

The Big Shift: 1945-1960

Br = Great Britain Fr= France USSR = Russia; Dem. = Democrat Rep = Republican

Date	Pres. Election/ Event	Beyond America	Foreign Policy	Government Institutions	US Eco. Dev.	Issue/Organization Dev.	Political Party Dev.
1945-11	Truman's background – Missouri/Pendergast	Reminder: Partition of Germany by 4 nations ¹	Nuremberg Trials ² begin	Reminder: GI Bill of Rights ³	Consumerism – pent up demands ⁴		
1946-02, 03		Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech		Council of Eco. Advisors est.			
1946-08		Greece: Civil war. Br: Withdrawing	\$25M in credits				
1946-10		Korea: US/USSR at 38th					
1946-11							Rep victories; 1 st control in 14 yrs.
1947-03	Exec. Order: Loyalty Prog. ⁵ Truman Doctrine						
1947-04+		Turkey: Soviet pressures on	Aid to Greece, Turkey			Jackie Robinson integrates baseball-white resistance	
1947-05		Occupied Japan: New Const. ⁶					
1947-06			Marshall Plan		Taft-Hartley Act⁷		Fair Deal
1947-07				National Security Council; CIA, Dept. of Defense est. ⁸	Increased taxes, spending⁹	Kennan, <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , "containment"	
1947-09		Cominform est.					
1948-03, 05	President Truman – Israel, recognition	Czechoslovakia: coup/Soviet gains;					
1948-06, 08	Exec. Order: desegregation of armed forces	Berlin blockade ¹⁰		Selective Service through 1951; Alger Hiss case begins			
1948-11	Thomas E. Dewey vs. Harry S Truman vs. J. Strom Thurmond					Trends – women as moms; African-Americans to North; affluent white suburbs ¹¹	Rep. increases Dixiecrat 3 rd Party
1949		USSR: atomic weapon					
1949-01				Trial, Communist Party leaders			
1949-04		NATO est.					
1949-08					Min. wage \$.40 to \$.75		
1949-12		China: Nationalists to Taiwan	Acheson's NSC-68				
1950-01	Hydrogen bomb announced ¹²			1950 <i>Sweatt v. Painter</i>		1950s -Revival of KKK ; White Citizens Council est.	
1950-02				Joseph McCarthy – Wheeling, W.Va. speech ¹³			
1950-06		Korea: North invades South					
1950-06-20	W/out Congress, sent troops						
1950-11		China: Joins Korea					Rep. increases
1951-02, 04	Removal of MacArthur			22 nd Amendment ¹⁴			
1951-07		Korea: Negotiations begin					

¹ Partitioned under the control of 4 nations: United States, England, France (later combined into West Germany) and the Soviet Union (later East Germany)

² Japanese tried by an International Military Tribunal beginning 1946-01

³ AKA Service Readjustment Act of 1944 – 4 major programs: education (GED to college), home loans at low interest, medical treatment, unemployment insurance

⁴ Pent up demands from the Depression and World War II and--after initial shortages—greater availability of goods

⁵ Attorney General (Tom Clark): communists "everywhere" - **Congress: HUAC in 1946 alleged** Communists in Treasury, Agriculture; 1947, **"Hollywood Ten"**

⁶ Occupation ends in 1952 per Peace treaty with Japan signed by 49 nations.

⁷ Republicans' purpose: to reduce membership in unions. (Note: voting patterns of union members.) Allowed states to make themselves "right-to-work" states (Reminder: closed and open shop)

⁸ Combination of Departments of War and Navy = new name of the Defense Department

⁹ **Increased taxes (a trend until Reagan)** and increased military spending (a continuing trend) and spending on highways and airports especially by the 1950s by the federal government and states.

¹⁰ 1961, Soviets build wall between East, West Berlin. **Future in 28 years:** 1989-11, following opening of wall per Soviet decision, workers pulled down 1st section.

¹¹ White prosperity, but lack of it by others in America. Rise of suburbs. Limited roles for women. Migration of African Americans and other minorities to the North.

¹² US hydrogen bomb exploded 1952-11. Br: 1952-10, its first atomic weapon.

¹³ McCarthy (2nd Red Scare) not stopped until Eisenhower's term - Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* (1953), Eisenhower, the Senate, Edward R. Murrow, and television (the primary communication)

¹⁴ Presidency limited to 2 terms

Date	Pres. Election/ Event	Beyond America	Foreign Policy	Government Institutions	US Eco. Dev.	Issue/Organization Dev.	Political Party Dev.
1952-11	Dwight D. Eisenhower vs. Adlai Stevenson						Nixon "Checkers speech"
1953	Secretary of State – John Foster Dulles; head of CIA-Allen Dulles		CIA covert action in Iran, reinstate Shah (Br plan)	Chief Justice Earl Warren appt. Chief Justice Earl Warren appt.			
1953				Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka ¹⁵			
1953-03 and 04		USSR: Stalin dies		Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare est.			
1953-04-22-06-17				Televised McCarthy hearings			
1953-06	Speech ¹⁶						
1953-07			Korea: Truce finally ends war				
1953-11	Speech ¹⁷						
1954			Aid to Fr of \$3B over Vietnam			Elvis Presley begins career	
1954			CIA covert action in Guatemala, est. military dictatorship			Salk vaccine	
1954-05	Speech ¹⁸	Vietnam: Fr defeat-Dien Bien Phu					
1954-12				Senate "condemned" McCarthy			
1955						1 st McDonald's and 1 st Holiday Inn est.	
1955-12						Montgomery Bus Boycott - Rosa Parks	
1956-06		Egypt: Nationalizes Suez			Federal Highway Act ¹⁹		
1956-10		Israel: Invade Gaza/Sinai Br/Fr: retake Suez					
1956-10-11		USSR: Crush Hungarian Rev.					
1956-11	D. D. Eisenhower vs. Adlai Stevenson						Dem. Cong. majority
1957						SCLC ²⁰ est.	
1957-09						Gov. Orval Faubus, Little Rock, AR; rioting by 9-23 ²¹	
1957-09-24	Little Rock HS - Eisenhower						
1957-10-04		USSR: Sputnik					
1958-09 and 11		Quemoy bombing; Latin America Tour – Nixon ²²		National Defense Education Act			Dem. victories
1959-07		Cuba - Fidel Castro		NASA est.			
1960-05		USSR: Capture U-2, Gary Powers		Mil. spending: 1950 – 12.9B 1960 – 39.2 B			
1960-11	Richard M. Nixon v. John F. Kennedy					Televised debates	
1961-01	Ike's Farewell address						

¹⁵ Desegregation of public schools will be slow for the next decades. In Washington, DC—desegregation of public facilities (parks, libraries, restaurants), but **not public schools**.

¹⁶ Eisenhower indirectly against Joseph McCarthy: Against "book burners"

¹⁷ Eisenhower indirectly against Joseph McCarthy: Right to meet "accuser face to face"

¹⁸ Eisenhower indirectly against Joseph McCarthy: On "demagogues thirsty for personal power and public notice"

¹⁹ Purpose: evacuation in the event of nuclear war

²⁰ SCLC = Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization of ministers across the South

²¹ AR National Guard blocks black students; mob ("Lynch her!"). Eisenhower "reluctantly" sends in 1,000 paratroopers. VA, AK governors close schools. It will take years to stop.

²² April-May – Nixon's tour in South America met by anti-US demonstrations in Peru and Venezuela. August – Red China renewal of bombardment of Quemoy and Matsu. October – cease-fire on both sides.

The numbers on the national debt in each of the years are from the **prior** textbook, *Ayers American Passages*.

Issue	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000-2008	2008+
National Debt	Deficit 5 of 8 years	1968 -\$25 B – largest since WWII	\$74 B – end of Nixon and Carter 1971-wage freeze; off gold standard	▲ \$186B ▲ \$156B	See matrix below.	²³	
President	1952-1956, 1956-1960 Dwight D. Eisenhower	1960-1963 John F. Kennedy 1963-1964, 1964-1968 L.B. Johnson	1968-1972, 1972-08/1974 R.M. Nixon; 08/1974-1976 Gerald Ford; 1976-1980 Jimmy Carter	1980-1984, 1984-1988 Ronald Reagan 1988-1992 George H. Bush	1990-1992 - George H. Bush 1992-1996, 1996-2000 William Clinton	2000-2004, 2004-2008 George W. Bush	2008-2012, 2012-2016 – Barack Obama
If born in 1945	a Baby Boomer is 5 years of age in 1950	15 years of age in 1960	25 years of age in 1970	a Baby Boomer is 35 years of age in 1980	45 years of age in 1990	55 years of age in 2000	65 years of age in 2010

\$222B	\$297B	\$255B	\$203B	\$25B Notice that 1968 was the last time our debt was \$25B. - To lower the debt was a bipartisan effort.
1990	1992	1993	1994	1997

Copyright C. J. Bibus, Ed.D. 2003-2016

WCJC Department: History – Dr. Bibus
Contact Information: 281.239.1577 or bibusc@wcjc.edu
Last Updated: 2016
WCJC Home: <http://www.wcjc.edu/>

²³ During the Bush term of 2000-2008, the TARP crisis occurred. There is a series of tax cuts; budget surplus of the 1990s is gone; there is a recession (dot-com bubble); record debt begins.