

I met this guy!!



THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

All of the living U.S. Presidents together in the Oval Office.

• *“A president's hardest task is not to do what is right but to know what is right.”*

• Lyndon B. Johnson



- ***“With me it is exceptionally true that the Presidency is no bed of roses.”***



- **James K. Polk**

THE CONSTITUTION

- **The Executive Branch is described in Article II of the Constitution.**
- **Article II begins with the words, “*The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.*”**
- **The President and the Vice President are the only two executive officials described in the Constitution; but the executive branch consists of several million employees today.**

Choosing a President

Q. What qualifications does a person have to meet in order to run for President?

ANSWER:

- **Be a natural born citizen of the United States**
- **Be at least 35 years old**
- **Be a U.S. resident for 14 years prior to running for office**

Choosing a President

Speaking of citizenship...

“Natural” citizens:

Jus sanguinis – one American parent

Jus soli – born on US Soil



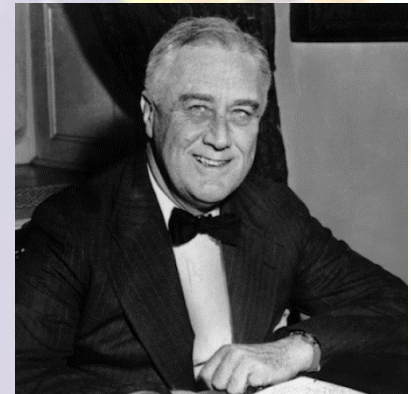
Qualifications and Terms

- **According to *Constitution*:**
- ***Formal qualifications***
 - *US Citizen*
 - *35 years old*
 - *Live in US 14 years prior to running for office*



Qualifications and Terms

- **According to *Constitution*:**
- **Terms of office:**
 - 4 years
- **According to the 22nd Amendment**
 - May serve 2 terms or 10 years



The 22nd Amendment was proposed in 1947 and ratified by 1951. What was the impetus for this Amendment?



From *Title 8 of the U.S. Code Section 1401*

A natural-born* citizen is

- Anyone born inside the US
- *Any Indian or Eskimo born in the US provided being a citizen of the US does not impair the person's status as a citizen of the tribe*
- Anyone born outside the US, both of whose parents are citizens of the US as long as one parent has lived in the US
- Any one born outside the US, if one parent is a citizen and lived in the US for at least one year and other parent is a US National
- Any one *born in a US possession*, if one parent is a citizen and lived in the US for a least one year;
- *Any one found in the US under the age of five, whose parentage cannot be determined, as long as proof of non-citizenship is not provided by age 21;*
- Any one born outside the US, if one parent is an alien and as long as the other parent is a citizen of the US who lived in the US for at least five years (with military and diplomatic service included in this time)
- A final, historical condition: a person born before 5/24/1934 of an alien father and a U.S. citizen mother who has lived in the U.S

- *"Mothers all want their sons to grow up to be president but they don't want them to become politicians in the process."*



- **John F. Kennedy**

Qualifications and Terms

- **Informal qualifications:**

- *Prior experience*

- 44/45

- *Military service*

- *Washington, J. Adams*, Jefferson*, Madison*, Monroe, Jackson, Taylor, Pierce, Buchanan, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, B. Harrison, T. Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, LBJ, Nixon, Ford, H.W. Bush*

- *Married*

- *Jefferson (daughter served as FLOTUS), Jackson's wife died shortly before inauguration, Arthur widower at inauguration*
- *Divorce – less of an issue in past 50 years*

Qualifications and Terms

- **Informal qualifications:**

- *White*

- 43.5/45

- *Protestant*

- *Lincoln/Jefferson had no official religious affiliation*
- *Kennedy only Catholic*
- *11 Episcopalians*
- *10 total Christian denominations*

- *Northern European ancestry*

- *Male*

- 45/45

- *Education?*



Presidential Elections: Electoral College

- The Electoral College football team isn't very good
- **Representatives + Senators = Electoral Votes**
- **Popular vote does not guarantee win!**
- **What happens if there is no clear winner??**

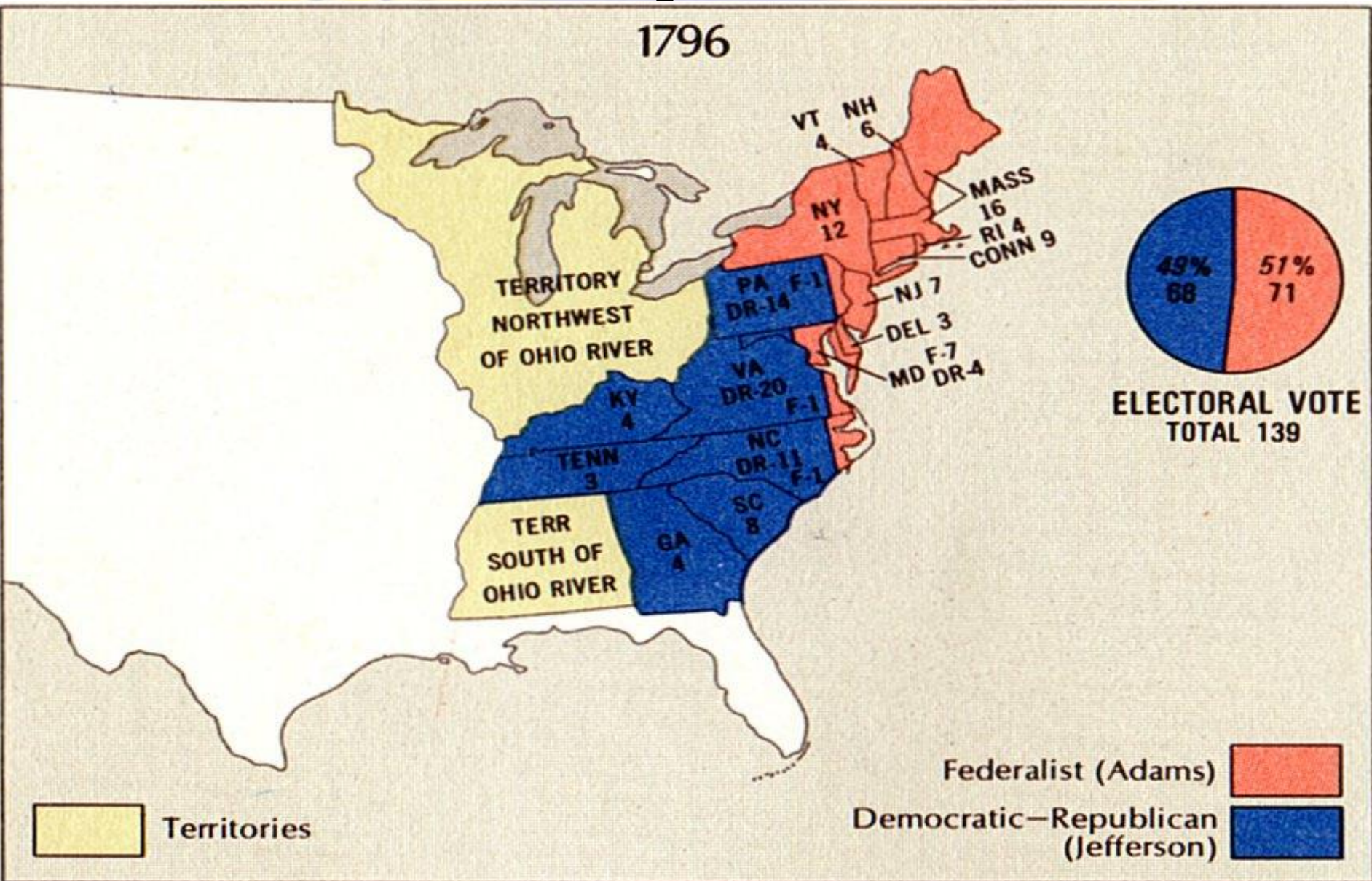
Presidential Elections:

The “**really dumb**” Original Plan

- Under original terms of Constitution, members of Electoral College voted only for office of President.
- Person receiving greatest number of votes would be President, **2nd place became VP.**

Presidential Elections: The Original Plan

1796



Amazingly...this didn't work!

- **Election of 1796:** Federalist John Adams came in 1st, and Democratic-Republican Thomas Jefferson came 2nd.
- Even greater problem occurred in **election of 1800**, when Democratic-Republicans Jefferson and Aaron Burr tied.
 - Intended that Jefferson was Presidential contender and Burr was VP, electors did not and could not differentiate between two under system.
 - After 35 unsuccessful votes in House, Jefferson finally won 36th ballot and Burr became VP
 - Burr caps Hamilton later....

Selecting a Vice President

- Presidents have used several techniques when selecting their running mates
- Chosen someone who “**balances the ticket**”
 - Region
 - Age
 - Religion
 - Charisma
 - Experience

Selecting a Vice President

- Presidents Clinton and Bush **gone against** tradition
- Selected running mate with own **political experience and knowledge**
 - Someone who could actually **BE** president if called upon
 - EX: Gore is from a southern state like Clinton and therefore did not **balance** ticket in 1992 and 1996
 - On the same note, VP Cheney is actually from Texas just like President Bush, but Bush selected him anyway (*He had to establish residency in Wyoming to qualify*)

Constitutional Powers

- **Constitution says little about presidential power.**
 - Share executive, legislative, and judicial power with other branches of government.



Presidential Powers and Duties

To ENFORCE
and CARRY
OUT the laws.

Expansion of Presidential Power

- **Today presidential power greater than Constitution suggests.**
 - *In 1950s and 1960s scholars tended to favor idea of strong presidency.*
 - After abuses of power during **Vietnam War and Watergate**, scholars argued presidency had become too powerful

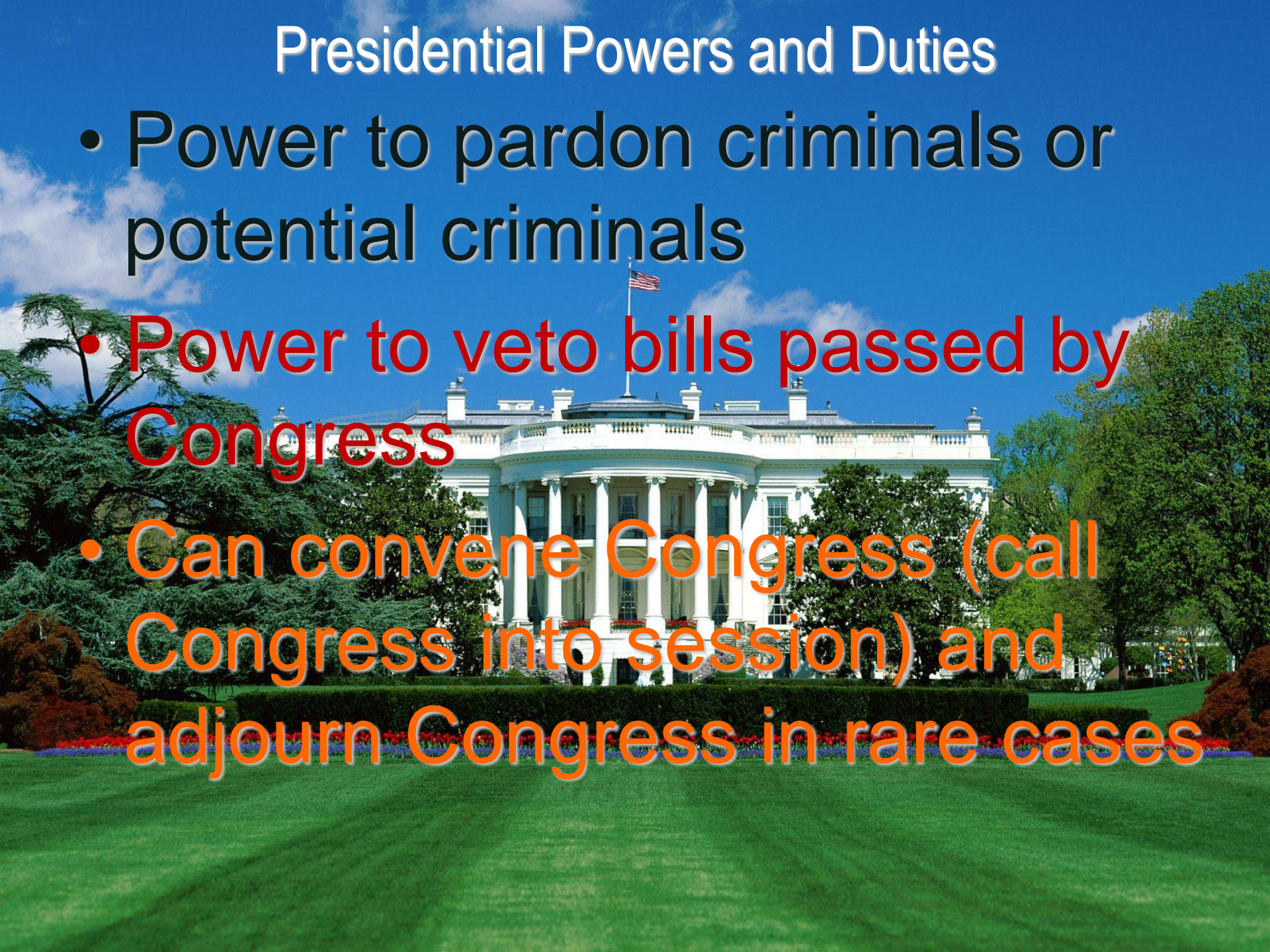
Presidential Powers and Duties



- Commander-in-Chief: head of the armed forces
- Appointment power (judges, ambassadors, and numerous executive officials); also, recess appointments
- Can negotiate treaties (executive agreements more common)

Presidential Powers and Duties

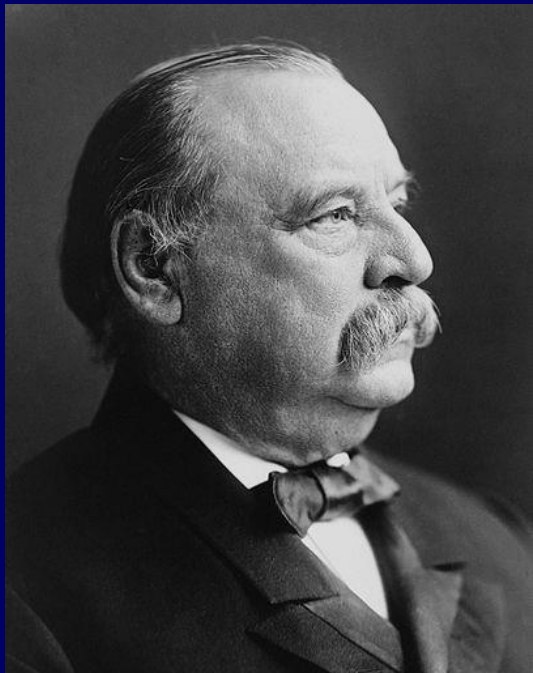
- Power to pardon criminals or potential criminals
- Power to veto bills passed by Congress
- Can convene Congress (call Congress into session) and adjourn Congress in rare cases



Presidential Powers and Duties

- Can propose laws, including the federal budget
- Can receive ambassadors and foreign leaders
- Can recognize foreign nations
- Supposed to address Congress on the “State of the Union” (now yearly)





Grover Cleveland vetoed 414 bills in his two terms (second highest behind FDR with 635). Only two of Cleveland's vetoes were overridden.



As President, Bill Clinton signed an international treaty to ban the use of child soldiers in combat (under 18). It was unanimously agreed to by the U.S. Senate.



Gerald Ford angered many Americans by granting a full pardon to Richard Nixon on September 8, 1974 (one month after Nixon resigned in shame because of the Watergate scandal).

Informal Presidential Powers

Not in found in the U.S. Constitution

- The “First Citizen”
 - National Spokesman
- Makes executive orders and agreements
 - Does not have to be approved by Congress!
- Access to media
- Sets domestic/economic/foreign policy agenda
- Helps to set and guide legislative agenda
- Crisis manager
- Has access to expert knowledge and expertise
- De facto political party leader
- Recognized as global leader
- Meets with world leaders
- Builds coalitions with international community
- Helps manage the economy and fix economic problems
- *FYI...this is not a finite list!
There are many more!*

The background of the slide features a large, semi-transparent seal of the President of the United States. The seal is circular, with a gold outer ring containing the text "OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" in blue capital letters. Inside the ring is a blue field with a white border of stars. In the center of the seal is the Great Seal of the United States, which depicts an eagle with its wings spread, holding an olive branch and arrows, with a shield on its chest. The text "In Other Words the President is the...." is written in bold black font across the top of the seal.

**In Other Words the
President is the....**

Head of State

Chief Executive

Chief Legislator

Chief Economic Planner

Party Leader

Chief Diplomat

Commander in Chief

Roles Played by the President

Head of state: ceremonial leader of the U.S.



President Bush lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

Roles Played by the President

Chief Executive: head of the executive branch; “executes” or carries out the laws.



President Bush Leads
Effort to Strengthen Borders

Roles Played by the President



1957 – Eisenhower uses his Executive powers to force integration in Little Rock schools

Roles Played by the President



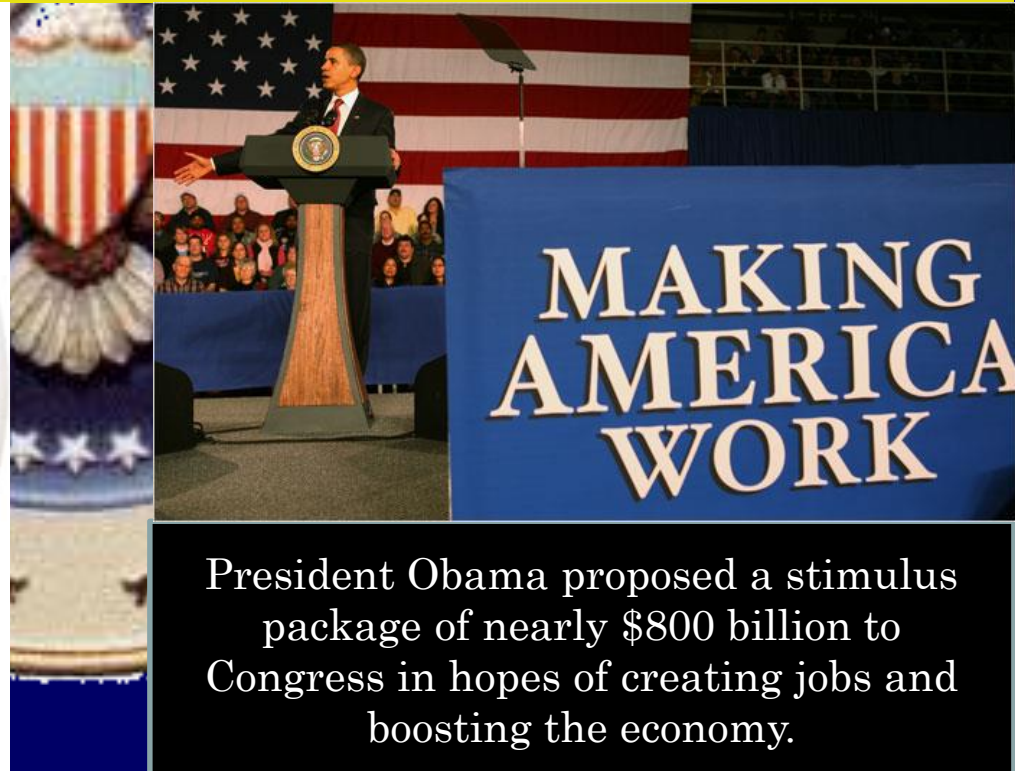
President Reagan in March of 1985
after vetoing a farm bill.

President Clinton signs NAFTA 1993

Chief Legislator: proposes bills and spending plans (budget) to Congress; can sign or veto bills, as well.

Roles Played by the President

Chief Economic Planner: expected to guide the nation's economic strategy and help when there are economic problems such as inflation or unemployment.

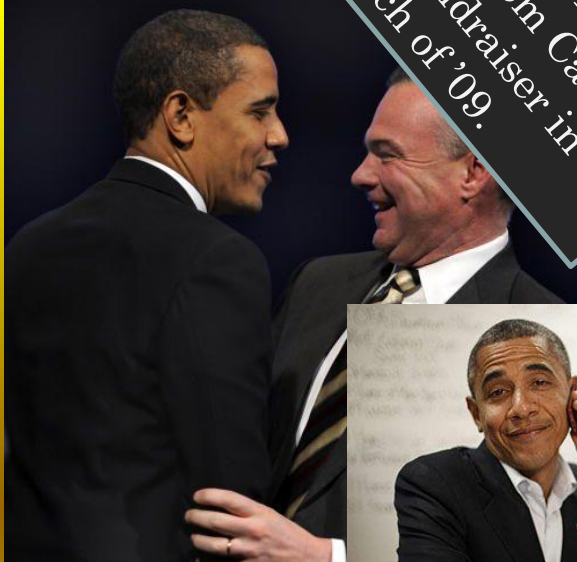


President Obama proposed a stimulus package of nearly \$800 billion to Congress in hopes of creating jobs and boosting the economy.

Roles Played by the President

Party Leader: the President is the recognized leader of his political party. He is often used as a major fundraiser and campaigner.

President Obama shakes hands with former Virginia Gov. Tom Caine at a DNC fundraiser in March of '09.



Roles Played by the President

Chief Diplomat: the President directs U.S. foreign policy. His duties include meeting with foreign leaders, negotiating treaties and executive agreements, etc.



President Bush in a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the Oval Office in Nov. of 2001 as a strange man looks on.

President Bush put his dancing shoes on after meeting with Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. This came at the end of an African tour to promotes U.S. ties in the region.

Roles Played by the President

Commander-in-Chief: the President is the head of the U.S. armed forces. While technically only Congress, can declare war, the President has significant war-making power.



President Bush declares an end to major combat operations in Iraq in May of 2003 as he speaks aboard the *USS Abraham Lincoln* anchored off the coast of San Diego.

Presidential Powers

1. Chief Executive

- Runs the Government and is officially in charge of the 3 million-plus executive branch employees
- Appoints department heads, federal judges, ambassadors
- Pardons individuals of concern (usually at end of term)

2. Commander in Chief

- In charge of armed forces
- May send troops without declaration of war after seeking approval from Congress

3. Chief Diplomat

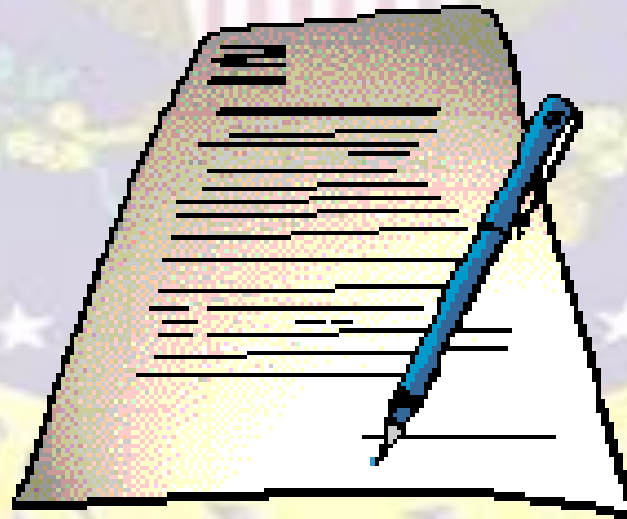
- Deals with foreign governments
- Makes executive agreements with foreign heads of state
- Signs treaties with advice and consent of the Senate

4. Chief Legislator

- In charge of economic management
- Makes certain that laws are carried out- "...shall **Take Care** that the laws be carefully carried out..." (**Take Care Clause**)
- Sets agenda and budget with approval from Congress
- Can veto or pocket veto legislation

Checks and Balances to Know

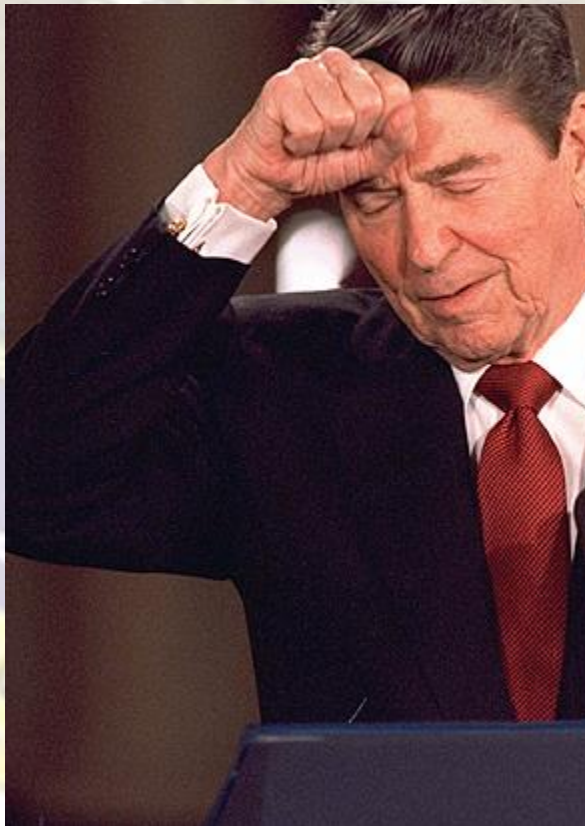
- Presidential Check on Legislative Branch
- Presidential Check on Judicial Branches
- Congressional Checks on Executive Branch
- Judicial Checks on Executive Branch



Checks and Balances to Know

Congress > POTUS

- Override POTUS veto (rare)
- Confirming appointments
- Legislation limiting POTUS
- Power of the purse
 - 1974 Congressional Budget & Impoundment Act
- Impeachment



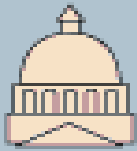
Checks and Balances to Know

SCOTUS > POTUS

- Judicial review
- Impeachment (CJoSCOTUS serves as judge in case)



COLUMBUS (OHIO) DISPATCH
FEBRUARY 10, 1937
From the holdings at the FDR Library



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Congress

House of Representatives;
Senate.

House and Senate can
veto each other's bills.

Congress approves presidential
nominations and controls the budget.
It can pass laws over the president's
veto and can impeach
the president and remove
him or her from office.



EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The President

Executive office of the president;
executive and cabinet depart-
ments; independent
government
agencies.

The president can veto
congressional
legislation.

The Court can declare
laws unconstitutional.

The Senate confirms the president's
nominations. Congress can impeach
judges and remove them from office.

The president
nominates judges.

The Court can declare
presidential
acts unconstitutional.



JUDICIAL BRANCH

The Courts

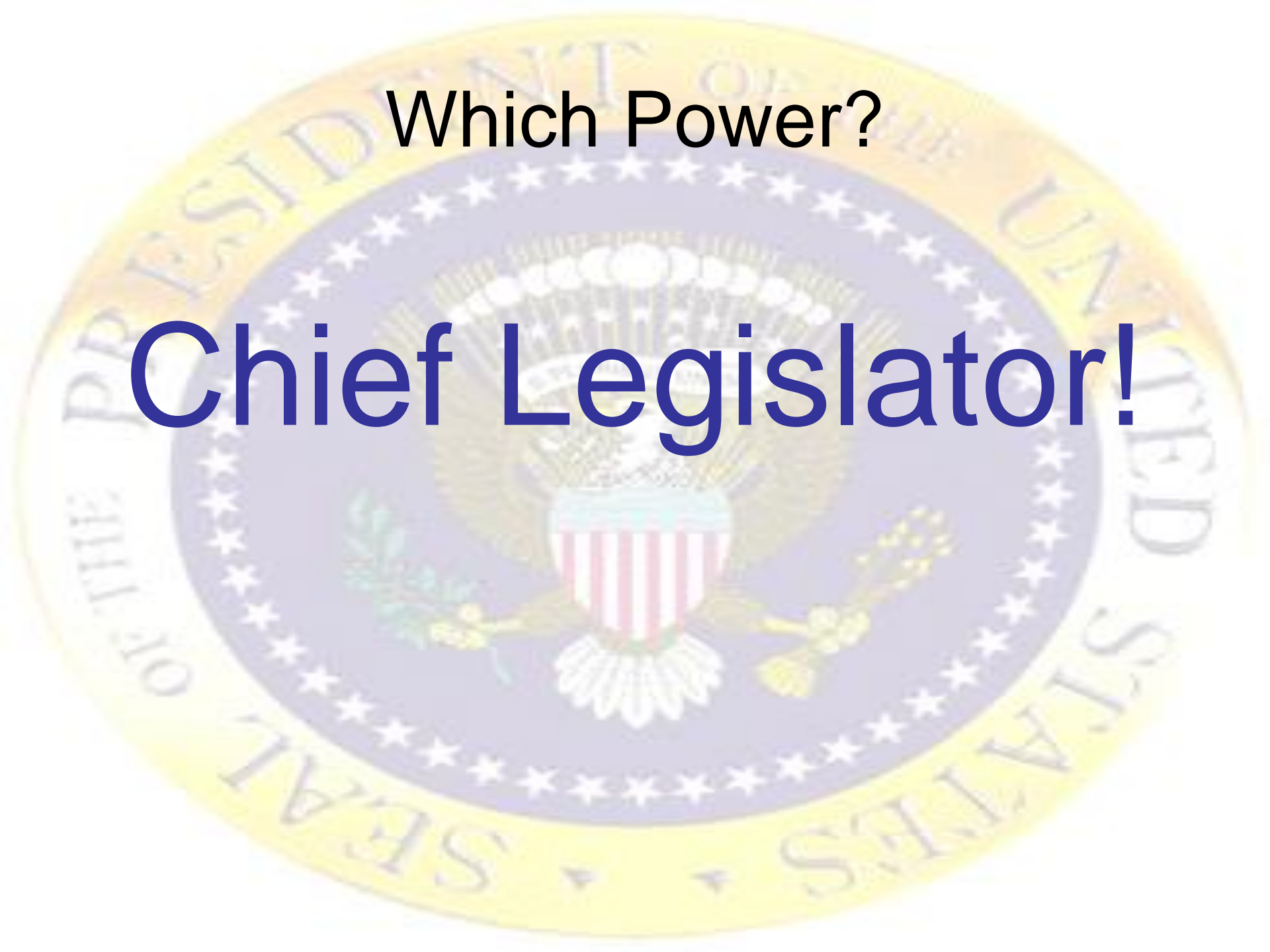
Supreme Court;
Courts of Appeal;
District courts.

Which Power?

1. **Chief Executive**
 2. **Commander in Chief**
 3. **Chief Diplomat**
 4. **Chief Legislator**
- President Grover Cleveland in his first term (1885-1889) received a controversial bill approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate, he chose to veto the bill. In fact, Cleveland vetoed more bills in this first term than all preceding presidents combined.
 - Which power did Cleveland use?

Which Power?

Chief Legislator!



Which Power?

- 1. Chief Executive**
 - 2. Commander in Chief**
 - 3. Chief Diplomat**
 - 4. Chief Legislator**
- Richard Nixon was part of the Watergate Affair which involved such criminal acts as burglary, illegal wiretapping, perjury, conspiracy to obstruct justice, and misuse of campaign funds. Gerald Ford, Nixon's successor, pardoned him which allowed him to be immune from prosecution.

Which Power?

Chief Executive!



Which Power?

1. **Chief Executive**
 2. **Commander in Chief**
 3. **Chief Diplomat**
 4. **Chief Legislator**
- George HW Bush's experiences during WWII contributed to his strong interest in foreign affairs. During his presidency, terrible memories about WWII resurfaced when he felt it necessary to send troops to Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm.
 - When he executed this plan to aid Kuwait and bombard Saddam Hussein, which power was he using?

Which Power?

**Commander in
Chief!**



Which Power?

1. **Chief Executive**
 2. **Commander in Chief**
 3. **Chief Diplomat**
 4. **Chief Legislator**
- President Clinton oversaw the signing of a new accord in September 1993 between Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Clinton and his administration hosted this historic compromise at the White House.
 - Which power did Clinton use while hosting?

Which Power?

Chief Diplomat!



Which Power?

1. **Chief Executive**
 2. **Commander in Chief**
 3. **Chief Diplomat**
 4. **Chief Legislator**
- Once in office, Clinton quickly set about starting the reforms he had promised during his campaign. To achieve his vision of change, Clinton put together the most racially diverse and gender-balanced cabinet in U.S. history. Those hand picked by Clinton were Henry Cisneros as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Ron Brown Secretary of Commerce, Jocelyn Elders as Surgeon General, and Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers.
 - Which power was Clinton using while making these official changes?

Which Power?

Chief Executive!



Which Power?

1. **Chief Executive**
 2. **Commander in Chief**
 3. **Chief Diplomat**
 4. **Chief Legislator**
- North Korean people are starving. They are in desperate need of food and other supplies. They have asked the United States for help. They also have several weapons that could be used against us if they fell into the wrong hands.
 - If Barack Obama decides to send food and aid in the interest of persuading North Korea to meet the U.S.'s demands, which power would he be using?

Which Power?

Chief Diplomat!

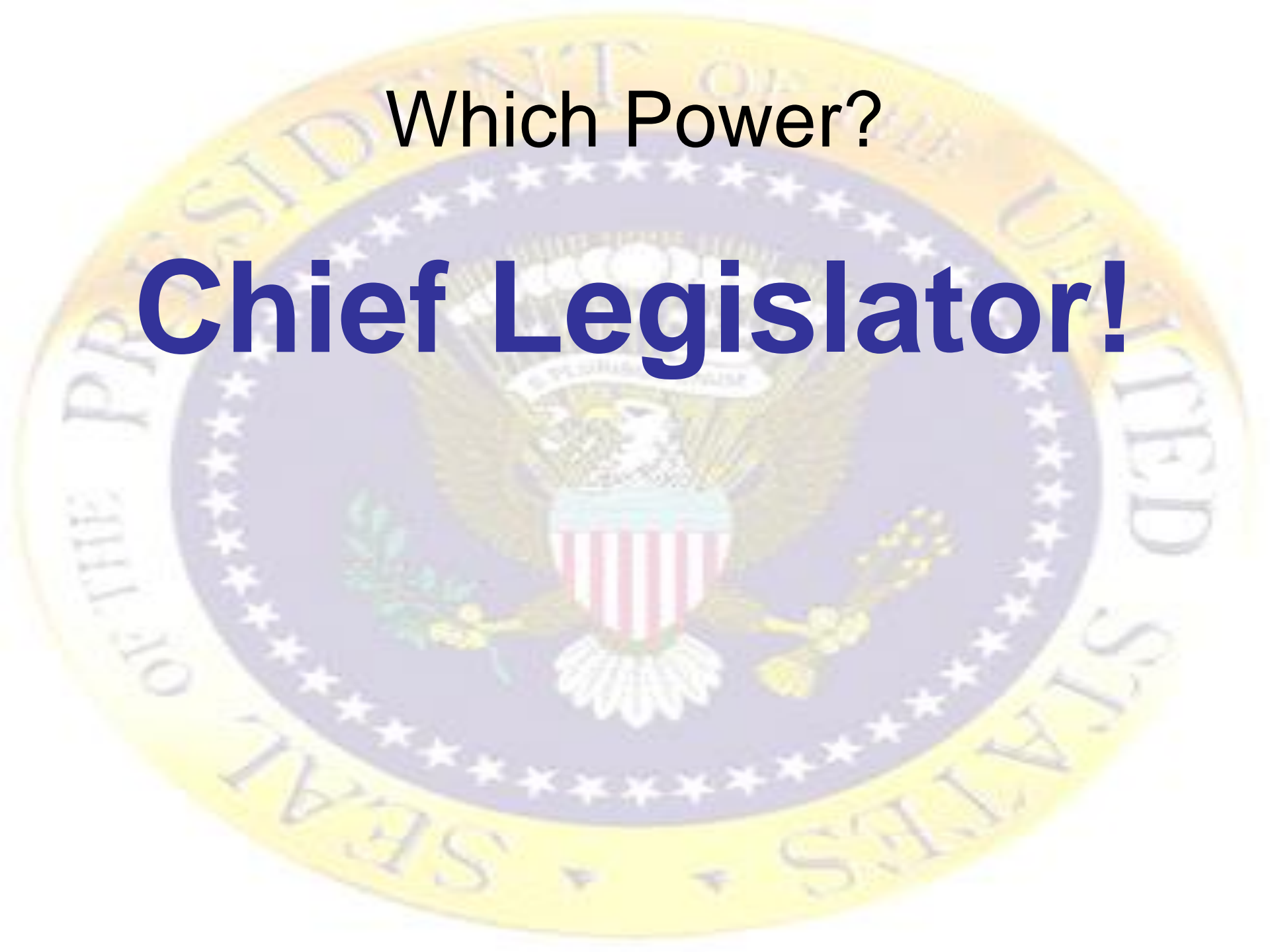


Which Power?

- 1. Chief Executive**
 - 2. Commander in Chief**
 - 3. Chief Diplomat**
 - 4. Chief Legislator**
- Hurricane Katrina has devastated the coast of Louisiana and Mississippi. A House budget bill has stalled in committee. However, George W. Bush authorized \$2 billion in tax dollars for aid.
 - Which power did he use?

Which Power?

Chief Legislator!



Presidential Character?

- Political scientist James David Barber examined the importance of a president's personality and character, classifying presidents into four distinct types based on their childhood and other experiences.
- Barber measured each president's assertiveness in office as active or passive, and how positive or negative his feelings were about the office itself. His classifications were:
 - **active-positive** - takes pleasure in the work of the office, easily adjusts to new situations and is confident in himself (FDR, Truman, Kennedy, Ford, Carter, Bush)
 - **active-negative** - hard worker but doesn't enjoy the work, insecure in the position, may be obsessive or antagonistic (Wilson, Hoover, LBJ, Nixon)
 - **passive-positive** - easygoing, wanting agreement from others with no dissent, may be overly confident (Taft, Harding, Reagan)
 - **passive-negative** - dislikes politics and tends to withdraw from close relationships (Coolidge, Eisenhower)

Presidential Approval

- Higher the president stands in polls, easier it is to **persuade others** to support presidential initiatives.
 - **President's standing in polls monitored closely.**
 - **Presidents frequently don't have widespread support.**
- Public approval sometimes reacts to rally events and takes **sudden jumps.**



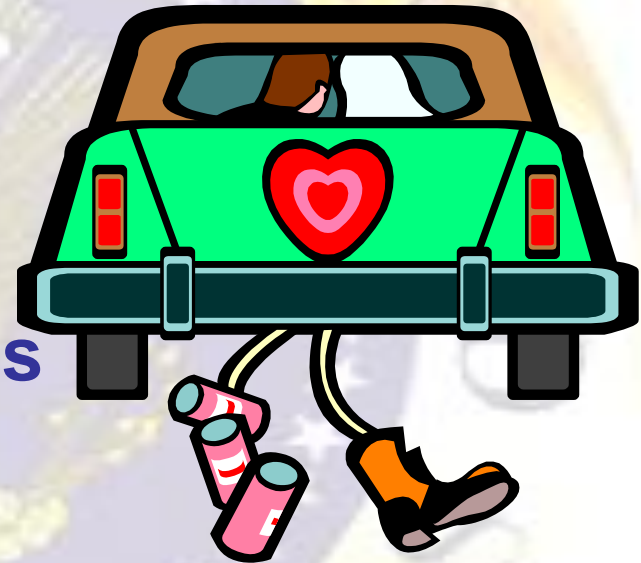
“To announce that there must be no criticism of the president... is morally treasonable to the American public.”



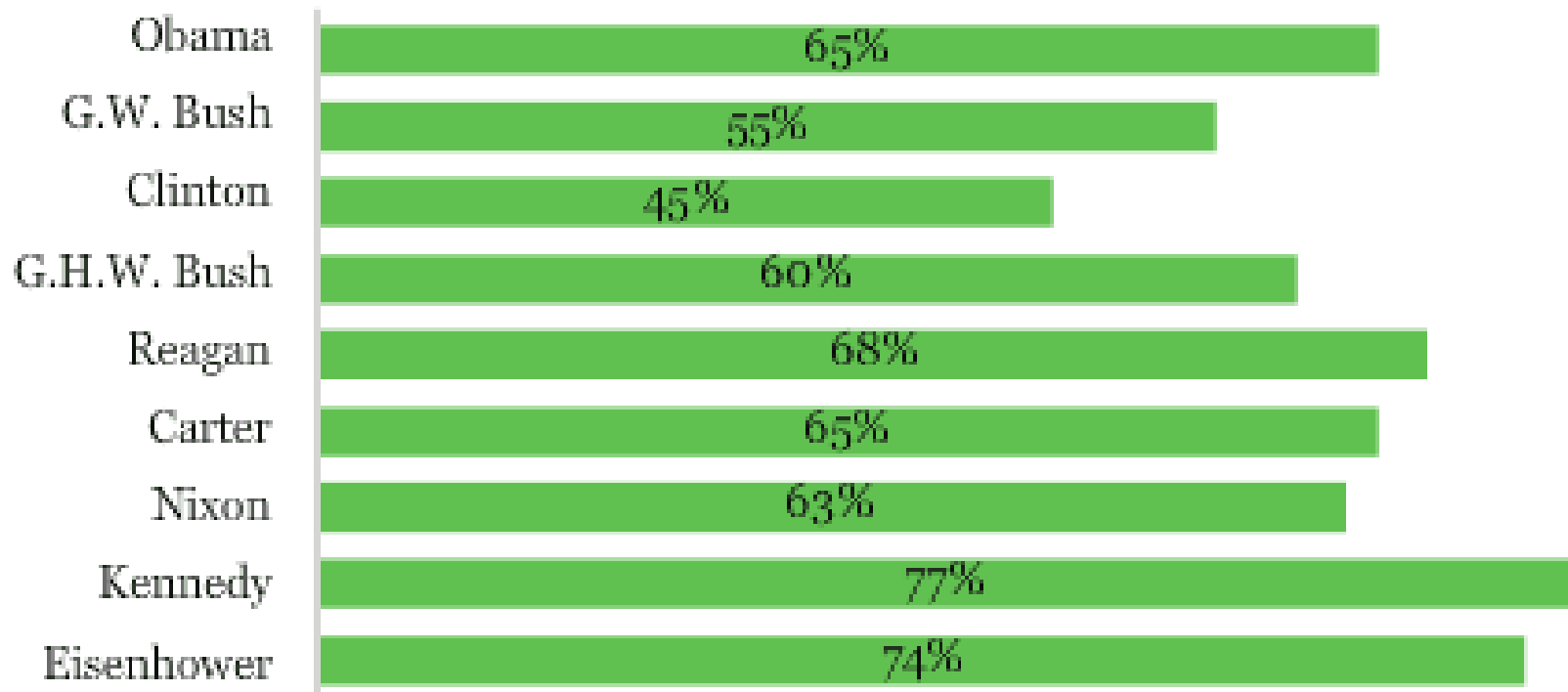
• **Theodore Roosevelt**

Presidential Approval

- Many factors including: predisposition of many people to support president, political party identification, and “honeymoon” periods.
 - Changes in approval levels appear to reflect public’s evaluation of how president is handling policy.
 - Citizens seem to focus on president’s efforts/stands on issues rather than on personality or simply how presidential policies affect them.

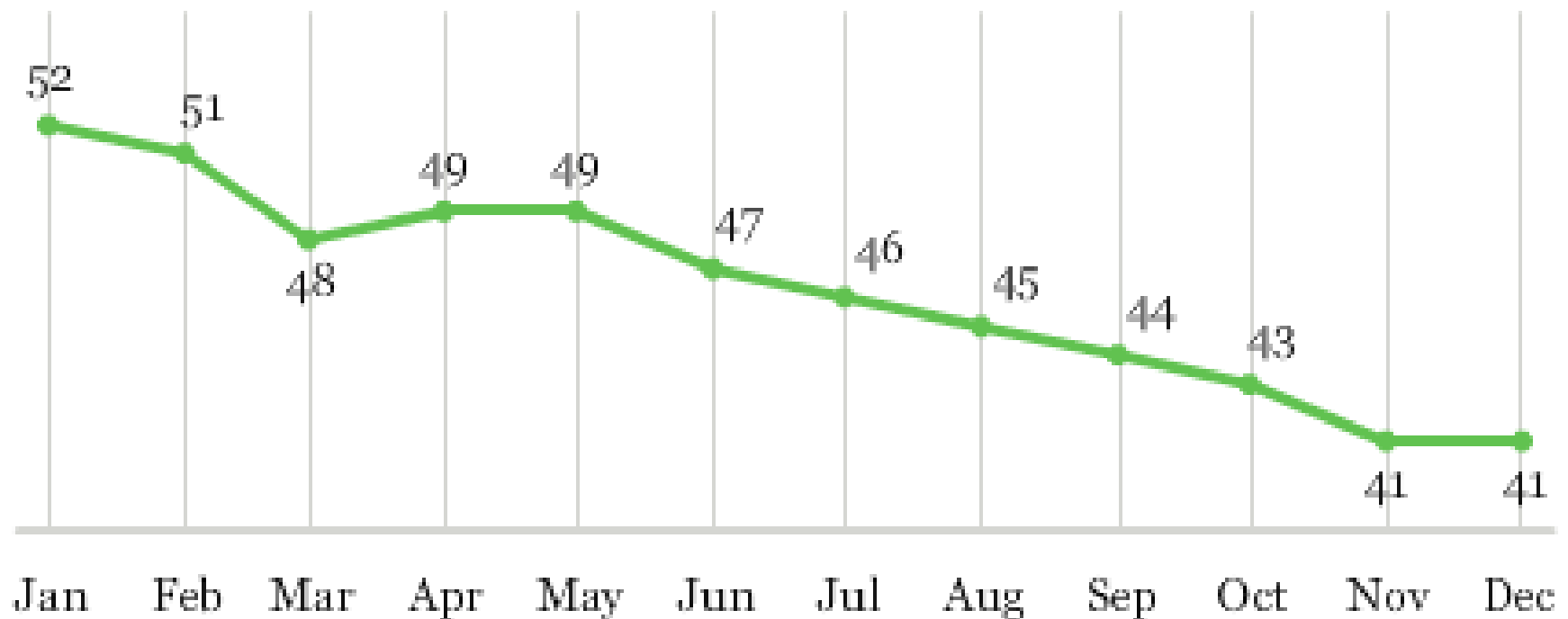


Presidential Job Approval Averages in May of First Year in Office



President Barack Obama's Job Approval Rating in 2013

% Approve, based on monthly averages in Gallup Daily tracking



GALLUP

Checks and Balances to Know

- **Executive Check on Legislative Branch**
 - Veto
- **Executive Check on Judicial Branch**
 - Nominations of Federal Judges
- **Legislative Checks on Executive Branch**
 - Refusal to pass a presidential bill and/or presidential budget
 - Overriding a Veto
 - Impeachment (House) and Conviction (Senate)
 - Refusal to approve Presidential appointees (Senate)
 - Refusal to ratify treaty (Senate)
 - May also conduct investigations
 - (Special Counselors Ken Starr and Patrick Fitzsimmons)
- **Judicial Checks on Executive Branch**
 - Declaration of presidential acts as unconstitutional (judicial review)
 - Can't be removed from bench by President (lifetime appointment)

Congress and the President

- In recent years, Congress has challenged presidents on all fronts.
 - Congress's role has typically been **overseeing of executive** rather than initiation of policy.
 - Congress can **refuse to provide authorizations and appropriations** for presidential actions.

Congress and the President

- **Just who's in Charge of Domestic Affairs and Foreign Affairs??**
 - Congress in charge of budget (has purse strings) and appropriations
 - President supreme in area of national security matters
 - Congress less involved in national security policy than in domestic policy

22nd Amendment

- Limits presidents to 2 terms or 10 years
- Criticism: **seriously erodes 2nd-term president's power and influence.**
- Difficulties faced by every President during 2nd terms since ratification.
 - Such president often referred to as **lame duck.**

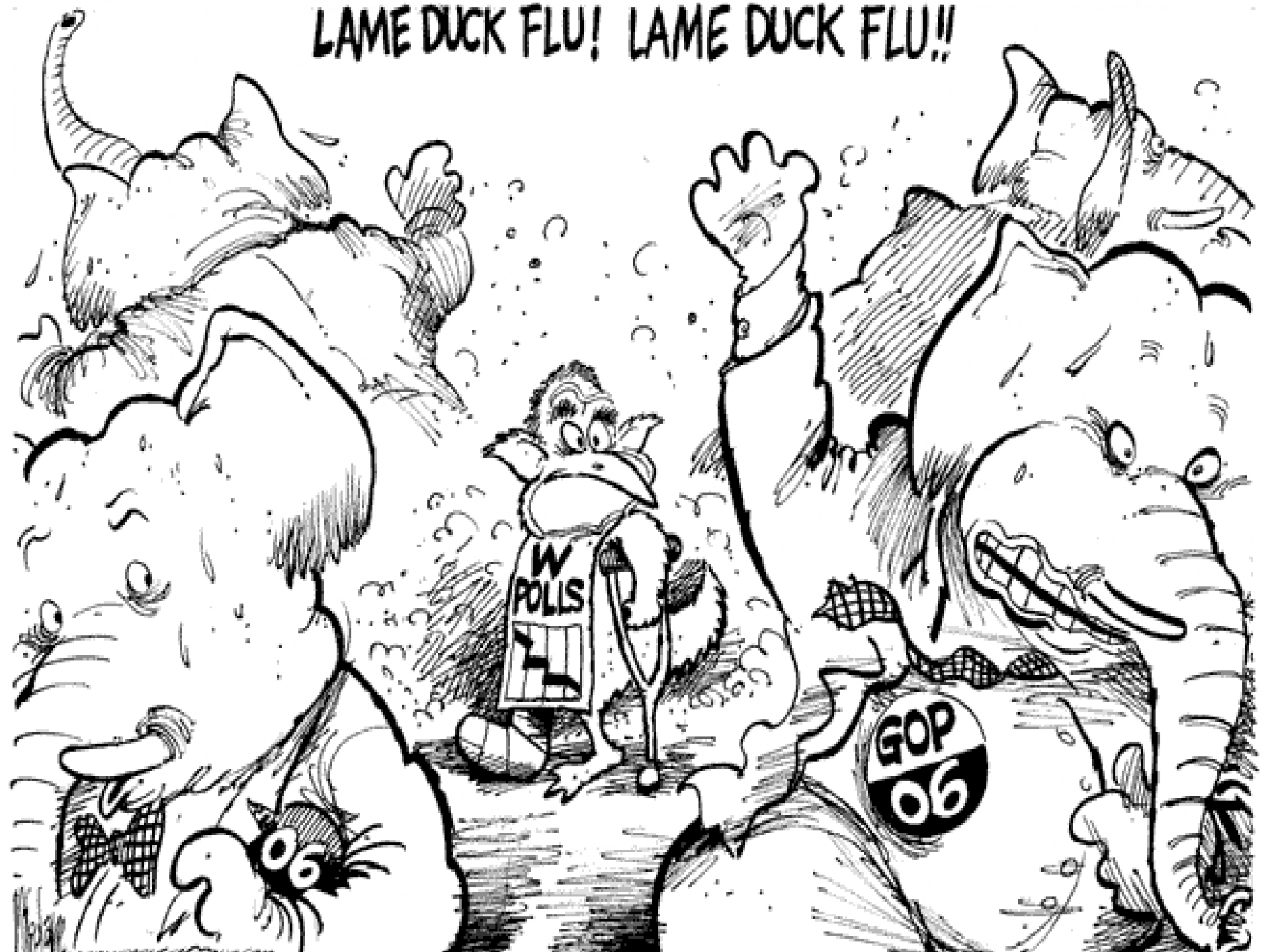


Lame Duck

- Elected official who loses political power as a result of:
 - **term limit which keeps him from running for that particular office again**
 - **losing an election**
 - **elimination of official's office**
- Lame duck politicians continue to hold office until end of their term.



LAME DUCK FLU! LAME DUCK FLU!!



25th Amendment

Presidential Succession and Disability

In case of death or resignation

1. Vice-President takes over

Presidential Succession Act (1947)

1. Speaker of House
2. President Pro Tempore of the Senate
3. Cabinet secretaries in order of creation

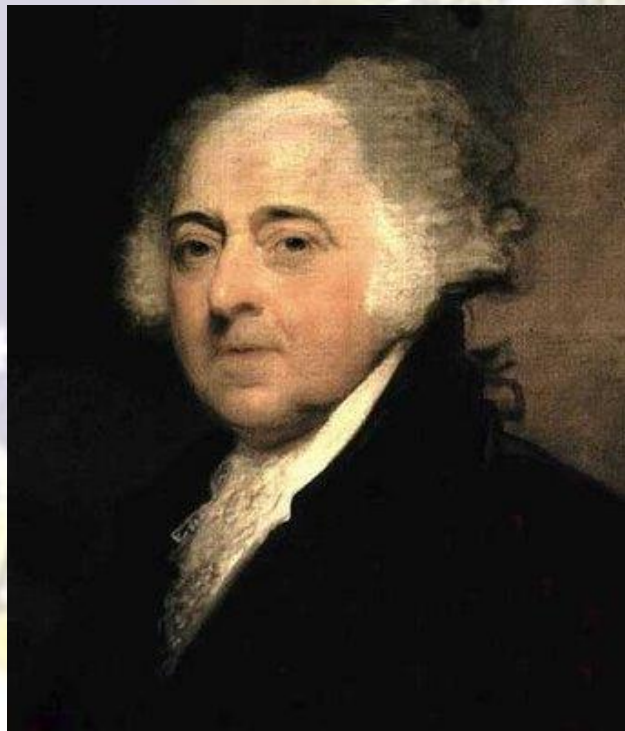
In case of disability

- President signs away authority to VP
- If VP and majority of cabinet find President “unfit” they can take power

Also in 25th Amendment

- **Vice-Presidential Succession and Disability**
 - President nominates new candidate
 - Nominee confirmed by majority of both houses
 - Nixon selected Senator Gerald Ford as VP
 - Pres. Ford selected Nelson Rockefeller as VP

"[The Vice Presidency] is the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived."



John Adams
1st Vice President

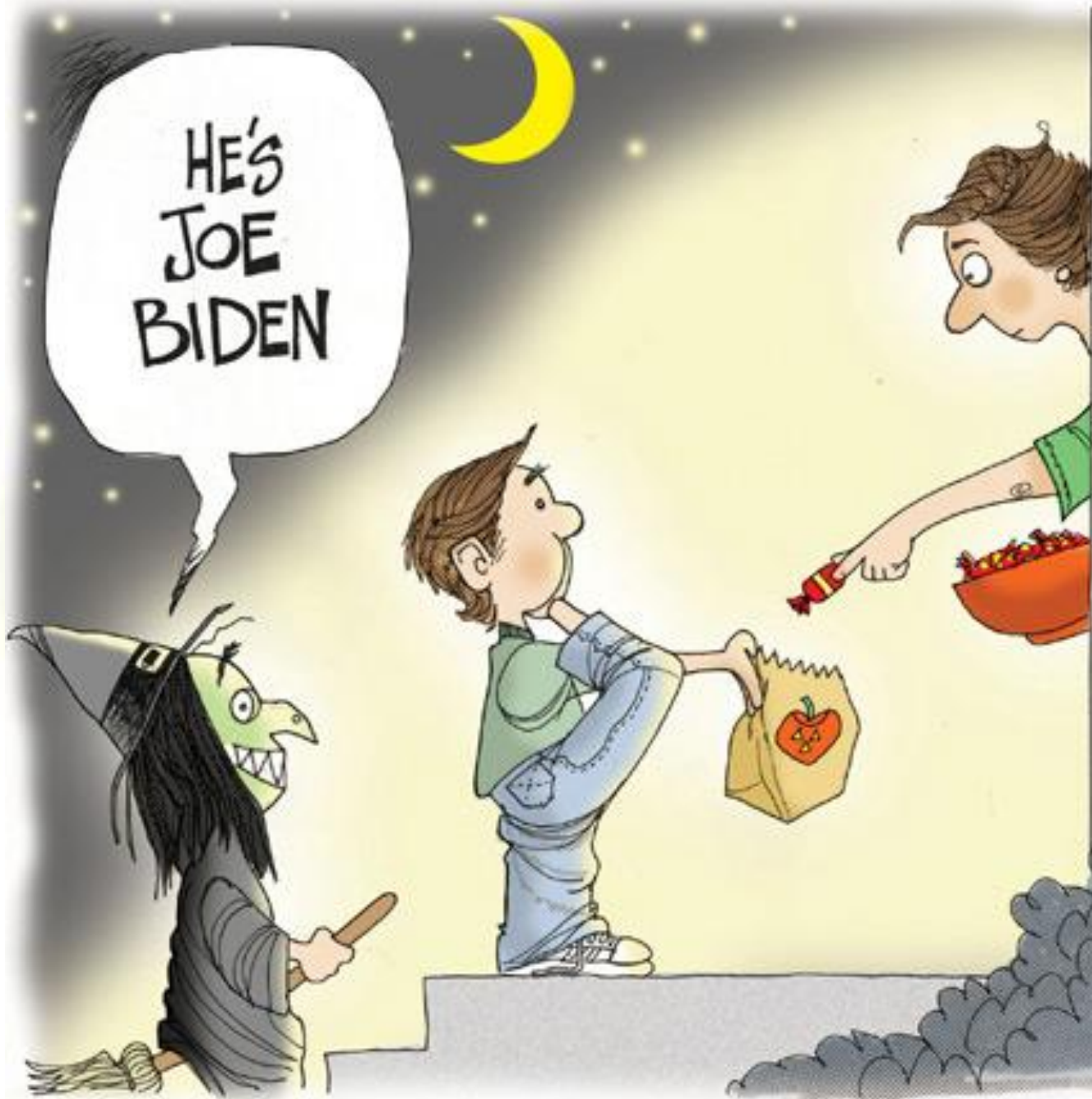
Vice President's Residence



The Vice President's Residence was built as the home of the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory in 1893. Congress turned the home into the Vice President's Residence in 1974.

Vice President's Flag





VICHARVILLE
© 2008 VICHARVILLE



sarah pluck
@SarahBPluck

Joe: *whispers* I left a bag of cheetos in the bathroom.
Obama: Why?
Joe: In case he needs to powder his nose.
Obama: Joe...

Obama: you told donald he smelled like updog?

Biden: yeah and he was like "what's updog" and I yelled NOTHIN MUCH WHATS UP WITH YOU HAHAAH



Biden: ...so, when Trump walks in, you duck and I sock him wit-
Obama: No, Joe



Biden: Told Trump about Carter's ghost in the West Wing

Obama: Carter is still alive

Biden: He doesn't know that

DON'T MIND ME...

**I'M JUST BIDEN
MY TIME**

imgflip.com



Vice-Presidency

- Must be:
 - natural-born citizen
 - at least 35
 - resident of U.S. for 14 years.
 - Constitution forbids VP from being from **same state as president**
- 12th Amendment: requires VPs to meet same requirements as presidents.
 - Ex: 22nd amendment limits presidents to 2 terms, so a former 2-term president **CANNOT** be elected as vice-president.

***“Look at all the Vice Presidents
in history. Where are they?
They were about as useful as a
cow's fifth teat.”***



- Harry S. Truman

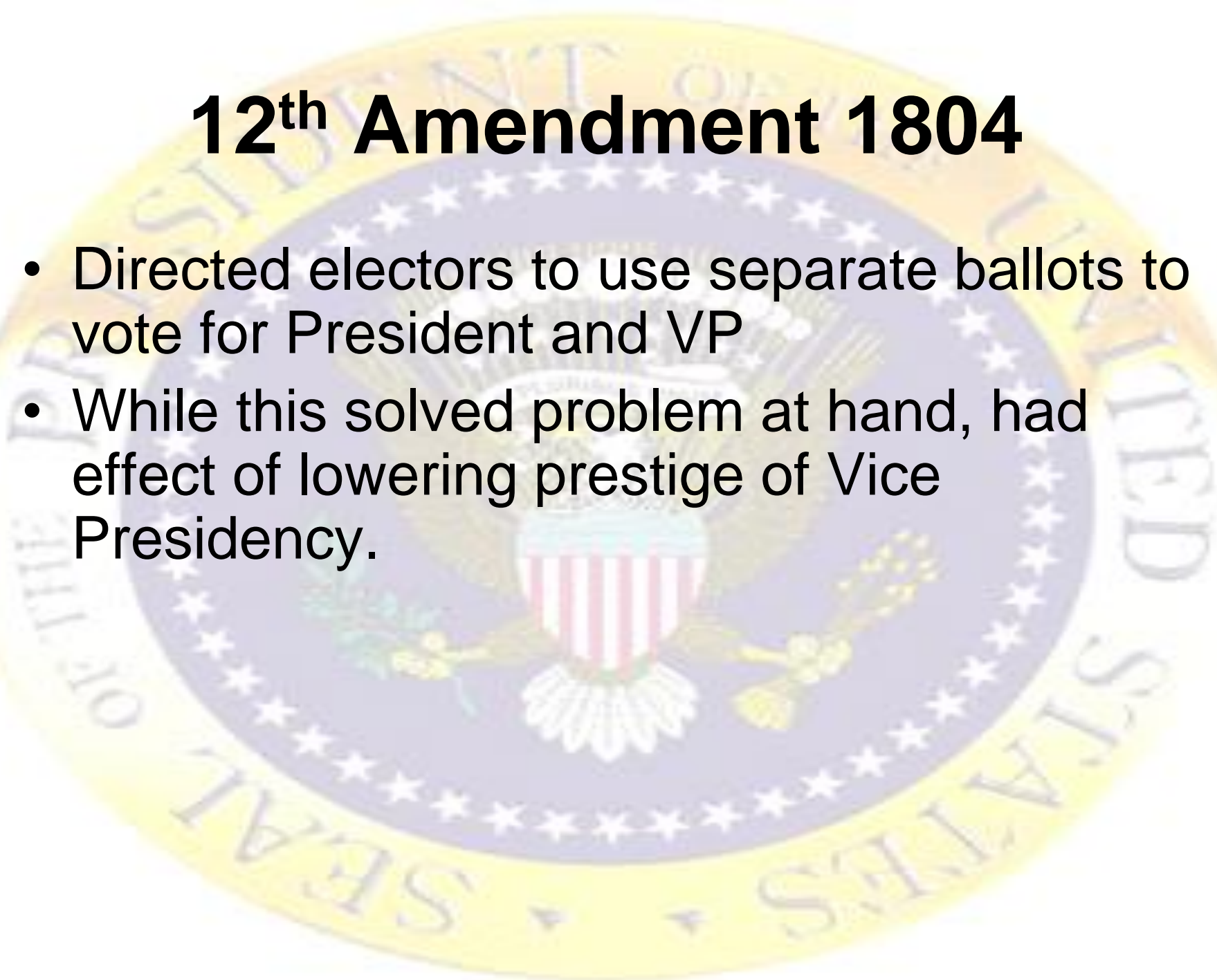
“The vice presidency isn't worth a pitcher of warm...[spit].”

John Nance Garner



12th Amendment 1804

- Directed electors to use separate ballots to vote for President and VP
- While this solved problem at hand, had effect of lowering prestige of Vice Presidency.



1963

**The assassination of JFK
and the ascension of LBJ
to the presidency
provided an urgency to
amend the Constitution
in 1967**

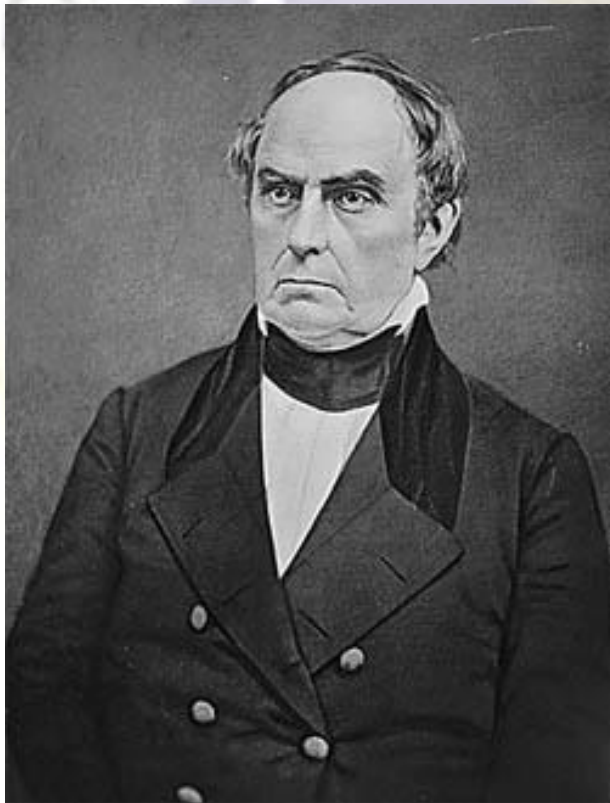


1974

**The 25th Amendment
in Action**



"I do not propose to be buried until I am really dead."

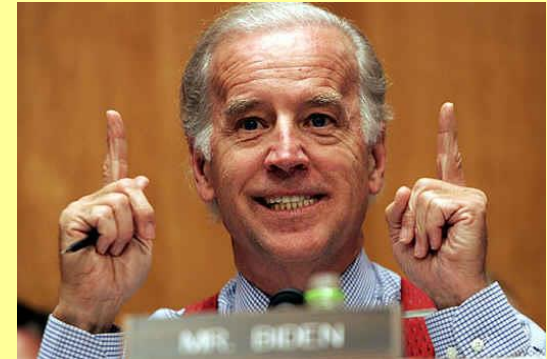


Daniel Webster
On not accepting the Vice
Presidency

Other Executive Branch Leaders

The Vice-President is really only given three official responsibilities under the Constitution:

- 1) Serve as President of the Senate (presiding officer)
- 2) Help decide the question of Presidential disability (when and if the President is unable to perform his duties).
- 3) Take over for the President when a vacancy occurs (death, resignation, etc.)



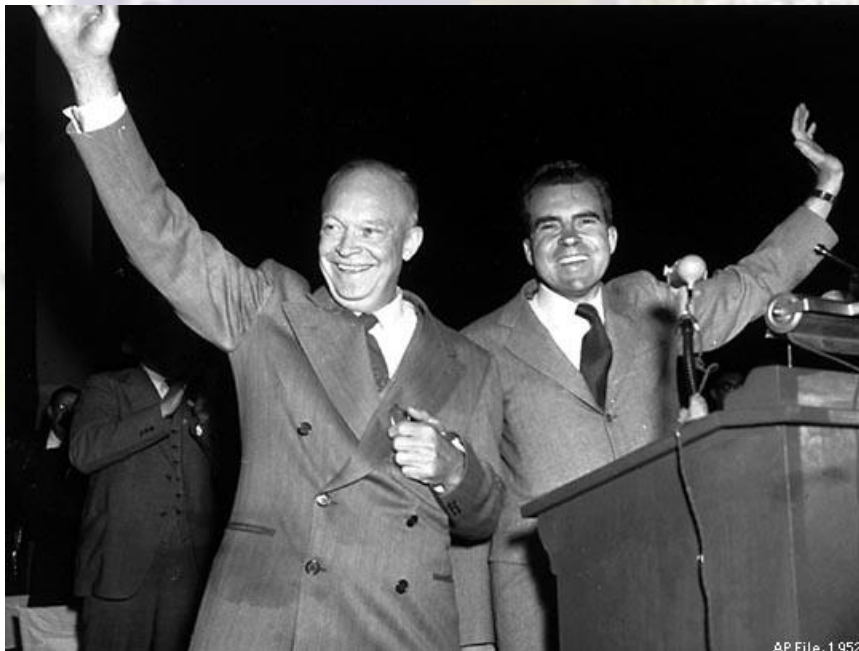
Cheney as Puppeteer



"If you give me a week, I might think of one."

Dwight Eisenhower

In response to a reporters question about a major policy contributed by then vice president Richard Nixon.



Quotes on the Vice Presidency

“Once there were two brothers. One ran away to sea; the other was elected vice president of the United States. And nothing was heard of either of them again”

Thomas Marshall

Vice President under Woodrow Wilson

Vice President Dan Quayle and the “*Potatoe*” Incident



Role of President in Law Making

- Can:

1. Sign it into law
2. Let it become law (if Congress is in session)
3. Veto it
4. Pocket veto (Kills bill if Congress is not in session)

** Congress can override presidential veto with a 2/3 vote of each house

Line Item Veto

- 1996 **Line-Item Veto Law** allowed president to pencil-out specific spending items approved by Congress.
- 1998: **Unconstitutional** by Supreme Court, Congress didn't have authority to hand power to president.
- Constitution gives president only 2 choices: either sign legislation/send it back to Congress.



Clinton uses the line-item veto to strike nearly \$290 million in military construction funds

Alexander Hamilton's View of Presidency

- Proposed president who would be elected for life, "*on good behavior*."
 - Idea went nowhere as most fearful of powerful monarch-like executive
- Hamilton defended strong-executive plan in *Federalist 70*
 - "*Energy in the executive is a leading character in the definition of good government,*"

19th Century Presidents

- Dominated by **Congress**
- **Exceptions:**
 - **Washington**
 - Gave Presidency Legitimacy
 - **Jackson**
 - First President to expand powers of Presidency
 - **Lincoln**
 - Set foundations for modern Presidency

20th Century Presidents

- **Extremely powerful**
 - Began with TR and FDR
- **What Caused This?**
 - **Great Depression** (New Deal legislation)
 - **Cold War** (National Security issues)
 - **The Media** (More attention to president)
 - **Weak Congresses** (Infighting and partisanship)

2 Modern Views of Presidency

1. Imperial presidency (Schlesinger article)

- Defined as use/misuse of discretionary power by president
 - Categorized by large staffs of most modern presidents
 - Compared to royal courts of Europe
 - Emphasis on executive branch replacing Congress as “most powerful branch”
 - Hamilton would have LOVED this!
 - Also includes decline in importance of cabinet

2 “Imperial” Presidents

- Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan both pushed limits of presidency
 - Both won huge 2nd term elections
 - Congress took back seat in power to both men
 - Watergate ended this for Nixon, but Iran-Contra had little effect on Reagan’s imperial presidency

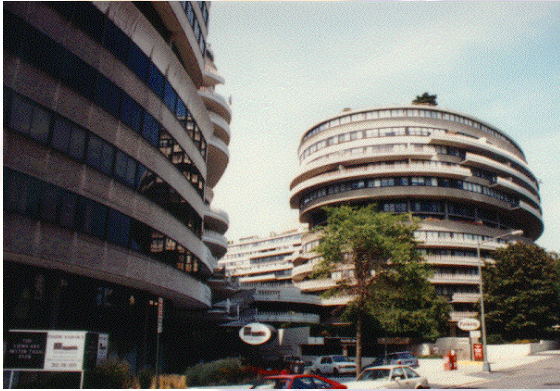


Examples of Imperial Presidency:

- **Congress ceded budget-making authority** to president.
- Presidents make **executive agreements** instead of treaties
- **Commander-in-Chief** role expanded even though Congress empowered to declare war.
 - **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution**

Effects of Watergate

- Brought temporary halt to **"imperial presidency"** and growth of institutional presidential power
- Ex: War Powers Act passed



2 Modern Views of Presidency

2. Institutional Presidency (Neustadt article)

- Role of each new president in organizing and managing Executive Branch includes:
 - Executive Office of the President (EOP)
 - White House Staff
 - Chief of Staff as gatekeeper
- The Cabinet
- Most modern presidents attempted to change Executive Office of the Presidency by adding new offices and employees OR deleting or firing employees

Important Acts and Cases

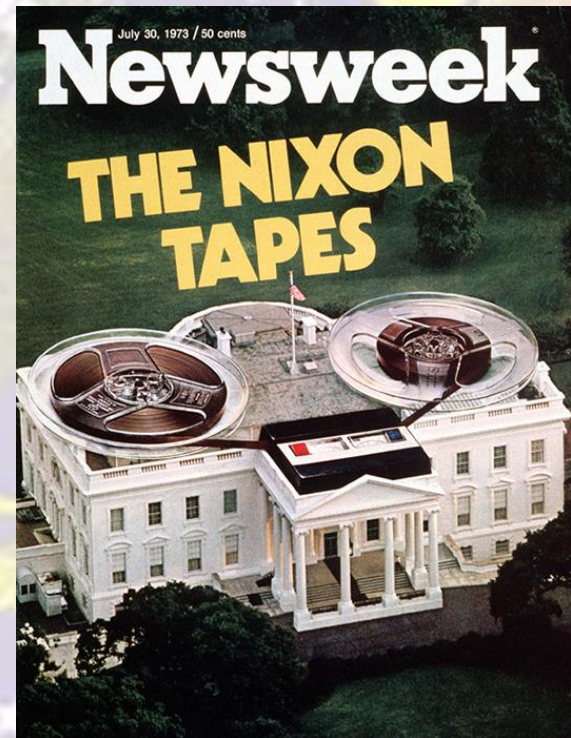
- Federalist 70
- Budget Impoundment and Control Act of 1974
- Tonkin Gulf Resolution
- War Powers Act
- NAFTA
- Panama Canal Treaty
- *US v Nixon*

The War Powers Act

- Presidents have customarily made short-term military commitments of troops or naval vessels that have occasionally become long-term (Korea and Vietnam).
- The War Powers Resolution (1973) required presidents to consult with Congress before using military force and mandated withdrawal of forces after 60 days unless Congress declared war or granted an extension.
- Congress has found it difficult to challenge president.

United States v Nixon (1974)

- During height of Watergate scandal Nixon asserted he was immune from a subpoena for his personal White House tapes claiming "*executive privilege*".
 - Right to withhold information from other government branches to preserve confidential communications within executive branch/to secure national interest.



Importance of Case



- Court said “No!!”
- Did grant there was **limited executive privilege** in areas of military or diplomatic affairs, but disagreed with Nixon claiming "*the fundamental demands of due process of law in the fair administration of justice.*"
 - President must obey subpoena and produce tapes and documents.
- Nixon resigned shortly after release of tapes.

Presidents and the Press

- **Don't directly reach** people on daily basis.
 - Press: principal intermediary between president and public
 - Relations with press important aspect of president's efforts to lead public opinion.
- **Presidents and press tend to be in conflict.**



The Press Secretary

- Person who most often deals directly with press
- Best-known interaction between president and press is **presidential press conference**.
 - Most coverage of White House involves **visible** layer of presidents' personal/official activities rather than substance of policies.



President Obama and Press Secretary Jay Carney

Chief of Staff

- Highest ranking member of Executive Office of the President and senior aide to President.
 - Office-holder dubbed "The Second-Most Powerful Man or Woman in Washington" due to nature of job.
- Most former politicians, and many continue their political careers in other senior roles.



President Obama and Chief of Staff Denis McDonough

- *“Being president is like being a jackass in a hailstorm. There's nothing to do but to stand there and take it.”*



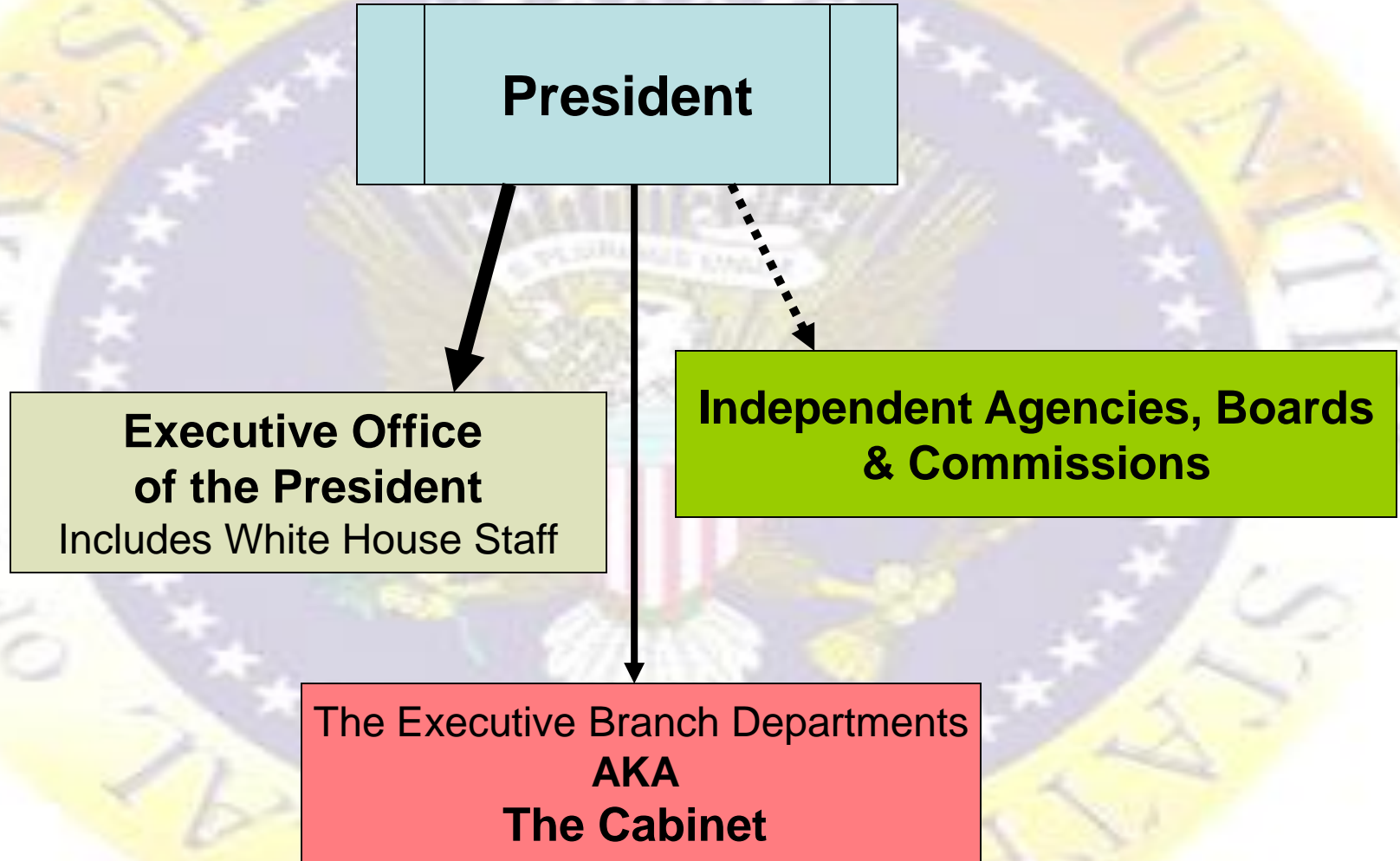
- Lyndon B. Johnson

“You know, one of the things I think you understand as president is you're held responsible for everything, but you don't always have control of everything, right?”



Barack Obama

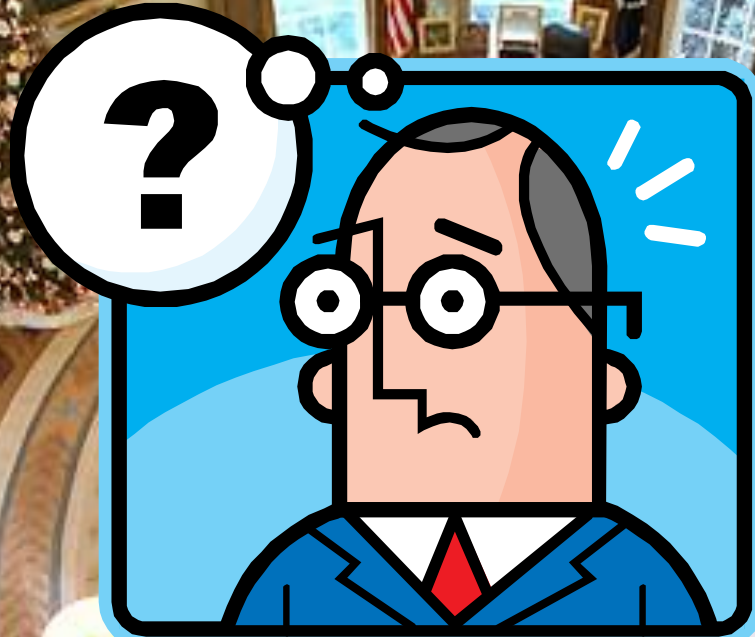
Parts of the Executive Branch



Other Executive Branch Leaders

The cabinet is a group of formal advisors to the President that includes people like the VP, the head of the 15 major executive departments (State, Treasury, Defense, etc.), and other leaders of the President's choosing (head of the EPA, Chief of Staff, etc.)

Other Executive Branch Leaders



So who are these people?

Can you name any of the current members of President Obama's Cabinet?

Other Executive Branch Leaders



**Secretary of State
John Kerry**

Other Executive Branch Leaders



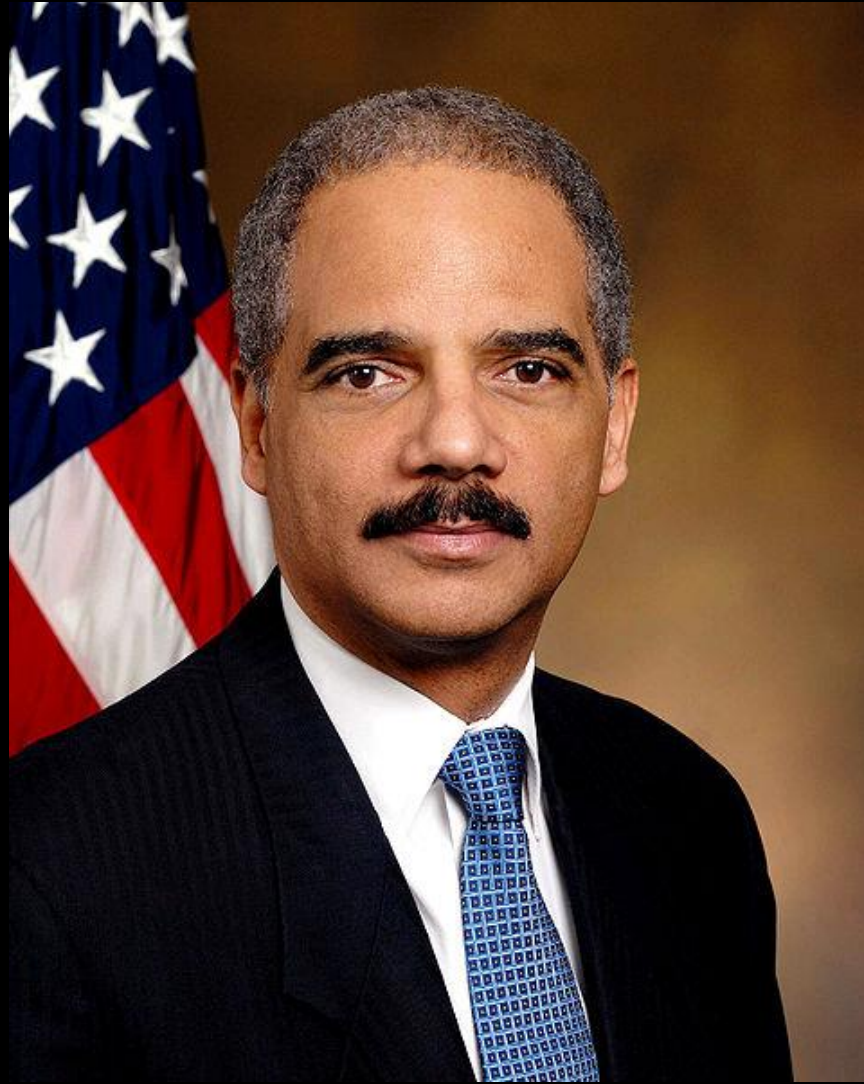
**Secretary of the Treasury
Jack Lew**

Other Executive Branch Leaders



**Secretary of Defense
Ashton (“Ash”) Carter**

Other Executive Branch Leaders



**Attorney General
Eric Holder**

Other Executive Branch Leaders

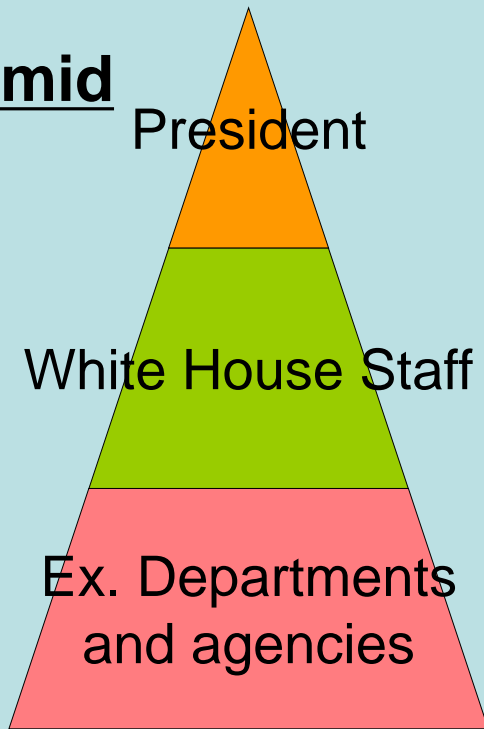


**Secretary of Homeland Security
Jeh Johnson**

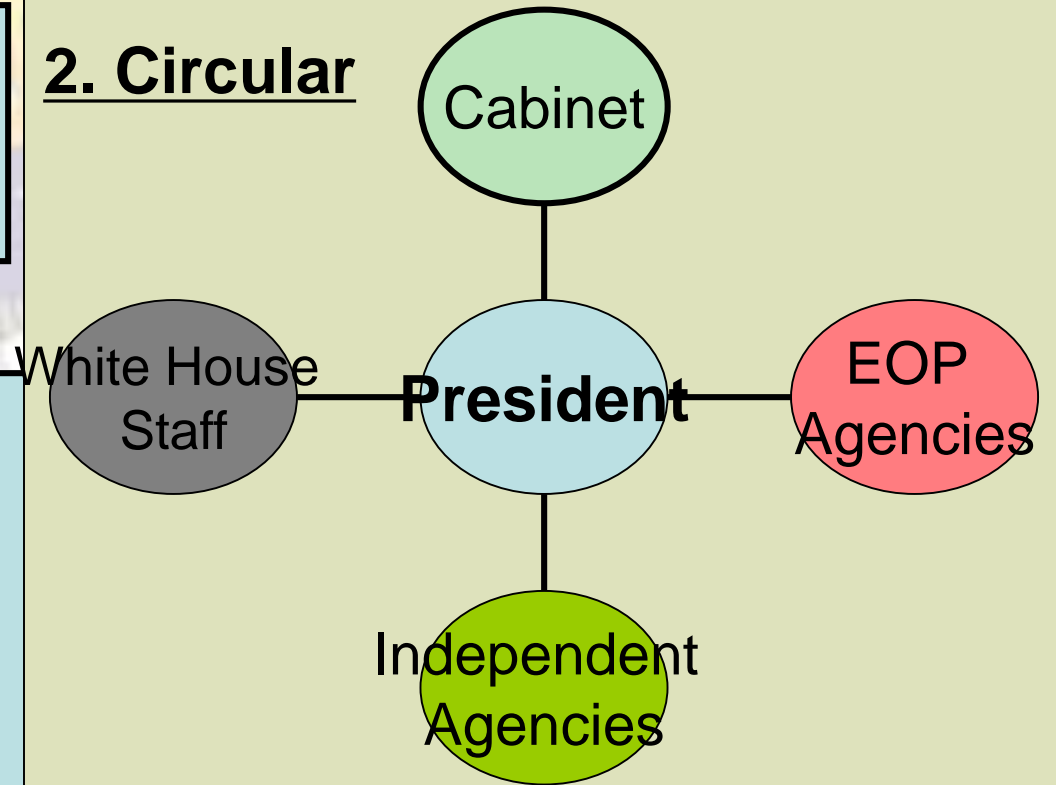
The Department of Homeland Security has become one of the more important cabinet departments since its creation in 2002. Its job is to try to protect America against potential terrorist attacks.

White House Structures

1. Pyramid



2. Circular



3. Ad Hoc

No real format.
Access is limited or granted by president or top aides on a case by case or “need to know” manner.

- ***“People in the media say they must look at the president with a microscope. Now, I don't mind a microscope, but boy, when they use a proctoscope, that's going too far.”***



- **Richard Nixon**

- ***“No easy problems ever come to the President of the United States. If they are easy to solve, somebody else has solved them.”***



- **Dwight D. Eisenhower**