



**CONFLICT AND DEADLOCK:
THE EISENHOWER YEARS**

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

After you finish reading and studying this chapter, you should be able to

1. Describe the Eisenhower style and his approach to the nation's problems.
2. Assess the nature of modern Republicanism in relation to New Deal liberalism, focusing especially on Eisenhower's stance on key domestic legislation.
3. Evaluate the early performance of Dulles's diplomacy, especially as compared to the policy of containment.
4. Understand the origins of the Indochina War and judge Eisenhower's response to it.
5. Describe the developments in civil rights in the Eisenhower era and assess his responses to them.
6. Explain the Suez Crisis and the Hungarian Revolt, their interrelations and their consequences.
7. Assess the impact of Sputnik.

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- I. Election of 1952
 - A. Liabilities of the Truman administration
 - B. Republicans' choice
 1. Taft's position
 2. Eisenhower's appeal
 - C. Democrats' drafting Stevenson

- D. The campaign
- E. Results
 - I. Eisenhower's early leadership in domestic affairs
 - A. Eisenhower's background and reputation
 1. Earlier career
 2. More recent assessment of his actions
 - B. Dynamic conservatism
 1. Appointments
 2. Budget cuts and tax reductions
 3. Extension of some New Deal programs
 - a. Social Security benefits
 - b. Minimum-wage increases
 - c. Low-income housing
 - d. Farm programs
 - C. Major public works programs
 1. St. Lawrence Seaway
 2. Interstate Highway System
 - D. Concluding an armistice in Korea
 1. Means of obtaining agreement
 2. Terms of the armistice
 3. Factors influencing the change
 - E. Concluding the McCarthy witch-hunt
 1. McCarthy's battle with the army
 2. The dénouement of McCarthy
 - F. New efforts for internal security
 - G. The Warren Court
 - I. Foreign policy during Ike's first term
 - A. John Foster Dulles
 1. Background
 2. Policy of liberation
 3. Allen Dulles and the CIA
 - B. Containment
 1. Policy of massive retaliation
 2. Theory of brinkmanship
 - C. The problems of Indochina
 1. Ending colonialism in Southeast Asia
 - a. Independence of British colonies
 - b. Creation of independent Indonesia
 - c. Ho Chi Minh's efforts for independence in Indochina
 2. First Indochinese War
 - a. Onset of the war
 - b. Increasing U.S. aid
 - c. Eisenhower's domino theory
 3. The Geneva Accords

- a. French defeats
- b. Provisions of the accords
- c. Reactions
- 4. Creation of SEATO
- 5. Vietnamese government under Diem
 - a. Need for reform
 - b. Diem's effort to maintain power
 - c. Emergence of the NLF
- D. The issue of Quemoy and Matsu
- IV. The election of 1956
 - A. Ike's health
 - B. Republican campaign
 - C. The Democratic campaign
 - D. Foreign crisis in campaign
 - 1. Suez Canal
 - 2. Hungary
 - E. Results
- V. Second Term Problems
 - A. Crisis in Middle East
 - 1. Eisenhower's policy of alliances
 - 2. Relations with Egypt
 - a. Support British withdrawal
 - b. Opposition to policies
 - c. Seizure of canal
 - d. Israelis invade
 - e. Resolution of conflict
 - B. Revolt in Hungary
 - 1. Change in Soviet attitudes
 - 2. New government in Hungary
 - 3. Soviet repression
 - C. Impact of *Sputnik*
 - 1. Soviet feat
 - 2. U.S. reactions
 - a. Space effort
 - b. Deployment of missiles
 - c. Creation of NASA
 - d. National Defense Education Act
 - D. Another Middle East crisis
 - 1. Eisenhower Doctrine
 - 2. United Arab Republic
 - 3. Intervention in Lebanon
 - E. Communist threat to Quemoy and Matsu
 - F. The Berlin problem
 - G. The U-2 Summit

- 1. Downing of spy plane
- 2. Ike's fumbling reaction
- 3. Khrushchev's response
- H. Castro's Cuba
 - 1. Castro's takeover
 - 2. U.S. responses
- VI. Stirrings in civil rights
 - A. Eisenhower's views of civil rights
 - B. Court decisions
 - 1. Decisions preliminary to *Brown*
 - 2. The *Brown* decision
 - 3. Reactions to *Brown*
 - a. Ike's reluctance
 - b. Token integration
 - c. Massive resistance
 - i. Citizens' Councils
 - ii. Southern Manifesto
 - C. Montgomery bus boycott
 - 1. Causes for action
 - 2. Role of Martin Luther King, Jr.
 - 3. Results
 - D. Civil rights legislation
 - E. Little Rock
 - 1. Court order
 - 2. Governor Faubus
 - 3. Federal intervention
- VII. Assessing the Eisenhower years
 - A. Accomplishments
 - B. The farewell address

KEY ITEMS OF CHRONOLOGY

- Eisenhower elected president 1952
- Joseph Stalin died March 1953
- Julius and Ethel Rosenberg executed June 1953
- End of fighting in Korea July 1953
- Army-McCarthy hearings April-June 1954
- Battle of Dien Bien Phu May 1954
- Brown v. Board of Education* May 17, 1954
- Geneva Accords July 1954
- Southeast Asia Treaty Organization formed September 1954
- Senate condemned Joseph McCarthy December 1954

Montgomery bus boycott
 Southern Manifesto issued
 Suez crisis
 Hungarian revolt
 Eisenhower reelected
 Southern Christian Leadership Conference formed
 Civil Rights Act
 Little Rock school crisis
Sputnik launched
 First American earth satellite
 National Aeronautics and Space Administration created
 National Defense Education Act passed
 Fidel Castro came to power in Cuba
 U-2 incident
 First American manned space flight

December 1956–
 December 1957
 1956
 October 1956
 October 1956
 1956
 1957
 1957
 September 1957
 October 1957
 January 1958
 1958
 1958
 January 1959
 May 1960
 May 1961

TERMS TO MASTER

Listed below are some important people or terms with which you should be familiar after your study of this chapter. Identify each name or term.

1. Robert A. Taft
2. isolationist
3. Richard M. Nixon
4. Twenty-Second Amendment
5. Adlai E. Stevenson
6. dynamic conservatism
7. St. Lawrence Seaway
8. Army-McCarthy hearings
9. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg
10. security risk
11. J. Robert Oppenheimer
12. Earl Warren
13. John Foster Dulles
14. Allen Dulles
15. brinkmanship
16. massive retaliation
17. Third World
18. Ho Chi Minh
19. Dien Bien Phu
20. Geneva Accords
21. Southeast Asia Treaty Organization
22. Quemoy and Matsu
23. *Sputnik*
24. missile gap
25. National Aeronautics and Space Administration
26. National Defense Education Act
27. Eisenhower Doctrine
28. separate but equal
29. *Brown v. Board of Education*
30. Citizens' Councils
31. Massive Resistance
32. Southern Manifesto
33. Rosa Parks
34. Montgomery bus boycott
35. Martin Luther King, Jr.
36. Southern Christian Leadership Conference
37. Civil Rights Act of 1957
38. Orval Faubus

VOCABULARY BUILDING

Listed below are some words or phrases used in this chapter. Look in the dictionary for the meaning of each term you do not know.

formidable	lexicon
potent	malicious
lackluster	juxtaposition
unpretentious	subjugation
crass	euphoria
notoriety	quandary
novice	acronym
ardent	illusory
dissimulation	stipulation
unscrupulous	bravado
capricious	dash (v.)
rapier	engender
skulking	aegis
scurriosity	contiguous
despotism	couch (v.)

EXERCISES FOR UNDERSTANDING

When you have finished reading the chapter, answer each of the following questions. If you have difficulty, go back and reread the section of the chapter related to the question.

Multiple-Choice Questions

Select the letter of the choice that best completes the statement.

1. The election of 1952 was a turning point in politics because
 - A. Republicans gained control of Congress.
 - B. Democrats won the presidency.
 - C. Eisenhower won several southern states.
 - D. all of the above
2. Two monuments to the Eisenhower presidency were
 - A. the Tennessee Valley Authority and landing a man on the moon.
 - B. interstate highways and the St. Lawrence Seaway.
 - C. his Nobel Peace Prize of 1957 and construction of the Pentagon.
 - D. the Twenty-Fourth Amendment and NATO.

3. Senator Joseph McCarthy finally went too far when he charged
 - A. the Army was soft on communism.
 - B. General Douglas MacArthur with treason.
 - C. Alger Hiss had lied about his espionage.
 - D. integration was a communist plot.
4. Eisenhower said that the “biggest damnfool mistake I ever made” was
 - A. running for political office.
 - B. appointing Earl Warren chief justice of the Supreme Court.
 - C. deciding not to use atomic weapons against the Communists in Korea.
 - D. helping Senator Joseph McCarthy.
5. Instead of a policy of containment, John Foster Dulles advocated a policy of
 - A. peaceful coexistence.
 - B. military confrontation.
 - C. liberation.
 - D. isolationism.
6. Khrushchev’s policy of “de-Stalinization” contributed to
 - A. conflict in 1956 over the Suez Canal.
 - B. an uprising in Hungary in 1956.
 - C. an end to the Korean War.
 - D. the emergence of Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam.
7. The Geneva Accords involving Southeast Asia
 - A. were signed by the United States.
 - B. neutralized Vietnam.
 - C. divided Laos and Cambodia at the 38th Parallel.
 - D. called for elections to unify Vietnam.
8. In 1956
 - A. Eisenhower won reelection.
 - B. war broke out in the Middle East.
 - C. the Soviets sent troops into Hungary.
 - D. all of the above
9. In the Suez War of 1956, the United States sided with
 - A. Israel.
 - B. France.
 - C. Great Britain.
 - D. the Soviet Union.
10. The Hungarian revolt of 1956 was a victory for
 - A. containment.
 - B. communism.
 - C. Dulles’s liberation policy.
 - D. massive retaliation.

11. The “Sputnik syndrome” led to
 - A. the National Defense Education Act.
 - B. the creation of NASA.
 - C. increased defense spending.
 - D. all of the above
12. The 1960 summit meeting between Eisenhower and Khrushchev failed because of the
 - A. rise to power of Fidel Castro.
 - B. Arab-Israeli war over the Suez Canal.
 - C. U-2 spy flights.
 - D. fighting over Quemoy and Matsu.
13. In *Brown v. Board of Education*, the Supreme Court ruled that
 - A. racial segregation was constitutional.
 - B. “separate but equal” in public education was unconstitutional.
 - C. all children under the age of eighteen had to attend school.
 - D. Kansas must provide free education for Indian children.
14. The Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., came to national prominence in the
 - A. *Brown* school desegregation case.
 - B. Little Rock integration crisis.
 - C. Montgomery bus boycott.
 - D. Greensboro sit-ins.
15. Eisenhower’s farewell address dealt with
 - A. the need for greater military spending.
 - B. the dangers of a military-industrial complex.
 - C. how to solve problems of civil rights.
 - D. the need for a better highway system.

True-False Questions

Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. In the 1952 election, Eisenhower balanced the Republican ticket by selecting Richard Nixon, a veteran governor from Illinois.
2. “Dynamic conservatism” meant being conservative about money but liberal about people.
3. The Eisenhower administration abolished many of the major programs started under the New Deal.
4. Eisenhower reduced the number of people covered by Social Security.
5. In the Korean War, the Eisenhower administration threatened to use atomic weapons.

6. In December 1954, the Senate voted 67 to 22 to expel Senator Joseph McCarthy.
7. Eisenhower's secretary of state was John Foster Dulles.
8. The first post-World War II summit conference was held on Quemoy and Matsui.
9. In 1956 Eisenhower became the first Republican since Reconstruction to carry a Deep South state.
10. A major catalyst to the Suez War in 1956 was the cancellation by the United States of a major dam project in Egypt.
11. The Southern Manifesto criticized the *Brown* decision.
12. Eisenhower sent federal troops to Little Rock during the school integration crisis.
13. Challenges to the separate-but-equal doctrine were led by the NAACP.
14. Eisenhower had the good fortune to work with Republican-controlled Congresses.
15. The Landrum-Griffin Act of 1959 provided money for the space program.

Essay Questions

1. What was Eisenhower's operating style as president? How did it affect his actions?
2. What were the major domestic accomplishments of the Eisenhower administration?
3. Why did the Geneva Accords not resolve the conflict in Southeast Asia the way negotiations concluded the Korean War?
4. What were the chief characteristics of U.S. foreign policy under Eisenhower and Dulles?
5. Trace the United States's involvement in Southeast Asia from 1945 to 1960.
6. What were the major events in the civil rights movement in the 1950s and what role did the Eisenhower administration play in them?
7. How did the United States respond to the major foreign policy crises of 1956? What determined the responses?
8. Was Eisenhower a successful president? Explain and defend your answer.
9. Why was the launching of *Sputnik* important? How did it affect the United States?

ANSWERS TO MULTIPLE-CHOICE AND TRUE-FALSE QUESTIONS

Multiple-Choice Questions

1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-B, 5-C, 6-B, 7-D, 8-D, 9-D, 10-B, 11-D, 12-C, 13-B, 14-C, 15-B

True-False Questions

1-F, 2-T, 3-F, 4-F, 5-T, 6-F, 7-F, 8-F, 9-T, 10-T, 11-T, 12-T, 13-T, 14-F, 15-F