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POTUS POP QUIZ – THE ANSWERS!

Here are the answers to the POTUS Pop Quiz in Issue No. 463 (Feb. 10, 2021) of *Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews*, edited and published by John Pearson. Read the entire issue in the [archives](#).

POP QUIZ! Match these eight presidents to the eight statements below.

- 1) **Gerald Ford (1974-1977)**
- 2) **Jimmy Carter (1977-1981)**
- 3) **Ronald Reagan (1981-1989)**
- 4) **George H.W. Bush (1989-1993)**
- 5) **Bill Clinton (1993-2001)**
- 6) **George W. Bush (2001-2009)**
- 7) **Barack Obama (2009-2017)**
- 8) **Donald Trump (2017-2021)**

___ **A.** “Read my lips, no new taxes.”

___ **B.** “When asked about stories of infighting in the White House, [he] responded that strife did not bother him; he encouraged it. ‘I like conflict,’ he told reporters, elaborating that ‘I like having two people with different points of view. And I certainly have that. And then I make a decision. I like watching it. I like seeing it and I think it is the best way to go.’”

___ **C.** “[He] was also the first MBA president. As such, he stressed strong management principles and discipline in the running of the White House staff. On the management side, [he] took the theory and practice of management seriously. As [an aide] put it, ‘I have read [Peter Drucker](#), but I’d never seen Drucker until I saw [the president] in action.’ [His] campaign manager...agreed, saying that [he] ‘is [the best one-minute manager](#) I’ve ever been associated with.’”

___ **D.** “As president, though, [his] niceness was part of the problem. Immediately after acknowledging that [he] had the right skills and temperament for his House job, [the author of [Organizing the Presidency](#)] also noted that ‘running the White House required a more commanding approach.’”

___ **E.** A policy adviser “described that initial period as ‘just chaotic. There wasn’t anybody in charge.’ [A media consultant] had a similar view, but also noted [the chief of staff’s] lack of a coherent process. As [he] put it, [the president’s] ‘first White House staff, and the way they constantly went around [the chief of staff]—it was destructive.’ As a result, ‘everybody was freelancing, everybody was promoting themselves, everybody was looking out for themselves.’ [Another person] recalled that things were so bad that ‘There was a piece in I believe the *New York Times* that basically said this would be a failed presidency. You know, ten days into [the president’s] first term.’”

___ **F.** “On the three-part test of ideology, process, and presidential tolerance, [this president] and his team score poorly. The central battle of the administration, the one between [the secretary of state and the National Security Adviser], took place between two antagonists with well-known ideological disagreements over foreign policy. The process challenge was worsened by the lack of a chief of staff to mediate disputes in the administration’s early days, followed by the appointment of a self-admitted ineffective chief of staff...”

___ **G.** This president’s trusted campaign staffer went to work at the White House—where there was a strong culture of congeniality and no leaking. But “...he was more prone to violate some of the rules [i.e. no leaking] he so carefully adhered to during the campaign. In one telling instance during the transition, [he] was approving press releases and noted the announcement of a new White House communications director, the very job he wanted and expected. He was unhappy both with the decision and the way he found out about it: ‘Not only did I not get it, but this was the professional equivalent of being broken up with via a Post-it note. This was messed up.’”

___ **H.** The First Lady’s influence in the White House was often profound—especially for this president, who joked at the Gridiron Dinner, “[My wife and my chief of staff] tried to patch things up the other day. They met privately over lunch—just the two of them and their food tasters.”

After you’ve completed the Pop Quiz,
see page 3 for the answers. ➡
No cheating!

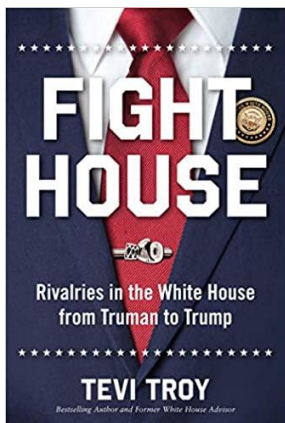
ANSWERS: President (*Fight House* page number)

- A. George H.W. Bush (page 64)
- B. Donald Trump (page 258)
- C. George W. Bush (page 208)
- D. Gerald Ford (page 88)
- E. Bill Clinton (page 187)
- F. Jimmy Carter (page 129)
- G. Barack Obama (page 233)
- H. Ronald Reagan (page 152)

PRIZES!

If you scored 8 out of 8 correct answers (without looking!), we may have a prize waiting for you! Next steps:

- 1) Email John@JohnPearsonAssociates.com and write “I’m perfect!”
- 2) We will respond by email within 24 hours with several prize options (while our inventory remains).
- 3) Depending on how many “perfect readers” respond, we may need to limit the prizes to the first five responses—if there are five! (*This was a challenging pop quiz, we know!*)
- 4) And you know the rest in the fine print: “Decisions of the judges will be final. Void where prohibited by law. Prizes will be shipped only to U.S. addresses. And...please wash your hands for 20 seconds and wear a mask before submitting your email.”



To order from Amazon, click on the title for [***Fight House: Rivalries in the White House from Truman to Trump***](#), by Tevi Troy.

Are you a listener?

Listen to the book on [Libro.fm](#) (9 hours).