

11 PRESIDENTS

4 WARS

22 POLITICAL CONVENTIONS

1 MOON LANDING

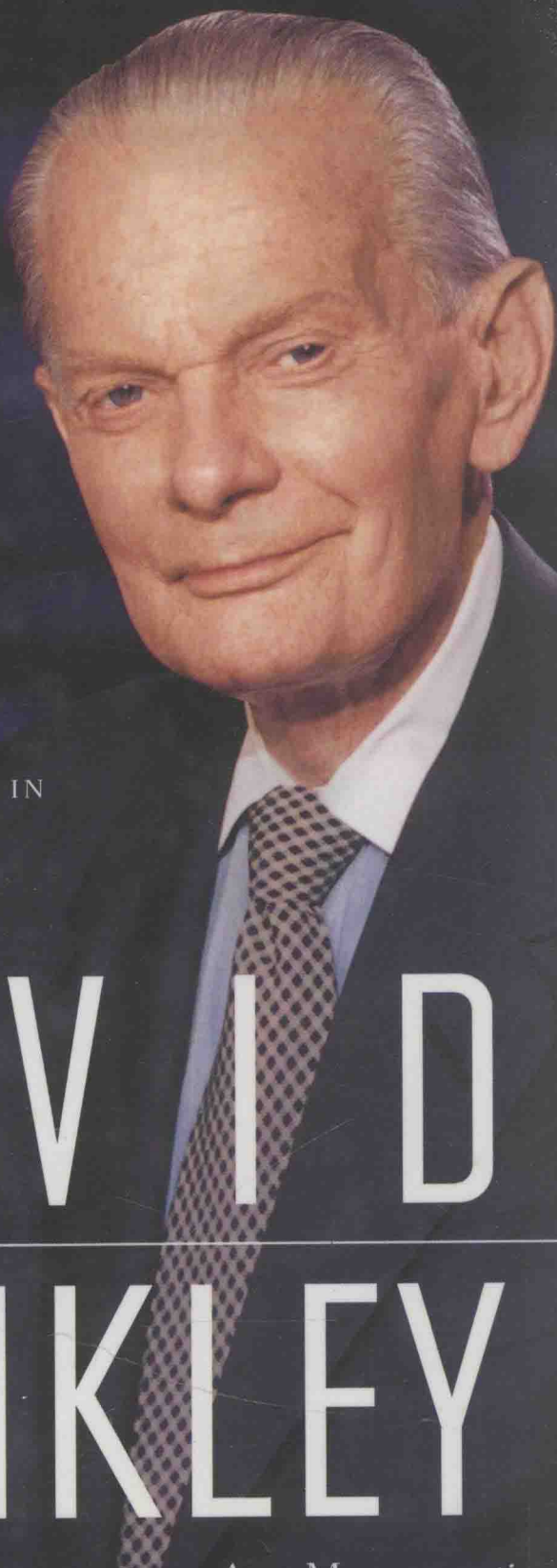
3 ASSASSINATIONS

2,000 WEEKS OF NEWS AND

OTHER STUFF ON TELEVISION

AND 18 YEARS OF GROWING UP IN

NORTH CAROLINA

A color portrait of David Brinkley, an older man with light hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is looking slightly to the left with a gentle smile.

# DAVID BRINKLEY

A M e m o i r

# DAVID BRINKLEY

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*11 Presidents, 4 Wars, 22 Political  
Conventions, 1 Moon Landing,  
3 Assassinations, 2,000 Weeks of  
News and Other Stuff on Television  
and 18 Years of Growing Up in  
North Carolina*



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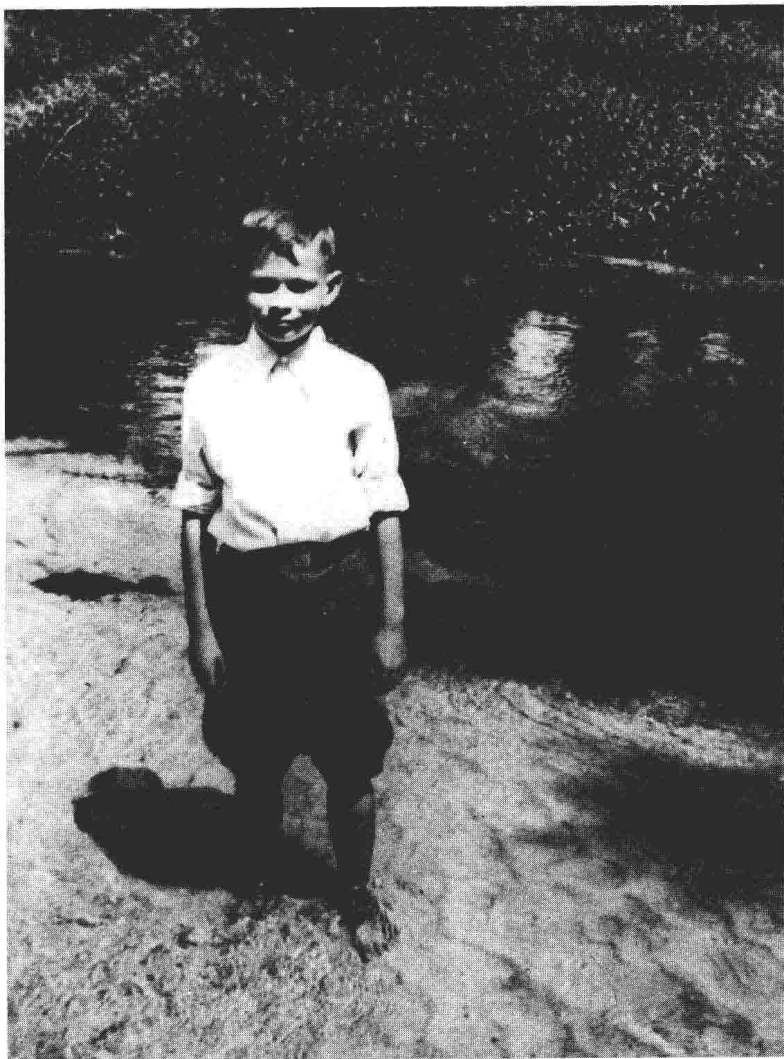
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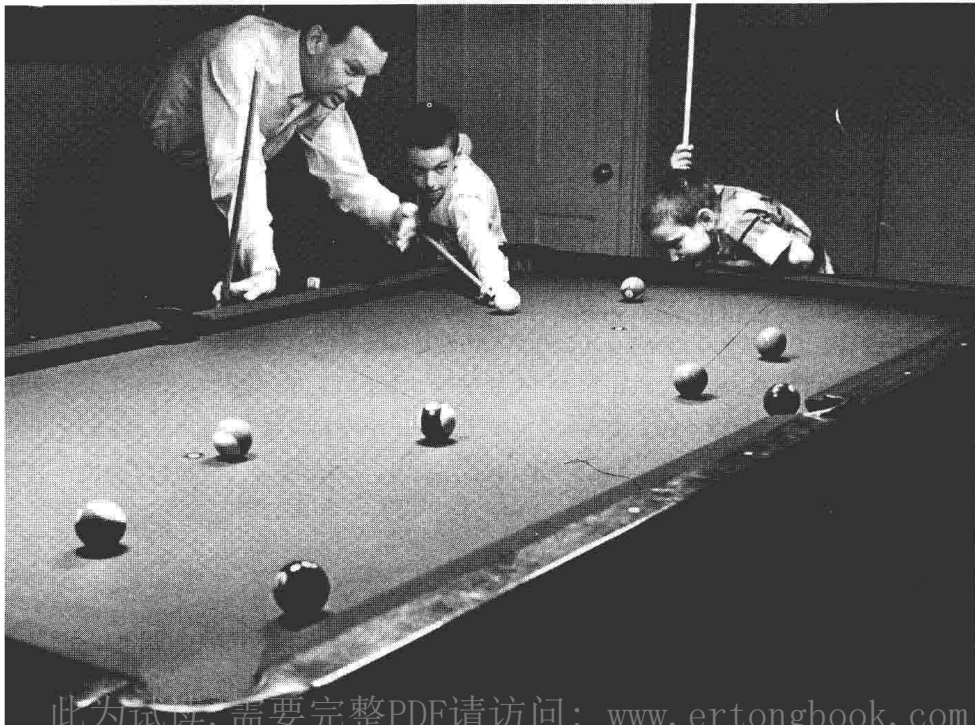
Knickers!!! The southern schoolboy's uniform  
until he was thirteen and ready for high school  
in Wilmington, North Carolina

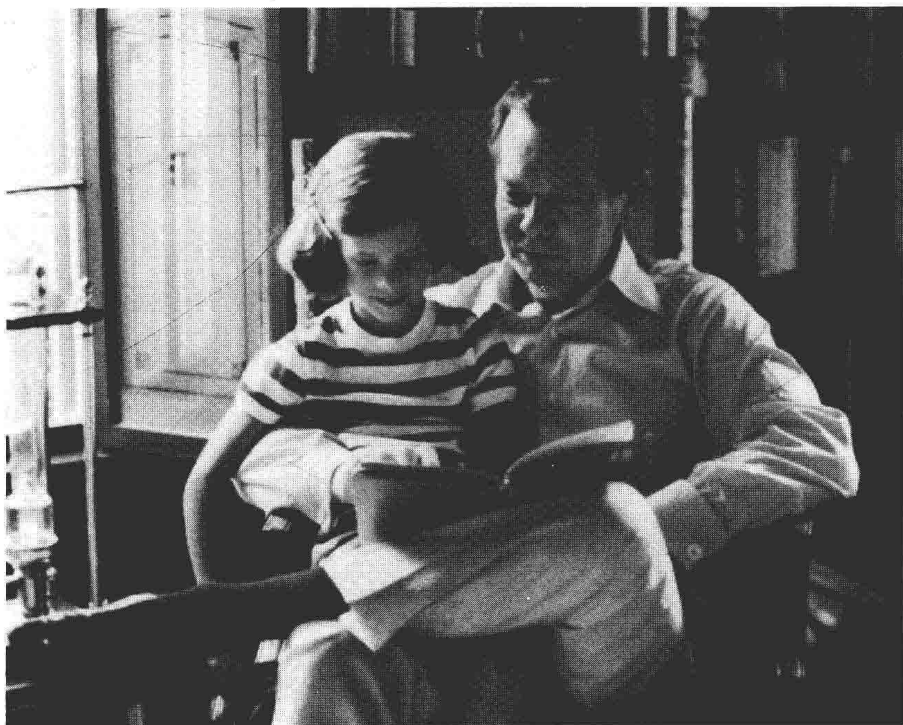


Sergeant, 120th Infantry. Every man in the picture except me was killed in Normandy after D Day, 1944.



At my office at NBC in the sixties. Ann brought John in one afternoon for a visit.





I've talked to millions, but Alexis, my only daughter,  
is the best audience I've ever had.

Our gang at a dude ranch in Wyoming: John,  
daughter-in-law Shannon, Susan, Joel, me, Alan





I survived early radio at NBC, and it survived me. The grand old names in radio never made it in television.



Early TV and *David Brinkley's Journal*: making an episode in the Florida Everglades on a hermit who never came ashore



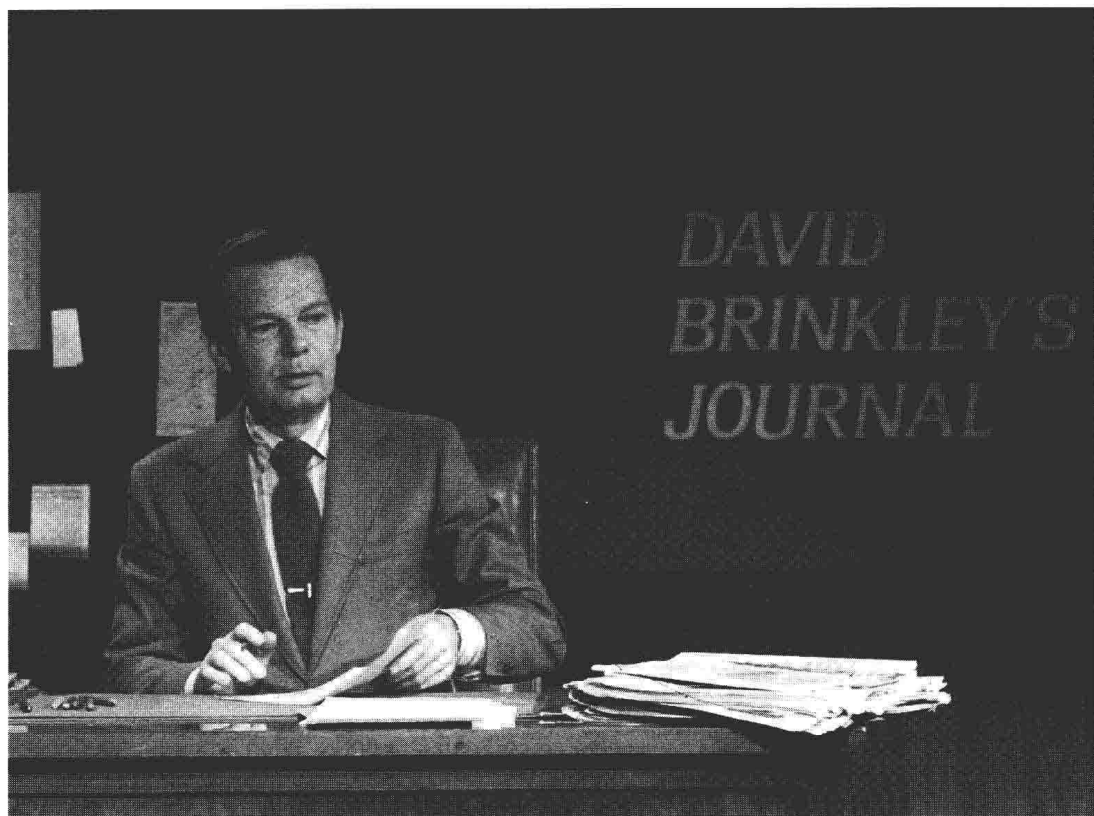
Live television, no doubt. It came without an instruction manual, and none of us knew what to do with it.

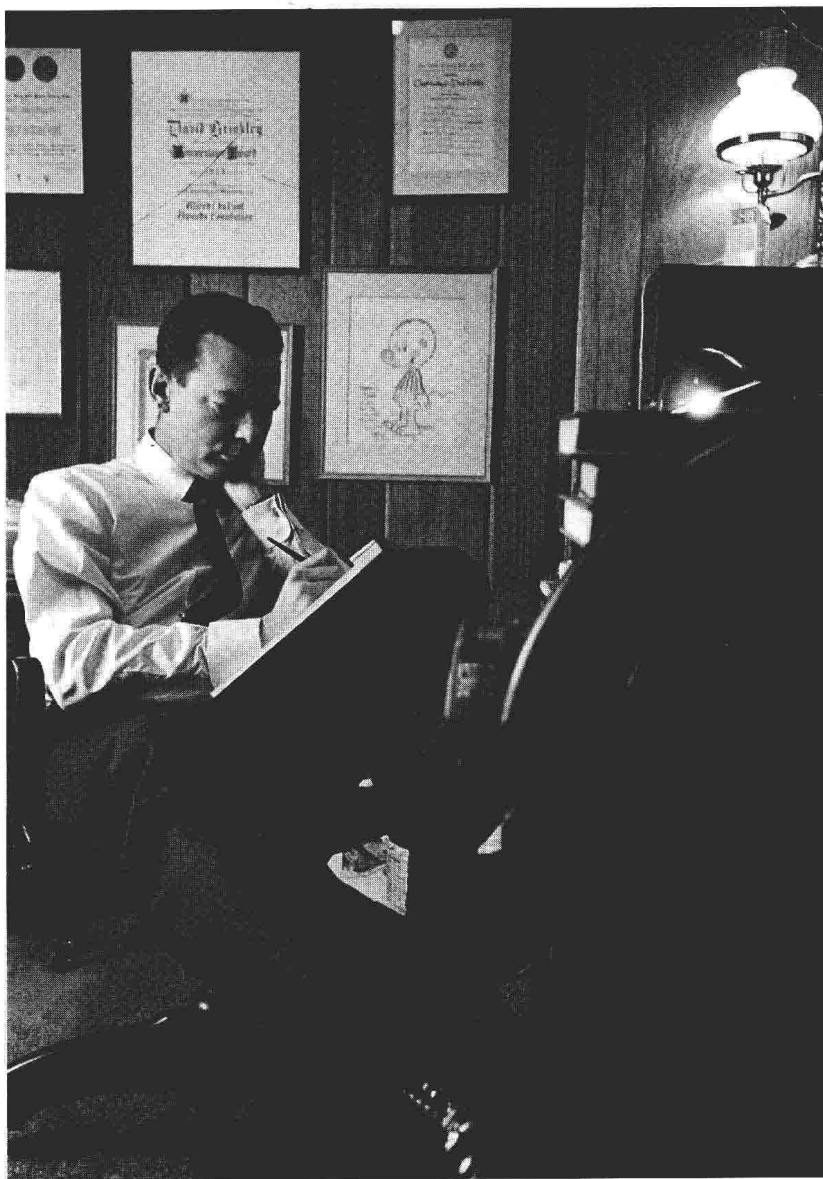


In Greece, making TV's first documentary, *Our Man in the Mediterranean*. John Chancellor squints through the viewfinder. He directed. Very good.

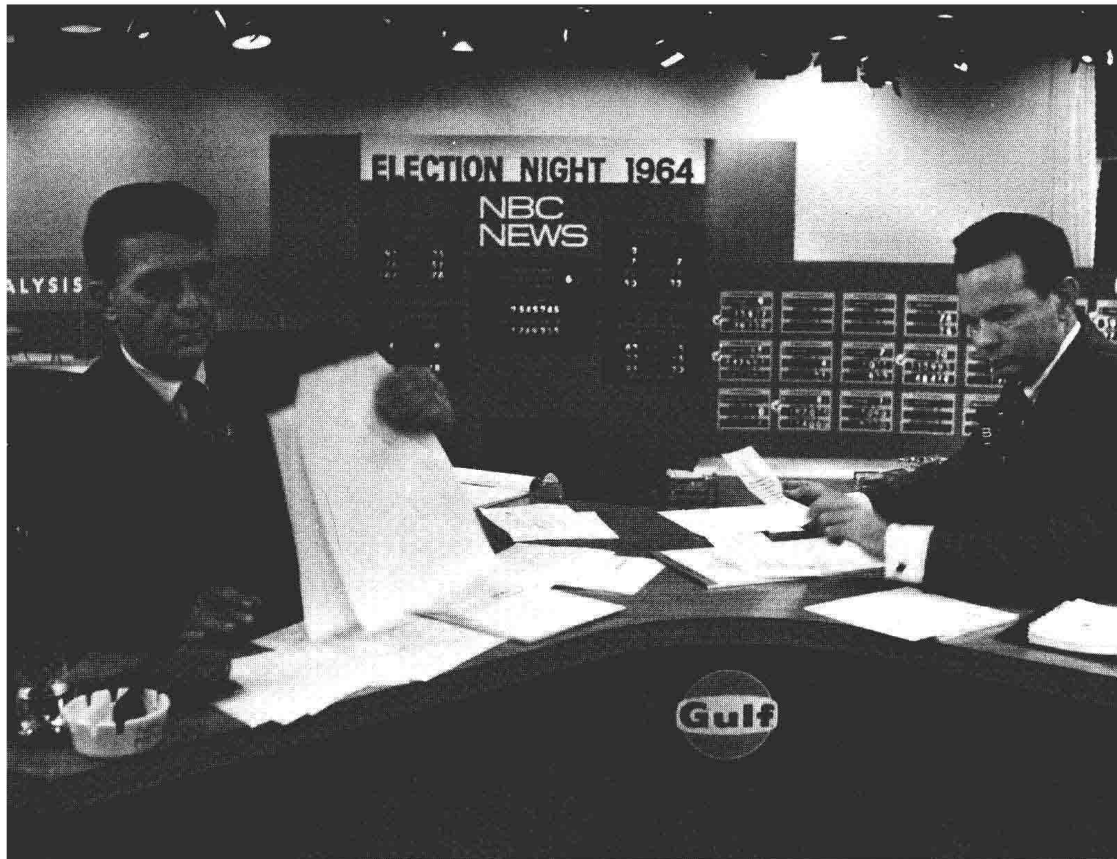


This early, everything we did was a first—good or bad. Here, *David Brinkley's Journal*, TV's first magazine program. Fairly good, not great.





We thought a rolltop desk looked good on the set.  
It did. Antiques shops sold out of them. I still use one.



The 1964 political convention with Chet Huntley in Atlantic City. We had the highest rating in TV history. Why? We didn't know then and still don't.



With Huntley—our first Emmy. Success. Success. It's fun if you know it's temporary and don't inhale. Neither of us ever did

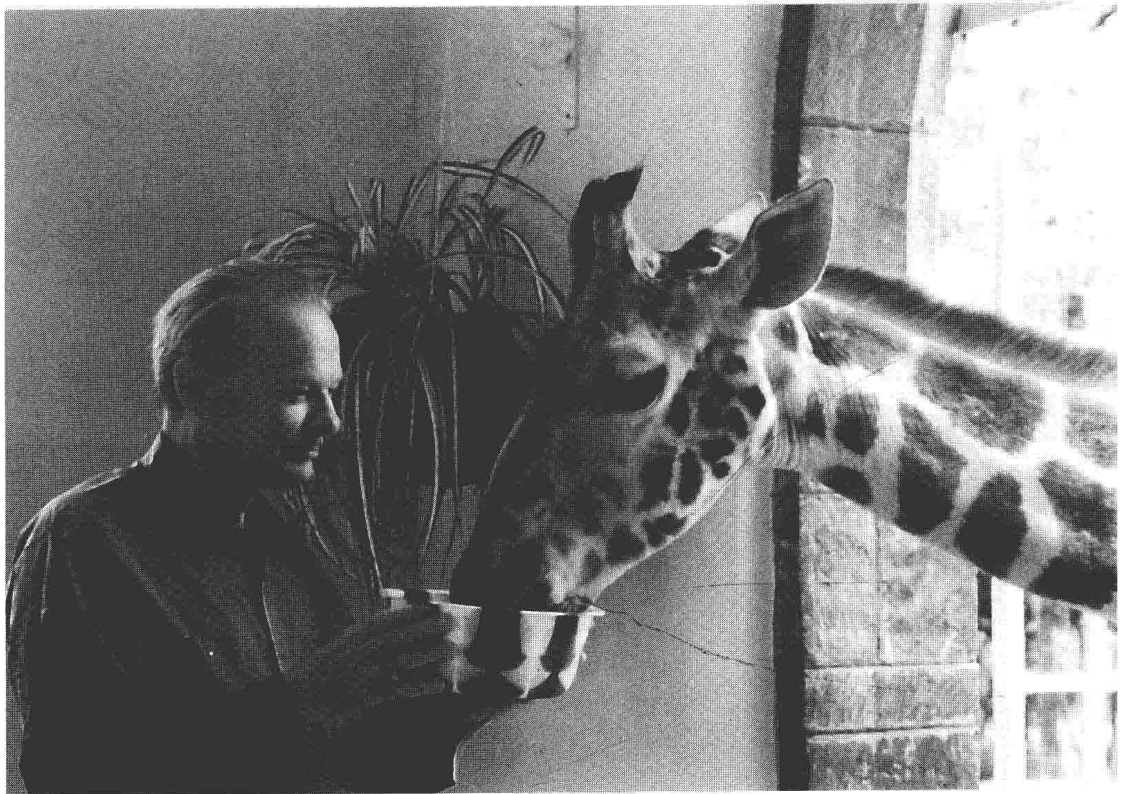


*Apollo 11:* Our one and only news story never seen before in human history; exciting and a little scary. We were both afraid it wouldn't work.



Home from Cape  
Canaveral and at  
Wrightsville Beach  
with my poodles,  
Ajax and Daisy

While with Susan in  
Africa, a giraffe stuck  
his head indoors,  
looking for food. We  
fed him. Giraffes have  
black tongues.





Finally, a little time off. With Senator Abe Ribicoff and Secretary Henry Kissinger on the Yangtze River in China. Susan and I walked (part way) up the Great Wall of China.





Nixon's task force tried to destroy Huntley and me, failed and sicced Spiro Agnew on us—a high time and great fun. We survived Nixon and Agnew. Then Gerald Ford. No genius but a nice man, easy for all of us in the press. But he lacked what it took for a second term. So did Jimmy Carter.







Regardless of party, most liked Ronald Reagan—funny, clever. While George Bush, a favorite of mine, awarded me the Medal of Freedom. Those present for the award: Evangeline, my daughter-in-law, and Alan; the President; me with a neck ribbon and medal; Mrs. Bush; Susan; Alexis; John; my daughter-in-law Sabra, wife of Joel, our Pulitzer Prize winner.







Our splendid cast on *This Week with David Brinkley*: George Will, Cokie Roberts, me, Sam Donaldson. They are the best.