

Time of Presidency: **1837-1841** Party: **Democratic** President #: **8** **Martin Van Buren**

America at this time

- Election of 1836 featured the Democrats facing the newly-organized Whig party, made from the ashes of the Federalist Party
- Election debates spurred over "revenue-sharing" program from federal lands, to give states more money from federal profits
- Van Buren opposed a national bank at all costs
- Van Buren hoped for national improvement programs that helped the entire nation at once, not just local programs

Domestic Policy

- Financial Panic spurs in 1837 from extensive borrowing (no national bank), cotton and wheat failure, requests for payment from short-term loans, and coin payment option for land purchase
- Riots start in New York over flour prices, depression
- Trail of Tears begins as Van Buren continues with Jackson's removal policy

Foreign Policy

- After attempts at assisting the Canadian rebellion, Van Buren calls for neutrality after British destroy ship
- Maine and New Brunswick lumberjacks fight over forest rights in Aroostook War

Aides and Advisors

No Key Advisors

Various Facts

- Goodyear perfects rubber to make it resistant to hardening in cold and becoming sticky in heat

Vice Presidents: Richard M. Johnson

Election Opponents: Harrison, Daniel Webster

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