Dwight D. Eisenhower: A Model of Leadership Through War and Peace

Assignment:

Leadership Analysis Paper

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**Introduction**

Many leaders’ strategies have stood the test of time, one of the most famous leaders that demonstrate great leadership skills was General Dwight D. Eisenhower, who became the Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force during Second World War and the 34th President of the United States of America. Described as a master strategist, cool head, and coalition builder, Eisenhower’s actions during critical epochs in history reflect many of the character and technical skills presented in the Army Leadership Requirements Model (ALRM). From ADP 6-22, they point out that leadership, development, and achievement require character, presence, and intellect as possessed by Eisenhower.

In this particular work, this essay seeks to propose that Eisenhower was a leader based on ALRM. War headship during World War II, mentoring of other people, campaign and creating long-term practice in the field of warfare and construction of the states and world security are the evidence proving the adherence to the leadership model. By looking at Eisenhower’s actions during wartime and his presidency as well as evaluating his commitment to ethical leadership, this essay shall endeavor to detail why Eisenhower still remains an important icon in leadership, and while arguing out his deserved places among great leadership traits till date.

**Overview of the Leader**

Eisenhower was born in Denison, Texas, in 1890 and was most active at one of the most significant events in global history – the Second World War. He commanded the Allied force in Europe during the Second World War and led Operation Overlord codenamed D-Day in 1944 (Soyster & Spracher, 2021). This operation was the greatest achievement of the sixtieth of the twentieth century, the Normandy invasion proved that Eisenhower possesses an overall controlling capacity in directing a highly complicated multi-national force. Due to his ability to wage strategic and diplomatic war, he was made a leader of the entire global community.

After the war, Eisenhower political skills pushed him to become a president of America and he successfully became the 34th president of the United States in 1952. He achieved much during his presidency; the Interstate Highway System; his confinement policy during the Cold War as a policy to prevent Soviet influence without actual warfare (Priest, 2022). Dutiful and careful Eisenhower leadership in both war and peace left a great legacy that history can reveal in terms of group decision-making and cooperative planning to achieve objectives in war and build sustainable peaceful world.

**Analysis Using the Army Leadership Requirements Model (ALRM)**

The Army Leadership Requirements Model, outlined in ADP 6-22, defines leadership through two main categories: attributes and competencies. Eisenhower as depicted in this paper is a leader of character, presence and mind, who shows the capacities to lead, grow people and deliver measurable outcomes in his lifetime and achievement.

**Attributes**

* **Character:** Crutches, of course, were integrity, selflessness, and duty that were engraved in the personality of Eisenhower. His ethical and values were reflected in his decision-making process during the second world war a place he valued saving on unnecessary lives. He once wrote acceptance letter for the failure of D-Day invasion a scenario showing accountability as well as ethical personality. This sense of responsibility also marked his presidency; he took long view of the national security needs, perhaps at the expense of short-term party advantage like his commitment to the balanced federal budget during the cold war period.
* **Presence:** Easy-going and poised disposition of Eisenhower was usefully when directing forces and individuals with collaborations during the war. That is why his mere appearance when he commanded people created full confidence regardless of the pressure. Nonetheless, Eisenhower did not look overwhelmed at all and this encouraged him to sign relationship deals with top personalities like Winston Churchill and Charles de Gaulle. He’s also brought leadership into his presidency especially through his public figure as a composed decision maker thereby earning the respect of friends and foes.
* **Intellect:** Weapon-wise, possibly his greatest asset was Eisenhower, a man of unparalleled strategic thinking. The scholar was very wise in handling strategic military and diplomacy skills at his disposal. One of his best examples of his strategic thinking was during D-day operations, when he was synchronizing all aspects of the operation, timing, and cooperation with the other forces, allied to him. Further, Eisenhower as president displayed his sobering mind in the origin of his foreign policies most of which called for diplomacy over military action during the Cold war (Letcher, 2021).

**Competencies**

* **Leads:** In its turn, Eisenhower’s leadership could be described as the ability of providing leadership by example. He was a general that people followed and felt obliged to obey and give their total support to him. In World War II, he commanded Allied forces, thereby, coordinating numerous sort national interests and military strategies to achieve a single objective. This was no small achievement since it took great diplomacy to bring Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin into a single proposed course of action.
* **Develops:** Eisenhower was also great at succession and was able to grow leaders into great positions with remarkable ease. While in the military, he trained a generation of military officers who on their own part did remarkably well. He got to appreciate delegation and always made sure those under him provided with what they needed, and empowered to do their work as required. The traits were proven by emanating leadership style that sought to ensure that there was increased learning in order to empower himself and the people around him than his direct line subordinate.
* **Achieves:** The overall achievements in a career of Eisenhower were led by his accomplishments of the crucial goals. No one exemplified the role of a leader more than Eisenhower during the liberation of Normandy. They later accomplished a lot of domestic and international tricks while still working as the president of America such as launching of NASA and development of Interstate Highway System. The successes show a leader who can bring bundles of work to successful completion, something that many leaders lack as they think too much of the quarter instead of the endgame.

Eisenhower’s leadership behaviour and performance can be summarized and aligned with each of the attributes and competencies postulated by the Army Leadership Requirements Model. That is why it is possible to state that Ramstrom is a model leader according to the parameters set out by ADP 6-22: His ethical character and physical appearances, his ability to think and learn, his leadership, management, and development of his subordinates, and his success in realising important outcomes.

**Comparison with Other Leadership Models**

It is also pertinent to understand Eisenhower’s leadership on the premise of another common theory among students of leadership: the Transformational Leadership. Transformational leadership encourages the masses to strive and perform beyond predefined expectation while promoting a shared vision and personal encouragement (Boon, 2024). In most aspects Eisenhower fits into this model. He has certainly been transformational in his leadership during World War II in which he brought a partnership of a large number of nations to eliminate a common enemy, Nazi Germany. In this case he was able to encourage people and mobilise them into action in a way that was unprecedented.

Furthermore, Eisenhower presidency was characterised by transformational leadership. Many of his views regarding the U.S., especially with regard to problems of infrastructural construction and military defense, gave the people a challenge and a goal to strive for. Jim’s leadership paved success for the Interstate Highway System and brought about change that rewrote the economy and ways of life for Americans. Traditionally, however, some characteristics of transformatory leaders include organisational transformation by using personal charm and so on Eisenhower lacked those personal traits to some extent but he stood for honest toiler and he was prudent like the ALRM stressing a lot on virtues and intelligence.

Unlike Servant Leadership style that will be discussed later, Eisenhower too has many characteristics in common with the transformational leaders, but there were some differences between his and the Servant Leadership styles. The idea with servant leaders is that they always have the best interest of their followers in mind. Though Eisenhower demonstrably shaped and cultivated the Appendixes’ leaders, his choices more commonly were dictated by the over-arching goals of his mission not by the priorities of cultivating subordinates. Therefore, although he exhibited some of the key features of transformational leadership, his was more mission-motivated rather than follower-motivated, which correspond to the essential operation environment of the military and politics.

**Conclusion**

Lastly, Dwight D. Eisenhower fits the Army Leadership Requirements Model perfectly, he possesses an incredible character, presence, and intelligence, in addition to showing leadership rapid, staff, and comprehensive proficiency in the accomplishment of great tasks. Success in World War II and achievements made in presidency show the presence of his leadership impact till date. Eisenhower enlightens today’s leaders on how to be integrity-based, patient, and creative in integrating the staff. This in and out leadership role is why he remains a key figure, for example his generalship as a military leader that to political leader of his time.

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