

# **The White House Years**

## **Henry Kissinger**

Chronicles the life of a former slave to James and Dolley Madison, tracing his early years on their plantation, his service in the Madison White House household staff and post-emancipation achievements as a first White House memoirist and father of two Union Army soldiers. What made Henry Kissinger the kind of diplomat he was? What experiences and influences shaped his worldview and provided the framework for his approach to international relations? Suri offers a thought-provoking, interpretive study of one of the most influential and controversial political figures of the twentieth century.

On April 30, 1975, Saigon and the government of South Vietnam fell to the communist regime of North Vietnam, ending -- for American military forces -- exactly twenty-five year of courageous but unavailing struggle. This is not the story of how America became embroiled in a conflict in a small country half-way around the globe, nor of why our armed forces remained there so long after the futility of our efforts became obvious to many. It is the story of what went wrong there militarily, and why. The author is a professional soldier who experienced the Vietnam war in the field and in the highest command echelons. General Palmer's insights into the key events and decisions that shaped America's military role in Vietnam are uncommonly perceptive. America's most serious error, he believes, was committing its armed

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forces to a war in which neither political nor military goals were ever fully articulated by our civilian leaders. Our armed forces, lacking clear objectives, failed to develop an appropriate strategy, instead relinquishing the offensive to Hanoi. Yet an achievable strategy could have been devised, Palmer believes. Moreover, our South Vietnamese allies could have been bolstered by appropriate aid but were instead overwhelmed by the massive American military presence. Compounding these errors were the flawed civilian and military chains of command. The result was defeat for America and disaster for South Vietnam. General Palmer presents here an insider's history of the war and an astute critique of America's military strengths and successes as well as its weaknesses and failures.

The Haskins Society, named after the celebrated American medievalist Charles Homer Haskins, was founded in 1982 to provide a forum for the discussion and study of English and related continental history in the middle ages.

South Vietnam fell because of events occurring thousands of miles away from the battlefields--in China, the Soviet Union, Latin America, the Middle East, and Washington's corridors of power, along protest lines, and around America's dinner tables. These other wars being fought by American presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford profoundly impacted what happened in Vietnam. This work examines those other conflicts and the political, social, and economic factors involved with them that distracted and crippled the presidencies of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford and led to the eventual

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abandonment of the U.S.-supported South Vietnamese regime. Nixon entered office with the goal of bringing the world together, but saw that goal ruined by the 1973 war in the Middle East, preoccupations with China and the Soviet Union, a weak economy, Watergate, and his disgraceful exit from the White House. Ford's presidency was tainted almost from the beginning because of the pardon he granted to Nixon, but the American public, tired of war and concerned about the economy, was ready to hear that the war had come to an end. An argument is presented that the war could have been won if the "other wars" had been fought by presidents willing to honor the American commitment to its allies in South Vietnam.

Kissinger's invaluable and lasting contribution to the history of this crucial time. One of the most important books to come out of the Nixon Administration, *White House Years* covers Henry Kissinger's first four years (1969–1973) as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. Among the momentous events recounted in this first volume of Kissinger's timeless memoirs are his secret negotiations with the North Vietnamese in Paris to end the Vietnam War, the Jordan crisis of 1970, the India-Pakistan war of 1971, his back-channel and face-to-face negotiations with Soviet leaders to limit the nuclear arms race, his secret journey to China, and the historic summit meetings in Moscow and Beijing in 1972. He covers major controversies of the period, including events in Laos and Cambodia, his "peace is at hand" press conference and the breakdown of talks with the North Vietnamese that led to the

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Christmas bombing in 1972. Throughout, Kissinger presents candid portraits of world leaders, including Richard Nixon, Anwar Sadat, Golda Meir, Jordan's King Hussein, Leonid Brezhnev, Chairman Mao and Chou En-lai, Willy Brandt, Charles de Gaulle, and many others. White House Years is Henry Kissinger's invaluable and lasting contribution to the history of this crucial time. An insider shares incidents and anecdotes that illuminate the inner workings of a presidential campaign and life in the White House, revealing touching moments and flashes of personality from the controversial Nixon years.

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Critical evaluation of achievements and failures of President Nixon's first two years in office by two syndicated columnists of moderately conservative views.

Looks at nuclear proliferation, assesses each U.S. administration's nuclear policy, and explains why it has been so hard to limit nuclear weapons

Chronicles the life and career of Andrew Jackson, a self-made man who went on to become a military hero and seventh president of the United States, analyzing Jackson's seminal role during a turbulent era in history.

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The author describes her many years of reporting on the White House, exploring the changing relationship between the presidency and the press

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The former Nixon speechwriter provides anecdotal accounts of the people, policies, events, and atmosphere in the Nixon White House before the Watergate evacuation.

Provides the definitive, inside account of the Nixon presidency, describing the events, people, and especially, the fascinating personality of Richard Nixon and exploring the uses and abuses, the fascination and toll of power

[This] is a balanced and thorough treatment of domestic politics, foreign policy, and social and cultural history that illuminates United States history from Reconstruction to the present. [It] is informed throughout by a post-Cold War perspective that emphasizes continuities between the Cold War era and the present. -Back cover.

Covers the years 1776 to the middle of 1992 and discusses immigration policies and major developments in U.S. agencies, and includes profiles of key figures and charts of summits and conferences

This timely volume contains a series of informative and thought-provoking articles by experts in their fields. Together they provide a detailed assessment of the political, economic, and religious forces affecting the major oil rich states of the Arabian Peninsula, along with a comprehensive analysis of the primary forces affecting economic and resource development in that region. Topics discussed include historical areas of underlying conflict, regional analyses of pivotal forces and trends, Islamic influences upon the concept of labor, the subtleties of cultural differences and the transfer of technology, and employment contracts. Specific chapters provide resource profiles of the major Arab states in the

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Persian Gulf, along with statistical projections of future resource needs. In the concluding chapter, the editors offer a comparative analysis of the human resource requirements of the smaller Gulf states, along with practical applications for human resources management. The volume also contains a select bibliography, charts on Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, and a chart on comparative Western and Islamic organizations.

This book provides a detailed analysis of the bureaucratic politics of US foreign policymaking with respect to Chile during the 1970s. On the basis of original interviews with key officials from the Nixon, Ford and Carter administrations, congressional staffers, human rights activists, and Chilean opposition figures during the Pinochet dictatorship, together with extensive archival research (in the US, Canada and the UK), it recreates the internal debates in Washington over appropriate policy approaches and traces how faithfully these approaches were implemented down to the level of desk officer in the US embassy in Santiago. Assessing what impact US influence had on developments inside Chile is also an important part of this study. The findings make for vital reading for students and researchers of US foreign policy making, diplomatic history, and US-Chilean relations, although the book will also appeal to the general reader with an interest in the same issues. This book is essentially a series of case histories of U.S.-Soviet nuclear arms control negotiations, as seen from the American side. It describes the processes of governmental decisionmaking for arms control in Washington, D.C., and the techniques for joint U.S.-Soviet decisionmaking at the negotiating table. As

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general counsel of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and member of U.S. delegations to disarmament conferences for eight years, the author was in a unique position to assess the difficulties of fashioning an arms control treaty that could pass muster within the executive branch of the U.S. government, be approved by U.S. allies, be successfully negotiated with the Soviets, and then win the approval of the U.S. Senate. This process will be even more complex now that the United States will face at least four nuclear powers from the former U.S.S.R. The book has three purposes. The first is to add to the recorded history of the following negotiations: the Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963, the Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968, the ABM Treaty of 1972 and its companion SALT Interim Agreements, and the 1987 INF Treaty. The author asks in each case, What did the president and his assistants do (or fail to do) to negotiate a successful agreement? The second purpose is to use the case book approach, common in law schools and business schools, as a teaching device for those who wish to learn how the American government made decisions about arms control negotiations, how U.S.-Soviet negotiators reached decisions, and what the results of the decisions have been. The book's third purpose is to generalize about what works and what does not work in the complex world of arms control negotiations, including information on the impact of negotiating committees and comparisons of the process for negotiating arms control treaties with that for achieving arms limits through action and reaction, without written agreement. The concluding



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organizations. He has authored numerous publications. The history of a rich cultural exchange between Islam and the West covers this often tumultuous relationship, from the first Arab embassy to the Vikings to the Taliban on the internet. 15,000 first printing.

BY HENRIETTA NESBITT There be five ihuu Aitd -j, The Preside if nf lec. uic vi71 have These are the sort of messages Mrs. Henrietta Nesbitt took in stride during her eleven years in the White House one of the largest, most complicated, and most fascinating households in America. Her story is a succession of intimate anecdotes of the great and the near-great Alexander Woollcott, Pade rewski, the King and Queen of Eng land, Jose Iturbi, Winston Churchill, and of course the Roosevelt family it self. It is also a salty and sprightly rec- ord of the worlds most demanding job of housekeeping. ne It was my first view of the White House. For that matter, Id never been in Washington before. Dad and I - Dad being my husband, Henry F. Nesbitt got up early the morning before the inauguration and went through the streets straight to the presidential mansion, as if wed lived in the capital all our lives. This was Mr.. Roosevelts first inaugural, in March 1933. We went up to the White House and stood looking through the northwest gate, and I felt like the old woman in the ditty, not certain if it were I, or somebody else. To tell the truth I was scared half to death. It was the biggest home I had ever seen. Like a big wedding cake, I said to Dad. The kind with the white mountain frosting. We walked all around, peeking through the eight gate ways and the iron fence to the green lawns and the flower beds, all planted new for the

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new president, and across the semicircular drive to the big beautiful house with the tall-pillared porte-cochere. Even the trees looked important, with their names set in the bark, like trees in a park. I didnt know these very trees had been singed when the British soldiers set fire to the White House, in 1812, that Dolly Madison and her James led cotillions under the elms, and that the big magnolias, starting to bud even this early in the spring, were planted by President Jackson because he was homesick for his Tennessee. All the Presidents, it seems, planted trees to add to the beauty of the grounds. But I didnt learn these facts until later, along with a lot of other patter I memorized to reel off to guests in the White House, such as commenting on the classic architecture and the historic pieces, and the fact that the cornerstone was laid in 1792 and President Washington hadnt been there to see it put down. I never did find out why. All I knew this morning was that the White House had me awed, and I didnt know how Id ever get up enough courage to walk in. But we were going to do just that, Dad and I, right after the ceremonies that had the whole city, and the country itself for that matter, all stirred up. We were going through those gates and into the White House as if we belonged there. I said to Dad, not to show how nervous I was, It must take a sight of gardeners to keep all the leaves raked up and this place looking right. Of course I wasnt thinking much of the garden, because it wasnt my business. The White House was my affair. I was trying to count all the windows, but I gave up somewhere around ninety. How were we going to keep them all clean But those windows would have to

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shine. The handsome, dignified building was the most important in the United States, and that meant in the world. As soon as the Roosevelts moved in, I'd have the care of it. Care of the White House. I didn't know it that morning, but this would be my job and my address for the next thirteen years. Through three Roosevelt administrations I would have personal charge of the house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C. But we didn't know it would be that long, back in '33. So I just hung onto Dad's arm and spoke as pertly as I could. Pshaw, it's only four years, I can stand anything for four years. I guess the Roosevelts, back where we'd left them in the Mayflower Hotel getting ready for the inaugural, had the same idea then. The White House would be a big responsibility, but Mrs...

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This e-book box set includes the complete memoirs of Henry Kissinger, detailing his life and work. *White House Years*: One of the most important books to come out of the Nixon Administration, *White House Years* covers Henry Kissinger's first four years (1969–1973) as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. *Years of Upheaval*: This second volume of Henry Kissinger's monumental memoirs covers his years as President Richard Nixon's Secretary of State (1972–1974), including the ending of the Vietnam War, the 1973 Middle East War and oil embargo, Watergate, and Nixon's resignation. *Years of Upheaval* opens with Dr. Kissinger being appointed Secretary of State. *Years of Renewal*: This third and final volume of memoirs completes a major work of contemporary history. The

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third & final volume begins with the resignation of Nixon and takes the reader through the years of Ford's administration, in which Kissinger continued to play a decisive role. Years of Renewal is the triumphant conclusion of a major achievement and a book that will stand the test of time as a historical document of the first rank.

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