

## 1960 Presidential Election

**Interviewer:** You have indicated sir you will follow a strictly hands-off policy in selecting the Republican presidential nominee next year. Does that not run the risk of selection of a man whose Republican political philosophy you do not agree?

**Dwight D. Eisenhower:** I'm quite sure, Mr. President, that everybody would know that if a nominee were possibly made, whose basic philosophy I could not go along with, whose general attitude toward the relationship of government to the private citizen and to the state, and to the community, who did not go along with my basic idea that only in a coalition of strong governments or at least an association to cooperation of strong governments, can we make certain that freedom is not lost in the world. If any man could not go along with that kind of basic thinking, well, I would say this. I couldn't possibly support him if my influence had anything to do with the matter. Therefore, I could- I won't- but I could write out for you a list of half a dozen, or ten, or maybe a dozen fine, virile men in the Republican Party that I would gladly support. But I do say this: those are men that I think in my mind who really want to see America go ahead, it's economy sound, and to be very, very careful that our security is maintained not only by our own building of armaments with the support, the cooperation of other governments that want to live in independence and in liberty.