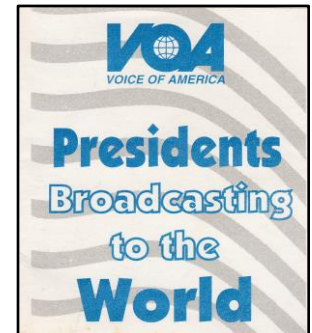


Presidents Broadcasting to the World 1933-2001



These were handouts about the size of a playing card printed on both sides.



Franklin Delano Roosevelt (D)
Term: 1933 - 1945

HISTORICAL FACTS: President Roosevelt served three full terms and part of a fourth between 1933 and 1945. After taking office at the height of the Great Depression, he initiated the New Deal, a package of economic and social programs. Throughout World War II, Roosevelt provided strong leadership and marshalled U.S. resources to lead the Allied war effort. His health deteriorated in 1945, and he died before the war's end and before completing his fourth term as president.

DID YOU KNOW: During President Roosevelt's Administration, the Voice of America broadcast its inaugural program on February 24, 1942, just 79 days after the U.S. entered World War II.

Harry S. Truman (D)
Term: 1945 - 1953

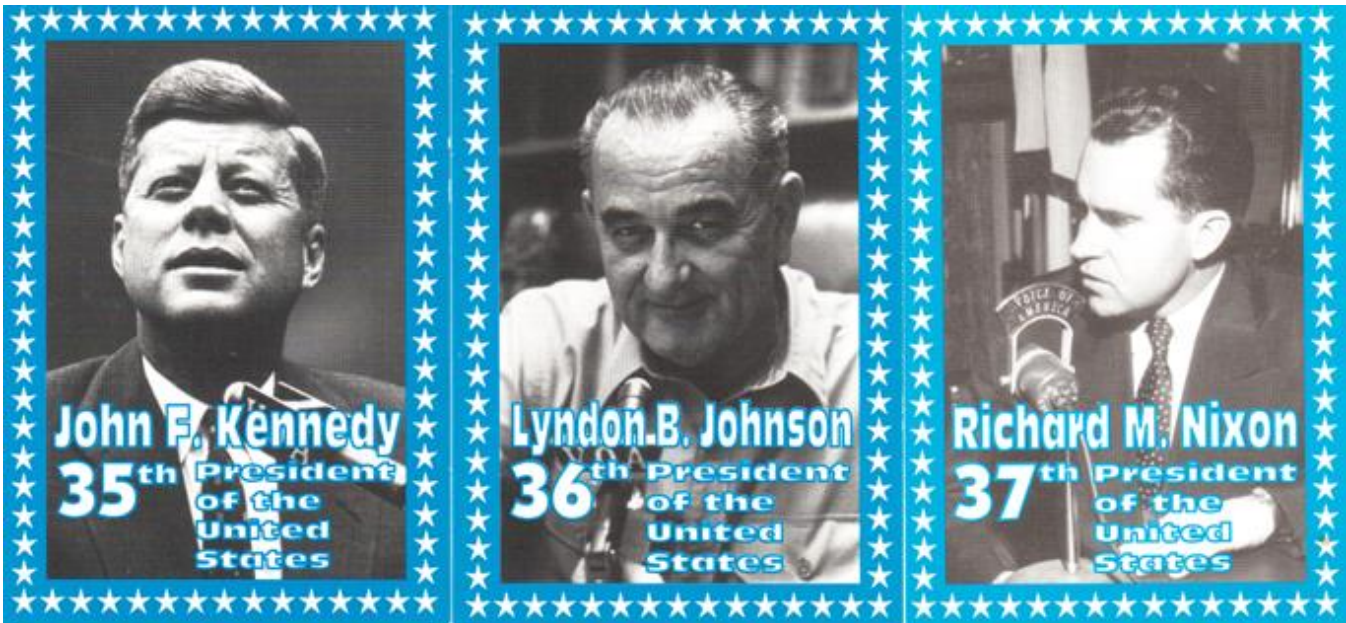
HISTORICAL FACTS: President Truman took the oath of office following President Roosevelt's death and won re-election in his own right in 1948. His presidency was marked by the end of World War II, the Truman Doctrine to contain the spread of communism, the Marshall Plan to spur economic recovery in Western Europe, the formation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the outbreak of the Korean War.

DID YOU KNOW: On March 4, 1952, President Truman dedicated the USS Courier, a Coast Guard cutter, to serve as a floating VOA relay station. Anchored off the Greek coast, it successfully penetrated the Iron Curtain with VOA broadcasts.

Dwight David Eisenhower (R)
Term: 1953 - 1961

HISTORICAL FACTS: President Eisenhower, who had been Commander of Allied Forces during World War II, won the 1952 election by a wide margin and was re-elected in 1956. His foreign policy focused on the containment of communism. In 1953, the Eisenhower Administration negotiated a truce in the Korean War and, in 1957, asserted that U.S. armed forces would aid any Middle Eastern country requesting assistance against the spread of communist aggression.

DID YOU KNOW: The Voice of America was transferred from the Department of State to the U.S. Information Agency when President Eisenhower established the Agency in 1953. A year later, VOA moved from its first offices in New York City to its present site in Washington, D.C.



John Fitzgerald Kennedy (D)
 Term: 1961 - 1963

Lyndon Baines Johnson (D)
 Term: 1963 - 1969

Richard Milhous Nixon (R)
 Term: 1963 - 1969

Historical Facts: President Kennedy has long been remembered for one of his most famous comments, "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." He followed his own advice, setting the country on the course of the longest economic expansion since the Second World War. Kennedy started the Peace Corps, and his policies reduced poverty and supported the struggle for equal rights. His Administration faced off against the Soviet Union over the Cuban Missile Crisis, which brought the two nations to the brink of nuclear war. Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas.

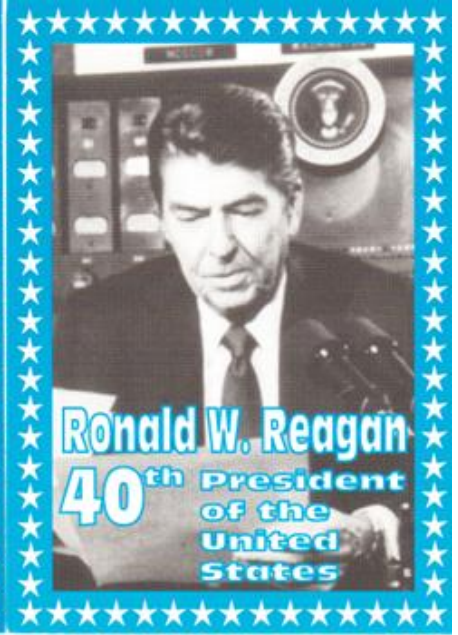
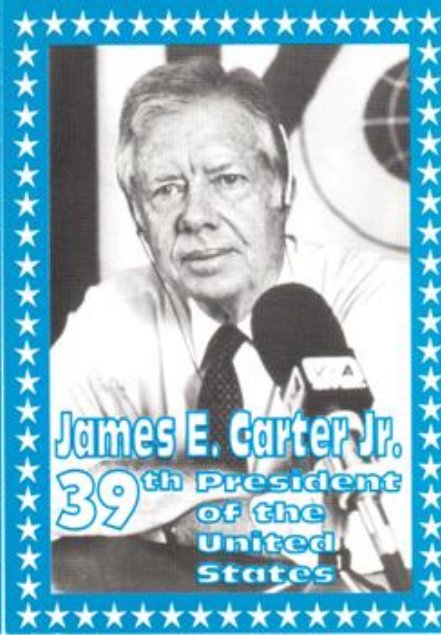
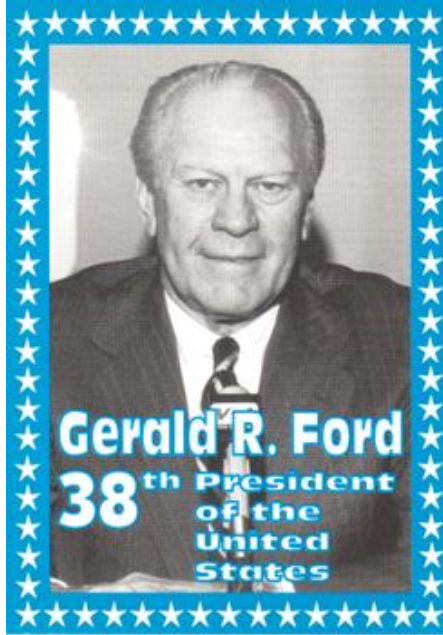
Did You Know: President Kennedy appointed the prominent journalist, Edward R. Murrow, as Director of the U.S. Information Agency, VOA's parent agency, in 1961.

Historical Facts: President Johnson took the oath of office after President Kennedy's death on November 22, 1963. He signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 into law. His Great Society program brought economic and social welfare reforms such as Medicare and improvements in education. A deepening involvement in Vietnam, however, sparked wide-spread protests against Johnson's Vietnam policy, and he did not run again for office in 1968.

Did You Know: President Johnson persuaded NBC correspondent John Chancellor to serve as Director of the Voice of America from August 1965 to June 1967.

Historical Facts: President Nixon initiated detente with the Soviet Union, leading to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) between 1969 and 1979. His historic meeting with Mao Tse-tung on a trip to China reversed U.S. policy toward that country. When scandals forced his Vice President, Spiro Agnew, to resign, Nixon nominated House Minority Leader Gerald Ford to be Vice President. Watergate, however, overshadowed Nixon's foreign policy achievements and weakened his presidency. Facing impeachment, he resigned in August 1974.

Did You Know: During President Nixon's Administration, the Voice of America began using the Kavala Relay Station in Greece, providing a vital signal to Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.



Gerald Rudolph Ford (R)
Term: 1974 - 1977

James Earl Carter Jr. (D)
Term: 1977 - 1981

Ronald Wilson Reagan (R)
Term: 1981 - 1989

Historical Facts: President Ford took the oath of office on August 9, 1974, following President Nixon's resignation. Under the terms of the 25th Amendment, he was the first Vice President to succeed a resigning President. Ford spent 25 years in Congress before becoming Richard Nixon's Vice President. Major foreign policy events during Ford's term included the fall of South Vietnam and the overthrow of the Lon Nol government in Cambodia, both in 1975.


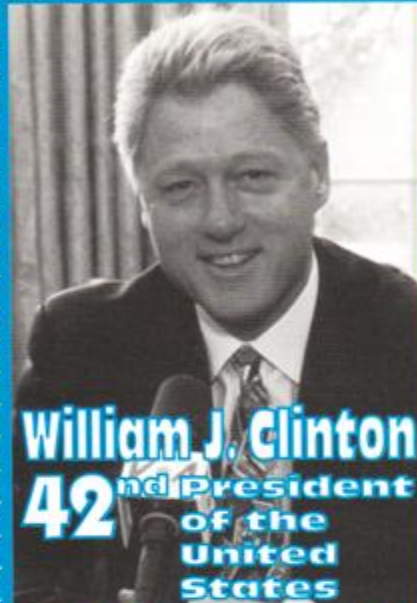
Did You Know: President Ford signed the VOA Charter into law (Public Law 94-350) on July 12, 1976, ensuring the accuracy, balance and comprehensiveness of VOA's broadcasts.

Historical Facts: President Carter pledged to bring government closer to the people. He strongly advocated human rights and an open foreign policy. Domestically, he established a national energy policy and deregulated domestic petroleum prices to encourage production. With a worsening economy and the 1979 hostage-taking of U.S. Embassy personnel in Iran, his popularity declined. He was defeated by Ronald Reagan in 1980.

Did You Know: VOA broadcast live the ceremony during which President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel, and President Jimmy Carter signed the Camp David Accords on September 17, 1979.

Historical Facts: President Reagan followed a foreign policy that stressed "peace through strength." He held four summits with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, resulting in a treaty to eliminate intermediate nuclear weapons. On the domestic front, Reagan signed legislation to stimulate economic growth, curb inflation, and decrease unemployment. He effectively used the media to communicate his foreign and domestic policies to the American people and left office extremely popular after two terms.

Did You Know: Reagan launched an aggressive \$1.3 billion program in 1983 to modernize VOA, leading to the construction of new studios, a new Master Control complex, and a new Network Control Center to coordinate and direct VOA's relay station network.

 <p>George H. Bush 41st President of the United States</p>	 <p>William J. Clinton 42nd President of the United States</p>
<p>George Herbert Walker Bush (R) Term: 1989 - 1993</p>	<p>William Jefferson Clinton (D) Term: 1993 -</p>
<p>Historical Facts: President Bush took office in 1989 after serving eight years as Vice President in the Reagan Administration. Following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, he won world-wide support for an embargo against Iraq and the eventual use of force to free Kuwait. Domestically, President Bush increased taxes, reduced spending, and offered growth incentives for business. However, the economy did not respond, and he lost the support of American voters in the 1992 presidential election.</p> <p>Did You Know: At VOA's 50th Anniversary celebration in February 1992, President Bush cited VOA's thought-provoking editorials for helping to keep millions of people informed and promoting respect for human rights throughout the world.</p>	<p>Historical Facts: President Clinton won the presidency with 43 percent of the vote in a three-way race. He won passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico and worked with Congress to enact broad anti-crime legislation. In foreign affairs, the Clinton Administration supported the peace process in the Middle East and took the lead in implementing a peace agreement in the Balkans.</p> <p>Did You Know: President Clinton's proposal to consolidate all U.S. Government non-military international broadcast services, including VOA, led to the passage of the International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-326), placing VOA under a new presidentially appointed Board of Governors.</p>

Leland L. Hite

March 2021