



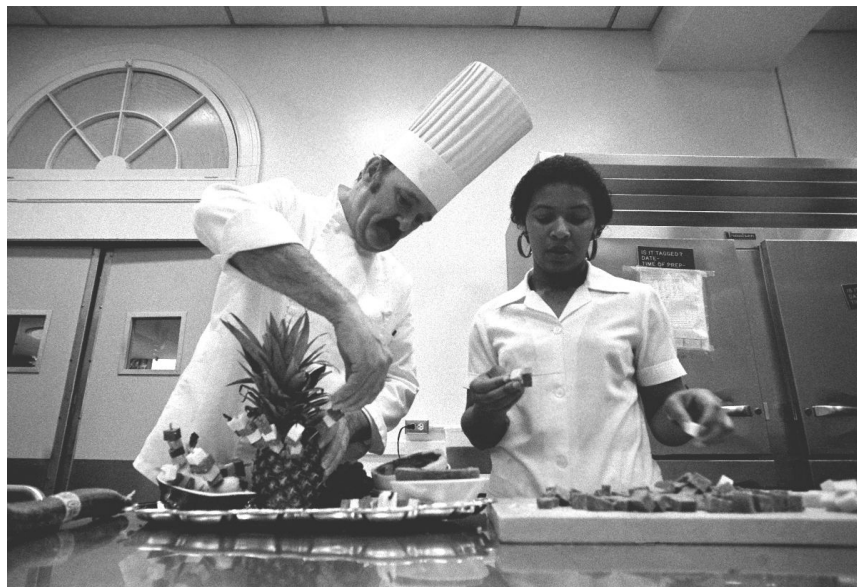
CATALOG

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What's Cooking?

The holiday season is here. Time to put on our historic chef hats, preheat the oven, and get started on our winter weather menus!

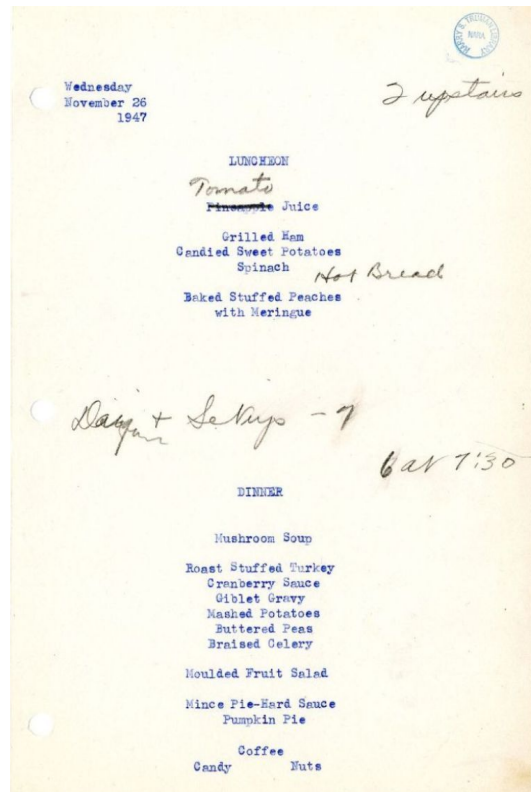


Executive Chef Cliff Ledford and Mary Bloxson prepare a salad in the kitchen of the Mustin Beach Officers Club. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, 2/16/1990. [National Archives Identifier 6453020](#)

This time of year always inspires us to peruse the [National Archives Catalog](#) for historic recipes and food related records, many of which were favorite recipes of the First Families, as well as those prepared by White House kitchen staff for special events through the years.



A view of the Thanksgiving dinner served to U.S. troops taking part in Exercise Bright Star '82, 11/1/1981. [National Archives Identifier 6347662](#)

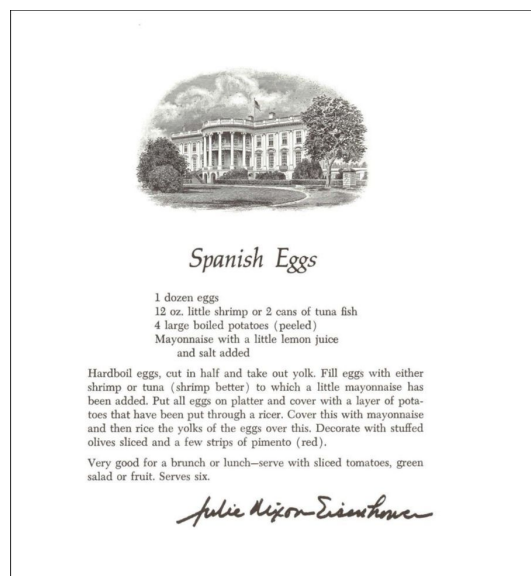


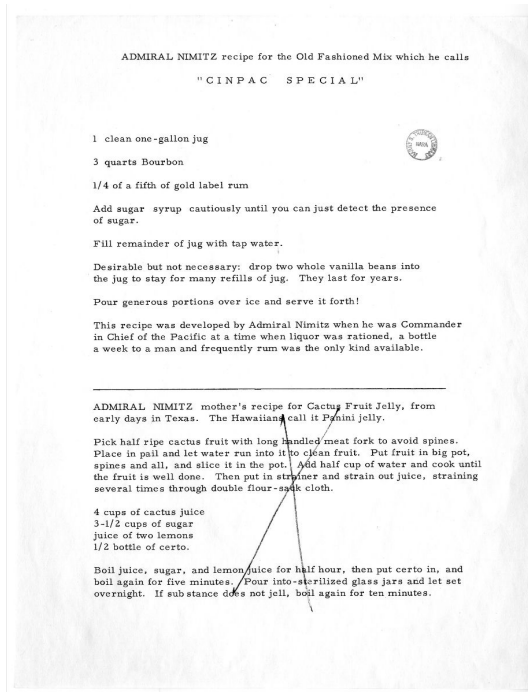
President Truman White House Menu, 11/26/1947 Thanksgiving. [National Archives Identifier 6882370](#)

We hope you find inspiration from these historic recipes and photographs found in the National Archives. Bon Appetit!

Serving brunch this year? Why not try Julie Nixon Eisenhower's Spanish Eggs recipe. She recommends it served with sliced tomatoes, green salad or fruit.

[National Archives Identifier 6727957](#)



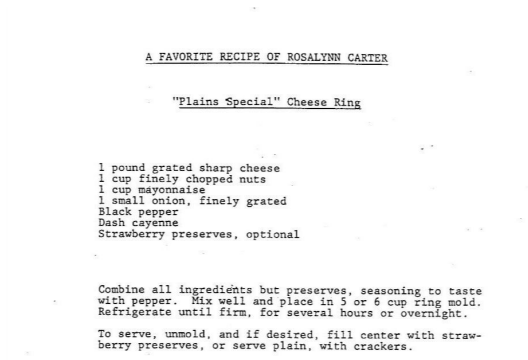


When it's time for a cocktail, we're intrigued by this recipe for a "Cinpac Special" developed by Admiral Nimitz when he was Commander in Chief of the Pacific during World War II. At the time, liquor was rationed to a bottle a week per person and frequently rum was the only kind available.

[National Archives Identifier 139308885](#)

If a cocktail is not your style, how about a mocktail? Try this [Recipe for Punch](#) that serves 200.

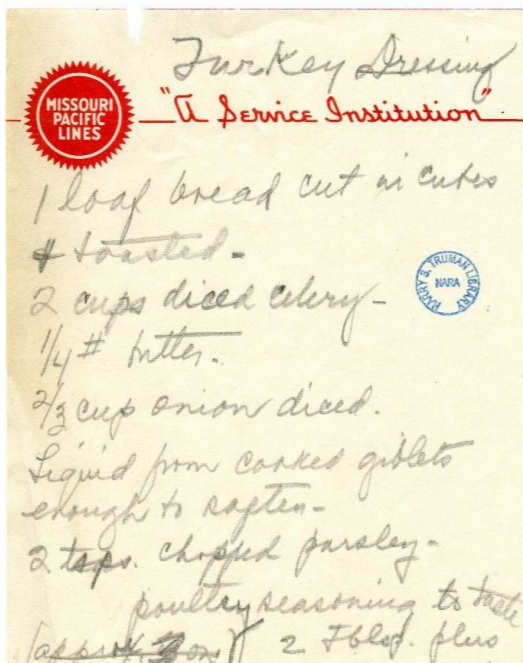
You'll need some appetizers to go along with your cocktails. Why don't you serve the [Plains Special Cheese Ring](#). It's a staff favorite around here!



Plains Special Cheese Ring Recipe. [National Archives Identifier 6783885](#)

Carter family Christmas portrait, 12/25/1978. [National Archives Identifier 182893](#)

Is it Dressing or Stuffing? Bess Truman called hers "Turkey Dressing" and the [recipe includes sausage, rice and pecans](#). Mrs. Truman has a [second Turkey Dressing recipe](#) if you prefer a bread base with the option of adding oysters.



Recipe for Turkey Dressing. [National Archives Identifier 139308816](#)



Photograph of President Harry S. Truman and Mrs. Bess Truman on the Porch of Their Independence, Missouri Home, 1953. [National Archives Identifier 596500](#)

Looking for some side dishes? Rosalynn Carter shared a favorite recipe for [Eggplant Souffle](#). In true 1950s style, this Eisenhower recipe for [Honeydew Melon, Filled and Frosted](#) includes Jello. You can also try the Georgia Sweet Potato Souffle found on page 5 of [The Republican Congressional Cook Book](#).

GEORGIA

GEORGIA SWEET POTATO SOUFFLE

- 2 cups mashed sweet potatoes
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sweet milk
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 4 eggs well beaten
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Georgia pecans
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sherry
- 8 Marshmallows

Measure 2 cups of cooked mashed Georgia sweet potatoes. Beat until smooth, then add milk and well beaten eggs, a pinch of salt and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of sugar. Stir in Georgia pecans and sherry last. Bake in hot oven (about 375° F.) for 20 minutes. The last three minutes place marshmallows on top and allow to brown.

MRS. CAPERS RICE
 Republican National Committeewoman for Georgia

The Republican Congressional Cook Book, ca. 1962. [National Archives Identifier 30806124](#)

Do you like to serve bread, rolls or biscuits? There are lots of options that can be found in the Catalog. Try [Sequoia Orange Biscuits](#) or [Bran Rolls](#). If you are looking for a recipe that reads like a baking show challenge, try [Bess Truman's Drop Biscuits](#) where the recipe doesn't include information on how to bake the biscuits.



Baking Biscuits at Fort Dix, 9/1/1954. [National Archives Identifier 7385035](#)

Time for dessert! Do you serve pumpkin or pecan pie for Thanksgiving? Why choose just one? Whip up [Nancy Reagan's Pumpkin Pecan Pie](#). Or skip the pie all together and make a cake. Try the Truman family's [200 Year Old Pound Cake](#), Rosalynn Carter's recipe for [Japanese Fruit Cake](#), or adjust the proportions and make the [White House Wedding Cake for Tricia Nixon Cox's Wedding](#).



Salvation Army Girls, Gladys and Irene McIntyre, Myrtle Turkington and Stella Young, with steel helmets and gas masks, making pies free for soldiers. 26th Division, Ansonville,



White House Executive Chef Cris Comerford plates Quinoa Black Bean and Corn Salad in the Old Family Dining Room of the White House before the Kids' State Dinner, Aug. 20, 2012. The salad was a winning recipe from

France., 4/9/1918. [National Archives Identifier 55181227](#)

Haile Thomas, 11, of Arizona. [National Archives Identifier 178713402](#)

Looking for more? Browse [a selection of additional recipes in our Catalog](#). If you've tried any of these recipes, we'd love to know how they turned out! Email us at catalog@nara.gov.

And be sure to check out [National Archives News](#) for Thanksgiving records and stories from the National Archives.

We can't let Thanksgiving go by without expressing our gratitude to each and every one of our Catalog users and Citizen Archivists. We especially want to thank you for your patience through last week's Catalog maintenance. We are grateful every day for your time and efforts that help make the records of the National Archives more searchable online.

Wishing you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving from all of us at the National Archives!



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An air controlman eats Thanksgiving dinner while keeping an eye on the radar scope in the helicopter direction center aboard the amphibious assault ship USS OKINAWA (LPH 3), 11/26/1987. Scene Camera Operator: PH2 (Sw) Jeffrey A. Elliott. [National Archives Identifier 6432955](#)

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COVID-19 Update

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and we are working with public health officials and our counterpart agencies to monitor and respond to the evolving conditions and following CDC guidelines.

For more information, visit <https://www.archives.gov/coronavirus>

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