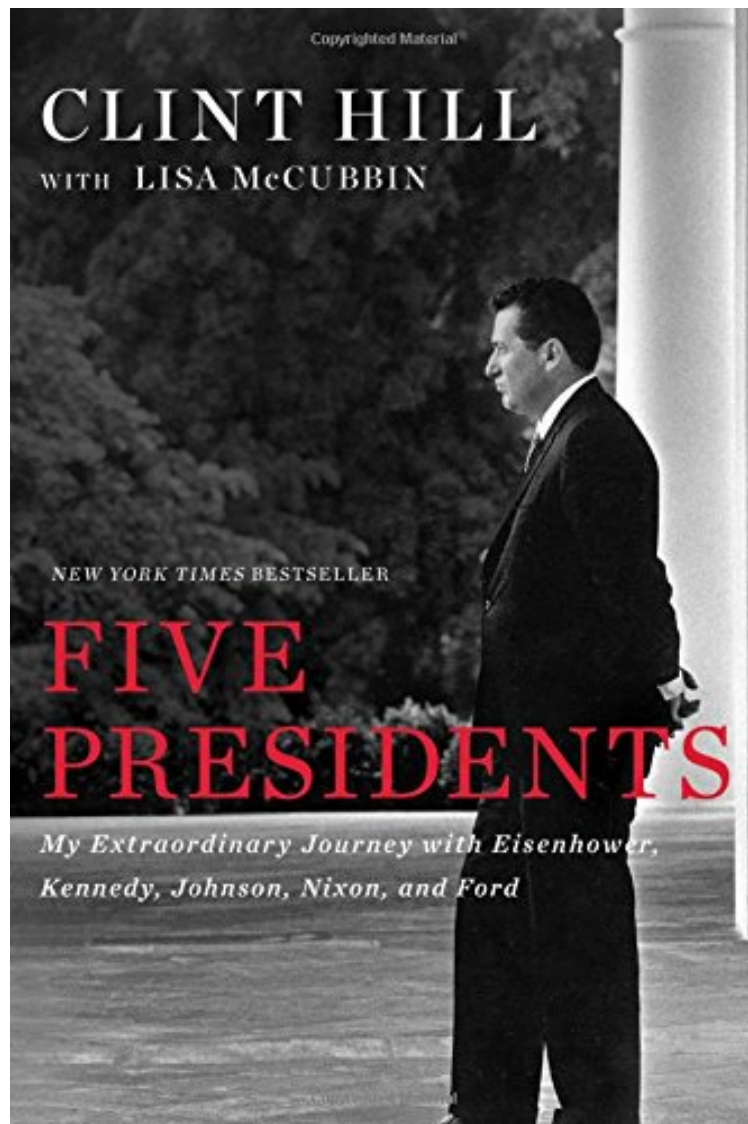


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## Five Presidents: My Extraordinary Journey with Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford

*Clint Hill, Lisa McCubbin*

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**Clint Hill, Lisa McCubbin : Five Presidents: My Extraordinary Journey with Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Five Presidents: My Extraordinary Journey with Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford:

113 of 114 people found the following review helpful. An Insider's View of the PresidencyBy V. GardinoDefinitely a

page turner of the nth degree. Clint and Lisa weave an insider's view of the Presidency as no one else can. Their crisp and readable prose makes this a fascinating and enjoyable book that is hard to put down. We all know about Clint's interaction with John and Jacqueline Kennedy but the anecdotes of the others he protected are priceless. This is all new material here. Tales of Eisenhower, Johnson, Nixon, Agnew and Ford will keep you craving more. When you are finished you'll want Clint and Lisa to write a sequel with other historical gems too. Books like this are rare, informative and incredibly enjoyable to read. A winning combination! 88 of 90 people found the following review helpful. Truly Amazing Story By Stephanie Ryder Clint Hill has done it again! This incredible book is a MUST READ for anyone with the slightest interest in history. Five Presidents is a rare window into the personalities and characters of five uniquely different presidents written by the Secret Service agent who was there not to judge them, but to protect them. He saw the strengths and weaknesses of these men as they wrestled with life and death decisions. The 60s and 70s were extremely turbulent decades for America's presidency and it was the only time in our history when five presidents in a row over a span of 20 years failed to serve two full terms -- due to assassination, protests over an unpopular war, threat of impeachment, pardon of his predecessors' crimes, incompetence. And Clint Hill was there an arms length away. There is no hearsay, no editorializing, no opinion, no political point of view--only what he saw and what he heard as history unfolded before his eyes, and you feel like you are right there with him. He was there for the birth of a son, the death of a son and was splattered with a president's blood. He felt Lyndon's hot breath and the poke of his finger as he bullied and intimidated those around him. He portrays how these men spent their private time, their leisure time, and how they treated the people around them. He reveals what it was like to be with Ike on the golf course, how JFK loved to sail and truly seemed to care about his family, how LBJ treated guests at his ranch, how Nixon's paranoia led to his downfall, how Ford's decency calmed the nation. He saw how Eisenhower was worshiped as a hero around the world. Mr. Hill sacrificed his own life, marriage, fatherhood, and emotional health to protect these five presidents. He witnessed the joys, triumphs, agony, disappointment, human frailty, ego, lust for power, and facilitators of the most powerful person in the world. Thank you, Clint Hill, for all that you have done and for sharing your story with us in Five Presidents. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Extraordinary reading By Apostle While I was alive, though somewhat young in the early part of this book, I was reminded constantly of the turmoil our country has gone through. This reads like a history book but with one big difference this is a smooth and easy read and you cannot put it down. I highly recommend this book to you. I promise you won't find yourself yawning at any time. Also, as an added benefit, there are many fine and high-resolution photos included.

A rare and fascinating portrait of the American presidency from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Mrs. Kennedy and Me* and *Five Days in November*. Secret Service agent Clint Hill brings history intimately and vividly to life as he reflects on his seventeen years protecting the most powerful office in the nation. Hill walked alongside Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard M. Nixon, and Gerald R. Ford, seeing them through a long, tumultuous era: the Cold War; the Cuban Missile Crisis; the assassinations of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert F. Kennedy; the Vietnam War; Watergate; and the resignations of Spiro Agnew and Richard M. Nixon. Some of his stunning, never-before-revealed anecdotes include: -Eisenhower's reaction at Russian Prime Minister Khrushchev's refusal to talk following the U-2 incident -The torture of watching himself in the Zapruder film in a Secret Service training -Johnson's virtual imprisonment in the White House during violent anti-Vietnam protests -His decision to place White House files under protection after a midnight phone call about Watergate -The challenges of protecting Ford after he pardoned Nixon With a unique insider's perspective, Hill sheds new light on the character and personality of these five presidents, revealing their humanity in the face of grave decisions.

About the Author Clint Hill is the New York Times bestselling author of *Mrs. Kennedy and Me* and *Five Days in November*. A former Secret Service agent who was in the presidential motorcade during the John F. Kennedy assassination, Hill remained assigned to Mrs. Kennedy until after the 1964 election. He then was assigned to President Lyndon B. Johnson at the White House and later to Richard Nixon, eventually becoming the Assistant Director of the Secret Service for all protection. He retired in 1975. Lisa McCubbin is the coauthor of four New York Times bestsellers: *Five Presidents*; *Mrs. Kennedy and Me*; *Five Days in November*; and *The Kennedy Detail*. A former television news anchor and reporter, she currently resides in the San Francisco Bay area. Visit her at [LisaMcCubbin.com](http://LisaMcCubbin.com). Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Five Presidents INTRODUCTION Walking Beside History As a Special Agent in the United States Secret Service, I had the honor and privilege of serving five presidents: Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard M. Nixon, and Gerald R. Ford: three Republicans and two Democrats. From my unique vantage point, I had the rare opportunity to observe the human side of these men: the most powerful men in the world as each dealt with the enormous responsibilities and unforeseen challenges thrust upon them, and how their individual characters and personalities affected grave decisions. My seventeen years in the Secret Service spanned the period that encompassed the U-2 spy incident; the Cold War; the Cuban Missile Crisis; the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., and Robert F.

Kennedy; the civil rights movement, riots and burning of major U.S. cities; the Vietnam War; Watergate; and the resignations of Vice President Spiro T. Agnew and President Nixon. In less than two decades, America went from being unquestionably the most respected and admired nation in the world to a country whose image had become tarnished by violence, scandal, and deceit. It is interesting to note that of these five presidents, only Eisenhower had a normal run as president elected by the people and serving two full terms. Kennedy was elected in 1960 by the slimmest of margins, and his term lasted just one thousand days, cut short by an assassin. Suddenly, the vice president became president. Johnson was reelected the following year, but when the demands of the office and the casualties of the Vietnam War became more than he could bear, he chose not to run for a second term. Nixon was elected in 1968, and again in 1972, but in the wake of the Watergate scandal, he became the first United States president to resign, in 1974. A year earlier, when Nixon's vice president, Spiro Agnew, resigned in disgrace, Nixon appointed Gerald Ford as vice president. Thus, upon Nixon's resignation, Ford became president, never having been elected to the office. It was a turbulent time, and there I was, in the middle of it all. As with our two previous books, my talented writing partner, Lisa McCubbin, and I have attempted to bring history to life through my experiences. While *Mrs. Kennedy and Me* focused on my interactions with Jacqueline Kennedy, and *Five Days in November* detailed those tragic days surrounding the assassination, the Kennedy section in this book focuses on my observations of and interactions with President Kennedy. There is unavoidably some overlap, but the recollections of my years with Eisenhower, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford are revealed here for the first time. There is no doubt that the assassination of President Kennedy was a defining moment for me, and it would affect me on many levels for the rest of my life. I was thrust onto the pages of history, but it has often bothered me that I would be remembered solely for my actions on that one day. For there was much that led up to that moment, and much that followed. Like the five presidents I served, there were many things that influenced the decisions I made, the actions I took, the man I became. It has indeed been an extraordinary journey.