

CHAPTER
18

GUIDED READING *The Cold War Comes Home*

Section 3

A. As you read this section, fill out the charts below by writing answers to the questions in the appropriate boxes.

	a. What were they accused of ?	b. How were they affected by the accusations?	c. Do the accusations seem to have been fair? Explain.
1. The Hollywood Ten			
2. Alger Hiss			
3. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg			

McCarthyism		
4. What seems to have motivated it?	5. Why did it succeed at first?	6. Why did it fall out of favor?

B. On the back of this paper, explain the significance of each of the following terms and names:

HUAC

blacklist

Senator Joseph McCarthy

Summarizing

A. Complete the chart below by describing how each term listed below demonstrated the nation's anti-Communist hysteria.

Hollywood Ten	
The Rosenberg Trial	
McCarthyism	

Evaluating

B. *T* in the blank if the statement is true. If the statement is false, write *F* in the blank and then write the corrected statement on the line below.

_____ 1. The McCarran Internal Security Act made it unlawful to plan any action that might lead to the establishment of a dictatorship in the United States.

_____ 2. Joseph McCarthy first rose to popularity by pursuing charges against alleged state department spy Alger Hiss.

_____ 3. Joseph McCarthy's downfall came after he made Communist-related accusations against the White House.

CHAPTER
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Section 3

AMERICAN LIVES

Margaret Chase Smith

Independent Moderate

“Freedom of speech is not what it used to be in America. It has been so abused by some that it is not exercised by others.” —Margaret Chase Smith in a Senate speech (1950)

Margaret Chase Smith (1897–1995) was an independent-minded Republican from Maine. The first woman to serve in both the House and the Senate, Smith spoke her mind and voted her beliefs—from 1940, when she supported Democratic President Franklin Roosevelt, to 1970, when she criticized Republican President Richard Nixon.

Margaret Chase began working as a teenager, even then showing her independence. “I didn’t go to work because we were poor,” she later recalled. “I went to work because I wanted to be independent.

I wanted to spend my own money as I wanted to.” Her jobs included work as a night telephone operator (at 10 cents an hour). Through this work, she met Clyde H. Smith, a politician.

By 1930, she had married Smith and entered local politics. She joined the Maine Republican Committee and became Smith’s secretary when he was elected to Congress in 1936. Four years later, Smith died, and Margaret Chase Smith was elected to the seat. From the start, she followed her beliefs. In 1940, she voted for the Lend-Lease Act and the Selective Service Act, both positions counter to Republican policy but reflecting her interest in defense matters.

In 1948, Smith easily won election to the Senate. She served there until 1972 and eventually became senior Republican on the Armed Services and Aeronautical and Space Sciences committees.

In 1950, Smith realized that Senator Joe McCarthy had little evidence to back his charges about Communists in the government. Many were afraid to confront him, however. She wrote a “Declaration of Conscience” and persuaded six other Republican moderates to sign. On June 1, she spoke in the Senate against McCarthy. Then she read the declaration, which did not hesitate to criticize President Harry Truman for “lack of effective leadership” and “petty bitterness against” critics. But the declaration blasted “certain elements of the Republican Party” for “resorting to political smears.” McCarthy rose from his seat and quietly left the chamber. Soon, though, he belittled Smith, her co-signers, and one other supporting senator as

“Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.”

McCarthy sought revenge in 1954. He sent a young supporter to run against Smith in the primary for her Senate seat. Smith trounced her opponent by a five-to-one margin. Her victory plus growing public disapproval of McCarthy convinced the Senate to censure him in 1954.

Smith took other independent stands in her career. She broke with Republican leadership in supporting federal aid to education, health insurance for older people, and some civil rights laws. Always in favor of a strong defense, Smith criticized President John F. Kennedy in 1961 for weakness in a summit with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev. Once criticized by McCarthy, she was now attacked by Khrushchev, who called her “the devil in the disguise of a woman.” In 1964, she became the first woman nominated for president by a major party, pulling 27 votes at the Republican convention.

In 1970 near the end of her Senate career—20 years after her stand against McCarthy—Smith once again urged moderation. Angered by the extremism of some of those protesting the Vietnam War, she lamented that “we have a national sickness now from which I pray we will recover.” She also expressed anger at the Nixon administration for its overreaction to protesters.

Through all the years, Smith worked hard, setting a record for attending 2,941 straight Senate votes. Smith lost her re-election bid in 1972 and retired. She remained active into her nineties in charitable work as director of the Lily Endowment (1976–1992).

Questions

1. What stands did Margaret Chase Smith take against Republican Party positions?
2. What do you think Smith meant by the statement at the top of the page, which she made in her prelude to the “Declaration of Conscience”?
3. Compare Smith with her fellow senator Joseph McCarthy. Give three examples of some major differences between them.