

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910162707403321
Autore	Graham Mary <1944->
Titolo	Presidents' secrets : the use and abuse of hidden power // Mary Graham
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, Connecticut : , : Yale University Press, , [2017] ©2017
ISBN	0-300-22768-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (256 p.)
Disciplina	352.3790973
Soggetti	Presidents - United States - Decision making Official secrets - United States Freedom of information - United States Executive privilege (Government information) - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- Introduction -- 1. The Constitutional Convention: The President's Limited Power -- 2. George Washington: A Culture of Openness -- 3. Woodrow Wilson: A Foundation for Secret Government -- 4. Harry Truman: Institutional Secrecy -- 5. Lyndon Johnson: Stealth Attacks on Openness -- 6. Gerald Ford: A Time of Reckoning -- 7. George W. Bush: A Test of the Limits -- 8. Barack Obama: A Twenty-First-Century Bargain? -- Conclusion -- NOTES -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	How presidents use secrecy to protect the nation, foster diplomacy, and gain power Ever since the nation's most important secret meeting-the Constitutional Convention-presidents have struggled to balance open, accountable government with necessary secrecy in military affairs and negotiations. For the first one hundred and twenty years, a culture of open government persisted, but new threats and technology have long since shattered the old bargains. Today, presidents neither protect vital information nor provide the open debate Americans expect. Mary Graham tracks the rise in governmental secrecy that began with surveillance and loyalty programs during Woodrow Wilson's administration, explores how it developed during the Cold War, and

analyzes efforts to reform the secrecy apparatus and restore oversight in the 1970s. Chronicling the expansion of presidential secrecy in the Bush years, Graham explains what presidents and the American people can learn from earlier crises, why the attempts of Congress to rein in stealth activities don't work, and why presidents cannot hide actions that affect citizens' rights and values.

---