January 2022

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/how-historians-view-trump-and-how-trump-sees-himself/>

-- There's at least one thing that Donald Trump's critics and supporters *can* agree on about his presidency, according to Jeffrey Engel, director of the Center for Presidential History at Southern Methodist University: "He came into be a disrupter, and of all his accomplishments, I think it's very easy to say that he accomplished that one."

Why George Washington's Farewell Address has never been more important

Salon, 9 January 2022

Matthew Rozsa

<https://www.salon.com/2022/01/09/why-george-washingtons-farewell-address-has-never-been-more-important/>

-- Washington's Farewell Address, which was actually the inspiration for the song "One Last Time," from "Hamilton" (the play), has never been more relevant than since Jan. 6, 2021. Co-authored with Alexander Hamilton and James Madison over the course of his presidency, Washington wrote in the introduction that he knew that Americans were concerned about whether democracy would keep on working after he left office.

Meacham to headline Lincoln banquet

MyJournalCourier, 8 January 2021

Angela Bauer

<https://www.myjournalcourier.com/news/article/Meacham-to-headline-Lincoln-banquet-16752449.php>

-- Historical biographer and TV commentator Jon Meacham will be the featured speaker Feb. 12 in Springfield for the annual Abraham Lincoln Association Birthday Banquet. Meacham has authored books on presidents Jefferson, Jackson, and George H.W. Bush. As part of the birthday celebration, three renowned Lincoln authors and historians will be featured during the Benjamin P. Thomas Symposium.

Biden's first State of the Union address set for March 1

CNBC, 7 January 2022

Dan Mangan

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/01/07/first-joe-biden-state-of-the-union-address-set-for-march-1.html>

-- President Biden will give his first State of the Union address to Congress on March 1, the White House said Friday after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi issued an invitation to Biden for that date. Biden's speech would be the latest scheduled State of the Union address since 193, after Congress shifted the opening of its sessions to January. Presidents are required by Article Two of the Constitution to "give to the Congress information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." Biden's speech to a joint session of Congress after he entered office last year, are not considered a State of the Union address as it was not given during the president's second calendar year in office.

Biden's Vision of Democracy Relies on Truth

The Washington Post, 7 January 2022

Jonathan Bernstein, Bloomberg

https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/bidens-vision-of-democracy-relies-on-truth/2022/01/07/b948e790-6fbe-11ec-b1e2-0539da8f4451_story.html

-- There's been a lot of coverage and commentary about what President Joe Biden said yesterday about his predecessor, including his pointed failure to mention him by name. Speaking from the Capitol he symbolically endorsed the idea that Congress is the "first branch" of government--the one closest to the people. But from the time of Woodrow Wilson, presidents have customarily treated themselves as the true representative of the people, often noting that they were elected by the entire nation, while members of Congress represent only their districts.

Civil war over Trump? Not likely

Chicago Sun Times, 7 January 2022

Gene Lyons

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/columnists/2022/1/7/22871049/trump-civil-war-election-lies-presidents-america-column-gene-lyons>

-- A Washington Post-University of Maryland poll shows that the "percentage of Americans who say violent action against the government is justified at times stands at 3% (Forty percent of Republicans vs. 23% of Democrats.) That and similar surveys show that between 58-71% of Republicans tell pollsters that Trump was the actual winner of an election he lost thunderously, making Joe Biden an illegitimate president. While the history of past Congressional midterms provides pundits with a barometer to forecast this year's coming election, author Sidney Warren observes that "even meteorologists with all their scientific instruments at their command to predict the weather are often wrong."

Midterm elections usually are unkind to nation's presidents

The Virginia Gazette, 7 January 2022

Dr. Jonathan L. Stolz

<https://www.dailypress.com/viriniagazette/va-vg-presidential-midterms-0108-20220107-yo4c7ks3sf2thz37y4iu43eky-story.html>

-- Pundits have already begun talking about November's midterm elections. One thing is for sure--like many of his predecessors, history is not on Joe Biden's side for a positive outcome for his party. Except for on two occasions in the last 162 years, the president's political party has lost Congressional seats in every chief executive's first midterm plebiscite.

The Last Time We Had an Insurrectionist President

The Bulwark, 7 January 2022

Daniel N. Gullotta

<https://www.thebulwark.com/the-last-time-we-had-an-insurrectionist-president/>

-- President Trump, meet President Tyler. Since he left office, former President Donald Trump has not receded into quiet retirement as most of his predecessors did. There are similarities to the tenth president, John Tyler (1841-1845).

American dad

Washington Examiner, 6 January 2022

Charlotte Allen

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/american-dad>

-- America's fourth president, James Madison, could be said to have been the real father of the country. He more or less wrote the Constitution. His "Virginia Plan," submitted to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia during the summer of 1787, envisioned three branches of government that we know today, as well as a bicameral, proportionally based legislature that was a novelty for a country that eschewed a hereditary nobility and a national judiciary headed by a "Supreme Court". With some modifications, the Virginia Plan became the United State's founding charter.

Biden condemns lies of 'defeated former president' as an attack on America's soul

NBC News, 6 January 2022

Lauren Egan

<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/biden-criticize-trump-warn-threats-democracy-jan-6-anniversary-n1287022>

-- "He can't accept he lost," the president said without mentioning his predecessor in a speech at the Capitol. Speaking from Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol on the Anniversary of the 6 January attack on the U.S. Capitol last year, Biden said the former president (Trump) and his followers had "held a dagger at the throat of democracy."

Pullman Library Board to consider policy changes after Thomas Jefferson Painting draws complaints

SPR Spokane Public Radio (NPR), 6 January 2022

Steve Jackson

<https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/post/pullman-library-board-consider-policy-changes-after-thomas-jefferson-painting-draws-complaints#stream/0>

-- Last month, several emails sent to the Pullman library asked that the painting of Thomas Jefferson, that hangs in the library's north entrance, be taken down because he owned slaves. Library Director Joanna Bailey says about 75% of those who testified at Tuesday night's public meeting supported keeping the painting on display.

Biden vows US to act decisively if Russia invades Ukraine, declines to provide details

The North State Journal, 5 January 2022

Aamer Madhani, Associated Press

<https://nsjonline.com/article/2022/01/biden-vows-us-to-act-decisively-if-russia-invades-ukraine-declines-to-provide-details/>

-- President Joe Biden conferred over the weekend with Ukraine's leader over the Russian troop buildup near its border. Biden has spoken of hitting Russia with economy-jarring sanctions if it moves on Ukraine's territory, but he said last month that U.S. military action is not on the table.

Carter warns America 'teeters on the brink of a widening abyss' in start op-ed ahead of January 6

CNN politics, 5 January 2022

Shawna Mizelle and Colin McCullough

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/01/05/politics/jimmy-carter-democracy-jan-6-oped/index.html>

-- Carter, writing in a New York Times op-ed published on the eve of the anniversary of the January 6 insurrection, charged that "without immediate action, we are at genuine risk of civil conflict and losing our precious democracy."

George Washington Birthday Parade Coming in February

Alexandria Living, 5 January 2022

<https://alexandrialivingmagazine.com/upcoming-events/george-washington-birthday-parade-february-2022/>

-- Alexandria's parade to celebrate the birth of our first president is back this year. The organizing committee is signing up groups to participate in the parade and is working on other events like the annual Cherry Challenge. Depending on the weather, the parade is anticipated to take place on February 21.

This day in history, January 5: President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposes assistance to countries to help them resist Communist aggression

Chicago Tribune, 5 January 2022

Associated Press

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/history/ct-aud-today-history-almanac-january-5-20220105-shjxkixu3ngftizq7trfkwyqky-story.html>

-- In what became known as the Eisenhower Doctrine, the president proposed assistance to countries resisting Communist aggression.

Bell Ringer: John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, and Train Travel

C-Span Classroom, 4 January 2022

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?18635>

-- Author Bob Withers talked about the trains that played a part in the lives of Andrew Jackson and John Quincy Adams. He's the author of the President Travels by Train: Politics and Pullmans. The George H.W.Bush Presidential Library hosted this virtual event.

Ted Cruz Claims 'Multiple Grounds' for Joe Biden's Impeachment Under a GOP House

Newsweek, 4 January 2022

Gerrard Kaonga

<https://www.newsweek.com/ted-cruzz-joe-biden-impeachment-republican-gop-house-verdict-1665253>

-- Texas Senator Ted Cruz, along with Michael Knowles and Liz Wheeler, discussed former President Trump's impeachment and the future of Biden's presidency during the show *Verdict with Ted Cruise*, on December 31, 2021. Knowles joked that he expects the Democrats to attempt to impeach Trump again and went so far as to say even if he (Trump) died the Democrats would find a way to impeach him.

George Washington's Tenderness

The New York Sun, 3 January 2022

Editorial

<https://www.nysun.com/editorials/george-washingtons-tenderness/91853/>

-- With the approach of the first anniversary of the January 6 protests, we find ourselves thinking of Daniel Shays, James McFarlane, and John Fries. They were the leaders of three of the most famous--and serious--rebellions in American history. They were rebelling against taxes, the tinder of our Revolution itself. Washington said after pardoning the doomed Whiskey rebels "The misled have abandoned their errors." He spoke of "a sacred duty" not only to exercise his powers "with firmness and energy," but "to mingle in the operations of Government every degree of moderation and tenderness which the national justice, dignity, and safety may permit."

President Biden follows call with Putin by telling Ukraine that U.S. will act "decisively" if Russia invades

CBSNews, 3 January 2022

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/biden-russia-ukraine-putin-invasion-threat/>

-- Biden reiterated his statements that the U.S. and allies will act "decisively" if Russia further invades Ukraine to President Volodymyr Zelensky in a call Sunday, as Russia masses troops along the border between the nations. Biden also spoke with Russia President Vladimir Putin on Thursday.

'Silent Cal' Speaks: The Self-Restraint and Service of America's 30th President

Newsweek, 3 January 2022

Lee Habeeb

<https://www.newsweek.com/silent-cal-speaks-self-restraint-service-americas-30th-president-1665125>

-- What makes Calvin Coolidge's life so compelling is not how far he traveled from his roots but how far those roots traveled with him. In an age of narcissistic, strident and self-promoting politicians, Coolidge's story is a worthy rebuttal. We need not look further than his own biography, recently released by ISI Books, with a forward by historian Amity Shales, who chairs the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation's board, and Matt Denhart, its president.

To save America, we need a council of presidents

The Hill, 3 January 2022

Harlan Ullman, Opinion Contributor

<https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/587945-to-save-america-we-need-a-council-of-presidents>

-- Make no mistake: America is in extremis. The danger is not the pandemic. The real issue is the Constitution. Why not make use of former presidents? Suppose a council of former presidents were convened at Camp David for an extended period. They would represent decades of presidential experience. Mitt Romney and Liz Cheney provide needed examples of political leaders who don't surrender their principle for temporary popularity. So do the memories of Senator Bob Dole and Senator Harry Reid, both of whom died in the past few weeks.

FDR's 1933 message rings true today as we head into the new year--fight fear with faith

Athens Banner-Herald, 2 January 2022

Jessica A. Johnson

<https://www.onlineathens.com/story/opinion/2022/01/02/president-franklin-d-roosevelt-said-we-must-have-faith-not-fear-jessica-johnson/9049602002/>

-- Heading into 2022, many people are fearing--inflation and ongoing mental exhaustion, fearing severe illness due to the surging COVID-19 Omicron variant, and fearing the probability of another shutdown. I was thinking about one of the most profound quotes regarding fear from former President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1933 inauguration speech: "... first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only things we have to fear is...fear itself--nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to covert retreat into advance."

Romney and Cheney set lonely examples for political courage for 2022, the Editorial Board writes

The Salt Lake Tribune, 2 January 2022

<https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/editorial/2022/01/02/romney-cheney-set-lonely/>

-- Sixty-six years ago this week, a young U.S. senator from Massachusetts published a book entitled "Profiles in Courage." It told the stories of eight senators, stretching from John Quincy Adams of Massachusetts in the early 1800s to Robert A. Taft of Ohio in the 1940s, each of whom stood against partisanship and the popular views of their times in defense of their principles and what they understood to be the good of the nation. John F. Kennedy's book was a major best-seller and won the 1957 Pulitzer Prize for biography.

The Biden 2021 report card: The not so good, the bad and the ugly

The Hill, 2 January 2022

Joe Concha

<https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/587871-the-biden-2021-report-card-the-not-so-good-the-bad-and-the-ugly>

-- President Biden leaves 2021 with 43 percent approval from American voters per the RealClearPolitics (RCP) average of major polls, with 53 percent disapproving. The numbers are upside-down from inauguration day 2021, when the president in the same RCP average stood at 57 approval and just 37 percent disapproval. No president since World War II - not even Donald Trump - has seen such a massive slide. Grades for Major issues include: Economy/Inflation - D; Crime - D; COVID-19 - C; Border/Immigration - F.

Yearning for a return to normalcy, the quicker the better

DeseretNews, 2 January 2022

Lee Benson

<https://www.deseret.com/2022/1/2/22856592/yearning-for-a-return-to-normalcy-the-quicker-the-better-warren-g-harding-ohio-president-election>

-- In 1920, Warren Harding wanted a return to normalcy; a century later, it's déjà vu all over again. In a speech in Boston on May 1920, Harding said, "America's present need is not heroics, but healing; not nostrums, but normalcy; not revolution, but restoration. The country was emerging from the devastation of World War I, and the Spanish flue pandemic. "A return to normalcy" became Harding's campaign slogan.

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