The United States with the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt on April 12, 1945. During his nearly eight years in
office, Truman made momentous decisions in foreign and domestic policy. His administration was marked
by the end of World War II, the onset of the Cold War, and the beginning of the atomic age.

During his tenure, Truman worked to stabilize the economy, which had been devastated by the war. He
also initiated a number of social programs, including the establishment of the Department of Health,
Education, and Welfare. In 1949, he signed the peaceful coexistence policy directive, which signaled
a shift away from the brinkmanship of the Truman Doctrine.

In his second term, Truman faced challenges from the nation's growing division over the issue of
integration. The civil rights movement gained momentum, and Truman was pressured to address the
issue more aggressively. He ultimately supported the civil rights movement, but his efforts were met
with resistance from some segments of the population.

Truman's presidency included momentous events from the atomic bombing of Japan to the outbreak of
the Korean War. Despite his power, he never forgot where he had come from. As a farmer, he
understood the struggles of the working class, and he worked to support their interests. 

Truman's legacy is complex, reflecting the paradoxes of his personality and the contradictions
of his era. He was a man of extraordinary vision and determination, yet one who struggled with
self-doubt and uncertainty. His presidency is a testament to the challenges faced by leaders
during times of great change.