

U.S. Presidents Reference Library

Research Bibliography

January - March 2023

16 February 2023 12:15

Entries are listed in chronological order.

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

A Landmark's Legacy in Alexandria

The Connection to your community, 16 February 2023

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2023/feb/16/landmarks-legacy-alexandria/>

-- George Washington Masonic Memorial celebrates 100 years. When the memorial was dedicated in 1923, over 15,000 Masons and guests came to witness the waterfront up to the Memorial, where dignitaries including President Calvin Coolidge and Supreme Court Chief Justice William Howard Taft were in attendance. The purpose was "To erect and maintain in the City of Alexandria, Virginia, a suitable memorial temple to George Washington, the Mason; one which will express in durability and beauty the undying esteem of the Freemasons of the United States for him, in whose memory it shall stand throughout the coming years."

Biden to get annual physical, while former Obama doc is concerned for POTUS's health: 'He's not a young 80'

Fox News, 16 February 2023

Ronn Blitzer

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/biden-get-annual-physical-former-obama-doc-concerned-potuss-health-not-young-80>

-- The former White House doctor warned that whatever comes out of Biden's physical, the public 'is not going to learn anything'. Dr. David Scheiner predicted that even if Biden is in good shape to start 2023, this would not last through a second term should he win re-election in 2024. "He's had too many things in his past history."

Fact Sheet: President Biden Signs Executive Order to Strengthen Racial Equality and Support for Underserved Communities Across the Federal Government

The White House, 16 February 2023

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/02/16/fact-sheet-president-biden-signs-executive-order-to-strengthen-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-across-the-federal-government/>

-- The order reaffirms the Administration's commitment to deliver equity and build an America in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential.

Joe Biden’s Unexplained UFO Silence

WSJ, 15 February 2023

Daniel Henninger

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/joe-bidens-unexplained-ufo-silence-balloon-attack-spying-shot-down-air-traffic-national-security-a179243c>

-- The U.S. shoots down three “objects” over North America and the President won’t talk about it. Incredible.

Bill Clinton’s Childhood Home in Arkansas Hits the Market for \$345K

realtor.com, 14 February 2023

Kellie Speed

<https://www.realtor.com/news/celebrity-real-estate/bill-clintons-childhood-home-on-the-market-in-arkansas/>

-- The Hot Springs, AR, house where Bill Clinton grew up is available for a modest \$345,000. The listing marks the property’s first time on the public market. But the 3,708-square-foot home, known as the Birnbaum-Shubetz House, needs an update. This six-bedroom abode is listed on the National Register of Historic Places—a designation that could afford certain tax credits. Clinton lived in the house during his teenage years, from 1953 to 1961, the period when he first identified his political aspirations. The home was built in 1896. The home sits on nearly an acre, high atop North Hot Springs Park Uptown.

From George to Barack: A Look at Secret Bush Memos to the Obama Team

The New York Times, 14 February 2023

Peter Baker

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/14/us/politics/bush-obama-memos.html>

-- Bush left advice for Obama including – India is a Friend, Pakistan is not, Don’t trust North Korea or Iran but talking is better than not, Watch out for Russia; it covets the territory of its neighbor Ukraine.

Jill Biden not shy about her ‘Philly girl’ sports fandom

WHYY PBS NPR, 12 February 2023

Darlene Superville, AP

<https://whyy.org/articles/jill-biden-philadelphia-eagles-super-bowl-lvii-sports-fandom/>

-- Jill won’t let even a White House gala get between her and the Philadelphia Eagles. After a late night entertaining governors with President Joe Biden at a black-tie dinner on Saturday, the first lady was heading for the Super Bowl in Arizona with hopes of watching “the Birds” defeat the Kansas City Chiefs and claim the NFL title.

The State of the Union Is Increasingly Loud and Unruly

Governing, 12 February 2023

Clay S. Jenkinson

<https://www.governing.com/context/the-state-of-the-union-is-increasingly-loud-and-unruly>

-- Tuesday's speech was in keeping with a tradition dating back to the republic's founding, including an increasing element of 'bread and circuses,' a mix of political policies and entertainment, ceremony and spectacle, in service of endless campaigning by both parties.

Memorable moments from recent State of the Union addresses

ABC News, 7 February 2023

Isabella Murray

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/memorable-moments-recent-state-union-addresses/story?id=96848317>

-- From Pelosi tearing up Trump's speech to President Ford's bold statement. When American presidents appear before a joint session of Congress, and often their largest television audience, to deliver a State of the Union address - - they're important benchmarks in not only updating the nation but in setting political priorities.

Staunton author tells history of Virginia's presidents in new book

Staunton News Leader, 6 February 2023

Patrick Hite

<https://www.newsleader.com/story/news/local/2023/02/06/staunton-author-tells-history-of-virginias-presidents-in-new-book/69833332007/>

-- Heather S. Cole is the author of a new book, "Virginia's Presidents: A History & Guide." It focuses on the eight presidents born in Virginia, and is aimed at the casual reader who not only want to learn about those presidents but the historic homes and sites associated with them.

Today is: Ronald Reagan Day

Fremont News Messenger/News Herald USA Today 6 February 2023

<https://www.thenews-messenger.com/story/news/local/2023/02/06/today-is-ronald-reagan-day/69858557007/>

-- Ronald Reagan Day will be observed on Feb. 6, 2023. It has been observed annually on Feb. 6 since 2011. Reagan served as the 40th President of the United States from 1981 to 1989.

Presidential papers have long been turning up in unexpected places

The Washington Post, 4 February 2023

Ronald G. Shafer

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2023/02/04/presidential-papers-documents-misplaced/>

-- Finding missing presidential documents all over the place is nothing new. In 1970, historians discovered papers of President James K. Polk, who was in office from 1845 to 1849, in a desk drawer at his ancestral home in Tennessee. It was nothing secret - mainly notes from Dolley Madison and John Quincy Adams. But other recovered presidential documents have held greater significance, including the original copies of the Monroe Doctrine and the Treaty of Versailles. Many other presidents have encountered lost documents, including classified and unclassified.

The strange link between a forgotten sex cult and a president's murder

The Washington Post, 2 February 2023

Joy Lanzendorfer

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/books/2023/02/02/assassin-utopia-garfield-review-susan-wels/>

-- In 'An Assassin in Utopia,' Susan Weis offers an engrossing look at the death of James Garfield. Garfield was shot at the Baltimore and Potomac railroad station, and died a few months later. The killer, Charles Guiteau, was delusional and obsessive, a stalker who believed that murdering Garfield would save the Republican Party. He was also a former member of a New York utopian colony, the Oneida Community.

Following catastrophic winter storms, President Joe Biden will visit California today

The Sacramento Bee, 19 January 2023

Maggie Angst

<https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article271346412.html>

-- Biden is expected to land at Moffett Federal Airfield in Santa Cruz mid-day and then take a helicopter to heavy-hit areas in Santa Cruz County. In the afternoon he will meet with business owners and residents in the coastal town of Capitola and survey efforts with first responders and local officials along the central coast. The storms have also caused at least 20 deaths, and hundreds of millions of dollars in damage.

From student loans to masks, why does Biden want to keep us in a perpetual 'emergency'?

USA Today, 19 January 2023

Ingrid Jacques

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/columnist/2023/01/19/biden-covid-student-loan-overreach-must-end/11067826002/>

-- It's long past time for Biden to end the national emergency and give up the tremendous powers that go along with it. In September 2022 he declared the pandemic was "over". However, the extra powers his administration has enjoyed continue in place.

Most Democrats in new poll support probe into Biden classified documents

The Hill, 19 January 2023

Stephen Neukam

<https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/3819392-most-democrats-in-new-poll-support-probe-into-biden-classified-documents/>

-- A majority of Democrats support a congressional investigation into the classified documents found at President Biden's home and private office, according to a new poll Which comes as House Republicans and the Department of Justice have already Announced probes into the records. Fifty-two percent of Democrats and 64 percent of respondents in general said they would approve a congressional investigation to a Yahoo News-YouGov poll this week.

Vintage Photos of Birthday Celebrations at the White House

Town&Country, 19 January 2023

Janaya Wecker

<https://www.townandcountrymag.com/society/politics/g42190029/vintage-white-house-birthday-celebrations-photos/>

-- The book compiles photographs of parties, dances, and other gathering held in the White House featuring Nancy Reagan dancing with Frank Sinatra, a photoshoot of FDR's pet Scottie, Fala, Harry Truman bowling in the White House while dressed in suit and tie, Luci Johnson's blowing out candles on her 17th birthday cake with dad holding the cake, and Nancy Reagan at her surprise birthday party to celebrate her big 6-0.

Clyburn says he expects Biden to run in 2024, warns against Democratic challenger

The Hill, 18 January 2022

Julia Shapero

<https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/3818865-clyburn-says-he-expects-biden-to-run-in-2024-warns-against-dem-challenger/>

Rep. James Clyburn (D-S.C.) said on Wednesday that he expects President Biden to run for reelection in 2024 and warned fellow Democrats against challenging him.

"I'm all in for President Biden." Clyburn told CBS News in an interview on Wednesday. "I think he demonstrated in these two years that he is deserving of reelection. And I do believe he will be reelected irrespective of who the Republicans put up." He also issued a warning to potential Democratic challengers, pointing to former Sen. Ted Kennedy's primary against former President Carter in 1980. "The history is very clear on what happens when you challenge a sitting president like this," Clyburn said.

A famous last name, business deals and a looming probe: Republicans ramp up investigation of Biden family

CNN politics, 17 January 2023

Curt Devine, Casey Tolan and Scott Glover

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/01/17/politics/biden-family-name-invs/index.html>

-- A year after Biden was elected his youngest brother, Frank, boasted in a speech to medical professionals gathered in Boston of the “bully pulpit” he was afforded due to “my brother Joey,” and vowed to help attendees “get federal dollars.” Just three months ago, Frank Biden was an invited keynote speaker at a medical conference in Venice, Italy, where he gave advice to a group lobbying the federal government – A trip he acknowledged he did not pay for but declined to say who did. Joe Biden’s son, Hunter, has bluntly acknowledged in a memoir that his last name was a “coveted credential” helping him land a lucrative and controversial gig as a board member for a Ukrainian energy company when Joe Biden was vice president. He stated that the company Burisma, “considered my last name gold,”.

Obama ethics chief says Biden neglected ‘basic security’ for docs

The New York Post, 17 January 2023

Mark Moore

<https://nypost.com/2023/01/17/obama-ethics-chief-blasts-biden-for-neglecting-security-protocols-with-classified-docs/>

-- “It’s nothing like Trump’s deliberate refusal to return classified records demanded by the National Archives, but Biden’s own retention of classified records reflects an Inexcusable neglect of the most basic security protocols,” Walter Shaub told Fox News Digital Tuesday.

Are the Clintons actually writing their novels? An expert uses ‘stylometry’ to analyze Hillary and Bill’s writing

The Conversation, 16 January 2023

<https://theconversation.com/are-the-clintons-actually-writing-their-novels-an-expert-uses-stylometry-to-analyse-hillary-and-bills-writing-197761>

-- Using a technique called “stylometry”, it can be established that James Patterson probably wrote most of “The President is Missing” co-authored with Bill Clinton. Stylometry uses computers to statistically analyze the frequency of words in a text. It can be applied to a variety of research purposes most notably, authorship attribution. The same determination resulted in applying stylometry to Patterson and Clinton’s book, “The President’s Daughter”. Stylometry indicated that Hillary Clinton did contribute a significant portion of the writing in the political thriller, “State of Terror”, written with Canadian writer Louise Penny.

Review: The main reason to see “Eisenhower”? Actor John Rubenstein’s earnest portrayal of Ike

Los Angeles Times, 13 January 2023

Charles McNulty, Theatre Critic

<https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/story/2023-01-13/eisenhower-play-john-rubenstein>

-- Living memory of Dwight D. Eisenhower is growing fainter with every year. But “Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground,” starring a perfectly cast John Rubinstein, brings our 45th president back to life in a straightforward biographical drama that’s filled with timely political lessons from a leader who strove to put country over party. The play by Richard Hellesten, is now playing at the Hudson MainStage Theatre, wears its earnestness on its sleeve. The frame of the play is rudimentary. Eisenhower is ruing his low ranking in a list of American presidents that a group of 75 historians has devised for a New York Times feature. He decides to tell his own story to set the record straight.

The Investigations of Joe Biden Begin

The New Yorker, 12 January 2023

David Rohde

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/daily-comment/the-investigations-of-joe-biden-begin>

-- A new Republican House subcommittee and a new special counsel pose more of a political threat to the President than a legal one. House Democrats are dismissing the subcommittee—which will comprise eight Republicans and Five Democrats—as an attempt to discredit, and to potentially slow down, the special counsel Jack Smith’s probe of former President Trump.

Biden’s FCC nominee Gigi Sohn shared tweet calling Trump a ‘raggedy white Supremacist president’

Fox News, 8 January 2023

Thomas Catenacci

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/bidens-fcc-nominee-gigi-sohn-shared-tweet-calling-trump-raggedy-white-supremacist-president>

-- In June 2020, Sohn retweeted a post from actress Issa Rae characterizing the former president as a white supremacist amid the unrest caused by the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Rae’s tweet added that Trump would prefer to “kill everybody” than to make progress on racial justice issues.

Ronald Reagan's daughter Patti Davis warns Prince Harry ahead of book release: 'Be Quiet'

Fox News, 8 January 2023

Caroline Thayer

<https://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/ronald-reagans-daughter-patti-davis-warns-prince-harry-ahead-book-release-be-quiet>

-- Davis, now 70 years old, cautioned the Duke of Sussex to be judicious with his candor. Davis' book on the Reagan family, "Family Secrets" was published in 1993, and she now says, "I now wish I hadn't written it (the book). "I wanted to set the record straight. Naively, I thought if I put my own feelings and my own truth out there for the world to read, my family might also come to understand me better."

Trump takes credit for McCarthy Speaker win

The Hill, 8 January 2023

Natalie Prieb

<https://thehill.com/homenews/3804301-trump-takes-credit-for-mccarthy-speaker-win/>

-- Former President Trump is taking a victory lap following Speaker Kevin McCarthy's (R-Calif.) win after 15 rounds of voting. Reports throughout the day-long voting process showed that Trump may have successfully swayed some of McCarthy's GOP detractors.

President Joe Biden Congratulates Kevin McCarthy After He Is Elected New House Speaker

People, 7 January 2023

Brenton Blanchet

<https://people.com/politics/joe-biden-congratulates-kevin-mccarthy-house-speaker-win/>

-- "I am prepared to work with Republicans when I can," Biden said after Congressman Kevin McCarthy was elected Speaker of the House early Saturday morning after 15 rounds of voting—the first time since 1923 that nobody won the first go-around.

'I Protect Ronnie From Himself': How Nancy Reagan Used a Snowstorm to Help Thaw the Cold War

POLITICO, 6 January 2023

Philip Taubman

<https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2023/01/06/george-shultz-nancy-reagan-cold-war-00076583>

-- An account of the Washington, DC major snowstorm on 11 February 1983 and how Nancy Reagan held a quiet dinner at the White House for the Reagan's and George Shultz and his wife. Schultz, the Secretary of State, had been struggling to see the President and the dinner gave him an opportunity to discuss several major issues with the president- primarily, how to end the cold war with Russia. By January 1989, the end of the Reagan presidency, that war was all but over.

1 Misconception About Each U.S. President

Mental Floss, 6 January 2023

Ellen Gutoskey

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/posts/misconceptions-about-each-president>

-- Among the misconceptions: George Washington chopped down a cherry tree—and then confessed; Chester Arthur was secretly born in Ireland; Theodore Roosevelt like the nickname “Teddy”; John F. Kennedy’s assassination was the only attempt on his life; George H. W. Bush banned broccoli from Air Force one; Barack Obama chartered a private jet for his dog. The truth to each presidential misconception is provided in the article.

Biden hits highest approval rating in more than a year

The Hill, 5 January 2023

Alex Gangitano

<https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/3800558-biden-hits-highest-approval-rating-in-more-than-one-year/>

-- The president kicked off 2022 at 43.3 percent and did not break 43 percent for the rest of the year. Biden’s lowest point was in July when he hit 37 percent of Americans approving of his performance as president. A Rasmussen poll this week found 47 percent of Americans approve of Biden’s performance. Another poll from Morning Consult showed Biden’s approval rating at 41 percent this week.

It’s still Trump’s party, even if he can’t elect McCarthy speaker

The Washington Post, 5 January 2023

Jeff Greenfield

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/01/05/trump-reagan-gop-legacy-presidents-historic-reputation/>

-- Ronald Reagan won two historic landslide elections, turned the Senate Republican for the first time in a quarter century, and became the first president since Calvin Coolidge to hand the White House over to an elected member of his own party. Contrasted with Donald Trump they were very different. However, this is Trump’s party far more than Reagan’s. In fact, Trump is as influential a former president as any in recent times – the president who finally ended the Age of Reagan and introduced his own era.

President Joe Biden (D) issued 29 executive orders in 2022

Ballotpedia, 4 January 2023

Ellen Morrissey

<https://news.ballotpedia.org/2023/01/04/president-joe-biden-d-issued-29-executive-orders-in-2022/>

-- Biden issued the fewer executive orders by a president in their second year in office since Bill Clinton (D) issued on executive order in 1994. President Donald Trump (R) Issued 37 in his second year in 2018, the most since Clinton.

Seven People Who Declined Supreme Court Confirmations

National Constitution Center, 2 January 2023

Scott Bomboy

<https://constitutioncenter.org/blog/seven-people-who-declined-supreme-court-confirmations>

-- Since 1789, the Senate has confirmed 128 nominations to the Supreme Court, but seven successful nominees never took an oath of office to serve on the bench. The list includes President Washington's nominee, Robert Hanson Harrison; James Madison's nominee Levi Lincoln who ultimately declined to his poor eyesight; and President Arthur's nominee Roscoe Conkling who was nominated without prior notice, and did not accept when confirmed for personal reasons.

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