

## *Ike: Countdown to D-Day*

### **Conflict Resolution**

Scenario 1: In the movie, *Ike: Countdown to D-Day*, General Eisenhower discusses confidential information about the upcoming “Operation Overlord.” A Major General under Eisenhower’s command has dinner at a crowded restaurant, gets drunk, and proceeds to disclose the confidential information loud enough for everyone to hear. A young officer reports the incident to his commanding officer. The young officer said he did not want to be a snitch, but he felt like he needed to do the right thing.

Problem #1: The drunken Major General betrayed not only his country, but all of the Allied forces by leaking classified information.

Problem #2: General Eisenhower attended West Point Academy with the Major General many years ago. They were roommates and very close friends. When Eisenhower was discussing the problem and his disappointment with another commanding officer, the other person said “The doors could stay closed, no one really knows about it.” Eisenhower’s response was “I do.”

Conflict: General Eisenhower could seek discipline action on his longtime friend, or he could pretend it did not happen and just “turn the other cheek.”

### **WHAT WOULD YOU DO?**

- 1) How did the young officer that reported the incident feel?
- 2) How did Eisenhower feel?
- 3) How should this problem be solved?
- 4) If the enemies were to find out about this classified information, what do think could happen to soldiers like Scott Collins?
- 5) If you were in Scott Collins’s boots, would you be willing to risk your life and all the other lives in your platoon because the drunken soldier was a friend of yours?
- 6) If you were in General Eisenhower’s boots, would you be willing to risk the lives of thousands of Allied soldiers because the drunken soldier was a friend of yours?
- 7) What should General Eisenhower do?

