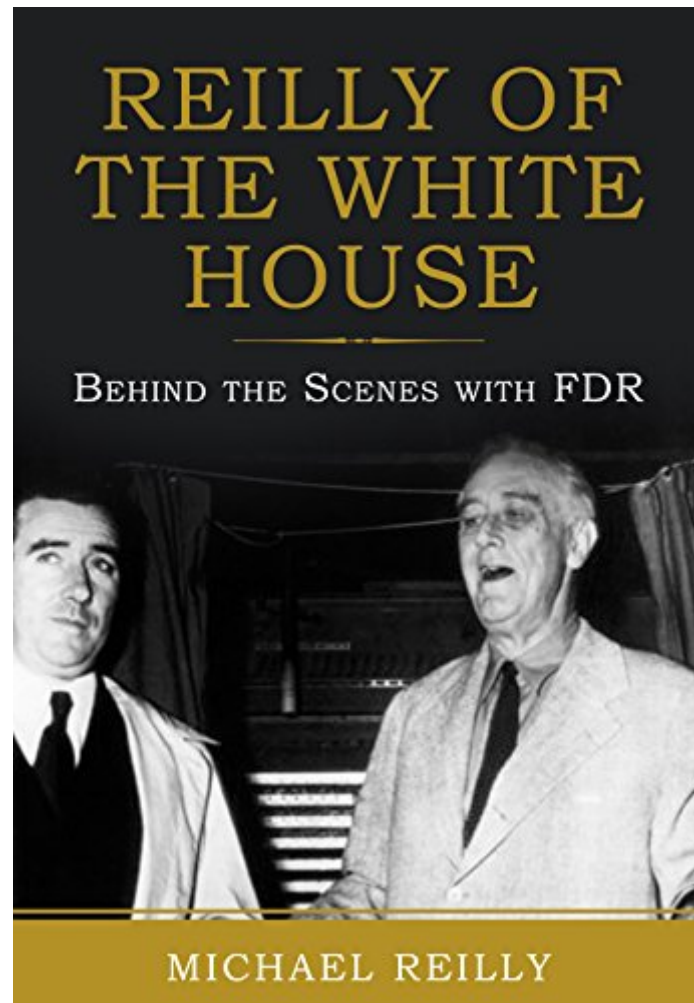




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Reilly Of The White House



Synopsis

“To date we Americans have shot and killed one out of every ten men we have elected president ... From 1865 to 1901 the United States took over the world leadership in a great and varied number of things, including killing our elected leaders.” Protecting Franklin Delanor Roosevelt was no easy job. This thankless task fell to head of White House Secret Service, Mike Reilly in the years between 1935 and 1945, some of the most difficult in American diplomatic history. Reilly’s fascinating memoir chronicles the everyday challenges he faced protecting his Commander-in-Chief: the problems posed by transit; the dangers faced from large crowds and groups of strangers; the difficulties rising from FDR’s disability; the meticulous examining of every bit of food that entered the White House; and the rigorous attention paid to every detail of the president’s numerous foreign visits. Reilly’s job was undoubtedly made even more difficult by the onset of World War Two and America’s declaration of war in 1941. In addition to FDR being a highly-prized target for both the Germans and the Japanese, this period involved many trips abroad to meet Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin to discuss the Allied effort. Wrought with diplomatic challenges and communication problems with their British and Russian counterparts, the relationships between the Allied countries were not straightforward. Present at some of the most historic meetings in the twentieth century, Reilly’s account is an important historical record of FDR’s time as U.S. president. In addition to this, Reilly of the White House is the touching story of a deep friendship between two men. The respect that Reilly held for “the Boss” is evident throughout the book and he gives many examples of the president’s famous wit and good-humor. “The warm, personal memoirs of the man who followed President Roosevelt wherever he went and who was completely responsible for the safety of the wartime leader.” Kirkus Reviews Michael F. Reilly was born in 1910 and joined the White House Secret Service in 1935. He was given the position of responsibility for the president’s safety in 1941 and remained in this role until Roosevelt’s death in 1945. Reilly published this work in 1947 and died in 1973.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Really enjoyed this book. You got an up close feel for the President and the difficult times he faced during the war years. The author portrays the President as actively involved in the war effort as any leader of the times. Churchill was first but our President certainly took control as Pearl Harbor. Great read.

Nothing that was outside the public view. But inside stories of his election and world war two travels also Stalin. White washed but worth reading.

I really like getting behind the scenes of history and hearing about what was happening.

Great read about a President that was serving when I grew up!

super history, very interesting

Good read

It was a good read but the editing by the publishing company needed a lot of work! Too many mistakes for me. Otherwise a good book.

Very good insight to the FDR travels and events during WWII. I'm sure there is as much more left out of Reilly's tour of duty at the White House.

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