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About the Comprehensive Chronicle of World History

This book exists because we cannot know ourselves, our current situations and problems, our ancestors, and other humans without a dispassionate understanding of our past. History is our best record of reality past, and without it we have no way to appreciate human nature and the length, progress, and depth of our actions, institutions, and experiences. This work, started in 1994, was the unabridged original source for my much shorter book published as *A Chronicle of World History: From 130,000 years Ago to the Eve of AD 2000*. Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, 2002.

It has been my exceptionally good fortune to have David Moore, an engineer, historian, and, in my eyes, a real philosopher (see http://romanconcrete.com and http://battleofsaipan.com), as my longtime friend. His son, John Moore, is also a distinguished engineer with very broad interests and has made it possible for this work to be published on the Internet. I thank both of them for helping to make history better.

About Volume IV (+1900+2000)

*Please note:* When it comes to dates, the author keeps it simple and non-sectarian: /-minus = BC (before Christ) or BCE (before the common era) and +/-plus = AD (anno Domini) or CE (common era). Some entries cover the beginning date (or an estimation) and the ending date to indicate "moving time" or the time span covered by that situation. Example: -100+100 = 100 BC/ BCE to AD/CE 100.

Volume IV can be described as covering "The Century of Great Violence." Some of the important topics are these: Latin American dependency; the last years of the Ottoman Empire; Africa in the 20th century; the decline of the Manchu Empire; China from dynasty to warlordism and nationalism; the German Empire; the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente; imperialism and the causes of WWI; the Russian Revolution; the Paris peace settlement and the world after WWI; Lenin and the New Economic Policy in Russia; Stalin vs. Trotsky; the Weimar Republic; weak liberal democracy, strong totalitarian fascism, and brutal communism; British withdrawal from the Indian subcontinent; Hindu-Muslim conflict; Japanese militarism/imperialism; the Great Global Depression; Italy attacks Ethiopia; Spanish Civil War; the roads to WWII; Austria and Czechoslovakia; Munich; the Nazi-Soviet Pact; the Nazi New Order; Battle of Britain; Pearl Harbor; the Great Patriotic War; the Atlantic Charter; the Holocaust; the conferences at Teheran, Yalta, and Potsdam; the United Nations; the Cold War Era; Israel and the Arab world; NATO and the Warsaw Pact; the Third World; East European nations as puppets; failings of the USSR; independent Yugoslavia; western European unification; Truman and Eisenhower; America the permissive; progress and poverty in independent Africa and Latin America; America's wars in Korea and Vietnam; the Cuban Missile Crisis; Afghanistan and the collapse of the USSR; Iran vs Iraq; Central Asia; anti-Soviet solidarity in Poland and Eastern Europe; a new "renaissance" in science and technology; militant Islam; guest workers and illegal immigrants; Greens everywhere; global democratization and prosperity.
### Preview Timechart for Volume IV

(many of these dates are necessarily approximate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boxer Rebellion in China</td>
<td>1900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theodore Roosevelt president of USA</td>
<td>1901+1908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Labour Party founded</td>
<td>1902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Bolsheviks and Mensheviks split</td>
<td>1903</td>
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<tr>
<td>First airplane flight</td>
<td>1903</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russo-Japanese War</td>
<td>1904/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert Einstein developed relativity theory</td>
<td>1905+1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cubism in art</td>
<td>1905+1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Entente</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US sent Great White Fleet on global tour</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women permitted to vote in Norway</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Turks revolted</td>
<td>1908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model T Ford</td>
<td>1908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Revolution</td>
<td>1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuan Shih-k’ai head of Republic of China</td>
<td>1912+1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodrow Wilson elected president</td>
<td>1912</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balkan Wars</td>
<td>1912/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panama Canal opened</td>
<td>1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First World War (WWI)</td>
<td>1914+1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American troops chase Pancho Villa</td>
<td>1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another warlord era in China</td>
<td>1916+1928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian Revolution</td>
<td>1917</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA joined Allies in WWI</td>
<td>1917</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global influenza epidemic started</td>
<td>1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German women permitted to vote</td>
<td>1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treaty of Versailles</td>
<td>1919</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Senate rejected the Versailles Treaty</td>
<td>1919</td>
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<tr>
<td>US women given right to vote</td>
<td>1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First commercial radio in USA</td>
<td>1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>League of Nations</td>
<td>1920+1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA adopts immigration quotas</td>
<td>1921</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mussolini marches on Rome</td>
<td>1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>British leave Egypt</td>
<td>1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mustafa Kemal president of Turkey</td>
<td>1922+1938</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hitler’s beer-hall putsch</td>
<td>1923</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lindbergh across the Atlantic</td>
<td>1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim Brotherhood founded</td>
<td>1928</td>
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<tr>
<td>British women given full voting rights</td>
<td>1928</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Nationalist government in Nanking</td>
<td>1928+1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Great Crash” and Great Depression in USA and elsewhere</td>
<td>1929+1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vargas dictator in Brazil</td>
<td>1930+1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan invaded Manchuria</td>
<td>1931</td>
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<tr>
<td>World War II in Asia</td>
<td>1931+1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Roosevelt president in USA</td>
<td>1932+1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitler chancellor of Germany</td>
<td>1933+1945</td>
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<tr>
<td>Famous &quot;100 days&quot; of legislation in USA</td>
<td>1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Deal in United States</td>
<td>1933+1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long March in China</td>
<td>1934/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rome-Berlin Axis</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tense Berlin Olympics</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy invaded Ethiopia</td>
<td>1935/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Civil War</td>
<td>1936+1939</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Japan and China at war 1937+1945
Munich conference 1938
Germany annexed Austria 1938
Mexico nationalized oil 1938
Nazi-Soviet pact; atomic fission discovered 1939
Germany/Soviet Union crushed Poland 1939
World War II (WWII) in Europe 1939+1945
Blitzkrieg against Low Countries/France 1940
Germany invaded Soviet Union 1941
Japan attacked Pearl Harbor 1941
USA in WWII 1941+1945
Manhattan Project produced A-bombs 1942+1945
Allies invaded Italy 1943
D-Day invasion of Normandy/France 1944
FDR died/Harry Truman US president 1945
A-bombs dropped on Hiroshima/Nagasaki 1945
ENIAC electronic computer 1945
Nationalist and communists war in China 1945+1949
Cold War 1945+1991
United Nations founded 1946
Peron president of Argentina 1946+1955
Truman Doctrine 1947
Parkistan/India became independent nations 1947
Communist regimes in East Europe installed 1947/8
Gandhi assassinated 1948
Marshall Plan started 1948
Truman ended segregated armed forces in USA 1948
State of Israel founded amid war 1949
NATO started; USSR's A-bomb 1949
People's Republic of China 1949
North Koreans started Korean War 1950
Mosaddeq overthrown in Iran 1953
Viet Minh defeated French at Dien Bien Phu 1954
Courts ended segregated schools in USA 1954
Abdel Nasser led Egypt 1954+1970
Wars of independence in Algeria 1955+1962
Hungarian revolt; Suez crisis 1956
Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia independent 1956
Sputnik; Ghana independent 1957
Last effort to extend school segregation in Arkansas 1957
European Common Market formed 1958
Charles de Gaulle leader of France 1958
China and USSR split 1959/60
Castro ruled Cuba 1959+2000
Belgian Congo/Zaire independent 1960
Civil Rights movement in USA 1960+1968
Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba 1961
Berlin Wall up 1961
Vietnam War (US phase) 1961+1975
Cuban missile crisis 1962
Kennedy assassinated; L. Johnson president 1963
Kenya independent 1963
Zanzibar, Congo, and Zambia independent 1964
Civil Rights Act in USA 1964
Cultural Revolution in China 1965+1976
Indira Gandhi leader of India 1966+1984
Six-Day War 1967
Nigerian Civil War 1967+1970
Vietcong started Tet offensive 1968
Soviets invaded Czechoslovakia 1968
Arafat head of PLO 1969+2005
Apollo 11 moon missions 1969
Allende elected in Chile 1970
Bangladesh independent of Pakistan 1972
Nixon visited China; Watergate break-in 1972
British imposed direct rule in N. Ireland 1972
Israeli Olympic athletes murdered 1972
Arab-Israeli October War 1973
Arab oil embargo and crisis 1973
Vietnam peace treaty 1973
Portuguese dictatorship ended 1974
Nixon resigned 1974
Portuguese colonies in Africa independent 1974/5
North Vietnam ruled Saigon 1975
Iranian Revolution 1978
Israel and Egypt agreed to peace 1978
New economic policies in China 1978+1989
Vietnam occupied Cambodia 1978+1989
Revolutions in Nicaragua and El Salvador 1979
USSR invaded Afghanistan 1979+1989
Iranian militants took American hostages 1979+1981
Rhodesia/Zimbabwe independent 1980
Iran-Iraq War 1980+1988
Egypt’s Sadat assassinated 1981
Solidarity movement in Poland started 1982
Israel invaded Lebanon 1982
Falkland Islands War 1982
Military dictatorship in Argentina out 1983
Perestroika and Glasnost in USSR 1986
Iran-Contra scandal in USA 1987
Palestinian intifada in West Bank and Gaza Strip 1987
Berlin Wall down 1989
Communist regimes in Eastern Europe fell 1989/90
Germany united again 1990
Central Asian states separated from USSR 1990
Persian Gulf War 1990/1
World Wide Web started 1991
USSR dissolved and Cold War over 1991
Coup failed in USSR; Yeltsin new leader 1991
Persian Gulf War 1991
Nelson Mandela freed in South Africa 1992
NAFTA went into effect 1993
Czechoslovakia became two republics 1993
Britain returned Hong Kong to China 1997
Terrorists bombed US embassies in Africa 1998
US Senate acquitted Clinton 1999

Other Volumes in the Chronicle
Volume I covers the period –136,000 to +1399. During this period, humans just like us physically and mentally created cultures and made the difficult progression from living as nomadic hunters and gatherers to the time when they lived in organized societies everywhere.
In brief, our predecessors went from living in isolated wandering bands to living in fixed communities and nation-states.

Volume II covers the period +1400 to +1799. During this time, our ancestors worked to change their conditions from being members of agricultural, feudal societies ruled by warlords or absolute rulers to the start of the Industrial Revolution with people ruled by constitutional monarchies and democratic republics. In other words, people created more enlightened, scientific/technological, liberal societies that respected individual rights and were part of the emerging interdependent global economy.

Volume III covers the period from 1800 to 1899. During the 19th century, nationalists, progressives, and nation builders defeated absolute, totalitarian, and authoritarian rulers and great empires and dynasties in China, India, Japan, France, the Mediterranean region, Latin America, and many other places while better unifying themselves in places like Germany and Italy with more advanced economies.

About the Author
Frank P. King has lived and worked in Las Vegas, Nevada, the US Territory of Guam, Hawaii, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, Japan/ Okinawa, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, and has traveled extensively elsewhere. He earned his BA and MA degrees in English at the universities of Denver and Northern Colorado and his MA and PhD in history respectively at the universities of Keele and Cambridge in the United Kingdom. He is the author of A Chronicle of World History: From 130,000 Years Ago to the Eve of AD 2000 (2002), America’s Nine Greatest Presidents (1997), Strange Comments (2002), and The New Internationalism: Allied Policy and the European Peace 1939-1945 (1973). He is also the editor of Oceania and Beyond: Essays on the Pacific Since 1945 (1976) and the editor (with Robert D. Craig) of the Historical Dictionary of Oceania (1981).
1900: There were about 1.65 billion people in the world; there were some 16 cities with 1 million inhabitants or more.

China had a population of about 300 million people, which was more than three times that of the USA and more than six times that of Germany, which was the largest western European nation. Africa had a population of about 129 million persons.

It has been estimated that 92 percent of the world’s non-human and non-animal energy came from coal.

People and institutions in the USA had invested $50 million in Cuba, $55 million in the rest of Latin America, and $185 million in Mexico.

The Boer War went badly in South Africa for all the sides including the British after they captured Johannesburg and Pretoria and annexed the Orange Free and Transvaal Colonies. President Kruger fled South Africa to Switzerland. Kaiser Wilhelm II refused to continue his support for the Boers. The British were faced with a guerilla war they were poorly prepared to wage, much as was true, at this same time, for the Americans in the Philippines.

Starting in August, a multinational police force - composed of some 40,000 Americans, British, French, Germans, Indians (from India), Italians, Japanese, and Russians - ended the eight-week siege of the foreign quarter in Peking by the Boxers/"fists of righteous harmony" and other supporters of China and the xenophobic Dowager Empress. It was a unique, first-of-its-kind, show of international force. The Boxers had no central leader but were united in their desire to rid their country of the "tiger-like" foreign imperialists who insisted on special political, military, and commercial concessions for their citizens, business interests, and Christian missionaries.

Russian troops moved into Manchuria during the Boxer Rebellion and looked to the Chinese and Japanese like they meant to stay.

Per capita GDP in 1990 international dollars put New Zealand at 4298, Australia at 4013, and the USA at 4091. New Zealand’s major exports were wool, dairy and meat products, which went mainly to Britain. Other figures show Australians by exporting minerals, wheat, and wool, and keeping their population low enjoyed the highest per capita income in the world.

The Platt Amendment, American legislation, gave the USA the right to intervene in Cuba but not to colonize that country.

The European countries with the densest railroad networks were Belgium, Britain, and Germany.

The British House of Commons was composed of 456 English members, 101 from Ireland, 70 from Scotland, and 34 from Wales.

Portugal had a population of about five million people.

The British organized their control over both northern and southern Nigeria, which became their protectorates.

The military governor of the Philippines, General Arthur MacArthur (1845+1912), granted an amnesty to Filipino rebels; some refused his offer.

An anarchist, Gaetano Bresci, who had recently returned to Italy from Paterson, New Jersey, assassinated King Umberto of Italy. Bresci claimed he acted in outrage at the government’s repression of Italian workers.

About half of the world’s petroleum was pumped from the Baku region on the western shore of the Caspian Sea. American oil production was about 60 million barrels, up from 10 million in 1874.

There were about 20,000 workers in Canada who belonged to unions and of that number more than 60 percent were affiliated with the American Federation of Labor (AFL).

The Foraker Act gave the American territory of Puerto Rico a civil government much like the one in the Philippines.
The per capita GDP in 1985 international dollars was Malaya/Malaysia 600, Burma 523, Thailand 594, Indonesia 617, Philippines 735, South Korea 568, and Japan 724.

European iron-ore mainly came from mines in Luxemburg-Lorraine, northern Spain, northern Sweden, and at Krivoi Rog in the Ukraine.

About 100,000 workers earned their pay in the gold fields of South Africa.

Copper mining started in the Katanga region of the Congo.

There were about 400 electrical power stations in the United Kingdom.

There was a Universal Exhibition in Paris.

President McKinley appointed General Leonard Wood, the head of the US Army Yellow Fever Commission, the military governor of Cuba. The Cubans held a constitutional convention and wrote many of their own basic laws.

The Democratic Party's platform, during the presidential campaign, called the USA's involvement in the Philippines "an unnecessary war" which put the nation "in the false and un-American position of crushing with military force the efforts of our former allies to achieve liberty and self-government."

V.I. Lenin/Vladimir Ulyanov, a 30-year-old Russian exile in Germany, published the first issue of his revolutionary newspaper Iskra/the Spark.

Mohandas Gandhi (1869+1948) who was later called Mahatma (a person venerated for superior knowledge and love of humanity), an Indian lawyer temporarily working in South Africa, organized an ambulance corps of Indians to do good and earn some leverage with the British during the Boer War since Gandhi, and his supporters had long-term nationalist goals.

There were about one million members of the American Federation of Labor (AFL). Less than four percent of the American work force was organized in unions.

Arthur Evans (1851+1941), an English archaeologist, uncovered on Crete the Palace of Knossos from the ancient Minoan civilization.

Ferdinand von Zeppelin (1838+1917), a retired German general, made and tested the first lighter-than-air rigid, cigar-shaped, hydrogen-filled airship whose offspring would shortly be called Zeppelins.

The Trans-Siberian Railway started service between Irkutsk and Moscow. Barrow-in-Furness; Harland and Wolff in Belfast; John Brown on Clydeside;

The International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) was founded by fewer than 3000 cloakmakers who represented, at this time, only seven locals in NY, Newark, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, which were the most important centers of the garment industry in the USA.

Cammel-Laird at Birkenhead and Swan Hunter - all famous British dockyards - were building about half of the world's ships.

Miners in Cripple Creek, Colorado, dug-up and washed down $20 million dollars worth of ore, which was the largest amount mined on an annual basis in the world except for the Transvaal gold fields in South Africa.

Gold and silver deposits were found near the boomtowns of Tonopah and Goldfield in southern Nevada.

Seven major corporate and financial groups owned about 66 percent of the USA's railroad mileage.

There were 81 million North Americans in comparison to only 5.7 million in 1800.

Brazil had a population of about 17.3 million people.

Britain was still Europe's leading producer of pig iron.

Some 40 percent of Germans lived in rural areas; some 8 percent of Britons lived in rural areas; some 80 percent of Russians lived in rural areas.

There were 76 million Americans and 10.3 million of them were foreign born; about 9 million were Black; 237,000 American Indian/Native Americans; 90,000 Chinese; and 24,000 Japanese.

It has been estimated that there were some 2.5 million slaves living and working in the Sokoto
caliphate of northern Nigeria in an area about the size of California.

There were 5320 registered Black voters in Louisiana. In 1896 there had been 130,000, before passage of the "grandfather clause" in 1898.

The first offshore oil wells were drilled and operated.

Moving towards AM radio, the Canadian Reginald Aubrey Fessenden (1866+1932) invented a radio-frequency alternator.

There were famous "sporting palaces" in Chicago and several other American cities. In New Orleans there was the Storyville district. Kansas City, allegedly, had 147 "pleasure houses" in its "red light" district.

There were nearly 14,000 motorcars on 144 miles of hard-surface American roadways. Forty percent of these cars were steam-powered, 38 percent electric, and 22 percent gasoline-driven.

Ms. Carry Nation (1846+1911) was one of the leaders of the burgeoning prohibitionist crusade; she smashed booze bottles with a hatchet in Wichita, Kansas, and other places.

About half of all American workingwomen with paying jobs were farmhands or domestic servants.

American farmers started using sprinkler irrigation in California and other places practicing large-scale or corporate type farming.

Galveston, Texas, was smashed and drowned by a hurricane that killed something like 8000 people.

The American census showed religious affiliations in millions of people: 12 Roman Catholics, 6 Methodists, 5 Baptists, 1.5 Lutherans, 1.5 Presbyterians, 1 Jews, 7 Episcopalians, and .3 Mormons.

The average American workweek for payroll workers was 59 hours, as calculated by some experts.

Florence Kelley (1859+1932), a New York social worker, lawyer, and feminist, based the new Consumers League for Fair Labor Standards on the premise that most decent people did not want to buy goods made by children in illegal sweatshops.

Only one in 13 American homes had a telephone, and only one in seven had a bathtub (hot water showers were even less common).

Tuberculosis was the number one cause of death in the USA; influenza and pneumonia was the second; heart disease was the third.

Contaminated milk was a prime source of food-caused sicknesses in the USA.

Players in the Indian Civil Service invented the card game of bridge. It was taken to England and then quickly went worldwide.

A few people were thinking about a new modernist, functionalist, international style of architecture and design. Frank Lloyd Wright, Mies van der Rohe, Le Corbusier/Charles Edouard Jeanneret, and many others were influenced by and generated these new ideas.

Roasted, blended, cheap ground coffee, vacuum packed in containers by Hills Brothers in San Francisco, ruined the business of many small coffee roasting shops and coffee mills in towns and cities across the nation.

The average person died in the USA at 47 years of age.

Eastman's $1 Brownie box camera made Kodak a common name. Supposedly even a child could take pictures with it.

Both Honolulu and San Francisco had some of the last epidemics of bubonic plague carried by rats. After most of Honolulu's Chinatown was condemned, firemen lost control over fires there and much of the city burned.

About 90 percent of the world's grapefruit were grown in the USA.

Nearly 60 percent of world shipping was powered by steam.

Nearly every American city had an electric trolley line.

The American bison/buffalo and Longhorn cattle were nearly extinct, but there were still some two million wild horses/mustangs in the West.
10 percent of the American corn crop and 34 percent of the wheat crop was exported.

American farmers started to use steam driven tractors instead of horses, mules, and oxen.

The world, it has been estimated, had five-times more croplands under irrigation than a decade earlier.

Water engineers directed irrigation water from the Colorado River to California's Imperial Valley and completely transformed the Far West, its people, landscape, and economy.

Horace Short invented the loudspeaker.

Nikola Tesla, who had an early concept of radar, suggested that radio waves be used for detecting moving objects.

Enrico Forlanini built a hydrofoil catamaran.

The Austrian psychiatrist Sigmund Freud published *The Interpretation of Dreams*.

The American Theodore Dreiser (1871+1945) wrote a novel *Sister Carrie*, which some people regarded as "very sordid," if not obscene, about, among other things, illicit love.

Henry Ford was building and experimenting with different versions of automobiles in Detroit.

About this time, Max Karl Ernst Ludwig Planck (1858+1847), a German physicist, theorized, that intense bursts of energy from atoms are radiated in packages, bundles, parcels he called quanta/quantums.

William McKinley, 25th president of the USA: "The truth is, I didn't want the Philippines and when they came to us as a gift from the gods, I did not know what to do with them . . . I sought counsel from all sides - Democrats as well as Republicans - but got little help." Senator Albert J. Beveridge: "The Philippines are ours forever. And just beyond the Philippines are China's illimitable markets. We will not retreat from either. . . . The power that rules the Pacific is the power that rules the world. That power will forever be the American Republic." T.H. (Thomas Henry) Huxley (1825+1895), English intellectual: "True science and true religion are twin-sisters, and the separation of either from the other is sure to prove the death of both."

Carrie Chapman Catt (1859+1947), American reformer: "No written law has ever been more binding than unwritten custom supported by popular opinion."

1900+1902: Some 7300 Canadian volunteers served under British command during the Boer War.

The American architect Frank Lloyd Wright (1869+1859) designed the Ward W. Willits House in Highland Park, Illinois. During this time he also created what he called the Prairie style of domestic architecture.

1900+1908: The Hejaz railway was built with funds collected from Muslims everywhere, but mainly within the Ottoman Empire, to carry Muslim pilgrims to the holy cities of Mecca and Medina.

1900+1910: More immigrants, some 9 million, settled in the USA than during any other decade in American history. Many of them were Croats, Czechs, Hungarians, Italians, Greeks, Poles, Serbs, Slovanes, Slovaks, Romanians, and Russians. Many of them were Catholics (both Orthodox and Roman) and Jews. More people than ever before asked the question, without knowing the answer, who are the real Americans?

The commercial growing of bananas in Central America became, in addition to coffee, a major agricultural export to Canada and the USA.

1900+1913: Worldwide, as reported, some 40 heads of state, diplomats, and politicians were assassinated. Included in this number were four kings, one queen, six prime ministers, one commander in chief, and three presidents. Of these killings 28 were in Europe.

American and British investors put large amounts of money into Canadian mining, timber, pulp for paper products, railway building, and other industries.

1900+1916: The Canadian economy attracted some $400 million in foreign investments a year. Most of this capital went into the mining of coal, copper, gold, lead, nickel, and zinc.

1900+1917: The important and encouraging Progressive Era in American politics and history.

1900+1920: The number of Jews in Palestine went from about 56,000 in 1900 to about 168,000
before World War I (WWI) to about 56,000 in 1919/20. 

Canada increased its railway lines from 18,000 miles/29,000 km to 39,000-miles/63,000 km. 

Like other industrialized nations, Sweden increasingly moved ahead towards more engineering and more sophisticated manufacturing of many products like electrical motors. 

1900+1922: The national wealth of the USA increased 263 percent. The population increased 42 percent. 

1900+1923: American investments south of their border in the economies of Latin America increased from $290 million to four billion dollars. 

1900+1926: More than 1200 different picture postcards of megaliths in Brittany were made for sale. 

1900+1942: These were the "golden years" (for some) of Dutch colonial rule in Indonesia. They made large sums of money by exporting timber, palm oil, copra, rubber, pepper, coffee, fibers, petroleum, tobacco, and sugar among other products. The Koninklijke/Shell Group mainly handled petroleum exports. 

1900+1946: The reign of Victor Emmanuel III, the king of Italy. 

1900+1999: The people of mainland China experienced three of the century's four worst weather-related disasters: two famines (in 1907 and 1936) that killed nearly 30 million people and a Yangtze River flood that cost 3.7 million lives. During 1921/2 some five million people died in the Ukraine and the Volga region of Russia as the result of starvation. 

During the 20th century from the start to the last, the following significant changes occurred in the USA: the population increased from 75,994,575 to 273,482,000; the rural population declined from 60 percent to 25 percent; farm population declined from 29,875,000 to 4.6 million; the birthrate declined from 32.3 to 14.2 births per thousand; immigrants as a percent of the population declined from 14.7 percent to 7.9 percent; average income (in 1999 dollars) increased from $8620 to $23,812; deaths from industrial accidents declined from 35,000 to 6100 per year; the population of Los Angeles, California, increased from 102,479 to 3.8 million; the Dow Jones Industrial Average increased from 68.13 to 11,497.12; the number of patents granted per year increased from 24,656 to 147,500; the number of automobiles manufactured annually increased from 5000 to 5.5 million; adults completing high school increased from 15 percent to 83 percent of the population; homes with electricity increased from 8 percent to 99.9 percent; the number of books published increased from 6356 to 65,800; per capita national debt increased from $325 to $23,276; life expectancy for men increased from 46.3 years to 73.6 years and for women from 48.3 to 79.7 years; childbirth deaths declined from 9 to 0.1 per thousand; and cancer deaths increased from 64 to 200 per 100,000 persons. 


The life of the Labour Party of Britain. 

Tin has been Bolivia's major product although cocaine, as in Colombia, has become a very important export since the 1980s. 

Some early exponents of Abstract Art and Expressionism, which are related in some mysterious way, are the painters Emil Nolde (1867+1956), Oskar Kokoschka (1996+1980), James Ensor (1860+1949), Max Beckmann (1884+1950), and Mark Rothko (1903+1970). 

Some unimaginative scholars of history, without any meaningful justification, have called this the Modern Period. 

1901: New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania, the Northern Territory, and West Australia became the Commonwealth of Australia on 1 January, and a new nation was born. Only some forty years had passed since the Australian colonies had first become self-governing. New Zealand declined to join this commonwealth.
The Republic of Cuba became a reality while the people elected their first president. Starting in Najd, Ibn Saud started his long career as an Arab leader.

By this time, the British had put some 111,619 Boers in concentration camps in South Africa. China had a population of about 373 million, India 284, Russia 117, the USA 76, Germany 56.4, Britain/Ireland 41.4, France 39.1, Austria 34, and 33.2 million in Italy. Dallas had about 43,000 residents, Houston 45,000, Los Angeles 103,000, Guangzhou/Canton 900,000, Moscow 1.1 million, Istanbul 1.2, Philadelphia 1.3, St. Petersburg 1.3, Tokyo 1.45, Wuhan 1.5, Vienna 1.7, Chicago 1.7, Berlin 1.9, Paris 2.7, NYC 3.44, and London 6.6 million.

The only good the Chinese got out of their settlement with the foreign powers after the Boxer Rebellion was permission to increase their import tariff to 5 percent, and some wondered how much of a benefit that was.

The American military government in the Philippines was replaced on 4 July by a civilian government headed by the distinguished William Howard Taft (1857-1930), a future president and chief justice of the USA.

The Uganda Railway connected Mombasa to Kisumu on the shores of Lake Victoria.

The Pentecostal movement started in Topeka, Kansas, and in Los Angeles (1906) as an attempt to rekindle evangelical fervor among Methodists and other Protestant denominations.

The American financier John Pierpont Morgan (1837-1913), a super banker, managed and organized the transformation of Andrew Carnegie's steel holdings into US Steel, which included, among others, the Lake Superior Consolidated Iron Mines in the Mesabi range and an ore fleet that sailed the Great Lakes. It had a capitalization of $1.4 billion dollars and was the world's first billion-dollar corporation. Carnegie and Morgan thus quickly became known as "the richest men in the world."

Guglielmo Marconi received the first transatlantic wireless message in Newfoundland, Canada, from Cornwall, England. Many have called this the start of the radio era.

The Boer War continued as a guerrilla war. The British were reduced to building blockhouses and destroying farms. Emilio Aguinaldo, one of the leaders of the Filipino revolution and guerrilla forces, was captured during a daring raid by Filipino mercenaries led by Colonel Frederick Funston, an American, in March. Resistance to the Americans in the Philippines continued in several places, including Samar Island where atrocities were common on all sides. Subic Bay was designated as the principal US naval station in the Philippines.

Irreconcilables, who refused to swear an oath of loyalty to the American administration in the Philippines, some 45 in number, including 14 servants, Apolinario Mabini and his brother Prudencio, and five generals were banished to the American island of Guam where they enjoyed loose incarceration.

Some 600 American public school teachers traveled to the Philippines on the transport ship Thomas. They quickly became known as Thomasites.

The Japanese Socialist Party, the first of its kind in Asia, was founded.

The Social Revolutionary Party was founded in Russia.

The National Reclamation Act/Newlands Act, named after Senator Francis G. Newlands of Nevada, established the Bureau of Reclamation which in the years to come used funds from the sales of public lands to build dams and irrigation projects all over the American West.

A crazy anarchist, Leon Czolgosz, shot the president of the USA at point-black range in the grip-and-grin line of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, NY. After McKinley died of gangrene - not directly from his gunshot wounds - six days later Theodore Roosevelt, on 14 September, became at 42 the youngest president in American history.

Before the end of October, Theodore Roosevelt had invited Booker T. Washington of the Tuskegee Institute, probably America’s leading
thinker about vocational education, to the White House for dinner. Many backward looking Whites, especially in the South, raged against the new president for violating bad old traditions.

The USA gained exclusive rights from Columbia to construct and control a trans-isthmus Panama Canal, open to ships of all nations, in the Second Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

The British created the North-West Frontier as a buffer province between Afghanistan and the Punjab.

The first federal Parliament met in Australia in Melbourne.

Saskatchewan and Alberta joined the Dominion of Canada.

Meyer Guggenheim and his sons formed the American Smelting and Refining Co. (ASARCO), mainly a copper trust. It extended its control as far as Chilean copper and nitrate, Bolivian tin, Alaskan gold, Belgian Congo copper, South African diamonds, and Malaysian rubber.

Harlem, as an important part of NYC, got its start with the extension of the Lenox Avenue subway beyond uptown Manhattan. Harlem would become the largest, richest, and most influential Black community in North America - maybe in the world - during the 1920s.

King Camp Gillette (1855+1932) invented the safety razor and started his business above a Boston fish store.

The American Can Co., called the Can Trust by some, cranked-out 90 percent of American tin-plated steel cans.

Johns Manville Co. was started in Milwaukee and quickly became the world's largest insulation company by importing and installing asbestos from Canadian mines.

Probably some twenty-five percent of American agricultural products were exported.

A mechanical wheat combine, which could reap, bind, and thresh, could do in one minute what it would take a single man 40 minutes to accomplish.

A huge gusher started-up at Beaumont, Texas, contained more oil than the rest of American fields together and almost overnight made Texas the leading oil and gas producing state. The area where the first finds were made was appropriately nicknamed Swindletop after the dramatic and immediate changes in the economic circumstances of the people in and near that place. Land prices increased from $10 an acre to $900,000 an acre in some places, nearly overnight.

Frank Norris wrote the realistic novel The Octopus about the economic, political, and social conflicts between the railroads and farmers in California.

The Detroit Automobile Co. went bankrupt; their chief engineer was Henry Ford.

Thomas Mann (1875+1955), a progressive German, wrote his novel Buddenbrooks.

Yawata Steelworks in Kyushu, Japan, founded in 1896, had hired some German engineers to help them become, as they did this year, a major world steel maker.

The Swedish chemist Alfred B. Nobel had made his considerable fortune in part by inventing dynamite and investing in the Baku oil fields in Russia. The Nobel Prizes, which were funded by the interest earned on Nobel's fortune, have been awarded since this time in chemistry, medicine, physiology, physics, literature, peace, and, since 1969 economics. The first awards went to the German bacteriologist and immunologist Emil von Behring (1854+1917) for his discovery of tetanus and diphtheria antitoxins and to the German physicist Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen for his discovery of the X-ray.

Hugo de Vries (1848+1935), a Dutch botanist, used the term mutation to describe sudden changes in genes.

Satori Kato of Chicago, a Japanese-American chemist, invented "instant" coffee.

At 81 years of age and after having been queen of England for almost 64 years, Victoria died.

Tardily the US Secret Service was formed to protect the president and other important officials.

The voters of Galveston, Texas, in the middle of the damage caused by the severe hurricane of
1900, decided to reform their government by electing a city commission of administrators with professional qualifications in the various services and skills needed by a modern city rather than leaving it to the politicians. In the years following, many Americans democratically empowered "professionals" as city managers, commissioners, and engineers to run their cities and towns.

Theodore Roosevelt: "It seems to me that Germany's attitude toward us makes her the only power with which there is any reasonable likelihood or possibility of our clashing." Alfred B. Nobel: "Inherited wealth is a misfortune which merely serves to dull a man's faculties."

John E.E. Dalberg/Lord Acton, historian, Liberal member of Parliament (1859+1864), and one of the leaders of progressive Roman Catholics in England: "In every age its [liberty's] progress has been beset by its natural enemies, by ignorance and superstition, by lust of conquest and by love of ease, by the strong man's craving for power, and the poor man's craving for food." "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely." "Every class is unfit to govern." Leo Tolstoy: "I believe in God, whom I understand as Spirit, as Love, as the Source of all." Booker T. Washington: "No race can prosper till it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem." George Bernard Shaw (1856+1950), Irish dramatist in Caesar and Cleopatra: "When a stupid man is doing something he is ashamed of, he always declares that it is his duty."

1901/2: Some 27,927 Boer refugees, many of them women and children, died in British concentration camps in South Africa.

1901+1910: The Chinese government reluctantly tried to make-up for lost time in the areas of reforming education, the imperial examinations, the creation of a new national army and army command, a commerce ministry and a commercial code, currency stabilization, more political representation at the local and national levels, and a proper constitution.

1901+1911: About 400,000 new houses were built in Canada.

1901+1921: Canada's population surged from 5,371,315 to 8,800,000, an increase of 56 percent.

1901+1937: The Chief Sanitary Officer, William C. Gorgas (1854+1920), an epidemiologist from the US Public Health Service, Walter Reed (1851+1902), an American army surgeon, General Leonard Wood, and other American Army and civilian medical physicians, researchers, and technicians, while on duty in Cuba, reduced the number of reported yellow fever cases from tens of thousands to none. They almost completely cleared Cuba of yellow fever.

1901+1973: Pablo Picasso (1881+1973), an enormously talented Spanish artist who spent nearly all of his working life in France, was likely the most prolific and creative artist of the 20th century. His vision was invigorated by African and "primitive" art, but he worked in many styles, some of which, like Cubism, he helped to invent.

1902: Germany, Austria, and Italy renewed their Triple Alliance for another six years.

Japan and Britain signed a defensive alliance. Some British leaders no longer felt their country was capable of simultaneously waging wars both in the Asia-Pacific region and Europe without allies. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance recognized Japan's powerful position in the Pacific and Far East and its special interests in Korea, Taiwan, and Oceania.

The Boer War ended. The British agreed to pay a sizable indemnity to Boer farmers. Seemingly, Britain controlled all of South Africa.

The last American troops left the island republic of Cuba.

When Venezuela refused to pay its international debts, British, German, and Italian warships blockaded their ports and impounded their navy.

The Bedouin warrior Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud (1880+1953), emir of the Wahabi, left his exile in Kuwait as his followers seized Riyadh, in what thereafter would become Saudi Arabia.

Guerrillas in the Philippines ceased fighting American forces in February on the island of Samar. This effectively ended the American-Filipino War except in remote places like the Sierra Madre Mountains of Luzon and on the southern island of Mindanao and its adjacent islands. President Theodore Roosevelt on 4 July
officially declared an end to the American-Filipino War, often inaccurately called a "great insurrection," which had lasted about three and a half years. The Filipinos may have lost 400,000 to 600,000 lives, mainly as the result of starvation. American losses were about 10,000. The Philippine Bill provided for a bill of rights for Filipinos and for two non-voting Filipino resident commissioners to represent Filipino interests in the US Congress. Fort Stotsenberg - later known as Clark Air Base - was built by the Americans in central Luzon, north of Manila, as a cavalry outpost.

A large chunk of Uganda, from the Rift Valley to Lake Victoria, became part of Britain’s East African Protectorate.

Philander C. Knox, the US attorney general, with the support of Theodore Roosevelt, started antitrust proceedings against a variety of US monopolies/trusts.

President Roosevelt ordered a monopoly suit for violation of the Sherman Anti-trust Act against the Northern Securities Company which had been formed by E.H. Harriman of the Union Pacific railroad and both James J. Hill and J. P. Morgan of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific.

United States Steel Co. reportedly made and sold nearly 67 percent of the nation’s steel.

The Texas Company/Texaco bought-up oil fields near Spindletop Hill in East Texas and became another Standard Oil competitor.

Maryland became the first state to pass a workers' compensation law to provide for injured workers.

Some 150,000 members of the United Mine Workers (UMW) in the USA went on strike for five months. The owners and operators of mines and railroads refused to recognize the union. Schools in mining communities were closed. People in some places outside the mining areas stole coal, so they could heat their homes. During the span of the strike, the price of a ton of coal in NYC went from $5 to $30. President Roosevelt offered to mediate, but the mine owners brushed his offer aside. Roosevelt then intervened on the side of the miners and the public. The president threatened to operate the mines with army soldiers. He insisted on mediation and used the power of his office to muscle both sides into an agreement. Many commentators at the time and since have called Roosevelt's actions one of the most important advances in the history of American labor-management (even though the UMW did not gain official legal recognition as bargaining agent for the miners at this time). This event also greatly helped to redefine the powers and responsibilities of modern presidents and increased the public's expectations of presidential action in various emergencies.

Britain, Germany, and Italy threatened Venezuela with force.

All of the irreconcilables on Guam, except for Apolinario Mabini, General Artemio Ricarte, and one other prisoner, accepted a pardon and amnesty in exchange for taking an oath of allegiance and were returned to the Philippines by American officials.

Willis H. Carrier (1876+1950), a young American engineer who had graduated from Cornell University, invented one of the first air conditioners that also reduced humidity. It worked satisfactorily in a printing company in Brooklyn, New York.

George Blickensderfer of Stamford, Connecticut, invented one of the first electric typewriters.

The German Otto von Bronk (1872+1951) invented and patented a kind of color television.

Robert Bosch (1861+1942), a German, invented the spark plug.

Hubert Cecil Booth, an English engineer, invented a vacuum cleaner that worked.

James Edward Ransome (1839+1905), an Englishman, invented a practical, motor-powered lawn mower.

J.P. Morgan underwrote a merger of the top four American harvesting machine companies into the International Harvester Co.

The Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co., like thousands of other corporations, incorporated in Delaware which had friendly corporate and incorporation laws but did most of its business elsewhere.
Both the Twentieth Century Limited, owned by the NY Central, and the Broadway Limited, owned by the Pennsylvania Railroad, went into operation and started 20-hour luxury rail service between NYC and Chicago.

Portugal declared national bankruptcy.

Cecil Rhodes, the South African tyro, died. He left a bequest to Oxford University that started the Rhodes Scholarships to worthy young men (and, eventually, young women). Originally all the students were from the British colonies, the USA, and Germany.

The Philippine Independent Church/La Iglesia Filipino Independiente sprang-up in many places in the Philippines and in some instances took over Roman Catholic Church buildings. Their leader was the priest and nationalist Gregorio Aglipay who had been Aguinaldo's vicar-general.

As was common practice all over the USA, the governor sent the Colorado National Guard into the picturesque mining town of Telluride to suppress members of the Western Federation of Miners after the assassination of a mine manager during a violent strike.

Harry Harbord "Breaker" Morant (1865+1902), an English-born Australian horse-breaker and poet, who had served in the Boer War with a British-Australian special forces unit, was executed by a firing squad after a controversial court-martial which found Morant and one of his Australian mates guilty of shooting Boer prisoners of war. (An outstanding Australian film Breaker Morant about the court-martial was directed by Bruce Beresford in 1980.)

John Atkinson Hobson (1858+1940), a British economist, definitely shaped the terms of discussion of the subject by writing a book Imperialism: A Study. His work was influential with the revolutionaries Rosa Luxembourg (1871+1919) and V.I. Lenin, among many others.

A health survey of the industrial city of Leeds in Britain showed that many children in poor neighborhoods had rickets and rotten teeth.

John Griffith "Jack" London (1876+1916) had been a sailor, tramp, and gold miner. He had gone to Japan as an ordinary seaman at 17; then he went to the Klondike gold rush when he was 21. Now, at 26, he wrote the short story "To Build a Fire."

Mont Pelée erupted on the French Caribbean island of Martinique and almost immediately killed about 28,000 people.

James Drummond Dole, the first cousin of governor Sanford Dole, started the Hawaiian Pineapple Co.

Horn & Hardart Baking Co. opened the first "automatic" restaurant in Philadelphia. Customers could take food out of compartments in the walls in return, of course, for money. In later years people would call it "fast-food."

Deep-sea trawlers, refrigeration, and the railroads made it possible for fish-and-chips shops to open in Britain and serve fried fish and fried potatoes/chips, sometimes seasoned with vinegar, all year round.

This year saw the majority of immigrants to the USA come from Italy, Austro-Hungary, and Russia.

Congress extended the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 to include immigrants from Guam, Hawaii, and the Philippines.

John Cash Penney (1875+1971) and his wife started the J.C. Penney Co. in the small town of Kemmerer, Wyoming, which turned-out in the years to come to be a highly successful chain of retail stores.

The first Rose Bowl football game was played between players from Michigan and Stanford universities.

Old Faithful Inn in Wyoming’s Yellowstone National Park opened its doors for business and for the convenience of visitors to the park.

The first "Teddy Bear" was manufactured and sold with President Roosevelt’s permission to use his nickname, a moniker that he himself did not use or like.

Theodore Roosevelt: "It was essential that organized capital and organized labor should thoroughly understand that the third party, the great public, had vital interests and overshadowing rights in such a crisis as that through which we have just passed."
Conrad / Teodor Josef Konrad Korzeniowski: "The conquest of the earth, which mostly means the taking it away from those who have a different complexion or slightly flatter noses than ourselves, is not a pretty thing when you look into it." "The belief in a supernatural source of evil is not necessary; men alone are quite capable of every wickedness." George F. Baker of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal & Iron Co.: "The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for - not by the labor agitators, but by the Christian men to whom God in His infinite wisdom has given the control of the property interests of this country." Henrik Ibsen (1828+1906), Norwegian writer: "I hold that man is in the right who is most closely in league with the future." Chief Joseph (1840+1904), leader of the Nez Perce: "It does not require many words to speak the truth." Helen Keller (1880+1968), American social reformer who was blind and deaf from infancy: "Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn, whatever state I may be in, therein to be content."

1902+1909: Theodore Roosevelt and other Progressives used the courts, the neglected Sherman Antitrust Law of 1890, and executive action to restore, in part, competition to the railroads, commerce, and other sectors of the American economy.

1903: Wilbur Wright (1867+1912) and his brother Orville Wright (1871+1948), the owners of a custom-bicycle shop in Dayton, Ohio, made the first airplane fly over the sand at Kill Devil Hill at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. It was only in the air some 12 seconds and covered 120 feet. There were only five spectators. Later in the same day, 17 December, they flew Flyer I, powered by a 12 horsepower-4-cylinder engine, for 59 seconds, and it covered 852 feet.

The Isthmian Canal Act, passed by Congress, authorized Roosevelt to proceed with the canal. The Isthmian Canal Commission recommended a Panama route to the president over a Nicaraguan route. John Hay, the US secretary of state, and the foreign minister of Colombia negotiated the Hay-Herran Treaty that defined a six-mile strip across the Isthmus of Panama; the US Senate consented to it. The Colombian Senate unanimously voted against the treaty because they wanted to be paid $25 million in cash rather than the $10 million the Americans had offered. Some Americans suspected an attempted holdup. Among other names, President Roosevelt called the Colombian politicians "homicidal corruptionists."

The Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization (OMRO), founded in 1893, attempted a rising or revolt in Macedonia against the rule of the Turks. It failed and was quickly suppressed, but succeeded in stimulating the great European powers to intervene in the Balkans at the expense of the Turks who were increasingly viewed as oppressors of Christians, other minorities, and nationalists within the Ottoman Empire.

The American cruiser Nashville arrived in Panamanian waters at Colon in early November. Rebels in Panama declared their independence from Colombia. The Americans recognized Panama's independence pronto. A new treaty, much like the old one, was signed between the USA and the new government in Panama before the end of the year. The USA got the rights to a 10-mile wide Panama Canal Zone "in perpetuity."

Top Japanese officials, civilian and military, convinced themselves that the Russians were a threat to their ambitious plans for controlling Korea and Manchuria.

Ostensibly, the British Colonial Secretary, Joseph Chamberlain, offered territory in Uganda in eastern Africa to Theodor Herzl sufficient to settle a million Jews. Predictably many Zionists were only mildly interested in the proposal, and some opposed it completely.

Queen Draga and King Alexander I of Serbia were assassinated in Marseilles, France, on the orders of Croatian nationalists.

The trans-Siberian railway, started in 1891, was completed.

The British occupied northern Nigeria.

The Taft administration in the Philippines bought 400,000 acres of friar lands for $7,000,000 from the Roman Catholic Church and then sold it to tenants in easy installments.
Venezuela agreed to arbitration of its debt problems by The Hague Tribunal commission. France and Britain agreed to drop their blockade of Venezuelan ports.

The governments of Canada and the USA settled their complicated boundary dispute over Skagway, the Lynn Canal, and territory located between southern Alaska and Yukon-British Columbia. They submitted their problem to a joint commission of six officials who were selected and agreed upon by the two governments.

The US Congress created a Department of Commerce and Labor with cabinet status.

During the second Russian Social Democratic Party congress in Brussels, Lenin led a sect called Bolsheviks/extremists (a minority) away from the Mensheviks/moderates, who were the largest faction of the party.

The American administration undertook the first census ever done in the Philippines. There were about 7.6 million Filipinos. Nearly all of them were Roman Catholics except for a few who were Muslims, pagans, and Aglipayans.

The Anthracite Coal Commission, created by President Roosevelt, awarded American coal miners a 10 percent wage increase and shorter working hours.

Canadian railway builders discovered large silver deposits around Cobalt not too far from Sudbury in northern Ontario. They also found copper, gold, lead, silver, and zinc in southeastern British Columbia.

About 80 percent of cows in Denmark belonged to farmers/dairymen who were members of cooperatives. Denmark supplied Britain with more than 30 percent of its butter.

Emmeline Pankhurst founded the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in Britain mainly for the purpose of getting women the vote.

There were more public reports that natives in the Congo were abused and degraded by agents of Leopold II, the king of the Belgians, and that slavery was still practiced in the Portuguese African islands of Sáo Tomé and Príncipe.

In the USA, James Michael Curley and his brother Thomas were indicted for corrupting the results of the civil service examinations in Boston in return for various favors.

Apolinario Mabini finally swore an oath of allegiance and was returned from his exile by American officials from Guam to the Philippines where he died of cholera three months later at the young age of 38. General Artemio Ricarte, the last of the irreconcilables who still refused to take an oath, was deported the Philippines and ended up in Japan.

Singer Manufacturing sold 1.35 million sewing machines.

Ford Motor Company in Michigan was organized, and Henry Ford owned the stock.

The first Catholic missionaries arrived on the island of Nauru in Oceania.

For the last time until 1969, the Philippine Islands were self-sufficient in rice.

Guglielmo Marconi, who had mainly built and financed his own equipment, arranged for President Roosevelt to send a wireless greeting to Britain. Using in part the Pacific Cable, Theodore Roosevelt sent a message around the world in less than 10 minutes.

Enrico Caruso (1873+1921), a celebrated Italian opera tenor, made a record that sold many copies.

Harley-Davidson motorcycles had their start in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA.

The University of Puerto Rico started offering classes.

The remains of Cheddar Man were discovered in England. He was a Continental type and his remains have been carbon dated to about -8980.

Frank Norris completed his realistic novel The Pit about wheat speculators on the Chicago Board of Trade.

The Great Train Robbery by Edwin S. Porter (1870+1941) was the first motion picture with a complete story; it was 12 minutes long.

The first Tour de France bicycle race and the first World Series baseball championship were staged.
Between Wall Street and Exchange Plaza, at 8 Broad Street, the New York Stock Exchange was built.

Benedetto Croce (1866-1952), an Italian, felt intuition and our evolving spirits were important parts of the study of history. He started the journal *Critica*.

The Flatiron Building in New York City, which some said was the city's first skyscraper, was 69 m/226 feet high.

George Perthes (1869-1927), a physician, suggested that X-rays be used to inhibit the growth of tumors and cancers.

Giovanni Conti built a geothermal electric power plant at Larderello, Italy.

Willem Einthoven (1860-1927), a Dutch physiologist, invented a galvanometer, which was an important advance in electrocardiography.

The Santa Fe Railroad built lodges at the Grand Canyon; the Fred Harvey Company operated these.

Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, a Russian engineer, suggested using liquid oxygen to power multistage rockets.

President Roosevelt made Florida's Pelican Island a National Wildlife Refuge, the first of its sort.

Jack London published *The Call of the Wild* this year.

Theodore Roosevelt: "I hate a man who would skin the land." "A man who is good enough to shed his blood for the country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards. More than that no man is entitled to, and less than that no man shall have." "There is a homely old adage which runs: 'Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far.' If the American nation will speak softly, and yet build and keep at a pitch of the highest training a thoroughly efficient navy, the Monroe Doctrine will go far." Wilbur Wright: "It is possible to fly without motors, but not without knowledge." George Bernard Shaw: "Kings are not born, they are made by artificial hallucination." Samuel Butler (1835-1902), British writer, in his posthumously published autobiographical novel *The Way of All Flesh*:

"Every man's work, whether it be literature or music or pictures or architecture or anything else, is always a portrait of himself." Maxim Gorky/Aleksei Maksimovich Peshkov (1868-1936), Russian writer, in *The Lower Depths*: "When work is a pleasure, life is a joy! When work is a duty, life is slavery." Herbert Spencer, philosophical historian: "The Republican form of Government is the highest form of government; but because of this it requires the highest type of human nature - a type nowhere at present existing." W.E.B. Du Bois (1868-1963), angry Black American intellectual, in *The Souls of Black Folk*: "It is a peculiar sensation, this double-consciousness, this sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others, of measuring one's soul by the tape of the world that looks on in amused contempt and pity. One ever feels his two-ness - an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder." "Education and work are the levers to uplift a people. Work alone will not do it unless inspired by the right ideals and guided by intelligence. Education must not simply teach work - it must teach Life." Susan B. Anthony: "It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens, nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union." John Morley (1838-1923), British writer and politician: "Simplicity of character is no hindrance to subtlety of intellect."

1903+1906: There were pogroms in Russia of Jews, Gypsies, and other minorities, especially in Kishinev, Odessa, and Bialystok. The national and local governments did little or nothing to stop these ethnic massacres.

1903+1910: Alfred Deakin (1857-1919), a protectionist liberal, was three times the prime minister of Australia: 1903/4, 1905+1908, and 1909/10.

1903+1915: There were a series of Moro uprisings in the Muslim parts of the southern Philippines on and around the island of Mindanao: the Hassan Uprising, 1903/4; the Usap Rebellion and the Pala Revolt of 1905; the Bud Dajo Uprising of 1906; and the Bud Bagsak battle of 1913. General Leonard Wood was the first governor of the Moro Province. General
John J. "Black Jack" Pershing (1860–1948) succeeded him. The final result, in 1915, was that the Sultan Jamalul Kiram was permitted to exercise only his religious functions.

1903+1921: As the result of the policy of "Filipinization," the number of Americans serving in the government of the Philippines declined from 2777 (with 2697 Filipinos) to 614 (with 13,240 Filipinos).

1903+1960: Mauritania in northwestern Africa was a French colony.

1903+1973: Uruguay, nearly without exception, had one constitutional government after another. Many Uruguayans are of Spanish-Italian ancestry and are middle-class in their attitudes.

1904: France and Britain signed the Entente Cordiale and thus initiated an important new alliance against the Germans.

A British military expedition was the first large group of foreigners to visit "the Forbidden City" of Lhasa, Tibet. Their purpose for going was to add Tibet to Britain's sphere of influence and to keep the Russians out of it. The British occupied the Chumbi Valley with the intention of staying there for a long time.

Serbia and Bulgaria created a customs union. This became the start of a web of agreements connecting Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro in what some have called an anti-Ottoman Balkan alliance system. The leaders of the governments in Belgrade and Sofia continued to argue over their claims to Macedonia. The Austro-Hungarian government was alarmed and placed a trade embargo - which some later said caused a Pig War - on Serbia that lasted for six years.

The 10-hour workday was fixed in France.

Russian workers waged a general strike in Tiflis/Tbilisi in Georgia and Baku in Azerbaijan.

President Roosevelt appointed an Isthmian Canal Commission to supervise construction of the Panama Canal.

Theodore Roosevelt turned-on the switch that started the Universal Exposition in St. Louis, Missouri. The Congress of Arts and Letters, which met during the Exposition, featured hundreds of famous scholars from all over the world. The first Olympic games in the USA were also held at St. Louis in conjunction with this exposition.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), founded in 1900, had more than 5000 members in 66 locals and 27 cities.

The government of China tried to start a new school system more in keeping with the times.

The Colorado River, which travels some 1300 miles from the Rocky Mountains to the Gulf of Mexico, flooded and pushed a mass of water into the Imperial Valley of California and created the Salton Sea. Farmers in the region complained, and government officials and others started thinking about damming the Colorado.

Ivan Pavlov (1849–1936), a Russian physiologist and behavioral psychologist, was awarded a Nobel Prize for medicine-physiology for his investigations of conditioned reflexes and other psychological phenomena.

The universities of Leeds, Liverpool, and Sofia were founded.

Albert Einhorn synthesized the local anesthetic procaine/Novocain.

Jackson Heights, Queens, New York City, was one of the first "garden cities" in the USA. The idea originated in 1899 with Ebenezer Howard (1850–1928) in England. The plan was to combine town and country living and industries in a planned community.

The speed record for a steam locomotive was 100 mph.

The Italian composer Giacomo Puccini (1858–1924) wrote his opera Madama Butterfly.

The National Child Labor Committee in the USA worked to ban the use of children as workers.

The Russian dramatist Anton Chekhov wrote his play The Cherry Orchard.

Lincoln Steffens (1866–1936), a reporter for McClure's magazine in the USA, published The Shame of the Cities about government corruption and mismanagement. He was one of the intellectuals Theodore Roosevelt had in mind.
when he described reform writers as "muckrakers."

Ida Minerva Tarbell (1857+1944), a piercing lady reporter for McClure's magazine, another of the reform journalists of the time, published in installments her biting History of the Standard Oil Company which documented the monopolistic and predatory practices of the Standard Oil trust and showed that John D. Rockefeller earned an annual income of $45 million from a corporation that controlled, among other things, 90 percent of American oil-refining.

Representatives from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland formed the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA).

The Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine, as formulated by Theodore Roosevelt, gave the USA "international police power": "Chronic wrongdoing . . . may in America, as elsewhere, ultimately require intervention by some civilized nation, and in the Western Hemisphere the adherence of the United States to the Monroe Doctrine may force the United States, however reluctantly, in flagrant cases of such wrongdoing or impotence, to the exercise of an international police power." "If we are to exert the slightest influence in Western Asia . . . it is one of the highest importance that we have a naval station at Subic Bay [in the Philippines]."

Isadora Duncan (1878+1927), one of the creators of 20th century dancing, told the widow of the German opera composer Richard Wagner (1813+1883): "Man must speak, then dance, but the speaking is the brain, the thinking man. The singing is the emotion. The dancing is the Dionysian ecstasy which carries all away." Henry Adams (1838+1918), historian and grandson of John Quincy Adams, the 6th US president: "Absolute liberty is absence of restraint; responsibility is restraint; therefore, the ideally free individual is responsible only to himself. This principle is the philosophical foundation of anarchism . . . ."

Joseph Chamberlain: "The day of small nations has long passed away. The day of Empires has come." Guido Biagi, an Italian librarian, during the Congress of Arts and Letters in St. Louis predicted that readers before the end of the 20th century "will listen from their own homes to the spoken paper, to the spoken book." Paul Cezanne (1839+1906), French painter: "Treat nature in terms of the cylinder, the sphere, the cone, all in perspective." Anton Chekhov (1860+1904), Russian writer: "To begin to live in the present, we must first atone for our past and be finished with it, and we can only atone for it by suffering, by extraordinary, unceasing exertion." Wilfrid Laurier (1841+1919), Canadian politician: "The nineteenth century was the century of the United States. I think we can claim that it is Canada that shall fill the twentieth century."

1904/5: Japanese troops landed in Korea, moved north, crossed the Yalu River, entered Liaotung, and surrounded Port Arthur, which the Japanese navy, along with Vladivostock, already had blockaded. This was the start of the Russo-Japanese War. The Russian defenders of Port Arthur surrendered in January 1905 after a seven-month siege. The Japanese in the Tsushima Strait between Korea and Japan heavily defeated the reinforcing Russian Baltic fleet, which was attempting to reach Vladivostock after a very long cruise, in May. The Russians had been defeated on land and at sea at Mukden/Shenyang in northeastern China, Manchuria, and in the Tsushima Straits. The Russians had more than 100,000 casualties to only about 50,000 for the Japanese. The Russians lost 28 ships and the Japanese only three torpedo boats. The Japanese used steam-powered warships with long-range guns and, for the first time in warfare, radios.

The Japanese did not withdraw their troops from Korea after the end of the fighting.

According to the terms of the Treaty of Portsmouth (in New Hampshire), largely brokered by President Theodore Roosevelt during August 1905, the Japanese gained more control over Korea and Manchuria than before. The Japanese received a lease of Liaotung, the Kwantung Leased Territory, plus rights in southern Manchuria. The Russians were forced to surrender the concession they had gained in Manchuria and to return southern Sakhalin/Karafuto to Japan. Russian mining rights in the region and the railway between Harbin and Port Arthur (which would become the South Manchurian Railway) fell under
Japanese control. The Japanese formally annexed Taiwan/Formosa. This was the first time a European nation had lost an important war in the Far East. Japan thus elevated itself thru war to the position of a major world power.

There was a typhoid epidemic in Winnipeg, Manitoba, that killed 133 people.

1904+1908: The natives revolted in German Southwest Africa (which later became Namibia). The Germans with an army of about 17,000 men during 1904/5 caused the death of some 75,000 natives. Heinrich Goering (father of the infamous Hermann Goering of the 1930s and WWII) was the chief official/Reichskommissar in Southwest Africa while the Germans attempted to subdue their rebellious subjects.

1904+1911: The Japanese built many intercity electrical railroads and made electricity available to many industries.

1904+1914: US military engineers, after the French failed, built the Panama Canal with 12 locks on land leased from the Republic of Panama. The Canal opened less than two weeks after World War I started. Colonel W.C. Gorgas and the able doctors and researchers of the US Public Health Service wiped-out yellow fever in the Panama Canal Zone as they had in Cuba.

About 40,000 Jewish immigrants, mainly from Russia, went to Palestine.

1904+1999: Faculty members at Cambridge University received 70 Nobel prizes.

1905: Norway separated from and became independent of Sweden. Oslo became the new capital with Haakon VII (1872+1957), a Dane, as Norway's new elected king.

There was a "Bloody Sunday" demonstration in January by about 300,000 citizens in front of the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg against the many failings of Czar Nicholas II and the Russian government before, during, and after the recent, humiliating Russo-Japanese War. About 100 demonstrators were savagely killed by government troops. The Czar's government was forced by domestic and international public opinion to enter the 20th century and establish a parliament or duma.

The first anti-government soviet/"strike committee" was formed in St. Petersburn by radical leftists. The sailors and marines on the battleship Potemkin mutinied in an anti-czarist uprising which some thought was the start of a revolution. In December, the Moscow Soviet started an insurrection that failed after five days. Workers rampaged; university students rioted.

Sun Yat-sen organized the secret T'ung Meng Hui revolutionary party.

During a rebellion in Germany's East Africa colony, possibly 300,000 persons died.

France and Britain settled their differences over Egypt and Morocco.

A boycott against the USA's restrictions on Chinese immigration was organized in Shanghai and several other Chinese cities.

About 15,000 Chinese students, many of them political reformers, lived in Japan. Some of these students who followed Sun Zhongshan/Sun Yat-sen and Huang Xing (1874+1916), formed the Tongmenghui/Revolutionary Alliance. The main points of their program were to oust the Manchus, establish a Chinese republic (preceded by a one-party-military dictatorship), and to promote the equalization of land-ownership. Other revolutionary societies were formed in China about this time with names like the Zhejiang Restoration Society, the Society for China's Revival, the Political Study Society, the Literature Society, and the Gelaohui/Elder Brother Society.

Sun Yatsen, while in Tokyo, organized a union of secret societies, the Revolutionary Alliance, which sponsored and directed an entire network of revolutionaries inside China who were dedicated to driving the Manchus from China.

The first mass demonstrations for swaraj/self-rule were organized and held in India to oppose Britain's decision to partition the province of Bengal.

The Taft-Katsura Agreement, negotiated in Tokyo by William Howard Taft and the Japanese foreign minister in July, officially put the USA on record as accepting, as the Russians had already done, Japanese control of Korea. The Japanese pledged in return not to attack the Philippines or Guam.
The militant Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) was founded in Chicago. The IWW, known to some as the "Wobblies," willingly recruited and organized all kinds of workers, skilled and unskilled, in an effort to create a classless "One Big Union." Mary Harris "Mother" Jones (1830+1930), Emma Goldman (1869+1940), known to some as "Red Emma," Lucy Gonzalez Parsons, and William D. "Big Bill" Haywood were their most conspicuous leaders.

The Napoleonic Concordat with the Roman Catholic Church in France, which gave Catholics a favored status, continued in force.

President Theodore Roosevelt, who was fully and early aware of Japan's growing strength in the Far East, responded to the request of the Russians and Japanese to sponsor a peace conference. It was held at Portsmouth, New Hampshire. In the Treaty of Portsmouth, signed in September, both Japan and Russia agreed to withdraw from Manchuria. The Russians agreed to recognize Japan's "predominant" interests in Korea.

The Canadians found oil in the Turner Valley southwest of Calgary, Alberta.

The Canadian government abolished the ancient examination system for the central bureaucracy.

About 30 percent to 40 percent of males and 2 percent to 10 percent of females were literate in China, according to some estimates.

There were about 4000 Italians, mostly soldiers and their families, living in Eritrea on the northeastern coast of Africa on the Red Sea.

Arthur Griffith (1872+1922), an Irish nationalist and journalist, founded the nationalist party Sinn Fein/"We Ourselves" in Dublin, Ireland.

The Germans and Russians did not agree to renew their alliance.

The chief of the German general staff, Count Alfred von Schlieffen put the finishing touches on a strategy for a two front war to invade and defeat France and then conquer Russia. Part of the plan meant that the Germans would need to rapidly invade neutral Belgium, an ally of Britain, and northern France. (It was such a brilliant plan that the Germans failed with it twice during WWI and WWII.)

Greeks on Crete revolted against the Turks who controlled their island.

British New Guinea, acquired in 1884, was put under the control of Australia.

The provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were formed from the Canadian Northwest Territories.

Albert Einstein (1879+1955), a German-Swiss mathematical physicist, published four papers about the basic physical laws of the universe. His "Special Theory of Relativity," which asserted that time and space are changeable and relative, was a radical and genius insight which few people, then or now, appreciated or could comprehend.

Ernest Starling (1866+1927), a British physiologist, created the term hormone.

The American surgeon and physiologist George Washington Crile (1864+1943) did one of the first direct blood transfusions. (He later founded and headed the Cleveland Clinic Foundation that did important medical research.)

John B. Murphy (1857+1916), an American, made one of the first artificial hip replacements for an arthritic patient.

Guglielmo Marconi invented the directional radio antenna.

The Germans launched their first U-boat submarine.

An art critic, who is not at all well remembered, called Henri Matisse (1869+1954), Andre Derain (1880+1954), Maurice Vlaminck (1876+1958), and Georges Rouault (1871+1958), all exhibitors at the Salon d'Automne, "une cage aux fauves"/"a cage of wild beasts." The name Les Fauves/"wild beasts" stuck. Van Gogh, Cezanne, and Gauguin inspired them, among others.

George Santayana (1863+1952), a Spanish-born philosopher and writer who worked at Harvard University (1889+1912): "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." "History is always written wrong, and so always needs to be rewritten." "Fanaticism consists in redoubling your effort when you have forgotten your aim." "Fashion is something barbarous, for it produces innovation without reason and imitation without benefit." Romain Rolland
(1866+1944), French writer: "To understand everything is to hate nothing." *Mark Twain:* "Let us say, then, in broad terms, that any system which has in it any one of these things, to wit, human slavery, despotic government, inequality, numerous and brutal punishments for crimes, superstition almost universal, ignorance almost universal, and dirt and poverty almost universal - is not a real civilization, and any system which has none of them, is." *W.E.B. Du Bois,* American social reformer: "Herein lies the tragedy of the age: not that men are poor . . . not that men are wicked . . . but that men know so little of men." *Henri Poincare* (1854+1912), French philosopher and mathematician: "Science is built up of facts, as a house is built of stones; but an accumulation of facts is no more a science than a heap of stones is a house."

1905/6: Kaiser Wilhelm/William II of Germany, in Tangier, Morocco, condemned French and British control of North Africa in March. Some said this started a Moroccan Crisis that increased tension between the major powers. The real question was who was going to rule North Africa?

The kaiser then pushed - with considerable assistance from Theodore Roosevelt - the French, British, Germans, and Americans, among other nations, into attending a conference in Algeciras, Spain. This produced in 1906 the Act of Algeciras whereby it was guaranteed by the powers that Morocco should be independent and open for free trade but that their police should be trained by the governments of France and Spain. Generally most people involved felt that the Germans had not been allowed to upset the balance of power in North Africa and the diplomatic approach had probably helped to avert or delay the start of a war.

Nairobi became the administrative capital of Kenya as large numbers of white settlers arrived in the highlands from Britain and South Africa.

1905+1914: About 10.5 million immigrants entered the USA mainly from southern and eastern Europe.

During this period and thereabouts, Maurice Vlaminck, Andre Derain, Pablo Picasso, Henry Matisse, Georges Braque (1882+1963), Juan Gris (1887+1927), and many other painters and artists were very influenced by African masks, sculpture, and other folk art forms.

1905+1918: The Octobrists in Russia stood behind the insignificant reforms granted by the tsar in his October Manifesto and would accept no others.

1905+1925: The Dominican Republic was in effect a protectorate of the USA. US Marines were stationed there during 1916+1925 to keep the peace and help collect customs duties for the repayment of debts.

1905+1941: Japan expanded its power and influence in Asia and Oceania. Korea was annexed in 1910. Manchuria was increasingly dominated by Japan during 1906+1932. The Japanese occupied Qingdao/Tsingtao, a city and port in eastern Shandong on Jiaozhou Bay in 1914. Japan's "Twenty-one Demands" on China in 1915 attempted to give the Japanese special rights in southern Manchuria, eastern Inner Mongolia, and the Shandong Peninsula. Japan was awarded a League of Nations mandate, 1919+1941, over what had been the islands of German Micronesia. Manchuria was invaded and conquered by Japan in 1931 and then renamed Manchukuo. Shanghai was attacked in 1932, and China itself was invaded in 1937. Japan occupied Hainan and the Spratley Islands in 1939. The Japanese threatened Thailand and Indochina in 1940 if not earlier.

1905+1955: Charlie Chaplin (1889+1977), British comedian and director, long a resident of the USA, was one of the world’s leading film actors and producers.

1905+now: William Clark, a Montana copper tycoon, had a railroad built across the Mojave Desert in order to better ship ore to Pacific ports. The town and then city of Las Vegas, Nevada, was continuously settled and formally founded when the railroad reached the Las Vegas Valley on its way from Salt Lake City to Los Angeles.
1906: for the first time, the czar seriously consulted the imperial duma/Russian parliament. The Duma wrote Russia's first constitution, the Fundamental Law. But, the czar quickly dissolved the Duma after most of its members turned against the government.

Finland was the first European nation to give women the vote.

The Aga Khan III/Aga Sultan Sir Mohammed Shah (1877+1957), from Karachi, the imam/leader of the Ismaili sect of Moslems, organized the All India Moslem League with delegates from India and Burma at Dacca/Dhaka in today's Bangladesh.

French and Italian trains could travel some 12.3 miles through the Simplon Tunnel, which was the longest railroad tunnel at the time.

An April earthquake, the most famous in West Coast history, in San Francisco, California, measured 8.3 on the Richter scale. Many of the buildings that were not knocked down quickly caught on fire and burned an area of some four square miles. Some 700 people were killed, and about half of the city's 400,000 residents were left homeless.

The Japanese government connected their own with a network of privately owned railway lines and formed a national railroad system.

The USA’s Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 100 (at 100.25) for the first time ever on 12 January.

The leaders in Beijing reorganized the central bureaucracy when they replaced the old Six Ministries with a dozen somewhat modern departments.

France and Britain established joint political control over the islands of the New Hebrides in Oceania.

There was severe flooding in the Hong Kong region.

The San Francisco school board temporarily put students of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean ancestry into separate public schools.

Turkey ceded the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt under pressure from the British.

The revolutionary Society of Union and Progress (CUP), better known in history as the "Young Turks," was first formed this year as the Ottoman Freedom Society. Most of its members were young military officers and members of the civil service who wanted to reform and modernize the Ottoman Empire. It had supporters all over the empire but was especially strong in Macedonia.

Oil was discovered in Persia/Iran where there was a first brief experiment with constitutional government.

The Dreadnought class of battleships started to go to sea with the British navy. They were superior in armaments, gunnery, and speed to other ships.

Alfred Dreyfus (1859+1935), a Jew, was finally and fully exonerated of spying for the Germans by a civilian court in France and was returned to his army rank of captain. He had first been sent unjustly to the penal colony on Devil’s Island in French Guiana in 1894. (Dreyfus served with distinction during World War I and was awarded the Legion of Honor.)

Under the terms of the Burke Act, American Indians who lived away from their tribes became American citizens.

President Theodore Roosevelt received the Nobel Prize for peace for his efforts in personal diplomacy between Russia and Japan during the Portsmouth peace talks and during the Algeciras conference in Spain, which helped to reduce international tensions and conflicts especially among the British, French, and Germans.

J.J. Thomson (1856+1940), the Cavendish Professor of Physics at Cambridge University, received the Nobel Prize for his work in discovering the electron. He also helped established the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge.

August von Wasserman (1866+1925), a German bacteriologist, successfully developed a test for syphilis.

A dry-dock was sent some 12,000 miles from Virginia across the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, thru the Suez Canal, the Red Sea, and the Indian Ocean to the Ship Repair Facility at the Subic Naval Station in the Philippines which had also
become the USA's largest Marine Corps Training Facility in the world.

The Rolls Royce "Silver Ghost" and the Daimler-Benz "Mercedes" set the standard for luxury automobiles.

Georges Sorel (1847–1922), a French philosopher, wrote an essay, "Reflexions sur la Violence," which praised revolutionary violence.

Pablo Picasso had already, at the age of 25, completed more than 200 paintings and hundreds of drawings and other works. Picasso did a famous portrait of the expatriate American writer Gertrude Stein (1874–1946) who lived in Paris for many years.

Jack London, the author of The Call of the Wild (1903), The Sea Wolf (1904), and White Fang (1906), was the most popular American writer of the time and had been translated into nearly 70 languages.

Upton Sinclair's novel The Jungle painted such a stark and disgusting picture of the Chicago stockyards and meat packing processes that the US Pure Food and Drugs Act quickly passed Congress, with President Roosevelt's full approval, after the media and the public vented their outrage. Sinclair (1878–1968) was a socialist, a utopian, and, later in life, prominent in California politics and a Nobel prize winner.

Leon Trotsky / Lev Davidovich Bronstein (1879–1940), Russian revolutionary: "Lenin's method leads to this: the party organization at first substitutes itself for the party as a whole. Then the central committee substitutes itself for the party organization, and finally a single dictator substitutes himself for the central committee." Upton Sinclair: "I aimed for the public's heart and by accident I hit it in the stomach." Ambrose Bierce (1842–1914), American journalist and author of The Devil's Dictionary/The Cynic's Word Book: "CHRISTIAN, n. One who believes that the New Testament is a divinely inspired book admirably suited to the spiritual needs of his neighbors." "HISTORY, n. An account, mostly false, of events, mostly unimportant, which are brought about by rulers, mostly knaves, and soldiers, mostly fools."

1906 and 1911: The German government protested France's efforts to take-over Morocco.

1906+1910: Most art historians agree that Pablo Picasso's Les Demoiselles d'Avignon (1906/7) and Georges Braque's Nude (1907/8) are examples of a new artistic style. The French critic Louis Vauxcelles wrote a review in 1908 of an exhibition of paintings by Braque in which he used the term "cubism." Braque (1882–1963) and Pablo Picasso called it "analytical cubism" and quickly moved to the front ranks of the art world. Others who contributed to or advanced this style or approach were Juan Gris / Jose Victoriano Gonzalez (1887–1927) and Fernand Leger (1881–1955).

Braque: "Art is meant to disturb."

1906+1911: There were some moderates in Russia, like Prime Minister Stolypin, who attempted to bring about land reforms and other legislation to benefit the peasants and workers, but not much was accomplished because of the entrenched reactionaries who continued to paralyze the government.

Mass public demonstrations in Persia forced the shah to convocate the majlis/national assembly to write a progressive constitution in 1906. When the new shah in 1909 attempted to rule without the new constitution, he was deposed in 1909. By 1911, however, the majlis had been quieted, and Persia seemed to be ruled much as it had been before.

There was a so-called Austro-Serbian "Pig War."

1906+1914: There was a Liberal ministry in Britain, which passed a number of social reform measures.

The USA built the Panama Canal, which was completed just as World War I started.

1906+1917: Emma Goldman (1869–1940) and Alexander Berkman edited and published the anarchist monthly Mother Earth in NYC.

1907: During the 20th century's worst weather-caused disaster, some 24 million Chinese people died of famine.

France, Britain, and Russia formed the Triple Entente against Germany and Austria-Hungary. The Germans thought they were being encircled. Diplomatically and militarily the major players were already lined-up and in place for World War I.
The Russians and British divided Persia between them and reached an agreement about their spheres of control in Afghanistan and India. As a result they were able to better coordinate their defensive efforts in regards to the Germans and Austrians, or so they claimed.

The second Duma met in Russia.

1.2 million immigrants landed in the New World, mostly in the USA. Many of them were Italians, Greeks, Poles, and Russian/Polish Jews.

A subsidiary of Royal Dutch-Shell discovered large amounts of petroleum in Sarawak in East Malaysia.

Norwegian steam ships outnumbered their sailing ships.

Universal male suffrage was granted in Austria.

Maria Montessori (1870+1952), an Italian physician and educator, started the first day-care center, La Casa dei Bambini/"the Children's House," in Rome. Her progressive techniques and child-centered philosophy became known worldwide later as the Montessori method.

Japanese officials and President Theodore Roosevelt, in the so-called "Gentlemen's Agreement," secretly concurred that in order to cool racial tensions in California and other parts of the USA, the Japanese government would stop issuing passports to Japanese workers to enter the USA.

The Ottoman Freedom Society was secretly formed in the city of Salonica/Thessaloniki in what today is Greek Makedhonia/Macedonia.

Some members of the Asiatic Exclusion League in Vancouver, British Columbia, were temporarily influential and violent. Mobs attacked Chinese residents and businesses in Chinatown. One of the League's slogans was "White Canada forever."

The first ever national elections were held in July in the Philippines which were some of the first elections held anywhere in the Far East or Southeast Asia.

The Dutch completed their grasp of the island of Sumatra by defeating the Achinese tribe.

The Panic of 1907 in the USA caused a run on the banks. Confidence was restored when J.P. Morgan called-in $100 million in European gold that he was owed.

Wireless telegraphy messages passed between Canada and Britain.

New Zealand became a dominion within the British Empire/commonwealth.

Newfoundland became self-governing.

President Roosevelt sent part of the US Navy fleet, now the world's second largest after the United Kingdom's, on an impressive round the world tour. It was quickly nicknamed the "Great White Fleet" for the color of its ships. (It returned to the USA in 1909.)

The Tata Iron and Steel Company was founded in West Bengal with private capital furnished mainly by industrialist Jamsetji N. Tata (1839+1904) who had grown rich off of his cotton mills in Bombay/Cooria and Nagpur. His son Dorabji (1859+1932) continued from the base built by his father and with help from his kinspeople put together over the years hydro-electric power production and an iron-steel company which laid the basis of India's industrial revolution.

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The Hurley Machine Co. invented an early washing machine.

Edward Elgar (1857+1934), a self-taught English composer, wrote his march *Pomp and Circumstance* that quickly became the graduation music of choice at many schools.

The Boy Scout movement was started by Lt. General Robert S. S. Baden-Powell (1857+1941), an Englishman, who had distinguished himself during the Boer War and earlier in India and Afghanistan.

Henry Deterding put together Royal Dutch Shell Company, a British-Dutch joint venture.

The luxury liners *Lusitania* and *Mauretania* were launched. The *Lusitania* set a transatlantic record by steaming from Ireland to New York in five days and a few minutes.

Rudyard Kipling, an English writer who knew about India from his personal experiences, was awarded the Nobel Prize for writing popular poetry and classic stories for children and adults.
The age of commercial telephotography began when Arthur Korn telegraphed a photograph from Munich to Berlin.

The photographers Joseph Stieglitz (1864–1946) and Edward Steichen (1879–1973) also operated a small gallery at 291 Fifth Avenue in New York City, which became known as the 291 Gallery. They exhibited fine-arts photographers and major avant-garde European and American painters and sculptors which did wonders for educating the tastes of American art audiences.

Joseph Pulitzer (1847–1911), American newspaper publisher: "...always fight for progress and reform." Walter Rauschenbusch, an American theologian and the author of Christianity and the Social Crisis: "The church is one social institution alongside of the family, the industrial organization of society, and the State. The Kingdom of God is in all these and realizes itself through them all." Henri Bergson in Creative Evolution: "The present contains nothing more than the past, and what is found in the effect was already in the cause."

1907+1910: Japan and Russia diplomatically divided Manchuria between them by treaty.

Louis Botha, the Boers' most important military leader during the Anglo-Boer War, became the prime minister of the Transvaal colony under the new constitution (1907) and then the first premier of the Union of South Africa (1910).

1907+1925: The USA militarily intervened in the affairs of Honduras six times

1907+1973: In general Australia had high tariffs.

1908: Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina and displaced the Turks. The Germans backed the Austrians. The Serbians, with visions of a Greater Serbia, were filled with disappointment and fury. Whatever little Balkan unity there may have been suffered.

Mustafa Kemal (1881–1938), a young military officer who already had extensive experience with secret reform organizations, joined the Society of Union and Progress in Istanbul. They were faced with the prospect of the Ottoman Empire losing control of Macedonia to outside powers as it had already lost Egypt, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Crete. The leadership of what would become known as the "Young Turk" movement in the Ottoman Empire became even more convinced and determined that modern Turks could only be born and thrive if they became westernized and modernized.

After the revolt in the Ottoman Empire and the first elections, the ethnic representation in the chamber of deputies was as follows: 142 Turks, 60 Arabs, 25 Albanians, 23 Greeks, 12 Armenians, 5 Jews, 4 Bulgarians, 3 Serbs, and one Vlach/Romanian.

The Congo Free State/Zaire, which had been the private possession of King Leopold II since 1885, became the Belgian Congo. The government of Belgium made this change after numerous atrocities and cruel scandals were alleged, reported, and verified.

About forty percent of the people in Uruguay lived in Montevideo.

President Theodore Roosevelt convened the first National Conservation Conference in the White House.

America's "Great White Fleet" arrived in Tokyo Bay.

Anti-Japanese demonstrations were organized in Guangzhou and other places in China and in some cases Japanese goods were burned. Some Chinese women wore rings with "National Humiliation" engraved in them.

Students at the only higher education institution in the Netherlands East Indies/Indonesia, the medical college in Batavia, formed the Budi Utomo/"glorious endeavor," a nationalist organization.

Tungushka, in central Siberia, was struck by the nucleus of a comet or by Encke's comet. It was a happening similar to the blast from an atomic bomb.

Both the Chinese emperor Guangxu and the real power behind him, his aunt Cixi, died during October. It was, and still is, widely believed that she had him killed.

The American Congress wisely earmarked about half of the Boxer indemnity owed by the Chinese government - about $12 million - for scholarships for the education of Chinese scholars in the USA. (The other half went to the China Foundation in 1924.)
The crown prince and King Carlos I of Portugal were assassinated in Lisbon.

Crete became part of Greece.

Bulgaria again officially declared its independence from Turkey and the Ottoman Empire, and Ferdinand I (1861-1948) became the country’s czar. He had been brought-up as an Austrian, and some called him "Foxy Ferdinand."

One Bolivian historian figured, at this time, that during the past century following the independence of his country there had been 27 civil wars that had caused deaths in the hundreds of thousands.

Pan-Serbs in Belgrade favored annexing Bosnia. They formed two secret organizations: the "National Defense" and the "Unification of Death," which was also called "The Black Hand." They intrigued with the Russians.

The Muslim National Organization (1906), the Serbian National Organization (1907), and the Croatian National Society (1908) were founded and acted like rival political parties in Bosnia.

Progressives and labor unionists demonstrated in New York City and other places asking for an end to sweatshops and child labor.

Wilbur Wright flew his airplane 30 miles in 40 minutes.

The first Black world heavyweight-boxing champion was Jack Johnson (1878-1946). He won his title from a Canadian boxer in a match in Sidney, Australia.

Elmer Sperry (1860-1930, an American electrical engineer, invented the gyrocompass.

General Motors was organized in the USA to manufacture automobiles.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was founded in the USA.

The Hughes Tool Company invented a steel-toothed rock-drilling bit that profited the American and global oil industry enormously.

The government of Persia sold a 60-year concession for oil exploration to a New Zealander, William Knox D’Arcy, who had made a fortune mining for gold in Australia. The results were the Burmah Oil Co. and the Anglo-Persian Co., which had the backing of the British government.

Gabriel Jonas Lippman (1845-1921), a French physicist, was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics for his contributions to the development of color photography.

Béla Bartók (1881-1945), a brilliant Hungarian composer, finished his String Quartet No. 1. He was greatly influenced by folk music.

Leon Trotsky, the Russian Marxist revolutionary, was the editor of Pravda in Vienna.

Iosif Vissarionovich Dzhugashvili/"Koba"/"Stalin" (1879-1953) became an infamous character by robbing the Tiflis/Tbilisi mail-coach in Georgia and escaping with lots of the czar’s gold which he invested in his future and the Bolshevik Party.

Archeologists working on the Minoan palace at Phaistos, Crete, found a six and a half inch hard-baked clay disk, subsequently called the Phaistos Disk, dated -1700, which makes it one of the oldest printed documents in the world. Either Cretan or some other writing, it is not yet known, is on both sides of the disk.

The Dutch-French anthropologist Arnold van Gennep (1873-1957) used the term rites de passage/"rites of passage" to describe the initiation of people into different important phases of their lives such as baptism, adulthood, marriage, and parenthood.

Leo Tolstoy: "This nest of robbers, calling itself the Austrian Empire, was counting on the fact that other such nests of robbers, preoccupied at the present moment in their own affairs, would permit this usurpation [the annexation of Bosnia] without demanding the acknowledgement of the right of each one of them to participate in this robbery."

Israel Zangwill (1864-1926), British writer: "America is God’s Crucible, the great Melting-Pot where all the races of Europe are melting and reforming!"

Emmeline Pankhurst, British suffragette: "We have taken this action, because as women . . . we realize that the condition of our sex is so deplorable that it is our duty even to break the law in order to call attention to the
reasons why we do so." "Women had always fought for men, and for their children. Now they were ready to fight for their own human rights."  
**George Bernard Shaw:** "Place the work of a wife and mother on the same footing as other work; that is, on the footing of labor worthy of its hire."

**Cesar Ritz** (1850-1918), Swiss hotel owner: "The customer is never wrong."

1908/9: The Ottoman Empire swayed and shook when nationalists in the Adriatic and Balkan provinces, led by members of the Society of Union and Progress (CUP), staged uprisings and the "Young Turks" revolted and called for fundamental reforms. They forced the sultan of Turkey, Abd-ul-Hamid II (1842-1918), the "Great Assassin" as some called him, to activate the constitution of 1876, which he had never promulgated and summon a parliament in 1908. The Ottoman parliament had a large majority of Young Turk members, most of whom were progressive military officers and civil servants. The sultan abdicated and went into exile in 1909. This was not quite the end, however, of the Ottoman dynasty.

1908+1910: The German South Seas Expedition, based at Rabaul, New Guinea, surveyed the cultures of many islanders in Micronesia and other German colonies in Oceania. The Hamburg Science Foundation/Hamburgische Wissenschaftliche Stiftung funded it.

1908+1914: "The Eight," as some called them, or the "Ashcan school" of artists, as critics who did not like their work called them, organized the famous New York Armory Show of 1913 which presented many Americans with their first look at "modern" art. Some of these street-level Ashcan artists were George Bellows, William Glackens, Robert Henri, George Luks, Everett Shinn, and John Sloan.

1908+1915: Portugal went from the assassination of Carlos I and his eldest son to a republic to having a liberal constitution to the dictatorship of Pimenta de Castro.

1908+1924: Hussein ibn Ali (1856-1931), the founder of the Hashemite dynasty of Iraq and Jordan, was the emir of Mecca (1908-1916) and then the king of the Hejaz (1916-1924), which is that part of western Saudi Arabia on the Red Sea. T.E. Lawrence (1888-1935), "Lawrence of Arabia," helped persuade him in 1916 to switch his loyalties from the Turks and Germans to the British and Arab independence. Both the British and the Wahabis found him to be difficult to deal with, and in 1924 he was exiled to Cyprus and then Amman, Jordan.

1908+1927: Henry Ford's revolutionary new Model T motorcar for the masses, often called the "Tin Lizzy," originally cost $850. It was mass-produced by the Ford Motor Company using an assembly-line method invented in Detroit. A 4-cylinder engine drove the Model T. Eventually some 15 million would be made and sold.

1908+1935: Juan Vicente Gomez was, according to some observers, the last of the traditional caudillos that ruled Venezuela.

1909: The Indian Counsels Act provided for the start of provincial legislatures in India.

Albanian rebels, encouraged by elements within Montenegro, created military problems for the Turks.

After suppressing an insurrection that started in 1906, the government of the USA ended its direct military control of Cuba.

Provincial assemblies met in China for the purpose of suggesting reforms and writing a national constitution - as part of the ongoing efforts since the Boxers' uprising to modernize - and quickly became debating societies that often denounced the many inadequacies and abuses of the local and national governments.

Turkey and Serbia recognized Austria's takeover of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Liberal government in Britain proposed national old-age pensions.

There were about 5.2 million Jews in Russia (including Poland); 2 million in Austria-Hungary; 1.7 million in the USA; about 600,000 in Germany; 400,000 in Turkey; 200,000 in Britain; and about 100,000 in France.

The Canadians and Americans peacefully negotiated and signed an International Boundary Waters Convention.

Tel Aviv/"Hill of Spring" was founded, not far north of Jaffa, Israel, on land that had been
bought from the Turks. Some called it the first all-Jewish city in the modern world.

Women were admitted to German universities.

The Girl Guides/Scouts were organized in Britain.

Amateur radio broadcasts started in the USA.

The era of plastics materials had arrived.


The German Ferdinand Braun (1850+1918) and the Italian Guglielmo Marconi were awarded the Nobel Prize in physics for developing wireless telegraphy and cathode rays.

The Germans started phosphate mining on Anguar in Palau in the western Caroline islands of Micronesia.

General Electric started to sell the first electric toasters.

The psychiatrist Sigmund Freud lectured in America.

American explorers Robert E. Peary (1856+1920) and Matthew Henson supposedly reached the North Pole, but many experts believe Peary's reckoning was wrong.

The Frenchman Louis Bleriot (1872+1936) flew his own monoplane across the English Channel in 37 minutes.

Edward Hopper (1882+1967), an American painter who seemed not to have been much influenced by European trends and styles, finished *Summer Interior*.

Joseph Pulitzer, Hungarian-born American newspaper editor and owner: "A cynical, mercenary, demagogic, corrupt press will produce in time a people as base as itself."

Theodore Roosevelt commented on "Men who form the lunatic fringe in all reform movements." Filippo Tommaso Marinetti (1876+1944), an Italian artist, in his manifesto of Futurism: "Except in struggle, there is no more beauty. No work without an aggressive character can be a masterpiece." William James:

"An unlearned carpenter of my acquaintance once said in my hearing 'there is very little difference between one man and another, but what little there is, is very important.' This seems to me to go to the root of the matter."

1909/10: Britain faced a constitutional crisis when the House of Commons passed both the "People's Budget" and the second Home Rule Bill for Ireland and Tory members of the House of Lords threatened to block their passage. Two commoners, who were both lawyers, Herbert Asquith (1852+1928) and David Lloyd George (1864+1945), the leaders of the Liberal government (1908+1915) threatened to abolish the House of Lords, who caved-in, not without a struggle, and passed both pieces of legislation.

1909+1911: Puyi/Hsuan Tung (1906+1967) was the last Manchu or dynastic emperor of China.

1909+1913: The distinguished American photographer Alfred Stieglitz (1864+1946) and others introduced Americans to some of the best contemporary artists - Constantine Brancusi, Braque, Cezanne, Matisse, Georgia O'Keeffe, Rodin, Max Weber - by setting-up various exhibitions.

1909+1914: Most American farmers, politicians, and agricultural economists called this the "golden age" of American agriculture.

1909+1935: The value of exports from the Philippines increased from 60.0 million pesos in 1909 to an average of 234.7 million pesos in 1919+1924 to 297.9 million pesos in 1925+1930, and then declined, during the Depression, to 213.2 million pesos in 1930+1935.

1909+1948: William Lyon Mackenzie King (1874+1950) was the most important Canadian politician during this period. He earned a PhD in political economy. He was a strong Liberal and Sir Wilfrid Laurier's successor. King was minister of labor (1904+1914), Liberal leader (from 1919), and prime minister (1921+1926, 1926+1930, and 1935+1948). He insisted that each of the dominions should be autonomous within the British Empire. He worked closely with President Roosevelt during WWII and supported the founding of the United Nations. He published *Industry and Humanity* in 1918.

1910: Korea was formally annexed by Japan.
Natal, Cape of Good Hope Colony, Transvaal, and the Orange Free State, two British and two Boer republics, were joined to form the Union of South Africa, a self-governing dominion with the same self-governing dominion status within the British Empire as Australia, Canada, Newfoundland, and New Zealand. Louis Botha, the premier of the Transvaal colony, and his fellow Afrikaners were the new rulers. Some people assumed that the British Protectorates of Bechuanaland, Basutoland, and Swaziland would also, in time, join this union.

The Dutch ruled all of the Indonesian Archipelago/Netherlands East Indies except for East/Portuguese Timor and northern Borneo (Sarawak, Brunei, and Sabah/North Borneo).

Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru - the Andean republics carved out of what had been the Inca Empire - had been ruled during the past century, and probably would be ruled for another century, by non-Indian aristocrats. These three countries were economically backward in comparison to their neighbors.

Spanish anarchists formed the Anarcho-Syndicalist movement with workers from the National Confederation of Workers.

Of all the rural heads of families in Mexico, many of whom were Indians, about 95 percent were landless. About half of the people of Mexico lived on haciendas, and about 75 percent all Mexicans were dependent on the haciendas for the necessities of life, including their wages.

Russia encouraged Bulgaria and Serbia to form an alliance against the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Germany’s iron production was the largest in Europe, 14.8 million tons. Britain produced 10.2 tons of iron. The USA was the world’s leading producer of both iron and coal.

Oil was discovered in Mexico.

Berlin had a population of 3.7 million, Hamburg had 932,000, Munich had 595,000, Leipzig 588,000, Dresden 547,000, Cologne 516,000, Breslau 512,000, and Frankfurt am Main 425,000.

Gabon, French Congo, and Ubangi-Shari-Chad became French Equatorial Africa.

Butros Ghali, the Egyptian premier, was assassinated.

Montenegro became a kingdom.

Nearly a quarter of all nonagricultural workers in the USA were women.

The natives of the Sokehs municipality on Pohnpei in the eastern Caroline Islands in Micronesia risked rebellion against their German masters and their land policies, labor taxes, and harsh punishments. After resisting for two months and killing three Germans, 17 of the rebels were arrested in 1910 and shot by a firing squad the next year. This was the last major uprising against foreigners in Micronesia, parts of which the Germans administered between 1899 and 1914.

In Britain there were 122,000 telephones in use. In the USA, over seven million telephones were used; AT&T rented out most of them.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded in the USA.

Electric washing machines started to make it easier to keep clothes clean in some places.

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911), an Austrian, wrote his Symphony No. 9 in D Major.

The first neon light flashed.

The US Army Medical Corps started to use tincture of iodine as a disinfectant for wounds.

In his book The Future of Warfare, the Swiss banker Jean de Block predicted trench warfare. Maurice de Vlaminck (1876-1958), a sometime racing cyclist, violinist, and writer, was a largely
self-taught painter. He completed the painting *A Small Town by a Lake*.

The British critic Roger Fry (1866+1934) used the term "post-Impressionism" to describe the work of Paul Cezanne (1839+1906), Vincent Van Gogh (1853+1890), and Georges Seurat (1859+1891) - all of whom were supposedly less interested than the Impressionists in the effects of light and color.

**David Lloyd George**, liberal British politician, on the members of the House of Lords: "There are no credentials. They do not even need a medical certificate. They need not be sound either in body or mind. They only require a certificate of birth - just to prove that they are first of the litter. You would not choose a spaniel on these principles." **Leo Tolstoy**: "Historians are like deaf people who go on answering questions that no one has asked them." "The views you have acquired about Darwinism, evolution, and struggle for existence won't explain to you the meaning of your life and won't give you guidance in your actions, and a life without an explanation of its meaning and importance, and without the unfailing guidance that stems from it, is a pitiful existence." **Adolph S. Ochs** (1858+1935), publisher of the *New York Times*, on the paper's editorial policy: "All the news that's fit to print." **Jane Addams**, American progressive and social worker: "Private beneficence is totally inadequate to deal with the vast numbers of the city's [Chicago's] disinherited." **Theodore Roosevelt**: "The true friend of property, the true conservative is he who insists that property shall be the servant not the master of the commonwealth; who insists that the creature of man's making shall be the servant and not the master of the man who made it. The citizens of the United States must effectively control the mighty commercial forces which they have themselves called into being." **Maria Montessori**: "Education is not acquired by listening to words, but by experiences in the environment." **Emma Goldman**, American anarchist: "Anarchism, then, really, stands for the liberation of the human mind from the dominion of religion; the liberation of the human body from the dominion of property; liberation from the shackles and restraints of government."

**1910+1913**: Millions of people died in China from the bubonic plague.

**1910+1920**: Another phase of the Mexican Revolution started. Opposition was directed at Porfirio Diaz and his gang, who had governed Mexico badly for nearly 30 years. (Diaz had been president of Mexico during 1876+80 and was president again during 1884+1911.) The new rulers were mainly middle-class generals.

Many experts regard Vasily Kandinsky (1866+1944), a Russian painter who spent many years in Paris and Germany, as one of the first non-representational painters who saw and portrayed things that weren't visually there. Some people called his work "abstract art" a term which came to mean for most people non-figurative art.

**1910+1930**: The number of Blacks living in the states of the northern USA tripled. Nearly a million Blacks moved out of the Southeast.

**1910+1932**: After almost 800 years of being a monarchy, Portugal changed governments repeatedly and forms of government from liberal republic to New Republic and military dictatorship (1917) to a different military dictatorship (1918) to yet another dictatorship and the end of the so-called First Republic (1926). A national nonparty government followed that. At all times, various leaders of the military were the power behind all the governments and ministries.

**1910+1936**: The British Empire during the reign of George V claimed sovereignty over some 11.4 million square miles of territory and 410 million people.

**1910+1944**: Japan ruled Korea.

**1910+now**: KCBS in San Francisco, founded by Charles Herrold School, is the oldest continuously run radio station in the world.

**1911**: On October 10, "Double Tenth," New Army officers and their men easily started a mutiny at Wuchang/Wu-ch'ang, across the Yangzi River from Hankou. The Manchu governor ran away. The rebels' military government was quickly supported by the Hubei provincial assembly, which declared their independence from the Manchu/Qing Dynasty, which had been in power since 1644. By the end
of the year, all the provinces of southern and
central China had followed their example.

Sun Zhongshan/Sun Yat-sen/Yatsen
(1866+1925), the founder of the
Kuomintang/Guomindang/Chinese National
Party, which united the Combined League
Society and other groups, had been at the Brown
Palace Hotel in Denver, Colorado, in the USA at
the time of the Wuchang mutiny. He was the
favorite political leader of many of the
revolutionary politicians at Nanking by the time
he returned to China in December 1911.

Yuan Shikai/Shih-k’ai, the most effective
military and political official of the imperial
government, the former leader of the Beiyang
Army (supposedly China's best) who had been
dismissed from government service in 1909,
defected to the republican side after having been
appointed with desperation by the Manchus as
their prime minister in November 1911, which
was a certain sign of the dynasty's disarray.

Outer Mongolia broke away from China.

The Manchu garrisons in Tibet were sent to
Darjeeling from whence they went to Calcutta
for shipment back to China. The Thirteenth
Dalai Lama returned to Tibet.

The British decided to reunite Bengal with India
and to move the central government's capital
from Calcutta to Delhi, which shortly would
become New Delhi.

During the revolution in Mexico, the rebels'
army frightened Porfirio Diaz out of office and
occupied Mexico City. Francisco Madero
(1873+1913), who had been educated in part at
the University of California at Berkeley, was the
new, weak leader of the revolution with only a
mild set of reforms in his head and heart.

The US government won an antitrust suit
against Standard Oil and thus broke-up one of
the world's great monopolies.

American had more money - more than a billion
dollars - invested in Mexico than Mexicans.

The passage of the National Insurance Act in
Britain gave the people of Britain an early
version of a national health insurance system.

The House of Lords avoided extinction by
assenting to the Parliament Act (1911) that
limited their ability to delay legislation passed
by the House of Commons to two years. This
seemingly banal reform made it possible for the
Liberal-Nationalist majority in the House of
Commons to pass a weak Home Rule act for
Ireland despite the opposition of the
Conservatives and Protestant Unionists in Ulster
who were led by Edward Carson (1854+1935).

Many Italian nationalists and expansionists felt
that Trento and Trieste, which were part of the
Austrian Empire, belonged to Italy.

The mayor of Tripoli surrendered the city to the
Italians.

There was a Second Moroccan Crisis. Morocco
became a French protectorate.

Germany took the French Congo as a colony.

The Young Arab Association was founded.

More than half of Italian industrial
manufacturing was in Lombardy, Piedmont, and
Liguria. About 25 percent of those workers
made textiles. Of that number, about 75 percent
were women. More than half of the entire
Italian population was agricultural workers of
one sort or another.

About 10 percent of the population of British
Columbia were Asians, mainly Chinese.

The seven founding members of the Unification
or Death secret society, or Black Hand some
called it, met in an apartment on Bosnia Street in
Belgrade. Some of their members had
assassinated the king and queen of Serbia in
1903.

William Hill, an English physician, invented the
gastro scope so that stomachs could be examined
thru a tube.

The Triangle Shirt Waist Company fire in NYC
killed 146 sweatshop workers, mostly immigrant
women, and the resulting press coverage made
many people for the first time aware of unsafe
and exploitative factory and working conditions.
This tragic event stimulated progressive reforms
in building codes, safety inspections, fire safety,
and increases in union membership.

An airplane flying between Munich and Berlin
reached an altitude of over 12,000 feet.
Explorers from Norway, Germany, Australia, Britain, and Japan all searched for the South Pole. Roald Amundsen (1872+1928), a Norwegian, was the first to succeed.

The first practical electric battery-operated self-starter for automobiles was invented by the American electrical engineer Charles F. Kettering (1876+1958). It was used in the 1912 Cadillac and then in virtually all automobiles and trucks. (Kettering went on to invent a diesel engine for locomotives, a four-wheel-brake system, Freon for air conditioners, and no-knock gasoline. (He was the major benefactor of the Sloan-Kettering Institute for cancer research in New York.)

Heika Onnes (1853+1926), a Dutch physicist, discovered some of the properties of superconductivity. (He was awarded the Nobel prize for physics in 1913.)

Richard Strauss (1864+1949), a German composer, wrote his "light" opera Der Rosenkavalier.

Pablo Picasso (1881+1973), the great Spanish-French artist, who recently had helped create Cubism, had his first one-man exhibit in the USA at the 291 Gallery in New York City.

Hollywood, a suburb of Los Angeles, California, became the mecca of the American film industry. The weather and cheap land had something to do with it.

Joseph Pulitzer, an American newspaper tycoon, died and left enough money to Columbia University to establish a journalism school and to fund the giving of Pulitzer Prizes for superior reporting.

Escalators first worked at Earl's Court underground station in London.

Amadeo Maiuri started systematic excavations of the towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum in southern Italy that had been covered with volcanic ash from Mt. Versuvius since +79.

Theodore Roosevelt presided over the ceremonies for the opening of the Tonto/Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River in Arizona. It was one of the noteworthy starts of the "greening" of the American West.

The German-American anthropologist Franz Boas (1858+1942) proposed the notion of "cultural relativism" which claimed that all cultures are equally good.

Francisco Madero: "The people are not asking for bread, they are asking for liberty." R.A. Karini (1879+1904), Javanese woman, in her published letters: "We have no right to be stupid." Arnold Bennett (1867+1931), English novelist: "What great cause is he identified with?" 'He's identified... with the great cause of cheering us all up.'

1911/12: The first phase of the first modern Chinese revolution.

During the winter while the Manchu dynasty was being overthrown, Japanese army officers intrigued but failed to set up an independent Manchuria under a powerless Manchu official.

Sensing the weakness of the Ottoman Empire, Italy declared war on Turkey and invaded Libya in North Africa in September 1911. Italian forces were triumphant in the Italian/Italo-Turkish/Tripolitanian War that ended during October 1912. They annexed Tripoli/Libya and Cyrenaica in North Africa, but guerrilla warfare against the Italians continued thereafter.

1911+1914: Overt hostility against the government, as manifested in many ways, was common among workers and peasants in Russia.

1911+1915: Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill (1874+1965) was Britain's First Lord of the Admiralty.

Lionel Curtis (1872+1955), British writer, about Winston Churchill in a letter to Nancy Astor: "In private conversation he tries on speeches like a man trying on ties in his bedroom to see how he would look in them."

1911+1918: The Ottoman Empire was showing signs of falling for the last time (which it finally did in 1922).

The Kaiser Wilhelm Society in Berlin, which was a joint private industry and government undertaking, helped the following researchers win Nobel Prizes: Albert Einstein, Emil Fischer, Fritz Haber, Max von Laue, and Max Planck.

1911+1919: Emiliano Zapata (1880+1919) led a revolt of mainly Mexican Indians and peasants,
some called them bandits, against the various ineffective governments and politicians in Mexico. Zapata's slogan was "Land and Liberty." Government forces defeated them, and Zapata was killed by federal troops.

1911+1923: With the exception of 1913/1914, the forces of the Ottoman Empire were at war. During these years, Mustafa Kemal went from being a little known, Adjutant-Major to a Marshal and the most important leader of the revived Turkish nation-state and an international figure of some importance. One could easily have said he was the most important person in the Muslim world.

1911+1931: The Sanusiyya/Sanusi Muslim Brotherhood, an orthodox order of Sufis who in effect had ruled the Arab tribes in the Ottoman province of Tripoli and Cyrenaica in behalf of the Ottoman caliph, fought a guerrilla war against the Italians. Mustafa Kemal served as part of the Ottoman command that supported the Sanusi in Libya during 1911/12 and learned about the Arabs and guerrilla warfare.

1911+1940: Manufacturing increased, and agriculture decreased in Korea.

1911+1950: Tibet was an independent country free from Chinese domination.

1911+1959: Frank Lloyd Wright (1867+1959), who had earlier been the architect of Robie House in Chicago, designed a number of remarkable buildings: Taliesin (1911), the earthquake-proof Imperial Hotel in Tokyo (1916+1920), Falling Water and the Johnson Wax office block (1936), Taliesin West (1938), Florida Southern College (1940), and the Guggenheim Museum of Art in NYC (1959).

1912: The T'ung-men-hui / T'ung Meng Hui revolutionary party, with its provisional government at Nanking, became the Kuomintang/Nationalist Party and proclaimed its leader, Sun Yat-sen, the president of China on 1 January. After only a few weeks, Yuan Shikai/Shih-k'ai, who had strong military support, replaced Sun Yat-sen.

By the end of this year the Ottoman Empire in Europe had been confined to Istanbul, the Gallipoli peninsula, three fortress towns in northern Albania, the town of Ioannina in northwestern Greece, and the most important town or city in Thrace, Adrianople/Edirne.

The Balkan states—with Serbia and Bulgaria leading and Greece and Montenegro following—made an alliance for the purpose of waging war against the Turks.

Some 20,000 Kosovo Albanians embarrassed the forces of the Ottoman Empire by occupying Skopje in Macedonia.

Italy continued its attack on the Turks in North Africa and took Cyrenaica, Rhodes and the other islands of the Dodecanese in the Aegean sea, and Tripoli as spoils of war. They also bombed Beirut and the Ottoman forts guarding the entrance to the Dardanelles.

During October, the Ottomans accepted the Italian annexation of Libya while the Italians agreed to evacuate the Dodecanese in the southeast Aegean sea.

Morocco was divided into French and Spanish parts.

Trade between the Belgian Congo and the "home" country amounted to only about one percent of Belgian trade.

There were about 661,000 industrial workers in Shanghai, China. Many of them were contract laborers.

The boy emperor Pu-yi/Hsuan T'ung, the last of the Manchu dynastic emperors, abdicated. (He was given a pension and permission to stay in the Forbidden City in Beijing until 1924 when he was driven out by a warlord.)

The deep conservatives and party bosses of the Republican Party in the USA denied the presidential nomination to Theodore Roosevelt who then ran as an independent "Bull Moose" progressive and got more votes (27.4 percent) than President Taft who ran as a regular Republican. With the Republicans divided, Woodrow Wilson, a progressive Democrat, won the election.

Both the Ulster Volunteers in Belfast and the National Volunteers in Dublin were preparing for war as the British Parliament prepared a fourth Home Rule Bill for Ireland.
The politicians elected during the general elections at this time for the German Reichstag served until after the end of WWI. The Social Democratic party became the largest party in the German Reichstag.

A Swiss firm built a diesel locomotive that generated 1200 horsepower.

Some 33 American cities had socialist mayors, including Milwaukee in Wisconsin, Butte in Montana, and Flint in Michigan.

Politicians in Italy approved universal male suffrage.

The unsinkable British passenger steamship Titanic, on its maiden voyage from Liverpool to the USA, hit an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland in April and sank: 1513 of the 2200 passengers drowned.

The Danish ship Selandia, which was the first diesel-powered steamship, went 26,000 miles from Bangkok, Thailand, to London without refueling.

The South African Native National Congress, renamed the African National Congress in 1923, was founded primarily by middle-class Blacks.

Something like 20,000 textile workers, half of them women and children, went on strike in Lawrence, Massachusetts. They were supported by the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) and led by "the rebel girl" Elizabeth Gurley Flynn.

Possibly five million Americans went to the cinemas/movies every day. There were about 400 cinemas in London.

Sidney Russell, an American physician, invented the heating pad, which preceded the electric blanket.

Casimir Funk (1884+1967), a Polish-American biochemist, invented the term vitamin.

Harold Brearley invented stainless steel.

Hiram Bingham (1875+1956), an American archaeologist, explored Machu Picchu and Vitcos, both Inca fortresses, near Cuzco, Peru.

Carl Jung (1875+1961), a Swiss psychiatrist, wrote The Theory of Psychoanalysis.

Marcel Duchamp (1887+1968), a French-born American artist who was a futurist and one of the founders of Dadaism, painted Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2.

"Piltdown Man," supposedly 50,000 years old, was "found" near Lewes, England. "He" was a gigantic hoax that was not completely uncovered until 1953.

Copper, the metal of the electrical revolution, was replacing silver and gold in importance in the mining economies of Nevada, Arizona, and other places.

Theodore Roosevelt: "The only tyrannies from which men, women and children are suffering in real life are the tyrannies of minorities." Benito Mussolini (1893+1945): "Journalism is not a profession but a mission. Our newspaper [Avanti!] is our party, our ideal, our soul, and our banner which will lead us to victory."

Thomas A. Edison: "I am spending more than my income getting up a set of 6,000 films to teach the 19 million school children in the schools of the United States to do away entirely with books." Memorial motto, quoting from Tennyson, found near the frozen body of Robert Falcon Scott (1868+1912), British arctic explorer: "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield." In his last letter to his wife: "Make the boy interested in natural history if you can; it is better than games."

1912/3: The First Balkan War. The Turks/Ottomans lost Salonica to the Greeks and Edirne to the Bulgarians. During this time many people felt the Ottoman Empire ceased to be a major power in the Balkans and Eastern Europe.

The victors were the members of the Russian-sponsored Balkan League composed of Bulgaria, Greece, Montenegro, and Serbia. When Montenegro declared war on the Ottomans in October 1912 that was the start of the First Balkan War. Bulgaria and Serbia gave the Turks an ultimatum demanding autonomy for ethnic communities in the Ottoman Empire. Important Greeks called for Christians to fight for their freedom inside the Ottoman Empire. Istanbul then declared war on Bulgaria and Serbia. The Greeks became combatants shortly thereafter. In total some 200,000 people, both civilians and military, were killed. When the fighting stopped,
the only European territories left in the hands of the Turks were the Gallipoli peninsula, the land between Istanbul and the city of Catalca, and a few strongholds in Albania.

Austria and Russia both mobilized their forces when the Serbs occupied northern Albania.

1912+1916: Membership in the Indonesian nationalist organization Sarekat Islam increased to 360,000.

1912+1928: Warlords and not the republican government in Beijing as a practical matter, ruled many parts of China.

1912+1933: American Marines, except for a brief time in 1926, were stationed in Nicaragua, by invitation, to help maintain order.

1912+1949: The shaky, war-torn first Chinese Republic.

1913: Yuan Shikai proclaimed himself president in March. Sun Yat-sen had proved to be an excellent political organizer, but he was forced into hiding by a much more wily veteran with experience in the use of practical power. Yuan Shikai, the president of China, negotiated and received a loan of some $25 million from the governments of France, Germany, Japan, Russia, and Britain in April on his own authority. Yuan Shikai dismissed three military governors who did not support him in June. Sun Yat-sen's supporters captured Nanjing and attempted to capture Shanghai, but they were suppressed by Yuan Shikai's troops by September. President Yuan Shikai then made himself, in effect, a dictator. He declared martial law, closed newspapers that were critical of his administration, arrested and assassinated opposition members of parliament and other opponents of his regime, outlawed the Guomindang party, and closed the provincial assemblies (which greatly reduced the influence of the gentry).

Greece annexed the island of Crete. King George I of Greece was assassinated.

The Second Balkan War, June-July 1913, which some have called the Balkan War of Partition, was caused when the victors fought over Macedonia. Bulgaria attacked Serbia and Greece. Bulgarian troops and Macedonian civilians were the major losers. The Turks kept Thrace. The Romanians, during Bulgaria's weakness, occupied southern Dobrudja on the Black Sea south of the Danube. Macedonia, formerly part of the Ottoman Empire, was divided between Bulgaria, Greece, and Serbia.

The British convened the Ambassadors' Conference in London during which it was agreed in January 1913 that Albania would become in effect independent of the Ottoman Empire. The borders of Albania were to be established by a commission of experts. They also agreed that Serbia would have access to the Adriatic. (Officially Albania did not become independent until 1922, according to some sources.)

General Victoriano Herta (1854+1916) and his forces seized Mexico City and control of the government and then killed president Francisco I. Madero, who had been until that time the leader of the revolution. Insurgent general Francisco "Pancho" Villa (1878+1923) and his guerrilla army of bandits, some called them, were loyal to Madero. They marched from Chihuahua in northern Mexico to the city of Juarez and vowed to conquer all of Mexico and carry out land reform. The Mexican people, and many others, including the US government, did not know who to recognize as the leader of Mexico.

Military officers in Turkey organized a putsch, in the sense that they replaced some of the top civilian and military officials above them, when it looked like Turkey's military operations in the Balkans were failing fast.

Most of British and French trade with Africa, which was not much, was with South Africa, Egypt, and Algeria. France's trade with tropical Africa was less than one percent of that country's total external trade. Britain's trade with tropical Africa was less than two percent of its external trade.

The Anglo-Turkish Convention fixed the boundary between today's Iraq and Kuwait.

Mahatma Gandhi was arrested in India for leading a passive resistance movement against the British.
During the first general elections held with universal male suffrage in Italy, the Catholic Electoral Union was very influential.

Phan Boi Chau founded the revolutionary Association for the Restoration of Vietnam/Viet Nam Quang Phuc Hoi.

The 16th Amendment authorized the federal government to collect graduated income taxes in the USA. The Seventeenth Amendment provided for the direct election of US senators. The Underwood Tariff Act, passed by the Wilson administration, reversed the long-term trend, favored by the Republicans, of raising tariffs. The American Federal Reserve System of national or central banking, the first since Jackson destroyed the Bank of the United States, was started for the purposes of issuing money and regulating credit. The nation was divided into 12 regions each under the supervision of a federal reserve bank. National and state banks in each region participating in the system were required to invest six percent of their capital in their reserve bank. In return the banks received Federal Reserve notes. In this manner the Federal Reserve System and not the supply of gold and silver determined the amount of money in circulation. The US president with the consent of the US senate appointed the Fed's governors. The member banks elected the various member boards in the regions. (The system works much the same way today.)

Germany passed Britain and became the largest producer of pig iron in Europe. Britain narrowly mined more coal than Germany. Both countries, separately, mined more coal than the rest of Europe combined.

The 11th Zionist Congress voted to make Hebrew, rather than German or Yiddish, the official language of Jews in Palestine.

Although about 80 percent of the total population was Black, the Native Land Act in the Union of South Africa set-aside some 87 percent of the land for Whites.

The Rockefeller Institute was started with an initial grant of $100 million by John D. Rockefeller.

Next to the Eiffel Tower, the Woolworth Building in NYC, at 232 m/791 feet, was the highest human-made structure in the world.

The Ford Motor Company's moving assembly line reduced the assembly time for an automobile from 12.5 to 1.5 hours.

Edouard Belin invented the Belinograph, which some called the Belino. It was an early portable facsimile/fax machine.

The Los Angeles aqueduct brought water some 346 km/251 miles from the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Mary Phelps Jacobs, a New Yorker, designed some of the first brassieres bras out of cord, ribbons, and handkerchiefs.

D.H. Lawrence (1885-1930), the son of an English miner, wrote the somewhat autobiographical novel Sons and Lovers.

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971), a Russian composer who spent most of his working life in Paris and the USA, completed The Rite of Spring.

Thomas Mann wrote Death in Venice.

The International Exhibition of Modern Art, often called the Armory Show, was held in February at the 69th Infantry Regiment Armory in New York City. It featured some 1300 paintings, sculptures, and prints by American and European artists. Many people found it to be their first look at "modern art."

Cecil B. DeMille (1881-1959), who later was a co-founder with Samuel Goldwyn of Paramount Films, made the first feature film in Hollywood, California, The Squaw Man.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965), medical missionary, musician, and philosopher, started his free hospital in Lambaréné, French Congo.

The first multimotored aircraft was flown.

Swedish engineers were the first to make and use diesel-electric railway engines.

Hans Geiger (1882-1945), a German scientist, and Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937), a New Zealand-English physicist, discovered a way to detect alpha particles. This became known as a radiation detector and even better known as a Geiger counter.
The first crude mammography tests for detecting breast cancer, using X-rays, were given by A. Salomen, a German physician.

John Jacob Abel (1857–1938), an American, invented a kind of artificial kidney.

Bela Schick (1877–1967), a Hungarian-American, invented the Schick test for diphtheria.

The American psychologist John Broadus Watson (1878–1958) presented a paper on "Psychology as the Behaviorist Sees It." Behaviorism held that observable and measurable animal and human behavior could be explained totally as responses to stimuli.

Woodrow Wilson (1856–1924), US statesman and president: "I want to take this occasion to say that the United States will never again seek one additional foot of territory by conquest."

Theodore Roosevelt in his Autobiography: "Do not hit at all if it can be avoided, but never hit softly." Eugene Victor Debs, socialist and union leader: "While there is a lower class I am in it, while there is a criminal element I am of it, and while there is a soul in prison I am not free."

George Bernard Shaw in Pygmalion: "I have to live for others and not for myself; that's middle class morality." Sigmund Freud in Totem and Taboo: "At bottom God is nothing more than an exalted father."

Ambrose Bierce, American wit, from The Devil's Dictionary: "Education: That which discloses to the wise and disguises from the foolish their lack of understanding." Miguel de Unamuno (1864–1936), Spanish philosopher: "Philosophy and religion are enemies, and because they are enemies they have need of one another." "The chiefest sanctity of a temple is that it is a place to which men go to weep in common." Theobald von Bethmann Hollweg (1856–1921), a senior German statesman: "Weltmacht und kein Krieg"/"World power but no war."

1913/14: The Irish Home Rule Bill passed the Commons in January 1913 to become law two years later. It was fully approved in September 1914 by Parliament with the proviso that its implementation would be delayed until after World War I.

1913+1916: Yuan Shikai was the president of the Republic of China and then, very briefly, its emperor.

1913+1918: Young Turk military officers, all members of the Society of Union and Progress, in effect ruled Turkey. Their very influential military advisers were Germans who sometimes also acted as field commanders.

1913+1922: Constantine I (1868–1923), the brother-in-law of Kaiser William II of Germany, twice failed as king of Greece during 1913+17 and 1920+22. He made Greece neutral during WWI but was forced out of office by liberal Greek politicians and the Allies. Then, in 1922, he was forced to abdicate to his son after a military revolt as the result of the disastrous results of the Greco-Turkish War.

1913+1929: Tax rates in Germany doubled while public expenditures during this same period for unemployment compensation and social welfare programs increased greatly.


1914: The Austro-Hungarian army scheduled maneuvers for the summer in Bosnia with archduke Franz Ferdinand, the inspector general of the armed forces of the Empire and heir to the Habsburg throne, as an observer. As reported in the newspapers, he was scheduled to tour Sarajevo on 28 June, the anniversary of the 1689 Battle of Kosovo, a time when enraged Serbs rose-up against the Turks, during the Serbian National Festival of Vidovdan/St. Vitus' Day. It was not a felicitous example of wise planning. The archduke's open car and convoy drove past five assassins, members of the Black Hand (who were dedicated to destroying the Habsburgs) before one threw a bomb at the archduke's car. While trying to get him to the hospital, the driver took a wrong turn, and a Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip (1895–1918) mortally shot both the archduke and his wife, Sophie, a Czech, the duchess of Hohenberg. (Not surprisingly there were anti-Serb demonstrations during the evening of 28 June 1914 in Sarajevo.)

Austria-Hungary, with German encouragement, threatened Serbia on 23 July; the Serbs partially called-up their forces. The Russian Imperial Council ordered the mobilization of their forces to show support for the Serbs against the Germans and Austrians on 25 July, but did not
Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia on the 28th of July. The deadline on the German ultimatum to the Russians to step back or demobilize expired the afternoon of 1 August. Germany declared war on France two days later. Germany invaded Belgium 4 August. Britain, in accordance with the Anglo-Belgian treaties of 1839 and 1870, entered the war against Germany to support Belgium while they supported their allies the French. Russia declared war on Turkey in October. Austria declared war on Russia. This is how Europe went to war.

A small group of Young Turks caused Turkey foolishly to join the Central Powers/Triple Alliance of Germany and Austria-Hungary in effect by signing a secret alliance with Germany. Their hope, among others, was to regain their recently lost territories in the Balkans. Italy, but not for long, joined the Triple Entente/Allied Powers of France, Britain, Russia, plus Portugal, Greece, Serbia, and Romania.

Norway, Spain, Spanish Morocco, Sweden, Switzerland, and the USA were neutral nations.

After the outbreak of WWI, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand seized control of German concessions in China and German colonies in the Pacific.

By October the first Australian and New Zealand expeditionary force, some 20,000 troops in all, set sail for the Suez Canal and Egypt.

The Russian economy was the fourth or fifth largest in the world even though it included many small domestic workshops.

The Japanese economy was showing all the signs of being industrialized in terms of shipbuilding, steel production, electric generation, railways, and its merchant and military navy. Japan bought about 70 percent of its iron ore overseas, mainly from Manchuria, northern China, and Korea.

The government of the Netherlands Indies/Dutch Indonesia received more than 13 percent of its budget from the taxation of opium.

During June, there was a so-called Red Week as part of a general strike and insurrection against the government in Italy.

The Russians surprisingly invaded East Prussia and defeated the Germans' 8th Army in August. The Russians were defeated at Tannenberg in late August and lost 92,000 prisoners. Paul von Hindenburg (1847+1934) and Erich Ludendorff (1865+1937) were successful German generals who won important victories over the Russians in East Prussia and who quickly became heroes at home.

By October, the Germans had advanced thru Belgium, had captured Antwerp, entered France, and had been stopped at the Marne River, nearly within sight of Paris. The Germans had reinforced their troops in Alsace to stop the French from attacking southern Germany. The battle lines on the western front changed little from then until the end of WWI. The entire schedule for the success of Germany's Schlieffen Plan (1895) was off.

The Russians invaded Hungary in September; Turkey attacked Russia.

The first Indian Expeditionary Force - composed of some 16,000 British and 28,500 Indian troops - arrived from Karachi at Marseilles, France, during late September. By the first of November some 16,000 Indian troops guarded the mouth of the Shatt-al-Arab where the Tigris and Euphrates converge and flow into the Persian Gulf and were ready to secure Abadan and make its refineries and pipelines safe from the Turks who joined the Central Powers on 1 November.

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Egypt and the Suez Canal were made a British protectorate.

Russia, France, and Britain signed the Treaty of London and pledged they would not agree to any separate surrender or peace agreements with the Central Powers.

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frontier against the Russians and the British in Egypt, Syria, and Mesopotamia/Iraq. The British Indian army captured the city of Basra in Mesopotamia/Iraq from the Turks.

Twice the Serbs fought the Austro-Hungarian armies in 1914. Often it was Muslims, Orthodox, and Catholics united against their fellow Serbs.

The first Canadian group of 33,000 troops landed in England.

Japan took-over the German colonies in the Northern Mariana, Marshall, and Caroline islands of Oceania. Japan thus had control over all of Micronesia except for Guam.

Adolph Hitler (1889+1945), an Austrian art student, volunteered to serve in the German Army's 16th Bavarian Reserve Infantry (List) Regiment which almost immediately was sent to the first Battle of Ypres which some have called the *Kindermord*/*Massacre of Innocents.* For much of the war, he was a regimental runner or messenger. For his honorable service, he was awarded both the first and second class Iron Cross.

Josip Broz (1892+1980), part Croat and part Slovenian, served as a corporal in the Austro-Hungarian army.

Benito Mussolini (1883+1945), nominally a socialist, was allied with the anarchists, the leaders of the syndicalist unions, and the nationalist republicans. He was attracted to the ideas of Georges Sorel who preached the virtues of violence and the general strike. Mussolini in November resigned as the editor of the Socialist publication *Avanti!* and stated his own newspaper *Popolo d'Italia* which supported Italian expansion overseas and participation in WWI.

President Wilson refused to recognize the legitimacy of the president of Mexico, Victoriano Huerta who had shot his way into his office. Diplomatic relations between the two countries were cut. Some people thought Huerta was a safer and better alternative than the "rebels," whom some called patriots: Francisco "Pancho" Villa and Venustiano Carranza (1859+1920). Others suspected that Huerta was getting money and military supplies from Germany. The armies of Carranza and Villa waged a civil war against the government. The Wilson administration in the USA finally tried to support Carranza as their choice for a new, legitimate revolutionary leader in Mexico without getting directly involved. They lifted their embargo on military supplies to Mexico that meant they could sell weapons to whomever they pleased.

With congressional approval, Wilson ordered the landing of American marines at Tampico, Mexico, and the temporary occupation of Veracruz. There were deadly, unnecessary clashes between US Marines and Mexican troops at Vera Cruz during April. The governments of Argentina, Brazil, and Chile acted as mediators, and war was averted between Mexico and the USA. The situation was definitely tangled. The Americans went home on their ships.

President-General Herta was ousted from office by Carranza. The USA recognized Carranza as president of Mexico.

There were some 90,000 Jews in Palestine and about 75,000 of them were immigrants mostly from Romania and Russia.

The Gold Coast of West Africa was the most important source of cocoa in the world.

Only about 10 percent of workers in Canada belonged to unions. The Ontario government passed a Workmen's Compensation Act.

Oil and natural gas were discovered south of Calgary in the Turner Valley, and Alberta quickly became a major North American energy production center.

The American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) was founded.

By year's end the Germans had captured Lodz in Poland, and the Austrians had been driven out of Belgrade.

Australia took-over the island of Nauru in Oceania.

Behind the leadership of chief engineer George W. Goethals (1858+1928), the Panama Canal opened in mid-August. It is 82.43 km/51.2 miles long with a minimum depth of 11.8 m/38.8 feet.

Robert Hutchings Goddard (1882+1945), an American, started experimenting with rockets.
Margaret Higgins Sanger (1883+1966) founded the National Birth Control League in the USA.

There were two million members of the American Federation of Labor.

Striking miners in the coal town of Ludlow in southern Colorado were slaughtered while they defended themselves against strikebreakers hired by the Colorado Fuel & Iron Corporation, owned by the Rockefeller family, who were supported by the Colorado National Guard. Thirteen children and seven adults were burned and killed in what some called a "massacre."

The Church of England was disestablished in Wales.

Alex Carrel (1873+1944), a French-born American biologist, did successful heart surgery on a dog.

The US Federal Trade Commission started to oversee interstate commerce.

Giorgio de Chirico ((1888+1978), an Italian artist, painted the surrealistic The Melancholy and Mystery of a Street.

The Boston Wire Stitcher Company made some of the first desk and office staplers.

Manchester, England, was the first city to have a modern sewage plant that killed bacteria.

Drivers in Cleveland, Ohio, started to become accustomed to red and green traffic lights. (Yellow lights were added later.)

The German Edward Kleinschmidt invented a teletypewriter.

Umberto Boccioni (1882+1916), an Italian painter and sculptor, published a "Manifest of Futurist Painting." Futurism was a movement that died of too many words almost immediately after its birth.

Edward Grey (1862+1933), British diplomat: "The lamps are going out all over Europe; we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime." The issue for us is that, if Germany wins, she will dominate France; the independence of Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and perhaps of Norway and Sweden, will be a mere shadow; their separate existence as nations will be a fiction; all their harbors will be at Germany's disposal; she will dominate the whole of Western Europe, and this will make our position quite impossible. We could not exist as a first class State under such circumstances."

Gavrilo/Gabriel Princip at his trial before an Austrian court for his actions as an assassin: "I am a Yugoslav nationalist, aiming for the unification of Yugoslavs, and I do not care what form of state, but it must be free from Austria."

Wilhelm/William II at the opening session of the Reichstag in August: "I do not recognize parties any longer, I recognize only Germans." Some called this the nationalist spirit of 1914. Arthur Griffith (1871+1922), Irish politician: "The Irish leader who would connive in the name of Home Rule at the acceptance of any measure which alienated for a day - for an hour - for one moment of time - a square inch of the soil of Ireland would act the part of a traitor and would deserve a traitor's fate."

Walter Lippmann (1889+1974), American journalist: "No amount of charters, direct primaries, or short ballots will make a democracy out of an illiterate people."

Elizabeth (1876+1965) queen of Belgium: "Between them [the Germans] and me there is now a bloody iron curtain which has descended forever!"

Robert Lansing, the USA's Secretary of State: "A power whose subjects own the public debt of an American state and have invested there large amounts of capital may control the government of the state as completely as if it had acquired sovereign rights over the territory through occupation, conquest, or concession." The slogan of the Italian Socialist Party during WWI: "Neither support nor sabotage."

Herbert Asquith (1852+1928), British Liberal politician and prime minister (1908+1916): "We shall never sheathe the sword which we have not lightly drawn until Belgium recovers in full measure all and more than all that she has sacrificed, until France is adequately secured against the menace of aggression, until the rights of the smaller nationalities of Europe are placed upon an unassailable foundation, and until the military domination of Prussia is wholly and finally destroyed."

1914/5: Japan joined the Allies and started military operations against the Germans in China. They sent troops to overrun German positions on the Shantung/Shandong Peninsula. The Japanese began to capture Germany's island possessions in Micronesia in the Western Pacific. The Japanese government announced what
became known as the Twenty-one Demands in January 1915 that would have made China - much like Korea - a Japanese satellite. They insisted, among other items, on China's recognition of their seizure in 1914 of Germany's base at Qingdao in Shandong, on having an extension of their lease on the Liaodong peninsula, and on getting special commercial and economic rights in Manchuria. Yuan Shikai agreed to most of these demands - except for Japan's right to have advisers and observers in China's financial and military-police departments.

The Serbs counter-attacked the Austro-Hungarian forces and made an Entente/Allied victory in the Dardanelles a possibility.

The British and French were able to drive the Germans out of their African colonies except for German East Africa.

1914+1916: Joseph Joffre (1852+1931), one of the heads of the French army, earned three blotches on his record: the invasion of Belgium in 1914 which caught him unprepared; Verdun in 1916 where he also was not ready; and at the Somme in 1916 where everyone was surprised.

1914+1917: The Russians suffered 5.5 million casualties during WWI.

1914+1918: World War I. The Germans' advance lines on the Western Front stayed substantially the same from October 1914 until the end of WWI. It was a war of artillery, barbed wire, defensive positions, fire-zones, limited mobility, machine-guns, and trenches.

On the Eastern Front, the Germans overran the Baltic countries, the Ukraine, and southern Russia as far east as the Caucasus region.

Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and South Africa supported Britain and France. The Union of South Africa joined the Allies, at least in part, with the hope of gaining Germany's Southwest African colony as their fifth province.

Spain remained neutral and prospered. The Irish, as a "nation," were absorbed with their own problems and did not participate in WWI except as individuals.

The Canadian Corps (which earlier had been the Canadian Expeditionary Force and the First Canadian Infantry Division), which numbered four divisions, distinguished itself at Ypres, the Somme, Passchendaele, Vimy Ridge, the Hindenburg Line, and Mons. About 625,000 Canadian men and 2500 women served during the war effort, some 66 percent overseas. 15,464 Canadians were lost at Passchendaele alone. In total, some 60,000 Canadians were killed in action (including 56 women) and another 200,000 were wounded during WWI. No French-speaking regiments - except for the Royal 22nd Battalion/the "Vandoos" served. Some 83,000 suspected German and Austrian sympathizers were interned. (Canada's population during this time was about eight million people.)

Ferdinand Foch (1851+1929) was a notable French general.

The Ottoman Empire, full of fear of continued Russian aggression, disintegrated as had long been predicted by many people.

Airplanes greatly improved, and by the end of this period they could go 145 mph and reach altitudes of 30,000 feet.

More than a million Indian (from India) soldiers and workers alike served overseas during the war.

Some 150,000 West Africans were recruited by the French government to fight in Europe. Of that number, about 30,000 were killed in action on the Western Front.

The Scottish Women's Hospitals, founded by Elsie Maud Inglis (1864+1917), an Edinburgh surgeon, sent 14 fully equipped hospitals to Allied theaters of operation in Serbia and elsewhere.

In total, serving all kinds of organizations, there were some 600 British women who served as volunteers in Serbia during WWI.

The Allied Powers (excluding the USA) suffered 5,040,815 military dead. Of that number the Russian Empire lost 1.7 million, the French Empire 1.4 million, the British Empire .9 million, Italy .65 million, Romania .5 million. Serbia, Belgium, Portugal, Greece, and Montenegro suffered lesser, but no less real, losses.

The Central Powers suffered 3,338,200 military dead. Of that number the German Empire lost
1.8 million, Austria-Hungary 1.2 million, Turkey 325,000, and Bulgaria 101,224.

The grand total number of military deaths for WWI are approximately 8.4 million.

The amount of prairie wheat land under cultivation almost doubled in Canada as wheat prices increased over half. The cost of living in Canada increased about the same.

1914+1920: Europe went from having three republics and 19 monarchies to having 16 republics and 14 monarichies.

1914+1923: Germany was in a prolonged state of political and economic crisis.

1914+1932: Arab nationalists and the Sanusi religious brotherhood fought against Italian occupation of Cyrenaica in today's Libya in North Africa.

1914+1945: A period of madness when the modern world, especially in Europe and Japan, seemed to go haywire.

1914+1960: Nigeria was Britain's largest colony in Africa.

1914+1989: Some experts have asserted that these are the real dates for the 20th century: from the start of WWI to the end of the USSR and the Cold War.

1915: The Treaty of London - between Britain, Italy, France, and Russia - promised Italy territory taken from Austria-Hungary, if the Italians joined the Triple Entente against the Central Powers. This offer was tempting, and Italy declared war on Austria-Hungary in May and joined the Allied side. Such a nefarious, secret deal (for quite some time) angered many naïfs and idealists in the USA and elsewhere.

German troops slashed thru Galicia in May and captured Warsaw, Brest-Litovsk, Lvov, Lithuania, and threatened Romania by autumn.

More than 50,000 Australian, New Zealand, British, French, Newfoundland, and Indian troops fought and lost against the Turks during the poorly conceived and managed Gallipoli campaign.

The Bulgarians got into the war in September on the side of the Central Powers, Germany and Austria, against the Serbs, who received some help from the French thru Thessalonika. The Bulgarians had an army of about 800,000. The Serbs' army was surrounded in Macedonia.

Increasingly there was general talk about the creation of a new nation called Yugoslavia. Some proposed, instead, a "Greater Serbia," which alarmed, among others, Albanians, Bosnian Muslims, Roman Catholics, Slovenians, and Croats of all sorts.

Berlin, Birmingham, Glasgow, Hamburg, Istanbul, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Moscow, Paris, the Ruhr, St. Petersburg, and Vienna all had populations of one million persons or more.

Some 150,000 Serbians died from a typhus epidemic during the summer. During their retreat from Macedonia over the mountains to Albania during October, the Serbian army lost some 40,000 soldiers, mostly to freezing weather, sickness, and starvation.

American bankers made huge loans to the governments of Britain and France.


The Germans initiated their first submarine attack on ships at Le Havre, France.

The Germans used poisonous chlorine gas for the first time in an attack in France at Ypres.

The Italians fought against the Austrians, Hungarians, and Turks. One of their soldiers was Benito Mussolini.

The luxury liner Lusitania on its way from New York to Liverpool was sunk in May by a German U-boat at the cost of 1198 persons, 128 of them Americans. This outrageous event persuaded many Americans to support the Allied cause.

Douglas Haig (1861+1928) became the British commander in chief in France, where the troops suffered a tetanus epidemic in the trenches.

The Russians retreated on the Eastern front.

A Turkish army tried to attack the Suez Canal.

Britain took over Mesopotamia.

The British annexed the Gilbert and Ellice islands in Oceania.
Britain lost more than one million tons of shipping.

Canada had the highest per capital railway mileage in the world.

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom was started. Some 25,000 women marched and otherwise demonstrated in New York City for the vote.

Edith Louisa Cavell (1865+1915), an English nurse who worked at the Berkendael Medical Institute in Brussels, was arrested and executed by the Germans for having helped some 200 Allied prisoners-patients to escape to neutral Holland. She never denied the charges.

Underground telephone cables between London and Birmingham replaced overhead telephone cables, as they started to do in many cities and urban areas.

Alexander Graham Bell in NYC and Thomas A. Watson in San Francisco, California, talked on the first American transcontinental telephone line.

In an effort to help ships detect icebergs, Paul Langevin (1872+1946), a French engineer and scientist, invented an early form of sonar.

The British invented prototypes of the blimp, a nonrigid airship, and the tank.

The Germans made the Junkers J-1, the first all-metal airplane.

The American August Fruehauf made the first tractor-trailer truck.

Haiti became in effect a US protectorate when American troops landed there.

Troops from South Africa seized German’s colony in South West Africa/Namibia and made it a protectorate.

The US Coast Guard was established.

New Orleans jazz was hot, cool, and growing rapidly in popularity in the USA.

Alfred Wegener (1880+1930), a German meteorologist, geologist, and geophysicist, posited the theory of continental drift and anticipated the plate theory of tectonics as an explanation for earthquakes.

Margaret Sanger wrote a book on birth control entitled Family Limitation.

A German fanatic destroyed the US Senate reception room with a bomb, shot and wounded J. Pierpont Morgan, and then committed suicide.

A Stutz automobile set a record of 102.6 miles per hour at Sheepshead Bay, NY.

Rube Goldberg (1883+1970, an engineer from California, started doing his creative, nationally syndicated comic strips from New York City.

Marc Chagall (1889+1985), a Russian-born French artist, painted Birthday.

Birth of a Nation, a three-hour film produced and directed by D.W. Griffith (1875+1948) was a major, controversial film about the Ku Klux Klan, racial stereotypes, and the Reconstruction period following the Civil War in the USA.

Hermann Hesse (1877+1962), a gifted German-born Swiss writer, wrote the novel Knulp.


W. Somerset Maugham (1874+1965), a British writer, published Of Human Bondage.

Franz Kafka (1883+1924), a Czech, wrote his novel The Metamorphosis about paranoia and claustrophobia.

Ellsworth Huntington (1876+1943), an American scholar of geography and an explorer, published Civilization and Climate.

The 78-rotations-per-minute record replaced the cylinder for use on the phonograph; it had a playing time of 4.5 minutes per side.

King Ferdinand I/"Foxy Ferdinand" of Bulgaria: "The purpose of my life is the destruction of Serbia." Edith Cavell before her firing squad: "I must not have hatred or bitterness to anyone" and "patriotism is not enough." Theodore Roosevelt: "There is no room in this country for hyphenated Americanism . . . . The one absolutely certain way of bringing this nation to ruin, of preventing all possibility of its continuing to be a nation at all, would be to permit it to become a tangle of squabbling nationalities."
1915/6: British and Australian-New Zealand forces boldly but unsuccessfully tried to force their way thru the Dardanelles, attack Istanbul, and connect with Russian forces by landing on the Gallipoli peninsula in European Turkey in February. The scheme was partially the brainchild of Winston Churchill, the First Lord of the Admiralty. The campaign was largely fought by ANZAC - Australian-New Zealand - and other Commonwealth troops who suffered great losses at the hands of the Turks: some 36,000 deaths by January 1916. General Mustafa Kemal, (1881+1938), was one of the Turks' most successful field commanders.

British and French troops landed at Salonika in northern Greece during the fall months of 1915. They numbered 300,000 by May 1916 on what was then called the Macedonian Front.

The Austrians seized Belgrade (October 1915) and parts of Montenegro and Albania (1916).

Sanusi tribes people and their allies from the Sahara who had opposed the Italians in Tripolitania and Cyrenaica also attacked the French in Tunisia.

1915+1917: Margarete Gertrude Zelle (1876+1917), a Dutch entertainer, better known by her stage name of Mata Hari (Sanskrit for "Mother Vishnu"), who had used her charms to learn Allied military secrets from senior officials, was found guilty of spying for the Germans and was executed in Paris.

1915+1918: Some 600,000 Italian soldiers and sailors became prisoners of war to the Austrians and Germans. Of that number, more than 100,000 died in prisoner-of-war camps. Many Italians blamed obvious inefficiencies and government corruption for their exceptionally high losses.

Bronislaw Malinowski (1884+1942), a British anthropologist, studied Trobriand Islanders in Oceania.

1915+1920: The Ottoman Turks deported Armenians from eastern Anatolia on suspicion that as Christians they sympathized with the Russians. About 70 percent of the three million deportees did not survive the cruel, brutal expulsion. Some have called it genocide.

1915+1923: William Morris "Billy" Hughes (1864+1952) was federal prime minister and attorney general in Labor and Coalition governments in Australia.

1915+1930: The number of motion pictures made in Italy declined from 562 to 12 films a year. During the same period, the number of foreign films imported, especially from the USA, increased.

1915+1934: Haiti was controlled in some ways by the USA.

1916: Yuan Shihkai, the president and dictator of China, became the emperor of China on 1 January. He died three months later and warlordism returned to the world's most populous country.

The Battle/Siege of Verdun lasted from February until December. Henri Petain (1856+1951) was the "winning" general and became a French hero. The Germans had 434,000 casualties and the French had 542,000. (Some 23 million shells, it has been estimated, were fired during this great battle that averaged more than 100 a minute.)

The Somme offensive, Britain's first, where the British used 32 tanks, lasted from July to November. On the first day, 1 July, the British suffered 57,470 casualties. During the 14 weeks of that battle, they lost 419,654 troops. By November the casualties on both sides were an estimated 1,000,000. There were no victors.

The Germans during the Battle of the Somme lost more soldiers than were killed during the four years of the American Civil War (about 620,000).

Romania declared war on Austria-Hungary. Germany, Bulgaria, and Turkey declared war on Romania within a few days. Three months later, before the end of the year, about one third of the Romanian army, some 250,000 men, were dead. The Germans, who had received some military help from the Bulgarians, controlled the oil fields of Ploesti and the wheat fields of Wallachia.

Members of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, led by their commander in chief Padraic/Patrick Pearse, and the Irish Citizen Army, led by the socialist labor leader James Connolly, staged the Easter Rebellion/Rising for independence in
Dublin, Ireland. Their main target was the General Post Office that they captured, barricaded, and held for five days until their positions were destroyed by artillery fire and incendiary bombs. Pearse, Connolly, and 13 others were tried and shot. Roger Casement, an Irish nationalist and former British colonial administrator in Africa, who had sought the support of the Germans, was arrested after he landed in Ireland from a German U-boat, and was then tried and hanged by the British. Most Irish nationalists regarded all of them then, and some even now, as martyrs to the cause of Irish independence.

Canadian women in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba were allowed for the first time to vote in provincial elections. (Women in Quebec were not allowed to vote provincial elections until 1940.)

A Polish National Committee was established in Paris with Roman Dmowski, a Polish nationalist, in the chair.

There was an epidemic of poliomyelitis in New York City.

The Zeppelins attacked Paris.

The Battle of Jutland during May between the British and Germans, the war's largest naval engagement to that date with 148 ships and 160,000 sailors and marines involved, was inconclusive.

The Jones Act, largely the result of the efforts since 1912 of Congressman W. Atkinson Jones of Virginia, expressed the USA's intention to grant the Philippines complete independence "... as soon as conditions are appropriate."

Argentineans elected their first president.

David Lloyd George (1863+1945), a Welsh Liberal, headed the government in the United Kingdom/Britain. He rapidly established himself as one of the "big three" leaders of the Allies.

Canadian troop strength in Europe was increased to 500,000.

In July Anzac troops arrived in France.

The Turks were hard pressed to defend themselves along the Caucasus front, and the Russians captured Trabzon/Trabizond on the Black Sea coast.

The Sykes-Picot Agreement divided the Middle East into British and French spheres of power.

In December, the Germans occupied Bucharest, Romania.

Qatar, on the Qatar peninsula in the Persian/Arabian Gulf, became a British protectorate with its own emirate.

The Philippine National Bank was founded.

Paul von Hindenburg was appointed the head of the German Army High Command in late August.

Rwanda and Burundi fell under the administration of Belgium.

The British took control over all the Sinai peninsula.

T.E. Lawrence "of Arabia," became British liaison officer to prince Faisal's army, and the Arabs revolted against the Turks.

Germany declared war on Portugal.

Ernest Swinton (1868+1951), one of the inventors of the tank, saw the British use this new weapon on the Western Front. Swinton later became a professor of military history (1925+1939) at Oxford University.

German saboteurs destroyed a major munitions arsenal on Black Tom Island, New Jersey, in the USA.

The Keating-Owen Child Labor Act declared goods made by children under fourteen illegal interstate commerce in the USA.

American railroad workers finally got the eight-hour workday with the passage of the Adamson Act.

President Wilson nominated and the senate approved the appointment of Louis D. Brandeis to the Supreme Court.

Ms. Jeannette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to the US House of Representatives.

Former President Taft headed the War Labor Board.
The Manitoba Education Act did not fund French as a language of instruction in the provincial school system.

Margaret Sanger, a nurse with strong supporters and friends, opened the first birth-control clinic in the USA in Brooklyn, New York, which was influential in starting the Planned Parenthood movement.

American manufacturers made and sold more than one million automobiles.

The 5,787-mile Trans-Siberian Railroad connected the city of Vladivostok, along the Pacific, with Moscow.

Grigory Rasputin (1872+1916), a so-called strannik/"holy man"/mystic who many thought had an evil influence over the royal family in Russia, especially the weak tsar and tsarina, was murdered by a cabal of nobles and military officers.

The Romanian poet Tristan Tzara (1896+1963) and other artists associated with the Cabaret Voltaire in Zurich, Switzerland, founded Dada/Dadaism that was an artistic and literary movement that supposedly was in spirit irrational and opposed to established artistic values and traditions. Some of the people associated with this international movement were Marcel Duchamp, Man Ray, Francis Picabia, Kurt Schwitters, Hugo Ball, Hans Arp, and Marx Ernst. Dadadism evolved in the 1920s into Surrealism.

Henry Ford, American industrialist: "History is more or less bunk. It's tradition. We don't want tradition. We want to live in the present and the only history that is worth a tinker's damn is the history we make today."

1916/17: Francisco "Pancho" Villa and his "revolutionary guerrillas" crossed the Mexican border and attacked the citizens of Columbus, New Mexico, and killed 17 or 18 (one victim was a pregnant woman) of them. General John "Blackjack" Pershing hunted Villa for a few months with 11,000 troops, and for the first time American soldiers used motorcycles and airplanes, but they failed to find Villa "dead or alive." Pershing (1860+1948), was a veteran of the last frontier skirmishes against the Apache and Sioux and the guerrilla war in the Philippines in Mindanao against the Moros.

1916+1918: The so-called Arab Revolt was led by the Hashemite clan, with some small help from T.E. Lawrence and the British.

During various attacks and defensive stands for control of the concrete and rock fortress of Douaumont in the city of Verdun in northeastern France, some 800,000 soldiers were killed. After the war, some 130,000 unidentified corpses were buried together.

1916+1919: Ruanda-Urundi/Rwanda-Burundi, part of German East Africa, was invaded by Belgian forces from the Congo who stayed. Ruanda-Urundi, as it was then called, then was made a mandate of Belgium by the League of Nations' Mandates Commission. Thereafter Ruanda-Urundi became the "breadbasket" of the Belgian Congo, and the Tutsi became the favored tribe over the Hutu and Twa.

Public debt in the USA increased from $62 million to $26 billion.

1916+1923: Marcus Garvey (1887+1940), a Jamaican and a Black nationalist and separatist, founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) in Jamaica in 1914. After he moved to the USA, he favored "back to Africa" efforts and was, some claim, one of the originators of Rastafarianism. UNIA grew in New York and neighboring states to have some six million members, or so it was claimed.

1916+1924: US Marines temporarily established a military government in the bankrupt Dominican Republic to minimize internal strife there. Some called it "dollar diplomacy." Some called it a legitimate "police action" to keep the pot from boiling over, burning everyone, and putting out the fire.

1916+1928: This warlord era in China was a symptom of weak national power.

1916+1935: Manuel Luis Quezon (1878+1944) was the president of the Philippine Senate until he was elected the first president of the Philippine commonwealth (1935).

1916+1971: The sheikhdom of Qatar had a treaty of protection and friendship with the United Kingdom.

1917: By March, popular support for the Russian monarchy was difficult to find wherever one looked. Many people in the towns, cities, and the countryside were hungry. The soldiers and sailors were miserable. The Petrograd garrison mutinied rather than suppress the public demonstrations against the government.

A Provisional Government was formed by leading politicians from the Duma during March. The Petrograd Soviet/Council of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies was a kind of alternative government for many people.

President Woodrow Wilson told the Senate in January that the USA would participate in the WWI peace process.

The Germans renewed unrestricted submarine warfare against the Allies in January.

British and Australian troops captured Kut, Baghdad, and Jerusalem in March 1918. This was a huge loss to the Ottomans, both militarily and psychologically.

The Germans and Austrians pushed into the Baltic states, Byelorussia, and the Ukraine. For every Russian soldier who was killed, three surrendered - a statistic that reveals how dispirited the Russian troops were or how little they were committed to winning the war.

The American press reported in March about the so-called Zimmerman Telegram (named after the German foreign secretary of the time Arthur Zimmermann [1864+1940]) - as intercepted by the British, whom some suspected may have "fixed it up a bit." The message from the Germans to the Mexican government said in part that if Mexico would militarily distract the USA they would then be entitled after the war was won by Germany to recover "lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona." This news infuriated many members of the American public.

In his request for a declaration of war, president Wilson said "The world must be made safe for democracy." The US Senate passed a war resolution on 4 April by a vote of 82 to 6.

At the start of the war, the German cruiser Cormoran sought and received refuge from the Japanese cruiser Iwate in neutral American waters in Apra Harbor, Guam, Mariana Islands. The Germans and their band were very popular for a while at local fiestas. The first ineffective shot fired by an American in WWI was at Apra Harbor where the German officers and crew of the Cormoran scuttled their cruiser rather than have it captured by the Americans or, possibly, the Japanese who waited nearby for them in international waters.

The USA started registering men for the military draft.

General John Pershing led the first contingent of US forces, some 14,500 strong, to France in late June. Pershing insisted that the American Expeditionary Force have their own independent role in the war and refused to allow American soldiers and airmen to be used as replacements for the French and British.
During April some German armament workers in Berlin and Leipzig went on strike to protest food shortages and bad working conditions.

The British frontal assault at Ypres gained 7000 yards during five days while costing 160,000 wounded and dead.

During mid-July, the leaders of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), the Center Party, the Progressive People's Party, and the National Liberal Party in the German Reichstag formed an Inter-Party Committee that wanted a "negotiated peace" to end WWI. Some people regard this as the birth of German democracy.

The Imperial War Cabinet and the Imperial War Conference met at Westminster and recognized the equality of the Dominions - Australia, Canada, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, (later the Irish Free State) - and Britain "as autonomous nations of an Imperial Commonwealth."

The Balfour Declaration, expressed in a letter from Arthur Balfour (1848-1930), Prime Minister Lloyd George's foreign secretary, to Lionel Rothschild (1868-1937) and the British Zionist Federation in November, that the British government "views with favour the establishment" of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

The Ministerial Proclamation pledged that British rule in India aimed for responsible self-government by Indians.

There were a serious strike and demonstrations against the government and the war in Turin, Italy. In rural parts of the country, women who had no men to help them with the harvest, called for a revolution.

The king of Greece, Constantine I (1868-1923), who was also the brother-in-law of Kaiser William II of Germany, tried to keep Greece neutral but was forced into retirement during July by the liberal politician Eleutherios Venizelos (1864-1936), guerrillas who supported him, and Allied troops.

The Austrians broke thru Italian defenses at Caporetto/Kobarid in western Slovenia in October and took nearly 300,000 prisoners. The Socialist Party, which led the government in Italy, was attacked on all sides by their many political opponents.

Finland and Lithuania declared their independence from Russia. The Taryba/National Council was established in Lithuania by nationalists, some of whom were favorable towards the Germans.

The Ukrainian Republic was proclaimed in Kiev in November.

During December, General Edmund H.H. Allenby (1861-1936), the British commander of the Egyptian expeditionary force, and his troops pushed the Turks out of Jerusalem and the southern parts of Palestine. This was the first time since the Crusaders briefly captured and held Jerusalem during 1099+1187 that Christians had been able to control the "holy city."

Even before the end of this year, some German experts were predicting that the war was over for Germany because of chronic food shortages. Many Germans who had only been food protestors before now became infected with political concepts and philosophies, some of which were quite desperate.

The sailors of the Russian Black Sea fleet at Sebastopol mutinied against their officers and government.

The world's first massed tank battle was waged at Cambrai in France.

China declared war on Austria and Germany. About 200,000 Chinese workers were shipped by their government to Europe to help the Allies. Sun Yat-sen proclaimed himself the leader of his own regime in China during April.

Istanbul had a population of about one million people of which about half were non-Turks. About 300,000 Greeks lived in Istanbul.

Canada resorted to conscription with the Military Service Act to fill its armed forces. The Canadian Women's Peace Party, Mennonites, Quakers, some Irish immigrants, and some French-Canadians, who felt no loyalty to either France or Britain, opposed the measure.

Sizable deposits of oil were found in Venezuela. Puerto Ricans became US citizens.
Four women were arrested and jailed for picketing the White House in support of women's suffrage.

Britons lived with bread rationing. Even Americans lived with some food and fuel controls.

Members of the militant "Wobblies" of the IWW demonstrated against American participation in the war. Emma Goldman of the IWW was sentenced to two years in jail for helping draft resisters.

British Captain T.E. Lawrence helped a small force of Arabs to capture the town and port of Akaba at the northeastern head of the Red Sea from the Turks by crossing the desert in an area where they were not expected to do so.

All immigrants to the USA were required to pass a literacy test.

Mexico got a new, more liberal constitution and government behind the leadership of Venustiano Carranza. The new Mexican constitution nationalized all oil and mineral resources in that country.

Amedeo Modigliani (1884+1920), an Italian artist, painted Seated Girl.

A group of wealthy patrons and investors sponsored the Exhibition of the Society of Independent Artists in New York City that was to date the largest art show in the USA. It featured the work of more than 1000 artists.

Carl Jung wrote Psychology of the Unconscious.

The Quebec Railway Bridge over the St. Lawrence River was completed after 17 years. At 335 m/1100 feet, it was, and may still be, the longest cantilever bridge ever built.

Largely as the result of pressure by Carry Nation's militant Anti-Saloon League and fundamentalist Christians of one sort or another, Congress passed the 18th Amendment and sent it to the states for their ratification. It prohibited the consumption, distribution, manufacture, and sale of alcohol.

The first Territory of Guam congress of 34 members, including some American naval and marine officers, all approved by the naval governor, who was appointed by the president of the USA, met as an advisory council to the US Navy governor.

Charlie Chaplin reportedly made one million dollars as a film comedian in Hollywood.

A large reflecting telescope was set-up at Mount Wilson, California.

The Catskill Aqueduct, which in some places had been drilled thru solid rock, carried water 93 miles to New York City.

Glenn H. Curtiss (1878+1930), who had worked with Alexander Graham Bell's Aerial Experiment Association, designed and built some of the planes used by the Allies.

US Rubber made Keds, the first tennis shoes.

The National Hockey League (originally in 1908 the National Hockey Association) was organized in Canada for professional teams.

Hiram Warren Johnson (1866+1945), US progressive politician from California: "The first casualty when war comes is truth." Joseph Hergesheimer (1880+1954), an American writer: "No one can walk backward into the future."

Theodore Roosevelt: "The things that will destroy America are prosperity at any price, peace at any price, safety first instead of duty first, and love of soft living and the get-rich-quick theory of life." "Nine-tenths of wisdom consists in being wise in time." George W. Russell (1867+1935), Irish writer: "Race hatred is the cheapest and basest of all national passions, and it is the nature of hatred, as it is the nature of love, to change us into the likeness of that which we contemplate. We grow nobly like what we adore, and ignobly like what we hate." Andrew Carnegie: "Surplus wealth is a sacred trust which its possessor is bound to administer in his lifetime for the good of the community."

1917/8: The Russian Revolution. Imperial Guards in Petrograd opened fire on demonstrators crying for food, freedom, land, and peace on 26 February 1917. The following day thousands of troopers from Petrograd's garrison mutinied and supported the rioters. Women marched against the war, and there was a general strike against the government and the war effort in Petrograd during March. The Duma was convened, without the czar's
approval, and it appointed a Provisional Government on 12 March. Some have called this the February Revolution that was led by moderate reformers. The czar, Nicholas II, whose dynasty began with Tsar Michael Romanov in 1613, abdicated the throne of Russia on 15 March when he learned that Moscow also had joined the Revolution.

The Petrograd Soviet/committee/union/Council of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies also claimed to have authority and to be a kind of alternative government. Both the Duma and the Petrograd Soviet tried and failed to control events. Vladimir Lenin arrived in Russia from Switzerland on 3 April after having been transported in a sealed railroad train provided by the Germans (who thought a little trouble in Russia would help their war effort). Lenin called for the end of the Provisional Government. Joseph Stalin and Lev Borisovich Kamenev/Rosenfeld (1883+1936) returned to Russia from exile in Siberia. Leon Trotsky returned to Russia from Brooklyn, New York. Power shifted from the officer corps and local officials to a people's militia and the workers' and peasants' councils.

The Russian Army launched an unpopular major offensive against Austria-Hungary in mid-June. The Mensheviks and the Socialist Revolutionaries joined the Provisional Government. The first All-Russia Congress of Workers' and Soldiers' Soviets opened in early June. Alexander Kerensky (1881+1970), a member of the Duma since 1912, became the minister of justice, then the minister for war, and then prime minister of the Provisional Government in July.

There was a botched attempt to overthrow the Provisional Government in July when the workers and soldiers in Petrograd demanded the Soviets take power. General Lavr Georgyevich Kornilov (1870+1918), a Cossack, started to lead his troops on Petrograd in August for the purpose of establishing a military dictatorship. Leon Trotsky was temporarily arrested, and Lenin went into hiding. General Kornilov tried to capture Petrograd but his troops abandoned the effort, and Kerensky eventually talked Kornilov into backing off. The Socialist Revolutionaries resigned from the Provisional Government.

The Bolsheviks, led by Leon Trotsky, gained control of the Petrograd Soviet in September. Many peasants in the countryside sized land from the nobles. Kerensky's government was unpopular with the workers, peasants, soldiers, and sailors.

By October the radical Bolsheviks, led by Lenin, were in control of the Petrograd and Moscow Soviets. They also had a majority of seats at the Second All-Russian Congress of Soviets. On 24/25 October (old calendar) or 6/7 November (new calendar), the Bolsheviks, led by Trotsky, surrounded key government buildings in Petrograd. Nothing happened. The next day, no one showed-up for work. The government workers in effect were seriously sick of their own futility and lack of confidence in their superiors. The Bolsheviks had in effect overthrown the Provisional Government. Lenin issued a press release: "The Provisional Government has been deposed. Government authority has passed into the hands of the organ of the Petrograd Soviet. . . . Long live the Revolution of Workers, Soldiers and Peasants!" (The ineffective Kerensky ended-up after the revolution at Stanford University in California.)

During the last two weeks of November, there were national elections for a Constituent Assembly. The Social Revolutionaries received about 40.4 percent of the votes; the Bolshevik candidates got about 24 percent. Regardless, Lenin was in charge.

The Bolsheviks started negotiating an armistice with the Germans at Brest-Litovsk in December 1917. They also asked the leaders of the Ottoman Empire for an armistice.

When the Constituent Assembly tried to meet on 5/6 January 1918, Bolshevik marines shooed them away. A Bolshevik marine: "I have been instructed to inform you that all those present should leave the Assembly Hall because the guard is tired." That was the end of the Revolution that started in February/March 1917. They also asked the leaders of the Ottoman Empire for an armistice.

The Bolsheviks had disbanded the Constituent Assembly and were in effect in control of the Russian government by default and the power of the gun.
The Bolsheviks and Germans signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk on 3 March 1918. Russia had dropped out of WWI.

Finland, after fighting against the Russians with some help from the Germans, separated from Russia and became an independent republic.

Some 260,000 German civilians died of hunger during the winter. About 620,000 German soldiers were killed during the same time period on the front lines.

The British ended Turkish rule there and placed Palestine under a British military administration.

American troop strength increased from 379,000 to 3.7 million. Some 2.8 million of these were drafted. Some 1.4 million saw action out of the two million that were shipped across the Atlantic. One of them was Captain Harry S Truman (1884-1972) from Kansas City and Independence, Missouri.

Japanese loans to China commonly were used in part to buy influence with Chinese politicians friendly to Japan's political, military, and economic expansion.

Lenin/Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov (1870-1924), leader of the Bolshevik revolutionaries in Russia: "Seizure of power is the point of the uprising, its political task will be clarified after the seizure."

Winston Churchill, British politician and leader: "The Germans turned upon Russia the most grisly of all weapons. They transported Lenin in a sealed truck like a plague bacillus from Switzerland to Russia."

Leon Trotsky: "Patriotism to the Soviet State is a revolutionary duty, whereas patriotism to a bourgeois State is treachery." Japan's loans to China, according to Nishihara Kamezo, were meant "...to develop the limitless natural resources of China and the industry of Japan by co-coordinating the two, so as to make possible a plan for self-sufficiency under which Japan and China would become a single entity."

Emma Goldman: "Conceit, arrogance, and egotism are the essentials of patriotism."

Arthur James Balfour (1848-1930), British Conservative politician and prime minister (1902-1905) in a letter to Lord Rothschild: "His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

1917+1923: Maybe some 50 million people worldwide died of an influenza pandemic.

Some three million died of typhus in Russia.

About 800,000 died in India of cholera.

Spain suffered from unrest, a general strike, a crackdown by the army, economic depression, and political confusion.

1917+1939: The following European nations had, in one variety or another at one time or another, totalitarian, fascist, proto-fascist, authoritarian, military-civilian-royal dictatorships, or one-party governments: Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, the USSR, and Yugoslavia.

1917+1953: Excluding military and civilian losses during WWII, it has been estimated by historians that about 54 million people perished in the USSR during this time from civil war, famine, the Terror, purges, neglect, oppression, and executions - including the deaths of some two million POWs from Poland, Finland, Germany, Romania, and Japan.

1917+now: The USA purchased for $25 million the Danish West Indies in the Caribbean (1917), which became known as the American Virgin Islands, an unincorporated territory of the USA, like Guam and American Samoa. According to some, the Virgin Islands, not far from Puerto Rico in the Caribbean Sea, were thought to be of strategic importance in guarding the Panama Canal. The British Virgin Islands have their own history as a self-governing colony.

The House of Windsor ruled Britain. In fact it was merely an anglicized name change during the reign of George V (1910-1936).

The roots of Surrealism can be found in the paintings of Hieronymus Bosch (1450-1516) and Giuseppe Archimboldi (1527-1593). Some of the modern masters of this poetic art of the
unconscious were Marc Chagal (1887+1985), Giorgio De' Chirico (1888+1978), Yves Tanguy (1900+1955), Max Ernst (1891+1976), Salvador Dali (1904+1989), and Rene Magritte (1898+1967).

1918: Lenin and pro-communist Russian sailors disbanded the Constituent Assembly in January. The Soviets and Bolsheviks ruled Russia. It was almost a bloodless revolution at this point. Lloyd George, the British prime minister, declared that after the war Turkey could keep its territory in Thrace and Asia Minor but had to internationalized the waters connecting the Black Sea with the Aegean Sea, and had to surrender control of Arabia, Armenia, Mesopotamia/Iraq, Syria, and Palestine. Woodrow Wilson had already explained that point 12 of the Fourteen Points meant self-determination for all minorities in the Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire and elsewhere.

Before the end of the year, at one time or another, Austria, Bavaria, Bohemia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Iceland, and Poland became independent republics.

President Woodrow Wilson (1856+1924) announced his plan for world peace, the "Fourteen Points," in January. The most notable of these were: freedom of navigation on the seas in peace and war; removal of global economic barriers; reduction of armaments; adjustments of colonial claims; evacuation of all Russian territory; restoration of Belgium as an independent nation; restoration of all French lands including Alsace-Lorraine; self-determination for peoples of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Ottoman Empire; establishment of an independent Poland; and establishment of a League of Nations.

There was evidence that the Japanese military was conducting operations against the Russians in Siberia outside the control of the civilian government in Japan.

Latvia and Estonia declared their independence.

Up until this year when British women over 30 years of age got the right to vote, only about 20 percent of Britain's adult population had voted.

Russia switched, as the rest of the world had long before done, to the Gregorian/Western calendar in February.

The Transcaucasion Federation was established. Joseph Stalin/Iosif Vissarionovich Dzhugashvili, a Bolshevik revolutionary and a Georgian from the Caucasus, was the commissar for nationalities, which some people understood to mean he was the organizer of the "Red Terror" against the leaders of the break-away, emerging republics such as those in the Caucasus and the Ukraine.

The Germans invaded Russia that had become practically defenseless, and quickly drove them out of the war, because nearly all of the Russian Army had deserted and gone home. In March, the Soviets and Germans-Austrians signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk that officially took Russia out of WWI. The Red negotiators made a pledge, not kept, to recognize the independence of the Baltic States, Georgia, Poland, and the Ukraine.

During March, the Germans - while withdrawing most of their troops from Russia and the rest of the Eastern Front and consolidating them on the Western Front - attempted to end the war on the Somme River before the Americans arrived in strength. In some sectors they outnumbered the British and French four to one. It was a costly miscalculation.

There were one million American troops in Europe by May.

The German army had reached the Marne River by May; their heavy artillery could reach Paris. The massive German offensive towards Paris started to stall in June as an outbreak of influenza swept thru the German armies. More than one million Parisians evacuated their city during the spring.

The British landed small numbers of anti-Bolshevik troops at Murmansk in March. The Japanese landed troops that were hostile to the Bolsheviks at Vladivostok in April.

The Bolsheviks captured the headquarters of the anarchists in Moscow in April.

The Czechoslovak Legion turned against the Bolshevik government and controlled most of
the railways, with the support of the Socialist
Revolutionaries, in May.

Nicholas II, the last tsar of Russia to date, was
executed with most of his family in July by
communist partisans. Many people felt his fall
was well deserved.

During the German spring offensive - three
offensives really - the key event was the Battle of
the Marne, between 15 July and 6 August. From
that point onward, the Germans were on the
defensive and lost territory. The Allied counter-
offensive during August did great damage to the
Germans' front lines.

The great Meuse-Argonne offensive that started
in late September involved British, French, and
some 1.2 million American troops. The
Americans had casualties of 117,000 including
some 26,000 dead.

When the Bulgarians, after three years of
struggle, were defeated by an Allied
expeditionary force of French, British, Serbian,
and Greek troops during the middle of
September, the leaders of the Ottoman Empire
knew they were doomed. During October, a
group of anti-war Young Turks formed a new
government.

14 Allied nations sent troops to Russia's Arctic
ports to defeat the Bolsheviks. The Americans
landed some 8000 troops at Vladivostok in
August and at Archangel in September. Most, or
maybe all, of these anti-Bolshevik interventions
were ad hoc and not particularly well planned,
well coordinated, or well executed.

The Austrians-Hungarians, Turks, and
Bulgarians, all German allies, were negotiating
peace arrangements with the Allies during the
fall months. The Austrian army disintegrated as
the result of mass desertions by Croat, Czech,
German, Hungarian, and Polish regiments.
Bulgaria dropped out of the war and ceased to
be a Central Power in September, as did Turkey
in October and Austria in November. Some
Germany naval and other units refused to fight
any longer.

During late October, an Austrian Republic was
proclaimed by a German-Austrian assembly.

Charles (1887-1922), who supposedly ruled
Austria as Karl I and Hungary as Karoly IV
during 1916+18, was the last of the Habsburg-
Lorraine emperors of Austria and Hungary. He
was deposed in November. This ended the rule
of the Habsburgs who had been very important
people in Austria since 1452 and in Europe since
1273.

Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia declared their
independence from Austria in late October.

Hungary and the West Ukrainian Republic in
Lemberg declared their independence on 1
November.

During late October, the sailors of the German
fleet at Kiel and Wilhemshaven mutinied and
established their own revolutionary councils.
Other German military units were quickly
infected with this spirit of revolutionary mutiny.

Faced with a rebellion, mutinies, and likely the
loss of his head, Ferdinand I of Bulgaria
abdicated and was replaced by his son who
became Tsar Boris III (1918+1943).

Revolutionaries caused problems in Munich
and Berlin in early November. Germany was in
a state of emergent fragmentation and anarchy.

German volunteer units called Freikorps were
usually composed of hardcore veterans of
frontline fighting; many of them were officers
and senior enlisted men. Most of them had
participated in the fighting along the Eastern
Front against the Poles and in the Baltic region
against the Russians. They may have had
numbered some 300,000. Some, according to
their political enemies, were rightwing fanatics
and would-be bandits.

The Germans sent Joseph Pilsudski (1867+1935),
a high-ranking prisoner of war who also had
long opposed the Russians, back to Poland
where he was greeted as a national hero. He
quickly helped form a Polish Republic that was
controlled by the military.

The Independent Social Democrats (USPD) and
the majority Social Democratic Party (SPD)
formed a Council of People's Representatives,
which became a revolutionary government in
Germany during November.

Bavaria declared itself a republic on 8
November. The next day kaiser Wilhelm II, the
last of the Hohenzollern dynasty in
Brandenburg-Prussia and the last German emperor, abdicated and hid in Holland. This was the end of the German Empire, das deutsche Reich, the Second German Reich, that had been founded on French battlefields in 1871. (The Hohenzollern dynasty had ruled Brandenburg-Prussia since 1415.)

On 11 November an official representative of the German Reichstag signed an armistice in a railroad car in France. This was the end of the German-Prussian-Hohenzollern emperors, the Hapsburg Empire, the dual monarchy, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the start of the Austrian, Czechoslovakian, and Hungarian republics.

As soon as WWI ended in November, the Soviets repudiated the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, which they had signed in March.

The Serbs marched thru Macedonia during the fall of 1918 and reconquered Belgrade in November. The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes was proclaimed on 1 December.

Rice Riots in Japan forced the government and the military to increasingly look at Korea as a resource and development colony for rice and other essentials.

The conservative Republicans in the USA gained control of both houses of Congress.

Italian troops landed and pushed their way into Istria, Dalmatia, the Dalmatian islands, and Fiume/Rijeka during November. Was it part of the war effort or a land grab?

Seven of the pro-war leaders of the Young Turks fled to Germany during November.

Admiral Aleksandr Vasilieivich Kolchak (1874+1920), who had been the head of the Russian Black Sea fleet until the Revolution, in mid-November, helped General Anton Ivanovich Denikin (1872+1947) organize an anti-Bolshevik White Army in the Ukraine, the Omsk region of southwest Russia, and in Siberia. Another "White Army" operated out of the Crimea.

The French landed small numbers of anti-Bolshevik troops in the southern Ukraine at Odessa on the Black Sea in support of Denikin's army. The British landed troops opposed to the Bolsheviks at Batumi in Georgia on the Black Sea before the end of the year. These efforts by the British, French, Japanese, and Americans to support the enemies of the Bolsheviks were disorganized, uncoordinated, under funded, and largely ineffective.

Woodrow Wilson and his delegation arrived in Paris for the peace talks in December.

Some 300,000 Ottoman troops deserted in Palestine, Jordan, and Palestine before the bitter end that came on 30 October 1918 when the Turks signed an armistice with the British in behalf of the Allies aboard the HMS Agamemnon.

The leaders of the Greek government publicly announced that they expected to annex Thrace, in Europe, western Anatolia. Trabzon on the eastern Black Sea coast—another region where there had been Greek communities for more than two thousand years—should become part of Armenia announced the Greeks. In a further stunning proposal from the Greek government, the hundreds of thousands of Turks in Thrace and western Anatolia should be moved to Turkey proper; and the hundreds of thousands of Greeks in Turkey should be moved to Greece. Understandably after these proposals relations between Turks and Greeks grew noticeably worse. In Thrace, Anatolia, and along the Black Sea coast, Muslims and Greeks began to prepare and arm themselves to defend their lives, communities, and property.

The long-popular Nationalist Party in Ireland was heavily defeated in the elections during December by the extreme nationalist-republican party Sinn Fein/"Ourselves Alone." The Sinn Fein representatives refused to take their seats in the British Parliament and defiantly established their own assembly in Dublin.

Only the Communist Party was legal in Russia.

Approximately 8.5 million warriors were killed during WWI, and another 21 million civilians died of disease, wounds, hunger and other causes. Some six million people were crippled. The Germans lost about 1.8 million on the battlefields; the Russians suffered some 1.7 million combat deaths; the French about 1.3 million, which amounted to about half the men in France between the ages of 20 and 32; the Austrians lost some 1.2 million; the British some
.9 million; the Italians some 700,000; the Ottomans 325,000; and the Americans 115,000. More than two million Africans served during WWI as soldiers, workers, and porter, and more than 200,000 of them lost their lives in the effort. The estimates of civilians killed is highly speculative. Some experts have guesstimated the cost of WWI to be something like $32 billion.

Even though the USA was approximately 20 times more populous than Australia, more Australians died in WWI than Americans.

French colonies in Africa contributed some 450,000 soldiers - some 50,000 from Algeria alone - to fight in Europe with the Allies.

This was the year of Reforma Universitaria/"University Reform" in Latin America starting at the University of Cordoba in Argentina and then at many other universities. In general, the students' calls were for a modernized, progressive curriculums for their schools and a variety of social and economic reforms.

Before the end of the war, the Germans used artillery, the so-called Kaiser Wilhelm Geschutz or the "Paris cannon," that could fire a shell about 122 m/76 miles.

The British built the first aircraft carrier.

Flamethrowers were first used during WWI.

Ray Brown, a Canadian flyer with the Royal Flying Corps who shot down 72 German aircraft during the war, out dueled and killed Manfred Richthofen behind British lines, the commander of the 11th Chasing Squadron/"Richthofen's Flying Circus," who had shot down 80 Allied aircraft.

The Americans, and probably others, started thinking seriously about using airborne parachute divisions in combat.

Daylight Savings Time was tried in some parts of the USA.

Germany adopted the eight-hour workday after the war.

Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht organized the German revolutionary Communist Workers' Party (KPD).

The German Physicist Max Planck (1858+1947) won the Nobel Prize largely for advancing his quantum theory.

Charles Beard (1874+1948) and his wife Mary, both progressives, helped found the New School for Social Research in New York City. He is best known for his book An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States (1913).

The USA's population was 103.5 million.


Some of the outstanding artists of the period were Juan Gris (1887+1927), Paul Klee (1879+1940), Fernand Léger (1881+1955), Amedeo Modigliani (1884+1920), Henri Matisse (1869+1954), and Edvard Munch (1863+1944).

Woodrow Wilson: "Self-determination is not a mere phrase. It is an imperative principle which statesmen will henceforth ignore at their peril."

"The war we have just been through, though it was shot through with terror, is not to be compared with the war we would have to face next time." General Mustafa Kemal of the Ottoman Empire: "I have studied Syria thoroughly once again and visited the front line ... My conclusion is that Syria is in a pitiable state. There is no [overall Ottoman] civil governor or commander. Instead, there is an abundance of English propaganda. English secret agents are everywhere. The people hate the government and look forward to the arrival of the English as soon as possible. The enemy is stronger than we are in men and equipment. We are like a cotton thread drawn across his path."

David Lloyd George: "What is our task? To make Britain a fit country for heroes to live in."

Eric Campbell Geddes (1875+1937), British politician: "The Germans . . . are going to pay every penny; they are going to be squeezed, as a lemon is squeezed - until the pips squeak. My only doubt is not whether we can squeeze hard enough, but whether there is enough juice."

Wilfred Owen (1893+1918), poet and soldier: "My subject is War, and the pity of War. The poetry is in the pity." H.L. Mencken (1880+1956), American journalist: "It is only the savage, whether of the African bush or the American gospel tent, who pretends to know the will and intent of God exactly and completely."
Alexander Graham Bell: "Great discoveries and improvements invariably involve the cooperation of many minds." George Bernard Shaw: "No man who is occupied in doing a very difficult thing, and doing it very well, ever loses his self-respect." J.M. Barrie (1850–1937), Scottish writer: "Charm ... it's a sort of bloom on a woman. If you have it, you don't need to have anything else; and if you don't have it, it doesn't much matter what else you have."

1918/9: A global influenza pandemic, commonly and inaccurately known as the "Spanish flu," was one of the gravest disasters of world history. Some people maintained that the "flu" started in the trenches of France. In general, about 2.5 percent of those infected died. About eight million Spaniards got the virus during the spring and early summer of 1918. Of that number 170,000 died. Less than a year later, some 30 million people worldwide had died. Some 43,000 Americans in the military service died of influenza in 1918. The numbers were about the same for Canadians. About 230,000 Germans, civilians and military, died; about 200,000 civilians died in France. Some 500,000 Italians and 450,000 Russians died of influenza. About 257,000 Japanese died. Some 12 million people died of the flu and pneumonia in India.

Some 675,000 people in the USA died of flu and pneumonia by the end of June 1919 that means more Americans died during the flu pandemic than in any war since or before. The symptoms were chills, body aches, coughing, dizziness, high fever, nosebleeds, vomiting, and sweating that often times led to pneumonia.

About 3 percent of the population of East, West, and Central Africa died of the flu. About 7 percent of the black mineworkers in Southern Rhodesia died of the flu.

Led by the Republicans, the US Senate in both of these years rejected both the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations.

The communists were in control in parts of Germany and some people talked about and feared "Red Saxony."

During the Baltic War of Liberation, 1918/9, the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania fought-off both the Bosheviks and the Germans. The Allies took the position that the Turks should arrest their own war criminals who were charged with the slaughter of the Armenians, the illegal deportations of thousands of Greeks from the Aegean coast, where many of them had lived since ancient times and long before the arrival of the Turks, and the abuse of British POWs in Mesopotamia/Iraq in April 1916.

Amedeo Modigliani, an Italian artist who often worked in Paris, painted in his unique style Portrait of Jeanne Hebuterne in a Large Hat.

1918+1920: The French occupied Lebanon.

A Ural Cossack Army attacked the Bolsheviks north of the Caspian Sea.

1918+1921: Leon Trotsky was the leader of the Red Army.

There were "White Armies" moving towards the center of Russia, the Muscovite heartland, from Estonia, Siberia, and the Ukraine.

Polish, German, and Lithuanian forces drove the Red Army out of Lithuania in 1919.

Kolchak and his "White Army" started a drive against the Bolsheviks and the Red Army in March 1919. By the end of the year, after being arrested in Omsk, he was awaiting his execution at the hands of the communists.

Deniken's advances were halted during June. By the end of the year 1919, the Bolsheviks controlled most of the Ukraine, and Deniken was on the run. (He would end-up in the USA.)

During the Russo-Polish War, Polish and Ukrainian nationalists fought against the Bolsheviks. General Pilsudski's Polish army defeated the soldiers of the West Ukrainian
Republic in early 1919 and then captured Wilno and Minsk. They joined the forces of the Ukrainian Directory and marched on Kiev in April 1920 where they were greeted as freedom fighters. Up until this time, Kiev had been captured 15 times since 1918 by one side or another. Poland was still militarily strong and won some territory from the Ukraine and Byelorussia by the Treaty of Riga (March 1921).

During 1918+1920, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia, all in the Caucasus region, briefly were independent republics until they were suppressed by the Red Army.

The Red army defeated the "Mensheviks" in Georgia in 1921.

The people of the Ukraine were gradually subjugated by the Reds during 1921.

1918+1922: The reign of the very last Ottoman sultan, Mahmet VI (1861+1926), who failed to recognize the force of Mustapha Kemal and Turkish nationalism and who foolishly put his future and faith in the hands of the British.

Czech forces attempted to exit Russia by way of Vladivostock. Britain, Canada, France, Japan, and the USA decided to help the Czechs make good their escape.

The Japanese exceeded their pledge to their "allies" and sent five divisions to Siberia east of Lake Baikal. They used this opportunity to establish local governments and enclaves friendly to themselves wherever they went. Japanese troops in eastern Russia stayed two years after American, British, Canadian, and French troops withdrew in 1920.

Tanganyika became a British mandate supposedly under the supervision of the League of Nations. The Belgians got the League of Nations' mandate over Rwanda and Burundi. The South Africans got South West Africa as a mandate. The French and British governments shared Togo a Kamerun/Cameroon/Camroun as League mandates.

The Japanese got the islands of Micronesia, excluding Guam and the Gilbert and Ellice/Kiribati and the Tuvalu islands, as a League mandate. Australia got Papua and New Guinea as a mandate. Britain, Australia, and New Zealand got Nauru as a mandate. Britain and New Zealand got Western Samoa as a mandate.

The British got Palestine, Transjordan, and Iraq as League of Nations’ mandates. France got Syria and Lebanon as mandates.

Some critical observers of the system could not tell the difference between a League of Nations mandate and any other colony.

Canadian farmers were at the peak of their political strength. The Canadian Council of Agriculture, a national organization of farmers, advocated this program in 1918: social reforms including mothers’ allowances and old-age pensions; the initiative and referendum; cooperative marketing of their products; public ownership of utilities; lower tariffs; more taxes on profits and incomes and lower land taxes. The United Farmers of Ontario won the provincial election of 1919. The Canadian Council of Agriculture formed the National Progressive Party in 1920 with the program of 1918 as their platform. During 1921/2, the United Farmers of Alberta and the United Farmers of Manitoba also won provincial elections.

1918+1924: Vladimir Ilyich Lenin was the ruler of Soviet Russia.

Many tens of thousands of Jews in the Ukraine and Poland were killed in pogroms; those who survived suffered many social and economic hardships.

Oswald Spengler (1880+1936), a speculative German historian, published versions of his *Untergang des Abendlandes/Decline of the West* which asserted that societies grow and decay, that the Western World's soul is sick or missing, and that the result is brutal Caesars here, there, and everywhere.

**Oswald Spengler:** "All genuine historical work is philosophy, unless it is mere ant-industry."

1918+1940: Bessarabia/Moldova was transferred from Russia to Romania.

1918+1945: Japan ruled the German Pacific islands in Micronesia originally as mandates from the League of Nations.

1918+1993: That part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire that included the German-speaking
Sudetenland in the Sudety Mountains and Bohemia around Prague became Czechoslovakia. The Czechs and Slovaks finally had freed themselves from the Austrians and Germans.

1918+1999: The size of the British military establishment went from 8.5 million persons in 1918 to about 5 million in 1944, to 338,000 in 1975 to 119,000 in 1999.


For the first time in German history, men and women voted in the January elections for a National Assembly that was supposed to, and did, write a new constitution. Some 9.6 percent of the assembly delegates elected were women. Moderates from the Social Democratic Party (SPD), Center Party, and the German Democratic Party (DDP) won a total of 76 percent of the seats.

There was an attempt by left-wing revolutionaries to overthrow the government in Berlin in January. Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, both veteran communist political organizers in Poland and Germany and leaders of the Spartakusbund/Spartacus League, were killed, supposedly by members of the Freikorps during a labor strike in Berlin.

The League of Nations had its first meeting in Paris in February, and its most ardent proponent, President Wilson, presided.

The Big Four of the USA, France, Britain, and Italy became the Big Three when Vittorio Emanuel Orlando and the rest of the Italian delegation went home in April in a tizzy. Woodrow Wilson had refused to endorse all of the Italians' ambitious territorial demands, especially those for Fiume.

When Greek troops moved into the city of Izmir/Smyrna in Asia Minor, fighting broke out immediately between Greeks and Turks. Martial law was imposed. Almost immediately the question for the Allies, who already had to deal with an impressive number of difficult problems in many different places as well as repeated calls from home for demobilization, became whether they would militarily intervene between Christian Greeks and Muslim Turks. The answer was, in short, "no."

The Peace of Versailles was signed on 28 June by representatives of the Allied governments and the German government in the Hall of Mirrors. Germany was limited to having 100,000 troops with no submarines, tanks, warplanes, warships, or fortifications in the Rhineland/Rhine Valley. France regained the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. The French were to use the coalmines of the Saar Basin for 15 years. The Saarland was to be administered by the League of Nations until 1935 when a plebiscite would be held to show what the people of the territory wanted (which turned out to be to rejoin Germany).

Poland received most of Posen and West Prussia. The port of Danzig and East Prussia/the Polish Corridor were placed under the political control of the League of Nations and the economic control of Poland.

Rough estimates at the time claimed that Germany as a result of WWI would lose 20 percent of its territory, 10 percent of its population, 33 percent of its hard coal production, 25 percent of its potato and grain production, 80 percent of its iron ore deposits, and 100 percent of its colonies and merchant fleet.

The Treaty of St. Germain, signed in September, officially ended the war between the Allies and the Austrians. The Austrians had to recognize the independence of Poland, Yugoslavia (and all its parts), Czechoslovakia, and Hungary. The Austrians surrendered Trieste/Trentino, the south Tyrol, and the Istrian peninsula to Italy.

Some 20 pro-war members of the Young Turks' Society of Union and Progress (CUP) were arrested in Istanbul and taken to prison by the Turkish police. The Allied Commander in the Near East, a French general, rode into Istanbul on a white horse on 8 February. Many nationalist Turkish officers in the field, as they had been doing for the past year or so, continued to hide large and small weapons and ammunition for future use in areas where they would be safe both from the Allies and their own government.

Poland regained Galicia from Austria.
When news reached China from the Versailles Peace Conference on 4 May that the Japanese - and not the Chinese - had been awarded the former German holdings at Shandong, there were huge demonstrations against the foreign legations in Beijing, in the Tiananmen square, the gateway to the palace in Beijing, and in many other parts of China. A strike spread quickly to many parts of China in June. In various places, for more than a year, Chinese patriots protested the Japanese colonial presence in China. Some experts claim that the spirit of May Fourth is the spirit of modern China.

There was a Soviet Republic of Hungary for 133 days, between March and August, led by Bela Kun (1885–1938), until it was quelled by conservatives and the military. The Hungarians, in June tried to invade Slovakia. Nicholas Horthy de Nagybanya (1868–1957), who had risen to the rank of admiral in the Habsburg’s navy, better known as Admiral Horthy, became the dictator of Hungary. He was supported by the Romanian army that drove the Reds out of Budapest in August.

The Winnipeg General Strike lasted for more than six weeks and was Canada’s longest and most significant strike. The post-war mood in Canada was much as it was elsewhere: full of anger, uncertainty, disappointment, fear, and anxiety. When the metal workers went on strike for higher wages and benefits, their bosses, who had prospered during the war and had very little popular support, falsely accused them of being “radicals,” “anarchists,” “Bolsheviks,” and “enemy aliens.” Workers and ordinary citizens all over Manitoba and Canada drew together in solidarity and supported the strikers who used non-violent tactics. The strike was finally quelled by the Royal North-West Mounted Police.

Finland and the government of the Russian Bolsheviks had a brief war that the Finns won.

Sinn Fein, with Eamon De Valera (1882–1975) as president, led the rebellion in Ireland. Michael Collins (1890–1922) was one of the founders of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), Sinn Fein’s military and police arm.

After the British passed legislation that made it possible for people to be detained without a trial, Mohandas Gandhi organized satyagraha/non-violent mass action in India against this and a variety of other British policies.

Romania gained Transylvania.

With the end of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the re-emergence of Serbia, there was anarchy and many atrocities in Croatia and Bosnia against all sides.

Workers in Calgary organized the One Big Union that was an offshoot of the American-based International Workers of the World (IWW).

The Bulgarians had to surrender their gains from the First Balkan War to Romania, Yugoslavia, and Greece.

The Bulgarian Agrarian National Union (BANU) won the national elections and was the first mass peasant party in the entire history of the Balkans to establish a democratically elected government (which only lasted until June 1923 when it was overthrown during a military coup).

French troops replaced the British in southeastern Turkey and brought with them Armenians troops from the region. Georges Picot, one of the authors of the Sykes-Picot agreement regarding the division of Ottoman territories, was at the time the French High Commissioner in Syria and Armenia.

Many Turks felt threatened by the Greeks in the east and the French in the south. Mustafa Kemal moved his operations to the Turkish provincial city of Ankara in north-central Anatolia where he continued his leadership of the Group for the Defense of National Rights, now a political party, and coordination with various nationalist revolutionary and Turkish guerrilla groups.

War damage in Belgium may have reached $7.6 billion dollars.

Nearly 70 percent of all cotton workers in India worked in Bombay Province.

Britain seized and kept control of the German colony of Tanganyika/Tanzania. Britain and France divided the German colony of Kamerun
between them and renamed the parts Cameroon and Cameroun (France).

The Weimar (a city in east-central Germany) constitution created a new, modern, democratic-republican form of government in Germany in mid-August.

Jan Christian Smuts (1870+1950), who had very good relations and connections with the British government, became the leader of the Union of South Africa.

Benito Mussolini helped found the Fasci di Combattimento movement in Milan.

Unilaterally the Italian government sent troops to occupy the town of Fiume/Rijeka/Rieka along the Italian-Croatia frontier in September.

Women in Italy got the right to vote.

Women in Canada, except for Native/Indian women, got the right to vote in federal elections.

The Canadian province of Ontario led the nation by approving the Adolescent Attendance Act that increased the age of compulsory free schooling to 16 years of age.

The German fleet was scuttled at Scapa Flow in the Orkney islands of Scotland.

The US House of Representatives passed a women's suffrage bill.

Ernest Rutherford (1871+1937), who had been awarded the Nobel prize for chemistry in 1908, experimentally discovered at Cambridge University that alpha-ray bombardments caused an atomic transformation in atmospheric nitrogen and thus freed hydrogen nuclei. He succeeded J.J. Thomson and reorganized the Cavendish Physical Laboratory at Cambridge (named for Henry Cavendish [1731+1810], who made a number of impressive discoveries including hydrogen gas).

John Maynard Keynes (1883+1946), a Cambridge University economist who had been a functionary at the Paris Peace Conference, wrote and published a gloomy book, the Economic Consequences of the Peace. He argued, with what turned out to be some accuracy, that forcing the Germans to pay punitive reparations would backfire against the enforcers and that a sick Germany would pull-down the entire European economy.

President Wilson had a stroke in early October and did not meet with his cabinet for seven months thereafter.

The USA had 265,000 miles of railroads.

The Grand Canyon in Arizona was made a national park.

The Communist Party of America was organized.

Congress overrode President Wilson's veto of the Prohibition Act.

The phosphate-rich island of Nauru was made a joint mandate under Australia, New Zealand, and Britain by the League of Nations.

American women organized the League of Women Voters.

A.D. Juilliard left 20 million dollars to start the Juilliard School of Music in New York City.

The Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra gave its first concert.

The "Black Sox" betting and game-fixing scandal shocked baseball fans in the USA.

Nancy Witcher Langhorne Astor (1879+1964), born a wealthy American in Virginia, was the first woman member of the British House of Commons.

The Piggly-Wiggly supermarket, the first of its kind, opened in Memphis, Tennessee.

A US Navy seaplane made the first transatlantic flight in 25 days between New York and England with stops in Newfoundland and the Azores.

A US Army convoy crossed the country in trucks and tanks from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast in 62 days at an average speed of 5 mph.

Ouija boards became popular in the USA and elsewhere.

Charlie Chaplin, Douglas Fairbanks (1883+1939), D. W. Griffith, and Mary Pickford (1893+1979) formed their own studio in Hollywood, United Artists, to produce and distribute their own films.
Hugo Koch invented an encoding machine, the Enigma that could make 22 million combinations of signs and signals. It was put into extensive use by the German intelligence service during WWII.

John Reed (1887+1920), American journalist and one of the founders of the American Communist Party, had been an eyewitness to parts of the Russian revolution. His best-selling book was entitled Ten Days that Shook the World.

Yevgeny Zamyatin (1884+1937), Russian writer: "Yesterday there was a tsar and there were slaves; today there is no tsar, but the slaves remain; tomorrow there will be only tsars . . . .

We have lived through the epoch of suppression of the masses; we are living in an epoch of suppression of the individual in the name of the masses; tomorrow will bring the liberation of the individual - in the name of man." Lloyd George, the British prime minister: "When nations are exhausted by wars . . . which leave them tired, bleeding and broken, it is not difficult to patch up a peace. . . . What is difficult, however, is to draw up a peace which will not provoke a fresh struggle when those who have had practical experience of what war means have passed away."

When most of Boston's police force went out on strike, Calvin Coolidge (1872+1933), the governor of Massachusetts, made himself much more popular by commenting: "There is no right to strike against the public safety by anybody, anywhere, any time." Georges Sorel (1847+1922), French writer: "The [workers' industrial] strike is a type of warfare." Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes (1841+1935) in Abrams v. United States: "The ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas - that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market."

Georges Clemenceau (1841+1929), French politician: "It is far easier to make war than to make peace." Winston Churchill: "Of all tyrannies in history the Bolshevik tyranny is the worst, the most destructive, the most degrading." Thorstein Veblen, American social philosopher and economist: "The outcome of any serious research can only be to make two questions grow where only one grew before."

1919/20: Between November 1919 and March 1920, the US Senate rejected American membership in the League of Nations, even though Woodrow Wilson had been one of its most important sponsors and backers.

1919+1921: From November 1919 to 1921, the Bolsheviks regained the initiative against the Whites - mainly because Pilsudski and Denikin could not or would not cooperate and coordinate their forces against the Reds. The Bolsheviks then were able to crush the rebellious, breakaway republics.

A Red Scare in the USA was caused by: the shock of the Russian Revolution and other radical political upheavals in Europe and elsewhere; a series of strikes in America; and the machinations of ambitious politicians and others eager to be carried and pushed forward on the bandwagon of fear. This "Red Scare" was inflamed by the Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer (1872+1936), assisted by J. Edgar Hoover (1895+1972), the future director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and thousands of others who feared a revolution or who saw an opportunity to get public recognition and career advancement. The "enemies of the people" were often aliens, labor radicals, confused and harmless leftists of all sorts, communists, anarchists, and socialists alike. They amounted to some 1700 in number. Some were deported without benefit of trials; some saw their civil liberties trampled. Many, who were not deported or even accused, were frightened into permanent silence by rampant government power.

1919+1922: During the Russo-Polish War, Poland and the Ukrainians failed, as one would expect, to form an independent, non-communist government in the Ukraine.

During the Afghan War on the North-West Frontier, the people of Afghanistan and their ruler, King Amanullah, won their independence from the British.

There was guerrilla warfare against the British and their irregulars (mainly British veterans from WWI), "the Black and Tans," in Ireland led by the Irish Republican Army (IRA). Some call it the War of Independence or the British-Irish War.

1919+1923: The Turkish Republic was formed during what some have called the War of
Independence which, by tradition, started when General Mustafa Kemal, as inspector of the 3rd Army, landed on 19 May 1919 at the town of Samsun on the southern coast of the Black Sea. He encouraged Turkish Muslims to support the Society for the Defense of National Rights and other similar organizations. The Ottoman government was initially confused and divided. The British quickly realized that Mustafa Kemal had quickly become the center of nationalist resistance. During July, a congress at Erzurum in eastern Anatolia declared, much as Mustafa Kemal wished them to do, that Turkey was composed of all lands under Ottoman control as of the armistice of 30 October 1918. With signs of opposition to foreigners showing all over Turkey, the British decided, in effect, to withdraw all of their troops from Turkey during the last three months of 1919.

The price of a two-pound loaf of bread in the Weimar Republic in Germany increased from 2.80 marks in December 1919 to 399,000,000,000 marks in December 1923. This was a new economic phenomenon: hyperinflation.

1919+1929: The national debt in the USA declined from $25.5 billion to $16.9 billion.

1919+1930: After the passage of the Canada Highways Act of 1919, Canadians built about 80,000 miles/130,000 km of roads and highways with both hard and gravel/dirt surfaces.

1919+1932: The price of wheat in the USA went from $2.16 a bushel to $.38.

1919+1933: The Weimar Republic barely functioned. There were 16 different federal governments that lasted on average eight and a half months each. It was a period of weak and confused leadership in Germany caused by too many antidemocratic politicians and parties, the clash of political egos, and, at times, hyperinflation, labor-management conflicts, a very bad economy, and desperate unemployment.

1919+1937: Walter Gropius (1883+1969) headed the Bauhaus in Weimar and then Dessau (after 1924), Germany, which was one of the most important schools of design ever. Some of Gropius's distinguished colleagues were Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky, Marcel Breuer, and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. The school was closed-down by the Nazis. (Later, 1938+1952, Gropius was professor of architecture at Harvard University.)

1919+1940: Bucovina/Bukovina - until 1918 a part of Austria - was now annexed to Romania.

1919+1943: The Third or Communist International/Comintern was a creature of the Russian communists, and in particular the Stalinists. It was meant to create an international communist movement that would bring about an international communist revolution. From 1933 until the end of WWII, it called for popular front governments composed of communists, socialists, and liberal anti-fascists.

The Comintern: "It is the historic mission of the Communist Internationale to be the gravedigger of bourgeois society."

1919+1947: Trieste/Trst on the Gulf of Trieste at the head of the Adriatic, formerly an Austrian territory, was part of Italy.

1919+1948: William Lyon Mackenzie King (1874+1950) was the distinguished leader of Canada's Liberals and ably served three times as prime minister: 1921+1926, 1926+1930, and 1935+1948.

1920s: The European empires in Asia and Africa were probably at their peak although opposition nationalist organizations were rapidly growing in strength.

The British Empire possibly encompassed more than a quarter of the world's population and land area.

The warlords of China fought one another individually and in coalitions and in the process caused millions of casualties and great misery.

Foreigners largely controlled China's banks and foreign exchange institutions. There still was not a unified Chinese currency.

The Japanese made huge investments in two hydroelectric power grids that served Osaka, Kobe, and Tokyo/Yokohama.

Behind the leadership of the Mufti of Jerusalem, Amiz el-Husseini, the Arab nationalist movement in Palestine grew in size, intensity, and influence.
The USA's Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) of common stocks increased 344.5 percent.

Oil production in Venezuela quickly gave the people of that country the highest per capita income in Latin America.

The USA was Canada's largest trading partner.

Canadians unearthed large quantities of copper, gold, nickel, and zinc. The International Nickel Company of Canada at Sudbury, Ontario, controlled 90 percent of the world's nickel production.

During this decade, the number of buses, cars, motorcycles, and trucks in Canada tripled. Nearly 75 percent of these vehicles were made by American manufactures - Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler - in Canada.

Some four million American tourists visited Canada each year before the end of this decade.

More than 75 percent of the radio programs that Canadians listened to, it has been estimated, came from the USA.

The German film industry was the largest in Europe.

All American states allowed women to practice law.

The number of registered cars in the USA increased from eight to 23 million.

The average life expectancy in the USA was about 54 years.

Some then and some later called this the start of the Jazz Age. Thousands of poor and ordinary people went to ballrooms and clubs in the USA, Canada, and parts of Europe to listen and dance to jazz music. Boogie-woogie was made popular by Pinetop Smith (1904+29), Meade "Lux" Lewis (1905+1964), and Jimmy Yancey (1898+1951). It was a style of playing that influenced many later rock-and-roll pianists like Jerry Lee Lewis. Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong (1898+1971) and his Hot Five combo and many other fine bands and musicians made it the Jazz Age.

There were some 17 separate "Little Italy" neighborhoods in Chicago. The same was true for other ethnic groups in many other American cities.

1920: The 19th amendment to the US Constitution was passed by two-thirds of the states. It went into effect in August, and American women got the vote, in time for the presidential election.

A plebiscite, approved by the Treaty of Versailles, showed that 75 percent of the residents of Sonderjylland/Slesvig/South Jutland/North Schleswig wanted to be part of Denmark. In the southern zone and Flensburg, 81 percent voted for inclusion in Germany. This peacefully ended the squabble between Denmark and Germany over Schleswig-Holstein that had gone on since 1806, if not longer.

The six counties of Ulster/Northern Ireland - Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry, and Tyrone - became an autonomous province of the United Kingdom. Ulster Unionists, practically all Protestants, were a narrow, but controlling, majority of the population.

Greek troops occupied western Anatolia and eastern Thrace. The Grand National Assembly opened in Ankara, Turkey, and Mustafa Kemal was elected the assembly president. Turkish troops attacked the Armenians in the east and captured Kars.

Sweden, a constitutional monarchy, had its first socialist government headed by Karl Hjalmar Branting (1860+1925), the popular leader of the Social Democratic Workers' Party (SSDA). This party remained in power, with a few short pauses, until 1988.

The League of Nations' headquarters was established in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Bolsheviks executed Admiral Kolchak in January.

The Western allies at San Remo broke the Ottoman Empire into "mandates" under the supervision of the League of Nations. The Ottoman Empire was forced in August to sign a treaty with the Allies that gave Greece most of Turkey's territory in Europe, made Armenia a Christian republic, and made Palestine, Transjordan, and Iraq/Mesopotamia British protectorates or mandates. Lebanon and Syria became French mandates (1920+1944).
German *Freikorps* units, supported by many large-landowners, during mid-March temporarily seized control of Berlin. Their political leader was Wolfgang Kapp (1858+1922), the founder of the German Fatherland party, a member of the Reichstag, and the director general of the East Prussian agricultural credit banks. The leaders of the legitimate government of Prussia were forced to temporarily escape to Stuttgart. Loyalists in the army and the civil service in Berlin refused to obey Kapp and the *Freikorps*. The putsch collapsed after five days when Kapp was driven into exile in Sweden by more reasonable people who were encouraged to act by pro-republican public opinion and frightened by the prospect of a general strike, anarchy, or civil war.

The Poles invaded the Ukraine in April. General Denikin resigned in April and went to Istanbul as the first step in his retirement. The last parts of the White Army retreated into oblivion from the Crimea by the end of November. This marked, in effect, the end of the Russian Civil War.

The Hungarians signed the Treaty of the Trianon Palace in June with the Allies whereby Slovakia was officially ceded to Czechoslovakia, Transylvania became part of Romania, and Yugoslavia gained Croatia-Slovenia.

During the general elections for a new government in Germany in June, the Social Democratic Workers’ Party (SPD), Center Party, and the German Democratic Party (DDP) candidates - those who were most deeply committed to making democracy and the new republic work - were reduced to only 43 percent of all the elected representatives.

During August the last great cavalry battle in world history was fought when some 20,000 Polish and Russian cavalrymen clashed, and the Poles won a Pyrrhic victory. The power of the machine gun became obvious to all present. Kenya became a British colony.

There were four million members of the American Federation of Labor, which amounted to slightly less than 15 percent of all nonagricultural workers.

As part of many anti-government and anti-capitalist demonstrations in Italy, workers occupied Fiat and other factories in Turin.

The Communist Party of the Indies (PKI) in Indonesia was a radical outgrowth of the Indies Social Democratic Association that had been organized in 1914.

Many bright red-light districts in American cities had been closed by muscular Christians and do-gooders.

The immigrant anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were arrested, indicted, and convicted for the murder of two men near Boston whom they probably did not kill. (Sacco and Vanzetti were executed in 1927 and exonerated many years after that by the Massachusetts legislature.)

Five thousand supposed subversives were arrested nationwide in the so-called “Palmer raids” named after the Attorney General of the USA. Transcontinental airmail service was established between NYC and San Francisco.

78 percent of American children between five and 17 were students.

John T. Thompson (1860+1940), a retired American army officer, patented a submachine gun often called the "Tommy gun."

There were 1.2 billion American railway passengers, many of them commuters.

KDKA in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and WWJ in Detroit, Michigan, were the first commercial radio stations in the USA. Businessmen like David Sarnoff at the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) had visions of putting a radio set in every living room.

Johnson & Johnson made and sold the Band-Aid, a package of sterile bandages.

"Babe" Ruth (1895+1948) was sold to the New York Yankees by the Boston Red Sox for $125,000. (With the repeated failure of Red Sox teams to win the World Series, this was called for many years the "Curse of the Bambino.")

NYC had a population of 5.6 million; Los Angeles had 576,000 persons.
The USA produced 645 million tons of coal; Britain 229 million tons; Germany 107 million tons.

The USA produced 443 million barrels of oil; Mexico pumped 163 million barrels; and Russian wells produced 25 million barrels.

There were some 8.2 million American women who were paid workers.

The USA had nearly 9 million licensed motor vehicles; Britain had 663,000.

The British Parliament's Government of Ireland Act created separate parliaments for both Northern and Southern Ireland.

Austria and Britain started national insurance for the unemployed.

Dalmatia/Illyria became part of the kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes.

Rasatafarianism started in Jamaica.

The Curzon Line between Russia and Poland, named for the British foreign secretary of the time, was studied and formulated according to who was where.

There were about 14 million Jews in the world. About 3.5 million lived in the USA; about 3 million in Poland; about 2.5 million in Russia; about 750,000 in Romania; and about half a million each in Germany and Hungary.

More than half of Americans lived in urban places.

H.G. Wells published his popular Outline of History.

Sinclair Lewis (1885+1951), an American journalist, published his novel Main Street about American life and "... savorless people, gulping tasteless food, and sitting afterward, coatless and thoughtless, in rocking chairs prickly with inane decorations, listening to mechanical music, saying mechanical things about the excellence of Ford automobiles, and viewing themselves as the greatest race in the world." Dean Inge (1860+1954), British churchman: "Those only can care intelligently for the future of England to whom the past is dear." "The enemies of Freedom do not argue; they shout and they shoot." Henry Ford (1863+1947), US car builder: "Exercise is bunk. If you are healthy, you don't need it: if you are sick, you shouldn't take it." E. M. Forster (1879+1970), British writer: "The historian must have ... some conception of how men who are not historians behave. Otherwise he will move in a world of the dead." Ernest Rutherford, British physicist: "We haven't the money [that other nations have for pure research], so we've got to think." Isadora Duncan, dancer: "Wasn't it Nietzsche who said that he wouldn't believe in a God who could not dance? Neither could I." H.G. Wells: "Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe." Paul Klee (1879+1940), Swiss artist: "Art does not reproduce the visible; rather, it makes visible."

1920/1: A revolt in Iraq helped to persuade the British, who love monarchs everywhere, to make Faisal I of Hejaz (1885+1933), a member of the Hashemite dynasty and one of the leaders of the Arab revolt against Turkey during 1916+1918, the king of Iraq in 1921.

From June to June, more than 800,000 immigrants arrived in the USA. Most of them came from eastern and southern Europe.

1920+1922: The Greeks and Turks waged war, the Greco-Turkish war, in order to fix their territorial limits. Many Greeks and Turks were slaughtered. Mustapha Kemal was the winning general. At the peace table, the Greeks lost eastern Thrace. The Treaty of Lausanne in 1923 recognized Turkey's sovereignty. Tens of thousands of Greeks, many of whose families had called Turkey home for three millennia, were expelled from Asia Minor and the Pontic region. This was for the Greeks "the Great Catastrophe." Turks from northern Greece who also had lived there, in some cases for many hundreds of years, were forced to return to their ancestors' ancient homeland.

Wheat prices in Canada fell by 60 percent. British and French troops occupied Istanbul and declared it to be a neutral zone.

Iran became a quasi-British protectorate.

For a short time, Muslims and Hindus in India joined together in protests and demonstrations against British rule and for swaraj/self-rule.

1920+1927: The first step in the creation of the "Little Entente" was taken when a Czechoslovak-
Yugoslav defensive alliance was signed (1920). Then Czechoslovakia and Romania and Romania and Yugoslavia signed similar agreements (1921). Then there was a Franco-Polish alliance (1921) and a Polish-Romanian alliance (1924) and a Franco-Czechoslovakia alliance and a Franco-Romania (1926) and a Franco-Yugoslavia alliance (1927). These were all alliances intended to keep the Germans and Russians peacefully at home. Government spending in the USA declined from $6.4 million to three billion. Together with cuts in taxes, which were especially favorable to the rich and corporations, some experts have claimed these were factors in the financial crash of 1929. (Smaller, cheaper government, and inferior public services are not always the answer.)

The Spanish Foreign Legion, which was composed of about four-fifths Spanish volunteers, served in Morocco during the Rif War. The warfare the Legionnaires fought in the Rif Mountains against Abd-el-Krim and his Berber forces was old-fashioned and rarely used aircraft and tanks. The members of the Legion suffered some 8000 casualties that included some 2000 dead. Francisco Franco (1892+1975) was one of the rather unsuccessful leaders of the Legion who made his name known during this period and later in Morocco.

1920+1929: Union membership in the USA declined from about five million to 3.5 million.

Australia’s most important exports, in order, were wool, wheat/flour, and minerals.

1920+1933: The great, failed Prohibition experiment in the USA. The 18th Amendment to the Constitution stated that "... the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited." This law made many bootleggers rich celebrities while federal law enforcement officials became unpopular fools because substantial numbers of Americans were more dedicated to their habits and pleasures than to enforcement of unpopular laws. Many Canadian and illegal American distillers thought it was splendid legislation.

1920+1937: Mustafa Kemal was in effect the president and chief military-political leader of the secular Republic of Turkey.

1920+1939: Danzig/Gdansk, in northern Poland on the Gulf of Gdansk, was a so-called free city under the administration of the League of Nations. The League of Nations also administered the Saarland and the Dardanelles/Hellespont Straits Commission.

Japanese tenant farmers and their unions repeatedly struggled politically, economically, and violently against their powerful landlords. This caused many political, economic, and social disturbances, and these conflicts greatly increased the power of the Japanese military and police.

Vilnius, Lithuania, was occupied by Polish forces.

1920+1941: The General Assembly of the League of Nations was the world’s first international organization to promote international cooperation and peace. The International Labour Organization and the Permanent Court of International Justice were branches. Germany was a member 1926+1933. Italy was a member from 1920 until 1937. The USSR was a member from 1934 until it was expelled in 1940. The USA did not join the League.

The League of Nations operated the Mandates Commission for Palestine and Syria.

The League of Nations successfully mediated a number of disputes between Turkey and Iraq, Greece and Bulgaria, and Poland and Lithuania.

1920+1944: South Africa ruled Germany’s and Britain’s portions of South West Africa as British South Africa with a mandate from the League of Nations.

Nikolaus Horthy, sometimes called the "Admiral" (even though some claimed Hungary had no navy) and at other times called the Regent (until the Habsburg monarchy could be restored), was the dictator of Hungary and a fascist collaborator. (When he tried to surrender to the USSR in 1944 [which was really the wrong way for him to have turned], he was restrained and deported by his Hungarian friends to Germany where the Allies saved him from an
uncertain and dangerous future. He died in shame and exile in Portugal.)

1920+1946: Lebanon was a French mandate.

1920+1947: The British held the Mandate for Palestine by authorization of the League of Nations.

1920+1961: Western Samoa was administered by New Zealand.

Tanganyika/Tanzania in eastern Africa was administered by the British.

1920+1962: Eleanor Roosevelt (1884+1962), America's finest First Lady (1933+1945), according to many historians, was probably the most significant, persistent, influential, liberal female reformer, in and out of the White House - on an enormous range of topics from civil rights to international cooperation - of the 20th century. She definitely set the standard for First Ladies who want to do something worthwhile with their influence and energy, in and out of the White House.

1920+1968: The island of Nauru was jointly administered by Britain, Australia, and New Zealand. A trust fund was established for future generations of Nauruans as the mining of phosphates depleted, lowered, and destroyed their island.

1921: In accordance with a treaty signed in December, Ireland was partitioned. Twenty-six counties became the self-governing dominion, the Irish Free State, with much the same political status as Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and South Africa. The six Loyalist-Protestant counties in Ulster, northern Ireland, remained within the United Kingdom. The Parliament of Northern Ireland met at Stormont Castle near Belfast and was dominated by Protestant Unionists as were the police/constabulary, judiciary, and other local government departments.

The Allied Reparations Commission estimated - based on the cost of the war damage and the veterans' benefits that needed to be paid - that Germany owed some $33 billion as reparations for WWI plus interest. This amounted to 132 billion marks in gold with an annual interest of 6 percent.

The British Empire numbered some 445 million people. In millions, India had 319.1, Britain 47.3, Egypt 13, Canada and Newfoundland 9, Union of South Africa 5.7, Australia 5.5 , Ceylon 4.5, and New Zealand 1.3 million. (This is not the entire list of British colonies.)

Sun Yat-sen was elected the head of the new Chinese government in Canton.

Outer Mongolia became a Soviet protectorate while Inner Mongolia remained part of China.

The British supervised the formation of governments in Iraq and Transjordan during the Cairo Conference.

The Moroccans embarrassed and defeated the Spanish army during the Battle of Annoual. Some ten thousand Spanish troops were killed during this revolt.

Benito Mussolini was one of the 35 elected fascist deputies in the ultra-nationalist bloc that now formed a formal political party.

During 1921 the Progressives won rural elections in Ontario and the federal election in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. This was the best electoral results for any third party in Canadian history.

South and Southeast Asia produced about half of the world output of rubber. Of that number about half came from Malaysia where 75 percent of the rubber was grown on European-owned (mainly British) plantations where Chinese, Indians, and Malays did the work.

The Communist Party of China was founded in Shanghai.

The Communist Party of Portugal was founded.

The US Congress limited immigration by establishing quotas based on national origins in the Emergency Immigration Act. In other words, it tried to reduce immigration and keep the racial-national origin "mix" the same as it had been in the recent past, based on the 1910 census, and thus keep "new" foreign types from entering the country. This was the first time changes in the American immigration laws tried to keep the people of the USA from becoming "more foreign" than they already were.
The Ku Klux Klan (KKK) had a revival in many parts of the USA. Members of the "new Klan" violently intimidated many Black Americans, immigrants, and their sympathizers. Some guesses put Klan membership at between three million to eight million. In part, this surge was caused by the recent waves of immigrants, the Red Scare, inflammatory and bigoted rhetoric, and fears of increasing Black political and legal power.

The Washington Armaments Conference was a meeting among officials of the major naval powers: Britain, France, Italy, Japan and the USA. The resulting Five-Power Naval Treaty, good for a decade, supposedly stopped naval construction of new battleships and aircraft carriers and the fortification of Japan's and the USA's possessions in the Pacific (most noticeably the islands of Micronesia, including Saipan and Guam). The limits on naval tonnage were fixed in the ratios of Britain 5: USA 5: Japan 3: France 1.5: Italy 1.5. It ratified the great shift in world power that had already occurred outside of Europe to North America and Japan. This agreement was a brave, new effort at arms control.

The above Five Powers, joined by China, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Portugal, signed a Nine-Power Treaty in which they promised to keep the commercial doors open in China much as US Secretary of State John Hay had proposed near the beginning of the century.

The international Limitation of Armaments Conference tried to reduce naval construction, outlaw poison gases as a legitimate weapon of war, and restrict future submarine attacks on civilian shipping.

The American Radio League, an association of amateur radio enthusiasts, sent a shortwave message to one of their contacts in Scotland.

A Korean nationalist, sometimes described as a "young right-wing fanatic," assassinated Takashi Hara/Hara Kei, the prime minister of Japan.

The Japanese emperor retired because of insanity, and the crown prince, Hirohito (1901+1989), became prince regent.

The first national parliament was convened in India.

The French withdrew their forces from southern Turkey.

Colombia was belatedly paid $25 million by the USA for international use of the Panama Canal.

The first modern hospital, Peking Union Hospital, was founded in China.

Reza Pahlavi (1878+1944), an Army officer, and his troops seized control of the government of Persia, and Pahlavi became the new shah/cezar/caesar.

The Haganah, a secret Jewish self-defense force, was founded in Palestine.

Charles of Austria and Hungary, the last of the Habsburg emperors, now a resident of Switzerland, twice failed to regain his throne in Hungary by using his supporters' force. He died in exile.

The Unknown Soldier was buried at Arlington National Cemetery across the Potomac River from Washington, DC.

Alexander Fleming (1881+1944), a British physician, found lysozyme, an antibacterial substance, in mucus, saliva, and tears.

John Augustus Larson (1892+1965), a Canadian-American medical student, invented an early version of the polygraph/lie detector machine.

Russia had a population of 136 million, the USA 107 million, Japan 78 million, Germany 60 million, and Britain 42.5 million persons.

The sailors of the Russian Baltic Fleet became mutineers in February at their headquarters in Kronstadt, near St. Petersburg/Petrograd, against the Bolshevik government. Red Army special forces captured Kronstadt and executed the leaders of the uprising.

After peasant unrest swept over Russia, Lenin announced his "New Economic Policy," which, in part, allowed the peasants to sell their grain, vegetables, chickens, eggs, and other surpluses in the public markets.

Soviet Russia and Poland signed the Treaty of Riga and established the Cuzon Line as the frontier line between the two countries.
Haj Amin al-Husseini, soon to become the Mufti (a Muslim jurist) of Jerusalem, led anti-Jewish riots by Arabs in Palestine.

Marie Stopes (1880+1958), a paleontologist who earned her doctor of philosophy degree (PhD) from the University of Munich, the first female lecturer at the University of Manchester, was a co-founder with her husband, Humphrey Verdon Roe, an aircraft manufacturer, of the first birth-control clinic in Britain.

Italy's first commander of a military aviation unit and aviation strategist, General Giulio Douhet (1869+1930), published The Command of the Air, which accurately predicted the strategic bombing of cities.

Pablo Picasso painted Three Musicians.

The Irish writer James Joyce (1882+1941), who spent many of his working years in Paris, completed Ulysses about his life and thoughts on 16 June 1904 in Dublin.

There was a dial telephone service in Omaha, Nebraska.

Albert Einstein: "God is subtle but he is not malicious." Hector C. Bywater, a British naval expert, wrote Sea Power in the Pacific that predicted that in the next war Guam "would doubtless be the first Japanese objective." Anna Akhmatova (1889+1966), Russian poet: "All has been looted, betrayed, sold; black death's wing flashed ahead."

1921/2: During a famine in the Ukraine and the Volga region of Russia, experts have guessed that some 250,000 to five million people died.

Frederick Banting (1891+1941) with Charles Best (1899+1978), James Collip, and John Macleod, all Canadian physicians from the University of Toronto, discovered a means of isolating and extracting the hormone insulin from the human pancreas in order to experiment on dogs. This was a major medical breakthrough in that it made the mysterious treatable. Banting and Macleod were awarded a Nobel Prize in 1923. (Insulin is still used worldwide to treat diabetes in millions of humans.)

1921+1923: The Hashemite principedom of Transjordan, formerly part of the Ottoman province of Damascus, was part of the British mandate of Palestine until it received a separate British administration.

1921+1928: The per-capita earnings of nonfarm workers in the USA increased from $1171 to $1408, which was an increase in real wages of about 20 percent. Farm income during this period increased about 10 percent.

1921+1932: Andrew William Mellon (1855+1937), a multimillionaire banker and industrialist (aluminum and oil), served as the USA's influential Secretary of the Treasury under three conservative Republican presidents: Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover. The enormously powerful Mellon favored greatly reduced taxes on the wealthy and corporations combined with higher tariffs, less government supervision of the economy, a blind eye towards monopolies and oligopolies, and always more help for large businesses.

1921+1933: Faisal I (1885+1933), formerly king of the Hejaz and a supporter of the Arabs' revolt against the Ottoman Turks, was the king of Iraq.

1921+1934: Alexander I (1888+1934) was the king of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (1921+1929). Then he was king of Yugoslavia (1929+1934) that had nine banates/banovine/districts, each governed by a leader appointed by the king. Bosnia was divided between four of the nine districts. (King Alexander I was murdered by a Macedonian terrorist who worked for Croatian fanatics.)

1921+1942: Papua New Guinea was administered by Australia as a mandate from the League of Nations.

1921+1945: Nationalsozialistiche Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP), which some called the German Nazi Party, grew out of the German Workers' Party that started in 1919. Adolf Hitler was the one and only leader of this infamous party.

1921+1958: The Hashimite dynasty ruled Iraq.

1921+1976: Mao Zedong/Mao Tse-tung (1893+1976) was the towering figure in the Chinese Communist Party, which he helped to found. After 1948 he was, in effect, the red emperor of China.
1921+1997: Faculty members at Oxford University won 21 Nobel prizes.

1922: Nationalists drove the last Greek troops out of Turkey. The Grand National Assembly in Ankara abolished the sultanate of the Ottoman Empire but retained the empty caliphate. The last sultan, Vahdettin, sailed off to the Italian Riviera from Istanbul on a British warship. It was indeed the very end of the Ottoman Empire that had lasted some six hundred years. Estonia, Finland, Latvia, and Poland formed the Baltic Entente as a defensive move against Soviet Russia/ USSR.

The British formally separated the area east of the Jordan River from their Palestine mandate and called it Transjordan.

The USA's island of Guam in the western Pacific was surrounded by Japan's League of Nations' mandated islands in Micronesia and was defenseless because the Washington naval treaty prohibited the development of Guam as a major base and because Congress did not want to spend money for the "distant" military defense of the USA.

Black-shirted Fascist squads/squadristi controlled many parts of northern Italy. There was a general strike in Italy led by communists during October. The fascists marched on Rome the same month, supposedly to suppress the communists and to persuade the king, Victor Emmanuel III (1869+1947), into believing that they should form a government. Some historians claim the "March on Rome" was much more like a patriotic demonstration during which the frightened king welcomed the fascists whom he hoped might save his place on the wobbling throne. The fact is Mussolini became prime minister of Italy in late October. His government initially and briefly included several non-fascist Catholics and liberals.

Britain announced that Egypt was no longer a protectorate but an independent state.

The League of Nations approved the British government's proposal to make Palestine a mandate of the League under British control and to implement the Balfour Declaration of 1917. The Arab Congress rejected the British mandate for Palestine.

The Russians and Germans, whom some regarded as the major losers of WWI, signed the Treaty of Rapallo in mid-April which suspended their mutual reparation payments and improved the terms of trade between the two nations. They made this agreement without the supervision or approval of the already disunited Allies.

Michael Collins, who had signed the treaty that partitioned Ireland, was assassinated by extremists only a few days after becoming the head of the provisional government of the Irish Free State.

Gandhi was sentenced to six years in jail for disobeying British laws in India.

Sun Yatsen tried to reorganize the Guomindang/Nationalist Party after the Soviet model.

Revenues of the US government were $4.9 billion and expenditures were $4.1 billion.

The American stock and other markets began to "boom."

Rebecca L. Felton from Georgia was appointed the first woman senator in American history.

A World War Foreign Debt Commission, created by the US Congress, estimated that the Allies from WWI owed the USA some $22 billion.

The Japanese established military-civil governments on the major islands in their Micronesian mandate. (There are in total some 2000 islands in Micronesia, and most of them are rarely visited and unoccupied.)

Unemployed Glasgow workers marched on London.

Stalin became the general secretary to the Central Committee of the USSR.

Independent Armenia was taken over by the Russian Red Army.

President Warren G. Harding (1865+1923) started the Federal Narcotics Control Board in the USA.

Niels Bohr (1885+1962), a Danish physicist, won the Nobel prize in physics for his work in the areas of atomic radiation and structures and the spectrum of hydrogen.
Hans Guenther, a future Nazi, published *The Racial Origins of the German People*, which asserted the Jews, unlike the Germans, were an inferior, mongrel race.

Edwin Arlington Robinson (1869+1935) published *Collected Poems*. They helped him win the first of three Pulitzer Prizes for poetry in the USA.

Hermann Hesse (1877+1962), the great German-Swiss writer, who was awarded the Nobel prize for literature in 1946, finished his novel about the Buddha, *Siddhartha*.

A new concrete tennis stadium, with seating for 15,000, was opened at Wimbledon, England.

About one in seven American marriages ended in divorce.

There were, by year’s end, some 508 radio stations and some three million radio sets in the USA.


After a 15-year search, Howard Carter (1873+1939), a British archaeologist and his supporters, found the tomb of the teenage pharaoh Tutankhamen (died about -1340), often called King Tut, in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt.

At this same time, John Marshall (1876+1958), the British director-general of archaeology in India (1902+1931), started excavating sites of the ancient Harappan civilization in the Indus Valley.

Mah-jongg, a Chinese game, became popular in the USA.

American studio owners, film producers and directors organized an effective way to impose self-censorship on their movies.

Wallace Beery and Douglas Fairbanks starred in the first of many movie versions of *Robin Hood*.

Herbert Hoover (1874+1964), the Secretary of Commerce and future president of the USA, published *American Individualism*.

**Benito Mussolini**: “I could have nailed up the doors of Parliament.” **James George Frazer** (1854+1941), British cultural anthropologist: “By religion, then, I understand a propitiation or conciliation of powers superior to man which are believed to direct and control the course of nature and of human life.” **Felix Adler** (1851+1933), American educator: “The purpose of man’s life is not happiness but worthiness.” **Hermann Hesse** in *Siddhartha*: “Knowledge can be communicated but not wisdom.”

1922/3: Some 800,000 Muslims were expelled from Greece while some 1.3 million mainly Christian Orthodox Greeks were driven out of Turkey.

1922+1926: Military cadets in Brazil, the Tenentes, led a nationalist reform movement that led to the dictatorship of Getulio Vargas.

1922+1927: Kurds revolted in northern Iraq and fought for an independent homeland for their people before and after these dates.

1922+1929: Per-capita income in the USA increased from $672 to $857.

Affluent people, mainly in the industrial countries, bought large quantities of automobiles, cameras, cigarettes, cigarette lighters, radios, vacuum cleaners, washing machines, and wristwatches, among other items.

1922+1937: Joe “King” Oliver (1885+1938) was an important American cornettist, composer, and bandleader. Originally from New Orleans, the cradle of American jazz music, he formed his Creole Jazz Band in Chicago, which for a while featured Oliver’s protégé Louis Armstrong and made some of the finest early jazz recordings.

1922+1939: Pope Pius XI (1857+1939), a staunch anti-communist, was not always unwilling to cooperate with the Italian fascists.

1922+1945: Benito Mussolini, the founder of fascism, was the *Il Duce*/*the leader* of Italy. He caused Italy to invade Ethiopia (1935/6), supported Franco during the Spanish Civil War (1936+1939), invaded Albania (1939), and joined forces with Hitler during WWII. Whatever little good he did for the Italian people is questionable.

1922+1947: Real net domestic product (NDP) of the Jewish part of the British Mandate for Palestine increased at an average rate of about 13 percent per year.
1922+1953: Joseph Stalin/"steel"/Joseph Djugashvili was the leader of the Communist Party and, after Lenin's death in 1924, the ruler of the new Russian Empire. He systematically eliminated all his opponents, directed the Great Purge/Terror of 1936+1938, ordered the murder and imprisonment of millions of people, and was the commander in chief of Soviet forces during the Great Patriotic War/ WWII. Along with Hitler and Mao Zedong, he was one of the greatest monsters in recent world history. Many people cried when he died.

1922+1971: Louis Armstrong (1898+1971), originally from New Orleans, was one of the greatest jazz trumpeters, singers, entertainers, soloists, recording artists, and international ambassadors of music of any sort during the 20th century.

1922+now: The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Irish Free State became Eire and then the Republic of Ireland.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) helped millions of people all over the world pass time and influenced their thinking in the process.

Dewitt Wallace (1889+1981) and Lila Bell Acheson Wallace (1889+1984) started the pocket-sized Reader’s Digest for busy people in the USA. It eventually became the largest circulation magazine in the world.

The Fine Gael/"Tribe of Gael" party in Ireland were the followers of those leaders who accepted the Partition of Ireland in 1922. The Fianna Fail/"Soldiers of Destiny" party were followers of Eamon De Valera and those who opposed the Partition.

1923: Mustafa Kemal (1881+1938) became Kemal Ataturk,"Father of the Turks," the leader of the People's party. Ankara became the official capital of Turkey that became, by choice, the only secular republic in the Muslim world.

In January, French and Belgian troops occupied the Ruhr, where Germany's largest coalmines were, to enforce the collection of reparations from Germany that had failed to make its payments under the terms of the Versailles Treaty of 1919. The German government, local governments, and trade unions responded with a policy of passive resistance.

The Fascist squadristi were allowed to join the Italian military.

Palestine was partitioned and Jordan/Transjordan was created.

The nationalists and communists in China briefly tried to unite and defeat the warlords. Sun Yat-sen briefly sent Chiang Kai-shek/Jiang Jieshi (1887+1975) to Russia to study military subjects.

Ramsay MacDonald (1866+1937), a Scot and a socialist politician, headed the first Labour Party government in Britain that lasted only a few months.

It looked like France, which had just pulled its troops back from the German cities of Offenburg and Dortmund, might withdraw its troops from the Ruhr.

Gustav Stresemann (1878+1929), the leader of the German People's Party (DVP), which was, some claimed, a pro-monarchist front, became chancellor of the Weimar Republic with a cabinet composed of a number of odd parties in mid-August. Some called this the Great Coalition. It lasted until November.

The Supreme Court in the USA overturned Adkins v. Children’s Hospital that had limited women's work hours.

On 26 September, the official rate of exchange was US$1 for 240 million German marks. This was the worst example to date in the world of runaway or hyperinflation.

Germany had 9,193,000 trade union members; Britain had 4,369,000; the USA had 3,600,000.

Many Rhinelanders, encouraged by the French, considered secession from the Weimar Republic and Germany. Popular-front governments in Saxony and Thuringia, mainly influenced by various workers' organizations, prepared for civil war.

In Bavaria the regular army/ the Reichswehr supported Gustav von Kahr, the state commissar general of Bavaria, and General von Lossow, the Reichswehr commander of Bavaria, and not the Weimar Republic. One of their close associates
was Adolph Hitler, a former corporal who had been wounded and decorated during WWI for valor. He was the head of the extreme right-wing National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP).

Hitler and general Erich Ludendorff, a hero of WWI, tried and failed to carry off a "Beer Hall Putsch" in Munich that they hoped would overthrow the Bavarian government. As their supporters marched and demonstrated thru the streets of Munich on 9 November, Hitler's associate Hermann Goering (1893+1946), an ace pilot and the commander of the "Death Squadron" during WWI, was wounded (and forced to go into exile for five years). The Reichswehr at that point decided to again be loyal to the national government and their higher chain of command. Sixteen rebels were killed by police still loyal to Weimar, who used machine guns. As a result, Hitler spent nine months in prison, a light sentence, where he wrote and dictated, to Rudolf Hess (1894+1987), his autobiography and blueprint for the future, Mein Kampf/My Struggle (1925).

Non-fascist parties were outlawed in Italy.

The Zionist World Organization selected Chaim Weizmann (1874+1952), a distinguished chemist, as its president.

During mid-November, the Germans circulated new money called the Rentenmark, named after the Rentenbank/Pension Bank that issued it.

Earthquakes measuring 8.2 on the Richter scale caused fires that killed some 140,000 persons in Tokyo and nearby Yokohama.

Nepal became independent of Britain.

General Motors was the world's largest manufacturing company.

The Chinese Immigration Act in Canada discriminated against the Chinese.

Earl Hancock "Pete" Ellis, an active duty Lieutenant Colonel in the US Marine Corps, again visited in disguise, as he had done in 1921/2, islands in Japanese-controlled Micronesia and died (probably of alcoholism) in Koror, Palau. In 1920 Ellis had written a farsighted report "Advanced Base Operations in Micronesia" which was useful some 20 years later as the islands were liberated one-by-one - some called it island-hopping - by American Marines.

The Teapot Dome oil scandal was ventilated by Congress and the media in Washington, DC, and greatly tarnished the Harding administration.

Francisco "Pancho" Villa/Doroteo Arango, the famous Mexican revolutionary and bandit warlord, was gunned down by some of his enemies or friends, but, in either event, probably for a reward.

Calvin Coolidge (1872+1933) succeeded Warren Harding as 30th president of the USA.

Nevada and Montana were the first states to have old-age pensions for their state employees.

Abyssinia/Ethiopia became a member of the League of Nations.

Boris III became the dictator of Bulgaria.

The Greek army deposed King George II (1890+1947).

Wilhelm "Willy" Messerschmitt (1898+1978), a German aircraft designer, started his own aircraft factory.

The French scientists Albert Calmette (1863+1933) and Camille Guerin (1872+1961) invented Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG), a tuberculosis vaccine. Gaston Ramon, a French bacteriologist, made a more effective vaccine to prevent diphtheria.

Winston Churchill switched from the Liberal to the Conservative party and became chancellor of the exchequer in the government of Stanley Baldwin (1867+1947).

Possibly 200,000 members of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) met in Kokomo, Indiana, for a tri-state conclave. Martial law was declared in Oklahoma to protect people and their property from the KKK.

Henry R. Luce (1898+1967) started to publish Time magazine. (He then started-up Fortune (1930), Life (1936), and Sports Illustrated (1954) magazines as part of what became an "information empire.")

Walt Disney (1901+1966) started his film animation studio in Hollywood, California.
"Bix" Beiderbecke formed a jazz band in Chicago. Joseph "King" Oliver and "Jelly Roll" Morton recorded New Orleans-style jazz.

Supposedly the largest airline in the world, Aeroflot, was founded in the USSR.

Edwin P. Hubble (1889+1953), an American astronomer, found a variable star in the Andromeda nebula.

The Ross Institute of Tropical Medicine was founded in London.

Clarence Birdseye (1886+1956), who had learned a few things about naturally frozen foods in Labrador earlier in his life, started to artificially freeze foods. He founded the General Sea Foods Co. in NYC. (The Birdseye Seafood Company in 1929 became part of the General Foods Company.)

Jose Ortega Y Gasset (1883+1955), Spanish philosopher and writer: "We have need of history in its entirety, not to fall back into it, but to escape from it." Gordon Hewart (1870+1943), British lawyer and politician: "A long line of cases shows that it is not merely of some importance, but is of fundamental importance that justice should not only be done, but should manifestly and undoubtedly be seen to be done." Rudyard Kipling, British writer: "Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind." Warren Gamaliel Harding, politician: "I have no trouble with my enemies but my goddam friends . . . they are the ones who keep me walking the floor nights." Luther Burbank, horticulturist: "Science is knowledge arranged and classified according to truth, facts, and the general laws of nature." "Life is heredity plus environment." Nikos Kazantzakis (1883+1957), Greek writer: "Die every day. Be born again every day. Deny everything you have every day. Their [our] superior virtue is not to be free but to fight for freedom." Benito Mussolini: "The truth . . . is that men are perhaps weary of liberty. They have had surfeit of it. Liberty is no longer the virgin, chaste and severe, fought for by the generations of the first half of the past century." "It [fascism] has already passed over the more or less decayed body of the Goddess of Liberty and is quite prepared, if necessary, to do so once more." Pablo Picasso: "The fact that for a long time Cubism has not been understood and that even today there are people who cannot see anything in it, means nothing. I do not read English, an English book is a blank book to me. This does not mean that the English language does not exist."

1923/4: The price of a two-pound loaf of bread in Germany/Weimar Republic dropped from 390,000,000,000 marks in December to 30 marks in January. This was the difference between bad and good money.

1923+1930: General Miguel Primo de Rivera (1878+1930), who had served in Morocco and the Philippines, led a coup d'etat and became the prime minister and military dictator of Spain with the approval of the unpopular King Alfonso XIII (1886+1941). He restored law and order in Spain and Morocco without many concerns for democratic or civil rights. (Rivera’s son Jose Antonio, who died in 1936, was the founder of the Falange, the largest and most powerful fascist party in Spain.)

1923+1938: Mustafa Kemal Ataturk was the first elected president of Turkey. The six principles of his modernization program were nationalism, populism, republicanism, revolutionary reformism, secularism, and statism/a centralized administration. The Ottoman Caliphate, created as part of the Ottoman Empire (1300+1923) by Osman I (1259+1326), finally, finally came to an end.

1923+1944: A large number of pamphlets and books, about 10,000 - not including periodicals - were published in Vietnam. Some were printed in quoc-ngu, a French innovation that used the Latin alphabet rather than Chinese characters.

1923+1991: Soviet Russia became the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). The USSR was originally composed of Soviet Russia, Soviet Byelorussia/Belarus, the Soviet Ukraine, and the Soviet Caucasus. The following also became Soviet "republics": Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bukovina/Bessarabia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

1923+now: The Hashimite dynasty of Jordan.

1924: The London Conference approved the Dawes Report, written by the American Charles
Dawes (1865+1951), who would become Calvin Coolidge's vice-president and a winner of a Nobel peace prize the next year, which regularized German reparations. As part of the package, the Reichsbank was reorganized. A loan to Germany, backed by gold, was arranged which was worth 800 million marks for the purpose of revitalizing German industries.

Supposedly Mussolini got 65 percent of the votes in the first elections under the fascists. Many people suspected widespread fraud. The reform socialist Giacomo Matteotti was murdered by fascist assassins.

Ataturk abolished the Ottoman Caliphate. The last caliph of the Ottoman Empire, and possibly of Islam, the princes and more than a hundred members of Ottoman dynasty were sent into exile, the religious schools in Turkey were closed, organized Islam was put under state control, and military commanders were forced to become either politicians or military officers, but not both.

Independent Outer Mongolia became the Mongolian People's Republic.

Ibn Saud conquered the Hijaz.

The government of Italy pressured the Yugoslavs to give them Fiume/Rijeka in western Croatia - formerly the Free State of Fiume - that they did in January.

Anti-Jewish radicals from the German Nationalist Party joined the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP), whose leader was Adolf Hitler, and won a few seats in the Reichstag, the German parliament.

The French evacuated the Ruhr.

Ankara, in north-central Anatolia, replaced Istanbul as the capital of the Turkish Republic.

Willem Einthoven (1860+1927), a Dutch physiologist, received the Nobel prize in physiology-medicine for his invention of an early version of the electrocardiograph.

The communist government of the USSR was recognized by Britain, Italy, and France, but not the USA.

Michael Borodin became the Soviet Union's influential military adviser to the Guomindang in China on political and revolutionary matters. Sun Yatsen/Sun Zhongshan put Chiang Kaishek/Jiang Jieshi, who recently had returned from briefings in Moscow, in charge of the new Whampoa Military Academy at Guangzhou in order to train officers for the National Revolutionary Army.

In the USSR, the Chechens and Ingushes each had an Autonomous Region within the Mountain Republic.

In the US, The National Origins Act established immigration quotas that favored Europeans.

Greece temporarily became a republic.

Lenin, the leader of the Russian Revolution, died in January. Thereafter, Stalin and Trotsky struggled for supreme power before Stalin, supported by Lev Borisovich Kamenev (1883+1936) and Grigori Zinoviev (1883+1936), became the supreme tyrant. Trotsky, an internationalist, was eventually outmaneuvered, pushed-out of power, and exiled.

The secretary of the US Navy, a cabinet position, Edwin Denby, was forced to resign because of the revelations and scandal, uncovered by a senatorial investigation, concerning the awarding of the Teapot Dome oil leases.

The US Supreme Court upheld the involuntary sterilization of mentally retarded persons.

The Society for Human Rights, the first US gay rights organization, began in Chicago.

All Native Americans/Indians, who were not so already, were made USA citizens by an act of Congress.

Ford Motor Company manufactured its 10 millionth car. The Price of a Model T, which had sold in 1908 for $850, was now $290.

Will Rogers (1879+1935) was at the height of his popularity as an original American comedian and social commentator.

Clifford Holland (1883+1924) was an outstanding American civil engineer who helped build the Holland Tunnel under the Hudson River that separated New York City from New Jersey.

Richard Loeb and Nathan Leopold, two of America's first "thrill killers," were sentenced to
life imprisonment for the kidnap slaying of 12-year-old Bobby Franks.

The California Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco was completed as a memorial to honor the 3600 Californians who died in WWI. It was designed in what some called the Parisian museum style by the architect George Applegarth and was funded by the sugar king Adolph Spreckels and his wife Alma.

A team of US Army pilots was the first to fly around the world.

Bones of Mesozoic dinosaurs were found in the Gobi Desert.

Gandhi fasted for 21 days as a protest against the bloody conflict between Muslims and Hindus in India.

The economist John Maynard Keynes published *Does Unemployment Need a Drastic Remedy?*

The French poet and essayist Andre Breton (1896+1966) published the *Surrealist Manifesto*.

The American George Gershwin (1898+1937) completed *Rhapsody in Blue* that is a highly creative and pleasing fusion of jazz, folk, and classical music.

The Italian composer Ottorino Respighi (1879+1936) wrote his symphonic poem the *Pines of Rome*, and the Finnish composer Jean Sibelius (1865+1957) wrote his 7th symphony.

Alfred Marshall (1842+1924) was an outstanding British economist.

Australian-born South African anthropologist-anatomist Raymond Dart found fossil evidence of *Australopithecus afarensis* in Botswana that walked on two legs, had an apelike face, and a brain smaller than a contemporary child’s. Much controversy surrounded the question of whether his find was in the direct ancestral line of *homo sapiens*.

Franz Kafka (1883+1924), the Czech-Austrian writer, died in Vienna, where he had lived in hospitals and sanatoriums for the past eight years. He instructed his literary executor Max Brod to destroy all his unpublished manuscripts and not to reprint any of his published works. Brod, good friend that he was, disobeyed Kafka’s last wishes and in the years to come published, among others, his novels *Amerika, The Castle*, and *The Trial*.

Ernest Hemingway (1899+1961), an American ambulance driver in Europe during WWI, published his first novel *The Sun Also Rises*.

Eugene O’Neill (1888+1953), an American playwright who was somewhat influenced by Sigmund Freud, wrote *Desire under the Elms*.

**Joseph Stalin**: "The state is an instrument in the hands of the ruling class for suppressing the resistance of its class enemies." **Leon Trotsky**: "It was the supreme expression of the mediocrity of the apparatus that Stalin himself rose to his position." **Winston Churchill** on the fate of the Russian people and Lenin: "Their worst misfortune was his birth; their next worst - his death." **G. K. Chesterton** (1874+1936), British writer: "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."

**Robert M. Lafollette** (1855+1925), American progressive politician: "The cure for the evils of democracy is more democracy." **Erich von Ludendorff**, German general and hero of WWI: "I decline Christianity because it is Jewish, because it is international, and because in cowardly fashion, it preaches peace on Earth."

**Thomas Mann** (1875+1955), German writer: "The invention of printing and the Reformation are and remain the two outstanding services of central Europe to the cause of humanity." "Time has no divisions to mark its passage, there is never a thunderstorm or blare of trumpets to announce the beginning of a new month or year. Even when a new century begins it is only we mortals who ring bells and fire off pistols."

**Calvin Coolidge**, US president: "The man who builds a factory builds a temple. The man who works there worships there." "The chief business of the American people is business."

**Robin George Collingwood** (1889+1943), British philosopher, historian, and archaeologist: "Perfect freedom is reserved for the man who lives by his own work, and in that work does what he wants to do."

1924+1927: Some 65,000 Polish Jews escaped from what they felt was their intolerable situation and emigrated to Palestine.

1924+1928: The *Reichstag* worked in full legislative session without elections. Some
called these the "golden years" of the Weimar Republic.

Some famous German cultural figures of this period were Walter Gropius, Hans Grimm, George Grosz, Werner Heisenberg, Paul Hindemith, Paul Klee, Thomas Mann, Erich Maria Remarque, Oswald Spengler, and Joseph von Sternberg.

Some distinguished German newspapers of this time were the Berliner Tageblatt, Frankfurter Zeitung, and the Vossische Zeitung.

The DJIA, Dow Jones Industrial Average, finished up during each of these years.

1924+1929: The economic production in volume of the Weimar Republic grew, mainly in the export sectors, by half.

Winston Churchill was Britain's chancellor of the exchequer.

1924+1964: Northern Rhodesia/Zambia was a British protectorate.

1924+1965: The USA had an immigration policy based on "national origins" that mandated quotas for more immigrants from northern European nations rather than from Asia, Latin America, and southern Europe.

1924+1970: Investments by citizens of the USA in Latin America increased from four billion dollars to 14 billion dollars.

1924+1972: J. Edgar Hoover became the director of the Bureau of Investigation which was renamed the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in 1935. He stayed there in that elevated position, some thought, almost forever mainly because he knew too much about too many important people.

1924+1974: Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington (1899+1974) made a major impact on jazz and modern music. In addition to being a distinguished pianist, he was the leader of various bands and jazz orchestras that featured many star performers of the time. He also was one of the most famous music composers in American history and wrote by himself and in collaboration with others thousands of works, some for dance shows and films and most for concerts.

1924+1979: The Pehlevi/Pahlavi dynasty ruled Iran/Persia almost continuously.

1924+1991: St. Petersburg/Petrograd, at the head of the Gulf of Finland, became Leningrad until it became, as it is now, the city of St. Petersburg again.

1924+now: The winter Olympic Games, with a few interruptions, were held every four years.

1925: Benito Mussolini/Il Duce/"the leader," who had first grabbed power in 1922 as the leader of the Fascist movement, was now the supreme political-military leader of Italy that had degenerated into a single-party authoritarian state.

In Japan general suffrage for men was approved.

Trotsky was replaced as war commissar in a move that showed Stalin's growing influence within the Communist Party. Trotsky was no longer a major leader. Stalin and Bukharin were the new rulers.

Sun Yat-sen/Sun Zhongshan died of cancer on 12 March at the age of 59 years. He was succeeded as leader of the Nationalists/Guomintang by Chiang Kai-shek/Jiang Jieshi.

Cyprus became a Crown Colony of Britain.

Miguel Primo de Rivera, the leader of the directory in Spain, personally commanded a joint Spanish and French operation that defeated the Berber tribes people from the Rif region of northern Morocco.

At the Locarno Conference in Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium, Britain, and Italy "guaranteed" the demilitarization of the Rhineland and the inviolability of the shared Belgian, French, and German borders.

The fez, dervish orders, and the Muslim brotherhoods were outlawed in Turkey.

The Bell Telephone Laboratories in the USA employed some 3000 researchers.

The Geneva Protocol on Poisonous Gas and Biological Weapons was approved by a number of nations.

The Bronx River Parkway helped motorists move along quickly, safely, and comfortably between NYC and Westchester County.

British troops left Cologne, Germany.

Hitler's reorganized NSDAP had some 27,000 members. He published the first volume of *Mein Kampf*.

George Washington Carver (1864–1943), a former slave, was already famous in the USA and abroad as a polymath inventor, social reformer, and educator.

In Wyoming, Mrs. Nellie Taylor Ross became the first woman governor in the USA.

One British pound was worth US$4.829.

Ford Motor Company opened its first German subsidiary.

The USA had 261,000 miles of railroad; Britain had 29,000, and the USSR 26,000 miles.

Britons owned 1,654,000 radio sets.

Zenith made the first portable radio that weighed 6.6 kg/14.6 lbs.

The London Bible Society gave away 10.5 million Bibles written in 566 languages.

The Kimberley Clark company made and sold Celluwipes, which later became better known as Kleenex.

There were 88,000 Catholic missionaries in 66,400 places; there were 30,000 Protestant missionaries at 4,596 different sites.

Oskar Barnack and the German company Leitz made the first, famous Leica camera.

Firestone Rubber Company of the USA established large rubber plantations in Liberia.

Theodore Dreiser wrote the novel *An American Tragedy*.

F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896–1940) finished his classic novel *The Great Gatsby* that was, among other "things," about the life-style of the rich and idle during the Roaring 20s.

Sergei Eisenstein (1898–1948), a Russian, made and directed the brilliant motion picture *Battleship Potemkin* about the 1905 anti-czarist mutiny.

*The New Yorker* magazine started to be published.

The Hebrew University was started in Jerusalem.

Trinity College in North Carolina became Duke University after receiving a grant of $40 million from the tobacco magnate James B. Duke.

Charlie Chaplin starred in and directed *The Gold Rush*.

Pablo Picasso, Oskar Kokoschka, and George Rouault were all painting important pictures.

The Art Deco movement received great publicity during and after a great exhibition of decorative arts/crafts in Paris.

Alben Berg, Aaron Copland, and Dmitri Shostakovich were all writing important new music.

Some Europeans enjoyed live Chicago jazz.

The "Charleston" was a hot popular dance in many places.

The State of Tennessee prohibited the teaching of Darwin's theory of evolution. Many supporters of this law belonged to the Anti-Evolution League. John T. Scopes, a young science teacher, violated this law, was convicted, assessed a $100 fine, and then was acquitted on a technicality. His prosecutor in this famous "Monkey trial" was the Christian fundamentalist William Jennings Bryan; his defense attorney was the freethinker Clarence Darrow.

Hermann Oberth (1894–1990), a Hungarian-born German astrophysicist, published the seminal *By Rocket to Interplanetary Space*. (Oberth ended up working for the Americans after WWII.)

The Frenchman Lucien Febvre (1878–1956), a member of the Annalist school of historians, published his influential essay "The Silhouette of a Civilization."

**Adolf Hitler:** "Any alliance whose purpose is not the intention to wage war is senseless and useless." "All propaganda must be so popular and on such an intellectual level, that even the most stupid of those towards whom it is directed will understand it." "Through clever and constant application of propaganda, people
can be made to see paradise as hell, and also the
other way round, to consider the most wretched
sort of life as paradise." "In parliamentarianism,
its outward form of expression, democracy
created a monstrosity of filth and fire." "All
those who are not racially pure are mere chaff."
"The broad mass of a nation . . . will more easily
fall victim to a big lie than to a small one." "Only
constant repetition will finally succeed in
imprinting an idea on the memory of the
crowd." "The greater the lie, the greater the
chance that it will be believed." Paul Joseph
Goebbels (1897+1945), Hitler's chief
propagandist: "It is the absolute right of the
State to supervise the formation of public
opinion." Clarence Seward Darrow (1857+1938),
famous American attorney: "Just think of the
tragedy of teaching children not to doubt." "I do
not pretend to know where many ignorant men
are sure." Samuel Gompers, American labor
leader: "You can't weigh the soul of a man with
a bar of pig-iron." "Show me the country in
which there are no strikes, and I'll show you that
country in which there is no liberty." Mother
Jones/Mary Harris Jones (1830+1930), American
labor organizer: "Pray for the dead and fight like
hell for the living!"

1925/6: There was an anti-British strike in
Guangzhou-Xianggang, China, which lasted
some 16 months.

1925+1927: Nationalists in Syria led a revolt that
the French put down.

The fascists in Italy increased their power by
suppressing, with violence, the press, the
opposition parties and politicians, and the
independent trade unions.

John Logie Baird (1888+1946), a Scottish
inventor, Vladimir K. Zworykin (1889+1982), a
Russian-born American physicist, and Philo T.
Farnsworth (1906+1971), an American engineer,
independently worked on early versions of what
would become television.

1925+1933: Paul von Hindenburg, the chief of
the German Army High Command during WWI,
was the ineffective president of the Weimar
Republic. His advisers were often old Prussian
army officers, large landowners, neo-feudal
aristocrats from east of the Elbe, and people who
disliked democracy, liberals, and republican
forms of government.

1925+1935: Art Deco continued to be popular.

1925+1945: The Schutz-Staffel/"protective
squadron," better known as the SS, was the
private army and police of the Nazi Party.

1925+1948: In Ecuador not one single president
completed his term in office.

1925+1957: Diego Rivera (1886+1957), a great
Mexican artist, was one of the world's leading
muralists. Often his subjects were the common
people and the history of Mexico.

1925+1968: Asa Philip Randolph (1889+1979)
was the progressive president of the
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, a
component of the American Federation of Labor,
and an important civil rights leader.

1926: Lev Kamenev, Leon Trotsky, and Grigori
Zinoviev were pushed out of the Politburo in the
USSR by the Stalinists.

General Jozef Pilsudski headed an authoritarian
military government in Poland.

Abd el-Krim (1881+1963), a Berber chief whom
some called the "Wolf of the Rif Mountains," and
his followers, surrendered to a French army led
by Philippe Petain (1856+1951) after staging the
Riff revolt, started in 1921, against French rule in
Morocco.

Britain and Turkey agreed on Turkey's
southeastern frontier and that Mosul would
become part of Iraq.

Nearly all the steel workers in India worked for
Tata Iron and Steel Co. at Tatanagar in Bihar in
northeast India.

There was a "general strike" in Britain; it was a
bright signal of a deteriorating economic
situation.

The Berlin Treaty between Germany and the
Soviet Union guaranteed that both nations
would remain neutral towards each other if
either of them were attacked by a third nation.
This agreement greatly eased the Soviets' fears
that Germany would gang-up on them with the
Western powers.
The Imperial Conference approved of the **Balfour Report** that declared the Dominions to be "autonomous communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate to one another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown, and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations."

Lebanon became a republic.

Germany became a member of the League of Nations.

There was a revolt against the Dutch in Indonesia led by some communists.

Over the past few years land speculation in southern Florida and especially around Miami Beach had inflated prices greatly. During mid-year, real-estate prices suddenly plunged.

Robert H. Goddard tested a liquid-fueled rocket and launched his career as America's rocket pathfinder. His four-foot rocket reached a height of 56 m/184 feet and reached a speed of 97 km/60 miles per hour.

Some 6000 passengers traveled on US airlines.

Leonard Woolley (1880+1960), a British archeologist working in Mesopotamia (1922+1934), found the Royal Tombs of Ur.

The **Jazz Singer**, which featured the American singer Al Jolson, was the first talking motion picture.

John L. Baird did the first public demonstration of television.

Henry W. Fowler (1858+1933), an English lexicographer and grammarian, published his influential and popular *Dictionary of Modern English Usage*.

Mauna Loa volcano on the island of Hawaii erupted.

**Adolf Hitler:** "One should guard against believing the great masses to be more stupid than they actually are." "Success is the sole earthly judge of right or wrong." "Have no pity. Adopt a brutal attitude. . . . Right is on the side of the strongest." **General Hans von Seeckt**, the chief of the 100,000 member German *Reichswehr*: "The army serves the state and only the state, for it is the state." **Gertrude Stein**, American writer/poet living in Paris: "That's what you are. That's what you all are. All of you young people who served in the war. You are a lost generation." **John Maynard Keynes**, British economist: "I do not know which makes a man more conservative - to know nothing but the present, or nothing but the past." **C.P. Scott** (1846+1932), editor of the English newspaper the *Manchester Guardian*: "Comment is free, but facts are sacred." **Clarence Darrow** (1857+1938), American lawyer: "I believe that the life of the Negro race has been a life of tragedy, of injustice, of oppression. The law has made him equal, but man has not."

1926/7: In Portugal there were violent political protests and a military revolt against the dictatorship.

1926+1928: The Guomindang/Kuomintang/Nationalist Party in China, with help from Russian advisers and weapons, launched a successful "northern expedition" that defeated some 34 warlords and nominally reunified the country. The National Revolutionary Army had some 150,000 troops.

1926+1929: Richard Byrd (1888+1957), an American, was supposedly the first explorer and aviator to fly over both the North and South Poles.

1926+1930: Some 500,000 persons died in India of smallpox.

1926+1931: The number of trucks on prairie farms in Canada increased from 6000 to 22,000, the number of tractors increased from about 50,000 to 82,000, and the number of mechanical harvesters went from none to 9000.

1926+1932: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including Hejaz/Al Hijaz and Nejd/Najd, was formed with the guidance of King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud (1880+1953).

1926+1933: US Marines occupied Nicaragua to help keep the peace and make certain the Nicaraguan government's bills got paid. General Augusto Cesar Sandino, a radical rebel leader, refused to cooperate with efforts to hold democratic elections supervised by the USA and organized and led a peasant army in Nicaragua against the US Marines.
1926+1945: Hirohito (1901+1989) was the knowing figurehead emperor of Japan. (After WWII he was a constitutional monarch.)


1927: A bloody purge of communists from the Nationalist Party in Shanghai forced a break between the Nationalists and the Chinese Communist Party. (The communists had seized control of the city during March.) This was the so-called Autumn Harvest Uprising. Some 30,000 communists and other opponents of Jiang Jieshi's/Chiang Kai-shek's National Revolutionary Army revolted against the central government in Nanking. Civil war resulted. Some called this the start of the Red Army and the Chinese Civil War.

Leon Trotsky, Gregori Zinoviev, Lev Kamenev, and Karl Radek were shoved out of power at the All-Union Congress of the Communist Party and condemned by the Stalinists as political deviationists.

The last members of the Inter-Allied Commissions in Germany went home.

Albania became, in effect, an Italian protectorate.

The Republic of Turkey had a population of 13.6 million people.

Achmad Sukarno (1902+1970) was one of the founders of the Indonesian Nationalist Association (PNI) and was jailed by Dutch authorities.

Charles Lindbergh (1902+1974) made the first solo transatlantic flight from Long Island, New York, to Paris in 33.5 hours in the *Spirit of St. Louis*. He immediately became an American hero and an international celebrity. (Later he became an excessive admirer of the Germans and their air power that dimmed his luster.)

Chiang Kai-shek married Song Meiling, the sister of Sun Zhongshan's widow, who came from a moneyed family with excellent political connections. The communists called the Nanjing government the rule of the "Four Big Families."

The All-Canadian Congress of Labor was organized to advance industrial unionism. The Trades and Labor Congress was a more conservative confederation of craft unions.

The American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, formed by Louis Mayer of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, presented awards to filmmakers. (In 1931 these awards became known as "Oscars.")

After spending two years in a federal penitentiary for mail fraud, Marcus Garvey, whom some called a "Black/Negro nationalist," was deported from the USA to his native Jamaica.

Canberra became the new capital of Australia.

Vannevar Bush (1890+1974), with help from a team of scientists and engineers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), made an electro-mechanical analog computer called the Differential Analyzer.

Fritz Lang (1890+1976), an Austrian-born filmmaker, who later emigrated to the USA, released his utopian silent film *Metropolis* in Berlin.

A German rocket society was organized; one of its youngest members was Wernher von Braun (1912+1977).

The progressive American historians Charles and Mary Beard published their two-volume history *The Rise of American Civilization*.

The *Jazz Singer* was the first motion picture with sound.

In the US, Babe Ruth hit 60 homeruns; Jack Dempsey lost the heavyweight boxing title to Gene Tunney.

Mustafa Kemal, the president of Turkey: "Sovereignty and kingship are never decided by academic debate. They are seized by force."

Walter Lippmann (1889+1974), American journalist on the 30th president of the USA: "Mr. [Calvin] Coolidge's genius for inactivity is developed to a very high point. It is far from being an indolent activity. It is a grim, determined, alert inactivity, which keeps Mr. Coolidge, occupied constantly. Nobody has ever worked harder at inactivity, with such force of character, with such unremitting attention to detail, with such conscientious devotion to the task." Will Rogers, American humorist: "You can't teach what you don't know any more than you can come back from where you ain't been."
"Communism is like prohibition, it's a good idea but it won't work." Alphonse "Al" Capone (1899+1947), American gangster: "Some call it bootlegging. Some call it racketeering. I call it business. They say I violate the prohibition law. Who doesn't?" George Santayana, philosopher: "The wisest mind has something yet to learn."

Frederick R. Barnard: "One picture is worth ten thousand words." Louis D. Brandeis (1856+1941), American jurist: "Fear of serious injury alone cannot justify suppression of free speech and assembly. Men feared witches and burned women. It is the function of speech to free men from the bondage of irrational fears."

Willa Cather (1873+1947), American writer: "Men travel faster now, but I do not know if they go to better things." Hermann Hesse: "The bourgeois prefers comfort to pleasure, convenience to liberty, and a pleasant temperature to the deathly inner consuming fire."

1927+1929: There were serious food shortages in towns and cities in the USSR. More than anything else, more than any Marxist theory, this was Stalin's calamitous reason for starting the policy of collectivization of agriculture in late 1929.

1927+1930: The communists in China controlled many small bases in mountain areas in central China.

1927+1932: Commonly half of Albania's meager national budget went to pay for the police and army. In the entire country there were only three hospitals with modern equipment, 29 pharmacists, a few physicians, and no medical schools. The Albanian per capita national income, the lowest in the Balkans, was $40 in 1927. Some people called Albania "the land of the bandits."

1927+1934: Wages of most Italian workers were down by about 40 percent. Italians were eating fewer eggs and less meat, sugar, and butter than other Europeans except possibly those in Spain and Portugal.

1927+1941: Corneliu Codreanu founded the secretive Legion of the Archangel Michael in Romania. He supposedly gathered soil from battlefields where ancient Dacian warriors had been killed. Members of his society carried small amounts of this "sacred soil" in leather bags next to their hearts. They hated Jews and democracy and loved the Orthodox Church and military power. The Legion and its paramilitary arm the Iron Guard, and their death squads, were an early homegrown, pro-Nazi, fascist, super-nationalist movement. The Legion and Iron Guard were extremely powerful in Bucharest and Romania until they rivaled the monarchy itself and were partially eliminated by King Carol II's political police.

1927+1953: The Stalinist period of Russian history. Stalin, the undisputed "red czar" of the USSR, started a serious program of collectivization and industrialization in the USSR based, in part, on the use of mass labor battalions, many of whom were so-called political prisoners.

1928: A famine in the USSR reportedly caused the deaths of some 25 million people.

Japan's main military's man in Manchuria, the local warlord Chang Tso-lin, attempted to act in an independent manner and challenge both the Japanese and Chiang Kai-shek for control of the region around Peking. It was widely believed at the time and even now that the Japanese military or their agents were responsible for Chang Tso-lin's "accidental" death in a railway bombing.

The Nationalist forces in China renewed their Northern Expedition against Manchuria. During April they captured Jinan in Shandong, near where the Japanese had interests and their Guandong Army. Nevertheless, by the end of June, the Nationalists entered Beijing and thus successfully completed their campaign, or so they claimed.

Chiang Kai-shek reorganized the Nationalist/Kuomintang (KMT)/Guomindang (GMT) government in Nanking/Nanjing, but most of China was still ruled by warlords. Beijing/Peking became known as Peiping to some. Chinese and foreign bankers who supported the regime and who loaned the government large sums of money. The residents of the port cities were the Nationalists' firmest, but never completely reliable, supporters. The Communist Party of China (CCP) was weak at this time.
63 nations signed the Pact of Paris, better known as the Kellogg-Briand Pact, named after the American and French foreign secretaries. It was intended to banish war all over the world without realistically providing any means to do so.

All references to Islam were removed from the Turkish constitution. The Latin alphabet replaced the Arabic alphabet in the national schools.

According to some sources, Alexander Fleming, a British physician and bacteriologist, discovered the first antibiotic drug, penicillin, in a moldy lab dish. Others maintain that it is never quite that easy.

During the US presidential election, Herbert Hoover, a traditional Republican, ran against Alfred E. Smith (1873+1944), who had pulled himself upward from being a newsboy to governor of New York state. Smith was a Catholic of Irish ancestry - the first to run for president - and a "wet"/an opponent of Prohibition.

Antonio de Oliveira Salazar (1889+1970) made his mark and built his base in the Ministry of Finance in Portugal.

Oscar DePriest, from Chicago, was the first Black politician ever elected to the US House of Representatives from a northern state.

The USA led the effort to return tariff autonomy to China.

Canada was the world's leading wheat-exporting nation.

George Papanicolau (1883+1962), a Greek-American physician and physiologist, developed a test for diagnosing uterine cancers. It is called a "Pap test."

The Boeing Company in Seattle, Washington, was a pioneer in the aviation business.

The first quartz crystal clock was invented by the USA's Joseph W. Horton and Warren Alvin Marrison.

John Willard Marriot (1900+1985) turned the Hot Shoppes into the Marriot Corporation.

The Oxford English Dictionary, after 70 years of scholarly labor, was published. It was a huge project and was the definitive dictionary of the language at that time and until now.

Margaret Mead (1901+1978), an American anthropologist, who had done field research in the islands, published Coming of Age in Samoa.

D. H. Lawrence wrote the novel Lady Chatterley's Lover, which was banned in England and many other places for being "obscene."

The Amos 'n' Andy radio show made its debut in the USA and subsequently became enormously popular for its folksy humor.

Walt Disney and his associates made the first animated Mickey Mouse cartoon.

Georgia O'Keeffe (1887+1986), an American painter who spent most of her life after 1946 in New Mexico, painted Red Gladiola in White Vase and Yellow Hickory Leaves with Daisy.

Mao Zedong, Mao Tse-tung, Chinese revolutionary: "The enemy advances, we retreat; the enemy camps, we harass; the enemy tires, we attack; the enemy retreats, we pursue." H.L. Mencken, US writer: "Puritanism - The haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy."


1928+1931: Some 350,000 Baya in French Equatorial Africa rebelled against their colonial masters who put them down with great violence.

Huey Long (1893+1935), whom some called "the Kingfish," was governor of Louisiana. One of his slogans was "Every man a king, but no man wears a crown." Some people regarded him as ruthless and a dangerous demagogue with great communication skills, something like an American Mussolini.

1928+1932: Industrial production in France, Britain, the USA, and Germany fell respectively to 75.6 percent, 88.5 percent, 57.7 percent, and 54 percent of capacity.

The first Five-Year Plan was tried in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Stalin ordered the immediate collectivization of farms.
because of terrible grain shortages. Wealthy, successful farmers /kulaks were eradicated.

Unemployment in Germany increased from 7 percent to 31 percent.

1928+1933: Per capital income in Canada fell by 48 percent.

1928+1937: Canadian wheat production declined sharply and the yield was one-third less at the end of this period than at the start.

Nanking/Nanjing in China was the Kuomintang’s capital because it was near their center of power on the lower Yangzi.

1928+1939: Ahmed Bey Zogu/Zogolli (1895+1961), who had been a nationalist and military leader in Albania since 1922, proclaimed himself King Zog I and ruled with a strong hand. He had been educated at an officers’ school in Istanbul and been influenced by the Young Turks, but he was no reformer.

1928+1949: Chiang Kai-shek/Jiang Jie-shi was the leader of the Nationalists in China and the Guomindang (GMT) party. (He held the same position on Taiwan 1950+1975.)

1928+1968: Antonio de Oliviera Salazar (1889+1970), formerly a professor of economics, went from being the head of the Ministry of Finance to prime minister (1932) to the head techno-tyrant and leader of the military dictatorship. During 1933, Salazar proclaimed the start of the Estado Novo (New State) or as some called it the Second Republic. Salazar quietly kept his country away from the Allies during WWII, not too openly helped the fascist powers and Franco in Spain, and thereafter tried to keep Angola and Mozambique by force as Portuguese colonies. His long career in power ended when he had a stroke.

1928+now: The Muslim Brotherhood or the Society of the Muslim Brothers was founded by Sunni Muslims in Egypt, with supporters in Jordan and Syria, for the purpose of forming a theocratic Islamic state headed by a "supreme guide." Eventually they had branches in all of the Muslim countries.

Opus Dei was started by a Spanish priest as a Roman Catholic international organization for young lay persons, female and male, who wanted to promote true Christian values and spiritual regeneration.

1929: The Roman Catholic Church and Pope Pius XI reached agreements with the Italian government and Mussolini in the Lateran Pacts and thus became more comfortable together. Vatican City State, a territory of some 100 acres/44 hectares with a population of about 1000 persons, on the right bank of the Tiber in the middle of Rome, was made sovereign under the absolute rule of the Pope. The government paid the Church an indemnity for lands lost in 1870. Many people viewed these agreements as a propaganda victory for the fascists and a sign, not the last one, of Pius XI's lack of timely, courageous moral leadership.

The Young Plan, another American proposal, modified the Dawes Plan and rescheduled reparation payments by Germany. It was accepted by the Allies and the Germans.

During an Indian Congress conference in Lahore, Subhas Chandra Bose and Jawaharlal Nehru, along with many others, called for purna swaraj/"complete independence" from Britain more than a few times.

Members of the terrorist Croatian Home Guard/Croatian Revolutionary Organization were active.

Shootings between members of the German Communist Party (KPD) and Hitler’s National Socialist German Workers’ Party (NSDAP), supported by the veterans’ organization the Stahlhelm/Steel Helmet in the streets of Berlin in May, was an example of the extreme conflict between left and right political groups in Germany. The announced goals of the NSDAP were to end the hated provisions of the Versailles Treaty and the Reparations Commission. Second, to lead Germany eastward into the lands of the "inferior races" towards more Lebensraum/"living space" for the German "race."

There were some 2326 factories in Shanghai that employed nearly 300,000 workers, most of whom were women and children.

Fighting between Palestinian Arabs and Jews flared-up.
Herbert Hoover was inaugurated as president of the USA on 4 March.

Except for the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA), and the stock markets in general, by mid-year, employment, production, and most measures of economic activity were going down in the USA. The 30 stocks of the DJIA sold at 4.2 times book value - corporate assets minus liabilities - in August. On 3 September, the DJIA reached its peak for the bull market of the 1920s at 381.17.

October 29, "Black Tuesday," was the day the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) crashed and, some claim, preceded and then started a worldwide economic depression. Some 16.3 million shares were traded on that day. The DJIA fell 38.33 points, nearly 13 percent, to 260.64. During October alone, the value of the stocks listed on the NYSE declined 37 percent.

Apartheid, a new Afrikaans word, became familiar to all the people in South Africa and a few beyond.

Hans Berger (1873+1941), a German psychiatrist, invented the electroencephalogram (EEG).

Al "Scarface" Capone had seven of his rivals in the illegal bootleg liquor business from the "Bugs" Moran gang machine-gunned during the Valentine's Day Massacre in Chicago.

William Faulkner (1897+1962) published his novel *The Sound and the Fury* that described, in some very new ways, an American family from the South slipping downward. (Twenty years and other novels later, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature.)

DNA was spotted in a cell nuclei.

Philip Drinker, an engineer, and Louis Shaw, a physiologist, made the first mechanical respirator/"iron lung" at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Edwin Powell Hubble (1889+1953), an American astronomer who worked at the Mt. Wilson Observatory at Pasadena, California, advanced the theory that our universe is expanding.

The first issue of the journal *Annales d’histoire economique et sociale* was published 15 January in Paris. Fernand Braudel (1902+1985), a leading member of the Annales group, coined the term "total history." Members of this group tried to take a global view of history and consider all aspects and circumstances when arriving at conclusions. Its two directors were Lucien Febvre (1878+1956) and Marc Bloch (1886+1944). They opposed the trend towards specialization and the erecting of cloisonnements/"dividing walls" in the study and teaching of history. Their opening statement was, in part: History would be better "... if all legitimate specialists, whilst carefully tending their own gardens, would take the trouble none the less to study the work of their neighbors. Yet the walls are so high that very often the view is blocked. It is against these formidable divisions that we see ourselves taking our stand."

Ernest O. Lawrence (1901+1958), an American physicist, started to build a cyclotron that used an electromagnet to accelerate atoms and produce artificial radioactivity at the University of California at Berkeley.

Near Peking/Beijing, in the Zhoukoudian cave, the remains were found of Homo erectus pekinesis, Peking Man, yet another type of early human, which was originally named *Sinanthropus pekinensis/"Chinese man from Peking"* by Davidson Black (1884+1934), a Canadian antatomist working at the Peking Medical College. In reality, much like the find on Java in 1894, Black had only found more evidence of the existence of Homo erectus. Some estimates are that humans had lived in this cave for some 200,000 years.

Georgia O'Keefe painted *The Lawrence Tree*.

Henry Moore (1898+1986), an exceptional English sculptor who repeatedly studied the stones at Stonehenge, completed his sculpture *Reclining Figure*.

Salvador Dali, a Spanish painter, started working in the Surrealist style, and pictured what he regarded as the irrational in a realistic manner.

Ernest Hemingway published his second novel *A Farewell to Arms*.

President Herbert Hoover on 22 October: "I know of nothing fundamentally wrong with the stock market or with the underlying business and credit structure." William Ralph Inge
(1860+1954), English prelate and theologian in reference to Karl Marx: "He is the apostle of class-hatred, the founder of a Satanic anti-religion, which resembles some religions in its cruelty, fanaticism and irrationality." Georges Clemenceau, French statesman: "America is the only nation in history which miraculously has gone directly from barbarism to degeneration without the usual interval of civilization."

Arthur Conan Doyle: "Mediocrity knows nothing higher than itself, but talent instantly recognizes genius." D.H. Lawrence, British writer: "Every man has a mob self and an individual self, in varying proportions."

"Pornography is the attempt to insult sex, to do dirt on it. This is unpardonable." Italian Fascist slogan: "Everything in the State, nothing outside the State, nothing against the State." Oswald Spengler: "In the destinies of the several Cultures that follow upon one another, grow up with one another, touch, overshadow, and suppress one another, is compressed the whole content of human history."

1929/30: Feng Yu-hsiang and Yen Hsi-shan, two very powerful Chinese warlords, were defeated by the Nationalist forces. Still, many Chinese provinces were virtually autonomous.

Technicolor motion pictures followed the invention of color film in 1928. Very slowly black and white films began to become less common.

State budgets in the USA commonly showed that building and maintaining roadways and highways was the first or second largest expenditure.

1929+1931: Britain had its second Labour Party government.

The British voluntarily returned to China their concessions and real estate in Hankou, Jiujiang, Weihaiwei, Xiamen, and Zhenjiang.

1929+1932: The incomes of Americans declined by more than 50 percent. Some 9000 banks closed their doors, which was about one-third of all American banks. The price of cotton declined more than two-thirds. Net cash income for American farmers dropped 55 percent. Ownership of radios by Americans doubled.

The gross national product of Canada fell by 40 percent.

1929+1933: Herbert Hoover, the president of the USA, like many other people, was befuddled about what should be done after the stock market crash and the onset of the Great Depression.

Canada's foreign trade declined 66 percent. One of the most important causes was the nationalist and isolationist trade policy of the Conservative Party, whose members had a majority in the federal Parliament and pursued policies much like those of the Republican Party in the USA. The general tariff level in Canada was increased by almost 50 percent.

Mohammed Nadir Shah (1880+1933) was the king of Afghanistan. From time to time he had British support, but he was opposed by many of the Muslim clergy. His reign ended with his assassination.

1929+1934: Alexander I (1888+1934), the king of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, established a royal dictatorship and declared himself to be the king of Yugoslavia: Bosnia, Kosovo, Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Vojvodina. Alexander was assassinated by a Macedonian terrorist working for Croatian terrorists.

1929+1936: The French built the expensive Maginot Line, named for their war minister Andre Maginot, which was a series of fortifications from Switzerland to Luxembourg. (The Germans quickly outflanked the line in 1940, and it proved next to useless.)

1929+1937: The "dustbowl" and drought years on the great prairies of North America which dried-up and blew away some of the best farmlands on this planet and ruined millions of farmers and many thousands of farming communities.

1929+1938: About 24,440,000 peasant holdings in the USSR were made into 250,000 kolkhozy/"collective farms" owned by the government, in effect the leaders of the Communist Party. Some called it modern serfdom after a pause of some 70 years.

1929+1939: About 245,000 Jews, mainly from Germany and Poland, immigrated to Palestine.
Winston Churchill sat on the backbenches of Parliament since he could not agree with his fellow Conservatives, or vice versa, about what was to be done about India, rearmament, and the fascists in Germany, Italy, and Japan.

1929+1945: Heinrich Himmler was the head of the Schutzstaffel/SS, the Gestapo, and then the overseer of the Nazi concentration and extermination camps in Europe. (He died a suicide.)

1929+1949: The Marx brothers - Julius Henry (Groucho), Leonard (Chico), Adolf (Harpo), and Herbert (Zeppo) - starred in 13 comedy films.

1929+1991: Yugoslavia existed with several different forms of government.

1929+1995: The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) controlled the local and federal governments in Mexico without interruption.

1929+2000: The Black Muslim religious group was founded in the USA. Elijah Muhammad, formerly Elijah Poole (1897+1975), was their leader from 1934 after he had a vision of Allah.

1930s: Many French and British leaders, most notably the British Prime Minister (1937+1940) Neville Chamberlain (1869+1940), practiced a policy of "appeasement" towards the militarists and fascists and ultra-nationalists of Europe and Japan. The Munich Agreement of 1938 was a clear-cut example of this failed policy.

Some 40 million demoralized people, victims and refugees of agricultural collectivization and famine, moved from the countryside to the towns and cities of the USSR.

Romania was the world's fifth largest petroleum producer.

Canada's economy was heavily influenced by exports that accounted for one-third of the nation's gross national income. The prices and demand for fish, grains, lumber, minerals (excluding gold and nickel), and newsprint all declined sharply during this time.

Some 80,000 unknown persons, victims of the Stalinist Terror, including some children, were all shot in the head and buried in a pit at Chelyabinsk (discovered in 1989), south of Sverdlovsk, in the Urals.

In several parts of the world, various engineers, scientists, specialty armers, and strategic planners started to think about building an atomic bomb.

Liberia and Ethiopia were the only two African nations that had not been colonized by this time.

Nigeria was the world's fourth-largest tin producer.

The Muslim Brotherhood promoted Islamic nationalism, especially among younger Egyptians.

Agricultural products were about 80 percent of all exports from Denmark.

Marcus Garvey the Jamaican-born Provisional President of the United States of Africa, who never visited that continent, and the founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, was not only very influential in the USA but also among pan-Africanists in the Caribbean and Africa.

Membership in the American Communist Party likely never went above 100,000.

1930: The National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP), better known as the Nazis, received some 6.4 million votes and won 130 seats in the September election to the Reichstag, but they were still a minority party. Within the next 12 months, unemployment in Germany increased from 9 percent to 16 percent.

Unemployment stood at four million in the USA by the end of the year.

The Indian National Congress started a vigorous campaign of civil disobedience against the British under the guidance of Mohandas K. Gandhi, whom Time magazine made their Man of the Year (in January 1931).

A five-power naval arms conference opened at London. The Naval Reduction Treaty was signed by Britain, Italy, France, the USA, and Japan.

The last French troops withdrew from the Rhineland.

In keeping with the economic views of the Republican controlled Congress and White House, the Hawley-Smoot Tariff pushed
American import duties to an all-time high. Many economists opposed the bill and predicted it would damage the nation's and the global economy and possibly cause or contribute to a serious economic downturn.

The British government stopped additional Jewish immigration into Palestine in an effort to appease the Arabs.

Turkish women could vote in local elections and the first women judges were appointed.

Finally all White males in the Union of South Africa could vote. About 75 percent of the total population was composed of Blacks who could not vote at all, except in very rare instances in the Cape Province.

Ho Chi Minh put together several political groups and formed the Indochinese Communist Party.

Chiang Kai-shek's Soviet advisers were replaced by Germans.

World population was about two billion persons.

Some 30,000 miners worked in the copper fields of Katanga/Shaba in southeastern Zaire/Congo and Northern Rhodesia.

There were about one million registered motor vehicles in Canada.

The I.G. Farbenindustrie corporation in Germany patented a tape recorder that used magnetized plastic tape.

Frank Whittle, an English aeronautical engineer, patented a jet engine before one was made and tested (1941). While he was a student at Cambridge University, he had contemplated and studied jet propulsion.

Hans Zinsser (1881+1945), a German chemist, won the Nobel prize for discovering hemoglobin in blood.


There were about 13.7 million radio sets in the USA.

Los Angeles, California, had the highest percentage of single-family dwellings in urban America at about 94 percent. Low density housing with plenty of living space was becoming common in many cities of the Far West. Some regarded this as the start of the trend towards suburban living in the USA. Others claim this was the start of urban sprawl.

All Quiet on the Western Front, about WWI, directed by Lewis Milestone, was voted the best picture of the year by the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The Blue Angel, directed by Josef von Sternberg and starring Marlene Dietrich and Emil Jannings, was also a memorable film of the year.

Joseph Stalin: "A single death is a tragedy; a million is a statistic." Lewis Namier (1888+1960), Polish born British historian: "History is made up of juggernauts, revolting to human feeling in their blindness, supremely humorous in their stupidity." Jose Ortega y Gasset (1883+1955), Spanish philosopher: "Revolution is not the uprising against pre-existing order, but the setting up of a new order contradictory to the traditional one."

"Civilization is nothing more than the effort to reduce the use of force to the last resort." Albert Einstein, physicist: "The hardest thing in the world to understand is income tax." "God is subtle but he is not malicious." "God does not play dice." "As far as the laws of mathematics refer to reality, they are not certain, and as far as they are certain, they do not refer to reality." Al Capone, American gangster: "They can't collect legal taxes from illegal money." Sinclair Lewis, American writer: "Our American professors like their literature clear and cold and pure and very dead." Dorothy Parker (1893+1967), US writer: "I was fired from there, finally, for a lot of things, among them my insistence that the Immaculate Conception was spontaneous combustion." Mack Sennett (1884+1960), American motion picture director: "I called myself 'King of Comedy,' a solemn and foolish title if there ever was one, but I was a harassed monarch. I worked most of the time. It was only in the
evenings that I laughed." **Eleanor Roosevelt** (1884+1962): "You must do the thing which you think you cannot do." **Leon Trotsky**: "In comparison with monarchy and other heirlooms from the cannibals and cave-dwellers, democracy is of course a great conquest, but it leaves the blind play of forces in the social relations of men untouched."

**1930/31**: After a general strike in support of a revolution, General Primo de Rivera, the military dictator of Spain since 1923, was deposed (1930) by supporters of King Alfonso XIII, who was in turn was overwhelmingly voted out of office in 1931 during a national election in favor of a republican form of government. Niceto Alcala Zamora was elected the first president.

**1930+1932**: German industrial production dropped to half of the 1928 level. Allied experts reached the conclusion (formally adopted at the Lausanne Conference in July 1932) that Germany was bankrupt and financial ruined. Reparations no longer could be paid.

**1930+1934**: About a million American farmers lost their farms to their mortgage holders.

**1930+1935**: Huey Long, a US Senator from Louisiana, promoted a social and economic program called "Share Our Wealth." He probably had it in his mind to run for president until someone with an old, legitimate grudge shot and killed him on the steps of the Louisiana capital building.

The Canadian government deported some 30,000 unwanted immigrants.

Douglas MacArthur (1880+1964), who had been decorated 13 times and cited for bravery another seven times during WWI, was chief of staff of the US army.

**1930+1939**: Gandhi organized and led the Civil Disobedience Movement in India for *purna swaraj*/complete independence. For their efforts Gandhi and many thousands of his supporters were jailed numerous times by the British. During this same time, other Indian leaders advocated a policy of "confrontation" with the British.

Non-farming unemployment in Canada went from 390,000 or 13 percent in 1930 to 26 percent by 1933 to 13 percent in 1939.

**1930+1945**: Getúlio Vargas (1883+1954) was the civilian dictator of Brazil and governed the *Estado Novo*/"New State," supposedly without the support of a pro-fascist party run by "the greenshirts." (He returned to power again in 1951+1954.) Brazil is nearly equal in size to all nine Spanish-speaking countries in South America and about 15 times larger than France.

**1930+1950**: Some 800,000 "Okies," as they were commonly and ignorantly called, left or were driven by necessity and desperation from Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas, the worst hit states of the so-called American Dust Bowl, to look for better opportunities elsewhere. Most of them were farm families, and many went to California where many of them eventually prospered starting during WWII.

**1930+1961**: Rafael Trujillo was the dictator of the Dominican Republic until he was assassinated.

The "New Criticism" flourished in the USA and elsewhere. Its adherents looked for the intrinsic meaning of literature and ignored the intentions of the author and references to the historical context of literary works. Some of its founders were the English critic Ivor Armstrong Richards (1893+1979), the Anglo-American poet T. S. Eliot (1888+1965), and the American writers/critics John Crowe Ransom (1888+1974), Robert Penn Warren (1905+1989), and William Kurtz Wimsatt (1907+1975).

**1930+1962**: Herbert Vere Evatt (1894+1965) rendered distinguished service as a justice of the High Court of Australia (1930+1940), Labor member of parliament and minister of foreign affairs (1940+1949), leader of the Australian Labor Party in the federal parliament (1951+1960), and, finally, chief justice of New South Wales (1969+1962). During WWII he was Australia's representative in Churchill's war cabinet, and in 1948 he was elected President of the United Nations' General Assembly.

**1930+1974**: Prince Ras Tafari became the emperor Haile Selassie (1891+1975) of
Abyssinia/Ethiopia until he was replaced by a military government.

1930+1985: The forests covering Thailand declined from about 75 percent to 33 percent of the land surface.

1930+1992: There were 11 conspicuous military coups d'etat/putschs in Bolivia, 9 in Argentina, 9 in Colombia, 7 in Paraguay, 6 in El Salvador, 6 in Guatemala, 6 in Peru, 5 in Brazil, 4 in Venezuela, and 4 in the Dominican Republic.

1930+1998: The military leaders of Brazil allowed only two presidents to complete their full terms in office.

1931: In one of the worst of all floods and its consequences, the Hwang-ho and Yangtze Rivers caused more than 3.7 million people to die.

The world economy received two major shocks when the Kreditanstalt of Vienna, Austria's leading bank, went out of business in May and the British went off the gold standard and depreciated the pound in September. Confidence in credit markets all over the world was badly shaken. These events were two more of the many causes of the worldwide Great Depression.

Eight million workers were unemployed by the end of the year in the USA.

Unemployment reached three million in the UK.

The Statute of Westminster put the Parliament of Canada on a legislative par with that of Britain. Canada became in effect an independent nation. Canada's population was about 20 percent "other," 28 percent French, and 52 percent British. Canada had become an urban society with 53.7 percent of Canadians living in cities, towns, and villages. Canada's largest and second largest cities were Montreal with a population of 819,000 and Toronto with 631,000. Vancouver had a population of 247,000. Winnipeg had a population of 219,000. Quebec City had 130,000 people; and Ottawa, the nation's capital, had 127,000 people.

The British Commonwealth of Nations created special trade, educational, and cultural arrangements among British colonies, dependencies, and the home country.

Military officers who supported the Nationalists and wanted to make Chang Kai-shek/Jiang Jieshi an outright military dictator organized an organization later known as Blue Shirts (which were supposedly Chinese-made). Most of these officers were students and admirers of Mussolini. (They also were often the leaders of the New Life Movement which was founded in 1934.)

The Chinese Soviet Republic, with an army of about 300,000 strong, was founded at Ruijin with Mao Zedong as its first president. His main challengers within the communist movement were called by some the Twenty-eight Bolsheviks.

Chinese were in a majority in Singapore, and Indians were in a majority in Rangoon, Burma.

Voters, without help from the appointed naval governor, elected the Guam Congress for the first time with an upper house of council and a lower house of assembly.

The Nevada legislature, desperate for money and jobs for themselves and their voters, legalized gambling, reduced the waiting time to six weeks (the lowest in the nation) for visitors who wanted to become residents and citizens of Nevada, and thus helped make divorces easy, cheap, and quick to get. Nevada, long a depressed mining state with some ranching, had almost immediately two new industries.

The USA's population reached 124 million. There was one automobile for each American out of five.

The first all-air-conditioned train went into operation in the USA.

For criticizing the new Spanish Republic, the Archbishop of Toledo was exiled by the government.

Pearl S. Buck (1892+1973), the daughter of American missionaries, spent most of her youth in China. She wrote The Good Earth that was a best-selling novel and earned her a Nobel prize for literature in 1938.

The Spaniard Salvador Dali, who spent most of his time in France, painted The Persistence of Memory that is known sometimes as the "limp watches."
Alphonse "Scarface" Capone went to jail for federal income tax evasion. He had long been the premier gangster and bootlegger in Chicago.

With its completion, the Empire State Building in NYC at 381 m/1250 feet was the tallest building in the world until 1972.

Leon Trotsky in his History of the Russian Revolution: "The fundamental premise of a revolution is that the existing social structure has become incapable of solving the urgent problems of development of the nation." Joseph Stalin: "We are fifty or a hundred years behind the advanced countries. We must make good this distance in ten years. Either we do it, or they crush us." Winston Churchill: "India is a geographical term. It is no more a united nation than the Equator." Alfred Adler (1870+1937), Austrian psychiatrist: "All failures - neurotics, psychotics, criminals, drunkards, problem children, suicides, perverts, and prostitutes - are failures because they are lacking in social interest." "Whenever a child lies you will always find a severe parent. A lie would have no sense unless the truth were felt to be dangerous." Robert Millikan (1868+1953), American Nobel Prize winner in physics: "The three most important ideas to humans: 1. The idea of the Golden Rule; 2. The idea of natural law; 3. The idea of age-long growth, or evolution." Ivan Pavlov, Russian physiologist: "Facts are the air of science. Without them you never can fly." Theodore Bilbo, governor of Mississippi: "Communism is gaining a foothold. . . . In fact, I'm getting a little pink myself."

1931/2: Japanese military officers, apparently without the approval of their own high command or the civilian cabinet, successfully made a crisis situation - a terrorist threat outside Mukden - that justified their increased intervention in southern Manchuria. The Japanese "Kwantung Army," which supposedly was guarding the Southern Manchurian Railway, staged a surprise attack on the Chinese garrison at Mukden/Shenyang in Manchuria in September. This quickly became a total seizure of Manchuria that was the start of their efforts to conquer northeast China. Some experts, quite rightly, regard this as the start of World War II (WWII). Many regarded Japan's actions as violations of their pledges given in the Nine-Power Treaty, the Kellogg-Briand Pact, and the League of Nations. By early 1932, the Japanese army had attacked the Chinese as far south as Shanghai and the navy had bombed Nanking.

1931+1933: Norwegian unemployment was about 10.5 percent.

1931+1934: The Chinese communists controlled large areas of Kiangsi province.

1931+1936: The Hoover/Boulder Dam was completed two years ahead of schedule by more than 5000 workers working 24-hours a day across the Colorado River in southern Nevada and made growth in the Las Vegas valley and southern California possible. Some five million barrels of cement were used. Boulder City, near the town of Las Vegas, started as a construction camp. The dam stopped the annual floods that wasted California farmlands; made much needed irrigation water for southern California, Nevada, and Arizona; made possible large amounts of hydroelectric power that helped make possible the industrialization of southern California and other places in the American West; and created a huge water reservoir, Lake Mead. After 1942, California's fertile Coachella and Imperial Valleys were able to get large amounts of irrigation water thru the All-American Canal and pipelines. About half of the power needed by WWII industries in the Southwest and on the West Coast of the USA came from Boulder Dam (as it was called until 1947). (More than half of the ship tonnage needed by the US Navy and about 46 percent of all military aircraft built during WWII were constructed on the West Coast.)

1931+1939: The troubled span of the Second Spanish Republic. The first phase, until 1936, was dominated by center and right-wing parties. The second phase, from 1936 to the end, was dominated by a coalition of leftist parties, the Popular Front.

The Haganah, the Jewish defense organization in Palestine, established a special forces group, the Irgun/Ezel, some of whom, the gaffirs, the night and railway squads, were trained by Orde Wingate (1903+1944), a British officer who later during WWII became famous for his exploits with the Chindits in the Burma theater.
1931+1945: Some people claim these are the proper dates for the span of WWII.

Pierre Laval (1883+1945), a French fascist, held various positions in the government from foreign secretary to vice-premier of the pro-fascist Vichy government. (He was executed for war crimes.)

1931+1976: Chu Teh/Zhu De (1886+1976) was a Chinese Red Army leader. His specialty was mobile guerrilla warfare.

1932: Ambitious and fanatical Army leaders in Japan on their own initiative continued their invasion of Manchuria. Military extremists assassinated the prime minister of Japan and seized control of the Japanese government. Manchuria was renamed Manchukuo. There was serious fighting between the Japanese and Chinese forces after the Japanese navy, supported by marines, attacked and temporarily occupied the great port city of Shanghai.

Franz von Papen (1879+1969), a dim light from the Center Party, after making a number of concessions to Adolf Hitler and the Nazi deputies, formed a new coalition government in Germany on 1 June with what many called a "cabinet of the barons." During the new Reichstag elections in late July, the Nazis got almost 14 million votes (about 37 percent) and became the largest party in Germany. Close behind them were the Communist Party. On the first day the new Reichstag met, 31 July, it was dissolved by President Hindenberg in order to prevent the representatives from voting "no confidence" in Chancellor Franz von Papen's government. There were new Reichstag elections in early November, but the results were much the same as they had been a few months earlier in June.

The Chinese boycotted Japanese goods.

Iraq declared its independence from Britain.

Ibn Saud formed Saudi Arabia.

Catalonia was granted limited self-government by the Spanish Cortes.

The absolute monarchy was ended in Siam/Thailand by a combination of military and civilian leaders.

The Blue Shirts, mainly army officers, were commonly considered to be Chinese fascists or supporters of the warlords.

Only an estimated 15 percent of the primary school students in China were girls.

The USA and other countries protested Japanese aggression towards China but did nothing.

Unemployment reached 12 million by the end of this year in the USA. An estimated one million hobos, homeless and migratory unemployed workers, were loose on the tracks, roads, and trails. "Hoovervilles"/shantytowns were common in many parts of the country.

Average monthly unemployment in Australia for trade union members was at least 22 percent.

This was the worst year of the Great Crisis in Italy when wages-employment were down and prices were up, among other signs of a sick economy.

There were, according to a British census - 1,073,827 Arabs and 192,137 Jews - in Palestine.

Muslims were called to their prayers in Turkish, not Arabic, in Turkey.

One percent of the people in Spain owned over 50 percent of the land.

General Douglas MacArthur, helped by his junior officers George S. Patton, Jr. (1885+1945) and Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890+1969), and some 700 troops dispersed with force a group of WWI veterans from the "Bonus Expeditionary Force" who had marched from all over the USA to the District of Columbia to get immediate payment of the bonuses promised to them by Congress in 1924. MacArthur's popularity took a hit.

A German-born carpenter, Bruno Hauptmann, was found guilty in a flawed trial in the USA of the kidnapping and murder of the 20-month-old son of the celebrities Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was executed in 1936.)

Oil was discovered in Bahrain, an independent sultanate on islands in the Persian/Arabian Gulf off the coast of Arabia.

John Cockcroft (1897+1967) and Ernest Walton (1903+ ?), disintegrated lithium by proton bombardment at Cambridge University and thus
became two of the founders of the new field of nuclear physics.

Amelia Earhart (1898+1937), an American, was the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean in an airplane.

Scientists at Du Pont in the USA made the first commercial-quality synthetic rubber.

Auguste Piccard (1884+1970), a French astronomer, guided his balloon into the stratosphere to an elevation of 16,201 m/53,153 feet.

Wernher von Braun (1912+1977), a young rocket engineer and designer, was hired by the German General Staff to make rocket missiles.

Oswald Mosley (1896+1980), an ambitious and quixotic former Conservative, Independent, and Labour MP, founded the British Union of Fascists.

The Co-operative Commonwealth Federation was organized in Calgary, Alberta, by workers and farmers. Their original political program resembled the British Labour Party's program: nationalization of key industries; more public health services; secure land tenure for farmers; federal insurance for old age, unemployment, and illness/accidents. Their "Regina Manifesto" called for the government to provide health and unemployment insurance, agricultural price supports, foreclosure protection, public ownership of leading industries and financial institutions, and public housing. The Social Credit movement, which was also very strong in Alberta and popular with the United Farmers of Alberta, called for the government to issue a "social dividend" to all Canadians who would spend the money and inflate the economy. (A variation of this idea happened, some say, when oil was discovered in Alberta in the 1940s.)

The German firm Blaupunkt installed the first car radio in a Studebaker car.

Gerhard Domagk (1895+1964), a German biochemist, discovered the first sulfa drug, called Prontosil, which was effective in curing blood poisoning and killing streptococci.

Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882+1945), the Democratic nominee for president: "Republican leaders not only have failed in material things, they have failed in national vision because in disaster they have held out no hope . . . I pledge you, I pledge myself to a new deal for the American people." Joseph Stalin: "There are various forms of production: artillery, automobiles, lorries. You also produce 'commodities,' 'works,' 'products.' Such things are highly necessary. Engineering things. For people's souls. 'Products' are highly necessary too. 'Products' are very important for people's souls. You are engineers of human souls."

Benito Mussolini, Italian dictator: "War alone brings up to their highest tension all human energies and imposes the stamp of nobility upon the peoples who have the courage to make it."

Herbert A. L. Fisher (1865+1940), British historian: "Europe is a continent of energetic mongrels."

1932/33: Stalin and his thugs killed maybe 15 million stubborn and fearful peasants and others who would not do the Reds' bidding and become collectivized or nationalized farmers and workers. Included in this figure are some 7.5 million people who died of starvation caused by famine in the Ukraine and other parts of the USSR. (There have been accusations, not without foundation, that the government created the famine, a kind of genocide, in order to kill Ukrainian nationalism once and for all time.)

1932+1934: Marshal Jozef Pilsudski, the ruler of Poland, signed non-aggression peace pacts with both the USSR and Germany. Some called this an application of what some called Poland's "doctrine of two enemies."

Engelbert Dollfuss (1892+1934), the leader of the Christian Socialist Party, was prime minister of Austria until he was murdered by the Nazis.

Some 120,000 workers built autobahns/supermotorways in Germany as public works projects that required large numbers of workers and materials. Many of these superhighways had been started during the late years of the Weimar Republic but were temporarily put on hold with the start of the Great Depression.

1932+1935: Paraguay and Bolivia fought the futile Chaco War over the Gran Chaco region that is drained by the Paraguay River and its chief tributaries. Paraguay kept the real estate,
and Bolivia received the right to ship products down the river.

1932+1937: Eamon de Valera (1882+1975), born of an Irish mother and a Cuban father in New York, was the president of the executive council of the Irish Free State.

Franklin D. Roosevelt: Our new concern must be "The forgotten man at the bottom of the economic pyramid." "Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

1932+1945: Japan had 12 prime ministers of whom eight were admirals or generals. The Japanese military ruled Manchuria, which they called Manchukuo, by means of their own puppet government.

1932+1953: Ibn Saud, the king of Jejaz and Nejd since 1927, was the first king of Saudi Arabia.

1932+1957: The Vorkutlag/Vorkuta camp on the Pechora River in the USSR's arctic region, not the largest of the "islands" in the Gulag Archipelago, held at times something like 300,000 prisoners.

1932+1968: Antonio Salazar was the authoritarian, some said fascist, prime minister and dictator of Portugal.

1933: Paul Hindenburg, the president of Germany reluctantly replaced his first choice, Papen, with Adolf Hitler as chancellor on 30 January after General Kurt von Schleicher (1882+1934), the minister of the army, was unable to form a new government. Papen, who was involved in the wheeling and dealing, was to become vice-chancellor, a position whence he thought, foolishly, he could control Hitler and use him to destroy the communists. In retrospect, this was the end of the Weimar Republic that had been the German people's first effort to govern themselves in a democratic republic.

The German Reichstag/parliament building was supposedly burned by an anarchist in late February. Many people suspected the Nazis of having done the job, so they could use emergency powers to run the government. Hitler blamed the communists and used this incident as an excuse to persuade the government to suspend, among others, freedom of the press and speech in the "Decree for the Protection of the People and the State." Jewish businesses were boycotted for no logical reason.

In early March, during emergency conditions, Germany had its last elections until after WWII. National Socialist/Nazi Party/National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) candidates to the Reichstag received 43.9 percent of the popular votes. Hitler, as chancellor, ended democracy in Germany and made it a one-party government. The communists and the free labor unions were banned.

Before Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) and the Democrats took over the government, 80 percent of American banks were closed.

FDR, who became the US president on 4 March, requested Congress to meet in special session on 9 March and declared, by executive order, a four day banking holiday. Congress passed the Emergency Banking Relief Act in seven hours. Supposedly the books of banks were examined. By the end of March, 15 banks that held 90 percent of the USA's bankable resources were back in business again. It was largely an enormously successful public relations exercise in confidence building.

9 March to 16 June are often called by American historians the Hundred Days. Important legislation was passed by the US Congress that created public-works jobs for the unemployed, dropped the gold standard, provided for the refinancing of farm and home mortgages, made it possible to develop the hydroelectric power of the Tennessee Valley, tightened-up government regulation of the advertising and sales of new securities in Wall Street and other markets, founded the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), which used federal funds to insure private bank accounts, and reorganized the agricultural credit system - among other positive steps.

Employment in Canada reached its historic nadir of 68 percent.

More than 80 percent of Chinese-owned industries were located in Manchuria and in the eastern and southern coastal provinces.
Mao Zedong’s doctrine at that time was that the peasants were oppressed by heavy rents, interest rates, taxes, corrupt landowners, government officials, and by the foreign imperialists.

The Kuomintang’s Nineteenth Route Army in Fujian province mutinied because they felt Chiang Kai-shek/Jiang Jieshi was not aggressively opposing the Japanese. They were smashed by the Nationalist Army, which supposedly numbered more than 750,000 in total and had German advisers plus heavy guns and airplanes.

Most members of the League of Nations voted to condemn Japan's military actions in China and Manchuria.

Hitler signed a Concordat with the Vatican during July.

By mid-1933, Hitler and the National Socialists/Nazis had practically eliminated the state governments in Germany and the central government had nearly absolute power over the country.

As part of the New Deal in the USA, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) employed 250,000 young men; the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) sought relief for farmers; the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) planned dams and power plants; the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA) established the National Recovery Administration (NRA); the Banking Act established the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC); and the Civil Works Administration put four million people to work. Title II of the USA's National Industrial Recovery Act passed in June (declared unconditional by the Supreme Court in May 1935) created the Public Works Administration (PWA) with a budget of 3.3 billion dollars. PWA workers subsequently built Chicago's subway system, New York's Triborough Bridge, the Overseas Highway from Miami to Key West, and Virginia's Skyline Drive, among hundreds of other smaller projects.

There were widespread clashes and conflicts between peasants and landowners in southern Spain.

Germany in October pulled-out of the League of Nations and the international Geneva Disarmament Conference after Hitler organized a plebiscite that approved the above by 96.3 percent.

Faced with mounting world criticism of its invasion of China, Japan also withdrew its membership from the League of Nations.

There were about 250,000 Jews in Palestine. Anti-British and anti-Zionist riots became routine in the towns of Palestine.

There were some 44 political parties in Bulgaria.

The US government for the first time recognized officially the government of the USSR in November.

The national prohibition of alcohol in the USA was repealed with the passage of the 21st Amendment.

The USA and the Canadian government went off the "gold standard" as a means of backing the value of their currencies.

US Marines, who had been stationed in Nicaragua almost continuously since 1921, were withdrawn. The Nicaraguan National Guard was organized with Anastasio "Tacho" Somoza Garcia as their leader.

The Nazis burned books they did not like. An estimated 60,000 knowledge workers left Germany and went into exile, many of them to the UK and USA.

The College de France refused Albert Einstein, a German Jew who had worked both in Switzerland and Germany, employment as a refuge. So, instead, he went to the USA where he was welcomed at Princeton University as a celebrity scientist.

John Lucian Savage of the US Bureau of Reclamation designed the Grand Coulee Dam that was to span the Columbia River and become the largest concrete structure in the world. It is 168 m/550 feet high and 1272 m/4173 feet long.

Charles Darrow, unemployed, invented the enormously popular board game Monopoly while he was in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Edwin Howard Armstrong (1890+1954), an American electrical engineer, patented the wide-band frequency FM radio.
Ernest Ruska (1906+1988), a German, invented the electron microscope with a magnification power of 12,000.

Jose Antonio de Rivera (1903+1936) founded the Falange Espanola/Spanish Fascist Party. Franco renamed it in 1937 the Traditionalist Spanish Phalanx.

President Roosevelt/FDR made the first of his popular and masterful "Fireside Chats" on the radio.

Sergei Pavlovich Korolev (1906+1966), an aeronautics engineer, constructed the first Soviet liquid-fuel rocket.

The first concentration camps for "undesirables" were built in Germany.

The Imperial Chemical Industries of Britain made the plastic polyethylene/polyethene based on the research of Dutch chemist Antonius M.J.F. Michels.

It took seven days, 18 hours, and 49 minutes for Wiley Post, an American aviator, to make a solo flight around the world.

There were some 2200 drive-in movie theaters in the USA.

Paul von Hindenburg (1847+1934), president of the Weimar Republic 1925+1934: "That man [Hitler] for a Chancellor? I'll make him a postmaster and he can lick the stamps with my head on them." Franz von Papen, Hindenburg's chancellor in 1932 and Hitler's vice-chancellor (1933+1934), to some of his friends: "What are you worried about? I have Hindenburg's full confidence. In two months we'll have Hitler backed into a corner and whimpering." Benito Mussolini: "Fascism is a religion; the twentieth century will be known in history as the century of Fascism." Joseph Goebbels, head of the German ministry of propaganda and public enlightenment: "The past is lying in flames. The future will arise from the flames within our hearts." Motion passed by a majority of voters/students at the Oxford [university] Union: "That this house will in no circumstances fight for its King and country." Franklin D. Roosevelt: "In the field of world policy, I would dedicate this nation to the policy of the good neighbor." "No business which depends for existence by paying less than living wages to its workers has any right to continue in this country." Sigmund Freud, Austrian psychiatrist: "Religion is an illusion and it derives its strength from the fact that it falls in with our instinctual desires." Robert W. Service (1874+1958), American poet: "This is the Law of the Yukon, that only the Strong shall thrive; That surely the Weak shall perish, and only the Fit survive." Carl Jung, Swiss psychiatrist: "When a form of 'art' is primarily personal it deserves to be treated as if it were a neurosis." William Butler Yeats (1865+1939), Irish writer: "Think like a wise man but communicate in the language of the people."

1933/4: The Conservative Party won most of the power in elections in Spain. Nationalists and socialists in Catalonia and elsewhere revolted against the government that used force to restore order and control.

Austria became a dictatorship.

1933+1936: Much to the alarm of the Arab majority, the number of Jews in Palestine increased from 234,967 to 384,078.

1933+1937: The second Five-Year Plan in the USSR. This was also the time of Stalin's Great Terror and Purge of all communist organizations, which were the only ones legally remaining.

1933+1938: The Nuremberg rallies, grand public dramas staged by Goebbels, celebrated the annual meetings of the German Nazi Party.

1933+1944: Cordell Hull (1871+1955) very ably served as the USA's secretary of state. He opposed the fascist aggressors in Asia and Europe. He promoted the Good Neighbor Policy that improved USA-Latin American relations. He always advanced free and open trade among nations. He was one of the designers of the United Nations organization.

Fulgencia Batista (1901+1973) was one of the leaders of the military coup against President Machado (1931+1933) that then became a junta that ruled Cuba.

1933+1945: The Third Reich and the era of the Nazi dictatorship in Germany.

This was also the span of F.D. Roosevelt (FDR) as president of the USA. He preserved and in
many ways advanced democracy and the civil
liberties of Americans and other people in many
nations while being a major force in the creation
of the Allied forces and then greatly improving
international and Allied cooperation and
helping to defeat fascism everywhere. One could
easily argue that FDR, more than any other
leader of the time, led the destruction of the
Third Reich and helped to replace it with
something much better.

Heinrich Himmler and Reinhard "the Hangman"
Heydrich (1904+1942) headed the
Schutzstaffel/SS/"Blackshirts" protective force,
which was the Nazi Party's private army and
Hitler's bodyguard. Himmler was also the head
of the Gestapo/Secret State Police and the
Sicherheitsdienst/Security Service, an intelligence
agency. Joseph/Josef Goebbels was the Nazi's
minister of propaganda and head of the National
Chamber of Culture. Herman W. Goering was
one of Hitler's most trusted henchmen. He
helped build Germany's air force and
extermination-concentration camps. Karl Adolf
Eichmann (1906+1962), at a lower level in the
organizational chart, was one of the designers
and organizers of anti-Jewish activities.

This was the period of the Holocaust, the
systematic destruction of European Jews,
Gypsies, anti-fascists and other "undesirables"
by European fascists and racists.

Vidkun Quisling (1887+1945) was head of the
Norwegian Fascist Party. (He helped the
Germans invade his country in 1940 and was the
leader of a fascist puppet government during the
war.)

Frances Perkins (1882+1965), a New York
reformer and liberal, former associate of Jane
Addams, the executive secretary of the
Consumers' League in New York, and long-time
friend of FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt, promoted
better conditions for working people, while she
served as the secretary of labor. She was the first
woman cabinet member in American history.
(Later, 1946+1953, she served on the federal
civil service commission.)

1933+1957: Clare Boothe Luce (1903+1987) was
a writer, editor of Vanity Fair at one time,
member of the US House of Representatives
(1943+1947), and ambassador to Italy
(1953+1957).

1933+1963: Kim Philby (1912+1988) was a Soviet
agent who after 1940 pretended to be a loyal
British intelligence officer. He escaped to the
USSR after he was detected in 1951. Some of his
fellow double agents were Guy Burgess, Donald
Maclean, and Anthony Blunt.

1934: Hitler had the Schutzstaffeln/SS/
"Blackshirts" on 30 June, the "Night of the Long
Knives," kill and destroy the Nazi Party's old
private army, the Sturmabteilung/SA/
"Brownshirts," and their leaders allegedly for
conspiring against Hitler.

President Paul von Hindenburg died in August.
Adolf Hitler organized another plebiscite that
approved him by 90 percent as Hindenburg's
successor as Reichsführer/Reich Chancellor, a
combination of the one-and-only national ruler
and leader.

The German-Polish Neutrality Pact ruined,
according to some experts, France's efforts to
build a defensive system that had been in the
works since at least 1921.

In the USA, The Indian Reorganization Act gave
tribes more autonomy; the Securities and
Exchange Commission (SEC) regulated the stock
and bond markets; the Federal Communications
Commission (FCC) regulated interstate and
foreign communications; and the Federal
Housing Administration (FHA) gave housing
loans to ordinary people.

Women got the vote in parliamentary elections
in Turkey, and it was made illegal for clerical
dress to be worn outside places of worship.

Engelbert Dollfus, a leader of the Christian
Socialist party and the anti-Nazi Fatherland
Front and chancellor of Austria, attempted to
consolidate his power and that of the central
government, which was coming unglued, by
suspending parliament. He was murdered by
Austrian Nazis in July who, in effect, revolted
against the government and seized control of it.

The Filipinos drafted and ratified a constitution.
Manuel Louis Quezon (1878+1944), the former
president of the Philippine Senate, was elected
the first president of his nation in mid-
September.
FDR and Secretary of State Cordell Hull persuaded Congress to embrace a much more liberal, free trade policy in the Trade Agreements Act that authorized the president to reduce tariff rates up to 50 percent with countries that reciprocated. This was the beginning of a historical change from protectionist high tariffs, in effect since the start of the nation, to low-tariff free trade policies.

Mussolini and Hitler met for the first time. Except for Finland, all of the WWI Allies of the USA had defaulted on their debts to the USA.

Eleven million Americans were unemployed. More than two million Canadians—about 20 percent of the total population—were on public relief.

The governments of Hungary, Italy, Austria, and Germany became officially allied by the terms of the Rome Protocols.

The weak governments of the Balkans and Eastern Europe confusedly and inconsistently created the "Little Entente"—Czechoslovakia, Romania, and Yugoslavia—to supposedly protect themselves from the Hungarians. The "Balkan Pact"—Greece, Romania, Turkey, and Yugoslavia—made themselves look more important and powerful than they were. It is noteworthy that the second largest country of the region, Poland, was excluded or chose to remain isolated from the efforts of these groups.

The USSR joined the League of Nations.

King Alexander I of Yugoslavia was killed in Marseilles probably by a Macedonian assassin hired by Croatian terrorists. Prince Paul became the regent for the young King Peter II (1923+1970) who sometimes served as king during 1934+1945. The Serbs continued to dominate the government.

The government of Estonia, independent since 1918, was overthrown by a putsch some of whose members were pro-Germans and fascists.

A concentration/extermination camp at Dachau, not far from Munich in Bavaria, was opened for business.

Miners in Asturias, a region on the Bay of Biscay in Spain, waged a strike that disrupted the national economy and became a separatist rebellion. It was quelled with great violence by the government.

General Augusto Cesar Sandino, the leader of a guerrilla army in Nicaragua, was assassinated.

Sergei Kirov, an old Bolshevik who had helped Stalin reduce the power and influence of Grigori Zinoviev (1883+1936) and Nikolai Bukharin (1888+1938) and their supporters, was shot and killed as he sat in the headquarters of the Leningrad Communist Party, which he headed. Some historians have called Kirov's assassination the start of Stalin's Great Terror.

The Zephyr set new world records in excess of 100 miles per hour for deluxe steam-powered "flyer" train service on a run between Denver and Chicago. It started a new phase in train service.

Mercedes-Benz made the first mass-produced diesel-powered automobile.

The Swiss made freeze-dried coffee.

The Queen Mary, the fastest passenger steamship of the time, crossed the Atlantic in three days, 20 hours, and 42 minutes.

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, who for two years had been small-town bank-robbers and murders in the Mid-West, Oklahoma, and Texas (where they were regarded by some as modern day Robin Hoods), were killed by Texas Rangers. John Dillinger, "public enemy number one," was killed in a shootout with FBI agents in Chicago. He had robbed many banks and murdered some 16 people. Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd, an expert with a machine-gun whom some called "the most dangerous man alive," was killed by federal agents in Ohio after a series of bank robberies.

Leni Riefenstahl (1902+?), a German film director, made the impressive Triumph of the Will about a Nazi rally at Nuremberg and Hitler's charisma.


The slogan the German Nazi Party used at Nuremberg: "One Realm, One People, One
Leader." Joseph Stalin: "Education is a weapon, whose effect depends on who holds it in his hands and at whom it is aimed." Hitler to Franz von Papen: "By making me Chancellor [in January 1933], Herr von Papen, you made possible the National Socialist Revolution in Germany. I shall never forget it." Von Papen reportedly replied: "Certainly, my leader!"

Marshal Pilsudski: "To be defeated, but not to surrender, that is victory." Clarence Seward Darrow, lawyer and reformer: "I don't believe in God because I don't believe in Mother Goose."

1934/5: This was the time of the Long March in China of the communist Red Army, led by Zhou Enlai and Mao Zedong, from southeastern to northwestern China, so they could escape from the Nationalists to fight another day. It began with something like 100,000 people and ended with about six thousand getting to Shaanxi province. Supposedly, they crossed 24 rivers, fought their way thru the territories of 10 warlords, captured 62 cities, and climbed over 18 mountain ranges to Yenan in Shensi province.

1934+1938: Stalin eliminated countless numbers of his rivals, real and imagined, innocent and guilty, but mainly innocent, during the Political Terror /"Purges" that featured "show trials." A few of those who were framed, publicly humiliated, and executed, including some who were heroes of the Revolution, were S.M. Kirov (1934), Grigori Zinoviev (1936), and Nikolay Ivanovich Bukharin (1938).

1934+1939: Iraq had seven military coups; King Ghazi was a mere figurehead.

1934+1940: Lázaro Cárdenas (1895+1970) was the political leader of Mexico.

1934+1942: After a number of false starts and several failures, American commercial airlines, led by Pan American Airways, attempted and succeeded in establishing commercial flights to the Southwest Pacific. The British attempted to establish reciprocal flights to Hawaii from Auckland, New Zealand. Pan American inaugurated an irregular commercial service from Hawaii to Auckland in December 1937.

1934+1945: The Japanese militarists installed the last Manchu/Qing emperor, Puyi/Henry Puyi/Hsuan T'ung, as a puppet emperor of Manchukuo under the name of Kang Teh.

1934+1990: The official artistic and literary philosophy of the USSR and other Marxist states was called "socialist realism." It insisted on the use of naturalistic-idealized styles to promote Marxist topics and themes and the concept of the classless society with its heroic leaders.

1935: Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Persia/Iran, Saudi Arabia, Siam/Thailand, Turkey, and Yemen were all exceptions: independent countries.

The Japanese army in Manchuria attempted to control all of northern China. The Japanese rapidly modernized and industrialized Manchuria.

In accordance with the provisions of the Tydings-McDuffie Act, which had been passed by the USA's Congress and signed by Roosevelt a few months earlier, the 7000 or so islands of the Philippines became self-governing as a Commonwealth but not yet completely independent of the USA. It also provided for the complete independence of the Philippines after a ten-year transition.

Voters in the coal-rich Saar/Saarland between France and Germany, administered by the League of Nations since 1919, elected to rejoin Germany in January.

In the USA, Democrats in Congress created the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act that authorized the Works Project Administration (WPA), the Rural Electrification Administration, the National Labor Relations Act (Wagner-Connelly Act), and the Social Security Act. which was one of the cornerstones of FDR's New Deal. It created for the first time federal pensions for most Americans.

Burma was separated by the British from India and given limited self-government.

The "Dust Bowl" in North America's breadbasket in the central plains continued.

The USA had reached lower tariff agreements under the terms of the Trade Agreements Act with 14 countries. This stimulated world trade and economic recovery.

The Neutrality Act, good for a period of six months, made it illegal for the USA to sell arms and munitions to belligerents even in situations where the president determined that a state of
war existed. Both FDR and Hull objected to this isolationist legislation, much favored by Republicans and a few conservative Democrats, which prevented, for example, the USA from assisting the Ethiopians against their Italian invaders. This approach took away the commander in chief's "flexibility of action" (as FDR called it) and ability to discriminate between the aggressors and their victims. At the time, this legislation seemed less harmful than events proved it to be.

During March, Hitler announced that despite the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles, Germany would rearm and have compulsory military service whether the Allies liked it or not.

The Government of India Act made the Muslims and Hindus in Bengal and the Punjab almost equal in terms of their political influence and representation.

The National Labor Relations Act in the USA recognized the rights of workers to organize and collectively bargain for better "wages, hours, and working conditions."

The Nazis formed a state-controlled Union of Protestant Churches in an effort to gain support from German Christians.

The pro-Aryan Nuremberg laws were passed in Germany as part of the anti-Jewish campaign. One of these was called the "Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor" which prohibited Jews from marrying Germans.

The Stalinists continued the disastrous policy of collectivization of farms, which was opposed by most peasants and farmers all over the USSR.

The Social Credit Party won 15 of 17 seats in the Alberta parliament. Their founder, radio evangelist William Aberhart, advocated giving a "social dividend" of $25 per months to all residents of the province.

The Australian politician and statesman William "Billy" Hughes published *Australia and War Today* in which he showed a greater understanding of world affairs than most American and European academic, political, business, and other experts.

James Chadwick (1891+1974), an Englishman, was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics for discovering, among other things, the neutron.

Lockheed in the USA manufactured the Douglas DC-3 that was one of the first modern passenger planes. It was driven by two 1200-horsepower engines and could reach a top speed of 300 km/186 miles per hour.

Robert Watson-Watt (1892+1973), a Scottish physicist, largely invented radar (radio detecting and ranging) and demonstrated that it could locate aircraft.

George Horace Gallup (1901+1984), the director of research for an advertising agency (1932+1947), started the American Institute of Public Opinion and a new industry and profession were born.

Wallace Carothers (1896+1937), an American chemist, made nylon that was a start towards synthetic fibers and fabrics.

Kodachrome, made by Kodak, was one of the first and most popular of the quality color films.

International Business Machines (IBM) made an electric typewriter that became a standard tool in many offices.

The British biologist Arthur George Tansley (1871+1955) coined the term "ecosystem."

Clark Gable and Charles Laughton starred in the first movie version of *Mutiny on the Bounty*.

George Gershwin finished his brilliant American folk opera *Porgy and Bess* that immediately became a modern classic.

Some of the first electric acoustic guitars were made by the Gibson Guitar Company.

**Benito Mussolini**: "The keystone of the Fascist doctrine is its conception of the State, of its essence, its functions, and its aims. For Fascism the State is absolute, individuals and groups relative." **Clement Attlee** (1883+1967), British Labour politician: "We believe in a League system in which the whole world should be ranged against an aggressor." **Joseph Stalin**: "The Pope! How many divisions has he got?" **H.A.L. Fisher** (1856+1940), English historian: "Men wiser and more learned than I have discerned in history a plot, a rhythm, a
predetermined pattern. These harmonies are concealed from me. I can see only one emergency following upon another as wave follows upon wave." **Albert Camus** (1913–1960), French existentialist philosopher and writer: "An intellectual is someone whose mind watches itself." "There is dignity in work only when it is work freely accepted." **Gertrude Stein**, American writer and acquaintance of Picasso: "The first hope of a painter who really feels hopeful about painting is the hope that the painting will move, that it will live outside its frame." **Will Rogers**: "Everything is funny as long as it is happening to someone else." "I don't make jokes - I just watch the government and report the facts." **Dorothy Rothschild Parker**, wit and writer: "Four be the things I'd been better without: Love, curiosity, freckles, and doubt." "I require only three things of a man. He must be handsome, ruthless, and stupid."

1935/6: Pietro Badoglio was commander in chief of some 120,000 Italian fascist forces during the conquest of Ethiopia/Abyssinia which started in October. The Italians used poison gas, aircraft, and other weapons of modern warfare against the unprotected populace. The members of the League of Nations, led by Britain and France, looked the other way and voted less than effective economic sanctions against Italy that was especially vulnerable to a petroleum boycott. Haile Selassie (1891–1975), formerly the Prince Ras Tafari, the current emperor of Ethiopia, was driven into exile in Europe where he appealed in person for League of Nations help, which never arrived. Mussolini declared the existence of the Italian Empire in May 1936. There can be little doubt the Italians' success in Ethiopia encouraged other dictatorial governments to try to do the same in their regions.


The Frenchman Henri Cartier-Bresson (1908–?) and Ansel Adams (1902–1984), an American, set very high photographic standards for the profession, photojournalism, and viewers of all sorts.

1935+1938: Canada and the USA lowered some duties on each other's imports.

Stalin had some 90,000 people in Leningrad arrested and imprisoned as part of a larger purge of the communist movement.

1935+1939: "Popular front" governments were, from time to time, in power in France and Spain. The Communist International/Comintern proposed this plan of forming coalition governments with left-wing parties as a way of keeping fascist and other anti-Marxist politicians out of power.

After the death of Marshal Pilsudski, the "Government of the Colonels" in Poland formed a Camp of National Unity that was sometimes threatening towards its neighbors in Eastern Europe and the Balkans, cool towards the Western Powers, and hostile towards the USSR and Germany.

1935+1941: Pan American Airways started its transpacific service by flying seaplanes, called China Clippers, between Manila and San Francisco via Guam.

1935+1943: The Works Progress Administration (WPA), part of the New Deal, made real jobs that required real work for about three million out of some 10 million unemployed Americans. In total during this period the WPA created jobs for some nine million Americans at a cost of about $11 billion. The New Dealers said it was an essential investment in the USA.

The WPA and the Federal Arts Project employed over 5000 artists who created murals, paintings, sculptures, prints, and posters for public display by federal agencies and for the decoration of federal buildings.

1935+1962: John Steinbeck (1902–1968) was one of the most popular American writers. The Grapes of Wrath (Pulitzer Prize 1940) about the heroic people of the "dust bowl," is probably his most appreciated novel.

1935+1968: Lester Bowles Pearson (1897–1972) was an outstanding Canadian diplomat, statesman, and politician. After establishing his credentials in a variety of posts as a diplomat in London, Ottawa, and Washington, he became secretary of state for external affairs from 1948 to 1957. He was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1957 for his many accomplishments after having served as president of the UN General Assembly.

1936: In one of the worst weather related disasters of this century, some five million Chinese people died during the so-called "New Famine."

The Rome-Berlin Axis was signed and sealed on 27 October as Italy and Germany reached agreement about Austria and other matters.

The February national elections in Spain for the Cortes were won by a left-wing coalition/ Frente Popular/"Popular Front" mix of anarchists, anticlerics, Catalan separatists, communists, nationalists, republicans, and socialists, among others. The Socialists held 89 of the Front's 277 seats, the Left Republicans held 84 seats, and the Communist Party filled only 16.

The German army, formerly called the Reichswehr now called the Wehrmacht, reoccupied the demilitarized Rhineland in March. This action broke a number of international agreements, while the French and British watched and waited. Since nothing happened to oppose them, the German forces stayed.

FDR won reelection to his second term as president by winning every single state except for Maine and Vermont. It was the greatest electoral victory since James Monroe's nearly unanimous victory in 1820.

A major oil discovery was made by an American company in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that immediately upgraded the status of that country.

Kazakhstan in Central Asia became one of the "republics" of the USSR.

The US Congress extended the Neutrality Act of 1935.

Italy annexed Ethiopia. King Victor Emmanuel III (1869+1947; reigned 1900+1946) also became emperor of Ethiopia. Some experts have called this the peak of success for Italian fascism. This conquest had not been, in the view of many, an awesome display of Italian military power during the eight-month invasion.

The Anglo-Egyptian treaty of mutual defense ended British occupation of Egypt but reserved Britain's right to protect the Suez Canal.

Leon Blum (1872+1950) became the head of the first Popular Front/"united front," mainly socialist coalition government in France.

General Ioannis Metaxas (1871+1941) helped King George II (ruled 1935+1947) rebuild Greece's armed forces and establish a royal dictatorship. Many thought the general was the power behind the throne.

The Popular Front government of the Spanish Republic granted autonomy to the Basques.

The small number of Blacks who qualified to vote in the South African parliamentary elections in the Cape Province, formerly the Cape Colony, about 11,000 in number, were denied that right.

About 47 percent of Vienna's doctors and 62 percent of Vienna's lawyers were of Jewish origin.

Dolores Ibarurri (1895+1989)/La Pasionaria/"the passion flower" was elected to the Spanish Cortes. She was a supporter of the Popular Front and a Loyalist, a supporter of the republic and an anti-fascist, during the Spanish Civil War.

Emilio Mola (1887+1937), Spanish fascist general and one of La Pasionaria's many enemies, claimed during the offensive against Madrid that the fascists had a hidden "fifth column" inside the city. "Fifth column" became a popular description for the secret "enemy within" a country.

United Autoworkers in December staged sit-down strikes at 28 General Motors' factories in the USA. Some 93,000 production workers, out of 135,000, were idled. Forty-four days later, the union, for nearly the first time in its history, had
won a victory. It was a milestone in American labor history.

By this time, the managers and workers of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) had underway or built six dams and plans to built nine more in order to create the "Great Lakes of the South."

Alan Mathison Turing (1912+1954), an English mathematician, designed the "Turing Machine," which many experts regard as an important step towards a digital computer.

The Berlin Olympic Games were extensively covered by the world's media and even were experimentally televised locally. These games were supposed to be wonderful fascist and White-German racist propaganda, but Black American Jesse Owens (1913+1980) was clearly the superior athlete in the broad jump and speed-running events.

The British extended the range of their aircraft radar to 120 km/75 miles.

The first Spitfire fighter plane, designed by Reginald Joseph Mitchell (1895+1937), was tested. The most advanced models, built during WWII, could reach speeds of 740 km/460 miles per hour.

Heinrich Focke, a German engineer, invented contra-rotating helicopter rotors and one of the first practical helicopters.

The first "paperback" books were published by Penguin Books.

King Edward VIII (1894+1972) of Britain, who was suspected of secretly having strong sympathies for the fascists and who had only been king for less than a year, abdicated "for love" in December to marry a twice divorced American.


Frank Lloyd Wright designed for a customer a famous country home at Fallingwater near Bear Run, Pennsylvania.

Margaret Mitchell (1900+1949) wrote her wildly popular novel about the American Civil War Gone with the Wind.

Charles "Lucky" Luciano (1897+1962), the Mafia’s boss of bosses, was convicted of running a huge prostitution ring in New York City.

Charlie Chaplin, one of the best-known persons in the world, directed and starred with Paulette Goddard in the film Modern Times.

Diego Rivera, a great Mexican muralist and painter, in a folk style, painted South American Indian Spinning.

FDR: "This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny."  John Maynard Keynes: "I bring in the State; I abandon laissez faire - not enthusiastically, not from contempt of that good old doctrine, but because, whether we like it or not, the conditions for its success have disappeared."  Benito Mussolini: "The Berlin-Rome connection is not so much a diaphragm as an axis, around which can revolve all those states of Europe with a will towards collaboration and peace."  George Orwell/Eric Arthur Blair (1903+1950), an English writer, in Shooting an Elephant: "The quickest way of ending a war is to lose it."  William Edgar Borah (1865+1940), US isolationist senator from Idaho: "We do not want the racial antipathies or national antagonisms of the Old World translated to this continent, as they will should we become a part of European politics. The people of this country are overwhelmingly for a policy of neutrality."  Margaret Sanger, pioneer birth-control advocate: "No woman can call herself free who does not own and control her body. No woman can call herself free until she can choose consciously whether she will or will not be a mother."  Mohandas Gandhi: "All gods are good, and all men are brothers."

"Nonviolence is the first article of my faith. It is also the last article of my creed."  T.S. Eliot (1888+1965), Anglo-American poet: "Time present and time past/Are both perhaps present in time future,/And time future contained in time past."  William Lyon Mackenzie King, Canadian prime minister: "If some countries have too much history, we have too much geography."
1936+1939: Francisco Largo Caballero (1869+1946), a socialist, was the elected prime minister of the Second Republic in Spain. After the Spanish fascists won the Spanish Civil War, he was forced into exile in France where he was imprisoned by the German and French fascists during WWII.

Amid great confusion in Spain and the dissolution of the Cortes, Generalisimo Francisco Franco (1892+1975) led an army mutiny in Morocco against the democratically elected, Popular Front dominated Second Republic government in July 1936. This insurrection started the Spanish Civil War. Franco, the leading Spanish fascist, received recognition and material help from Portugal, Germany, and Italy. Italian troops held-down parts of southern Spain around Malaga and the Balearic Islands in early 1937. The Germans gave Franco immediate air superiority and some of their best infantry.

Possibly some 50,000 foreign volunteers, members of the International Brigades, went to Spain to fight for the Republic during 1938/9. Most of them were workers and unionists and came, in no particular order, from France, Canada, the Balkans, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Russia, Belgium, Britain, Italy, Germany, and the USA. The government of the USSR also gave the Republican forces some small amounts of aid and equipment in comparison to what the Germans and Italians gave the Falangists/Spanish fascists. Some of the names of the famous International Brigades that helped defend the Republic of Spain were the Hans Beimier, Thelmann, Garibaldi, Marseillaise, and Lincoln-Washington. One of the recruiters for the International Brigades in Paris was a Yugoslav, Jozip Broz/Tito, a veteran of the Austro-Hungarian Army during WWI. Many other veterans of the Spanish Civil War became anti-fascist partisans during WWII.

Uncounted tens of thousands of refugees from Spain settled in Buenos Aires and Mexico City. Many of them were liberals-progressives and skilled professionals. Since they were mainly educated native Spanish speakers, they had an immediate cultural and political impact on those two communities and probably many others less well known and studied.

The number of Germany's front-line divisions increased from seven to 51.

1936+1945: The Hitler Youth was the official organization for young men and boys in Germany. Girls and young women could join the Association of German Girls in 1940 and thereafter.

1936+?: The Fourth International of workers was sometimes called the Trotskyite International. It operated outside the USSR for obvious reasons and barely survived Trotsky's assassination in 1940 and WWII, if it lasted that long.

1936+1959: Maurice Duplessis, the founder of the conservative, French-Canadian nationalist party, the Union Nationale, was a powerful figure in Quebec politics.

1936+1979: The Somoza family ruled Nicaragua. Until his assassination in 1956, Anastasio Somoza was the founding dictator. He and his supporters paid themselves exorbitant wages. Somoza was put into power and sustained there by the corrupt Nicaraguan National Guard that he had headed since 1933. He was succeeded by his sons, Luis and Anastasio, Jr./"Tachito." The latter was gunned down, in 1979, by the Sandinista rebels.

1937: In early July the Japanese attacked Chinese forces at the Marco Polo Bridge, some 10 miles from Beijing/Peking. The justification was another manufactured crisis near Peking. Shanghai and Nanking were attacked and the entire Chinese coast was blockaded. The Japanese captured Peking/Beijing and Tientsin. The Japanese marched into Shanghai after bitter fighting that lasted some three months. Wuhan and Guangzhou were occupied. During what many in the world press called the "rape of Nanjing/Nanking" during December, the Japanese ran amok and killed some 300,000 (some experts have put the figure at 142,000) civilians and prisoners and shocked the world with the barbarism of "modern" war. The Nationalist government had quickly existed Nanking for the interior.

The Japanese established an Industrial Development Company in Manchuko/Manchuria, which served as a model for others later in central and north
China, for the purpose of finding and producing raw materials for the Japanese economy. They also started manufacturing in the northern parts of Korea to make munitions.

The armies of Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Zedong supposedly united to drive the Japanese out of China and Manchuria but failed. Possibly the Nationalists controlled less than half the country. The communists were much less powerful.

The Irish Free State became in effect the Republic of Eire. The Catholic Church there was given the special status of "Guardian of the Faith."

The Stalinists continued to purge the Leninists, Trotskyites, and other dissidents, major and minor figures, in show trials in the USSR. This year the victims were the old revolutionary Karl Radek (1885+1939), who died in a labor camp/gulag, and much of the senior Soviet army command, most of whom were not quite as lucky as Radek.

When the New Dealers acted like conservatives and tried to balance the budget by reducing government spending, the USA's economy again slumped badly. Some two million Americans lost their jobs during this year.

This was probably the year when isolationists, mainly members of the Republican Party, were most influential with the American public and with members of Congress.

Italy quit its membership in the League of Nations in December.

British policy changed and favored the partition of the British mandate in Palestine into separate Arab and Jewish states.

About 3,000,000 Jews lived and worked in Poland.

The Board of Directors of General Motors authorized the executives of the company to recognize the United Automobile Workers as the legal bargaining agent for GM workers.

United States Steel recognized the Steel Workers Organizing Committee as their workers' bargaining agent and gave the workers a 10 percent pay increase and the 40-hour workweek.

Franco's troops and German bombers destroyed the Loyalist-controlled town of Guernica. Pablo Picasso in Paris painted Guernica, one of the most stunning artist works of the 20th century.

Engineers in both Germany and Britain, working independently, built jet engines.

The Germans successfully tested rockets at Peenemunde, in northeastern Germany on the Peene Estuary, where they had built a missile-rocket research station.

Max Theiler (1899+1972), an American physician and bacteriologist from the Rockefeller Foundation, discovered the 17D strain of vaccine that worked against yellow fever.

The Golden Gate Bridge, some 1280 m/4200 feet high, was completed in San Francisco, California; it had the highest steel towers in the world at the time. The design engineer was Joseph Strauss (1870+1938); his engineering consultant was Othmar Ammann.

The Hindenburg, a giant zeppelin, 803 feet long, which carried more than seven million cubic feet of hydrogen gas, exploded on landing in New Jersey. This disaster was carried live on radio news and was filmed. Thirty-six of the 97 passengers on board were killed. The short era of the zepplins was nearly over.

Amelia Earhart, the first woman pilot to try an around the world flight, and her co-pilot crashed and were lost over the South Pacific on their way to Howland Island near the Equator in central Oceania. It was long believed in some places, without any hard evidence, that their plane was on a spying mission for the USA over Micronesia when the Japanese shot them down.

The Farm Security Administration, a New Deal agency, hired photographers to document the grinding conditions of America's farmers. Dorothea Dix (1895+1965) was one of the most famous of these documentary photographers.


The Papal Index banned Charles Darwin's The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection that had been in circulation since 1859.
Fallingwater or the Kaufmann House near Bear Run, Pennsylvania, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, was completed.

**Franklin D. Roosevelt** (FDR) in his second inaugural address in January: "I see one-third of a nation ill-housed, ill-clad, ill-nourished." **FDR**, later in the year in October, in a foreign policy speech: "When an epidemic of physical disease starts to spread, the community approves and joins in a quarantine of the patients in order to protect the health of the community." **Dolores "La Pasionaria" Ibarruri Gomez**, defender of the Spanish Republic: "It is better to be the widow of a hero than the wife of a coward." "It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees." "They shall not pass." **Aldous Huxley** (1894+1964), British writer: "So long as men worship the Caesars and Napoleons, Caesars and Napoleons will arise to make them miserable." **Mao Zedong**: "Liberalism is extremely harmful. It is a corrosive that disrupts unity. . . . It deprives the revolutionary ranks of compact organization and discipline." **Winston Churchill**, British statesman: "Dictators ride to and fro upon tigers which they dare not dismount. And the tigers are getting hungry." **Tom Driberg** (1905+1976), British politician: "Bolsheviks are sincere. Fascists are sincere. Lunatics are sincere. People who believe the earth is flat are sincere. They can't all be right." **George Orwell** in *The Road to Wigan Pier*: "To the ordinary working man, the sort you would meet in any pub on Saturday night, Socialism does not mean much more than better wages and shorter hours and nobody bossing you about." **J.D. Rockefeller**, US oil baron: "I believe the power to make money is a gift of God." **Clara Bow** (1905+1965), actress: "Being a sex symbol is a heavy load to carry, especially when one is tired, hurt, and bewildered."

**1937+1940**: Neville Chamberlain (1869+1940) was the British prime minister. He optimistically and foolishly believed appeasement would keep the fascist powers, especially Germany and Italy, from aggression. He was an architect of the Munich Agreement of 1938 and resigned his office after the Germans invaded Norway.

Joseph Patrick Kennedy (1917+1963), who had served the nation very well during WWI and during the early years of the New Deal, then made himself very rich in Hollywood and other places, and, some said, for a while made himself a hot prospect for vice president of the USA, was America’s ambassador to the UK. There and then he went wrong and associated with too many appeasers and other political untouchables to please Hull and FDR who sacked and buried him by never managing to find him another government job, even during WWII when everyone had a job. His sons - John, Robert, and Edward - all did much better in politics than the "founding father."

**1937+1945**: Japan attacked and China defended itself during the Japanese-Chinese or Sino-Japanese War. Japan created and supported local governments friendly to their interests in Inner Mongolia and other places they controlled.

**1937+1952**: Farouk I (1920+1965) was the flamboyant and profligate king of Egypt until he outstayed his welcome and became expendable. (He became a citizen of Monaco in 1959.)

**1938**: The Japanese government called up one million recruits for military service. The Japanese prime minister announced the creation of a New Order in East Asia, which was a fancy title for a Japanese Empire. The inner circle of raw material suppliers was composed of Korea, Manchuria, and North China. Petroleum was the major essential resource missing and required.

The Japanese seized Beijing, Shanghai, and Nanking. They occupied most of north and central China along with the main coastal ports and industrialized areas. Chiang Kai-shek and his government were forced by the Japanese to move their capital from Nanking/Nanjing to Wuhan and then up the Yangzi River to the mountains at Chungking. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) had their headquarters, as much as they had one at all, at Yan'an on the Huang/Hwang/Yellow river. Canton and Hankow were captured by the Japanese in October.

The *Anschluss/"merger* made Austria part of the Greater German Reich in mid-March by force. Prior to the Wehrmacht’s invasion of Austria, France and Britain had agreed not to
interfere. Most Germans and Austrians were joyous about that move. This was the fulfillment of the Great Germany that many Germans had wanted since 1848. Kurt von Schuschnigg (1897–1977), the Austrian premier since 1934, was pushed into a concentration camp where he was kept until the end of the war.

Two weeks after Germany annexed Austria, Hitler decided to seize Czechoslovakia. Military plans were made for an invasion on 1 October.

Starting in August, the Japanese - who were now loosely allied with Germany and Italy - and the Russian Red Army forces fought on the Mongolian frontier. The Red forces looked weak and unprepared but stubborn to the Japanese.

Neville Chamberlain, the British prime minister, went to talk with Hitler three times during September. Chamberlain, Edouard Daladier (1884–1870), the French premier, Benito Mussolini, and Adolph Hitler met during the Munich Conference and signed an agreement on 29/30 September that gave the mountainous Sudetenland - the Czech-German border districts of Czechoslovakia - to Germany. In brief, the British and French abandoned democratic-progressivetieslovakia to the Germans. The British agreed to a "friendship" pact with Germany. It was later called a policy of "appeasement" which supposedly was the cost of keeping the peace. In reality it was an invitation to commit more aggression.

Ironically, next to the Germans, Czechoslovakia had one of the best defense industries and most modern armies in Central Europe. Their defensive positions were very strong. The Czechs were, of course, afraid to fight the Germans alone.

Germany gave southern Slovakia to their fascist allies in Hungary. Some leaders in northern Slovakia hoped to be annexed by Germany. Some Slovaks wanted to support the Czechs.

Stalin continued his purged of the Red Army and Navy of many of the old guard/Bolsheviks and replaced them with young men who were completely loyal to him and the Stalinist system.

Romania was just a step away from self-destructive anarchy. King Carol II (1893–1953) banned all political parties in an effort to keep the members of the Legion of the Archangel Michael and the Iron Guard from taking over the government. Then the king created a Front of National Rebirth that in effect was a royal dictatorship. Corneliu Codreanu and 13 other top leaders of the Iron Guard were garroted and their bodies were destroyed with acid. Not all of the opposition to the monarchy vanished from sight, however.

An estimated 11,000 Africans were secondary students in all of sub-Saharan Africa that had a population of about 165 million people.

Units of the Republican army crossed the Ebro River and were then driven back by Franco's Nationalists, as they preferred to be called.

The fascists in Italy passed a series of anti-Jewish Racial Laws that were meant to appease the Germans and Hitler. They were not especially popular with many Italians.

The Fair Labor Standards Act in the USA established, over several years, a $.40 an hour minimum wage and a maximum legal workweek of 40 hours. As important, or more important, this act established a federal minimum wage and abolished child labor by making illegal the hiring of workers under the age of 16 years for non-farm work.

Nazis and their sympathizers were reportedly active and dangerous in Chile, Argentina, and Brazil.

The national government of Brazil had a budget about as large as the city of Baltimore or of San Francisco (with populations of about one fiftieth the size of Brazil) in the USA.

Kristallnacht, 9/10 November, "the night of shattered glass," was a Nazi-led frenzy against the Jews in Germany and Austria, who had been discriminated against in many different social, economic, and legal ways since 1933, and against their synagogues and businesses. By this time about 500,000 Jews, including Albert Einstein, had left those two countries. There were still some 350,000 Jews in Germany and another 190,000 in Austria.

President Roosevelt promised armed military assistance to the Canadians if they were invaded.
The American national debt stood at $37 billion.
The House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) was formed by the US House of Representatives to investigate political subversives and their organizations.

Oil was discovered in Kuwait.

Enrico Fermi (1901+1954), an Italian-born American physicist, was awarded a Nobel prize for his work with neutrons and the fundamental forces of nature. A few scientists in the USA and other places understood that when uranium was bombarded with subatomic particles called neutrons, it split apart and released enormous energy.

Otto Hahn (1879+1978), a German scientist, produced the first fission of uranium.

Chester Carlson (1906+1968), an American scientist who had lost his job with Bell Telephone back in 1930, invented the Xerox photocopier.

Laszio and Georg Biro, Hungarians, invented the ballpoint pen.

The first total, stainless steel artificial hip replacement was done by Philip Wiles, an English surgeon.

The Mittelland Canal in Germany connected Berlin with the North Sea, Basle, the Oder, and the Baltic Sea.

General Electric Co. invented the fluorescent light.

The Heinkel He-178, designed and built in Germany by Pabst von Ohain, was the first jet plane to fly; it could reach speeds of 500 km/360 miles per hour.

The original version of the Volkswagen/"people's auto" /"Beetle" went into production in Germany.

At 1000 feet in length, the Queen Elizabeth was the world's largest ocean liner. (She was refitted to be a troop carrier during WWII.)

Howard Hughes (1903+1976), an American original, who set many world air speed records about this time, made a flight around the world in three days, 19 hours, and 17 minutes.

Robert Broom (1866+1951), a Scots-born South African physician and paleontologist, found another, larger version of the hominid Australopithecus africanus than the one found by Raymond Dart in 1924.

Sergei Prokofiev (1891+1953), a Russian, wrote the music for the ballet Romeo and Juliet.

Henry Moore, an English artist who taught at the Chelsea School of Art, sculpted Recumbent Figure.

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887+1959), a Brazilian composer and music educator, was rooted in folk music and folklore. Among many other compositions, he wrote the beautiful Bachianas Brasileiras.

CBS World News Roundup started on-the-spot, live radio news reports from Europe with outstanding reporters like Edward R. Murrow (1908+1965).

Orson Welles (1915+1985), an American radio producer and actor, and his fellow pranksters on the Mercury Theatre On the Air did a take-off of H.G. Wells's novel The War of the Worlds as a series of live news broadcasts on the radio and frightened about 1.5 million Americans. Many listeners thought they were hearing news about the invasion of the USA, and possibly the world, by Martians.

NBC in New York City televised the news live for the first time.

Sergi Eisenstein completed his important film Alexander Nevsky.

Crane Brinton (1898+1968), an American, published The Anatomy of Revolution that compared and contrasted the English Puritan, the American, the French, and the Russian revolutions.

Mao Tse-Tung: "Every Communist must grasp the truth, 'Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun.'" Neville Chamberlain after the Munich Agreement: "In spite of the hardness and ruthlessness of his face [Hitler's], I got the impression that here was a man who could be relied on." "I believe it is peace for our time... peace with honour." Winston Churchill on the Munich Agreement: "We have suffered a defeat without a war." Paul Joseph Goebbels, Nazi
Our critics are morbid, degenerate, democratic individuals. Some even say the Jew is a human being." Adolf Hitler.

"Universal education is the most corroding and disintegrating poison that liberalism has ever invented for its own destruction." F. Scott Fitzgerald, writer:

"The test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas at the same time, and still retain the ability to function." Robert H. Goddard, American physicist and rocketeer:

"It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow." Arnold J. Toynbee (1889+1975), distinguished British historian of world civilizations:

"In any field of human endeavour, stagnation and regression and advances are all equally possible at any stage." Nicholas Murray Butler (1862+1947), president of Columbia University (1901+1945) and president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1925+1945):

"An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less." Faik Konitza, Albanian ambassador to the USA in reference to his boss, King Zog: "Tell the king . . . I despise [him] for the following reasons: Having watched him since he was eighteen, I never caught him telling a truth. He has never kept his pledged word. He has no sense of responsibility. He is greedy, selfish, callous, dishonest. He hates all those who have something - be it culture, birth, wealth, a capacity in any field, or simply a rugged and honest patriot. He ignores fundamental things, and gives a grotesque importance to trifles."

1938/9: The Nationalists/fascists launched desperate attacks on the Republican defenders of Barcelona, Spain, drove them out of the city, and scattered them.

Vladimir K. Zworykin (1889+1982), a Russian-American electronics engineer, developed the electron microscope and iconoscope electronic television camera tube and patented the color scanning television system.

1938+1940: Edouard Daladier (1884+1973), a confused socialist, a kind of pacifist, and a leading official, sometimes the prime minister, of the Popular Front cabinet in France, like Chamberlain in England, followed a policy of appeasement towards the fascists. He signed the Munich Agreement of 1938. (During WWII, he was the war and foreign minister of the pro-German Vichy regime.)

1938+1942: The Burma Road, built at enormous human and material cost by the Chinese, was the Nationalists' only land link with their allies and the outside world until it was closed during Japan's invasion of Burma.

1938+1945: Ernst Kaltenbrunner (1901+1946) was the leading Nazi in Austria. He worked for Himmler, was head of the Security Police, and was a mass murderer of Jews and other people the Nazis did not like. He was hanged by the Allies at Nuremberg for his war crimes.

1938+2000: The Partido Revolucionario Institucional/Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), formerly the Partido Nacional Revolucionaria/National Revolutionary Party (PRM), continued to be Mexico's almost only national political party.

1938+1948: Eamon De Valera was the prime minister of Eire/Ireland (and then again 1951+1959).

1938+1950: Ismet Inönü/Ismet Paza (1884+1973), who had been an Army officer and Atatürk's premier (1923+1937), was the second president of the Turkish Republic.

1938+1953: Lavrenti Beria (1899+1953) was Stalin's most reliable henchman, head of his secret police, his most important slave master, and his number one executioner. His orders imprisoned and "liquidated" millions of people. After Stalin's death, he was fittingly and quickly stopped from becoming Stalin's successor when he was tried and shot in secret by those who feared him most: those closest to him.

1939: The government of Slovakia was accused by the Czech government of conspiring with the Nazis. When the Slovak government was deposed, their leader appealed to Hitler for help. It was a set-up.

The Japanese occupied Hainan Island south of the Chinese mainland and blockaded Tientsin south of Peking where the British and French had concessions.

In mid-March, the Germans occupied and ruled all parts of Czechoslovakia in violation of the
Munich agreements of September 1938. As he had done earlier in Vienna, Hitler drove into Prague as an almost bloodless conqueror.

Moravia and Bohemia became a German Protectorate. Slovakia became a "sovereign republic." Parts of Ruthenia were given to Hungary.

During March, Hitler canceled Germany's non-aggression treaty with Poland, just to turn the heat up a bit.

On 31 March, Britain notified the Polish government of their "guarantee" of Poland's independence.

The British limited further Jewish immigration to and land purchases in Palestine.

Portugal and Spain signed a Treaty of Friendship and Peace.

The USA notified the Japanese government in late July of the revocation, after the required passage of six months, of their 1911 commercial treaty. This was an early step towards an American embargo of war materials for Japan.

The Red Army, led by a little-known general Georgi Konstantinovich Zhukov (1896+1974), an armored warfare expert who commanded Soviet tanks in Outer Mongolia, scored a decisive victory over the Japanese in late August. When it became clear the Japanese were falling back, Zhukov's troops started to cross the Urals into Europe almost immediately.

Joseph Stalin and the German foreign secretary, Joachim von Ribbentrop (1893+1946), improved on their recent trade agreement, by signing a non-aggression pact on 23 August that insured that the Red Army would not oppose the Germans in Poland. A secret protocol gave the Soviets control over eastern Poland, the Baltic states, and Bessarabia after they conquered those places.

As planned, on 1 September Germany invaded Poland and started WWII in Europe. The German blitzkrieg/lightening war attacked Poland from three directions along a 1750-mile front with 2700 panzers/tanks while the Luftwaffe/air force quickly destroyed the outdated Polish air force. The USSR invaded Poland from the east on 17 September. The Poles had about as many troops in total as the Germans, 60 divisions, but a vastly inferior air force and inferior tanks. Germany and the USSR partitioned Poland in October along the lines of the Bug River. Poland had been completely defeated within five weeks. The USSR annexed Lithuania. WWII was now a global war with active fronts at several places on the Eurasian continent. The British, French, and other interested-friendly nations were too late to help the Poles.

After the invasion of Poland, Roosevelt and Hull immediately asked Congress to repeal the Neutrality Act of 1935 (as renewed several times). This time, finally, Congress responded somewhat appropriately. The Neutrality Act of 1939 allowed for the USA to sell munitions and weapons to governments on a "cash and carry" basis. American ships were denied entry into war zones and belligerent ports.

Some 9.5 million Americans were still unemployed, which amounted to about 17 percent of the workforce.

The French colonial Empire, second in size only to the British Empire, was 20 times larger than France itself in terms of territory, and one and a half times larger in terms of population than France.

General Francisco Franco, his troops, and their Italian and German "volunteers" took over Barcelona in January. They again defeated the Republicans at Madrid in March, and the Spanish Civil War thus ended. Some 200,000 Spaniards died during the Spanish Civil War; one million, it is estimated, were disabled; and another 500,000 went into exile abroad.

The Germans and Italians signed a so-called "Pact of Steel" that pledged them to a military alliance.

The Italians invaded Albania in April and then annexed that hapless country.

All German and Austrian Jews and their spouses were forced to join the National Association of Jews that was controlled by the German secret police/Gestapo.

By the end of the year, all Jews in that part of Poland ruled by Germany were forced by the
Germans to live in supervised, often walled, ghettos within the cities.

Some experts estimate that Stalin's *Gulag Archipelago* - a chain of concentration camps for political prisoners, innocents, and misfits, but mainly suspected political opponents - operated by the *Cheka/OGPU/NKVD/KGB* - "employed" more people than any other organization in Europe.

There were about 445,457 Jews in Palestine and some 132,000 of them lived in Tel Aviv. There were about 1.5 million Arabs in Palestine that had not yet been partitioned.

Albert Einstein, Leo Szilard (1898+1964), a Hungarian-American physicist, and Edward Teller (1908+?), another Hungarian-American physicist, sent a letter to President F.D. Roosevelt advising him of the possibility of unleashing a nuclear chain reaction using uranium that would create a bomb with enough energy to destroy a city.

Siam became Thailand.

Ho Chi Minh, a Vietnamese nationalist and communist, formed the anti-French, anti-colonial Vietminh Party.

The USSR forced the governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to sign mutual assistance treaties in October.

When Britain went to war in September, five Cabinet minister out of 11 in the Union of South Africa voted not to support the British. The vote in the Assembly was 80 in favor and 67 against joining the Allies in the war effort.

The British forced the Germans to scuttle the battleship *Graf Spee* in December off the coast of neutral Uruguay.

The Dixie Clipper, the first passenger service flight to cross the Atlantic Ocean (in June) from Long Island, New York, to Marseilles, France, took 42 hours. It was part of Juan Trippe's Pan American World Airways fleet.

Nylon stockings went on sale for the first time.

Sit-down strikes were outlawed by the USA's Supreme Court.

There were about 13,000 auto workers in Canada but they nearly all worked for the American manufacturers Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors because the Canadian manufacturers had all gone out of business.

The 10 fastest "streamliners" in the world were all American designed, owned, built, and operated. American "silver streakers" revived the long-distance passenger train business.

Igor Sikorsky (1889+1972), a Russian-born American aeronautical engineer, designed the VS-300 helicopter for mass production.

Willis Carrier's Carrier Engineering Corp. in the USA, with its motto of "Every Day a Good Day," made the first practical air-conditioning system for skyscrapers.

David Packard and William Redington Hewlett confounded the Hewlett-Packard Company and produced, among many other products, an audio oscillator, which Walt Disney used in the making of the film *Fantasia*.

The Papal Index banned the writings of Henri Marie Beyle/Stendhal who had died in 1842.

The Academy award for best film of the year went to *Gone with the Wind*. John Ford directed and John Wayne, among others, starred in the excellent western *Stagecoach*. Maureen O'Hara and Charles Laughton starred in the original movie version of Victor Hugo's novel (published 1831) *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

Hitler, shortly before the Germans invaded Poland: "I have sent my Death's Head units to the East with the order to kill without mercy men, women, and children of the Polish race or language. Only in such a way will we win the lebensraum [living-room] that we need. Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?" FDR (F.D. Roosevelt): "When peace has been broken anywhere, the peace of all countries everywhere is in danger." "The citizens of the United States must effectively control the mighty commercial forces which they have themselves called into being."

Winston Churchill: "I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma."

Pearl Buck, US novelist: "I feel no need for any other faith than my faith in human beings." W. Somerset Maugham (1874+1965), English writer: "A proverb distills the wisdom of the ages and only
King Victor Emmanuel of Italy on the plans to invade Albania: "I am opposed to the policy in Albania since I do not see the point in risking such a venture in order to grab a few rocks."

1939/40: Finland surrendered territory to the USSR in March after a "Winter War" of 14-weeks which started with a Red Army thrust in late November 1939. The Finns were attacked on three fronts and lost some 165,000 square miles in Karelia, between the Gulf of Finland and the White Sea, to the Soviets. Many Finns, who had earlier tolerated them, learned to hate the Stalinists. The Russo-Finnish Winter War exposed many of the inadequacies of the Soviets' Red Army while it forewarned many to the seemingly unending territorial ambitions of the USSR. The USSR was expelled from the League of Nations.

The USSR, which already was home to some three million Jews, annexed eastern Poland, the Baltic states of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania, Bessarabia, and Bukovina, all of which included another two million, or so, Jews.

Some people saw a pause in WWII, which ran from October to April, from the German occupation of Poland to their invasions of Denmark and Norway, but it was an illusion. Edouard Daladier called it "a phony war."

1939+1941: The Hitler-Stalin nonaggression pact gave both dictators' countries time to prepare for a larger war and to plan expansions of their empires.

Stalin ordered that one to two million Poles, those who were suspected of being potential trouble-makers, like anti-Stalinists and policemen, be sent to the Gulags in the Arctic or to exile in Central Asia.

Some 26,000 Polish prisoners of war and intellectuals were sent to the Katyn forest, shot, and buried in mass graves by the Soviets who denied everything and tried, with great skill and attention to details, to make it look like the Germans were the perpetrators.

Handicapped persons were murdered in Germany as part of a euthanasia program.

Eastern Orthodox Serbian Christians were exterminated in large numbers by Roman Catholics in the German puppet state of Croatia. Some church leaders spoke against these mass murders, but not Pope Pius XII.

1939+1944: Parts of Albania were ruled by Italians and then Germans.

1939+1945: World War II. The total deaths - military and civilians - during the European phase of the war has been estimated to be something like 42 million people.

The Allied Powers suffered something like a total of 10 million military deaths. The USSR suffered the deaths of about 9 million military (including three to four million Soviet POWs who died or were killed). Yugoslavia lost 305,000, the USA 292,131, Britain 264,443, France 213,324, Poland 123,178, the Commonwealth nations 100,000 (Canada 42,000, Australia 23,000, India 24,000, New Zealand 10,000, South Africa 6000), Greece 88,300. Belgium, Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands, Norway, and Denmark lost lesser, but no less real, numbers of people. Some estimates of the total military losses for the European phase of WWII (excluding the USA) are 14.4 million lives.

The Axis Powers lost 4.4 million military lives. Germany suffered 3.5 million military deaths, Japan 1.2 million, Romania 300,000, Italy 242,232, Hungary 200,000, Finland 82,000, and Bulgaria 10,000.

Civilian losses during the European phase of WWII have been estimated at 27,077,614 lives. The worst losses were suffered by the USSR with 16 to 19 million, Poland with 5.6 to 7 million (about 22 percent of the total population), Yugoslavia 1.2 million, Germany 780,000, Italy 300,941, France 350,000, Greece 325,000, Hungary 290,000, Czechoslovakia 215,000, the Netherlands 200,000, Romania 200,000, Britain 86,000 (including 60,000 killed by bombs), Belgium 76,000, Bulgaria 10,000, Norway 7000, Denmark 2000, and Finland 2000.

About 7.8 Chinese (civilians and military) were killed during WWII. An estimated 50 million Chinese were made homeless during WWII.

The major neutrals were Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland, and Turkey. The governments of Spain and Portugal were "officially" neutral but
pro-Axis and helpful in small, important ways to Germany and Italy.

More than 160,000 Black African troops from French colonies in North and West Africa served in the war on the Allied side. Some 210,000 Whites from southern Africa served in the war on the Allied side. More than 374,000 Black Africans from British colonies served on the Allied side of the war.

Estimates for the number of Jews killed during WWII range from 4.87 million to 6.27 million. Approximately 2.35 to 3 million died or were killed in Poland, 1.5 to 2 million in the USSR, 218,000 to 240,000 in Germany/Austria, 200,000 to 300,000 in Hungary, about 250,000 in Romania, about 107,000 in the Netherlands, about 93,000 in Czechoslovakia, about 63,000 in France, about 58,000 in Greece, about 57,000 in Yugoslavia, about 27,000 in Belgium, about 9000 in Italy, about 2900 in Luxembourg, and lesser numbers in Norway and Denmark.

Canada, with only a population of about 11.5 million people, contributed some 1.1 million soldiers, airmen, sailors, and other war personnel during WWII. Australia and New Zealand made similar great sacrifices for the Allied cause.

It has been estimated that about seven million people were sent to the Gulags in the USSR during WWII.

The Vichy government in France ruled metropolitan France and the North African colonies of Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia. The Free French along with their allies controlled the West African colonies.

The Royal Canadian Air Force administered the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan that trained some 130,000 Commonwealth aviators.

1939+1951: George C. Marshall (1880+1959) was the top military leader in the USA, next to Roosevelt and Truman. He served supremely well as the chief of staff of the army during WWII (1939+1945), was a special envoy to China (1945+1947), secretary of state (1947+1949), and secretary of defense (1950/1). Along with Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton, and possibly a few others, Marshall was very likely by performance the greatest American who never was president of the USA.

1939+1958: Pius XII/Eugenio Pacelli (1876+1958) was the pope and a firm opponent of modern theology, liberalism, and communism. The great moral issues of his time - fascism, the erosion of democratic rights, imperialism, slave labor, and the decimation of the Jews - made him silent, not firm or forceful, even though he was as well or better informed about the barbarisms, including those in Italy, being committed by the fascists than anyone in this world. Unless, of course, he chose not to be. Or, unless the people surrounding him did not want him to be informed.

1939+1975: General Francisco Franco, el Caudillo/the chief, the generalissimo, made himself the dictator of Spain for life.

1939+1979: Nearly all the peoples of Africa went from being colonial subjects of European powers to being, with the exception of South Africa, citizens of independent nations.

The number of British Civil Service employees increased from 87,000 to 730,000.

1940s: The Canadians found large deposits of iron ore in the Steep Rock Lake district north of Lake Superior and on the Ungava Peninsula near the Quebec-Labrador boundary.

The Abstract Expressionist movement in painting started in New York. Some of the artists commonly put in this group are Arshile Gorky (1905+1948), Franz Kline (1910+1962), Jackson Pollock (1912+1956), Mark Rothko (1903+1970), and Willem de Kooning (1904+?)

1940: After months of what some called a "Phony War" or sitzkrieg/"sitting war" following Germany's and the USSR's invasion of Poland, the Germans launched their blitzkrieg/"lightning war" against Denmark and Norway in early April. Both countries were defeated in a few weeks. The Norwegians were given a new ruler, a native fascist Vidkun Quisling (1887+1945). Neutral Sweden was saved after promising to provide Germany iron ore thru the Norwegian port of Narvik.

Belgium, a neutral nation, Luxembourg, Holland, and France were attacked by the Germans in May.
Chamberlain resigned as his failings as a leader became apparent to all, including possibly himself, and Winston Churchill became British prime minister on 7 May.

On 10 May the Germans bombed Rotterdam in Holland.

The Germans surprised the French and British by easily driving around the defensive fortifications of the Maginot Line, pushing thru the Ardennes Forest, and reaching the English Channel in little more than 10 days. France was invaded on 14 May, Paris surrendered on 16 June, and France was out of the war in less than five weeks. The Dutch capitulated after 18 days of fighting. Belgium surrendered in late May. The world was shocked.

The British expeditionary troops on the continent of Europe were evacuated with great heroism during the end of May and first few days of June: some 340,000 defeated and encircled British, French, Belgian, Polish, and other Allied troops crossed the 50 miles of the English Channel from Dunkirk in a strange fleet of 850 vessels, many of them small boats owned and operated by civilian volunteers.

Canada and the USA negotiated the Ogensburg Agreement whereby a Permanent Joint Board of Defense was created to "...consider in the broad sense the defense of the north half of the western hemisphere." They oversaw the construction of the Alaska Highway, Arctic defenses, a network of Canadian-American radio stations and air bases - including some in Newfoundland and Labrador - and the construction of oil pipelines, among other projects.

The Germans controlled and occupied the Channel Islands by mid-June.

The USSR physically moved-in, took-over, and occupied Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Henri Pétain (1856+1951), a WWI general and a fascist sympathizer, sent a representative to conclude an armistice on 22 June, with Hitler watching, in the same railroad car in the same forest where French officials had witnessed the German's surrender 22 years earlier. The Alsace-Lorraine region was returned to Germany. The elderly Petain and his pro-German followers and collaborators then set-up a pretend independent French government at Vichy in southern France. The Germans occupied the rest of the country including Paris.

Hitler and the Germans ruled Europe from the Spanish-French border to Scandinavia to the Pripyet/Pripyat/Pinsk Marshes in what some would call Poland and others would call northwestern Ukraine.

The USSR occupied Romania's provinces of Bessarabia and northern Bukovina in June, less than a fortnight after taking-over the Baltic states. These provinces produced large amounts of corn, wheat, sugar beets, and soybeans. They also contained 42 percent of Romania's industrial plants. Hitler and the Romanians were not pleased. After the Romanians were forced by the Hungarians and Germans to cede northern Transylvania to Hungary, King Carol II was deposed by a military coup headed by General Ion Antonescu (1882+1946) a pro-German fascist.

The British government first, and then the USA and many other governments, recognized the pro-Allied and anti-German General Charles de Gaulle (1890+1970) as head of the Free French Forces. During the recent invasion of France, de Gaulle had led a noteworthy armored counter-attack against the Germans.

The Germans expelled Jews from Alsace, Lorraine, Baden, and the Palatinate: the French-German border areas. The pro-German Vichy government in France passed and enforced a series of anti-Jewish laws similar to those in force in Germany.

The British occupied Iceland before the Germans did.

The British sank the French fleet at Oran, after their leaders waffled and refused to turn over their ships to the Allies, on 3 July to prevent its use by the Germans.

During the summer, the Japanese forced the toothless Vichy government to allow them to build airfields in northern Indochina and to close the roads into South China. The Japanese closed the Burma Road in July and occupied important places in French Indochina in September.
The USA responded to the above by passing the Export Control Act in July which allowed FDR to restrict exports of all kinds, including aviation gas, scrap iron, and other strategic materials to Japan.

During the summer, the American Congress passed the first peacetime draft by the narrowest possible vote, despite intense lobbying by FDR, Hull, and other members of FDR's administration.

Starting in August, there was daytime bombing of London and southeastern Britain by the Germans.

The Battle of Britain took place during a four-month period ending on 15 September. Some 10 percent of the pilots on the Allied side were Poles, Czechs, and Free French. Afterwards the Germans never again seriously considered invading the British Isles.

The Anglo-American bases for destroyers deal was done in early September by executive order. The British got 50 overaged American destroyers and the Americans got 99-year leases on valuable bases in Antigua, the Bahamas, Bermuda, British Guiana, Jamaica, Newfoundland, St. Lucia, and Trinidad. The American public and Congress approved.

President Roosevelt on 25 September announced that all export grades of iron and steel scrap would be regulated. This was widely interpreted as a warning to the Japanese.

By October the Germans were nighttime bombing Britain, the Blitz as some called it.

The Japanese set-up a puppet government at Nanking.

The Italians invaded British and French Somaliland in early August, Egypt in September, and Greece in October. Militarily the unprepared Italians almost immediately got themselves into trouble.

During mid-October, the first of some 16,400,000 men registered for the military draft in the USA. Roosevelt was re-elected for president for the third time on 5 November.

There were maybe 600 members of the Communist Party in Yugoslavia according to some estimates.

V.M. Molotov (1890+1986), the USSR's foreign minister, went to Berlin in November and boldly asked Hitler for his approval of a number of Soviet territorial expansions from Finland to Turkey. Hitler secretly resolved to attack the USSR. German military planners started to work on Operation Barbarossa.

The British occupied Crete and started to land troops and aircraft in southern Greece in November.

The Italians were threatened with being driven out of Somalia, Eritrea, and Ethiopia by the end of the year.

The population of Hawaii was about 422,770 people.

Leon Trotsky, Stalin's chief ideological rival for the leadership of the international communist movement, was murdered by a Stalinist stooge in Mexico City.

Leaders of the Moslem League in India demanded that a new Muslim nation, Pakistan, be carved out of India.

Alan Turing and his team at Bletchley Park in England connected a series of "computers" in order to decode German messages. This proved to be an important step towards winning "the intelligence war."

John Rex Whinfield and J.T. Dickson, Englishmen, invented terylene/dacron, an artificial fiber that was superior in some ways to nylon and rayon.

Two scientists at Oxford University, Howard W. Florey (1898+1968) and Ernest Boris Chain (1906+1979), made penicillin in a purified form suitable for use as an antibiotic.

Four teenage boys from the village of Montignac in the Dordogne in southwestern France discovered the caves of Lascaux that contained some 600 rock paintings some 17,000 years old of bulls, horses, and other animals, real and imaginary, by Cro-Magnon/Homo sapiens sapiens artists.
The Arroyo Seco Parkway in Los Angeles, California, and the Pennsylvania Turnpike helped to start the "freeway" era for American motorists.

In Washington state, the Tacoma Narrows Bridge flew apart in a high wind as the result of a faulty design.

A Californian, Thomas Hull, built a modest ranch-style hotel-resort, the El Rancho, outside the town of Las Vegas, Nevada, on the Los Angeles Highway. This was the start of the "Las Vegas Strip."

Charles de Gaulle published The Army of the Future.

Ernest Hemingway wrote a touching novel about the Spanish Civil War, For Whom the Bell Tolls.

Richard Wright (1908+1960), born on a plantation in Mississippi but now working in Chicago, published his novel Native Son.


The Grapes of Wrath, based on John Steinbeck's novel, and Charlie Chaplin's The Great Dictator were two of the finest films ever made.

Walt Disney released the film Fantasia that was full of technical innovations and stereophonic sound.

Winston Churchill: "I felt as if I were walking with destiny, and that all my past life had been but a preparation for this hour and this trial."

"What is our policy? . . . to wage war against a monstrous tyranny, never surpassed in the dark, lamentable catalogue of human crime." "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."

"What is our aim? . . . Victory, victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror; victory, however long and hard the road may be; for without victory, there is no survival."

"This [the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkirk, France] was their finest hour." In reference to the Battle of Britain pilots: "Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few." Charles De Gaulle, general and "Free French" politician: "Since they whose duty was to wield the sword of France have let it fall shattered to the ground, I have taken up the broken blade." Franklin D. Roosevelt: "We must be the great arsenal of democracy." Maxime Weygand (1867+1965), Vichy general: "In three weeks England will have her neck wrung like a chicken." Marshal Pétain: "To make a union with Great Britain would be fusion with a corpse." F. Scott Fitzgerald, US writer, in The Crack-Up: "What we must decide is perhaps how we are valuable, rather than how valuable we are." Helen Keller, powerful intellectual who was educated, in part, by the remarkable Anne M. Sullivan: "No nation is wise enough to rule another." John Nance Garner (1868+1967), politician: "Worst damfool mistake I ever made was letting myself be elected Vice-President of the United States. Should have stuck with my old chores as Speaker of the House. I gave up the second most important job in the Government for one that didn't amount to a hill of beans. I spent eight long years [1933+1941] as Mr. Roosevelt's spare tire. I might still be Speaker if I hadn't let them elect me Vice-President." J. Paul Getty (1892+1976), US oil baron: "If you can actually count your money, you are not really a rich man."

1940/41: Italy invaded Greece. Mussolini insisted that nine divisions would be sufficient even though his top generals were opposed to the move and had done a study that estimated it would take 18 to 20 divisions to conquer Greece. It was a humiliating defeat for the Italians and their invading army of some 85,000 troops.

The people of Britain suffered intensive German bombings after the fall of France.

Yosuke Matsuoka (1880+1946) was the foreign minister of Japan. When many members of the League of Nations criticized Japanese aggression in Manchuria, he took Japan out of the League. He firmly placed Japan on the side of Germany and Italy.

1940+1943: Some important civilian and military leaders in Iraq sided with the Axis powers.

1940+1944: Some 650,000 French workers were forcibly sent as virtual slaves to work in German wartime industries by the French government in Vichy.
Fulgencio Batista was president of Cuba.

Bela Bartok was becoming a famous Hungarian composer of modern classical music.

**1940+1945**: On 27 September 1940, Germany, Italy, and Japan signed a 10-year military and economic alliance, the Tripartite Pact/Berlin Pact, which formalized the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis. They were subsequently joined by Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia. The Axis ended in stages starting with the surrender of Italy in 1943. (The original Rome-Berlin Axis was formed in 1936.)

Some experts have calculated that Stalin continued to have some 1,000,000 people in the USSR killed every year during WWII.

The American gross national product (GNP) increased 112 percent from $100.6 billion to $213.6 billion, which was about 100 times the amount spent by the Union government during the Civil War. The USA's national debt was about $260 billion by the end of WWII, which was about six times larger than it had been at the time of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. Nearly half of the USA's wartime expenses were paid for by tax revenues. Consumer prices rose about 31 percent during this period (which was about half the increase during WWI). Over six million women became workers, many for the first-time, during WWII, an increase of about 50 percent. The number of married women who worked increased from 15 percent to 24 percent.

Colonel Dragoljub "Draza" Mihailovic (1893+1946), a Serb, became the leader of the royalist forces in Yugoslavia and eventually its minister of war. His troops and supporters were called Chetniks, a historical name for bandit warriors. The core of the Chetnik resistance in Serbia were survivors of the Royal Yugoslav Army. The Partisans (guerrillas), led by Tito, had their headquarters in western Serbia. Mihailovich - as reported by Allied intelligence agents, some of whom were Russian communist spies - gradually switched from being pro-Ally to being pro-German and anti-Tito. Increasingly the Chetniks were regarded as fascist collaborators, and the Allies ceased to support them before the end of WWII. (Mihailovich was eventually captured at the end of WWII and executed by Tito's government.)

**1940+1946**: Charles de Gaulle was head of the anti-Nazi Free French, or Fighting French, and the provisional French government, 1944+1946. Eduard Beneš (1884+1948) was the president of the Czechoslovakian government-in-exile in London.

**1940+1947**: King Michael, the son of Carol II, reigned in Romania initially with the assistance of the Germans and with the tolerance of General Ion Antonescu who had forced Carol II to abdicate.

**1940+1948**: Jan Masaryk, son of the distinguished Czech nationalist Tomas Masaryk (1850+1937), was foreign minister of Czechoslovakia in exile and then in Prague until he committed suicide or, more likely, was murdered by the Soviets.

**1940+1970**: Another 20 million Americans, most certainly including Blacks, moved from rural parts of the country to urban places.

**1940+1980**: The population of the prairie provinces/Western Canada fell from 60 percent to 30 percent of Canada's total.

**1940+1991**: The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) was composed of the following 15 republics: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belorussia/Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia/Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia/Moldova, Russia, Tadzhikistan/Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

**1941**: During one of the worst natural disasters of this century, some three million people died in China during a drought.

Only Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Turkey supposedly remained neutral nations in Europe.

President Roosevelt in January added to the regulated list of iron and steel scrap exports bronze, copper, brass, nickel, potash, and zinc. These controls were meant to keep the Japanese from stockpiling vital materials.

The Lend-Lease Act was passed by the US Congress on 11 March. It was one of FDR's best ideas. It authorized the president to lend, sell, transfer, exchange, or lease military equipment to nations whose defense he considered essential.
to American defense. This was an enormous improvement over the way money was loaned-out during WWI without much thought about how it would or could be paid back. Congress authorized the expenditure of $7 billion to fund Lend-Lease, as it became known. Britain, China, and (after June) the USSR were early beneficiaries of this legislation that eventually was used to help all of the Allied nations.

American military ships started convoying merchant vessels from the USA to Iceland, which helped the British navy considerably.

On 1 March, the Bulgarian government signed the Tripartite Pact with Germany after the Germans stationed some 13 divisions on Bulgaria's northern border and the Turks had moved some 37 divisions up to Bulgaria's southeastern border.

On 26 March, the day after royal government of Yugoslavia signed the Tripartite Pact and joined the Axis, that same government was removed from power by the Serb-led army without opposition or lament. The Germans invaded Yugoslavia and Greece in April after the Italians botched the job. The Germans first bombed Belgrade on 6 April, and Yugoslavia was thereafter invaded by German, Italian, Bulgarian, and Hungarian forces. On the surface the Axis powers were successful at conquering Yugoslavia after an 11-day campaign. Yugoslavia was partitioned into parts controlled by the conquering nations.

On 10 April, the Germans created the Independent State of Croatia, which also had jurisdiction over Bosnia, Hercegovina, and Slavonia that were to be occupied by Italian and German troops. The fascist leader of Croatia and the Ustase, the Croatian militia, was selected by Mussolini and Hitler. Nearly all of the Ustase’s members were Roman Catholics. During the remainder of the war, thousands of minorities, including Orthodox Christians, Jews, Serbs, political liberals, radicals, opponents of the new regime, communists, homosexuals, and Gypsies/Romanies, were hunted-down, killed, or taken to concentration camps.

The Germans stationed some 4.5 divisions in Serbia.

The Germans occupied Athens. The island of Crete was captured by German airborne troops in May.

By the spring, some 30,000 Londoners had died during the airborne blitz.

The British landed troops in Ethiopia in January.

The British offensive in North Africa gained them Tobruk and Benghazi in northeastern Libya by 7 February.

The German general Erwin Rommel (1891+1944) arrived in North Africa during mid-February to keep the British from capturing the Italian base in Tripoli. He was a master of mobile operations and admired the tactics used by the 19th century Indians of the North American plains and the Southwest. The Germans and Italians attacked Egypt. The Germans' Afrika Korps, recaptured Benghazi and attacked Tobruk for 240 days before withdrawing at the end of the year.

Japan and the USSR signed a Non-Aggression Pact in April after the Soviets repulsed the Japanese army at Nomonhan in Mongolia.

The great German battleship Bismarck was sunk in May by British planes, naval fire, and superior intelligence work.

The British invaded Iraq.

The British defeated the pro-German Vichy French in Syria and Lebanon by June.

On 22 June the Germans, with help from the Finns and Romanians, broke their recently concluded pact with the USSR and started their invasion called Operation Barbarossa (the Holy Roman Emperor, 1152+1190, Frederick I) along a 2000 mile front, from the Arctic to the Black Sea, with 156 divisions containing some 3,000,000 troops. The Soviet Air Force was mainly caught on the ground. The Soviet Army, which seemed to be unprepared for the attack, used a scorched-earth defense, and suffered about 2.5 million casualties with one million prisoners taken by the Germans by the year's end. The Germans were welcomed by some people in parts of Byelorussia, the Balkans, and the Ukraine as liberators. By the end of the year, the Germans had laid siege to Leningrad and German tanks
had only been stopped by fresh Siberian troops before they reached Moscow.

The Anglo-Soviet Treaty of Mutual Assistance was concluded on 12 July that repudiated the earlier German-Soviet pact. At nearly the same time, the Soviets and the Polish government-in-exile in London signed a military convention and peace treaty.

Japan declared that it was annexing all of French Indochina (Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam) in June.

Premier Fumimaro Konoye resigned in mid-October. General Hideki Tojo (1885–1948), formerly the chief of the secret police and army chief of staff (1937–1940), and minister of war (1940/1), became the new Japanese premier and dictator the very next day, a position that he held until 1944.

The Americans blocked all Japanese assets in the USA, further restricted oil exports to Japan, and made Douglas MacArthur, who had been heading the armed forces of the Philippines, the overall commander of US forces in East Asia. Philippine regular and reserve forces were incorporated into the United States Army under the command of MacArthur in July.

The German Wehrmacht surprised and overwhelmed Soviet troops at Smolensk on the upper Dnieper and captured many secret documents relating to Stalin’s purges and the Red Terror.

The British and Russians occupied Iran/Persia by the end of August. Riza Shah was deposed and replaced by his son who supposedly was willing to act more friendly towards the Allies.

Roosevelt and Churchill met in secret aboard naval ships in Canadian waters at Placentia Bay, Newfoundland. They negotiated and then approved a joint declaration of peace aims, the Atlantic Charter, on 11 August that then became the platform for the WWII Alliance. It called for a new system to create general international security, self-determination for all peoples, equitable access to raw materials, freedom of the seas, and economic cooperation. Fifteen nations, including the USSR, quickly signed the agreement.

The Japanese war leaders on 6 September decided to attack American forces at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, among other targets in Oceania and the Far East.

Coventry, an industrial city in Britain, was bombed by the Germans.

The governments of Hungary, Bulgaria, and Romania officially joined the Axis in November. Some experts calculated that the Germans controlled half of Europe.

Jews were killed in large numbers in Bessarabia and Bukovina by Ukrainians, in Transnistria by Romanians, and in the Carpathians by Hungarians. At Babi Yar near Kiev in September, some 34,000 Jews were murdered by German and Ukrainian troops. During October some 326,000 Jews were murdered by Romanians in the Odessa region of the USSR.

In September, the Germans started their siege of Leningrad. Kiev fell to the Germans in late September.

The Germans started to murder prisoners, mainly Jews, at their Belzec camp in October on the border of Poland and the USSR.

On 26 November, a Japanese strike force began its journey eastward across the northern Pacific Ocean.

The Japanese on 7 December sneak attacked Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, with some 183 airplanes. Within hours they also bombed military and civilian targets on Midway and Guam; Manila and other targets in the Philippines; Shanghai and Hong Kong in China; and Singapore in Malaya/Malaysia.

Of the eight American battleships in Pearl Harbor, three were sunk and the others damaged. A total of 19 ships were sunk or put out of commission. About 150 airplanes were destroyed at nearby Hickam Field. About 2400 military and civilian personnel died, another 1173 were wounded, and a major part of the US Pacific fleet was destroyed. It was the USA’s worst military defeat in its history.

The US and Britain declared war on Japan a few hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor.
Hitler declared war, during a speech to the Reichstag, against the USA on 11 December. Mussolini did the same.

Japanese troops during December moved against Thailand, Burma, Malaya, and Singapore.

Nationalist China declared war on Japan and Germany and joined the Allies. Japan attacked, savaged, and occupied Burma.

Japan invaded the Philippines in several places but the most important was along the beaches of the Lingayen Gulf, Pangasinan Province, in Luzon on 22 December. The Japanese quickly pushed southward towards Manila, which they occupied, with little opposition.

At nearly the same time, the American island of Guam was occupied by Japanese troops from the nearby island of Saipan.

Hong Kong and Wake Island were captured by the Japanese on 23 December.

By the end of the year, the Red Army of the USSR was keeping the Germans back from Leningrad, Moscow, and Sevastopol.

The Russian government incorporated Bessarabia into the Soviet Union as the Soviet Republic of Moldavia.

In the USA, the Fair Employment Practices Committee prohibited racial discrimination in defense industry plants.

A Canadian-United States agreement on the use and development of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence river basin was approved.

The USA occupied Greenland, and then joined the occupation of Iceland in July.

There were some 1.4 million men and women in the US armed forces by July.

The British counter-attacked the Germans and Italians in North Africa, caught them by surprise in November, and took some 36,500 prisoners, most of whom were Italians. The British recaptured Benghazi on Christmas eve.

In one of the most bizarre incidents in history, the eccentric Rudolf Hess, the deputy leader of Nazi Germany who had recorded Hitler's thoughts for Mein Kampf/My Struggle while in prison with him, was arrested in Britain where he had attempted to offer some sort of unusual, confused peace proposal to persons unknown. (He died in prison in Germany long after WWII while serving a life sentence as a war criminal.)

British forces liberated Ethiopia from the Italians, and again it became an independent country.

By the end of the year, the Japanese had captured the Gilbert Islands, Guam, Hong Kong, Wake Island, and the cities of Rangoon in Burma and Manila in the Philippines.

Ho Chi Minh pressed together various groups of anti-Japanese nationalists and formed the League for the Independence of Vietnam, better known by its abbreviation Vietminh.

John Cairncross of Trinity College at Cambridge University, who had been recruited as a spy along with Kim Philby, Guy Burgess, Donald Maclean, and Anthony Blunt in the mid-1930s, secretly passed detailed reports from Britain's Scientific Advisory Committee about the building of the Anglo-American atom bomb to the Soviets.

Grand Coulee Dam, the world's largest concrete structure, was completed on the Columbia River in Washington State to provide irrigation water and hydroelectric power.

The first airplane powered by a jet engine designed by Frank Whittle was successfully tested in Britain.

Orson Welles, a major creative figure in the entertainment business, directed and starred, with Joseph Cotton, in Citizen Kane, a story of unlimited ambition based on the life of William Randolph Hearst (1863+1951), which many people rate as one of the very best films, if not the very best American film ever made.

John Huston (1906+1987) directed and Humphrey Bogart (1899+1957), Sidney Greenstreet, and Mary Astor starred in The Maltese Falcon, one of the finest American detective movies.

Isoroku Yamamoto (1884+1943), Japanese admiral: "I fear we have [at Pearl Harbor] only awakened a sleeping giant, and his reaction will be terrible." FDR: "We look forward to a world
founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression - everywhere in the world. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way - everywhere in the world. The third is freedom from want . . . everywhere in the world. The fourth is freedom from fear . . . anywhere in the world." "A date [7 December 1941] that shall live in infamy." "I give to the people of the Philippines my solemn pledge [on 28 December] that their freedom will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. The entire resources, in men and materiel, of the United States stand behind that pledge." Churchill: "You [Hitler] do your worst, and we will do our best." Telex from the German High Command to the 718th Infantry Division of the Wehrmacht in Serbia: "Henceforth one hundred prisoners or hostages are to be shot for every soldier killed [by the guerrillas] and fifty for every one wounded. Every regional garrison to arrest as many communists, nationalists, democrats and Jews as possible without endangering combat capability thereby." Harry S. Truman, US senator: "If we see that Germany is winning, we ought to help Russia, and if we see Russia is winning, we ought to help Germany, and that way let them kill as many as possible."

1941 June+August 1942: The Germans were militarily triumphant everywhere except for Britain's offensive in November 1941 in Cyrenaica in North Africa and the Soviet winter offensive of December 1941.

1941 November+May 1943: Moscow was under attack by the Germans. Russian casualties were about 500,000.

1941+1944: Leningrad was under siege (from September 1941 to January of 1944) for about a 1000 days. Over one million Russians were killed or died of sickness or starvation during the defense of the city, most of which was leveled in the process.

The Germans sent some 7,000,000 workers from the USSR to Germany as virtual slaves.

The Germans caused some three to four million prisoners of war to die of exposure in open enclosures.

The population of the Ukraine dropped by some 9,000,000 persons.

Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Spain, and Romania all sent troops of various quality and numbers to fight against the Russians.

Bulgaria occupied Macedonia that had been united with Yugoslavia since 1918.

Serbia was governed most of the time by German and Serbian quislings.

1941+1945: Some 100,000,000 men and women were mobilized to defend and save the USSR.

In the USSR there were some 15 million military deaths and 35 million civilian deaths including 20 million Soviet citizens, 6 million Jews, and 4.5 million Poles.

About 75 percent of all the German military casualties during WWII occurred on the Russian Front.

Some 15 million men and women served in the USA's armed forces during this time.

The Allies dumped some 1.35 million tons of high explosives on various parts of Germany.

American Lend-Lease aid to the USSR amounted to about 7 percent of total Soviet military production. The USA sent about $2.8 billion of non-military aid to the USSR during WWII.

Parts or all of Burma, Cambodia, Guam, Korea, Laos, Micronesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, and China (including Taiwan) were occupied by the Japanese.

Some one million Canadian volunteers served during WWII at home and overseas. (Only about 13,000 conscripts were sent overseas.) The Canadian army, which eventually numbered some 700,000 soldiers, distinguished itself in the defense of Hong Kong (1941), Dieppe (1942), Sicily (1943), Rome-Normandy-Antwerp (1944), and the liberation of the Netherlands. The Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force served in nearly all of the theaters all over the world.

There were hundreds of brave anti-Japanese guerrilla groups operating in the Philippines all on their own with a minimum of outside help or encouragement.
The government of Finland, led by Marshal Carl Gustav Mannerheim (1867–1951) cooperated with and assisted the Germans as they attacked the USSR around Leningrad.

Some 20,000 Japanese in British Columbia were interned.

Ninety percent of all American military equipment and supplies and more than 97 percent of troops in the USA moved by railroad.

Membership in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) increased from 50,000 to 450,000 in the USA.

Two of the most decorated and celebrated infantry units in the US Army, the 100 Infantry Battalion and the 42nd Regimental Combat Team, who fought in seven major campaigns in Italy, were composed mainly of Japanese-Americans from Hawaii.

San Diego, California, a center of military and manufacturing activity during WWII, saw an increase in population of 147 percent.

1941+1957: General Georgi Zhukov was the most successful and powerful military figure in the USSR, next to Stalin and maybe a few other members of the inner circle of communist party commissars.

1941+1961: Canada's population increased from 11.5 to 18.2 million people.

1941+1969: Ho Chi Minh/Nguyen That Tan was the successful communist leader of Vietnamese military-political forces, in turn, against the Japanese, the French, the non-communist South Vietnamese, and the Americans.

1941+1990: The quixotic Norodom Sihanouk was the dominant political leader for most of this period in Cambodia first as prince/king, then prime minister, and, finally, as head of state in Cambodia and in exile.

1941+1980: Tito/Josip Broz was the successful and patriotic leader of the partisans and the National Liberation Army during WWII and then the leader of Yugoslavia. He was a pragmatic communist and pursued an independent foreign policy of "positive neutrality." He led a united Yugoslavia out of the USSR's sphere of control soon after WWII.

1942: On 1 January, 26 governments at war with the Axis nations, the Allies, signed the Washington Pact and pledged to uphold the principles contained in the Atlantic Charter and the Declaration of the United Nations, which among other policies, bound them not to make separate peace agreements with the Axis powers.

On 2 January, Japanese troops occupied Manila, and General MacArthur withdrew most of his forces, both Filipinos and Americans, to the nearby Bataan peninsula.

Japan captured Kuala Lumpur in Malaya/Malaysia on 11 January.

The Germans in the USSR aimed to attack along the southern steppes, gain control of the best farming lands of the Ukraine, and capture the oil fields and refineries at Baku on the western shore of the Caspian Sea in Azerbaijan. By the time the snow started to fall, they were on the Volga at Stalingrad/Volgograd.

The first American troops arrived in Britain in late January.

From January to July, about 400 ships, mainly merchant types, were lost in American waters in the North Atlantic. Most were the victims of German submarine "wolf packs."

The Japanese were attacked by American land and sea forces (marines and navy) in the Marshall and Gilbert Islands of Oceania on 1 February.

Rangoon, Burma, and Singapore were captured by the Japanese in February. Japanese General Tomoyuki Yamashita (1885–1946), the "Tiger of Malaya," with only some 60,000 troops captured Singapore and its 130,000 defenders. This was a severe loss to the Allies, especially the British and Australians.

The Japanese bombed Port Darwin, Australia, the same month.

Gandhi, Subhas Bose, and other Indian leaders were arrested by the British. Subhas Bose escaped.

The USA and Japan waged the Battle of the Java Sea the end of February.
During January and February, the British captured some 130,000 German and Italian prisoners in Libya.

Batavia, Indonesia, fell to the Japanese, and the Dutch surrendered the oil-rich Dutch East Indies/Indonesia on 9 March.

The Japanese landed troops in the Solomon Islands in March.

The Statute of Westminster Adoption Act officially granted Australia complete autonomy in both internal and external affairs.

The Japanese blocked the Burma Road to China.

MacArthur left the Philippines for Australia. General Edward P. King surrendered about 78,000 Filipino and American troops on the Bataan peninsula, near Manila in the Philippines, on 9 April after they suffered cruelly from shortages of food and supplies, sickness, and fierce fighting. General Jonathan Wainwright (1883+1953) surrendered the fortress island of Corregidor and the few remaining American positions on Bataan, which guarded the entrance to Manila Bay, to the Japanese on 6 May, and American resistance ended in the Philippines. In the resulting "Death March" from Bataan to San Fernando, Pampanga, and the concentration camps of central Luzon, some 60,000 Filipinos and 12,000 American soldiers were cruelly killed by execution, starvation, sickness, neglect, and torture.

On 18 April, in a bold move led by Colonel James H. Doolittle, Tokyo was surprise-bombed by 16 American B-25 bombers from the US carrier *Hornet*.

The Japanese bombed British targets on the island of Ceylon and carried the war into the Indian Ocean in April.

The British surrendered at Mandalay, on 1 May, and the Japanese held most of Burma.

At this time, mid-May, the Japanese controlled an empire that covered an area from Burma thru Indonesia/the Dutch Indies, the Philippines, Micronesia, including Guam, the Marshall Islands, to Wake Island, the Marshall Islands, and finally the Gilbert Islands/Kiribati in the Central Pacific, not far from Hawaii, in western Micronesia.

The Americans occupied Fiji and New Caledonia in Oceania.

During the Battle of Coral Sea on 6 to 8 May, each side lost one aircraft carrier. Much of the battle was fought between ships that were out of sight of one another. It was the first time a naval battle was fought only with airplanes. The Japanese were foiled in their efforts to convoy their troops to Port Moresby on the southern coast of New Guinea. This partially ended Japan's southward thrust toward Australia.

On 31 May, the Allies launched their first 1000-bomber raid on Germany. Cologne was their target.

At the Battle of Midway a few weeks later in June, the USA lost the carrier *Yorktown*. The Japanese lost four of their best carriers, 275 planes, and about 5000 sailors and marines. These engagements stopped Japanese advances westward. Only some six months after Pearl Harbor, the Japanese were pushed back on their heels. They never won a major battle in the Pacific after Midway.

The Japanese attacked the Aleutian Islands in Alaska. Japan occupied the island of Nauru in the South Pacific.

By the middle of the year, German troops had gained control of the Caucasus Mountains in the USSR and were not far from Alexandria in Egypt.

By July the Allies were bombing the Ruhr industrial region and Hamburg regularly.

Sebastopol in the Crimea on the Black Sea was captured by the Germans in July.

Stalin and Churchill met in Moscow for the first time during August.

Mainly Canadians launched a costly, experimental, ill-fated cross-channel raid from England on Dieppe, France, in August, which failed. The Germans, however, had been alarmed.

The USA's First Marine Division landed in the southwestern Pacific on the island of Guadalcanal in the Solomons during August. Six
months later only the victorious Americans and a few Japanese stragglers were left. In the process, US forces had 5800 battle casualties and another 12,000 suffered from various tropical diseases.

Field Marshall Erwin Rommel captured Tobruk, Libya, and recaptured Benghazi in June, but the Germans were defeated by General Bernard Montgomery’s 8th Army at El Alamein in northwestern Egypt on the Mediterranean in October. Egypt was finally secure against the Germans and Italians.

The Japanese continued their conquest of French Indochina during September.

On 8 November, Anglo-American invasion forces of Operation Torch, led by American general Dwight D. Eisenhower, landed in Morocco and Algeria. The pro-Vichy French navy sank part of its own fleet at Toulon the end of November.

By November, British and American bombers regularly hit industrial targets, Berlin, and other German targets.

More than a million Jews were driven out of Germany, Austria, Bohemia, Slovakia, and other places under German control into ghettos and concentration camps in Poland. The government of Germany started to implement the "Final Solution," which mainly meant the removal and destruction of Jews, Gypsies, suspected homosexuals, anarchists, communists, and anyone else they wanted to get rid of.

The Germans occupied parts of southern France and Tunisia.

During the summer, Josip Broz, now commonly called Tito, and his partisans controlled an area between the German and Italian occupation zones in northwestern Bosnia. Supposedly by fall the partisan forces controlled an area in Yugoslavia the size of Switzerland.

The Japanese captured Portuguese Timor.

President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 that interned some 120,000 Japanese-Americans on the West Coast. Some 100,000 Americans of Japanese descent/Nisei were forced by the US government to move from the West Coast to "war relocation camps" in various parts of the interior, like Colorado and Utah.

The British arrested some 60,000 Congress supporters during the year in India.

The first shipment of Canadian wheat arrived in Greece to feed the civilian population in the Allied-controlled areas of the country.

The Ford-Werke AG, the American Ford Motor Co.'s German subsidiary, which may or may not have passed under Nazi control in 1940, had manufactured some 15 percent to 20 percent of the German army's total of 650,000 motor vehicles. Henry Ford, the founder of all the Ford companies, had been a well-known anti-Semite since 1920. Hitler had a life-sized portrait of Ford in his office during the 1930s, and Ford was one of the few Americans the German leader admired.

Wendell Lewis Willkie (1892+1944), a progressive Republican who ran for president against FDR in 1940, published One World, an attack against isolationist thinking, which was especially prevalent within his own party.

Wernher von Braun and his team in Germany tested the first V-2 rocket. It traveled 200 km/125 miles at a speed of 5300 km/3300 miles per hour.

Enrico Fermi, an Italian-American nuclear physicist and Nobel prize winner (1938), helped invent the nuclear reactor. Fermi, who had suggested using neutrons to split atoms in 1934, and his associates at the University of Chicago constructed the world’s first uranium pile, got it to reach "a critical mass," and produced the first controlled, self-sustaining nuclear reaction for 28 minutes. This was the first step in making a working atomic bomb, which was accomplished within the next 32 months by the brilliant scientists, engineers, and technicians of the Manhattan Project, some of whom were foreign-born and a few of whom were Soviet spies.

The Germans successfully experimented with and tested an early version of the Messerschmitt 262 jet-powered fighter. Willy Messerschmitt, a German aircraft designer, was the man behind the plane.

Construction started on the Alcan (Alaska-Canadian) Highway that started and ended at
Dawson Creek, British Columbia, and Fairbanks, Alaska. It is 2450 km/1523 miles long, and took 18,000 workers about eight and a half months to complete, which was a remarkable feat.

Michael Curtiz directed and Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman starred in a great movie about love, conflicting loyalties, heroism, and the politics of WWII in North Africa, *Casablanca*.

Premier and dictator Hideki Tojo, in early January, to the Imperial Diet: "Japan will gladly grant the Philippines its independence so long as it cooperates and recognizes Japan's program of establishing a Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere." Douglas MacArthur, American general, on leaving the Philippines in March: "I shall return." Mahatma Gandhi as part of his "Quit India" satyagraha campaign: "I am convinced that the time has come for the British and the Indians to be reconciled to complete separation from each other." Christopher Dawson (1889-1970), English historian: "As soon as men decide that all means are permitted to fight an evil, then their good becomes indistinguishable from the evil that they set out to destroy." Eleanor Roosevelt, America's foremost first lady: "I think if the people of this country can be reached with the truth, their judgment will be in favor of the many, as against the privileged few."

1942/3: The winter Battle of Stalingrad was started in mid-September by the Germans who captured the city with some 300,000 troops who quickly were trapped by units of the Soviet/Red Army. At the end only 132,000 Germans of the 6th Army were left to surrender. (Of that number only a few thousand survived to return to Germany at the end of the war.) In total some 1,000,000 warriors - some of them replacements, reinforcements, and civilians - lost their lives at Stalingrad, some of them in hand-to-hand combat, which made it the largest and most destructive single battle in world history. After Stalingrad, the German high command started to plan for a defensive "Fortress Europe" strategy.

There was a famine in the Henan region of China during which some five million people starved. Inflation in China during this time was over 230 percent per year.

Most of the surviving, defeated Italian volunteers who Mussolini had sent to help the Germans in the USSR against the Russians died as they attempted to walk home during the winter.

1942+1945: The fascist Ustase government in Croatia operated a "death factory" at Jasenovac that killed some 700,000 enemies of the state, mainly Serbs.

Sukarno, Mohammed Hatta, and other prewar nationalists were recruited by the Japanese to form a puppet government for Indonesia.

Of the some 300,000 Indonesians who were taken by the Japanese to work in labor battalions about half never returned home.

William J. Donovan (1883-1959) served as the first director of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the USA's first proper intelligence organization, which worked exceptionally well during WWII. Some observers after the war, like President Eisenhower, called Donovan America's "last hero."

Japan occupied parts of Papua New Guinea.

George Patton, a leader in tank warfare, was one of the most outstanding American fighting generals in North Africa and Europe.

The effective Malayan Peoples' Anti-Japanese Army was created mainly by the Chinese-dominated Malayan Communist Party.

The Japanese occupied all of Guam, Tinian, and Saipan and most of the important parts of the Philippines and Micronesia in Oceania.

Some 13,000 people worked at the Basic Magnesium Complex in the new town of Henderson, Nevada, on the outskirts of the town of Las Vegas. They mined and smelted lightweight magnesium ingots for aircraft, tracer bullets, and incendiary bombs that were mainly manufactured in factories in southern California with electricity generated at the nearby Boulder/Hoover Dam.

1942+1954: During February and March, Casto Alejandrino, Eusebio Aquino, Felipa Culala, Mateo del Castillo, Lino Dizon, Mariano Franco, Juan Feleo, Jose de Leon, Bernardo Poblete, Farnecio Sampang, Luis Taruc, and others organized in the Philippines the *Hukbo ng Bayan*
Laban sa Hapon / People's Anti-Japanese Army, better known as the Hukbalahap or Huks. Their motto was "Anti-Japanese Above All." This guerrilla group was especially strong in the provinces of Pampanga, Tarlak, and Nueva Ecija on the island of Luzon. After WWII, the Huks became radical land reformers and opponents of the agrarian tenancy system. (Since that time, and perhaps yet again, various reform and bandit groups have called themselves, and have been called, Huks.)

1942-1951: Libya was divided between the French and British.

1943: Early in the year the Germans had about 150 divisions operating against the USSR. They had about four divisions in North Africa.

The Red Army went on the offensive during the spring for the first time since they had invaded Poland and Finland in 1939. This was the start of five great campaigns that ended in Berlin.

There were effective anti-German and anti-Italian resistance/guerrilla/partisan/underground groups operating in Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Holland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Russia, and Yugoslavia. They operated with and without cooperation and material help from the Allies, especially the intelligent services of the British and Americans.

Roosevelt, Churchill, and their Combined Chiefs of Staff discussed Allied strategy at the Casablanca Conference in Morocco during January. Roosevelt was a very good historian and geographer. He knew about Grant and the Civil War. On his own initiative FDR announced the only surrendered terms acceptable to the Allied nations were "unconditional surrender."

Some 275,000 German and Italian troops surrendered in Tunisia during mid-May. This was the end of the Afrika Korps and the Axis efforts to conquer Egypt and North Africa.

Mussolini was removed from office on 25 July by General Pietro Badoglio and others who worried about their own and the future of their country. The Fascist Party was dissolved on 27 July. The Italian government surrendered on 3 September as the British and Americans invaded Salerno (8 September) and the Italian mainland where they were opposed by German troops who had occupied the northern and central parts of the country.

The Canadian-United States Joint War Aid committee was established. Among other places, Canadian troops bravely fought in Sicily, the Italian mainland, and Attu, Alaska.

The Allied code-breakers/cryptanalysts, using crude computers, were regularly reading some of Germany's secret electronic military mail, like messages to and from submarines.

Shots were fired between Jews in the Warsaw ghetto and Nazi patrols in January. During mid-April, the Germans decided to crush the Jews. The desperate defenders of the ghetto held-out on their own for five weeks. It has been estimated that some 7000 Jews were killed during the bombardment and burning of their homes and places of work. The survivors were sent to extermination camps.

The government of Portugal signed a secret accord with the Allies that allowed them to use an air base in the Azores.

Japanese resistance ended on Guadalcanal in the Bismarck Archipelago on 8 February.

During the Battle of the Bismark Sea, off the coast of New Guinea, during March the Japanese navy lost important transport ships, 13 merchant ships, 7 destroyers, and 15,000 lives to American skip-bombing techniques and excellent leadership.

Italian workers went on strike against the government in many places in northern Italy during March.

Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, who had planned and led the attack on Pearl Harbor and opposed Japan's entry into WWII, was killed at Bougainville in the Solomon Islands when his plane was hunted and shot down by an American pilot in mid-April who had been forewarned by his own intelligence sources and was looking for him.

The Germans started to occupy northern Italy.

The British sent their special operations expert Orde Charles Wingate with an expedition of
Chindits, specially trained jungle-fighters, to Burma.

Early in the year, the Germans had four divisions in Yugoslavia. Later in the year, as the Germans feared an Allied landing along the Dalmatian coast, they augmented their forces.

The USSR broke relations with the Polish government-in-exile in London during April and prepared to take-over Poland. The USSR denounced the Polish leaders in London for accusing them [the USSR] of killing thousands of Poles, many of them officers and intellectuals, and then burying them in Katyn forest during 1939. The Soviets carefully maintained, quite falsely we now know, that the Nazis had committed this enormous crime.

About half of the total number of soldiers in the Free French army were Africans from Equatorial Africa and French West Africa.

During May the Allies bombed Hamburg where a resultant firestorm killed some 43,000 people.

The Allies landed in New Guinea in June.

The Germans retreated from the Caucasus.

The British and Americans were well on their way to establishing air superiority over Germany.

The Russians recovered Kursk in July after a great tank battle on the open steppe. They took- back Rostov soon after.

Some 250,000 British and American troops invaded Sicily on 10 July. Messina was captured by the Allies in August. Some 40,000 German troops escaped to the mainland.

President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill, and Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King met at the Quebec Conference in August where, among other things, they set-up the Southeast Asia Command under Louis Mountbatten (1900+1979).

Mussolini was rescued by daring German special forces-paratroopers on 12 September. The Germans continued to control northern Italy. Mussolini's popularity was lower than it had been in twenty years.

The new Italian government declared war on Germany on 13 October, but, of course, they were not in condition to do very much else.

The Red Army crossed at the Dnieper River, entered Smolensk and then Kiev in November.

During the Cairo Conference in late November, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, the president of the Chinese Republic and commander-in-chief of the Chinese army, discussed strategy in the Far East. This was the first time since the Mongols that a Chinese leader had been treated outside of Asia as a great leader. It was agreed that Korea would regain its independence, that Japan would be excluded from controlling any islands in Oceania/the Pacific, and that the war would continue against Japan until that nation had surrendered unconditionally. The US and Britain dropped their claims to extra-territorial rights in China.

China's population was about 400 million.

About 75 percent of the Chinese were illiterate and miserably poor according to many estimates.

Subhas Chandra Bose (1895+1945), the author of The Indian Struggle (1935), the former president of the All-India Congress (1938/9), became the commander of the Japanese-backed Indian National Army. The core of this army came from the 60,000 Indian troops who had been surrendered to the Japanese by their British officers at Singapore during February 1942.

During October of this year, Bose declared the existence of the Provisional Government of Azad/"Free" India in which he held all the important positions from president on down. His government declared war on Britain and the United States.

US troops landed on Bougainville in the Solomon Islands the first of November. This was preparation for an attack on the town of Rabaul, at the eastern end of the island of New Britain in the Bismarck Archipelago.

By the end of the November, US troops captured Tarawa and Makin islands in the Gilberts after some of the most fanatical and bloody fighting of the war.
During the Teheran Conference in late November and early December, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin - the "Big Three" Allied leaders - reached agreement on a variety of war plans related to the coordinated attack on the heartland of Germany and Russian entry into the war against Japan. Among other agreements, they decided to establish a 3-power inter-allied European Advisory Commission (EAC) in London to draft a surrender document for the German's to sign and to study occupation zones and the dismemberment of Germany. The three leaders also moved Poland's western boundary to the Oder River. The USSR was to have the northern part of East Prussia.

Madame Chiang Kai-shek made a widely reported goodwill tour of the USA.

During the Cairo Conference 4+6 December, Roosevelt and Churchill named Dwight Eisenhower as the Allied commander for the secret cross-channel invasion of Germany.

During the Second Cairo Conference, as some called it, Roosevelt, Churchill, and President Ismet Inonu of Turkey discussed the Near East situation.

In December the Americans began to attack Japanese positions in the Marshall Islands of Micronesia.

During the Battle of the Atlantic, German U-boats were regularly defeated by Allied convoys.

The Allies bombed Germany "round-the-clock."

In a public relations exercise, Jose P. Laurel, the best known of the Japanese collaborators, was "elected" president of the Japanese-occupied Philippines in September. The leaders of the legitimate government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, headed by Manuel Quezon, were in exile in the USA in Washington, DC.

Alan Turing and his British associates built Colossus, an all-electronic calculator and used it, among other tasks, to break more of the German's communication codes.

FDR issued orders that barred all war contractors from practicing racial discrimination.

The "big inch" pipeline carried oil from Texas to Pennsylvania, some 1254 miles.

By the end of this year, Los Angeles, California, was, next to Detroit, Michigan, America's second largest industrial city.

Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin in a joint statement: "Let those who have hitherto not imbued their hands with innocent blood beware lest they join the ranks of the guilty, for most assuredly the three Allied Powers will pursue them to the uttermost ends of the earth and will deliver them to their accusers in order that justice may be done." Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906+1945), German Lutheran theologian to is follow prisoners in a Nazi prison: "In me there is darkness, but with you there is light." Winston Churchill in a speech at Harvard University: "The empires of the future are the empires of the mind." Simone Weil (1909+1943), French writer: "Existence precedes and rules essence." "I am condemned to be free." "Nothing is so exhilarating as to be shot without result." Alfred North Whitehead (1861+1947), English philosopher and mathematician: "No period of history has ever been great or ever can be that does not act on some sort of high, idealistic motives, and idealism in our time has been shoved aside, and we are paying the penalty for it." Jean-Paul Sartre (1905+1980), French existentialist philosopher: "Nothingness haunts being." "Human life begins on the far side of despair." Lord Mountbatten, the new Supreme Allied Commander in South-East Asia to his troops: "Right, now I understand people think you're the Forgotten Army on the Forgotten Front. I've come here to tell you you're wrong. You're not the Forgotten Army on the Forgotten Front. No, make no mistake about it. Nobody's ever heard of you."


Omar Nelson Bradley (1893+1981) successfully commanded the 2nd US Corps in Tunisia and Sicily where they forced the surrender of some 250,000 Axis troops. (During 1944/45, Bradley commanded the 12th Army Group, which with some 1.3 million troops was the largest American army ever, assembled.)

1943+1946: Averell Harriman (1891+1986) was the USA's ambassador to the USSR.
1943+1947: Field Marshal Viscount Archibald Wavell (1883+1950) was the British viceroy of India.


1943+1968: The Liberals were the only effective national political party in Canada. The Social Credit Party was the most popular political party in Alberta and (in 1952) British Columbia. The Cooperative Commonwealth Federation was the dominant party in Saskatchewan from 1944 to 1961. The Union Nationale was the majority party in Quebec from 1944 until 1959.

1943+1985: Andrei Gromyko (1909+1989) was one of the entrenched masterminds of the USSR's failed post-WWII foreign policies.

1944: Allied troops gained beachheads in January at Anzio and Nettuno in southeastern Italy as the result of amphibious landings.

The Allied invasion of continental Europe took place on 6 June, D-day, along the coast of Normandy and the Cherbourg peninsula in northern France under the command of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. British, American, Canadian, and Polish troops hit the beaches. It was the largest amphibious attack in history: over 2000 warships, 4000 landing craft, 11,000 planes, and 156,000 troops, of which 73,000 were Americans from the 1st Army. Over 1000 men drowned during the landings on Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword beaches. During that one-day on the beaches of Normandy, about 5000 Allied soldiers were killed or wounded. The 82nd and 101st American Airborne Divisions parachuted behind German lines. One million Allied troops were involved by 20 June. It took the Allies three weeks to capture Cherbourg, the main port in the area. This was part of Operation Overlord, the Allied invasion of fortress Europe, which was possibly the most complicated military invasion in history.

During the first two weeks of Overlord, 140,000 Allied troops became casualties; the Germans had 90,000 casualties and 60,000 of them became prisoners. The Allies during this same 14 days landed one million men, 556,000 tons of supplies, and 170,000 vehicles. The beachhead they controlled was 60 miles long and 7.5 miles wide, more or less.

The Canadian 1st Army landed at Normandy on D-day and bravely pushed forward to the Dutch border by the end of the year.

The Red Armies recaptured Byelorussia by early July.

Rome was finally taken by the US 5th Army on 4 June. The Allies suffered about 21,000 casualties in the process.

During the period 15 June to 8 July, American Army and Marine forces under the command of Admiral Chester Nimitz (1885+1966) fought and won against fanatical Japanese resistance on the island of Saipan in the Marianas, north of Guam. The high losses included native Chamorros, as on Guam, who were killed in the crossfire. Hundreds of Japanese, including some civilians, committed suicide at a place on Saipan called "banzai leap" rather than be captured.

The air battle against the fleet of Vice Admiral Ozawa Jisaburo on 18-19 June was called by the Americans the "Great Marianas Turkey Shoot": about 400 Japanese planes never returned to their carriers, four of which were sunk, along with two submarines. American losses were only 17 planes.

Bloody landings by Americans took place on Guam the largest and southernmost of the Marianas Islands in mid-July. That island and Tinian were "secured" by 10 August. Japanese losses (including some Okinawans and Koreans) numbered some 18,377 dead on Guam. Very few Japanese surrendered. The Americans counted 1769 of their own dead on Guam, almost all of them Marines. (The total number of American Chamorros who died on Guam during WWII came to some 578 persons.)

On 18 July, General Hideki Tojo and his cabinet resigned; he was replaced as prime minister by General Kuniaki Koiso. General Tomoyuki Yamashita was made the new commander of the Japanese 14th Area Army that was still holding the Philippines.

The same month, the Americans inflicted heavy naval and air losses on the Japanese in the Battle of the Philippine Sea.
By late July, General Omar Bradley’s First Army and General George Patton’s Third Army were racing towards Paris.

At about the same time, the Americans, with their new bases in the Marianas, staged their first B29 raids on Japan.

By August the Germans had been driven out of the USSR.

During the first days of the year thru February, American forces attacked the Marshall Islands, landed on Eniwetok atoll, captured Kwajalein Island, and attacked the main Japanese naval and air base along the great lagoon in the Truk/Chuuk Islands in the Caroline Islands.

Also in late February and the first of March, the Japanese lost the Battle of the Java Sea and their hold on the East Indies.

Subhas Bose’s Indian National Army, starting from Rangoon, marched into Indian territory during the first months of this year with Japanese assistance. Their advance was stopped at Imphal, not far west of the Burma border. That was nearly the end of the Indian National Army’s threat to India and the Allied cause.

Some 4000 American bombers tried to destroy German aircraft plants in late February.

Some estimates are that the partisans in Bosnia and Croatia kept some 13 Axis divisions occupied, or at least on the watch.

Some one million American troops were training in southern England for the invasion of Germany early in the year, including some 16,000 American paratroopers.

By March, after the Americans and their Australian-New Zealand allies took the Admiralty Islands, Rabaul was left in a helpless situation and some 100,000 Japanese troops were surrounded.

In order to hold the line against Red Army advances, the Germans were forced to occupy parts of Hungary in March.

In April the Russians entered Romania.

British and Belgian cities were bombed by Vergeltung/"revenge" rockets, V1s, pilotless missiles/buzz bombs that had been developed at the Peenemunde test site on the Baltic Sea.

The British and Americans had air superiority in western Europe.

The Japanese launched a major campaign against the best units of the Nationalists’ 3.8 million-men army in China during April. Part of their strategy was to keep the Americans from using airfields in China. They also intended to open a land route from Hanoi to China. The performance of the Nationalist forces was poor according to American General Joseph W. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell (1883+1946) and other foreign observers and experts who were there.

The Chinese communists claimed to control most of China north of the Yellow river and parts of central China.

The Japanese formed, trained, and equipped the Pembela Tanah Defenders of the Fatherland, known as Peta, on Java that became the core of the future Indonesian national army.

In May the Russians regained Sevastopol and the Crimea.

Many German civilians suffered from food shortages.

Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg, on 20 July, botched an attempt to blow-up Hitler at his headquarters in East Prussia at the so-called Wolf’s Lair in eastern Prussia. Stauffenberg and about 200 of his fellow conspirators were quickly rounded-up and executed before the end of the year. General Erwin Rommel, one of Germany’s very best generals, killed himself rather than be tortured and executed for taking part in the plot.

The Red Army of the USSR was officially renamed the Soviet Army.

Iceland declared its independence from Denmark that was still occupied by the Germans.

The last transports took prisoners to the extermination camp at Auschwitz/Oswiecim in southern Poland west of Krakow the end of July. The gassing of prisoners, which had started in January 1942, stopped in October.

The Polish Home Army/Armia Krajowa prematurely staged a desperate, some say suicidal, attempt in Warsaw, starting 1 August to liberate the city from the Germans before the Soviet Army arrived. They only had seven days
worth of ammunition for 20,000 armed insurgents. The last members of the Home Army did not surrender to the Germans until 2 October. The total Polish body count in Warsaw has been put at 250,000. Some estimate 310,000. All but about 10 percent of the city was destroyed. The few survivors of the Warsaw Uprising were sent to extermination camps. This was the Warsaw Uprising during which the Soviet Army regrouped on the banks of the Vistula - some said watched for the slaughter to end.

During mid-August, parts of the US 7th Army and a Free French force landed on the Mediterranean coast and started towards Paris thru the Rhone Valley. The maquis/guerillas and the Free French started an uprising in Paris on 19 August. General Charles DeGaulle led a Free French division into Paris, which the Germans had evacuated a few hours earlier, on 25 August. The Germans in France were done.

The Soviet Army advanced into the Balkans.

On 23 August the fascist government of King Michael and General Ion Antonescu in Romania attempted to surrender to the Allies. The next day, Romania was simultaneously attacked by German and Soviet forces. There was a coup against Antonescu (which led to his execution), the armistice was signed in September, and King Michael declared war on Germany.

The Germans withdrew from Athens and Greece during September. The guerillas of the Popular Front (EAM) and the communist ELAS/"the Mountain" controlled about 80% of the country. The Communist Party (KKE) was especially well organized in Athens. Greece at this time had a population of about seven million persons. It has been estimated that there were about two million members of the Popular Front. EDES, which had the support of the British, was the only guerilla group loyal to King George II; its main support was in Epirus, a province in northwestern Greece.

The Germans intensified their efforts to control parts of Hungary in an effort to keep that country from surrendering to the Allies.

During August the German fascists implemented "Operation Thunderstorm" and arrested some 5000 influential Germans, including Konrad Adenauer (1876+1967) and Kurt Schumacher (1895+1952), who were thought, quite rightly, to be supportive of the Allies, and put them in concentration camps.

The Allies captured Florence, Italy.

V2 rockets, launched by the Germans from Holland, landed on London. There were many casualties from flying glass.

The important port city of Antwerp, Belgium, was taken by the Allies on 4 September.

Bulgaria, one of the Axis Powers, surrendered to the Soviets on 9 September.

Brussels was freed by the Allies in early September. Most of Belgium and France were cleared of German troops by mid-September. Aachen, Charlemagne's capital, was the first place in Germany to be liberated.

When the Russians seized Lublin, they handpicked the members of the Polish Committee of National Liberation (some of whom had lived in Moscow during the war).

The Mufti of Jerusalem, who obviously was not well informed about the course of the war, tried and failed to convince important Germans in Berlin to finance an Arab-Islamic army to defeat the British and Jews in Palestine.

The Finns surrendered to the Soviets on the 19th of September.

The USSR expelled the last of the Germans and again occupied Lithuania.

During September, 10,000 brave and bold British and Polish paratroopers launched an attack on the Netherlands; some 6000 of them were captured.

The same month Mountbatten led an Allied counter-offensive in Burma.

Tito and his partisans entered Belgrade victoriously in October.

As reported by Churchill, he met with Stalin in Moscow during October, and Churchill drew-up a "percentages agreement" (of which no original or copy has been yet been found) that split Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Romania, and Yugoslavia into spheres of influence between the Soviets and the Allies (British and Americans). Only in Greece were the Western powers to have predominant power. Hungary and Yugoslavia
were supposed to be 50/50, half communist/authoritarian and half capitalist/democratic. Romania and Bulgaria were supposed to be 90 percent and 75 percent, respectively, under Soviet control. Roosevelt had not been consulted about this "agreement," which never had any official or legal standing.

**Douglas MacArthur and his American Army and Marine forces started their liberation of the Philippines on 20 October on the island of Leyte.** MacArthur's Central Philippine Attack Force consisted of four army divisions and 650 ships.

During a series of encounters later known as the Battle of Leyte Gulf on 25 October in the Philippines, called by some the largest naval battle in history, the Japanese fleet was severely damaged and defeated by an American force of 200 ships. Despite Kamikaze/"divine wind" suicide attacks on the Americans, the Japanese lost four carriers, three battleships, ten cruisers, and nine destroyers. The Americans lost three carriers and three destroyers. During the American landings, the Japanese had 70,000 casualties and prisoners taken.

During November, the US started systematically bombing mainland Japan.

During December, the Americans landed 68,000 troops on the beaches of the Lingayen Gulf to retake Manila and the surrounding area on the Island of Luzon. Some 50,000 Japanese veterans fought on in Luzon, mainly in the mountains of the north, until the end of the war.

The Germans still managed to defend Budapest against the Soviet Army during December.

Ho Chi Minh became the president of the new, self-proclaimed Republic of Vietnam.

Chechens and Ingushes were deported en masse by the Soviets supposedly for collaborating with the Germans in the Caucasus region.

During the first 22 days of July, at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference established the International Bank for Reconstruction and the International Monetary Fund.

From 21 August to 7 October, representatives of the USA, Britain, and the USSR met at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC, to discuss plans for a new international organization.

The American Congress in September passed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, better known as the GI (Government Issue) Bill of Rights which provided veterans with educational grants and low-interest loans for homes as well as some other important peacetime benefits.

FDR in October sent a message to the American Zionist convention in which he approved "...the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth."

Jewish extremists assassinated the British Minister of State in the Middle East, Lord Moyne, in November in Cairo, Egypt, for opposing more Jewish immigration to Palestine, among other alleged failings.

American synthetic rubber plants produced some 800,000 tons of the stuff during the year, which was about 87 percent of the nation's needs.

About 14 percent of the workers in shipbuilding and 40 percent of all workers in aircraft plants in the USA were women.

Vannevar Bush's Office of Scientific Research and Development in the USA designed and tested improved bazookas, blood plasma, fuses, radar, sonar, and many other products.

The American pharmaceutical industry mass-produced penicillin, originally discovered by Dr. Alexander Fleming in 1928, in quantities large enough to treat all of the Allied wounded in the D-Day invasion of Normandy.

Dr. Oswald Avery (1877+1955), a Canadian-born American bacteriologist who worked at the Rockefeller Institute Hospital in New York City (1913+1948), discovered that the deoxyribonucleic acid, or DNA, of cells' nuclei carried genetic messages. He was close to finding the central concept of molecular biology.

Benjamin Minge Duggar (1872+1956) and his team, after examining numerous soil samples for antibacteria, discovered Aureomycin, the first of the tetracyclines.
A quartz-crystal clock replaced a pendulum clock at the Greenwich Royal Observatory in England and was ten times more accurate.

Margarine was made from sunflower oil as a substitute for butter.

George Orwell wrote *Animal Farm* a long-time best-selling anti-authoritarian, anti-communist satire.

Part of Dwight D. "Ike" Eisenhower’s order to his troops on D Day, 6 June: "The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you." William Henry Beveridge (1879-1963), British economist: "The object of government in peace and in war is not the glory of rulers or of races, but the happiness of the common man." Raymond Chandler (1888-1959), American writer of detective stories: "Down these mean streets a man must go who is not himself mean, who is neither tarnished nor afraid."

1944/5: During the Battle of the Bulge, December-January, the Germans successfully drove a 50-mile wide wedge into the Allied lines in the Belgian and Luxembourg area and headed toward the Meuse River and Antwerp. Their advance surprised the Allies. The Germans, behind the leadership of Field Marshal Karl Rudolph von Rundstedt (1875-1953), started their desperate offensive action with 1000 tanks and 250,000 troops, but only 150,000 of them saw the end of the German’s last major attack of WWII. By the end of January, the Allied forces had suffered some 77,000 casualties. The Germans were stopped at the town of Bastogne in southeastern Belgium on the Ardennes plateau.

Finland accepted and settled some 400,000 refugees from Karelia who did not want to live in the USSR.

1944+1949: There was a civil war in Greece among various groups of communists, liberals, republicans, and monarchists.

1944+1985: Enver Hoxha, a communist, was the dictator of Albania.

1944+1989: Many Lithuanians resisted and demonstrated against the Soviet communist government as often as they could.

1944+1991: Moldova-Bessarabia was annexed by the USSR from Romania and made into a Soviet Socialist Republic.

1944+now: The life of the Australian Liberal Party.

Bucovina/Bukovina, formerly a part of Romania, and before that part of Austria, was made part of the Ukraine.

1945: At the start of the year, Soviet troops drove into Poland, Austria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.

The Americans, under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, started their attack on Manila on 9 January. They reached Manila on 4 February, but it took three weeks to liberate the city, which was nearly destroyed in the fighting because the Japanese insanely refused to surrender, and had no concern about the loss of innocent civilian lives.

Zhukov’s Soviet Army, about 400 miles to the east of Berlin, started its final campaign on 12 January.

The Soviet Army finally entered Warsaw on 17 January.

The first of February the USSR moved their puppet Polish Committee of National Liberation, a provisional non-elected government, in Poland from Lublin to Warsaw and secretly made them a permanent government before elections were held.

The British RAF and the US Army Air Corps bombed Dresden, Germany, on 13/14 February. Estimates of deaths, mainly civilians, from the resulting “fire storm” ranged from 50,000 to much higher.

The Yalta Conference, with Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt, and their large staffs in attendance, was held on the Crimea Peninsula in the Ukraine on the northern shore of the Black Sea between 4 and 12 February. The Big Three confirmed other decisions made during the war - such as the creation of the United Nations, the doctrine of unconditional surrender, and the occupation zones for Germany/Berlin and Austria/Vienna - which, at British and American insistence, they modified so that the French would also have occupation zones in both Germany and Austria. Extremely important, it was agreed by Stalin that Poland and by
common understanding Czechoslovakia and Hungary also would definitely have democratically elected governments following the war as pledged in the Declaration of Liberated Europe.

During February and March, the Battle of Iwo Jima was waged by US Marines and Japanese troops lodged in some 1500 fortifications. Iwo Jima - a tiny eight-square-mile volcanic island - was secured on 16 March. The American flag was planted on the top of Mr. Suribachi after 35 days of fierce fighting. Some 6821 American and 18,200 Japanese warriors were killed.

Leaving from their bases in the Mariana Islands, some 325 American B-29 Superfortresses, organized and led by General Curtis LeMay, dropped napalm oil-gel sticks on the cramped wooden houses in Tokyo during the night of 9 March and burned about 25 percent of the buildings in city. Some 80,000 to 124,000 persons died.

Cologne on the Rhine River was captured on 6 March. American troops liberated some 2297 foreign slave workers, minus those who had already escaped, from the Ford-Werke AG auto-truck manufacturing plant there.

The Americans crossed the Rhine River at Remagen on 7 March only a few days before the railroad bridge collapsed.

The Allies controlled a wavering line from Holland to Switzerland.

The Germans withdrew from Budapest, Hungary.

American forces invaded the island of Mindanao on 10 March in the Philippines.

The Japanese during March set-up Bao Dai as the emperor of Annam, Norodom Sihanouk as the king of Cambodia, and Sisavang Vong as the king of Laos.

During March and April, the US 9th and 1st Armored Divisions encircled more than 325,000 Germans who became prisoners after the Battle of the Ruhr Valley, the center of industrial Germany.

The corrupt, anti-Semitic, pro-Axis military junta in Argentina that had been in power since 1943 finally, at nearly the last minute in what was clearly a self-serving move, declared war on the Axis, but did nothing else.

The USSR installed a government of their own choosing in Romania.

The first of April, the US Army landed on Okinawa in the Ryukyu Islands, south of the Japanese home island of Kyushu, in one of the most costly attacks of the war. Some 355 desperate kamikaze "divine wind" airplanes sank six American ships.

President Roosevelt died on 12 April while writing a message at his desk at Warm Springs, Georgia.

On 13 April the Russians entered Vienna.

On the 16th of April, Marshal Zhukov started the Soviet Army’s last offensive against Berlin, which lasted about three weeks, with massive rocket and artillery barrages.

Representatives from 50 nations at war with the Germans and Japanese met in San Francisco, California, and signed the charter of the United Nations organization. The five permanent members of the Security Council, each with a veto, were Britain, China, France, Russia, and the USA. The remaining six of the 11 members of the security council were elected for two-year terms.

American and Soviet armies faced each other on 25 April along the Elbe River near Torgau, German, in the middle of Europe.

Two days later, American soldiers discovered the Nazi’s extermination-genocide camp at Dachau, near Munich, with 39 boxcars full of corpses. At Auschwitz/Oswiecim, near Krakow in Poland, there had been four gas chambers that could hold 24,000 victims at a time.

Mussolini, after the liberation of Milan, attempted to escape from Como to Austria, but he was recognized by partisans. The dead bodies of Mussolini and his last mistress were hanged upside down by Italian partisans in a public place in Milan on 28 April.

Hitler killed himself and Eva Braun in Berlin, or had themselves killed, on 30 April or thereabouts. Russian soldiers were probably only a few yards away.

The Red Army controlled Berlin by 2 May.

The Japanese surrendered at Rangoon, Burma, on 3 May.
On 7 May the Germans surrendered at Rheims, France, to General Eisenhower. The next day the Germans signed an official Allied surrender instrument in Berlin before Russian, British, French, and American commanders. President Truman and the Allies proclaimed 8 May as V-E (Victory Europe) Day.

On 7 May some 100,000 to 200,000 Croatian fascists attempted to escape into Austria. Most of them were captured by British and partisan troops at Bleiburg. Many of them were killed by the people, or the relatives of people, they had tormented during the war.

On 9 May the Russians liberated Prague.

The Canadian 1st Army was the northernmost flank of the Allied line in Germany.

The French, British, Americans, and Soviets assumed control over Germany on 5 June. It was the complete end of the Nazi regime that they replaced with their own Allied Control Council.

Okinawa, the most important of the Ryukyu islands, was captured by about 500,000 Americans on 21 June after almost three months of awful and unnecessary fighting. More than 160,000 Japanese, including about 42,000 Okinawan civilians, and 7,500 Americans died before the Japanese military commanders, nearly all of them from mainland Japan and not Okinawa, surrendered.

The Allies captured Borneo in June.

Australia re-occupied Nauru.

The USA, aided by many Filipino guerrilla groups, officially liberated the Philippines 5 July. Some 12,000 Americans died during the 10-month campaign in the Philippines; no one knows how many Filipinos died.

Canada had shared with the USA and Britain in the secret development of the atom bomb. On 16 July, the $2 billion dollar top-secret Manhattan Project was proven successful when the first atomic bomb, nicknamed 'Jumbo,' was tested near Los Alamos, New Mexico, at the Trinity/White Sands Test site on the Alamogordo Air Base. J. Oppenheimer, E. Fermi, O. Frisch, N. Bohr, R. Peieris, and thousands of other scientists, technicians, engineers, and other members of the Manhattan Project, civilians and military, invented and built the bomb.

Truman, Churchill, and Stalin met, very near Berlin, at the Potsdam Conference to discuss postwar matters from 17 July to 2 August. Alsace-Lorraine was given back to France. The Sudetenland went back to Czechoslovakia. They provisionally fixed Germany's western border at the Oder and Neisse rivers. Germans were expelled from territory east of those rivers and from Czechoslovakia and Hungary, where they were already in flight.

On 26 July, after the Labour Party won the general election, Clement Attlee became the Prime Minister of Britain and replaced Churchill at the Potsdam conference. The same day the Japanese were clearly warned by the Allied leaders of their complete destruction unless they surrendered.

President Truman, still at Potsdam, on 25 July ordered that the atomic bomb be dropped on Japan if their government, after being repeatedly warned, did not surrender by 3 August.

On 30 July, the USS Indianapolis was torpedoed by the Japanese and sunk in the Indian Ocean after having carried the essential makings of the atomic bomb to the island of Tinian in the Marianas. Most of the 1996 crewmen and officers were drowned or killed by sharks; only 316 survived.

The first nuclear bomb, nicknamed/code-named "Little Boy," was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, from the Enola Gay, an American B-29 Stratofortress bomber that was named after the pilot's mother, on 6 August. It had started its mission from North Field on the island of Tinian in the Marianas. The Japanese government made no appropriate response. The US dropped another atomic bomb called "Fat Man" on Nagasaki three days later. Both were heavily militarized cities.

On 8 August, the USSR declared war on Japan. The leaders of Japan agreed to an armistice belatedly on 14 August. On 2 September the Japanese officially surrendered aboard the US Battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay after having killed many of their own people who need not and deserved not to have died long after the time to surrender had passed.

Korea was divided along the 38th parallel into North and South by the Russian and American
commanders on the spot during August. Thereafter the Soviets occupied the northern half, and the US controlled the south.

On 17 August, two days after the Japanese surrendered, Achmad Sukarno and Mohammed Hatta, who had been the leaders of the Investigating Committee for the Preparation of Indonesian Independence for several months, declared their country to be independent of the Netherlands.

On 2 September, Ho Chi Minh and his followers in the Vietnamese League for Independence/Viet Minh declared the existence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) with its capital in Hanoi. The French, with some help from the British, attempted to restore their authority below the 16th parallel.

About 75 percent of the Japanese merchant navy had been sunk.

The Italian colonies of Libya and Somalia in Africa were placed under United Nations' mandates.

The official figures for WWII losses are ghastly guesses: Possibly as many as 60 million lives were lost during the war worldwide. About 20 million Russians, civilian and military, died. (Out of the 5.7 million Russian prisoners of war in Germany, about 3.7 million died.) About 7.8 Chinese died. About 6 million Poles died. The Germans lost about three times more lives, some 5.5 million (3.5 million of them military), than in WWI. Marshal Tito put Yugoslav loses at 1.7 million. Military losses in Asia are roughly calculated at 2.2 million Chinese and 1.2 million Japanese. Some put Russian losses at 8.7 million military and 10 million civilian deaths with 25 million left homeless. The total losses of life may have been something like 55 million persons on and off the battlefields. (Some estimates are that there were 70 million combatants in the war with 17 million military and 18 civilian dead.)

Official estimates put the cost in lives of Japan's war efforts in Asia and the Pacific at more than 60,000 Westerners, more than 3.1 Japanese (including civilians), and almost 20 million Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Southeast Asians. WWII caused some 14 million people in Europe to become refugees and displaced persons. Of this number some two million died on the road to somewhere. This was one of the largest migrations in world history.

Probably some 5.2 to 6 million Jews died during the war (the estimate made by the Allied officials during the Nuremberg Tribunal was 5.85 million): about 3 million (90 percent of the Jewish population) in Poland; about 900,000 (28 percent of the Jewish population) in the USSR (some put the figure at 2 million Russian Jews who died); about 310,000 (about half of the Jewish population) in Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia; about 300,000 (75 percent of the Jewish population) in Hungary; about 270,000 (34 percent of the Jewish population) in Romania; about 130,000 (56 percent of the Jewish population) in Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg; about 70,000 (22 percent of the Jewish population) of France and Italy; about 60,000 (80 percent of the Jewish population) in Yugoslavia; and about 60,000 (81 percent of the Jewish population) in Greece. Approximately 12,000 out of 14,000 Jews in Bosnia were killed during the war, mainly by the fascists. (If there is an accountant out there who is clever enough to calculate the true cost of ignorance and hatred, please step forward now. We need your figures.)

Syria and Lebanon became separated from France and became independent nations.

Some 50,000 Jews in Salonika in northern Greece were transported by the Germans to Croatia where they were executed.

The great exception in the Balkans was Bulgaria where there were more Jews at the end of the war than at the start.

Some 4.2 million foreign workers in Germany, from all over Europe, were set free.

Some 700,000 survivors of concentration camps were released.

American losses during WWII were about 406,000 killed - 292,000 in combat - and another 700,000 wounded. The brave British suffered nearly the same number of deaths for all service members, civilians, and merchant sailors.

More that 40,000 Canadians were killed during the war.
The Australians had some 34,000-battle casualties during this war.

The US Navy, with a payroll of some 3.38 million persons, operated and maintained some 1,100 combat ships out of 91,209 vessels.

During the course of the war, German V1 and V2 rockets destroyed 29,400 houses in London and damaged another 250,000 other buildings.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a prominent German Lutheran theologian and opponent of fascism who had been imprisoned since 1943, was senselessly executed by the Nazis near the end of the war. Two of his better-known books are *Act and Being* (1931) and *Letters and Papers from Prison* (1953).

Henri Petain, the chief German collaborator in France during the war, was found guilty of treason on 15 August but was given mercy (probably for his service to France during WWI and his advanced age) and later had his death sentence reduced to life. The less distinguished Pierre Laval (1883-1945), another French collaborator with the Germans, was executed on 15 October.

President Harry Truman outlined what he wanted from Congress in terms of domestic legislation: a higher minimum wage, more unemployment insurance, a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission, more slum clearance and low-rent public housing, more river valley and flood control development projects like TVA, and a public-works program.

The All-India Congress in September asked Britain to leave India and grant that country independence.

Vidkun Quisling, the German's puppet prime minister of Norway during the war, was tried and executed on 24 October in Oslo.

The International War Crimes Tribunal started to meet in Nuremberg, Germany, on 20 November. US Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson (1892-1954) was one of the chief Allied prosecutors.

The Chinese civil war was underway.

The US Congress passed the Communist Control Act.

Members of the Jewish population of Palestine started armed opposition to continued British rule in Palestine. President Truman in mid-August pressured the British to admit 100,000 Jewish refugees into Palestine.

Tito founded the Yugoslav Federal Republic with communism as their political and economic philosophy.

Women were given the vote in France.

Some one hundred German rocket scientists, including Wernher von Braun, quickly volunteered to go to the USA after being captured by Allied forces at the end of WWII rather than be treated as war criminals or suffer some other undesirable fate. The USSR converted some 4000 German rocket experts, engineers, and technicians to their own cause in their own ways.

Manufacturing activity in the state of Texas had nearly doubled since the start of WWII.

The White Sands proving ground for rocket research was built in New Mexico.

John von Neumann (1903-1957), a computer architect working at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton, New Jersey, wrote a report about the Electronic Discrete Variable Computer (EDVAC) that was a new approach, as all of them were, to designing computers.

Sergi Eisenstein completed his powerful film *Ivan the Terrible*, Part I, which many people thought was really about Stalin.

FDR, shortly before his death: "More than an end to war, we want an end to the beginnings of all wars." *Emperor Hirohito*, Emperor of Japan on 15 August: "The war situation has developed not necessarily to Japan's advantage." *Joseph Stalin*: "This war is not as in the past: whoever occupies a territory also imposes on it his own social system. Everyone imposes his own system as far as his army has power to do so. It cannot be otherwise." *Winston Churchill*: "In Franklin Roosevelt there died the greatest American friend we have ever known and the greatest champion of freedom who has ever brought help and comfort from the New World to the Old." Churchill to Truman: "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an iron curtain has descended across the Continent." *George*
Patton, US General: "Dear Ike. Today I spat in the Seine." Robert H. Jackson, American jurist to the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg: "That four great nations, flushed with victory and stung with injury, stay the hands of vengeance and voluntarily submit their captive enemies to the judgment of the law, is one of the most significant tributes that Power has ever paid to Reason." Martin Niemöller (1892+1984), German pastor: "In Germany, the Nazis came for the Communists and I didn't speak up because I was not a Communist. Then they came for the Jews and I didn't speak up because I was not a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak up because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics and I was a Protestant so I didn't speak up. Then they came for me. . . By that time there was no one to speak up for anyone." Harry S. Truman: "In a war unparalleled in magnitude and horror, millions of Americans gave their country outstanding service. General of the Army George C. Marshall gave it victory."

George Orwell/ Eric Blair, British writer: "Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it, and wiser than the one that comes after it." "War is evil, but it is often the lesser evil." Boris M. Shaposhnikov (1882+1945), marshal of the USSR: "In the final analysis, victory is gained or defeat is suffered, not by armies, but by peoples as a whole." Karl Popper (1902+1994), Austrian-born philosopher: "There is no history of mankind, there are only many histories of all kinds of aspects of human life. And one of these is the history of political power. This is elevated into the history of the world." James Agate (1877+1947), British writer and critic: "A professional is a man who can do his job when he doesn't feel like it. An amateur is a man who can't do his job when he does feel like it."

1945/6: Some 5025 war criminals were tried in the British, French, and American zones of occupation in Germany. Of this number, 486 were executed. In the Soviet zone of occupation in Germany there were about 45,000 trials that nearly always led to convictions and executions. In other European countries, about 60,000 war criminals were found guilty and punished appropriately.

Hitler's henchmen were tried for war crimes by the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal, which was filled with distinguished lawyers and judges mainly from the UK, USA, USSR, and France. The defendants' names were Martin Bormann, Hermann Goering, Rudolf Hess, Joachim von Ribbentrop, Ernst Kaltenbrunner, Alfred Rosenberg, Hans Frank, Wilhelm Frick, Fritz Sauckel, Julius Steicher, Wilhelm Keitel, Alfred Jodl, Arthur Seyss-Inquart, Walther Funk, Erich Raeder, Albert Speer, Baldur von Schirach, Constantine von Neurath, Karl Doenitz, Hjalmar Schacht, Franz von Papen, and Hans Fritzsche. Schacht, the former Reichsbank president who was involved in the 1944 attempt to kill Hitler, was acquitted as were von Papen and Fritzsche. Rudolph Hess got a sentence of life imprisonment. The excuses of "only loyally following my orders," "just doing my duty," and blaming one's superiors were not allowed as proper defense arguments or exonerations. The great traditions of individual initiative and responsibility were upheld as the guilty were hanged one-by-one at Nuremberg on 16 October 1946. Goering committed suicide by taking poison the night before.

There were four major political parties in Japan: the Liberals, Democrats, Socialists, and Communists.

Canada came out of WWII with the world's fourth largest air force and the world's third largest navy.

Hermann Goering: "The victor will always be the judge and the vanquished the accused."

1945+1947: Most of the German politicians appointed and elected to government positions during this time were pre-Nazi former officials of the Weimar Republic. The German Social Democratic Party (SPD), the Free Democratic Party (FDP), the German Democratic Party (DDP), and the German People's Party (DVP) - all anti-Nazi organizations - reconstituted themselves. The Christian Democratic Union (CDU) was a new party. Kurt Schumacher (1895+1952) led the SPD, and Konrad Adenauer (1876+1967) led the CDU.

1945+1948: Refugees/immigrants from Shanghai started the textile industry in Hong Kong.
Senator Arthur Vanderberg (1884-1951), formerly an isolationist, became a modern, post-WWII Republican and supported the Roosevelt-Hull-Truman policies of active collective security for the USA in the post-war world as gradually did nearly all other members of his party.

1945+1949: Some call it the Indonesian Revolution. The Dutch waged a colonial war in an attempt to keep control of Indonesia. The Indonesians declared their independence in August 1945; the Dutch recognized the independence of Indonesia in December 1949.

The USA gave some $2 billion in aid to Jiang Jieshi/Chiang Kai-shek and the Nationalists in China.

About five million Americans used GI loans to buy houses.

About eight million Americans used their GI Bill grants (amounting in total to some $14.5 million) to attend colleges and universities.

1945+1951: American troops occupied the most important parts of Japan. The Japanese nobility, army, and navy were abolished. The upper house of the Diet became an elected body. The emperor no longer claimed to be a divine person and no longer had even nominal political-military duties. More than before, he was a true figurehead. Local governments were made more democratic and were given more powers and functions. Women became voters for the first time.

The Labour Party in Britain governed with Clement Attlee as the prime minister. They nationalized some industries, expanded social welfare programs, and established the comprehensive National Health Service for all citizens.

1945+1952: The Allied occupation of Germany by France, Britain, the USA, and the USSR.

1945+1953: President Truman detailed the Fair Deal. Some of the domestic legislation that passed an uncooperative Congress were higher minimum wages, broader social security benefits, and more public housing.

1945+1955: The Republic of Austria was occupied by the same "big four" Allied powers that occupied Germany.

Many immigrants to Canada were Dutch, Germans, Greeks, Italians, Poles, and Portuguese.

With better tools, machines, and manufacturing techniques, the productivity of American workers increased 35 percent.

American direct investments in Canada increased 300 percent.

1945+1957: America consumer credit increased 800 percent.

1945+1960: Following WWII, only Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, and South Africa were sovereign African states. There were more than 30 sovereign African states by 1960.

Very few Canadians, whether they were English- or French-speaking (there was much traditional/historical opposition to conscription in French-speaking Canada), voiced opposition to Canada’s involvement in the United Nations, NATO, the Cold War, the Korean War, or rearmament.

Of the billions of dollars in loans and grants in foreign aid that the USA spent, about two percent of the total went to all of Latin America which was less than went to the Philippines alone.

The USA’s population increased some 30 percent, i.e. about 40 million people.

The average time it took to make an automobile in the USA decreased from 310 hours to 150.

The number of shopping centers in the USA increased from eight to 3840.

1945+1962: Passenger-car registrations in Canada increased 400 percent.

1945+1963: Konrad Adenauer was one of the all-time outstanding German, European, and world politicians who helped make the post-WWII era better, safer, more prosperous, and the alliance of the democratic-capitalist countries stronger and more unified.

1945+1967: Achmed Sukarno was the erratic president of Indonesia until he was removed from office by General Thojib Suharto/Soeharto and his followers.
1945+1970: The average life span of Americans increased from 66 to 71 years.

Enrollments in American colleges and universities increased about 400 percent.

1945+1991: The Cold War was waged between the Western/NATO Powers and the USSR and the People's Republic of China and their satellites. A few historians reckon the exact dates to be from 2 September 1945 until 26 December 1991.

Some historians are recently regarding the Cold War as World War III. This makes perfectly good sense.

1945+1990: Tito, originally a Croat, created a multinational federation of six republics, dominated by Serbia, out of his wartime partisan movement, and called it the Federated People's Republic of Yugoslavia. It functioned quite well until foolish nationalists and narrow ethnic rivalries destroyed Slav unity and cooperation without concern for the consequences. (The total cost, from the smallest foible to grave bobbles caused by ignorance, is too much for us to comprehend.)

1945+1991: Romania, like other countries in Eastern Europe, was ruled by a communist government.

1945+2000: The United Nations has acted as an association of nations working for world peace and economic cooperation. It has its headquarters in New York City. The USA, Russia, the UK, France, and China form the core of the United Nations' Security Council plus there are ten other members elected by a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly (composed of all other independent nations) for two-year terms. Each of the permanent members has a veto that can prevent decisions and action.

The Arab League/League of Arab States was formed in Cairo, Egypt, in March 1945 to establish a "United Islam" in the Middle East (Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan, Yemen), plus an unofficial representative of the Palestinian Arabs, and North Africa for the purposes of improving Arab solidarity and opposing the creation of Israel. Later these nations were joined by Libya (1953), Morocco and Tunisia (1958). Over the years, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Kuwait, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, the Palestinian Liberation Organization (in 1976), Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, and the United Arab Emirates also became members.

The World Council of Churches was formed to bring various, diverse Christian churches together. It has members from more than 100 countries and 300 different churches. Its headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.

The provinces of Schleswig/Slesvig and Holstein, south of Jylland/Jutland, became part of what became the German Federal Republic (GDR).

1946: There were some nine million displaced persons in Germany who had been made slave laborers during WWII.

There were an estimated nine million ex-Nazis in Germany.

Before and after this time, some nine million Germans were expelled from Poland and Czechoslovakia.

About two to three million Poles were encouraged to emigrate from the USSR to within the new boundaries of Poland.

The USSR had gained some 272,500 square miles of territory from its neighbors and had added some 25 million people to its population during the WWII era.

Between the end of WWII and 1946, the Soviets occupied Manchuria and captured some 600,000 members of Japan's Kwantung army who were then sent to Siberia. The Soviets also occupied all of the Kurile Islands plus four Japanese islands, which were historically part of Hokkaido. These four were renamed the "Lesser Kuriles." The Sea of Okhotsk was now, some said, "a Soviet lake."

The Nationalists and communists agreed to a ceasefire in January. The Nationalists controlled China's industrial base and the nation's most important cities. Their army was supposedly twice as large as the communists' People's Liberation Army plus they had a small navy and air force.

The British Empire was about 125 times larger in terms of territory than Britain.
The Dutch Empire was about 55 times larger in terms of territory than Holland.

The French Empire was about 19 times larger in terms of territory than France.

The Belgian Empire was about 78 times larger in terms of territory than Belgium.

Before and after this time, some 57,000 pro-German collaborators were executed, imprisoned, or otherwise punished in Belgium. In France, some 10,000 pro-German collaborators were killed. No one knows how many thousands of fascists were killed by various partisans. The Austrians executed 35 war criminals.

During July-October, the Allied Council of Foreign Ministers held a Peace Conference in Paris to deal with the defeated states of Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Finland, and Romania. Italy was stripped of all of its African colonies. They were all forced to pay the USSR indemnities. The Danube River was made an international waterway.

The Philippines gained independence from the USA on 4 July and became a republic.

The Canadians found huge deposits of petroleum, gas and oil, at the Woodbend oilfield in Alberta.

Italians rejected their discredited monarch Victor Emmanuel III, who had supported Mussolini from the start to the end, and decided to become a shaky republic in June. The vote was 12 million against to 10 million for keeping the monarchy. This resulted in the formation of what some called the First Italian Republic.

Mohammed Ali Jinnah (1876–1948), the leader of India’s Muslims and since 1940 an advocate of a separate state for Muslims, denounced British-Indian efforts to block a final separation. During mid-August the leaders of the All-India Muslim League declared a Direct Action Day. Many thousands of people were killed, wounded, and left homeless in Calcutta where Direct Action was called the “Great Killing.” Similar religious violence happened in Dacca, Bombay, Lahore, and many other places. This domestic warfare continued in various parts of India for many months and always featured conflict between Hindus and Muslims. A peaceful solution to India’s religious intolerances seemed remote.

Bulgaria ended its monarchy and became a communist republic.

The French evacuated Syria and Lebanon.

Jordan/Transjordan became independent of the British.

During December, the French bombarded Haiphong, the harbor of Hanoi. Some people have called this the start of the First Indochina War. The Vietminh had about one million supporters in the north including many of the hill peoples.

Walter Ulbricht (1893–1973), the boss of the German Communist Party (KPD) in the Soviet occupation zone, forced the Social Democrats (SPD) to merge with the KPD even though a recent voted showed 82 percent of the SPD members opposed such a move.

The USSR was slow to withdraw a significant number of their troops, who had been there for several years, from northern Iran.

The Irgun gang bombed the British military headquarters in the King David Hotel in Jerusalem in retaliation for the arrest by the British of thousands of Israeli militants. The British decided to send thousands of illegal immigrants caught in Palestine to holding camps in Cyprus.

After considerable tension and negotiating, British and Soviet troops withdrew from Iran.

The Tokyo war crimes trials started in June.

China had some 555 million people, India 311 million, the USSR 194 million, Japan 73 million, West Germany 48, Britain 46, Brazil 45, France 40, Korea 24, Mexico 22, Spain 21, and East Germany 18. Some 650,000 Jews and 1.05 million Arabs lived in Palestine.

The German population east of the Elbe River had been reduced to 2.6 million from 17 million before WWII.

When the Western Allies recommended that the four zones of occupation in Germany be economically integrated, the Soviets refused.
Japan adopted a "peace constitution," mostly written by members of General MacArthur's staff, which, among many other reforms, made Japan a constitutional monarchy.

The USA did nuclear testing on Bikini atoll in the Marshall Islands and on Johnston Island in Oceania and established the Atomic Energy Commission.

Canada, Britain, and the USA proposed to the United Nations' Atomic Energy Commission that an International Atomic Development Authority be created that would control all atomic energy and bombs. The USSR rejected the proposal.

Nearly half of the workers in Italy had agriculture-related jobs.

There were numerous labor-management-owner conflicts in the USA over wages, pensions, and other issues especially in the coal, railroad, and steel industries. The Truman administration was caught between workers' and their unions' demands for more money and the public's fears of inflation that would hurt the national economy. Many Americans felt Truman stood up against "Big Labor" and "Big Business" for the nation's good during a time of national emergency.

Britain did nuclear tests on Christmas Island in eastern Oceania.

A Royal Commission in Canada charged 13 men and women with spying for the Soviet embassy in an attempt to get atomic and radar secrets. Among those convicted was a member of the Canadian Parliament.

The Soviets organized and reorganized communist governments in Bulgaria, Romania, and Hungary.

Ho Chi Minh and his communist guerillas started to drive the French out of Indochina.

Coffee was the main product of El Salvador in Central America. It was widely believed that "fourteen families" owned or controlled 85 percent of the nation's agricultural land.

Civil war continued between rival guerilla groups in Greece, some of whom were supported by Greek royalists and the British and some of whom were communists indirectly supported by the governments of Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia.

Harry Truman appointed a group of distinguished Americans to the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

The Soviets completed building their first nuclear reactor near the end of the year.

The British started constructing a giant experimental radio telescope at Jodrell Bank under the supervision of the astronomer Alfred Charles Bernard Lovell (1913+?).

From their WWII highs, the USA's army and navy personnel had fallen to 2.9 million.

The American national debt stood at $258 billion.

For the first time since 1928, the Republicans won majorities in both the US House of Representatives and the Senate during the November elections.

In February, John W. Mauchly (1907+1980), an American physicist and inventor, and John P. Eckert (1919+?), an American engineer and inventor, demonstrated how their Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator (ENIAC), which weighed several tons and was eighty-feet long, worked before a distinguished group of scientists at the University of Pennsylvania's Moore Electrical Engineering School. ENIAC used some 500 miles of wire and 17,468 vacuum tubes. The electronic computer age continued onward.

William Levitt build a housing development on Long Island, Levittown, which was the start, some have claimed, of the modern American suburb/subdivision.

A huge tsunami hit the town of Hilo on the big island of Hawaii, and railroad tracks were wrapped around trees. More than 150 people were killed.

A daring two-piece bathing suit was created by Louis Reard in Paris only a few days after the atomic testing at Bikini Atoll.

Sergi Eisenstein completed Ivan the Terrible, Part II, but Stalin did not like it and had the film withdrawn from theaters all over the USSR.
The first mobile telephones and zoom lenses were made.

Miles Davis (1926+?), an American trumpeter, played bebop and progressive jazz with the Charlie "Bird" Parker (1920+1955) Quintet. They greatly influenced contemporary and future jazz musicians in many parts of the world.

Winston Churchill during a speech in Zurich in mid-September called for "...a kind of United States of Europe." Mao Tse-Tung: "The atom bomb is a paper tiger which the United States' reactionaries use to scare people." Ruth Benedict and Gene Willfish (1902+1980), anthropologists: "Aryans, Jews, Italians are not races. Aryans are people who speak Indo-European, Aryan languages. Jews are people who practice the Jewish religion." George Orwell: "But if thought corrupts language, language can also corrupt thought." Ho Chi Minh warned the French: "You can kill ten of my men for every one I kill of yours, but even at those odds, you will lose and I will win." Mahatma Gandhi/Mohandas Gandhi, Indian national leader: "Increase of material comforts, it may be generally laid down, does not in any way whatsoever conduce to moral growth." Editors of Fortune magazine in the USA: "This is a dream era, this is what everyone was waiting through the blackouts for. The Great American Boom is on." George Mikes: "In Britain everything is different ... when people say 'England,' they sometimes mean 'Great Britain,' sometimes 'the United Kingdom,' sometimes the 'British Isles' - but never just England."

1946/7: The Nationalists in China recovered some control over the major cities of north China and Manchuria.

The communists in those parts of China that they controlled ordered in May 1946 the seizure of land from landowners who had collaborated with the Japanese. During October 1947 they ordered the confiscation of all landlords' land for distribution to the entire population.

Between 22 May 1946 and 30 June 1947, the federal government operated American coalmines as the workers were out on strike.

Between August 1946 and December 1947 some 51,700 illegal immigrants to Palestine were sent to British holding camps, with barbed wire fences and armed guards, on the island of Cyprus.


1946+1954: The First Indochina War.

1946+1955: Juan Domingo Peron, much helped by his wife Evita/Maria Eva Duarte de Peron (1919+1952), who was a political force in her own way, was the elected president of Argentina. He had been the head of the Group of United Officers who had seized control of the government in 1943. Earlier he had been a military-diplomatic functionary in Italy where he had observed Benito Mussolini in action and had learned to admire him. The mass of his and his wife's supporters were los descamisados/"the shirtless ones" who commonly were urban workers, farm hands, and the unemployed. His government nationalized the British railways, the American Telephone Company, and a variety of airlines and shipping companies. The Argentinean economy under Peron declined severely as production fell-off, the public debt increased, and capital investments diminished. Corruption and the loss of civil rights increased. He closed La Prensa, one of the most respected newspapers in Latin America, and overtly suppressed his opponents in other ways in 1951. He was finally driven out of office during a putsch by his fellow military officers who had the approval of senior Catholic Church officials. Even with Peron gone, however, his style of politics and governing persisted, and he was admired by many would-be neo-caudillos in many places.

American automobile production increased from two million to eight million units.


1946+1957: Nationalist rioting in Accra and other towns along the Gold Coast persuaded some forward-thinking British leaders that African colonialism had an uncertain future. The Gold Coast in British West Africa became the first independent sub-Sahara African country as the Commonwealth State of Ghana (the
Republic of Ghana in 1960). The leader of their independence movement, which was the model for much of the rest of Africa, was Kwame Nkrumah (1909–1972). Ghana had a population of about five million people in the early 1950s.

1946+1958: The Fourth French Republic was characterized by many unstable coalition governments that lasted, on average, about six months each. The old French Empire was replaced with a new French Union composed of metropolitan France and its overseas departments and territories, plus associated states such as Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

The USA conducted more than 60 atomic tests on Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands of Micronesia.

1946+1960: The number of black-and-white television sets in the USA increased from 7000 to 50 million.

1946+1966: Per capita productivity in Argentina increased at less than half of one percent a year.

1946+1985: Albania was a communist dictatorship under the rule of Enver Hoxha.

1946+1961: Some 1.65 million East Germans fled to West Germany. That was about equal to the number of people living in East Berlin.

1946+1990: Some 800,000 Europeans immigrated to Venezuela.

1946+2000: The economies of Western European nations steadily and impressively grew with only minor recessions during 1951/2 (Korean War) and 1957/8.

One of the enduring features of life in Latin America, before and after these dates, as shown in numerous studies, is that the people who benefit most from the advantages of the societies they live in - the prosperous and the rich - pay very few taxes, unlike the masses.

1947: Prime Minister Attlee during February announced in the House of Commons that Britain would transfer its right to rule India into "responsible Indian hands" no later than June 1948. The Punjab, where some 56 percent of the 30 million people were Muslims, was the scene of rioting and many murders by Hindu, Sikh, and Muslim extremists. Pakistan and India divided themselves into two self-governing, separate nations. The British Parliament, realizing that the situation was rapidly slipping out of their control, declared in mid-July that in one month India would be divided into two nations, India and Pakistan. Since numerous "expert" studies had been done and re-done on this subject over many years, the lines were quickly, but not very well, drawn on various maps.

During the summer months, something like 10 million people moved from one side of the national lines to the other between Pakistan and India and India and Pakistan. About one million of them died or were slaughtered during the move. The boundary troops and police were obviously not up to their impossible jobs.

East Pakistan/Bangladesh formed the eastern province of Pakistan.

A Hindu maharaja, Hari Singh, joined Kashmir, located to the north of both India and West Pakistan, to India even though 75 percent of its four million people were Muslims. Kashmir guarded the headwaters of both the Punjab and Indus rivers. Almost immediately fighting broke out in and over Kashmir. (The United Nations negotiated a sometimes cease-fire that went into effect the first of January 1949.)

Mohammed Ali Jinnah became Pakistan's first governor-general. He had been a leading member of the Muslim League since 1916 and had advocated the partition of India into Muslim and Hindu states because religious toleration is rare and exceedingly difficult to attain. And, also, because Muslims would have constituted a permanent minority in an undivided India. India's and Pakistan's independence came after 132 years of British rule.

The British announced they would turn the Palestine "problem" over to the United Nations for resolution. There were about 630,000 Jews in Palestine at this time; they comprised about 35 percent of the total population. Jews generated about 54 percent of the real net domestic product (NDP) of the Jewish and Arab economies of Palestine.

UN experts from Canada, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, and Uruguay in early September recommended to the United Nations that Palestine be separated
into independent Arab and Jewish states with Jerusalem, the Holy City for three world religions, under international trusteeship. Those nations most noticeably in favor of the proposal were Australia, Canada, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Sweden, the USA, and the USSR. Those most opposed were the Arab states along with Cuba, Greece, and India. The UN general assembly in late November voted 33 to 13 to approve the partition, and immediately the Arabs began attacks on the Jews. The British were supposed to withdraw all their troops from Palestine by 1 August 1948.

The British and Americans economically unified their zones of occupation in Germany on 1 January. Some called it a "Bizone." (The French made it a Trizone in April 1949.) During June the Anglo-Americans formed a German Economic Council.

The multilateral General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) lowered tariffs among most industrialized nations.

The Canadian Citizenship Act defined the people of Canada, who in the past had been "British subjects," as "Canadians."

The US Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), a civilian agency, started work in January.

British officials notified the USA in February that they could no longer afford to support the anti-communist guerrillas in Greece. The British, as one would expect, were showing numerous signs of economic damage as the result of WWII and a growing self-awareness of their weakness in the post-war world.

The Truman Doctrine asserted on 12 March that the USA would "... support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures." The president asked for $400,000,000 to support Greece and Turkey. Congress approved the Greek-Turkish aid bill in May that clearly was intended to help those two governments from falling under communist control. Clearly from this time forward, the USA assumed the economic leadership of the non-communist and democratic nations of the world.

Truman, also in March, signed an executive order that called for the establishment of a loyalty-checking program for federal employees. (By 1951 some three million federal workers had been checked and cleared.)

The USA and the Republic of the Philippines signed a 99-year Military Bases Agreement that gave the US use of 16 military installations including the Subic Naval Station and control over the adjoining town of Olongapo.

New Zealand separated from Britain in the sense that it became a full member of the Commonwealth of Nations.

The USSR made Hungary into a satellite state on 30 May.

George Marshall, the new secretary of state, offered American relief funding for West European reconstruction during an especially memorable and significant commencement speech at Harvard University in early June. It quickly became known as the Marshall Plan, as planned, because President Truman was quite unpopular in the USA at this time with Republicans and many members of the conservative business community, even though Truman was at least a co-author. On 19 December, President Truman requested Congress to approve $17 billion in recovery aid for the first installment of a four-year European Economic Recovery Program.

The US Department of War became the Department of Defense. The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the National Security Council were formed under the National Security Act.

The President's Committee on Civil Rights in the USA published To Secure These Rights which called for the "... elimination of segregation based on race, color, creed, or national origin, from American life."

Jackie Robinson (1919-1972) became the first celebrity Black professional athlete after being hired by Branch Rickey (1881-1965), the owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers major league baseball team. They both successfully broke the color-barrier in professional sports.

The Taft-Hartley Act was passed by Congress over President Truman's veto on 23 June. It
somewhat restricted organized labor's powers over the economy and their own members.

George Kennan (1904+?), the head of the State Department's planning staff who earlier had served in the American embassy in Moscow, wrote a widely read and discussed article by "X" in the July issue of *Foreign Affairs* magazine that argued the best policy for the USA and its allies during the "cold war" was to promote the well-being of its friends and allies and to "contain" communist power within its limits as of the end of WWII.

US military personnel numbered 1.5 million.

Sugar rationing in America ended in June. In October President Truman asked the American people to observe meatless and eggless days to save grain in order to give food to the USA's hungry allies.

The parliament of Saskatchewan, where the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation party held a majority, passed Canada's first compulsory and universal hospital insurance program.

The Canadians completed two nuclear reactors at Chalk River.

The Canadians discovered large amounts of natural gas and oil southwest of Edmonton and in the years to come in several different places in the Prairie Provinces.

Admiral Hyman George Rickover (1900+1986) convinced the US Navy to start constructing atomic submarines.

Nauru in the South Pacific became a UN Trust Territory administered by Australia.

Puerto Ricans, for the first time, elected their own governor.

From July to September, 16 democratic nations met in Paris to discuss the details of the Marshall Plan. The USSR and their eastern European satellites made a fateful decision not to attend this crucial conference.

During October in Poland, delegates from communist parties in the USSR, Eastern Europe, France, and Italy organized the Communist Information Bureau. Some called it a new name for the old pre-WWII Comintern (Communist International, 1919+1943). Others called it an international communist propaganda agency directed by the Soviets.

The king of Romania, Michael, abdicated, according to him, or was pushed out of office, according to everyone else, at year's end after his country became another Soviet satellite.

The American Charles "Chuck" E. Yeager (1923+?) test piloted the first supersonic rocket plane, the Bell X-1, which broke the sound barrier.

The American Standard Association developed ASA ratings for camera film speeds.

Conrad Hilton started a hotel building boom in Puerto Rico when his corporation finished the San Juan Hilton.

Buckminster Fuller (1895+1983), American engineer and futurist, invented the geodesic dome that was only one of his many useful inventions and scientific-technological contributions.

The American manufacturer Goodyear started to make tubeless tires.

A "Hollywood Black List" of some 300 supposedly anti-American actors, directors, and writers was compiled by studio executives during a conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York. The "Hollywood Ten" refused to admit to the US House Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities (HUAC), the so-called Dies Committee, whether or not they were, or had been, communists. The US House of Representatives charged the "Hollywood Ten" with subversion and contempt of Congress. The film industry blacklisted the ten in November, and they had to find other work and use their talents elsewhere.

Cheryl Crawford, Elia Kazan, and Lee Strasberg, among others, founded the Actors Studio theater workshop in New York City that advanced Konstantin Stanislavsky's "method acting" techniques.

Tennessee Williams/Thomas Lanier (1911+1983) wrote the play *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Albert Camus (1913+1960), a powerful French existentialist writer, published his novel *The Plague*. 
Extending and improving research done in Germany during the 1920s, the American Edwin H. Land (1909+1991) invented a Polaroid camera and film that developed inside the camera in about a minute.

The Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl (1914+?) and his crew sailed the Kon-Tiki, a traditional balsawood raft, some 4300 nautical miles from Peru to the French Tuamotu Islands in southeastern Oceania. This demonstrated, Heyerdahl hoped, that South American Indians could have populated Polynesia in ancient times. This intriguing theory is still doubted by many professional anthropologists and historians.

For the first time, the World Series of American baseball was broadcast on TV (the NY Yankees beat the Brooklyn Dodgers in seven games).

The first American TV station west of the Mississippi started operations in Hollywood, California.

The gangster Bugsy Siegel from Los Angeles opened his glamorous Flamingo resort-casino on the Las Vegas Strip in Nevada.

Bernard Baruch (1870+1965), American presidential adviser, statesman, and financier to the members of a Senate committee in late October: "Let us not be deceived - we are today in the midst of a cold war which is getting warmer." Harry Truman on the "Truman Doctrine": "The seeds of totalitarian regimes are nurtured by misery and want. They spread and grow in the evil soil of poverty and strife. They reach their full growth when the hope of a people for a better life has died. We must keep that hope alive. The free people of the world look to us for support in maintaining their freedom." George C. Marshall, former top military organizer of the Allies during WWII and now US Secretary of State: "Our policy is directed not against country or doctrine, but against hunger, poverty, desperation, and chaos." "It is logical that the United States should do whatever it is able to do to assist in the return of normal economic health in the world, without which there can be no political stability and no assured peace." George F. Kennan: "It is clear that the main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of a long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies."

Winston Churchill: "A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."

Pearl S. Buck, American writer: "It may be that religion is dead, and if it is, we had better know it and set ourselves to try to discover other sources of moral strength before it is too late."

William James "Will" Durant (1885+1981), American philosopher and scholar: "Civilization begins with order, grows with liberty, and dies with chaos."

1947/8: The Indian sub-continent was partitioned amidst great, bloody turmoil. India and Pakistan became independent nations in August 1947. Some 600 princely states were allowed to join with either India or Pakistan or become independent according to the wishes of their rulers. About 6 million Muslims moved or were driven from the Punjab to the new state of Pakistan. About 4.5 million Sikhs and Hindus moved or were driven to the region between Amritsar and Delhi. About 1.6 Hindus moved or were driven from east Bengal/Bangladesh to India. Many Muslims from Calcutta and Bihar and other parts of India moved or were driven to east Bengal/Bangladesh.

1947+1950: The USA spent $659 million to fund the Greek-Turkish aid bill of 1947.

1947+1952: Congress approved $12.5 billion dollars to fund the Marshall Plan, which revitalized the economies of 16 democratic nations in Europe. The Marshall Plan was the largest and most costly reconstruction partnership in world history. Officially it was called the European Recovery Program. Its success was phenomenal.

1947+1953: The Free Territory of Trieste, at the head of the Adriatic Sea, was administered by the United Nations. Then the northern part was returned to the Republic of Italy while Yugoslavia kept the rest.

1947+1956: In Jordan near Jericho and at Qumran, at the northern end of the Dead Sea, a Bedouin boy discovered the first of several earthenware jars full of parchment scrolls. Of enormous interest to Jewish and Christian scholars were copies of very nearly all of the Old Testament. These scrolls were from the period -
150+68 and had been collected by a Jewish sect called Essenes.

**1947+1964:** Jawaharlal Nehru (1889+1964) was the first leader of an independent India. In many ways, he thought like a British Fabian socialist while believing in Soviet Five-Year Plans.

**1947+1967:** The USA sent some $3.5 billion in aid to Greece, about half of which was military in nature. Greece had a population of about eight million people.

**1947+1970:** Petroleum production in Alberta increased from ten percent of Canada's oil and gas needs to a hundred percent. Calgary and Edmonton became major cities. By the end of this period, people in Alberta had the highest average income in Canada.

**1947+1991:** Finland and the USSR had close trade relations.

**1947+1994:** The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI) was set-up by the United Nations - as one of 11 UN trusteeships - with the USA as the administering authority. The TTPI, better known as Micronesia, was composed of three archipelagos - the Carolines, Marshalls, and all their constituent islands, and the Marianas (excluding Guam) - which covered more than 2000 islands, islets, atolls, and reefs and some three million square miles of the Pacific northwest of the equator. The islands of Micronesia had been, until the end of WWII, occupied by Japan. It was called by one a "strategic trusteeship" because numerous atomic tests were carried out in the Marshalls during 1946+1963 and because the USA kept the area closed to outsiders and Cold War conflicts during this time.


**1947+2000:** The Thai military has from time-to-time ruled Thailand.

**1948:** The State of Israel, with Hebrew as its official language, became the Jewish national homeland on 14 May during a state of emergency. (The British mandate ended the very same day.) The respected biochemist Chaim Weizmann became the first president. David Ben-Gurion (1886+1973), the longtime leader of the Zionist settlers in Israel became the prime minister and minister of defense. Israel covered 80 percent of Palestine, as some defined it. Most of the remainder became part of Transjordan/Jordan. The Gaza Strip was occupied by Egypt.

President Truman immediately, within minutes, over the objections of some of his most important advisers, recognized the new nation of Israel, and thus the USA was the first nation to do so.

Belgium, Britain, France, Luxembourg, and Holland signed the Brussels Pact in mid-March. Its purpose was to advance their mutual economic and security cooperation and prosperity.

Mahatma Gandhi, 78, who had finally agreed to the division of India and Pakistan, was killed by a Hindu fanatic at the end of January.

Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the "Great Leader" of Pakistan, died the first of September.

Burma became an independent country completely free of Britain and the Commonwealth.

Ceylon/Sri Lanka became an independent nation within the Commonwealth.

During February, the last democratic nation in eastern Europe, Czechoslovakia, was completely taken-over by the USSR and placed behind the "Iron Curtain" with Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria.

On 20 March, the Soviet delegate stomped-out of the Allied Control Commission in Germany and never returned.

Over Truman's veto, an Income Tax Reduction Act was passed on 2 April by Congress.
The Arab League - Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria - sent their Arab armies, which included some mercenaries, out of Jordan against Jerusalem while Egyptian forces attacked Tel Aviv on 15 May. The Syrians attacked the Jordan Valley thru the Syrian/Golan Heights. All these efforts, after some four weeks of war, were repulsed by the Jewish underground army, the Haganah, and thousands of volunteers.

Some half a million Arab Palestinians left the State of Israel, while initially about 200,000 remained. Many refugees from Palestine went to southern Lebanon.

President Truman ordered the army to operate the railroads on 10 May to prevent a nationwide rail strike.

During June, the combined western zones of Germany, whose economic director was Ludwig Erhard (1891+1977), reformed its currency and introduced the new Deutsche Mark (DM). The Russians had consistently refused to cooperate with any monetary or banking reforms. Among other improvements, the black markets in West Germany quickly disappeared.

On 24 June, the Soviets announced a total blockade of Berlin.

More oil was discovered in Saudi Arabia.

The Chinese communists and their armies defeated the Nationalist Army of Chiang Kai-shek at Mukden in Manchuria.

The new democratic government of South Korea carried out land reform that helped small farmers.

The Finno-Soviet Pact of Friendship was signed. It made Finland a permanently neutral nation, and the Finns were forced to pay the USSR an indemnity for war damages during WWII.

Candidates from the Christian Democrat Party in Italy received 48 percent of the votes held in the first full parliamentary elections in the Italian Republic, and they became the dominant party in the coalition that governed Italy.

Belgium was a founding member of the Benelux Customs Union along with the Holland and Luxembourg.

Apartheid, the legally sanctioned separation of Whites from Blacks, became the official policy of the Union of South Africa.

By the end of June, Yugoslavia had been expelled from the Soviet bloc of nations for being too revisionist and not sufficiently loyal to the USSR and Stalin. Yugoslavia then pursued a foreign policy of non-alignment and neutrality. The independent Yugoslavs had never been particularly enthusiastic about using the USSR's economy as a model for their own.

Representatives of the West German states were authorized to start work on a constitution, which became known as the "Basic Law," on 1 July.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) convention in Kansas City voted on "integration" as their new policy for Blacks within the USA.

During July, President Truman, by executive order, ended racial discrimination in the hiring of federal employees and put an end to segregation in the USA's armed forces. Conservative and traditional opposition to this progressive measure was loud.

Canada's Parliament passed a national health program that provided federal grants to the provinces for improving hospital facilities.

About seven million men and women, 40 percent of industrial workers, in Japan belonged to some 34,000 different unions.

The USA, again, had a military draft for men aged 18 to 25.

The USA indicted and convicted 12 communist party leaders for advocating the violent overthrow of the government.

The American cost-of-living index reached a dangerous, new peak in August. Inflation fears were widespread for the first time since before the Depression. The high cost of living led to many strikes in the USA.

Jewish extremists from the Stern Gang, founded by Avraham Stern during WWII to fight the British, killed two persons during mid-September in the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem. Folke Bernadotte of Sweden, the UN's mediator in Palestine, and a French officer who had saved Jews from deportation to Germany during WWII
were assassinated by Jewish terrorists. David Ben-Gurion (1886–1973), the leader of the Mapai/Labor Party since 1930, which was currently the governing party, cracked down on both the Stern Gang and the Irgun/Etzel/National Military Organization, active since the 1930s, most of whose members then joined the Israel Defense Forces.

The informal division of Korea, done by American and Russian generals at the end of WWII, was formalized with the establishment of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the north in September.

Representative Richard Milhous Nixon (1913–1997), 35, a Republican from California, pushed for a full congressional investigation of Alger Hiss, the president of the Carnegie Endowment for Peace, who had worked for the State Department, and who had been charged by Whittaker Chambers (1901–1961), a former communist agent and a senior editor with *Time* magazine, with being a Soviet spy.

Despite the pollsters’ and pundits’ predictions, Truman, after a vigorous campaign which took him all over the country, won the presidential election with 49.6 percent of the total votes cast in November in a stunning upset over the Republican candidate, Thomas Dewey (1902–1971), the States' Rights/Dixiecrat (pro-segregation) candidate, J. Strom Thurmond (1902–?), and the Progressive candidate, former vice-president Henry A. Wallace. In general Republicans had opposed civil-rights reforms, national health insurance, federal aid to education, and subsidies to improve farm incomes.

Hedeki Tojo and six other important wartime Japanese leaders were executed on 23 December by hanging after a long trial by Allied jurists. Not until this year were women allowed to take degrees at Cambridge University.

American railroads started the switch from coal burning to diesel locomotives.

The USA became a net importer of oil, especially from Venezuela and the Middle East.

American airlines carried 13 million passengers this year.

Dwight Eisenhower, who had retired as a five-star general, became the president of prestigious Columbia University in NYC.

The world’s largest telescope, a 200 inch reflecting type, started operating at Mount Palomar, California.

**Norbert Wiener** (1894–1964), an American mathematician and pioneer in the field of computer logic, published *Cybernetics*. Wiener defined the term as "control and communication in the animal and the machine" which many people came to understand meant that cybernetics was the study of information handling.

Frederick Williams (1911–1977), an electrical engineer, and Tom Kilburn (1921–?), a computer designer, both Englishmen working at Manchester University in the UK, made the first stored-program computer.

William Shockley (1910–?), John Bardeen, and Walter H. Brattain (1902–?) of the Bell Laboratories invented the transistor.

The first air conditioners for automobiles were sold.

A new 1949 model Ford four-door sedan could be purchased for $1,236.

About one million American homes had television sets.

Some 400,000 refugees were authorized to immigrate to the USA by the terms of the Displaced Persons Act.

The German manufacturer Adidas made sneakers from war-surplus canvas and fuel-tank rubber.

Five days of smog in Donora, Pennsylvania, south of Pittsburgh, killed 20 people and sickened another 14,000. The smog was caused by coal burned in a local steel mill.

The first French nuclear reactor went on line.

Some of the first atomic clocks were used.

Engineers for the USA’s Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) started to design a nuclear airplane.

Margaret Sanger founded the International Planned Parenthood Federation.
Nippon Kogaku K.K. introduced the Nikon 35-mm camera to compete with the famous German Leica and the Polaroid Land Camera.

Ampex made the first American audio recorder to use magnetic tape.

The first US cable television system went into use.

Elizabeth Hazen and Rachel Brown invented and discovered the antibiotic Nystatin, a highly useful fungicide.

The first Olympic games since 1936 were held in London.

The Papal Index banned Rene Descartes' Meditationes de prima Philosophia, which had been first published in 1641.

Oskar Kokoschka (1886+1980), an Austrian-born artist who spent most of his life in Britain and Switzerland after 1938, painted Venice, Santa Maria Della Salute III.

Frank Raymond Leavis (1895+1978), an English literary critic who had been influenced greatly by Matthew Arnold (1822+1888), published The Great Tradition.

David Ben-Gurion, the political leader of Israel at this time: "The Jewish State exists because we defend it." Winston Churchill: "Without measureless and perpetual uncertainty the drama of human life would be destroyed." H.L. Mencken, American journalist: "Every normal man must be tempted, at times, to spit on his hands, hoist the black flag, and begin slitting throats." "Poetry is a comforting piece of fiction set to more or less lascivious music." Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889+1951), Austrian philosopher: "There are remarks that sow and remarks that reap." Tito/Josip Broz: "The true socialist state must be built without compulsion, without terrorism." "Any movement in history which attempts to perpetuate itself becomes reactionary." US Supreme Court in McCullogh v. Board of Education of Champaign: "Neither a state nor the Federal Government can, openly or secretly, participate in the affairs of any religious organizations or groups and vice versa. In the words of Jefferson, the clause against establishment of religion by law was intended to erect a wall of separation between Church and State." Omar Bradley, American general: "The way to win an atomic war is to make certain it never starts." "The world has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience. Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants."

1948/9: During the Berlin Airlift, which lasted from June 1948 until mid-May 1949, 277,264 Allied flights carried 1.5 million tons of food, coal, medicine, and building supplies, among other items, to the 2.2 million Berliners in the British, American, and French zones in the city. Planes, mainly DC-3s, with relief supplies landed about every two to three minutes at one of West Berlin's three airports 24-hours a day. This was one of the early rounds of the Cold War. And, it was won by the Western allies.

The First Arab-Israeli War was won by the Israelis against the combined forces of the Arab League that was composed of Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Syria.

1948+1950: The Jewish population of Israel increased from 716,678 to 1,029,000, and the Arab population in Israel increased from 65,000 to 150,000.

1948+1951: The USA spent some $13 billion to make the Marshall Plan/European Reconstruction Program for the economic advancement of Europe work. To manage this enormous project, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was formed. About 25 percent of the funds went to Britain and about 20 percent went to France. The rest went to 14 other Western European allies and even a few neutrals.

1948+1952: Norway received some US$400 million dollars in Marshall aid from the USA.

1948+1953: The dictatorships in Spain and Portugal benefited from the Cold War because they were needed by the West. Portugal became a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Omar Bradley, who had a very steady, level head was the distinguished chief of staff of the US Army and then, 1949+1953, the first chairman of the American Joint Chiefs of Staff.

1948+1954: Paraguay had six different presidents.
1948+1958: Some 850,000 Jewish immigrants, mainly from Europe, went to Israel and another 150,000 went to the USA.

1948+1960: The Malayan Races Liberation Army was full of veterans of the anti-Japanese guerillas during WWII. Their leaders were mostly Chinese and members of the Malayan Communist Party. During "the Emergency," they waged a civil war against the government of Malaya that had military support from the British army and government.

Syngman Rhee (1875+1965) was the authoritarian and pro-Western president of South Korea.

1948+1962: One of the significant facts of West Germany's Wirtschaftswunder /"Economic Miracle" was that their foreign trade increased by an annual average of 16 percent.

1948+1963: West Germany's GDP increased on average annually at a 7.6 percent rate; Italy's increased by 6 percent; France's by 4.6 percent; and Britain's by 2.5 percent. European trade amounted to some 40 percent of the world's trade.

The Christian Democrat Party's share of the vote in Italy fell from 48 percent to 38 percent; the vote for communist and socialist candidates increased from 31 percent to 39 percent; the support for the extreme right parties held steady at about 6.5 percent.

The Republic of Peru had a military government.

1948+1965: Some eight million new houses were built in West Germany, and the number of car owners increased from 200,000 to 9 million!

1948+1995: Kim Il Sung ruled the People's Republic of North Korea as a dictator. Some gave him great pleasure by calling him the "Great Leader." (His son Kim Jong Il succeeded him as ruler, with the permission of his admirals and generals.)


1948+1998: During this half century, the population of Israel increased from about 600,000 to nearly six million.

1949: In what possibly was the most important event during the second half of the 20th century, representatives of the following 12 nations signed the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington on 4 April and created the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO): Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands/Holland, Norway, Portugal, and the USA. These nations pledged that an attack on one was an attack on all. General Dwight Eisenhower was the first head of the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE). Greece and Turkey (1952), West Germany (1955), and Spain (1982) joined later. Some experts insist the Cold War was well its way to being won by the NATO nations after the creation of NATO.

The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG)/West Germany became official on 23 May as did their constitution the Basic Law/Grundgesetz, during the very week the Berlin blockade was lifted. Konrad Adenauer, the leader of the Christian Democratic Party, was elected in August by the Bundestag/Federal Parliament as their first chancellor. From the start Adenauer's plan, which he and his supporters accomplished, was to make the Federal Republic/Bundesrepublik a productive member of the "western European world." Bonn was the capital of the new West German government.

Chinese communist troops entered Beijing in February without any Nationalist opposition. The People's Liberation Army made certain there was no looting. The Nationalists were defeated at Nanking in April, Shanghai in May, and Canton in October.

Mao Zedong (1893+1976) declared the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) the first of October with himself as chairman of the central council and Zhou En-lai/Chou Enlai (1898+1976) as foreign minister and premier. This was practically the end of the Nationalists above the ground on the mainland.

President Truman proposed in his inaugural address on 20 January four measures, which became known as Point Four, to promote "...
the improvement and growth of underprivileged areas" of the world. American reconstruction funds were extended to countries and peoples far beyond Europe.

Chiang Kai-shek/ Chiang Kaishek/ Jiang Jieshi (1887+1975), the president of the Nationalist Party/Guomindang/Kuomintang, remnants of the Nationalist army, and other refugees from mainland China claimed sovereignty over Taiwan/Formosa that had been ruled by the Japanese for some 50 years (1895+1945). They treated the Taiwanese so harshly that they almost immediately caused a rebellion. Taiwan became the seat of the (Nationalist) Republic of China thereafter.

The USA had given Nationalist China some $6 billion in aid since 1941. The disappointment and shock in the USA at this turn of events in China was deep. Republican criticism of Democratic policymakers was intense and unremitting.

The Republic of Eire, independent of the [British] Commonwealth, was officially initiated on 18 April in Dublin and received British and American recognition.

The Council of Europe was formed on 5 May by Belgium, Britain, Denmark, Eire/Ireland, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and shortly thereafter by Greece, Iceland (which became independent of Denmark in 1944), and Turkey. The Council of Europe opened with its headquarters in Strasbourg, France. It was operated by a Committee of Ministers and a Consultative Assembly.

In part to stimulate Japan's economy, the Far Eastern Commission in May ended Japan's reparation payments, which was a powerful long-term stimulant to the Japanese economy. But, in the view of some observers, this major political and economic concession retarded the economic development and post-WWII recovery of the Philippines and the islands of Guam and Micronesia that were now, more than ever, dependent on American aid.

The Arab League and Israel signed an armistice during May after very nearly a year of warfare. The troops of King Abdullah of Transjordan annexed the West Bank that was occupied by the Arab Legion and East Jerusalem.

Israel became the 59th member of the United Nations on 11 May.

Flooding in China left some 20 million people without homes.

Communist troops from the mainland attempted and failed during October to capture the island of Jinmen/Quemoy off Taiwan.

Chinese communist troops from the mainland invaded parts of eastern Tibet.

Dean G. Acheson (1893+1971) replaced George C. Marshall as secretary of state on 7 January.

The USA withdrew its last troops from South Korea.

Newfoundland, which had a population of nearly 350,000, became the 10th Canadian province after a provincial referendum and the federal Parliament had approved the change.

The war crimes trials of Japanese war criminals in Micronesia ended.

On 10 August, the US Defense Department was created, and thus replaced the old War Department, with James V. Forrestal (1892+1949), formerly the secretary of the navy, as first secretary.

The communist Democratic Republic of Germany (DDR/GDR), better known as East Germany, was formed in October with its capital in East Berlin.

The French government recognized Vietnam/Cochin China as an "independent" member of the French Union.

Cambodia became an independent nation.

The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act made interracial marriages illegal in the Union of South Africa.

The United Nations Trust Territory of Papua and New Guinea was established under Australian administration.

The number of collective farms in Yugoslavia increased from 1318 to nearly 7000.

Nearly 30 percent of industrial workers in Canada belonged to unions.

Women in Chile voted for the first time.
President Harry Truman appointed the first civilian as the governor of the Unincorporated Territory of Guam in the Western Pacific.

Andrei Sakharov (1921+1989) and German Nobel prize winner (1925) Gustav Hertz (1887+1975) had developed a working atomic bomb by this time for the Soviets, with some helpful information from various spies. It was tested in September.

The member nations of the Geneva Convention approved new standards of treatment for the wounded and sick in the field and at sea, and for the improved treatment of prisoners and civilians in time of war.

Some 40 percent of all college and university students in the USA were military veterans. Nearly all of them used the GI Bill to pay their tuition in part or whole.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) was 161 at mid-year.

The new minimum wage in the USA was $.75, up from $.40 per hour. Half a million striking US steel workers won company-paid pensions but no pay raises.

American Telephone & Telegraph - as a maker of telephones - was cited by the US Department of Justice as being in violation of the anti-monopoly provisions of the Sherman Act of 1890.

The Housing Act was passed by Congress in mid-July to build low-rent public housing that would then replace urban slums.

Typically a new two-bedroom house in the USA sold for $10,000.


Billy Graham (1918+?), a Protestant evangelist, led a crusade in the USA for the "Youth for Christ." Afterwards he became the leader of a worldwide ministry.

The first Volkswagen "Beetles," the most widely sold automobiles in the world during the next two decades, went on sale in the USA.

Using the architecture of John von Neumann, large computers were built at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana and by the US Army at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland.

The first in a series of military revolts occurred in Syria.

Philip Hench (1896+1965), an American physician, discovered cortisone as part of his efforts to cure rheumatoid arthritis.

Gio Ponti, an influential designer and architect, taught at the Polytechnic of Milan and was the founding editor of the magazine Domus.

Marion Donovan, a former Vogue magazine editor, made a waterproof diaper cover from a shower curtain. She called it the Boater and sold it at Saks Fifth avenue in New York City. Ten years later it became the original idea for the mass-produced disposable diaper.


Arthur Miller (1915+?) wrote the play Death of a Salesman that questioned how healthy some Americans' values were.

Philip Johnson (1906+?), an American architect who with Henry-Russell Hitchcock had published The International Style (1932), designed his own Glass House at New Canaan, Connecticut. Johnson had worked, among others, with Walter Gropius, Marcel Breuer, and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.

The best film of the year, according to the Academy, was Robert Rossen's All the King's Men (based on the novel by Robert Penn Warren) with Broderick Crawford and Mercedes McCambridge as the main actors. The excellent film The Third Man, about post-war Vienna and the Cold War, featured Orson Welles, Joseph Cotton, Trevor Howard, and Valli.

Trygve Lie (1896+1968), Norwegian statesman: "Now we are in a period which I can characterize as a period of cold peace." George Orwell: "Big Brother is watching you." "War is Peace, Freedom is Slavery, Ignorance is Strength." "Double think means the power of holding two contradictory beliefs in one's mind simultaneously, and accepting both of them."
"Who controls the past controls the future: who controls the present controls the past." "If you want a picture of the future, imagine a boot stamping on a human face - for ever." "Power is in tearing human minds to pieces and putting them together again in new shapes of our own choosing." "An effect can become a cause, reinforcing the original cause and producing the same effect in an intensified form, and so on indefinitely." Maria Montessori, pioneer Italian educator: "And if education is always to be conceived along the same antiquated lines of a mere transmission of knowledge, there is little to be hoped from it in the bettering of man's future. For what is the use of transmitting knowledge if the individual's total development lags behind?"

Winston Churchill: "In wartime, truth is so precious that she should always be attended by a bodyguard of lies." Harry Lime, Orson Welles' character, in The Third Man: "... in Italy for thirty years under the Borgias they had warfare, terror, murder, bloodshed, but they produced Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, and the Renaissance. In Switzerland, they had brotherly love, they had five hundred years of democracy and peace. And what did that produce? The cuckoo-clock." Will Rogers: "There is only one thing that can kill the movies, and that is education."

1949+1951: The population of Israel doubled with the arrival of some 683,000 immigrants (some of whom were Arabs).

1949+1952: Mao Zedong and the communists consolidated their control over mainland China. Some have called it the Soviet period of Chinese history.

1949+1957: La Violencia, a civil war in Colombia, killed some 250,000 people.

1949+1961: An estimated 2.7 million Germans escaped from the East, mainly thru the Soviet zone in Berlin, and settled in West Germany.

1949+1968: After Indonesia gained its independence from Holland, Achmed Sukarno, who had risen to power during the Japanese occupation of Indonesia, was the president, always with the support and approval of the Indonesian military.

1949+1963: Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and his economics minister (then chancellor, 1965/6), Ludwig Erhard (1891+1977), both leaders of the Christian Democratic Party (CDU), oversaw Germany's remarkable post-war economic, political, and cultural revival. Two of the CDU's mottos were "No Experiments" and "Affluence for Everybody."

1949+1965: Following the enormous damages and disruptions caused during WWII and the war for independence (1945+1949), economic growth in Indonesia was very slow and in some cases decreased.

1949+1976: Mao Zedong/Mao Tse-tung was the first chairman and red emperor of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Zhou Enlai/Chou En-lai, was Mao's prime minister and number two man.

1949+1990: The USSR formed an oddball organization in January 1949 in Moscow, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), often known as Comecon, which was the flawed counterpart of the Marshall Plan. It linked the USSR with its East European satellites plus Albania (1949), East Germany (1950), Mongolia (1962), Cuba (1972), and Vietnam (1978). Supposedly they were all meant to learn how to Sovietize their economies.

1950s: In Latin America population growth increased more rapidly than economic development and made the lives of the poor worse than before. In some nations, efforts were made to create welfare states without sufficient economic-technological-human resources and without the political will of the wealthy and powerful to support those initiatives.

West Germany/FRG had a population of 47 million including 10 million refugees from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and other parts of eastern Europe. The average worker's pay in West Germany increased about 5 percent annually while inflation and government spending were under control, which means less than 5 percent.

Foreign investments in the Canadian economy tripled. About half of the mining and manufacturing sectors of their economy and almost 75 percent of their oil industry was owned by foreign investors, many of whom were Americans. About 70 percent of Canadian
imports came from the USA, and they sold about 60 percent of their exports to the USA.

The government of India repeatedly refused to allow a statewide plebiscite in Kashmir where a strong majority of the people were Muslims.

Whites controlled 86 percent of the land in South Africa. In accordance with the policy of apartheid/"separateness," Blacks were restricted to overcrowded and economically depressed "reserves," later euphemistically called "homelands," unless they worked for Whites and had "passes."

Per capita GDP in 1985 international dollars was Malaya/Malaysia 1828, Singapore 14,941, Burma 562, Thailand 3694, Indonesia 2118, Philippines 1934, South Korea 6012, and Japan 3,197.

The Mau Mau, who had been organizing in Kenya for at least a decade, were composed mainly of dispossessed tenants, mostly Kikuyu, Emba, and Meru, from the highlands north of Nairobi. They began to attack Europeans on their plantations in the "White highlands" in addition to setting fires, starting labor strikes, and stealing livestock.

The continent of Africa had become a net importer of food by this time. The international and long-term trend of people moving from impoverished rural to urban areas was especially noticeable.

Some people called Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, Gary Snyder, William Burroughs, Gregory Corso, and American writers, artists, and intellectuals like them "beatniks" (also knows as Beats). Their music was, mainly, jazz. Some of them were intensely interested in Zen Buddhism, the Orient, individuality, alcohol, and drugs. Their message, beyond what bohemians and libertarians have long espoused in many places, remained jumbled.

1950: North Korean forces invaded South Korea with 90,000 Soviet-trained and equipped troops on 25 June. Using plans that had been designed in part by Soviet generals, Seoul was quickly captured by the North Koreans on 28 June.

The Republic of Indonesia became officially independent of the Dutch Empire. In accordance with a UN General Assembly vote a year earlier, Libya became independent as a monarchy under the rule of Mohammed Idris el-Senussi, the leader of the Sanusiyya Muslim brotherhood, who reigned as Idris I until 1969.

Per capita GDP in 1990 international dollars put New Zealand at 8456, Australia at 7412, and the USA at 9561.

The UN sponsored and encouraged the union of Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Brazil had a population of about 51 million people.

Portugal joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

The government of South Africa refused to place Southwest Africa/Namibia under UN trusteeship.

The USSR and the People's Republic of China (PRC) signed a peace treaty and denounced Japanese and American "imperialists" in February.

Drought and then flooding killed some 10 million people in northern China.

General Douglas MacArthur was appointed commander of what became 16 allied UN forces -mainly Korean, American, British, and Turkish- that contributed ground, naval, and other military units opposing the Koreans from the north. The UN Forces in Korea were just barely able to defend the Pusan perimeter in the extreme southeastern part of the peninsula.

Turkey sent 25,000 tough troops to serve with the UN forces in Korea.
Canada contributed naval and other military units to support the United Nations during the Korean war.

Inchon, the port city of Seoul, was captured in a daring invasion from the sea planned by MacArthur on 14 September, and Seoul was reoccupied on 26 September by UN troops. It was a bold and remarkable turnabout.

UN military forces under American command moved into North Korea, as it was commonly called, in early October. Republic of Korea (ROK) troops occupied the North Korean capital of Pyongyang on 19 October. US troops camped near the Yalu River on the North Korean-Manchurian-Chinese border on 21 November. Some misinformed cheerleaders predicted the Korean War would be over by Christmas.

In a massive counter-movement, some 300,000 troops from the Chinese People's Liberation Army crossed the Yalu River from Manchuria, attacked the UN troops on 25 November, and inflicted heavy losses on them. The US 8th Army retreated from devastated Pyongyang on 8 December, and Chinese forces crossed the 38th parallel on 28 December heading south. Matthew Bunker Ridgway (1895+?), one of the USA's best military leaders since WWII, became the new commander of UN forces in the northern sector on Christmas day. In effect, all UN and US troops had been expelled from North Korea by the end of the year.

Also during November large numbers of the Chinese People's Liberation Army invaded Tibet and took-over control of that country, which had been autonomous since 1913. Soon thereafter it became known in China as the Xizang Autonomous Region. Sino-Indian tensions increased immediately.

Robert Schuman (1886+1963), the French foreign minister, and Jean Monnet (1888+1979), a French economist and statesman, proposed in May that Western Europe fuse its coal and steel resources. This became known as the Schuman Plan and was part of the impetus for the creation of the European Economic Community (ECC).

The Allies agreed to let West Germany rearm to a limited extent. With the British and Americans in the know, France, Italy, the Benelux countries, and the Federal Republic of Germany talked about building a European Defense Community (EDC) in May.

Gen. Eisenhower was replaced, at Ike's request, as Supreme Allied Commander in Europe in April.

President Harry Truman signed an Organic Act for Guam that, for the first time, established a civilian rather than a naval-military government, which had been the case since 1898 except for the Japanese occupation period, 1941+1944. This ended the period of Navy rule of the territory that now came under the supervision of the Department of the Interior.

Truman ordered the construction of a hydrogen bomb in January.

The USA recognized the government of Emperor Bao Dai, who was supported by the French in Vietnam.

The playboy king of Egypt, Farauk I (1920+1965), requested that the British withdraw from the Suez Canal Zone.

Alger Hiss was found guilty on 25 January of committing perjury while under oath and was sentenced to five years in jail.

Looking to advance his political ambitions, Senator Joseph McCarth (1909+1957), a Republican, falsely claimed, in February, that he had "here in my hand" a list of 205 communists in the US State Department.

Klaus Fuchs (1911+1988), an anti-Nazi pro-communist German physicist working for the British, was found guilty on 1 March of passing Allied nuclear secrets to the Soviets. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison, and his American accomplice, Harry Gold, got 30 years. Both of them had worked during WWII on the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos, New Mexico.

Two of the Hollywood Ten, first charged in 1947, were imprisoned for not cooperating with the US House Un-American Activities Committee.

The US sent weapons and 35 military advisers for the first time to Vietnam and signed a military assistance pact with France for the defense of friendly governments in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.
The US gross national product (GNP) was $284 billion, with government spending accounting for 21 percent of the total. GNP had been $99 billion in 1940 and $103 billion in 1929.

Per capita GDP in the USA was $9561, in Argentina $4987, and in Australia $7493.

Some 6.7 million automobiles were made in the USA that amounted to some two-thirds of all the cars and trucks made in the world.

Prices of American farm products increased 28 percent by the following year partly because of the Korean War. Only 11.6 percent of Americans worked on the land, down from 25 percent in 1933. All but a quarter of US farms were electrified.

Rayons, acetates, and other "miracle" synthetic fibers reduced cotton to 65 percent of the US textile market.

The first self-serve elevators, made mainly by Otis Elevator, began to make operators redundant.

The Diners Club issued a prototype credit card. It was the idea of Frank McNamara. Within two years there were 150,000 cardholders in New York. (McNamara sold his interest in the Diners Club in 1952, went into real estate, and was broke by the time he was 40.)

Middle-class Americans started migrating from the cities to the suburbs, where land prices would increase 100 percent, in some cases, by 1960.

Akira Kurosawa made a great film that shows a set of brutal crimes from four points of view. Roshomon opened the eyes of discriminating, sophisticated film viewers the world over and made the Japanese film industry more respectable than ever before.

David Riesman, Reuel Denney, and Nathan Glazer, professors from the University of Chicago, published a classic study of inner, outward, and other-directed personality types called The Lonely Crowd.

World population was 2.52 billion. The USA population had doubled since 1900.

Harry S. Truman’s motto that he kept on his desk during his presidency: “The buck stops here.” Pearl Buck, US writer: "Euthanasia is a long, smooth-sounding word, and it conceals its danger as long, smooth words do, but the danger is there, nevertheless." Albert Einstein, physicist: "Ethical axioms are found and tested not very differently from the axioms of science. Truth is what stands the test of experience." Martin Buber (1878+1965), Jewish philosopher: "Power abdicates only under the stress of counter-power." Mao Zedong: "Communism is not love, communism is a hammer which we use to crush the enemy." William Faulkner (1897+1962), American writer: "I decline to accept the end of man . . . he has a soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance." Bertrand Russell (1872+1970), British philosopher: "If war no longer occupied men's thoughts and energies, we could within a generation put an end to all serious poverty throughout the world." "Throughout a period of about 1200 years, every Christian country in Europe condemned free thinkers to be burned at the stake." Diego Rivera, Mexican artist: "You take freedom and you shut yourself up with your idea, just that particular one and no other. And there you are again, in chains." George Santayana (1863+1952), American philosopher: "Nothing is so poor and melancholy as art that is interested in itself and not in its subject." Jean Sibelius (1865+1957), Finnish composer: "Pay not attention to what the critics say; no statue has ever been put up to a critic." Georges Braque (1882+1963), French painter: "Limitation of means determines style, engenders new form, and gives impulse to creation." George Orwell: "Political language . . . is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind."

1950/1: Tunisia, Morocco, Syria, and Lebanon all became independent of the French Empire.

1950+1953: The Korean War killed some 1.5 million people and destroyed about 25 percent of all capital stock in Korea. Helicopters and jet aircraft were used extensively.

Mao Tse-Tung: "We are advocates of the abolition of war, we do not want war; but war can only be abolished through war, and in order to get rid of the gun it is necessary to take up the gun."
1950+1957: The *Mau Mau* /"Hidden Ones" used violence against the British and other White settlers in Kenya. Their primary leader was Jomo Kenyatta (1894+1978), a Kikuyu tribal leader. Some 11,500 Africans and 100 Europeans died during the *Mau Mau* rebellion in Kenya that was eventually suppressed with help from British troops.

1950+1960: The number of Whites who lived in Southern Rhodesia increased from 150,000 to 200,000. Their ownership of choice land increased as did their control over the economy, the Rhodesian Copper belt, South African-style government, and an increasingly segregated society. There were about 4.5 million Blacks in Southern Rhodesia living on the poorest third of the land.

On average seven million television sets were sold each year in the USA.

The number of Blacks living in Chicago doubled.

1950+1965: Israel's gross national product (GDP) increased by an average annual rate of about 11 percent.

1950+1966: Hendrick Verwoerd (1901+1966) was the most powerful politician in the Union of South Africa and one of its most determined enforcers of *apartheid*.

1950+1970: Some experts have called these the years of an "economic miracle" in Italy. Average annual growth rates were above 5 percent with relatively low inflation and unemployment.

Hong Kong became industrialized. First it was cotton spinning and then it was clothing, electronics, plastics, and luxury goods. Hong Kong was able to import cheap food and water from the People's Republic of China (PRC) on mainland China.

1950+1971: Walter Ulbricht (1893+1973), who during WWII was one of Marshal Georgi Zhukov's political advisers, was the secretary-general of the German Communist Party and hence of the government of the German Democratic Republic (GDR)/East Germany.

1950+1973: Some have called these the "golden years" of the Norwegian economy. They enjoyed an average annual growth rate of 3.3 percent.

1950+1974: The population of the USSR increased from 178.5 million to 262.4 million.

1950+1980: The population of Peru doubled, including considerable numbers of European immigrants.

The USA's gross national product (GNP) increased almost 300 percent in real terms while per capita income nearly doubled.

San Jose, California, in the Santa Clara Valley south of San Francisco had enormous population growth - some say 600 percent during this period - as the economy changed from agriculture to manufacturing.

1950+1990: The population of Africa increased from 200 million to 600 million persons.

1950+1995: British-owned automobile and truck manufacturers went from doing a full-range of popular vehicles to much less.

1950+1999: The average life expectancy in industrialized and affluent nations increased from 66 to 75 years.

1950+2000: Military troops from mainland China occupied and ruled Tibet.

Australia's export of a wide variety of mining products to the booming economies of East Asia grew rapidly.

The annual rainfall in many places in Africa declined.

1951: Between 4 January and 14 March, Seoul was captured and lost by the North Koreans while 80 percent of the city was destroyed. General Matthew B. Ridgway led UN troops in a counterattack that carried them above the 38th parallel.

China invaded Tibet.

Agricultural production in the USSR finally increased to the 1928 level.

General MacArthur publicly called for air attacks against Chinese cities and China's "privileged sanctuary" in Manchuria, for an invasion of the mainland by Chiang Kai-shek's forces from Taiwan, and for a naval blockade of mainland China. Many people were shocked
and thought they could see a world war resulting.

Harry Truman fired general Douglas MacArthur, the commander of US and UN forces in Korea, for insubordination, which again proved that civilians are in control of the American military. Truman replaced MacArthur on 11 April with Gen. Matthew Ridgway who proved to be a wise choice as his successor.

UN forces in Korea numbered some 500,000.

On 3 May, the American-Allied military occupation of Japan ended after nearly six years, although the US retained numerous military bases of all kinds on the islands of Honshu, Kyushu, and Okinawa.

The Soviet Union's UN representative suggested a cease-fire and armistice along the 38th parallel in Korea in late June.

A USA-Philippine mutual defense pact was signed on 30 August.

India, the world's largest democracy, had 173 million eligible voters. About 80 percent of those voters were illiterate and lived in a country that was desperately poor and sadly lacking in electricity, water, adequate housing, and food.

The USSR tested its second atomic bomb.


Australia joined New Zealand and the USA as a member of the ANZUS security treaty.

Defense secretary George Marshall calculated that the size of the USA's military forces had doubled since the start of the Korean War to 2.9 million persons.

Canada started a three-year rearmament program with a price tag of $5 billion. Canada's population was 14,009,429.

London, England, had 8,348 million residents.

Wages and salaries in the USA were frozen in January by the Wage Stabilization Board. The Office of Price Stabilization mandated only marginal profits on more than 200,000 consumer items in February.

On 15 June, the US Congress approved a low-interest loan of $190 million to India, so grain could be bought in the USA. Congress also granted Yugoslavia $38 million in food aid.

Mohammed Mossadeg (1881+1967) became the premier of Iran on 29 April. His National Front government nationalized the mainly British-owned petroleum industry in May.

In Jerusalem, Abdullah ibn Hussein, since 1946 the first king of Jordan, was assassinated by a Palestinian, a radical nationalist who opposed the annexation of the West Bank by Jordan.

Egypt voided its Suez Canal agreements with Britain. The Egyptians tried to restrict Israel-bound ships from using the Suez Canal.

The Arab League in September started economic warfare against Israel.

The sultanate of Muscat and Oman along the Persian Gulf became independent of Britain. (Muscat was dropped from the name in 1970.)

Angola and Mozambique, without the benefit of any plebiscites, were officially made provinces of Portugal.

After six years in office, the Labour government in Britain was defeated by the Conservatives, and Winston Churchill, 77, once more became prime minister in October.

Korean peace negotiations started at Panmunjom in the demilitarized zone between the northern and southern parts of the country.

Canada started a comprehensive old-age pension plan for all citizens over 70 (or 65 years of age if they were needy).

Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and their accomplice Morton Sobell were found guilty of passing atomic secrets to their fellow Soviet spies. The Rosenbergs were sentenced to death and executed.

British spies Guy Burgess (1911+1963) and Donald Maclean (1913+1983), both Foreign Office officials, escaped to Moscow in late June after they were warned by H.A. R. "Kim" Philby (1912+1988), the British liaison officer with the FBI and CIA and one of the masterminds of their spy ring. Anthony Blunt (1907+1983), a British art historian with connections to the royal
family, helped them defect to the USSR. (Blunt was caught in 1964 but not publicly exposed until 1979.) Others associated with this ring were John Cairncross, who had access to information from the WWII wartime cabinet, and Melita Norwood who worked for both the Soviets and the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association.

Senator McCarthy alleged, quite falsely, crazily, and irresponsibly, that George C. Marshall, a great American, had been a communist dupe or agent.

Kwajelein island in the Marshall Islands of Micronesia, with its huge lagoon, became a major American missile-testing facility (i.e. the target area for missiles launched from Vandenburg Air Force Base in California).

There were some 15 million TV sets in the USA; the year before this there were only 1.5 million sets. Color TV started to become common in North America, Western Europe, Japan, and other places.

The ENIAC electronic computer, now owned by Remington Rand Corp., was improved and renamed UNIVAC. The first UNIVAC computer was installed at the US Census Bureau.

The chemist Carl Djerassi, who worked at Syntex Corp., invented the oral contraceptive pill. Much of his success rested on earlier research with steroids and Mexican wild yams done by Russell Marker.

The first nuclear power stations were built in Britain and the USA.

Deutsche Gramophone sold the first 33 rotations-per-minute long-play (LP) records that quickly became the new standard. About 190 million records were sold in the USA.

World population figures: France had about 42 million people, Italy 47 million, Britain 50, West Germany 50, Brazil 52, Pakistan 76, Indonesia 78, Japan 85, the USA 153, the USSR 172, India 357, and China 583 million persons. New York was the world's largest city with 12.3 million followed by London with 8.4, Paris 6.4, Tokyo 6.3, Shanghai 6.2, and Chicago with 5 million persons.

The discovery of rich deposits in northern Saskatchewan led to the founding of Uranium City.

Mount Lamington in New Guinea erupted and 3000 persons died as a result.

Rachel Carson (1907+1964), an American naturalist, environmentalist, and science writer, published her second book The Sea Around Us that caught the attention of many people.

Hannah Arendt (1906+1975), a German-born American philosopher and refugee, published The Origins of Modern Totalitarianism that compared the fundamental, systemic similarities between Soviet communism and German fascism.

Joan Miro (1893+1983), a highly imaginative Spanish artist who worked mainly in France, painted Dragonfly with Red Wings Chasing a Serpent which Slips Away in a Spiral Towards the Comet.

Omar Nelson Bradley, US general and WWII hero, on MacArthur's suggestion that the Korean war should be turned against China: "The wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy." Adlai Stevenson (1900+1965), US politician: "Communism is the corruption of a dream of justice." Charles De Gaulle: "The French will only be united under the threat of danger. Nobody can simply bring together a country that has 265 kinds of cheese." E.M. Forster (1879+1970), British writer: "Spoon feeding in the long run teaches us nothing but the shape of the spoon." George Santayana: "A child educated only at school is an uneducated child." George Kennan: "I expressed in talks and lectures the view that there were only five regions of the world - the United States, the United Kingdom, the Rhine Valley with adjacent industrial areas, the Soviet Union, and Japan - where the sinews of military strength could be produced in quantity; I pointed out that only one of these was under Communist control; and I defined the main task of containment, accordingly, as one of seeing to it that none of the remaining ones fell under its control." Arnold J. Toynbee, British philosopher and historian: "Conscience tells a human being that his natural self-centredness is wrong, and it will
not let him rest so long as he is not trying to overcome his self-centredness." **William Faulkner**, American novelist: "The past is never dead. It's not even past." **Artur Schnabel** (1882–1951), Austrian concert pianist: "The sonatas of Mozart are unique; they are too easy for children, and too difficult for artists."

1951+1954: Getulio Vargas, who had already been the civilian ruler of Brazil (1930+1945), now got a second chance to do something worthwhile that he squandered in favor of enriching his supporters, friends, and relatives. He finally committed suicide, or so it was reported.

1951+1956: US Navy construction engineers, "Seabees," leveled a 1200 foot high mountain and built the Cubi Point Naval Air Station on the Subic Naval Station, which already was home to the Ship Repair Facility, in the Philippines.

1951+1963: The number of university students in Canada doubled with women leading the way.

Per capita income in Greece increased from about US$112 to about US$500.

1951+1968: Starting on 27 January 1951, the US Atomic Energy Commission authorized the use of part of the Las Vegas Bombing and Gunnery Range, for testing atomic weapons. Some 19 nuclear devices - varying in size from 1.2 tons to 37 kilotons - were tested aboveground and underground in the Nevada desert at Frenchmen Flat on the newly opened Nevada Test Site (some 1350 square miles/882,332 acres in size). (Hiroshima had been nearly leveled by a 15 kiloton bomb in 1945.)

1952: Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands - "The Six" as they were sometimes called - were the founding members of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) which put the production of coal and steel under a common oversight agency in May. Its first president was the economist Jean Monnet, a European unionist who had been in charge of France's National Economic Plan (1947+1949). This important initiative towards Western European prosperity and unity was informed by the Schuman Plan of May 1950.

Social institutions and agriculture were collectivized in China and millions of people were executed supposedly for being Kuomintang (KMT)/Nationalist supporters or sympathizers. This was part of what was called by the Maoists the Great Leap Forward.

A group of military officers in Egypt, led by Generals Mohammed Naguib and Gamal Abdel Nasser (1918+1970), deposed King Farouk, who was widely blamed for government corruption and Egypt's losses in the first Arab-Israeli war of 1948/9, and gave their country a military-republican-nationalist government. Nearly all of Egypt's 20 million people were landless and poor.

The Equalization of Burdens Act, passed by the FRG's Bundestag in mid-May, taxed West Germans and redistributed the wealth to West German refugees and expellees whose businesses and lands had been lost during WWII. These funds helped thousands of people get new starts in life and greatly stimulated West Germany's economy.

The British conducted their first atomic tests in Australia.

The Americans tested "Mike," a thermonuclear device, some 10.4 megatons in size, at Enewetak Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

Greece and Turkey joined NATO.

Since 1940, the USA's gross national product had increased from $101 billion to $347 billion.

During the spring, the Soviets proposed that East and West Germany be integrated in a neutral nation that would be under the control of the Four Powers. This would have meant the Soviets would retain their veto power over policies and appointments. The Western powers and the leaders of West Germany rejected this plan.

West Germany agreed to pay Israel restitution for WWII atrocities to European Jews.

An estimated 16,000 Germans and others escaped from East to West Berlin.

A polio epidemic in the USA made 58,000 people sick, paralyzed 21,000, and killed 3000, nearly all children.
The Ba'ath/Resurrection party started in Syria. It initially appealed to some communities outside the Sunni Muslim majority, i.e. the 'Alawis, Druzes, and Christians.

Jawaharlal Nehru (1889+1964) became the first elected prime minister of India.

Chou En-lai visited his Russian comrades in Moscow.

American citizens in Puerto Rico voted for a new constitution and became the first US Commonwealth on 25 July. (Until now, Puerto Ricans, who are American citizens, neither vote for the US president nor pay federal income taxes, but they do have a non-voting delegate in the US House of Representatives.)

Dwight Eisenhower the GOP presidential candidate proved in November, as he did throughout his political career, that as a moderate progressive on domestic issues with a global view he was much more popular than his fellow Republicans and their more conservative-traditional views.

Fulfilling one of his campaign promises, in early December, president-elect Eisenhower visited Korea.

Chile, Ecuador, and Peru in the Declaration of Santiago increased their maritime jurisdictions to 200 miles from their shores. The US had a 3-mile limit; many other nations had 12-mile limits.

Canada was the world's second largest producer of aluminum and supplied more than half of the world's newsprint. Canada was also one of the world's leading producers of cheap hydroelectric power.

Masaru Ibuka, a Japanese tape-recorder manufacturer, made the first Sony-brand pocket-sized transistor radios, which quickly became very popular everywhere. These pocket radios used technology developed and then neglected, in part, by the USA's AT&T's Western Electric division.

London, England, had a smog attack - mainly caused by coal smoke - in December that killed 4,703, mostly sick and elderly persons over 45 years of age.

The Papal Index, founded in 1559, to ban heretical writers and thinkers and their work, long an embarrassment to the modern Roman Catholic Church, went out of business.

The College of Guam was founded.

Malcolm X/Malcolm Little (1925+1965), after being released from prison, joined Elijah Mohammed's Black Muslims in the USA.

Ernest Hemingway wrote *The Old Man and the Sea.*

Dwight Eisenhower described himself as a "dynamic conservative" by which he meant being "conservative when it comes to money and liberal when it comes to human beings."

Mortimer J. Adler, American philosopher: "In Aristotelian terms, the good leader must have *ethos, pathos,* and *logos.* The *ethos* is his moral character, the source of his ability to persuade. The *pathos* is his ability to touch feelings, to move people emotionally. The *logos* is his ability to give solid reasons for an action, to move people intellectually." Lillian Hellman (1905+1984), American dramatist to the US Congress Committee Hearing on Un-American Activities: "I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions." Ansel Adams (1902+1984), photographer: "There is nothing worse than a sharp image of a fuzzy concept." S.L.A. Marshall, American military historian, in *The River and the Gauntlet,* about the Korean War: "Brains aren't made in a hurry." . . . when battle troops lack affective communications, and when they do not understand down to the last man that fullness of information is the mainspring of operations, the fight is already half lost." A. Whitney Griswold (1815+1957), American editor and writer: "Books won't stay banned. They won't burn. Ideas won't go to jail. In the long run of history, the censor and the inquisitor have always lost. The only sure weapon against bad ideas is better ideas." Simone Weil (1909+1943), a French writer, in her posthumous book *Gravity and Grace:* "All sins are attempts to fill voids."

1952+1959: John Foster Dulles (1888+1959), a veteran American diplomat and international lawyer and a Republican, was a hard-line anti-communist secretary of state. He was one of the builders of NATO during the Cold War.
General Fulgencio Batista (1901+1973), who had been the caudillo of Cuba from 1940+1944 was again in charge. The USA bought 69 percent of Cuban exports, provided 70 percent of Cuban imports, and American companies paid salaries that were worth about 71 percent of Cuba’s GNP. Cubans often talked and joked about their relajo/"slap-happy" government that was all together corrupt, sloppy, and hit and miss.

The British army served in Kenya in an effort to stabilize the political and economic situation there. Their opponents were the Mau Mau. This British intervention doomed, many thought, the continued privileged position of some 40,000 white settlers in Kenya who had lost control of the situation.

1952+1966: The Politburo/"political bureau"/presidium/Central Committee of the Supreme Soviet ruled the USSR in secret. There were about 12 voting members, and most off them were cowards who never opposed anything desired by their superiors who were real thugs.

1952+1993: The British, who had occupied Eritrea on the Red Sea in 1941, handed it over to the Ethiopian federation. Civil war continued between Eritrean rebels and the Ethiopian government thereafter and even after Eritrea gained its independence in 1993.

1952+1999: Hussein ibn Talal (1935+1999) was made the king of Jordan at the age of 16. He was the great-grandson of Hussein ibn Ali, the king of the Hejaz and founder of the Arab Hashemite dynasty of Jordan and Iraq. He was the cousin of King Faisal II of Iraq. He succeeded his father, King Talal, who was deposed for being insane.

1953: Josef Stalin, 73, one of the four greatest murderers and gangsters in modern history - along with Hitler, the military leaders in Japan before and during WWII, and Mao Zedong - finally died after ruling the USSR as an absolute tyrant since 1928, if not earlier. It has been estimated that he was responsible for the deaths of some mostly innocent 50 million people.

One Soviet expert has estimated that between 1929 and the time of Stalin’s death some 21.5 million Soviet citizens had been arrested. Of that number, only about one-third survived. Some put the numbers much higher.

Lavienti Pavlovich Beria - Stalin’s hitman and slave-driver, the terrifying minister of internal affairs, and the longtime head of the secret police - was removed from office on 10 July, interrogated and executed on 23 December. This event marked nearly the end of the old Soviet-Stalinist regime.

Nikita S. Khrushchev (1894+1971) was not immediately Stalin’s successor as first secretary of the Communist Party.

East German construction workers in East Berlin went on strike in mid-June. Other workers in other industries and other places in the GDR followed their lead and violently demonstrated against the communist-authoritarian government and asked for better working and living condition. The Soviets reasoned with the East Germans by overwhelming them with military and police force.

After ninety years of colonial rule, the French went home and Cambodia regained its independence.

Nigeria, the largest of the sub-Saharan African nations, had a population of about 53 million.

The people of Sweden and Finland, both neutral nations, joined their Scandinavian cousins in Denmark, Norway, and Iceland, who were members of NATO, to form the Nordic Council which was mainly a cultural organization.

A truce went into effect in Korea during late July.

White politicians, with the support of the British government, in Rhodesia, both parts, and Nyasaland put together a Central African Federation that guaranteed them control of the Northern Rhodesian Copperbelt and made it most unlikely that the majority Blacks would ever gain political control.

J. Robert Oppenheimer, the brilliant leader of the scientists, engineers, and technicians of the Manhattan Project who built the first American atomic bombs, was suspected by some in December of being a communist sympathizer or worse. His security clearance was withdrawn on the grounds of “fundamental defects in his
character." Oppenheimer had argued on humanitarian grounds during 1949/50 against the building of an American hydrogen bomb.

The Americans tested the Redstone intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM), and it worked.

The USSR, always publicly committed to peace, exploded its first hydrogen bomb in August, which like the American version also worked. Much of the brainwork behind this achievement was done by Andrei Sakharov.

Vietnamese Vietminh rebels attacked Laos.

Cambodia became independent of France in May behind the uncertain leadership of prince Norodom Sihanouk (1922+?).

Dag Hammarskjold, a Swedish diplomat, was one of the most successful secretary-generals (1953+1961) of the United Nations.

A truce was signed at Panmunjom, in what later became the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), on 27 July and virtually ended the destructive three-year Korean War. North Korean and Chinese military dead and wounded numbered about 1.5 million. About 2 million North and South Korean civilians were killed. About 700,000 Chinese combatants died. About 344,222 UN troops were killed or wounded. Some 54,000 Americans died during the Korean War (33,000 on the battlefield), and another 103,492 were wounded or missing.

An official People's Republic of China census showed that there were 582,603,417 Chinese excluding those who lived in Taiwan and overseas.

The dynamic, progressive, and pro-Western Ramon Magsaysay (1907+1957) was elected president of the Republic of the Philippines.

Jomo Kenyatta was banished from Kenya by the British. He remained in exile until 1961.

The USA and Canada cooperated on the development of a radar defense network.

Joseph McCarthy became the chairman of the US senate subcommittee on loyalty investigations.

The Tidelands Oil Act of 22 May, which cancelled an earlier executive order by President Truman, gave submerged offshore petroleum reserves to the state governments and not the US Navy.

An Atoms for Peace program was proposed by President Eisenhower before the UN general assembly in December.

The new US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) was formed by act of Congress. Oveta Culp Hobby (1905+?), the former head of the Women Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC), was the first secretary of HEW.

The government of Mohammed Mossadegh/Mossadeq in Iran/Persia was overthrown in a coup headed by Mohammed Reza Pahlavi (1919+1980), an exile since 1941 when his father, Reza Shah, had been deposed by the British for being obstructionist. The new shah/czar/caesar of Iran apparently received some help from the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

In November, Saud Ibn Abdul Aziz (1902+1969) succeeded his father Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud (1880+1953), 73, who had founded the kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1926.

The USA paid France about $1 billion, or about 66 percent of their expenditures, to defend their control of Vietnam.

Dr. Jonas Salk (1914+?), 39, a medical researcher at the University of Pittsburgh's Virus Research Laboratory, developed a vaccine to prevent polio. Large numbers of public school children in Pittsburgh were the first to receive poliomyelitis immunization shots.

Flooding during the summer in Kyushu, Japan, left some one million people without homes.

The structure of the salt of deoxyribose nucleic acid (DNA) was discovered by US genetic scientist James Dewey Watson and British researcher Francis H. C. Crick while working at the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University.

Canadians reduced both their national debt and taxes.

Queen Elizabeth II (1926+?) was coronated in the UK.
Charlie Chaplin, a British citizen, already blacklisted by Hollywood for his alleged left wing and un-American political sympathies, was denied re-entry into the USA where he had lived and worked for many years.

By the end of the year, the Dow Jones Industrial Average stood at 255.49.

The 701 was the first IBM computer. Remington Rand was IBM's main competitor.

A nude calendar photo of Marilyn Monroe (1926+1962) was featured in the first issue of *Playboy* magazine and made both of them famous.

Tenzing Norgay/Norkay, a Nepalese sherpa, and Edmund Hillary of New Zealand, members of a British team, with enormous endurance reached by foot the top of the highest mountain on this planet, Mount Everest/Chomolungma in the Himalayas between Nepal and Tibet, some 8848 m/ 29,028 feet at its peak.

Roland Barthes (1915+1980), a French writer, published *Writing Degree Zero* that has ever since thrown literary criticism, literary critics, and the reading public into disarray. Barthes supposedly advanced the causes of semiotics - the science of signs and symbols - structuralism, and a general suspicion of all traditional literary criticism. The long-term result, which is not all bad and not at all Barthes' fault, has been far less public interest in those subjects and "academic criticism" of almost anything.

The American Motion Picture Academy picked *On the Waterfront* as the best film of the year.

**Konrad Adenauer**, outstanding German statesman: "The countries of western Europe are no longer in a position to protect themselves individually."  
**Bernard Mannes Baruch**, financier and statesman: "I'm not smart. I try to observe. Millions saw the apple fall, but Newton was the one who asked why."  
**Dwight Eisenhower**: "This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the houses of its children." "Public opinion wins wars."  
**Joseph and Stewart Alsop**, syndicated columnists: "[Joseph] McCarthy is the only major politician in the country who can be labeled 'liar' without fear of libel."  
**Harry Truman**: "McCarthyism ... the meaning of the word is the corruption of truth, the abandonment of our devotion to fair play ... . It is the use of the big lie and the unfounded accusation against any citizen in the name of Americanism. ... This horrible cancer is eating at the vitals of America, and it can destroy the great edifice of freedom."  
**Jean Anouilh** (1910+1987), French dramatist: "God is on everyone's side ... . And, in the last analysis, he is on the side of those with plenty of money and large armies."  
**Sholem Asch** (1880+1957), writer: "I am not a Yiddish artist; I am a universal artist."

1953+1955: There was much anti-French rioting and agitation in Morocco.

1953+1958: Faisal I/Faisal ibn Ghazi ibn Faisal el Hashim, great-grandson of King Hussein ibn Ali, cousin of King Hussein of Jordan, was king of Iraq. He and his entire household were executed during a military putsch that made Iraq a republic.

The USSR contributed about half of the total industrial investment in mainland China made during their First Five-Year Plan that included not only credits but the costs of technology, blueprints, technicians, engineers, and many other tangibles.

1953+1964: Nikita Khrushchev (1894+1971) was the erratic secretary-general of the Communist Party and the most powerful leader in the USSR.

1953+1969: The years of the Warren Court when Earl Warren (1891+1974), a former progressive Republican governor of California (1943+1953), was the chief justice of the US Supreme Court. Many times this particular collection of jurists has been cited by legal scholars and historians as having made some of the best judicial decisions in American history on the side of traditional individual rights and social progress.

1953+1973 (and beyond): These are the years of what many have called the "Miracle Growth" of the Japanese economy.

1954: Gamal Abdel Nasser, the leader of Egypt's military government, signed an agreement in October whereby the British would withdraw from the Suez Canal Zone, while still retaining some residual military rights to use the canal in
A revolt in Algeria against the French started in October.

In May the US Supreme Court unanimously declared in *Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* that segregated public schools were unconstitutional. This overturned the Court’s awful 1896 ruling in *Plessy v. Ferguson* upholding "separate but equal." Chief Justice Warren, who wrote the majority opinion, ordered state education officials to integrate public schools, colleges, and universities "with all deliberate speed."

With some communist backing, Jacobo Arbenz Guzman became the president of Guatemala. A Guatemalan colonel, Castillo Armas, started a putsch, apparently with some advice, if not more, from the American CIA in Honduras. Arbenz and some of his closest associates fled the country and went into exile. Armas was assassinated in 1957.

Guatemala, with about 33 percent of all the population of Central America, is two-thirds mountainous, and is about as large in size as Israel and Portugal combined. In the rural areas about 80 percent of the people, many of them Indians, were illiterate and had little more than a life of subsistence. About 70 percent of the agricultural land was owned by about two percent of the people. Some people have called Guatemala a "banana republic" characterized by frequent destructive earthquakes, much corruption, and harsh dictatorships.

The pro-Vietminh Pathet Lao were in control of much of northern Laos.

More working Americans - about 34.7 percent - belonged to labor unions than at any time in US history. (Membership would gradually fall in the years following until now.)

Australia, Britain, France, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, and the USA formed the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) during meetings at Manila in September. Mutual defense and assistance were the primary purposes of the organization.

Indonesia, India, and Yugoslavia remained the leaders of the neutral and non-aligned nations during the Cold War.

John Foster Dulles, the American Secretary of State, on his way back from the SEATO conference in Manila, stopped in Taiwan and negotiated a mutual defense treaty with the Republic of China that covered not only Taiwan but also the Pescadores Islands.

The Vietminh, led by General Vo Nguyen Giap (1912+?), crushed the French in their defensive positions at Dien Bien Phu during May with some material support from China and the USSR.

President Eisenhower wisely decided not to militarily support the French in their desperate defense of their fortress at Dien Bien Phu despite "hawkish" advice from a number of his advisers such as Vice President Nixon, John Foster Dulles, and Admiral Arthur W. Radford. The US Air Force did carry some French reinforcements to Indochina.

Joseph W. Alsop, an influential newspaper columnist, advanced the appealing but misleading "domino theory" - push one over and a long line of them would fall over - as an explanation of what would happen in Southeast Asia, if not everywhere, if the communists were successful in a single underdeveloped country like Vietnam.

The USA had already paid about 77 percent of France's military costs in their war against Ho Chi Minh's Vietminh rebels.

The Geneva Conference, meeting between April and July, recognized French withdrawal from Indochina. French Indochina was divided into North and South Vietnam (at the 17th parallel) and the independence of Cambodia and Laos was officially recognized. Cambodia and Laos, according to the terms of the Geneva Accords, were to remain neutral nations. Elections were to be held in South Vietnam to determine the future type of government there.

Canadians served with Poles and Indians (from India) in Indochina in an effort by the UN and the International Control Commission to keep the peace.
The communist Pathet Lao and the Royal Laotian Army waged a civil war for many years. Both the USA and USSR, as part of their Cold War struggles, became involved.


Ngo Dinh Diem (1901-1963) replaced Emperor Bao Dai as head of the government of South Vietnam on 14 June.

Some 10 million people in China were driven from their homes, and about 40,000 died, when the Yangtze River flooded.

Communist Chinese artillery started to fire at the Nationalist's islands of Quemoy and Matsu not far off the Chinese coast.

Canadians and Americans continued to cooperate on developing the St. Lawrence Seaway Project and the St. Lawrence Power Project. The two countries also agreed to build a Distant Early Warning Line (DEW) of radar installations to detect aircraft and missiles over the Arctic region.

The government of Egypt surrendered all claims to territory in the Sudan.

Hurricane Hazel wrecked towns and coastal areas from Haiti to South Carolina, New York, and as far north as Canada in October.

Some 7000 squares miles of Oceania was irradiated by an American hydrogen bomb tested on Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Island chain in Oceania. The blast was expected to be seven megatons, but was closer to 15.

President Eisenhower's appointed commission decided to uphold the revocation of Oppenheimer's top security clearance but dismissed charges of disloyalty against him. (Ironically Oppenheimer received the Atomic Energy Commission's prestigious Fermi Award in 1963.)

During hearings between April and June, Joseph McCarthy, chairman of the Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee, discredited himself on national television by his bullying and ugly behavior and his unsubstantiated charges that there was a communist spy ring at the US Army Signal Corps installation at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. McCarthy's popularity with the American public, his fellow politicians, and the public started to plunge. The Senate on 22 December voted 67 to 22 to condemn and censure McCarthy for contempt.

Chlorpromazine/Thorazine was used to treat some mental disorders for the first time.

The Grumman Co. built the first swing-wing airplane.

Shipping containers, invented by Malcolm MacLean, that could be carried on both trucks and ships, were used between New York City and Houston.

The world's first nuclear-powered submarine, the Nautilus, was launched at Groton, Connecticut. It was largely the dream and plan fulfilled of Rear Admiral Hyman G. Rickover.

The New York State Thruway between New York City and Buffalo, some 559 miles away, opened in June.

US gasoline prices for autos averaged $.29 per gallon in October.

Linus Pauling (1901-?), an American, won the Nobel prize for chemistry. (In 1962 he was also awarded the Nobel peace prize largely for his cautionary warnings about the dangers of nuclear testing.)

The Mercedes 300SL, using a fuel-injection system, was engineered largely by Rudolf Uhlenhaut, based on his experiences with aircraft.

Texas Instruments manufactured the first workable silicon transistors.

An Wang (1920-1989), a Chinese-born American computer engineer, founded Wang Laboratories at Lowell, Massachusetts, to make small business computers and calculators in competition with IBM.

Harvard physicians performed the world's first successful kidney transplant from one identical twin to the other.

US epidemiologists E. Cuyler Hammond and Daniel Horn reported on their study of 187,783
men and warned that smoking tobacco was injurious to good health.

The US Air Force Academy was created by Congress and located near Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Americans started eating frozen TV dinners which they warmed-up in a gas or electric oven.

The Iwo Jima Memorial Monument was completed by Felix de Weldon and featured six bronze figures based on a famous photograph taken in March 1945 by the combat photographer Joe Rosenthal.

The bullish Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) closed the year at a record high of 404.39.

The Fontainebleau Hotel opened business in Miami Beach, Florida, with 900 rooms.

Lake Erie, one of the Great Lakes in North America, was nearly unpolluted and yielded some 75 million pounds of fish to commercial fishers.

University of Missouri geneticist Ernest Robert Sears switched specific chromosomes and pioneered the "creation" of hybrid wheat strains.

The Anglo-Iranian, formerly Anglo-Persian consortium, founded in 1908, became British Petroleum (BP).

Gregory G. Pincus (1903–1967) of the Worcester Foundation developed the oral contraceptive pill. Pincus, an American physiologist, and his associates John Rock, Hudson Hoagland, and Min-Cheh Chang further developed the birth control pill after extensive testing in Haiti and Puerto Rico.

Conseil Europeen Pour Recherches Nucleaires/European Council for Nuclear Research (CERN), a cooperative venture of western Europeans, was established. It has its laboratories near Geneva, Switzerland, and houses the world's largest accelerator to study particle physics.

Ray Kroc, a milkshake-machine salesman, became the franchise agent for the McDonald brothers' drive-in hamburger stand in San Bernardino, California, and promoted their "Speedee Service System."

The Vespa and Lambretta motor scooters, both made in Italy, combined function with style and a pleasing design. They were an inexpensive means of transportation for many people and were especially suitable for the young.

The Reverend Sun Myung Moon in Korea founded the Unification Church whose members are sometimes called Moonies. Some people say their theology unites Christian and Taoist thinking.

Peter Drucker, an Austrian-born American management expert, published The Practices of Management that explained his theory of "reprivatization" and "management by objectives."


Leo Fender produced the Stratocaster electric guitar.

Roger Bannister (1929–?), a British physician, athlete, and Oxford academic, ran the mile in less than 4 minutes (3 minutes, 59.4 seconds), a new world record.

La Strada, directed by Federico Fellini and starring Giulietta Masina and Anthony Quinn, was quite appropriately awarded the Oscar for the best foreign-language (Italian) film of this year. It was about love, cruelty, being human, living, and dying much like a wild animal.

The English writer William Golding (1911–?) wrote the novel The Lord of the Flies about the primitive side of our natures. (He was awarded the Nobel prize for literature for this and other work in 1983.)

Eric Hoffer, American philosopher: "When people are free to do as they please, they usually imitate each other." Peter De Vries, US writer: "There are times when parenthood seems nothing but feeding the mouth that bites you."

Joseph N. Welch (1890–1960), special legal counsel at the Army-McCarthy hearings, which were televised: "Until this moment, Senator [McCarthy], I think I never really gauged your cruelty or your recklessness. . . . Have you no decency, sir, at long last? Have you left no sense of decency?" Carl Jung. "Where love rules, there is no will to power; and where power predominates, there love is lacking. The one is
the shadow of the other." "There are as many archetypes as there are typical situations in life."

Alexander Solzhenitsyn (1918+?), Russian writer: "But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being."

Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court: "Liberty - not Communism - is the most contagious force in the world. It will permeate the Iron Curtain. It will eventually abide everywhere." Dwight Eisenhower: "Should any political party attempt to abolish social security and eliminate labor laws and farm programs, you would not hear of that party again in our political history."

Ramon Magsaysay, the president of the Philippines, during the Manila Conference: "It is the task of this conference to help build an adequate system of defense around an exposed and threatened sector of the world. On the success of this conference may well depend the peace of Asia in the next ten years and the future freedom in the world for the next thousand years." Ralph Barton Perry (1876+1957), American educator and philosopher: "The fundamental idea of modern capitalism is not the right of the individual to possess and enjoy what he has earned, but the thesis that the exercise of this right redounds to the general good."

Bernard Baruch: "When something [like gold or diamonds] holds good for two thousand years, I do not believe it can be so because of prejudice or mistaken theory."

1954+1956: Khrushchev attempted to implement his "Virgin Land" program to make into productive farming land parts of the USSR that had been fallow, for a number of good reasons, for thousands of years. It failed.

1954+1962: The National Liberation Front (FLN), led by Mohammed Ahmed Ben Bella, and the Movement of Nationalist Algeria (MNA) fought with French forces for the future of Algeria and for the petroleum, human, and agricultural resources there. The French committed some 500,000 troops to the futile effort to retain their colony. After a partially successful military coup by leaders of the French army in Algeria helped bring General de Gaulle, president (1958+1969) of the Fifth Republic, to power, de Gaulle declared Algeria independent in May 1962.

After this time France still kept control over New Caledonia and the Marquesas Islands (where the French continued to test nuclear weapons), north of the Tuamotu Archipelago in French Polynesia (which includes the Society/Tahiti, Marquesas, Tuamotu, Gambier, and Tuvalu island groups) in Oceania.


1954+1975: One could look at it in such a way as to say these were the dates for the American phase of the Vietnam War. General Vo Nguyen Giap was the enormously successful leader of the Vietminh and other North Vietnamese armed forces.

1954+1989: General Alfredo Stroessner headed a military dictatorship in Paraguay until he was ousted from power by a group of his fellow military officers. Half the people in Paraguay, which had (1998) a population of less than five million (which made it smaller than the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina), are of Indian ancestry and speak both Spanish and Guarani. The capital is Asuncion, Paraguay’s only proper city, which had a population of about half a million. Paraguay’s economy is based on agriculture and cattle.

1954+1990: Todor Zhivkov, the old-Stalinist Communist Party chief of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and his slavish followers kept that country on a steady, pro-Soviet, dead-end route.

1954+2000: The Western European Union (WEU), which predated on paper the formation of NATO, was a security organization that was created by the Brussels Treaty of 1948. Its original members were Belgium, Britain, France, Luxembourg, and Holland. Italy and West Germany, even though they did not have their own militaries, joined in 1954 when the WEU went operational. Portugal and Spain joined in 1988, and Greece became a member in 1995. The decision was taken in 2000 to merge the WEU with the European Union's security branch.

1955: The USA was producing half of the world's goods with only about 6 percent of the world's population.
The USSR, Britain, France, and the USA agreed to end the Four Power occupation of Austria when they signed the Austrian State Treaty that made Austria a neutral and independent nation. All occupation troops - Soviet and Allied - were gone from Austria by the end of July.

The USA had some 1400 foreign bases, including some 275 for strategic bombers, in 31 countries.

The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG)/West Germany joined NATO in May.

President Eisenhower during the Geneva Conference in July with British, French, and Soviet leaders proposed "Open Skies." This was an effort meant to make aerial surveillance legal as a preliminary step to serious arms talks. The Russians rejected the proposal on the spot.

President Eisenhower asked for and received overwhelming Congressional and public support for the mutual defense agreement that John Foster Dulles had negotiated with officials of the Republic of China on Taiwan during 1954 following the Manila Conference.

Spain joined the United Nations.

The Red Chinese stopped bombarding the islands of Quemoy and Matsu in the Formosa Strait during May.

Nikolai Bulganin (1895+1975) succeeded in February Georgi Malenkov (1901+1988), who had succeeded Stalin, as ruler of the USSR. WWII hero Georgi K. Zhukov became the minister of defense.

The Liberal Democrat Party (LDP) was founded in Japan, with strong business support, as the result of a merger and became the dominant centrist political group for more than three decades.

The Soviets recognized the independence of West Germany.

Israeli forces raided the Gaza Strip in retaliation for guerrilla violence against Israel.

Eisenhower and Dulles sponsored the Middle East Treaty Organization (METO), sometimes called the Baghdad Pact, which for a short time brought together in a defensive alliance Britain, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, and Turkey.

Millions of peasants who opposed Mao Zedong’s collectivization of agriculture - much like in the USSR in the 1920s and 1930s - vanished temporarily and permanently.

Chinese troops briefly invaded India's Garhwal district in Uttar Pradesh/United Provinces.

There were, for the first time, more tractors than horses in the USA.

The hovercraft, invented by the English engineer Christopher Cockerell (1910+?), traveled on a cushion of jet-generated air.

Winston S. Churchill, 81, was succeeded as Britain's prime minister by Anthony Eden, his long-time political ally and minister of foreign affairs during WWII, in April.

A civil war in Vietnam officially started in April in Saigon between South Vietnamese government forces and the Vietminh. The US agreed to assist in the training of the South Vietnamese armed forces.

The official end of the USA's occupation of Japan was proclaimed.

The following are estimates of the number of people attending school: 3 percent of the population of French Equatorial Africa went to school, 6 percent in India, 7 percent in the Gold Coast, and 10 percent in the Belgian Congo.

After nine years as the dictator of Argentina, Juan Peron was forced into exile by a junta of his fellow military officers. Peron and his wife Evita had created a political movement with roots in Latin America's largest and most effective labor unions.

Mrs. Rosa Parks (1913+?), an ordinary citizen with extraordinary courage, refused to give-up her seat on a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama, to a white person as the law and tradition required, the first of December. She was arrested. The reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929+1968), 26, led a successful boycott, which got national and international attention, against the segregated public transportation in Montgomery. He became a master of "militant nonviolence" and was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1964.

Communist Party candidates received more than twice the number of votes as the Socialist
Party’s candidates in Italy. Christian Democrats in Italy were united in their preoccupation with church, family, and anti-communism.

Richard J. Daley (1902+1976) started his career as the boss of Cook County. He then became the mayor of Chicago, a job he held for 21 years.

The US Interstate Commerce Commission made segregation illegal on interstate buses, trains, and in terminal waiting rooms.

President Eisenhower proposed a massive $101 billion interstate highway program to be completed over a decade.

The AFL and CIO merged into one big national American union. George Meany (1894+1980) became the president of this newly merged union, the AFL-CIO, a position he held for 23 years.

Some 9.3 million motor vehicles were made and sold in the USA.

There were more "white-collar" than "blue-collar" workers in the USA. About 60 percent of all American workers were "middle-class" which was nearly double the number from 1929. (Definitions of "middle-class" are, however, difficult to make precise.)

New housing tracts in the suburbs, like Levittown, continued to change transportation and living styles for many Americans.

During April, guerillas from EOKA/the National Organization of Cypriot Fighters, led by Colonel Giorgios Grivas (1898+1974), a far right-wing veteran of the Greek civil war during and after WWII, started a bombing campaign on Cyprus against the government. The Greeks on Cyprus, led by Greek Orthodox Archbishop Mihail Makarios III (1913+1977) and Grivas, who claimed they were in effect the leaders of the island, began to agitate for union/enosis with Greece.

The new US minimum wage was $1 an hour.

Dr. Jonas Salk's polio vaccine made poliomyelitis/polio and the "iron lung" obsolete. Most of his research had been funded by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The first International Business Machine (IBM)/"Big Blue" business computer, the 702, was sold and delivered to the Monsanto chemical company; this was the start of IBM's ascendance and then dominance in the mainframe business.

The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) started the Nuclear Rocket Development Station on the Nevada Test Site.

William F. Buckley, Jr., started to publish the conservative National Review magazine in the USA.

Ray Kroc bought-out a small chain of drive-in, hamburger restaurants in California from Richard and Maurice McDonald.

The Yamaha Musical Instrument Co. formed the Yamaha Motor Co. which quickly, or so it seemed, became a major motorcycle manufacturer.

Disneyland opened in July in Anaheim, California, a suburb of Los Angeles.

Buses in the USA had displaced nearly 90 percent of electric streetcars.

Revenues from TV advertising exceeded those from radio in the USA for the first time.

President Eisenhower held the first ever TV presidential news conference.

Marc Chagall (1889+1985), a Russian-born French artist whom some have called a Surrealist, painted Champs de Mars.

The Russian-American writer Vladimir Nobokov wrote the softporn novel Lolita that received far more attention than it deserved.

Erich Fromm (1900+1980), American philosopher and psychologist: "In the nineteenth century the problem was that God is dead; in the twentieth century the problem is that man is dead. In the nineteenth century inhumanity meant cruelty; in the twentieth century it means schizoid self-alienation. The danger of the past was that men became slaves. The danger of the future is that men may become robots." Albert Schweitzer (1875+1965), Alsatian physician, musician, and humanitarian: "The future of a civilization depends on our overcoming the meaningless and hopelessness which characterizes the thoughts of men today."

Albert Camus, French intellectual: "Man, at
bottom, is not entirely guilty, since he did not begin history, nor entirely innocent, since he continues it." **George Meany**, the leader of the AFL-CIO, America's largest union: "American labor never had it so good." **Hermann Hesse**, German-Swiss writer: "Twice during my years at school I had a teacher whom I could honor and love, in whom I could freely recognize the highest authority and who could direct me by a wink." **James Grover Thurber** (1894+1961), cartoonist and writer: "With sixty staring me in the face, I have developed inflammation of the sentence structure and a definite hardening of the paragraphs."

**1955+1970**: Copper contributed about 53 percent of total government income and about 92 percent of foreign earning in Zambia until the government nationalized the industry in 1970 and then earnings started to decline sharply.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, formerly the prince and king, a kind of dilettante, obscurely leftist politician with anti-American and pro-Chinese communist views, was prime minister of Cambodia until rightist Lt.-General Lon Nol ousted him in 1970.

**1955+1991**: The USSR created the Warsaw Pact/Eastern European Mutual Assistance Treaty Organization. This weak alliance of eight communist, eastern European, Soviet satellites was meant to be a counterweight to the great strength of NATO.

**1955+2000**: In keeping with patterns established earlier, the people of Argentina have been governed alternatively by military dictatorships and Peronist-type politicians.

There was an intermittent north/Muslim versus south/non-Muslim civil war in Sudan. Some say it was Christians in the North versus Muslims in the South. Some say it was antagonist warlord against warlord, tribe against tribe, region against region.

**1956**: This was possibly the year the Cold War started to end, but hardly anyone realized it. More people were probably frightened about the likelihood of a nuclear holocaust than ever before.

Pakistan became an Islamic republic in February.

Nikita Khrushchev condemned Josef Stalin as a criminal tyrant on 14 February during the 20th Communist Party Conference in Moscow. This possibly encouraged uprisings by dissident freedom fighters in Poland and Hungary that then had to be suppressed by the Soviet Army. The so-called communist bloc of nations had big cracks.

Workers in Poznan, and students in many parts of Poland, during June demonstrated against the communists and their government. More than 100 protesters were killed between the end of June and mid-October. When Khrushchev inspected the situation in Warsaw in late October, he found that Polish commandos were nearly in full control of the situation and that they supported Wladyslaw Gomulka (1905+?) a Polish nationalist who had spent years in a Soviet prison. Not wanting to cause armed conflict, Khrushchev allowed Gomulka to remain in power and had Soviet troops from East Germany pullback. During this time period, Polish troops had exhibited - on several occasions - their disloyalty and opposition to the Soviets.

Morocco and Tunisia became independent nations.

The USA withdrew its pledge of financial support for the construction of the Aswam High Dam project in Egypt when they discovered that President Gamal Abdal Nasser had been secretly negotiating for military supplies, trade, and technical support from the USSR.

On 26 July President Nasser unilaterally nationalized French and British interests in the Suez Canal Company and took-over complete control of the Suez Canal and the Straits of Tiran after the last British troops had left in mid-June. The Egyptians rejected all proposals concerning the use of the canal made by 18 interested nations in September.

Israeli paratroops began their 100-hour Sinai Peninsula campaign on 29 October and stayed near the Suez Canal while British and French forces bombed Egyptian air bases on 31 October and captured Gaza and Port Said on 5 November. Some called this the Second Arab-Israel War, but it was more. France and Britain bombed Egyptian airfields and took control of
the Suez Canal with commandos flown in by helicopters from an aircraft carrier. The Suez Canal by this time was under the control of Israeli, French, and British troops. Egyptian diplomats accepted an Anglo-French ultimatum that called for a cease-fire with a concomitant withdrawal of all troops 10 miles from the Suez Canal. Israel occupied the Gaza Strip and the Sinai. The last Anglo-French forces left Egypt on 22 December after American and Soviet pressure and the signing of a UN brokered armistice and the arrival of a UN peacekeeping force.

Hungarian rebels in late October expressed their solidarity with the Polish protesters. Rioting started in Budapest and spread. Imre Nagy (1895–1958), a moderate communist, became the new head of the Hungarian government. Nagy and his supporters released Cardinal Jozsef Mindszenty (1892–1975) who had been imprisoned by the communists since 1948. (The cardinal was quickly granted asylum by the American government and stayed in the American embassy in Budapest until 1971 when he was allowed to go to Rome.) The crowds cheered and attacked the despised security police. The USSR withdrew their troops and tanks. The reformers asked the United Nations for help and announced Hungary would hold free elections and withdraw from the Warsaw Pact. On 2 November, 16 Soviet divisions with 2000 tanks reoccupied Hungary. Hungarian "Freedom Fighters" resisted with little more than rocks and their bare hands for 10 days. Some 7000 brave Hungarians were killed. The Red Army then replaced Nagy with Janos Kadar (1912–1989), a Soviet stooge, who remained fully in power until 1965. Some 2000 of Nagy's supporters were executed. (Nagy was executed by the Soviets in Moscow in 1958.)

The government of Jordan declined to cooperate with Britain or France in any of their efforts in Egypt.

The USA waited, watched, and offered asylum to several Hungarian "freedom fighters" who had managed to escape the country. Hundreds of thousands of Hungarians escaped to Austria where they became Cold War refugees.

UN ships cleared the Suez Canal of scuttled ships.

The USA cooperated with Britain and France only in their attempts to end the conflict in Egypt by diplomacy.

The USA and USSR, in different ways and for different reasons, opposed the compound invasion of Egypt.

The UN General Assembly condemned the USSR's suppression of Hungarian protesters.

On 23 April the US Supreme Court made racial segregation in all intrastate public transportation illegal.

101 members of the US Congress, all from states in the South, signed the "Southern Manifesto" which declared Brown v. Board of Education to be "...a clear abuse of judicial power." In six southern states no Black children were allowed to attend public schools with White students.
The Federal Aid Highway Act accelerated the development of the American interstate highway system. The US federal government funded 90 percent of the construction costs of what eventually would become 42,500 new miles of highways.

The Polaris missile was developed for use by American submarines.

After Anastosio Somoza was assassinated by a poet, his son Luis became the president and his other son Anastasio/"Tachhito" became the leader of the Nicaraguan National Guard.

The Ba’ath party of Syria, started in 1952, or earlier, became temporarily popular in some quarters in Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq.

Newly independent Sudan joined the Arab League.

Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Egypt signed a military alliance.

The Republican Party platform, but not all Republicans, approved of Eisenhower's "modern Republicanism." The Democrats during the November elections kept majorities in both houses of Congress, but Eisenhower - for the second time - was more popular than his party and overwhelmingly defeated Adlai Stevenson for the presidency. Eisenhower won all but seven states.

This was the start of the trans-Canada pipeline that carried gas from Alberta to central Canada.

With help from Soviet technicians, Albania became one of the world’s major producers of chrome.

A team at IBM wrote FORTRAN I, one of the first computer programming languages.

The US Air Force tested its first nuclear-powered jet engine.

Scientists and engineers at the Ampex Co. invented the video recorder.

John Bardeen (1908+1991), Walter Brattain (1902+1987), and William Shockley (1910+1989), American physicists, were awarded the Nobel prize for developing the transistor.

The Southdale Center near Minneapolis, in Edina, Minnesota, was the prototype American closed shopping mall. It had an indoor garden, atrium birdcage, and was climate-controlled by central air conditioning and heat. Its designer was Victor Gruen, a refugee from the Nazis in Austria.

The American sociologist C. Wright Mills wrote the White Collar Society.

The US State Department sent Dizzy Gillespie, the jazz trumpeter, bebop pioneer, and composer, and his big band on two international tours. He was one of the jazz greats of the post-war era along with Benny Carter, Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, J.J. Johnson, Charlie Mingus, Thelonious Monk, and many others.

John Osborne, an "angry young" British-Welsh playwright, wrote Look Back in Anger (filmed 1958).

Martin Luther King, Jr.: "We must realize so many people are taught to hate us that they are not totally responsible for their hate." Nikita Khrushchev, premier of the USSR 1958+1964, to Western diplomats gathered in the Kremlin on 17 November: "Whether you like it or not, history is on our side. We will bury you!" Clement Attlee, British Labour politician and Prime Minister (1945+1951): "[Russian Communism is] the illegitimate child of Karl Marx and Catherine the Great." Daisetz T. Suzuki (1870+1966), Japanese philosopher: "Zen in its essence is the art of seeing into the nature of one's own being, and it points the way from bondage to freedom." Erich Fromm: "Immature love says: 'I love you because I need you.' Mature love says: 'I need you because I love you.'" Nancy Mitford (1904+1973), English writer, in Noblesse Oblige: "An aristocracy in a republic is like a chicken whose head has been cut off: it may run about in a lively way, but in fact it is dead." Diego Rivera, Mexican artist: "The subject is to the painter what the rails are to a locomotive. He cannot do without it. In fact, when he refuses to seek or accept a subject, his own plastic methods and his own aesthetic theories become his subject instead. And, even if he escapes them, he himself becomes the subject of his work. He becomes nothing but an illustrator of his own state of mind, and in trying to liberate himself he falls into the worst form of slavery." Nelson Algren, American writer: "Never play cards with a man called Doc. Never
eat at a place called Mom's. Never sleep with a woman whose troubles are worse than your own."

1956+1963: The Central African Federation of Southern/Northern Rhodesia/Zimbabwe and Nyasaland was in a state of political and economic turmoil intensified by conflicts between Whites and Blacks.

1956+1967: John George Diefenbaker (1895+1979) was the most important conservative politician in Canada. He became the leader of the Progressive Conservatives in late 1956 and the prime minister (1957+1963) after the Liberals were turned out of office after having been in office for 22 years. Diefenbaker's administration raised old-age pensions and paid farmers for their wheat. The Canadian economy was in recession in the late 1950s. The Conservatives scored a another major electoral victory in 1958. Diefenbaker, who seemed to be a Canadian nationalist with a lack of sympathy for the problems of French Canada, strangely favored more Canadian trade with Britain, less with the USA, yet he reluctantly and indecisively favored North American Air Defense (NORAD) which put Canada's air defenses and nuclear warheads/weapons under joint American-Canadian control. By 1965, Canada had a enviable unemployment rate of 3.3 percent.

The USA, led by many skilled highway engineers like Francis Turner, built a complete transcontinental and interstate superhighway system patterned after the German autobahns.

1956+1970: General Gamal Abdul Nasser was president of Egypt.


1957: Belgium, the Netherlands/Holland, and Luxembourg - the Benelux countries - France, Italy, and the Federal Republic of Germany/West Germany signed the Rome Treaties on 25 March that established the European Economic Community (EEC), which created a common market for much more than coal and steel, and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom). The EEC was intended to promote free trade within their borders in a variety of important ways - most noticeably by lowering their tariffs and other trade barriers - among their member nations. It was an historic move forward.

President Eisenhower extended the application of the Truman Doctrine to the Near East.

The People's Republic of China (PRC) and the USSR announced in January they were united in their opposition to "Western aggression" in the Near East.

Achmad Sukarno started "guided democracy" in Indonesia after there were revolts in Sumatra and the outer islands against the policies of the central government.

The French Parliament empowered their government to defeat the nationalist "terrorists" in Algeria.

The bey of Tunis was deposed and replaced by Habib ibn Ali Bourguiba as president of the Tunisian republic (until 1987).

The Chinese worked mightily to control the Juanghe/Yellow river that for millennia had flooded repeatedly and ruined the lives of countless millions.

The US supported Israel in its insistence on "free passage" of shipping thru the Gulf of Aqaba. Israel withdrew all its troops from Sinai except for the Gaza Strip and the Gulf of Aqaba/Sharm el-Sheikh in March with promises from the UN that an emergency force would police the disputed areas (which they did).

Martin Luther King, Jr., and his associates formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to oppose racism in America non-violently and to promote civil rights for Blacks.

President Eisenhower proposed and Congress passed the first Civil Rights Act since the Reconstruction period following the Civil War. The Act's Civil Rights Commission was charged with the duty of making certain that Blacks were not denied their voting rights.

The British tested their first thermonuclear/hydrogen bomb in mid-May at Christmas Island in Oceania.

The USA tested a 74-kiloton nuclear device in the atmosphere called "Hood" at the Nevada Test Site.

The Soviets threatened Turkey, and John F. Dulles, the American secretary of state, threatened the Soviets.

Nikita Khrushchev outmaneuvered both Vyacheslav Molotov and Marshal Zhukov, both of whom were demoted.

The USSR launched the suitcase-sized Sputnik 1 satellite on 4 October, shocked the world, and the race for space was on. Only a few weeks after Sputnik, the Soviets further shocked the world by sending a space capsule weighing 1120 pounds into space with a dog as a test passenger.

Months ahead of the Americans, the Soviets successfully tested the first intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

Canadians started their Medicare system of national health care.

The Italian Socialist Party split from their alliance with the Communist Party and formed a coalition with the Christian Democrat Party.

Mao Zedong announced a Hundred Flowers campaign that was supposed to give intellectuals and artists an opportunity to express their opinions. It last only a few months.

When Arkansas's governor Orval Faubus actively opposed the integration of the state's public schools in September and threats were made by mobs and individuals against nine black students at Little Rock High School in Little Rock, President Eisenhower, in the forceful tradition of George Washington and Andrew Jackson, sent federal troops to the scene. Federal troops enrolled and protected the nine brave Black students at Little Rock High School.

The Congregationalists and Evangelical/Reformed churches, representing both Lutheran and Calvinist traditions, by ecumenical union, became the United Church of Christ in the USA.

Albert Bruce Sabin (1906+1993), an American microbiologist, developed a polio vaccine using live, weakened viruses that can be administered orally. Some called it an improvement over the Salk vaccine.

Allan Cormack (1924+?), a South African-born American researcher at the University of Capetown in South Africa, started to develop the computerized axial X-ray tomography (CAT) scan. He shared a Nobel prize for medicine and physiology in 1979 with Godfrey Hounsfield (1919+?), a British electrical engineer, who independently developed his own version of the CAT.

Bernard Lovel, an astronomer, and H.C. Husband, an engineer, oversaw the construction of a radio telescope at Jodrell Bank, England.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was founded in Vienna, Austria.

Jimmy Hoffa (1913+1975), a tough guy from Detroit, muscled his way into control of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, one of the largest American labor unions, which was then expelled from the AFL-CIO for being corrupt.

Fidel Castro (1927+?), a young leftist lawyer and his brother Raul, started a revolution in Cuba against the Batista government.

Suspected since 1935 by some people, the link between lung cancer and exposure to asbestos was proven. Studies by the US Public Health Service implicated tobacco smoking in the development of a variety of cancers.

The Liberals, after 22 years in office, were defeated in the general election, and John Diefenbaker (1895+1979) of the Progressive Conservative party formed a new Canadian government.

The Canadians opened new copper mines north of Lake Superior and a large nickel mine in northern Manitoba.

With the support of the Church of England, the Wolfenden Report, a so-called "white paper," recommended ending legal punishment for homosexual acts "between consenting adults in private."
Averaging more than 500 miles per hour, a US Air Force team of jets finished a round-the-world nonstop flight in January.

Only 20 American computers were sold in 1954, but this year the number increased to 1000.

Three Boeing B-52 bombers made the first nonstop-flight around the world.

The Russian Boris Pasternak (1890+1960) published his novel Doctor Zhivago about Russia during the early days of the Soviet Revolution. It was banned in the USSR, but enjoyed large sales nearly everywhere else.

Ingmar Bergman (1918+?), a Swede, directed The Seventh Seal, a powerful film about the plague and religion in the Middle Ages, starring Bengt Ekerot and Nils Poppe.

The Bridge on the River Kwai, a WWII drama, was selected as the best film of the year by the film Motion Picture Academy.

The Italian filmmaker Federico Fellini's superb La Strada was the foreign film Oscar winner.

Elia Kazan directed A Face in the Crowd, with Andy Griffith and Patricia Neal as the starring actors, which was an interesting film about the new power of television and media personalities.

Nikita S. Khrushchov: "We are convinced that sooner or later capitalism will perish, just as feudalism perished earlier." John Foster Dulles: "We walked to the brink and we looked it in the face." Mao Zedong spoke, but did not act, like a poet: "Letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend is the policy for promoting progress in the arts and the sciences and a flourishing socialist culture in our land." Carl G. Jung (1875+1961), Swiss psychoanalyst: "When a form of 'art' is primarily personal it deserves to be treated as if it were a neurosis." Reinhold Niebuhr (1892+1971), American theologian: "Our gadget-filled paradise suspended in a hell of international insecurity."

1957/8: National Guard units were used in several places to quell civil unrest caused by desegregation of schools and public facilities in the USA.

Louis (1903+1972) and Mary Leakey found fossil remains of Australopithecus robustus in the Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania, East Africa. These remains, primarily a skull, were estimated to be some 1.7 million years old.

1957+1959: Canada, the world's fourth largest exporter, watched West Germany become the world's third largest exporter. Canadian unemployment increased to 11.2 percent in 1959.


1957+1963: Willy Brandt/Herbert Frahm (1913+1992) was the socialist, anti-communist, effective, popular mayor of Berlin. During WWII, Brandt had been an anti-Nazi exile in Norway.

The British colonies of Malaya and Borneo became the independent nation of Malaysia, which included Singapore.

Thailand had a military government that encouraged people to support "king, Buddhism, and nation."

1957+1966: The Gold Coast and the UN Trust Territory of Togoland in West Africa united in March 1957 and then became the Commonwealth State of Ghana. Kwame Nkrumah (1909+1972) was the first president of Ghana until his government was overthrown by a military putsch.

In a series of rulings, the US Supreme Court defined obscenity in such a peculiar way that film producers, the media, and publishers were freed from most restrictions and were permitted to become licentious.

1957+1986: Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier (1907+1971) and Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" were the dictators of Haiti. Their private army was known as the Tontons Macoutes/"bogeymen."

When "Baby Doc" was finally expelled, the nation's treasury was empty.

1957+1992: The European Economic Community (EEC) was composed of Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and Holland. Thereafter the EEC became the European Union.
**1957+now:** Tunisia has been an independent republic.

**1958:** The European Economic Community became official and legal on 1 January 1958.

Some 20 million people died in China of a famine.

General Charles de Gaulle and his Gaullist Union won control of the French government in November and gave French overseas territories six months to choose their own political status either as autonomous states within the French Community or departments of the new Fifth Republic. Madagascar/the Malagasy Republic, Senegal, Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, Mauritania, Mali (the French Sudan), and Ubangi Shari/the Central African Republic, Dahomey and Ivory Coast all elected to become autonomous within the French Community by the end of this year.

Nikolai Bulganin (1895+1975) resigned as the nominal ruler of the USSR and was replaced by Nikita Khrushchev who had wielded the real power for quite some time, or so many people guessed.

Some 75,000 people in India and East Pakistan/Bangladesh died of cholera and smallpox during the first half of the year.

Canada and the USA formed the North American Air Defense command (NORAD) with an American head and a Canadian deputy.

The Arab Federation of Iraq and Jordan only lasted from mid-February until 1 August. Jordan's King Hussein's dream of a Hashemite federation was foiled when military officers in Iraq killed his cousin King Faisal II and his entire household. Iraq became a republic/military dictatorship governed by Gen. Abdul Karim Kassem and other military leaders in mid-July.

Lebanon ceased to be a model of prosperity and stability in the Middle East and instead became a war zone in the middle of a civil war between Muslims of several kinds, supported by displaced Palestinians in southern Lebanon, and Christians with pro-Western leaders.

Norway joined the European Free Trade Area (EFTA) and made the krone convertible to US dollars.

The United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon was in operation for the second half of this year.

British educated General Muhammad Ayub Khan (1907+1974) led a coup, became prime minister and self-appointed president of Pakistan.

President Eisenhower attempted to stabilize the situation in Lebanon by sending the 6th Fleet and some 5000 US Marines to Beirut from mid-July until the end of October.

The British propped-up the government of King Hussein ibn Talal in Jordan with their own special forces.

During August, the Red Chinese again bombarded the Nationalist islands of Quemoy and Matsu. The USA sent the 7th Fleet to wait and watch in the area.

Moroccan women became free to select their own husbands.

The Life Peerage Act authorized the British government to select citizens, female and male, who had made outstanding contributions to their nation as peers for their lifetimes only. Immediately the quality of members of the House of Lords improved.

French settlers in Algiers rioted and caused chaos there.

The former British colonies of Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago, and Trinidad - with a population dispersed over 77,000 square miles - became the Federation of the West Indies in January.

President Eisenhower on 8 April proposed mutual inspections to guarantee an atomic test ban and a moratorium on nuclear testing. The Soviets tested in September and then joined the UK and US in a voluntary moratorium in November.

The USA established its National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and launched its first satellite, Explorer I in late January.

The PRC switched to the "pinyin" system of transliterations that changed Mao Tse-tung into
Mao Zedong and Peking into Beijing, a change in system that was not immediately, universally, or consistently admired or adopted.

Atomic testing ended in the Marshall Islands.

Jack Kilby of Texas Instruments and Robert Noyce of Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation independently invented the integrated circuit, which could hold several electronic components on one silicon chip.

Mies van der Rohe was the architect for the Seagram Building in NYC that was built with bronze walls and tinted glass walls. Some called it, and some still do, the prototype "glass box."

The obscurantist Robert Welch founded the John Birch Society, which eventually had about secret 60,000 members. Their monthly magazine was called *American Opinion*. The "Birchers" accused President Eisenhower and many other famous, loyal, decent Americans of being communists and greatly increased American paranoia.

Kaiser Aluminum made the first aluminum cans.

Ultrasound to examine unborn children was first used in Scotland by Ian Donald.

The external pacemaker for regulating heart action was invented by the American Clarence Walton Lillehei (1918+?), a pioneer in the field of open-heart surgery.

Brasilia’s Presidential Palace, Milan’s Pirelli building, the Havana Hilton, and Rome’s Palazzetto dello Sport were all completed with success and fanfare.

The Canadian-born Harvard economist John Kenneth Galbraith (1908+?) wrote *The Affluent Society* that was about the pleasures and problems of mass consumers and consuming "things."

Eugene Burdick and William J. Lederer published *The Ugly American* that criticized American diplomats and others for their arrogance and ignorance about developing countries and foreign cultures and languages.

A year’s tuition at Harvard University in the USA was $455 in 1948 and $1,250 this year. A hotdog that cost $.20 in 1948 now cost $.25. In the first increase since 1932, a first-class/airmail stamp went up a penny to $.04.

The number of daily American newspapers decreased from 2,600 in 1909 to 357 this year.

California’s Bank of America introduced the Bank Americard/Visa.

Some eight percent of all cars sold in the USA were imports, most of them Volkswagen Beetles.

The first American atomic power station went on-line in May.

Oil was discovered in Libya.

Boeing 707 jet airliners went into commercial service.

The first American Intercontinental Ballistic Missile/ICBM, an Atlas, with a range of some 9000 miles, worked.

The US submarine *Nautilus* was the first ship to travel under the North Pole.

Hunters killed 6,908 blue whales, the world’s largest creatures. (By 1965, when hunting was banned, hardly any blue whales could be found.)

Boris Pasternak was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature.

Frederico Fellini directed *Nights of Cabiria* (1957), starring Giulietta Masina, a film about love, deception, and the hard times in Italy following WWII. It won an Oscar for best foreign-language film.

The New York Giants became the San Francisco Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers became the Los Angeles Dodgers, thus reflecting the shifts in American demographics and the growth of "sportzbiz."

**Arnold Toynbee**, English historian: "Civilization is a movement and not a condition, a voyage and not a harbour." **Harry S Truman**: "It’s a recession when your neighbor loses his job; it’s a depression when you lose your own." **John Kenneth Galbraith**: "More die in the United States of too much food than of too little." "In the affluent society no useful distinction can be made between luxuries and necessaries." "These are the days when men of all social disciplines and all political faiths seek the comfortable and the accepted; when the man of controversy is
looked upon as a disturbing influence; when originality is taken to be a mark of instability; and when, in minor modification of the scriptural parable, the bland lead the bland."

**Martin Luther King**, US civil-rights reformer: "He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetrate it."

**Cyril Northcote Parkinson** (1909), British political scientist and author of Parkinson's Law: "Work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion." **Dean G. Acheson**, American diplomat: "I am something of a stoic both by nature and by inheritance. And I learned from the example of my father that the manner in which one endures what must be endured is more important than the thing that must be endured."

**Aldous Huxley** (1894+1963), English writer: "We may be Christians, Jews, Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists, Confucians, or Atheists; but the fact remains that there is only one faith for which large masses of us are prepared to die and kill, and that faith is nationalism." **Carl G. Jung**, Swiss psychiatrist: "Understanding does not cure evil, but it is a definite help, inasmuch as one can cope with a comprehensible darkness."

**Harold Macmillan**: "Tradition does not mean that the living are dead; it means that the dead are living."

**Ernest Hemingway**, American writer: "The most essential gift for a good writer is a built-in, shock-proof shit detector. This is the writer's radar, and all great writers have had it."

1958+1960: Guinea and 13 other French colonies opted for independence, and Algeria was left as the only French colony in Africa by the end of 1960.

1958+1961: The short-lived United Arab Republic of Egypt, Syria, and Yemen was formed under the influence, among others, of the Arab Ba'ath Socialist party and President Nasser.

1958+1962: Possibly 30 million people died in a great famine in mainland China that was barely reported at the time. The Red emperor and his ministers, obviously, were not eager to publicize or document this or their other failures.

Trade between member states of the EEC increased some 130 percent.

1958+1964: Nikita Khrushchev was the supreme ruler of the USSR.

1958+1965: The Great Leap Forward period in the history of the People's Republic of China (PRC). This effort at autarky, mainly the brainchild of Mao Zedong, happened after growing tensions between the PRC and the USSR caused the cancellation of about 150 development projects in China by the USSR. The Great Leap was a series of sometimes impromptu "plans" for economic change that were supposed to propel the PRC's economy into the Industrial Revolution; but backyard iron furnaces, and other self-help experiments, proved very inefficient and non-productive. Forced labor was substituted for capital and tools in China; some half a billion peasants were forced to work in some 24,000 communes. An estimated 16 to 27 million people died as a result of this social-economic disaster and its aftermath.

Sukarno, the anti-communist military, and the Communist Party of Indonesia (PKI) improbably shared governing power in Indonesia.

1958+1966: Hendrik Freusch Verwoerd was the prime minister of the Union of South Africa and strictly enforced the policy of apartheid until he was assassinated.

1958+1969: Charles de Gaulle was the first president of the Fifth Republic. He helped revise and get public approval for a new constitution in November 1958, restore France to major power status militarily and politically, and ended the strife in Algeria in 1962. De Gaulle had difficulties before general elections in 1965 and 1968 with serious demonstrations against his government by students - especially in May 1968 - and workers. He eventually was forced to resign when his reform proposals for the senate and the regions were defeated during a national referendum.

1958+1971: generals ruled The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, which has been one of that country's recurring features.

1958+1977: Oil was discovered in Nigeria and government revenues increased dramatically.

1958+2000: The members of the European Common Market/Union were: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands - all founding members. Next to join were the United Kingdom/Britain, Denmark, and Ireland (1973), Greece (1981), Spain and Portugal (1986), Austria, Finland, and Sweden (1995). (Those slated for future membership were the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, and Turkey.)

The Fifth French Republic, as distinct from a purely parliamentary system, is characterized by having a strong presidency that is independent from the National Assembly.

The Phalangists were the military arm of the Maronite Christian Church in Lebanon.

1959: Fidel Castro, after leading a guerrilla force for three years, displaced Fulgencio Bastista as the dictator of Cuba in January. He became the prime minister, his brother Raul was his deputy, and Ernesto "Che" Guevara (1928+1967), an Argentinean, was the third man in the line of power. Cuba at this time had a population of slightly more than 5 million people.

Singapore became independent of Britain and self-governing. Their leader Lee Kuan Yew, if you like pragmatists, was one of the world's more adept statesmen until the 1990s.

Alaska and Hawaii became the 49th and 50th states of the American union.

There were violent riots in Leopoldville in the Congo against the Belgian administration.

Iraq withdrew from the Baghdad Pact of 1955, and the Middle East Treaty Organization (METO) immediately collapsed.

The Congo produced 6.5 percent of the world's supply of tin, 9 percent of its copper, nearly half of its cobalt, and nearly 70 percent of its industrial diamonds.

Rojas Pinilla, the tyrannical president of Colombia (1953+1957) was found guilty of using his office for his personal profit and other crimes, and his civil rights, military rank, and military pension were legally taken away from him.

There were Chinese-Indian border incidents.

The Fourteenth Dalai Lama escaped to India from Chinese-dominated Tibet where the Chinese military had tried to capture or kill him. There was a short-lived revolt against the Chinese in Tibet.

Typhoon Vera killed 5000 and left 1.5 million people homeless on the island of Honshu in one of the worst storms in Japanese history.

The Soviet Lunik I, the first space probe, passed-by the Moon.

The Vietcong killed the first two American soldiers. There were some 760 US military "advisers" in Vietnam by this year's end.

Senegal and French Sudan tried to create the Federal State of Mali.

Belgium, a constitutional monarchy, and a minority Tutsi/Batutsi aristocracy ruled Rwanda until November when Hutu/Bahutu tribes people rebelled. There was fighting between members of the Hutu and Tutsi tribes in Rwanda. Thousands of Tutsi fled to the Belgian Congo, Uganda, and Tanganyika.

Girls and young women in Saudi Arabia were allowed by King Faisal to get some education.

The UN General Assembly in November condemned racial discrimination in South Africa and everywhere.

France made four times more electricity, five times more cars-trucks, and made twice as much steel in 1953 than 1929.

Grace Murray Hopper and Charles Phillips invented COBOL/Common Business Oriented Language.

The US government placed mandatory quotas on petroleum imports. Consumers complained when gasoline, heating oil, and the profits of domestic producers went up.

Some 13 million Americans owned stocks in corporations.

Lake Ontario was opened for oceangoing traffic by way of the St. Lawrence River Seaway.
miles from the Atlantic coast, became a seaport for oceanic vessels via the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes Waterway. It was a great achievement for Canadians and Americans who had jointly built and paid for the project.

Norman J. Holter, an American, made a portable electrocardiograph machine.

As planned, the Soviet space probe *Lunik 2* crashed into the Moon.

The first atomic-driven merchant ship was launched from Camden, New Jersey.

Christopher Cockerell's hovercraft crossed the English Channel during a test.

Felix Wankel invented the rotary engine that was supposed to displace the internal combustion engine.

Japanese automakers, mainly Nissan and Toyota, made 79,000 cars. (By 1970, they would manufacture 3.2 million per year.)

Sony, which had changed its name from Tokyo Tsushin Kogyo, manufactured the first transistorized TV.

Volkswagen sales were 120,000 in the USA. The average American car cost $1,880 wholesale.

The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences presented its first "Grammy" Awards.

The British-born critic Lawrence Alloway published an article on "The Arts and Mass Media" which used the term "pop art" in contrast to "high art" and "folk art."

E.B. White revised *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk, his long-ago teacher at Cornell University. It became a modern classic and was used then and now by millions of aspiring writers, editors, and college-university students, especially in the USA.

Lorraine Hansberry published her play *A Raisin in the Sun* about, among other things, the lives of black middle-class Americans.

Charles de Gaulle: "Yes, it is Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals, it is Europe, it is the whole of Europe, that will decide the fate of the world."

Aneurin Bevan (1897+1960), British Labour politician: "This so-called affluent society is an ugly society still. It is a vulgar society. It is a meretricious society. It is a society in which priorities have gone all wrong."

William C. Faulkner, American writer: "All the moving things are eternal in man's history and have been written before, and if a man writes hard enough, sincerely enough, humbly enough, and with the unalterable determination never to be quite satisfied with it, he will repeat them, because art like poverty takes care of its own, shares its bread."

Dwight Eisenhower: "We seek victory - not over any nation or people - but over ignorance, poverty, disease, and human degradation wherever they may be found."

Henry Steele Commager, American historian: "Loyalty . . . is a realization that America was born of revolt, flourished in dissent, became great through experimentation."

Max Lerner (1902+1992), American intellectual: "Life is a protracted struggle against the Adversary, who is man himself."

James Thurber (1894+1961), American humorist, speaking about a moronic person: "While he was not dumber than an ox, he was not any smarter."

Marlene Dietrich/Maria Magdalene von Losch (1904+?), German-born international film star and cabaret entertainer: "Latins are tenderly enthusiastic. In Brazil they throw flowers at you. In Argentina they throw themselves."

1959/60: The French, behind the leadership of President Charles de Gaulle, granted independence to all French African colonies.

The USA imposed a trade embargo on Cuba after Fidel Castro showed his political and economic colors to be reddish, or so some thought.

1959+1962: Chinese and Indian troops clashed in several different places along their common border. Some said there was a "cartographic war" between the two nations. During October and November 1962, Chinese troops faced little resistance as they advanced over India's northeast frontier. If they had wished to do so, they easily could have reached the capital of Assam. Many people in India were shocked at their government's lack of military preparedness and the ineffectiveness of their foreign policy of non-alignment. India had no allies with muscles.

1959+1963: Units of the British army served in Aden in an effort to stabilize the political situation there.
1959+1967: The American X-15 reached speeds over 4500 mph and could fly above, some said well above, 35,000 feet.

1959+1973: Eamon de Valera was the president of Eire/the Republic of Ireland. He had been deeply involved in the independence of his country since the Easter Rising of 1916.

1959+1980: Whites and Blacks fought in Southern Rhodesia/Zimbabwe until the Black nationalists, always in a majority and supported by the United Nations, Britain, the USA, and other liberal Western powers won.

1959+1999: The number of major publishing houses in Britain declined from about 200 to 30.

1959+2000: Fidel Castro, his cronies, and their communist supporters misruled Cuba. Some half a million Cubans, many of them Cuba’s best educated, most progressive, and most business-minded citizens, migrated to the USA. Some experts put the total number of emigrants, not all of whom went to the USA, at one million.

Representatives of Malaya, the Philippines, and Thailand, meeting in Bangkok, formed the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA) that became the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in March 1966. ASEAN, including Singapore and Indonesia, was meant to increase economic cooperation in the region.

1960s: There were about 13.5 million Jews in the world with about 6 million in North America, 3 million in eastern Europe (including the USSR), 2.5 million in Israel, some 1 million in Western Europe, mainly in France and Britain, some .75 million in Latin America, about .25 million in the Near East and North Africa, and about .2 million in South Africa and Australia.

The growth of average real GDP was 10 percent in Hong Kong, 8.5 percent in South Korea, 8.9 percent in Singapore, 11.6 percent in Taiwan, 3.5 percent in Indonesia, 4.9 percent in the Philippines, and 8.3 percent in Thailand. These numbers were overall sensational.

Germany and Japan especially were commonly described as having achieved an "economic miracle" by many people. It was difficult to argue otherwise.

Some estimates are that only about 10 percent of the people of tropical Africa were literate at the time their nations became independent.

A number of physicists and cosmologists advanced the "big bang theory" of radiation and the origin of matter in the universe by positing there was a cataclysmic explosion in the universe some 10 to 20 billion years ago.

French-speaking nationalists in Quebec pushed a "Quiet Revolution" for modernization that tried to make French Canadians/Quebecers much more politically powerful and Quebec more like the rest of Canada economically and thus more prosperous. It was much more than Catholic nationalism. In 1962, the provincial government of Quebec, after a proper election, nationalized what had been until that time a private hydroelectric industry. This "revolution" created a great challenge to Westerners and English-speaking Protestant members of the Liberal Party that had long depended on Quebeckers for electoral victories. There was indeed again a political, national, sectional, cultural, and identity crisis in Canada. The president of France, Charles De Gaulle, while visiting Canada for Expo ’67 did not improve the situation when he publicly declared in Montreal "Vive le Quebec! Vive le Quebec libre!"

Remittances from Croatian workers outside their country, Croatian exports, and the Croatian tourist industry earned over 40 percent of Yugoslavia's foreign-currency earnings.

About 20 percent of Africans lived in urban areas in contrast to North Americans/Canadians, Australians, the Japanese, and Europeans who were three times or more likely to live in urban places.

Oil was discovered in the desert of Libya in North Africa.

A Boeing 747 jumbo jet could haul 400 passengers some 8400 miles without stopping for anything.

1960: Khrushchev gave a very belligerent speech before the UN in New York City that increased Cold War tensions between the USSR and the western powers.

The USSR and the PRC ceased to be as friendly as in recent years past. Many Chinese leaders
were offended by the attacks on the reputation of Stalin. The USSR had become reluctant to offer the PRC additional nuclear assistance. Various Russian officials, including Khrushchev, had been critical of the PRC’s efforts to force workers into communes. The USSR stopped all aid to China by the end of the year.

Afghanistan, Angola, Cuba, Ethiopia, Grenada, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Suriname (formerly Dutch Guiana), had - or were just about to have - communist or quasi-Marxist governments.

The "Year of Africa" when a long list of former European colonies (13 of them French) gained their independence: Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Dahomey, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Madagascar/Malagasy Republic, Mali/Soudan, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia (French and Italian Somaliland), Togo, Ghana, Dohomey, Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Chad, Senegal, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Upper Volta, and Zaire all became independent countries.

Nigeria, the largest country in Africa, separated from the British Empire, but not the Commonwealth, and became an independent nation.

The German war criminal Adolf Eichmann was kidnapped by Israeli agents and taken from Argentina to Israel for trial.

The US government approved the sale of birth control pills.

Brazil had a population of about 71 million people.

The South-West Africa Peoples’ Organization (SWAPO) continued guerrilla operations against the illegal occupation of their country, which some called Namibia, by South Africa’s military forces.

Hutus drove Tutsi chiefs and their followers, some 130,000 of them, from Rwanda into Burundi, the Congo, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Sirimavo Bandaranaike (1916+2000), the widow of Prime Minister Solomon Bandaranaike of Ceylon who had been assassinated a few months earlier, was elected as the world’s first woman premier in July. She headed the Freedom Party and continued her husband’s questionable policies of socialist nationalization of key parts of the economy.

Castro’s Cuba signed a trade agreement with the USSR in February, so they could exchange Cuban sugar for Soviet petroleum, technology, and machinery.

Japan’s economic growth rate was 13.2 percent for the year.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) - Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Qatar, and Kuwait - met for the first time in Baghdad. Abu Dhabi, Algeria, Gabon, Libya, Nigeria, Indonesia, Ecuador, and Venezuela soon joined OPEC.

In December, various leftist groups, mainly communists, commonly called the Vietcong, formed the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam to oppose the newly re-elected Ngo Dinh Diem and his government in South Vietnam.

American students committed to improving civil rights for Blacks formed the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). One of the first of many "sit-in” demonstrations to protest segregated public facilities in the USA occurred in Greensboro, North Carolina, in February, at Woolworth’s lunch counter.

According to some respectable estimates, their government, mainly for resisting the communization of their land, lives, and economy, had killed some 26.3 million Chinese, especially since 1952. An estimated 100 million Chinese families were forced to work on agricultural producers' cooperatives. The Great Leap Forward reduced harvests, and China’s grain production was less than in 1952. The government enforced strict rationing.

Some 900,000 homes were destroyed in East Pakistan by a cyclone and tidal wave.

Syngman Rhee, a strongman leader, resigned under pressure from his own people as president of South Korea.

France became an atomic power in February after it tested an atomic bomb in southwestern Algeria over the Sahara Desert.
Some 20,000 Blacks demonstrated at a police station south of Johannesburg on 21 March. The police fired on the unarmed mob and killed 69 and wounded 180. Many of the demonstrators were shot in the back. This became known as the infamous "Sharpeville massacre." The government of South Africa was widely condemned after this incident was reported in the international news media.

There was a coup in Turkey during May by members of the military who felt they had been neglected by the civilian government.

On 9 July, Khrushchev warned the Soviets would use missiles, if necessary, to protect Cuba from the USA and proclaimed the Monroe Doctrine of 1823 obsolete.

Castro and his government nationalized all banking, industrial, and commercial businesses in October. The Cuban government also confiscated the property of US citizens and corporations.

After 88 years as a British colony, Cyprus became an independent nation with Orthodox archbishop Makarios, a Greek Cypriot, as the president, over the objections of the minority Turkish Cypriots.

After widespread rioting in Japan by leftists against proposed US-Japanese mutual security agreements, the Japanese government asked President Eisenhower to cancel a scheduled official visit, the first ever by an American president. The Japanese Diet, despite the protests, approved the Japanese-American mutual defense treaty in June. A prominent Japanese socialist party leader, Inajiro Asanuma, who had supported the treaty, was cut down and killed by a right-wing assassin with a sword in October.

Ground-to-air missiles near Sverdlovsk shot down an American spy plane, a U2, over the USSR on 1 May. Francis Gary Powers piloted it. Premier Khrushchev then had an excuse to renege on a pre-arranged summit meeting with President Eisenhower in Paris.

The USA's GNP was $503 billion, nearly double what it had been in 1950. Government spending took 27 percent of that number, up from 21 percent in 1950. One out of three Americans owned a car. About 35 percent of American women over 14 years of age had jobs outside their homes. The Dow Jones Industrial Average reached 521.05. Only 65 percent of textiles made in the US used cotton. Down from 18 percent in 1940, only 10 percent of Americans worked on farms. Corn yields were up 75 percent while wheat yields were up 63 percent, egg production up 65 percent, livestock up 45 percent, and milk per cow up 30 percent, all since 1940. 88 percent of all American households had television sets. Some 38 percent of American workers earned their salaries from organizations with more than 500 employees. Some 65 percent of Americans belonged to a church, synagogue, or mosque, or so they said. 97 percent of American farms had electricity.

John F. Kennedy and Senator Lyndon B. Johnson defeated Vice President Richard Nixon and Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., in November by 303 to 219 Electoral College votes. The difference in the popular vote was only 113,057 out of more than 69 million votes cast that made it the closest presidential race in American election history since 1888. The Democrats retained control of both houses of Congress.

Kennedy was committed to closing the "missile gap" which was alleged, but never proved, to exist between the USA and USSR.

The federal debt of the USA stood at about $300 billion.

The USA successfully tested a Polaris missile, launched from underwater, with a range of about 1400 miles.

The richest 10 percent of the population in Britain owned 83 percent of the nation's wealth.

Theodore Harold Maiman, an American, made the first laser.

The US Territory of Guam got its first native, Chamorro, governor.

The US Department of Justice brought a civil rights suit in September against government officials who legally kept Blacks from voting in Tennessee.
An earthquake in Chile caused Tsunamis/seismic waves - some moving at 442 miles per hour - on 22 May.

There was a general strike in December in Hungary, and about 150,000 Hungarians escaped to the West.

The new city of Brasilia, some 600 miles from the coastline, was designed largely by the well-known Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer (1907+?). It replaced Rio de Janeiro as the Federal Capital of Brazil. Some people called this enormous project an act of faith in the future development of the great Brazilian interior.

Datsun motorcars arrived in USA showrooms from Japan for the first time.

*Tiros I*, a satellite, made 22,952 images of earth's weather to keep the meteorologists busy and better informed.

The Xerox 914 commercial document copier advanced the revolution that had started with the Pocket Kodak in 1895, which made everyone a photographer. Now everyone could become a printer and publisher as well.

Digital Co. invented a mini computer.

The Hawaiian Pineapple Co., after 58 years in business, became the Dole Corp., named after its founder James Dole.

Howard Johnson had 607 franchised restaurants and was the largest civilian food distributor in the USA.

Elizabeth, New Jersey, was the site of the world’s first containerized port facility.

The first nuclear powered turbine went on-line in Britain to feed the Central Electricity Authority.

The Soviets staged their first scheduled passenger jet flight, from Moscow to Irkutsk, in a Tupolev-104. The rest of the world was not far behind.

At Melbourne, Australia, 67 nations competed in the Olympic games where Soviet athletes won most of the medals against their largely amateur competitors.

William Whyte, a *Fortune* magazine editor, published *The Organization Man* that argued that individualists in American society were rapidly being converted to the philosophy of "belongingness."

Vittorio De Sica (1901+1974), an Italian filmmaker, had earned by this time a high reputation for making realistic movies with significant messages. Federico Fellini released *La Dolce Vita*, a Cannes Festival prizewinner. It was one of several very creative, delightful, fantasy films he made.

Vance Packard, an American, wrote *The Waste Makers*.

Senator Barry Goldwater (1909+1998), an Arizona Republican, wrote *The Conscience of a Conservative*.

Tokyo had a population of 9.6 million, New York and London had about 7.7 million each, Shanghai 6.2, Moscow 5, Mexico City 4.8, Buenos Aires 4.5, Bombay 4.1, and Sao Paulo 4 million. Altogether there were 141 cities in the world with 1 million persons or more. World population was 3 billion, an increase of 1 billion since 1930.

Harold Macmillan, British prime minister, in a speech before the South African Parliament: "The wind of change is blowing through the continent. Whether we like it or not, this growth of [Black African] national consciousness is a political fact." Dwight Eisenhower, in his last important presidential speech, warned Americans and others about the dangers to civil society of the "military-industrial-research complex." Adlai Stevenson (1900+1965), American politician introducing John F. Kennedy: "Do you remember that in classical times when Cicero had finished speaking, the people said, "How well he spoke,' but when Demosthenes had finished speaking, they said, 'Let us march.'" Arthur Koestler (1905+1983), Hungarian-born British writer: "The most persistent sound which reverberates through men's history is the beating of war drums." "Harpo" Marx (1893+1964), comedian: "I was the same kind of father as I was a harpist - I played by ear." Margaret Sanger: "Birth control, family planning and population limitation are most important in any effort to bring real peace into the world." Robert Schuman: "Europe will not be built at a stroke or according to a single
plan. It will be built through concrete achievements." Randolph Frederick "Rudy" King (1907+1978), German-born American businessman: "If we can only keep Poland and Korea out of the nutcrackers of Germany-Russia and China-Japan, we will be amazed at how much human progress can be made all over the world."

1960+1963: Belgium suddenly decided in January 1960 that the Belgian Congo should become independent the end of June of that year whether they were ready or not. Within a few months, there were some 120 political parties in the Congo. Many of them championed tribal interests. Patrice Lumumba's Mouvement National Congolais promoted Congolese nationalism. Joseph Kasavubu, a leader of the Bakongo people - who could be found in parts of the French Congo, the Belgian Congo, and Angola - tried to promote a unified Kongo empire of the Bakongo people. Moise Tshombe headed a tribal party from the southern Katanga, where the Congo's richest deposits of copper were located, that favored political autonomy while keeping close economic ties with Belgium. Elections in May for the 137 seats in the National Assembly made Lumumba - with the votes of 12 different parties - the Congo's first prime minister. Kasavubu became the head of state. The Congo became an independent nation on 30 June.

Almost immediately signs of unrest came from the Congo's army of some 25,000 soldiers who still were led by some 1100 Belgian officers. Lumumba (1925+1961) sided with those who called for the immediate Africanization of the officer corps. Victor Lundula, formerly a sergeant during WWII, and Joseph Mobutu, a former army-police clerk, became, respectively the army commander and the chief of staff during July. Tshombe, also during July, declared Katanga to be independent of the Congo. Belgian troops and a group of mercenaries who allegedly were on the payrolls of Belgian business interests supported his action.

The United Nations acted quickly and before the end of July 1960 had sent some 3500 troops to the Congo who were later reinforced by 19,000 peacekeepers from 26 countries. The UN troops rapidly gained control all over the Congo except in Katanga province. Dag Hammarskjold, the effective secretary-general of the UN personally went to the Congo in an effort to end the fighting and disintegration of the nation.

Lumumba asked for and received military help from the USSR during August. The USA and other NATO nations regarded this request and response as an ominous warning. The Congo now was a serious Cold War theater of action. Colonel Joseph Mobutu, only 29 years old, led a military coup against both Lumumba and Kasavubu and closed the Soviet and Czechoslovak embassies. Mobutu in fact did restore order to the Congo by the end of 1960 and reinstated Kasavubu as president.

Lumumba, after refusing to join the government and cooperate with Kasavubu, was murdered in Katanga during January 1961. All UN troops were withdrawn from the Congo during 1963. (The Soviets later named a famous school in Moscow for foreign revolutionary students-terrorists after Lumumba.)

A yellow fever epidemic in Ethiopia infected some 100,000 people and killed almost 30,000 people.

1960+1964: After considerable pressure from the Mau Mau, the Kenya African National Union, and the Kenya African Democratic Union, the British government accepted the principle of African majority rule for Kenyans in 1960. Jomo Kenyatta (1889+1978), a Kikuyu and a supporter of the Mau Mau, was released from prison and became the prime minister (1963) and the president (1964).

Some teachers at American schools, especially those educated at colleges of education, embraced the "new math." Many distinguished engineers, scientists, and mathematicians could not figure out what was wrong with the old math.


1960+1970: The Aswan High Dam in Upper Egypt was built to end periodic flooding of the Nile and generate electricity.

The Beatles - John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr - all originally
from Liverpool, were probably the most famous and creative of all rock-and-roll bands. Lennon and McCartney wrote many of their own art-rock songs.

1960+1975: Manufacturing in South Korea increased from 9 percent to 27 percent while agriculture declined from 45 percent to 25 percent of GDP.

1960+1979: small manufacturing establishments that employed fewer than one hundred workers each dominated Hong Kong's economy. The local government did not enforce employment laws, kept itself free of debt, collected low taxes, and promoted free trade. At the same time it invested heavily in public education, public housing, and infrastructure projects. British government spending amounted to about 18 percent of GDP.

Taiwan's economy, which increasingly became more sophisticated and industrialized, increased on average about seven percent per capita per year.

1960+1980: Leopold Sedar Senghor, the leader of the Senegalese Progressive Union and then the Senegalese Socialist party, was president of Senegal until his retirement. He had taught classics in France during the 1930s and was an advocate of "negritude" as an essential ingredient of African civilization and values.

1960+1990 or 1961+1977: The quixotic Enver Hoxha, in a unique and strange move, aligned Albania with the People's Republic of China (PRC) and broke relations with the USSR and the outside world.

1960+1997: Joseph Desire Mobutu, mostly, more than anyone else, ruled Zaire/Congo harshly and profitably. Some, like the Associated Press, claim that his personal wealth grew to something like $5 billion, about the same as Zaire's entire gross national product.

1960+1990: Hispanics - mainly Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans - in the USA increased in numbers from three million to 22.4 million, which made them the fastest growing and the second largest American minority group.

Hispanic voters in Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas, as well as other places, consistently succeeded in electing their candidates to high and low political offices that showed this was no fad.

The difference in incomes between the richest 20 percent and poorest 20 percent of the American population doubled.

1960+1991: Mario Soares, lawyer and leader of the Portuguese Socialist Party, was the leading democratic politician in Portugal following the authoritarian regimes of Salazar and Caetano. He was imprisoned twelve times and exiled as a leader of the democratic opposition to the fascists and reactionaries. He served his country as foreign secretary in 1974/5 and minister without portfolio in 1975 until he was elected prime minister in 1976 and 1983 and president in 1986 and 1991.

1960+2000: The world's population increased from approximately three billion to six billion people.

1960+now: As is true of all cartels, the goal of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is to reduce production and thus increase prices. During the 1990s its members were Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela.

1961: The Eisenhower administration, in one of its last acts in office, suspended diplomatic relations with Castro's Cuba in early January. The USA had already instituted trade sanctions against Cuba.

Albert Luthuli (1898+1967), president of the banned African National Congress in South Africa (1952+1960), was awarded the Nobel Prize for peace. The Union of South Africa, while under intense pressure from Britain and the outside world to change its racist policies, withdrew from the Commonwealth and became an independent, isolated republic.

Indian Army troops during December overran and seized Goa, which had been a Portuguese enclave on the Malabar Coast since the early days of the European "age of discovery," plus Portugal's holdings at Damao and Diu.

In Canada the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), founded 1932, with new ideas
from the Canadian Labour Congress (founded 1956), became the New Democratic Party (NDP). They endorsed government involvement in social and economic planning and, to gain support in Quebec, the "two nations" policy that meant bilingualism/biculturalism.

Two Cuban groups in New York founded a revolutionary council. The Cuban foreign minister declared at the UN on 15 April that the US was preparing to invade Cuba. On 18 April, Khrushchev promised Soviet aid to Cuba. An ill-advised invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs on the southern coast took place, as ordered by the new President John F. Kennedy, on 19 April by some 1600 Cuban exiles with CIA support and training. Within three days, some 1173 of them, Castro's army had captured mainly Cuban-Americans. For the Americans and the CIA, the operation was a resounding flop.

After the Soviets threatened on 15 June to again close access to Berlin, Kennedy proposed dramatic increases in military personnel and spending in late July.

During the last week of July alone, it has been estimated that ten thousand East Germans and other refugees escaped into West Germany. In partial response, during mid-August East German soldiers dug trenches and put-up barbed-wire fences around the non-communist sectors of Berlin and blocked the escape routes for East Germans. This was the start of the Berlin Wall.

An estimated 76 percent of all Indians in India and 87 percent of Indian women were illiterate.

Canadian unemployment was 11 percent, the worst since the Great Depression.

Bad weather, the withdrawal of Russian technicians in July, misguided plans, and poor management forced the PRC to give-up on the second Great Leap Forward, as some called it.

Yuri Gagarin, a Russian cosmonaut, in May became the first human to orbit the Earth in a spacecraft on 12 April. He completed a one-orbit space flight in Vostok 1 around the earth in 89.1 minutes at an altitude of some 187.7 miles. (In retrospect, some experts have asserted the USSR - between its huge space and military programs - was spending itself into disintegration.)

The Americans cancelled their nuclear bomber project because it was too expensive in comparison to developing long-range missiles.

When Khrushchev and Kennedy met in Vienna 3/4 June, they announced their continuing support for a neutral Laos. It wasn't much of an agreement, but it was something.

The highly effective secretary-general of the United Nations (1953+1951), Dag Hammarskjold, a Swede, was killed in an airplane crash while attempting to negotiate an end to the fighting in the Congo. (He was awarded a Nobel peace prize posthumously.)

Walt Rostow, an economist and historian, and General Maxwell Taylor fatefully recommended to President Kennedy that the USA send 8000 troops to Vietnam, which was done.

On 23 October, premier Zhou En-lai stalked out of a Soviet party meeting in Moscow, which showed relations between the two authoritarian powers were not improving.

The Soviets tested a giant thermonuclear bomb at Novaya Zemlya on 30 October and thus ended its voluntary ban on nuclear testing that had lasted since 1958.

President Kennedy then ordered the USA to resume underground testing that was done at the Nevada Test Site with low-yield devices and at Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Yugoslavia, Indonesia, and India continued to be the leaders of a small-nonaligned group of nations: supposedly they were neither with nor against the USSR and the USA.

Algerian independence talks progressed even after rebellious French troops seized, momentarily, Algiers on 21 April.

Sierra Leone became an independent monarchy the same month.

Ruanda-Urundi of the former Belgian Congo became Rwanda. The Hutu tribe and their party won the general political elections in October.

Part of the British colony of Cameroon joined with independent Nigeria and part joined with the Republic of Cameroon.
Syrian troops staged a coup in late September that established a civilian government separate from the United Arab Republic.

By the end of the year, Castro publicly declared himself to be a Marxist-Leninist.

After a profitable 30-year career as the dictator of the Dominican Republic, a domestic assassination team executed Rafael Trujillo, 70.

Canada's population was 18,238,247. Canada joined in the establishment of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development that included the USA and 18 European nations.

The Jewish population of Israel numbered 1,932,400. The non-Jewish population was composed of 170,800 Arabs, Bedouin, and Circassians; 24,000 Christian Arabs; and some 24,000 Druse.

The USS Enterprise was the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

John F. Enders (1897-1985), a bacteriologist, and his colleagues at the Children's Hospital at Harvard Medical School, Frederick Robbins (1916+?), a pediatrician, and Thomas Weller (1915+?), a physiologist, developed a successful vaccination for measles. All three were awarded the 1954 Nobel Prize for physiology-medicine.

The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) started to send thousands of "freedom riders" from northern states in the USA to destinations in the South to expose the lack of enforcement of anti-segregation rulings by federal courts regarding buses, railroads, and terminals. They also started a voter registration drive in the South. State law enforcement officials, on some occasions, and US marshals rendered them valuable assistance and protection.

Scientists in the US Adirondack Mountains and in Scandinavia discovered that increasingly acidity in rain was killing some living organisms in small lakes.

Some FM stations carried stereophonic radio broadcasts.

The people of Washington, DC, by means of the 23rd Amendment, gained the right to elect a non-voting congressional representative.

Representatives from Guam, the American Virgin Islands, and American Samoa followed along shortly.

With American sponsorship and money, President Kennedy hoped to create an Alliance for Progress of 19 Latin American nations that promised to promoted trade and reduce tariffs. It accomplished neither objective noticeably.

Vietnamese general Vo Nguyen Giap published People's War, People's Army.

John F. Kennedy, Presidential Inaugural Address, 20 January 1961: "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country." "We must use time as a tool, not as a couch." "If a free society cannot help the many who are poor it cannot save the few who are rich." On himself: "An idealist without illusions." A.J.P. Taylor: "Human blunders usually do more to shape history than human wickedness." Joseph Wood Krutch (1893-1970), American writer: "The wilderness and the idea of the wilderness is one of the permanent homes of the human spirit." Newton Minow, the chairman of the FCC in the USA, described TV programming as a "vast wasteland."

1961+1963: John F. Kennedy (1917-1963) was the youngest elected president of the USA.

The number of American troops-military advisers in Vietnam increased from 2000 to 16,000.

1961+1965: Sheik Abdullah al-Salem al-Sabah was the non-elected emir of independent Kuwait.

1961+1966: During India's Third Five-Year Plan, the United States, Britain, Canada, France, West Germany, and Japan - the Aid-to-India Club - contributed more than $5 billion to India's economic development.

There was a great drought in the northeastern part of the USA.

Barbados in the Caribbean Sea became an independent nation within the Commonwealth.

William "Count" Basie (1905-1984) was a famous American pianist and jazz bandleader, as he had been and would be for years before and after.
1961+1972: Some 80,000 military officers founded the Army Mutual Assistance Association (OYAK) that funded a holding company worth some $300 million in 1972, which made it one of the most important economic and financial forces in the Republic of Turkey.

1961+1975: There were anti-Portuguese/pro-independence insurrections and civil wars in all the Portuguese colonies that resulted in all becoming independent nations: Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao-Tome e Principe (in the Gulf of Guinea). Note: Brazil had become an independent country in 1822.

1961+1979: After a coup, a forward-looking South Korean military junta took charge of the country in May. General Park Chung Hee (1917+1979), 44, was their leader. He had been educated in a Japanese military academy and had served as an officer in the Japanese Imperial Army in Manchuria. Korea began a highly successful effort to build export-led industrial development linked with authoritarian government planning and financial support. Korea had growth rates in excess of 10 percent during this period. The distraught chief of the South Korean central intelligence service assassinated Park Chung Hee.

1961+1990: Julius Nyerere, who had an economics degree from Edinburgh University and who favored African socialism, was the political leader of Tanganyika that merged with Zanzibar and became Tanzania in 1964.

1961+1999: Sheik Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa ruled the oil-rich Emirate of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf without benefit of a parliament. Bahrain is composed of 35 islands and covers an area of 260 square miles. The Al Kalifa royal family is Sunni Muslims; most of the country’s people are Shiites. There was some conflict between these two sects over political reforms and other issues. During this part of the sheik’s reign, there was only one brief experiment, 1973+1975, with something resembling democracy. The emir’s government enjoyed good relations with both Britain and the USA whose 5th Fleet sometimes used Bahrain as a port.

The consumer price index in Canada increased 22 percent and increases in industrial wages did even better.

Guided by Ray Kroc, who bought the corporation for $2.7 million in 1961, the number of McDonald’s restaurants increased from 228 to more than 25,000, about half of which were in 116 foreign countries.

1961+2000: The US Peace Corps, one of President Kennedy’s innovations, sent tens of thousands of volunteers to many underdeveloped nations and places to undertake development projects especially in the fields of education, agriculture, and health.

1962: Algeria gained independence from France.

The European Economic Community (EEC) established a common agricultural policy that guaranteed farmers a minimum income.

Uganda, in East Africa, became independent of Britain in October behind the political leadership of Milton Obote and Colonel Idi Amin (who replaced Obote in a putsch in January 1971).

The Hutu in Rwanda, who regarded the Tutsi as collaborators with the Belgians, slaughtered thousands of their rivals. The Tutsi, who controlled the government in Burundi, slaughtered thousands of Hutu. There were many refugees from both tribes in both countries. The ethnic violence continued until the end of the century, if it ended then. Tutsi made-up about 9 percent of the population of Rwanda. Leaders of the Tutsi/Batusi/Watusi tribes dominated Burundi’s government.

The islands of Jamaica and Trinidad-Tobago became independent of Britain.

Communist troops from China briefly invaded Indian territory.

The USSR agreed to send missiles and nuclear weapons to Cuba and, then, presto, the Cuban Missile Crisis happened in mid-October when American intelligence reports and pictures showed that the USSR was building missile sites in Cuba. President Kennedy ordered a quarantine of Cuba. The USSR finally backed down and agreed to close their bases and remove the missiles and their warheads. The USA, in exchange, also stepped back, ended the
blockade, and removed its Jupiter missiles from Turkey that were pointed at the USSR.

Deng Xiaoping (1904–1997) and other "pragmatists" in the PRC openly questioned the wisdom of collectivized farming and the communes.

Passage of the Trade Expansion Act led to tariff cuts that averaged 35 percent between the USA and the members of the European Common Market.

There was a Geneva Conference on Laos.

After a scrupulously fair trial that lasted 14 months, Adolf Eichmann was hanged in Israel in June for his crimes against humanity during WWII when he had been the leading organizer of Nazi Germany's concentration camps throughout Europe where millions of Jews and others had been killed. (Eichmann had been captured by Israeli agents in 1960 in Argentina and taken to Israel.)

The first direct significant sale of American weapons, mainly Hawk ground-to-air defensive missiles, to Israel.

The International Control Commission on Indo-China alleged the North Vietnamese were supplying the Vietcong in South Vietnam with weapons in violation of the 1954 Geneva accords.

The secession of Katanga from the Congo was finally crushed.

An Organization of African States, 20 nations in all, was formed during a meeting at Lagos, Nigeria, but Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Morocco, and the United Arab Republic refused to attend the meeting or join. Algeria was not invited.

The USA and Britain jointly tested nuclear weapons for the first time at the Nevada Test Site.

The USA resumed atmospheric testing of a nuclear device at Christmas atoll/Kiritimati in the Line Islands of Oceania south of Hawaii.

There was a civil war in Yemen, and the monarchy was overthrown.

There was a civil war in Laos between anti-communists, supported by the Americans, and communists, who had the support of the Vietminh and their allies.

Western Samoa became independent of New Zealand.

The blanket US Navy security clearance for Guam was lifted, and the island ceased to be a kind of closed military base.

The Philippines changed its Independence Day from 4 July to 12 June.

There were fewer than 1000 polio cases in the USA.

Philips made a compact audiocassette for recording on magnetic tape.

Hamburg, Germany, was flooded when dikes broke and some 500,000 people were left homeless and another 10,000 died.

James Meredith was the first Black to enroll at the University of Mississippi. He did so with the protection of Federal troops. He graduated the next year.

John H. Glenn, Jr., was the first American to orbit in space.

The US Supreme Court ruled that religious prayer in the public schools crossed the line separating matters of church and state as provided for in the Constitution.

Gary Powers, the U-2 pilot who had been shot down by the Soviets, was exchanged for Col. Rudolf Abel a Soviet spy who had been in captivity in the USA since 1957.

Richard Nixon, who had earlier lost the presidential election to John F. Kennedy, lost his race for the governorship of California to Edmund G. "Pat" Brown in November.

The US Congress started the Communications Satellite Corp./COMSAT to initiate profitable space communications under government supervision.

Delores Huerta, Cesar Chavez, and Helen Chavez founded the Farm Worker Association that then became the United Farm Workers. They mobilized Mexican-American, Chicano, Californios, Tejanos, migrant workers in the Salinas Valley of California and elsewhere. For
the first time, significant numbers of agricultural workers became unionized in the USA.

Ninety percent of American homes had at least one TV.

Color TV broadcasting started on the major networks in the USA.

Tragic mistakes with the dispersal of improperly tested thalidomide to expectant mothers forced the US Congress to give the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) new powers to supervise the certification of new drugs.

President Kennedy asked Congress for a "Consumer Bill of Rights" which would have "Truth in Lending" and "Truth in Packaging" provisions.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn (1918+?) wrote One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich that painfully showed the world how brutal the Soviet regime really was.

Rachel Carson published Silent Spring that galvanized activists and others who were concerned about environmental problems and the excessive use of DDT and other pesticides that killed not only insects but also the earthworms and birds that ate them. (DDT was banned in the USA in 1972.)

Telstar, an American communications satellite, transmitted TV programs overseas.

For the first time, lasers were used to perform eye surgery.

Unimation, a US corporation, made and sold the world's first industrial robots. General Motors was one of their first customers.

The US Mariner 2 space probe went to Venus.

The Academy of Motion Picture Artists selected Lawrence of Arabia as the best motion picture of the year.

H. Ross Perot founded Electronic Data Systems with a $1000 loan from his wife.

Deng Xiaoping, Chinese communist politician: "Yellow or white, a cat that catches mice is a good cat." Carl Gustav Jung: "As far as we can discern, the sole purpose of human existence is to kindle a light in the darkness of mere being."

Dean Rusk, American diplomat about the Cuban missile crisis: "We're eye-ball to eye-ball and the other fellow just blinked." Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet leader, in reference to the Cuban missile crisis: "They talk about who won and who lost. Human reason won. Mankind won," Martin Luther King, American reformer: "If a man hasn't discovered something that he would die for, he isn't fit to live." Earl Warren, American Chief Justice: "In civilized life, law floats in a sea of ethics." W. H. Auden (1907+1973), British poet: "Man is a history-making creature who can neither repeat his past nor leave it behind." Marshall McLuhan (1911+1981), Canadian semantic and media philosopher: "The car [automobile] has become the carapace, the protective and aggressive shell, of urban and suburban man." "The new electronic interdependence recreates the world in the image of a global village." "Perhaps it is not that the educator has been shouldered aside by men of action so much as he has been swamped by high-powered imitators." Adlai Stevenson, US politician, on Eleanor Roosevelt: "She would rather light a candle than curse the darkness." John Fitzgerald Kennedy to a group of 49 Nobel Prize winners: "I think this is the most extraordinary collection of human talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered at the White House - with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone." Marilyn Monroe (1922+1962): "A sex symbol becomes a thing. I hate being a thing." Rachael Carson, ecologist: "Over increasingly large areas of the United States, spring now comes unheralded by the return of the birds, and the early mornings are strangely silent where once they were filled with the beauty of bird song." "Most of us walk unseeing through the world, unaware alike of its beauties, its wonders, and the strange and sometimes terrible intensity of the lives that are being lived about us." Dean Acheson, American statesman: "Great Britain has lost an Empire and has not yet found a role."

1962/3: Charles de Gaulle made the French-German alliance the focal point of French foreign policy. Chancellor Adenauer, who was more closely aligned with the Anglo-Americans, and de Gaulle, signed a treaty that supposedly gave their nations a "special relationship" much like what the British and Americans have enjoyed since about 1815.
1962/3 and 1967: More than anyone else, Charles de Gaulle prevented Britain's entry into the European Common Market. Many Europeans thought, as he did, that the British were more attached to their Commonwealth of Nations and the USA than they should be as good Europeans.

1962+1965: In a setback for the reactionary Italian cardinals of the Roman Curia, Pope John XXIII/Angelo Giuseppe Roncali (1881+1963), 82-years of age but youthful in his thinking, convened the Roman Catholic Church's 21st Ecumenical Council of the Universal Church, which some called Vatican II. (Vatican I had met in 1869.) It was meant to bring Christians of all sorts together and create ecumenical harmony. Some 2500 bishops were called to Rome to deliberate over a three-year period. Vatican II improved relations between the Catholic Church and the Orthodox Churches and permitted greater participation in services by lay members. It was sustained and concluded by Pope Paul VI/Giovanni Battista Montini (1897+1978). Some have called Vatican II the end of the Counter-Reformation and the start of the modern Catholic Church.

1962+1966: As evidence of the general "brain drain" in Latin America, Ecuador lost 32 percent of its engineers, Chile lost 30.3 percent of its engineers, and Paraguay lost 23.3 percent of its engineers to emigration.

1962+2000: The people of Myanmar/Burma lived almost continuously under martial law imposed by a military government headed by General U Ne Win and his successors.

The Rolling Stones were one of the most famous rock-and-role bands. Mick Jagger and Keith Richards were their best-known members.

1963: After months of negotiating, the USA, UK, and USSR signed an agreement whereby they agreed to a Limited Test Ban Treaty on the honor system to stop atomic testing in the atmosphere, underwater, and in outer space. There were no provisions for on-site inspections. Underground testing on both sides continued. (By 1966, 90 other nations had also signed this treaty, with the notable exception of France and China.)

During a short visit to West Germany in June, President John Kennedy declared, "Ich bin ein Berliner/I am a Berliner." His policy was to defend West Berlin and promote European unity.

Konrad Adenauer, 87, the West German chancellor, the principal leader of post-war German recovery and rehabilitation, and a leader of European and North American unity, resigned in October after many years of distinguished contributions to a reformed Germany, a stronger Europe, and a better world.

Syrian and Israeli forces fought along the demilitarized zone north of the Sea of Galilee during August.

A rebellion started in Portugal's colony of Guinea.

The Arab Socialist Resurrection party, or Ba'ath in Arabic, which had been founded in Syria, staged a military coup in Iraq against General Kassem and seized the government. Ba'ath party members often advocated Pan-Arabism, secularism, and state socialism.


Many people in Italy became disillusioned about the resolve and ability of their center-left governments to bring about comprehensive reforms in Italian society.

The Nagas of Nagaland made Assam India's 16th state.

The Kennedy administration authorized the sale of Hawk missiles to Israel that was the first major shipment of American arms to that nation.

North Vietnamese boats supposedly attacked ships of the American navy in the Tonkin Gulf.

Mohammed Ahmed Ben Bella, the head of the National Liberation Front (FLN) during the war with France (1954+1962), was elected Algeria's first prime minister.

The Netherlands/Holland officially ceded Irian Jaya/West Irian/West New Guinea to Indonesia.

Ending a long-time ban on structures more than 31 meters high, the first high-rise building went up in Tokyo.
Serious crop failures in the USSR and the PRC forced both countries to buy grains from capitalist markets in the West. One joke in the USSR was that Khruschev’s miracle meant "He has sown wheat in Kazakhstan [where his 'virgin land experiment' failed] and harvested it in Canada."

US corn production was over five billion bushels, up from three billion in 1906. The number of farmers fell to only 7.1 percent of the American population.

Martin Luther King, Jr., led a number of nonviolent demonstrations in Birmingham, Alabama, where the local police were especially violent and overtly racist in their conduct. Pictures of these shocking events were sent everywhere by local, national, and international television crews. During August King led a massive civil rights demonstration, some 200,000 people strong, in America’s capital. He gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

President John Kennedy promoted and got passed by Congress a successful tax cut which stimulated the economy.

The Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) conducted a guerrilla war against the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua.

George Wallace, the popular governor of Alabama, tried and failed to stop Blacks from entering the University of Alabama.

The Supreme Court of the USA in *Gideon v. Wainwright* ruled that governments, federal and state, must provide free legal counsel for indigents. They also decided that mandatory *Bible* readings in public schools were unconstitutional.

The War Resisters League and many other groups demonstrated against US involvement in Vietnam.

The US nuclear merchant ship *Savannah* was first tested. (It was decommissioned in 1971 because of its excessively high operating costs.)

The US Congress passed the first Clean Air Act.

Gen. Duong Van "Big" Minh led a military junta in South Vietnam (three weeks before the Kennedy assassination) that killed - apparently with CIA and President Kennedy’s approval - the ineffective Ngo Dinh Diem and his security chief, his brother, on 1 November.

Lee Harvey Oswald, 24, assassinated President John Kennedy in Dallas, Texas, on 22 November. Thus ended an event-filled presidential administration of only 34 months. Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson (1908+1973) was Kennedy’s successor.

Jack Ruby, a dangerous lunatic, shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald in the basement of the Dallas city jail on 24 November as millions of startled people watched the happenings on TV.

The Progressive Conservative government in Canada, led by John Diefenbaker, opposed the installation of American nuclear armaments in anti-aircraft missiles and was then stunned by a no-confidence vote in the Canadian Parliament. The Liberals won a plurality in the general election. Lester Pearson (1897+1972), a Liberal, formed a new government.

The USA and USSR agreed to install a "hot line" from the White House to the Kremlin.

Leo Sternbach, a refugee chemist from the Nazis in Poland, having improved on an earlier version he had worked on for years, discovered the Valium tranquilizer for the Hoffmann-LaRoche pharmaceutical company in New Jersey, USA.

Dr. James Daniel Hardy did the first lung transplant.

Drs. Thomas Starzl and Francis Moore did the first liver transplant.

Valentina Tereshkova, a Russian, was the first woman to go into space.

The world’s largest radio telescope started operating in Puerto Rico, USA.

Betty Goldstein Friedan, an American, published *The Feminine Mystique* that shaped and reinforced the views of many feminists.

Mount Agung on the island of Bali in Indonesia erupted. The lava flow destroyed many towns and villages, killed many people, and left about 200,000 homeless.

*Tom Jones*, based on one of the first and best comic-action novels ever written (1749), was selected as the film of the year by the Academy.
Nikita Khrushchev: "Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river." Jean Cocteau (1891+1963), French underwater explorer: "The essential in daring is to know how far one can go too far." Martin Luther King, speech on 20 August: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today." John F. Kennedy: "The supreme reality of our time is . . . the vulnerability of this planet." "Victory has a thousand fathers but defeat is an orphan." "A rising tide lifts all boats." J. William Fulbright, US politician: "In the name of noble purposes men have committed unspeakable acts of cruelty against one another." Lyndon B. Johnson (1908+1973): "I am a compromiser and manoeuverer. I try to get something. That's the way our system works."

1963/4: Communist influenced Zanzibar became independent during December 1963. Only a few weeks later the African majority overthrew the sultan in Zanzibar and in April 1964 Zanzibar joined with Taganyika to form the East African republic of Tanzania with Julius K. Nyerere as president.

1963+1965: The former British possessions of Malaya, Singapore, Sarawak, and Sabah formed the Federation of Malaysia that almost immediately divided. Sabah and Sarawak were on the island of Borneo in East Malaysia and split off in 1963. The city of Singapore became independent in 1965. And then, peninsular Malaysia, by definition, stood alone as an independent nation.

White settlers had ruled Rhodesia since 1923, but that arrangement was breaking down.

1963+1966: Ludwig Erhard (1897+1977), a member of the Christian Democratic Party and a former economics minister (1949+1963), was chancellor of the West German Federal Republic that created and enjoyed remarkable economic growth at this time.

1963+1970: Abdul Rahman/Tunka Putra (1903+1990) was the prime minister of Malaysia.

The Front de liberation du Quebec (FLQ), a terrorist group, operated without significant popular support before it was banned.

1963+1975: The Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (Frelimo), operating mainly from Tanzania, fought against, and eventually defeated, the occupying Portuguese forces.

1963+1979: Park Chung Hee was president of South Korea.

1963+1992: The Turks installed their own government in northern Cyprus. Civil war between Greeks and Turks resulted with each side backed in various ways by their homelands.

1963+1997: There were more than 70 military coups in 32 of Africa's independent nations. Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Tanzania, and Tunisia were exceptions.

1963+2000: The Organization of African Unity, with 51 nations as members, has its headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

1964: After 140 years of British rule, Malta became an independent nation.

Western Europe's combined economy had increased 250 percent since 1938.

The United Nations called for international economic sanctions against the racist regime in South Africa.

The People's Republic of China tested its first atomic bomb in October.

Guerrillas attacked the Portuguese in Mozambique.

There was a significant recession, the first since WWII, in Italy; and the center-left coalition of parties split into pieces. There was a financial and political crisis in Italy. Some observers thought the country was on the edge of a breakdown.

Indonesia had a "confrontation" with Malaysia over control of the territories of Sabah and Sarawak in northern Borneo.

Mainly the 75,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria originally formed the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). They vowed to destabilize and destroy Israel.

Military leaders in Brazil forced top civilian government officials out of their offices and took over.
There were tensions between Syria and Israel over water from the Jordan River. The Hazbani and Banias rivers, which helped fill the Jordan River, had their headwaters in Syria.

Northern Rhodesia became independent as the Republic of Zambia behind the leadership of Kenneth Kaunda (1924+?), the leader of the United National Independent Party.

The former Nyasaland broke its federation with Rhodesia and became independent Malawi after 73 years of British rule.

The erratic Khrushchev was ousted from power during October and sent out of the way into retirement. Alexei Kosygin (1904+1980), already a member of the Central Committee and the Politburo of the USSR, became chairman of the Council of Ministers, which was subordinate to the Communist Party's Politburo and Secretariat.

The US Congress, by a vote of 88 to 2 in the Senate and 416 to 0 in the House of Representatives, passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution in August that gave President Lyndon Johnson legal power to escalate the war in Indochina. It authorized Johnson, as commander in chief of the USA's military, to "... take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression." It opened the door for major American involvement in the Vietnam conflict against a threat against the USA that was problematic.

By the end of the year, there were 23,300 American troops and a Military Assistance Command in Vietnam.


Martin Luther King, Jr., was awarded the Nobel peace prize.

A military coup expelled the civilian government in Brazil and a so-called anti-communist purge followed.

According to the president's Council of Economic Advisers, about 20 percent of Americans, some 9.3 million were below the "poverty line" of $3000 income per year for a family of four.

The Turkish air force attacked Greek Cypriots before the UN intervened in behalf of a ceasefire on Cyprus.

President Johnson proclaimed a "national war on poverty" on 16 March. Head Start, an educational program for disadvantaged preschool children, was started. Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) for community action projects, the Neighborhood Youth Corps, and the Job Corps - all were administered by the new Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) headed by the late president Kennedy's brother-in-law, R. Sargent Shriver. Some saw it as the latest, last, and a holdover phase of FDR's New Deal, of which Johnson had played a minor part in administering.

The sometimes-called "Kennedy Round" of negotiations was held in Geneva in November to reduce world trade barriers and tariffs.

US gasoline prices were $.30 per gallon in October.

Jimmy Hoffa's Teamsters Union was arguably the most powerful group of workers in North America. (Hoffa was found guilty of jury tampering in a 1962 trial largely because of the determined efforts of attorney general Robert Kennedy [1925+1968].)

President Johnson signed the Medicare Act on 30 July that amended the Social Security Act of 1935. It created a government health insurance plan for some 20 million Americans 65 years and older. (President Harry Truman had proposed a similar, but bolder, scheme in 1949.) The plan was funded by payroll deductions, individual premiums, and a federal subsidy.

Congress and President Johnson approved some $1 billion in funds for public housing and urban renewal.

More than a quarter-million acres of beautiful American red rocks and mesas were enclosed in the new Canyonlands National Park in Utah.

A food stamp program was activated by the Department of Agriculture to help hungry Americans.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed the year at 875.
There were some 450 public birth-control clinics in the USA, and a dozen states supported them with tax dollars.

Malcolm X, formerly Malcolm Little, was widely thought to be Elijah Muhammad's successor as the leader of the Black Muslims until he broke away and formed his own Organization for Afro-American Unity this year.

Australia sold millions of tons of iron ore to Japan's steel manufacturers.

The Volga-Baltic Ship Canal connected Leningrad with the Caspian Sea.

The government of Quebec, many years behind the other Canadian provinces, established a Department of [public] Education. Most students in Quebec went to private Roman Catholic schools.

The Tokaido Shin Kansu/New Tokaido Line opened service with "bullet trains" that averaged 160 km/100 miles per hour, with speeds up to 132 miles per hour, between Osaka and Tokyo. The line was quickly extended to Hakata some 688 miles from Tokyo.

The USA and seven other countries established a global commercial telecommunications satellite system, the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization/Intelsat.

Anchorage, the largest city in Alaska, was hit with a massive earthquake of 9.2 on the Richter scale, the largest number ever recorded in North America, on 28 March.

The Adriatic Sea in November swelled six feet above normal and damaged art treasures and the foundations of many buildings in Venice.

There was a shift from Latin to English liturgy in Roman Catholic Churches in the USA and other places. American parochial/Catholic schools had enrollments of 5.6 million students.

After 17 years as prime minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru died.

India and Pakistan reignited their quarrel over Kashmir.

The Boeing 727 commercial airliner went into production.

Students rioted at the University of California at Berkeley against US involvement in the Vietnam War.

The Surgeon General's Report in the USA in January showed evidence that tobacco smoking caused lung and oral cancers.

Topless dancers began to appear regularly in San Francisco nightclubs.

Soviet athletes again dominated the Olympic games in Tokyo.

The British turbine powered Bluebird automobile set a speed record of 429.311 mph.

Permanent press clothing, which used polyester fibers such as Dacron, went on sale.

The Thoughts of Chairman Mao was published and became known to millions of people inside and out of China as "the little red book."

Marshall McLuhan, an important Canadian communications philosopher, published Understanding Media.

Doctor Strangelove: Or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb was a clever anti-Cold War film.

Frederico Fellini's Giulietta degli Spiriti was one of the best films of the post-war period.

Pablo Picasso, Spanish/French artist: "I don't seek, I find." J.R.R. Tolkien (1892+1973), British fantasy writer and philologist: "A real taste for fairy-stories was wakened by philology on the threshold of manhood, and quickened to full life by war." Robert Kennedy, US politician: "One fifth of the people are against everything all the time." Barry Goldwater, US conservative politician: "I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. And let me remind you also that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue!" Erich Fromm, German-born American social philosopher and psychoanalyst: "Dostoevsky said, 'If there is no God, then anything is possible.' I would say that if there is no love, nothing is possible. Man absolutely cannot live by himself." Lyndon Johnson, US president: "The Great Society rests on abundance and liberty for all. It demands an end to poverty and racial injustice; to which we are totally committed in our time." Marshall McLuhan: "All media exist to invest our lives
with artificial perceptions and arbitrary values." Arthur Koestler: "Creativity: a type of learning process where the teacher and pupil are located in the same individual." Bernard M. Baruch: "If the history of the past fifty years teaches us anything, it is that peace does not follow disarmament - disarmament follows peace."

Douglas MacArthur, US general: "There is no security in this life. There is only opportunity." Charlie Chaplin, film actor and director: "All I need to make a comedy is a park, a policeman, and a pretty girl."

1964+1967: Romania's trade with the USSR dropped from 42 percent to 27 percent of its total as the Romanians found richer markets elsewhere.

1964+1968: Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" legislation, which included an Omnibus Civil Rights bill, created what some people called a "welfare society" in the USA.

The Canadian government sensibly integrated its air force, army, and navy into one military force under a unified command.

1964+1975: The dates some give for the second phase of the Vietnam War primarily between the Vietnamese communists-nationalists and the deeply committed USA.

There was a war of independence in Mozambique that Portugal lost.

After deposing his brother Saud Ibn Abdul Aziz, with help from the council of ministers, Faisal Ibn Abdul Aziz (1904+1975) became the king of Saudi Arabia.

1964+1977: After the death of Nehru, India was ruled by a kind of collective leadership, some called it a "Syndicate," from the Congress Party.

1964+1978: Jomo Kenyatta, a Kikuyu tribal leader, was the first president of an independent Republic of Kenya.

1964+1979: Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (1900+1989) was exiled from Iran.

1964+1982: The unoriginal, stolid Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev (1906+1982), a Russian originally from the Ukraine whom some called a neo-Stalinist, became the general secretary of the Communist Party/CPSU (and thus, if he chose, was able to appoint himself president or prime minister of the USSR). Some have called this the period of the "Great Stagnation" in the USSR when nothing improved, nothing changed but the words, and bureaucratic decay spread.

1964+1985: a military government that seemed to become less popular with each passing year ruled the people of Brazil.

1964+1990: Some of the leaders of the Umkhonto we Sizwe/Spear of the Nation and the African National Congress (ANC), including Nelson Mandela (1918+?), were arrested, convicted, and sent to prison by the government of South Africa. Many suffered even worse fates. Nelson Mandela was made a prisoner supposedly for having committed sabotage and subversion against the White-only South African government and its racist policy of apartheid.

1964+1991: Kenneth Kaunda was the strongman of Zambia without much opposition.

1964+2000: The Grand Duke Jean was the largely ceremonial ruler of Luxembourg and one of the least known and longest-serving monarchs in Europe. He became a popular leader when he served with the British army during WWII and helped to liberate France, Belgium, and his own country from the Germans. Despite the long-decline of its steel industry, the grand duchy was a leading financial center and its citizens were some of the most prosperous people in Europe.

1964+2000: The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) dedicated itself to founding an independent state of Palestine and destroying Israel.

1965: Singapore separated from the Muslim controlled Federation of Malaysia and became a prosperous and progressive independent city-state.

West Germany's GNP was larger than the combined GNPs of all the USSR's East European satellites.

Indira Gandhi was elected prime minister of India.

Indian and Pakistani troops clashed, and Pakistani tanks prevailed, in the wasteland Rann/"Salt Marsh" of Kutch along the 200-mile southern part of their border until a ceasefire.
was signed in late June. Then, three-weeks of fighting broke out during August-September over control of Kashmir and the Punjab. This time Indian tanks nearly reached Lahore while destroying more than 450 Pakistani tanks before an UN-negotiated cease-fire took pace in late September.

In the US, the Immigration Act ended national quotas that favored Europeans. It opened the doors to a wave of immigrants from Latin America, the Pacific Islands, and Asia. The Medicare Act created federal medical insurance for senior citizens and the poor. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act involved the federal government in the funding of public education.

Colonel Joseph D. Mobutu/Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga/"the all-powerful warrior who, because of his endurance and inflexible will to win, sweeps from conquest to conquest leaving fire in his wake" led a second military coup and became the one and only indisputable chief of the Congo, which was renamed Zaire.

Yasser Arafat and his associates formed Al Fatah/Victory, a terrorist movement for the national liberation of Palestine, with encouragement from the government of Syria.

Ethnic Russian settlers in Kazakhstan outnumbered the Kazakhs.

France began nuclear tests on Tuamotu Island in French Polynesia, Oceania.

Oil and natural gas were discovered by geologists under the North Sea.

Gambia, south of Senegal and north of Guinea-Bissau in West Africa, became an independent kingdom after 122 years of British rule.

After 78 years of British rule, the Maldivian Islands in the Indian Ocean became independent in July.

Capital punishment was ended in the United Kingdom.

The people of the USSR were again desperate for wheat and other grains that had to be purchased from Western nations by selling gold and petroleum.

The Congress of the Trust Territory of Micronesia met for the first time. Citizens of the Trust Territory were not USA citizens, paid no income taxes to the USA's federal government, but were eligible for a wide variety of US educational, economic, and welfare programs.

Supposedly retaliating for an attack on American troops in South Vietnam, American bombers dropped their loads of bombs on selected parts of North Vietnam during February, March, and April.

Australia sent troops to help the government of South Vietnam and the American effort there.

The US escalated its involvement in Vietnam by putting more troops on the ground while public opposition to involvement increased. There were some 125,000 American troops by the end of July in Vietnam. Some commentators in the USA thought there was a full-fledged youth revolt underway in the USA, mainly among college-university students. The Vietnam War galvanized students and others, called by some the New Left, who were not obsessed by the Old Left's interest in Marxism, and various odd proponents of counter-and-sub-cultures such as the "rock and roll culture," "the flower power culture," "the drug culture," and "the Black Power culture."

Martin Luther King, Jr., led a civil rights march on Selma, Alabama, in early February against unfair state voting registration laws.

About 70 percent of American Blacks lived in cities and many lived in central-city ghettos.

There were about 184,000 American troops in South Vietnam opposing the Vietcong guerrillas by the end of the year.

The federal Voting Rights Act became law 10 August and thereafter thousands of Black voters were registered in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and other places.

There was rioting in the Watts district of Los Angeles, California, in August for six days during which 34 people lost their lives and another 1032 were injured. About 600 structures were destroyed or damaged by fire; total property damage was about $175 million. Some 500 square blocks were burned and destroyed. Some 14,000 members of the California National
Guard who arrested some 4000 rioters, most of whom were Blacks, finally ended the rioting.

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) started operations in September.

"Lady Bird" Johnson, the dynamic first lady, helped to persuade Congress to remove unsightly billboards along interstate and other major highways and to beautify them with plants, shrubs, and trees.

President Lyndon Johnson sent some 20,000 Marines to the Dominican Republic starting in April on a difficult, if not impossible, mission to prevent a communist coup, end years of internal conflict between rebels and the Dominican Army, and to protect American citizens and other foreigners.

Greater London comprised 32 boroughs.

Wages, salaries, and prices were frozen in the UK in an effort to improve the nation's economy.

Cigarette advertising was banned from TV in the UK in August.

Mary Quant in London designed and manufactured the "miniskirt" which rapidly became a fashion necessity, like jeans, in many parts of the world.

IBM engineers invented an early version of the word processor.

There was a massive electric power failure - gridlock some - which blacked-out seven states in the NORTHEAST USA and the province of Ontario, called it Canada, during the night of 9/10 November.

Ralph Nader, a consumer advocate, published Unsafe at Any Speed, which was an indictment of shoddy American cars and their makers.

There were some 240 million radios and 61.8 million TVs in the USA.

Malcolm X, a powerful militant and intellectual, wrote and published his Autobiography. A few days latter members of a rival sect of Black Muslims assassinated him.

Linus Pauling (1901+1994), American scientist and double Nobel Prize winner in chemistry (1954) and peace (1962): "Man's great power of thinking, remembering, and communicating are responsible for the evolution of civilization."

A.J.P. Taylor, British historian: "History gets thicker as it approaches recent times." Walt Whitman Rostow, president Johnson's National Security Adviser, predicted, "The Vietcong are going to collapse in weeks. Not months, but weeks." Coco Chanel (1883+1971), French designer: "Youth is something very new: twenty years ago no one mentioned it."

1965/6: Only two percent of military inductees in the USA were college-university students because they commonly were from middle class families or better and thus were able to get bogus medical and other deferments of one sort or another. In other words, the "draft" caught the poor, non-students, and minorities first.

1965+1967: After the flamboyant and extravagant President Sukarno led his nation into a state of civil unrest, during 1965, the Thirtieth of September Movement, led by Lt. Colonel Untung of Sukarno's palace guard, declared the government had been taken over by a revolutionary council in Indonesia which was itself overcome by the anti-communist General Thojib Suharto who was the commander of the reserves and then, quickly, the chief of the army staff. The military went on a rampage and killed an estimated 500,000 people, including many tens of thousands of critics of the government and Indonesians of Chinese ancestry, who were, or were alleged to be, members of the Communist Party of Indonesia (PKI). During March 1966, General Suharto who a year later became the president of Indonesia replaced Sukarno as head of the government.

1965+1975: During the last years of the dictatorship in Portugal, some ten percent of the population, more than a million people, emigrated from Portugal mainly to France and Germany. The reasons were numerous: seemingly endless colonial wars in Africa, very low wages and foreign investments, lack of electricity and infrastructure, high unemployment and illiteracy, lack of personal and political freedom, and the stagnation of the economy which remained the least industrialized in Europe.

1965+1978: Houari Boumedienne (1925+1978), long one of the leaders of the Algerian National
Liberation Front/FLN, a guerrilla colonel, ousted President Ahmed Ben Bella, became the new leader of Algeria, and established an Islamic socialist government.

1965+1979: Ian D. Smith (1919+?), the leader of the Whites-only Rhodesian Front party, advocated immediate independence, without African majority rule, for Southern Rhodesia. He issued a unilateral declaration of independence that meant his government was prepared to rule Rhodesia without any interference from the outside world, especially from Britain. South Africa and Mozambique, still ruled by the Portuguese, continued to support the Smith government. Britain, supported by a growing number of other countries, declared the Rhodesian government to be in a state of rebellion and an international outlaw. Most of the major European nations, the USA, and Canada supported economic sanctions and a UN trade embargo against the government of Rhodesia.

Nearly 30 million workers entered the American labor market that increased some 40 percent.

1965+1980: The number of independent nations in Africa increased from 38 to 46.

1965+1986: Ferdinand Marcos (1917+1989), who had a very cozy relationship with many top American officials, was president of the Philippines that he ruled distinctly to the advantage of himself, his wife Imelda, their relatives, and their clans, tribes, and cronies. The "conjugal tyrants," as some called them, were forced by "people power" into comfortable exile in Hawaii in 1986. Before his death in Hawaii, they were charged by USA and Philippine officials with racketeering, embezzlement, and fraud, among other crimes. (Imelda was subsequently charged with many crimes in the Philippines and USA but was never convicted of anything nor forced to pay full restitution.)

The Congress of Micronesia met during these years.

1965+1989: Nicolae Ceausescu was the general secretary of the Romanian League of Communists and the strange, uneven, terrifying boss of his country. Some have called Romania during this time the North Korea of Eastern Europe.

1965+2000: Singapore was an independent, stand-alone city-state with excellent Chinese and pro-Western connections. Lee Kuan Yew, a Cambridge-trained lawyer, was the most conspicuous guiding force behind and leading Singapore's successes from 1959 until the 1990s.

1966: President de Gaulle withdrew France from the military side of NATO and urged Europeans to free themselves from both the USA and the USSR.

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (1920+1975) proposed in March that East Pakistan should become autonomous.

British Bechuanaland became the independent Republic of Botswana. British Basutoland became the Kingdom of Lesotho.

British Guiana in South America became independent Guyana.

President Nkrumah was temporarily ousted from his 15-year rule of Ghana by a military coup.

Along a 2600-mile strip south of the Sahara Desert that comprises parts of Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger, Chad, northern Nigeria, Cameroon, and Ethiopia, drought spread.

There were racial riots during the summer in Cleveland and Chicago in the USA.

A conference drummed-up by President Johnson in Manila during late October, pledged allied nations to support the USA in the war in Vietnam, where, by the end of the year, there were nearly 400,000 American troops.

In late October, the PRC tested another nuclear bomb.

The US Supreme Court ruled, in a very loose decision, that publications, pictures, messages, displays, dances, etc. with "redeeming social value" could not be censored by the government. Obscene materials were such that "the dominant theme taken as a whole appeals to a prurient interest." Many people wondered what that meant and how it could be applied. Generally speaking most lawyers and pornographers were delighted with the high court's decision.
As in *Escobedo v. Illinois* (1964), the US Supreme Court in *Miranda v. Arizona* ruled that police officers must warn all suspects of their constitutional "rights," including professional legal representation, when taken into custody.

The US Senate voted 49 to 37 in September to end voluntary prayers in American public schools.

American Peace Corps volunteers, mainly young college-university graduates, started to swarm over the islands of Micronesia where they mainly served as novice teachers of English.

The National Organization for Women (NOW) was founded in the USA with Betty Friedan as their president.

The Asian Development Bank opened.

Japan's birth rate fell to 14 per thousand while the People's Republic of China's birth rate was about 38 to 43 per thousand.

California legislators tackled the smog problem by setting standards for contaminants in auto exhausts. After this time, unleaded gasoline for vehicles became increasingly available and common in the USA.

Many Americans, especially the well-off taxpayer types, were starting to regard Johnson's Great Society as an expensive and wasteful boondoggle, a new form of demagoguery, designed primarily to attract less well off voters.

The US Department of the Interior published a list of 79 rare and endangered living species. Over the ensuing years, the list was modified.

The USA extended its jurisdiction over territorial waters from three to 12 miles, much to the relief of commercial fishers.

Wadi Haddad was a co-founder of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and used airplane hijackings as one of his methods of persuasion.

Both the USSR and USA engineered unmanned landings of space probes on the moon.

Huey Newton and Bobby Seale founded the Black Panther Party in the USA which was dedicated to establishing "Black Power" and a separate Black state in the USA.

In the USA, the percentage of male and female tobacco smokers fell to 42 percent and 31 percent, respectively.

The Americans Harry M. Meyer, Jr. and Paul D. Parkman made a live-virus vaccine for German measles/rubella.

Andrei Sinyavski and Yulii Daniel were put on trial and punished in the USSR for publishing abroad without government permission.

As estimated by some experts, ten percent of the Antarctic still had not been viewed or photographed by this time.

The Academy picked, quite rightly, *A Man for All Seasons* (about Thomas More, 1478+1535) as the best film of the year.

The enormously popular TV series *Star Trek* started to appear on US stations.

Houston's new Astrodome provided year-round, constant artificial environment, and many electronic and engineered comforts for mainly affluent sports fans and the guests of corporations with private entertainment "boxes."

**John Steinbeck:** "A dying people tolerates the present, rejects the future, and finds its satisfaction in past greatness and half-remembered glory."  
**Marshall McLuhan:** "A point of view can be a dangerous luxury when substituted for insight and understanding."  
**Helen Keller:** "I thank God for my handicaps, for through them, I have found myself, my work, and my God."

1966+1969: The PRC imported large quantities of wheat from Canada and Australia.

The leaders of the Communist Party of Burma damaged themselves severely with the public and international opinion, during a number of purges inspired by the Chinese Cultural Revolution.

1966+1970: The Nigerian Civil War was waged mostly between the Ibo people of the southeastern part of the country, who attempted to secede and form the Republic of Biafra. The military government had slaughtered some 20,000 Ibos as well as many Muslim Hansa-Fulani in the north and the Yorubas to the west. The secessionist Biafrans lost this war at the cost of many lives, mainly their own.


1965+1971: About 3500 Peace Corps volunteers from the USA served in Micronesia and on other islands in the Pacific in some 20 different economic development and educational programs.

1966+1976: Mao Zedong's "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution" followed the failed Great Leap forward (1958+1965) and Mao's consequent loss of prestige. Liu Shaoqi, Zhou Enlai, Deng Xiaoping, and other lesser figures directed the reform economic phase. Jiang Qing/Chiang Ching (1914+?), sometimes called the 3rd Madame Mao, a dedicated, parasitic Marxist-Leninist party-government worker, was a so-called consultant to the ministry of culture and other agencies; she finally attached herself to the Chinese Army. In an effort to curb the excesses of the young, rampant, Red Guards, whom she had used when it suited her purposes, she finally turned against them. Then she was "elected," undoubtedly with Mao's help in 1969, to the Politburo. Before, during, and after the "Cultural Revolution," millions of intelligent students learned little more than pro-communist propaganda. The Red Guards in effect, closed the Chinese universities. Tatzebao, posters, everywhere denounced Mao's supporters and enemies. There was something like a cultural civil war in China. The black markets flourished. Industrial production declined some ten percent during 1966+1968. The only thing certain about this confusing period was that Mao's communist party, but not necessarily the great leader himself, finally strengthened its grip by quelling the rebellious Red Guards, purged some of the old party hacks, and curtailed some of the extremists within and without the communist movement.

Some experts claim the active phase of the Cultural Revolution lasted from May 1966 until April 1969. Whichever dates one likes, thousands of flowers had briefly bloomed, but the harvest was bitter and meager.

Officially the aims of this "cultural revolution" were to end political and economic revisionism, eliminate all bourgeois influences, and to make politics and revolutionary ends and methods supremely important. The indisputable result was that tens of millions of people were persecuted, abused, injured, and violated.

This sad period in Chinese history ended with the death of Mao Zedong and the arrest of what Mao Zedong had called "the Gang of Four" (Jiang Qing, Zhang Chunqiao, Yao Wenyuan, and Wang Hongwen) a few weeks thereafter.

1966+1977: Mrs. Indira Nehru Gandhi (1917+1984), the late Jawaharlal Nehru's daughter, succeeded Lal Bahadur Shastri, after his death, as prime minister of India. She also was the leader of the Congress Party's 551 Members of Parliament. She followed a foreign policy of non-alignment. Religious and language separatists, mainly Sikhs, were an ongoing problem in the Punjab for her government.

1966+1978: Balthazar Johannes Vorster (1915+1983) became the prime minister of the Union of South Africa after the assassination of Henrik Verwoerden and apartheid remained the government's policy.

South Africa refused to accept the UN General Assembly's decision to end South Africa's military occupation of Southwest Africa/Namibia where apartheid laws were applied.

1966+1979: General/"Emperor" Jean-Bedel Bokassa (1921+?) was the ruler by coup of the Central African Republic and, by most accounts, one of the most corrupt and cruellest leaders in the world. (He was tried and convicted of murder and other crimes in 1988, but his sentence was later commuted.)

1966+1985: The combined population of the 16 members of the Western European Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) increased from 320 million to 355 million people.

1966+1986: Nigeria had petroleum. Nigeria, the largest of the sub-Saharan African nations, was better prepared for independence and success than any other African nation, or so many experts had thought before this time. In reality Nigeria was ruled by a series of military governments and suffered five coups by various military leaders.

1966+1998: General Thojib Suharto/Soeharto, formerly the head of the Japanese-sponsored Indonesian army and the chief of the army staff,
ruled Indonesia, none too well, as an autocrat with the help of his numerous family members until the nation's economic and political problems became unbearable as a virtual dictator of Indonesia. His Orde Baru/New Order, greatly helped by increased oil prices during the 1970s, advanced food and wood exports (including pulp, paper, and plywood from the rainforests) and the production of cigarettes cement, textiles, steel, and aluminum.

1967: The Third Arab-Israeli War, often called the Six-Day War, started on 5 June after months of tension between Syria and Israel. While gaining air superiority from the Golan Heights to the Sinai border, the Israelis within 160 minutes destroyed more than 400 Egyptian, Jordanian, and Syrian aircraft. More than 30 percent of Egypt's air force was destroyed on the ground. Israeli army units reoccupied the Golan Heights and the Old City of Jerusalem, which had been divided for 19 years. The Israelis drove thru the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula to the Suez Canal. They established themselves along the Jordan River and ruled the West Bank. Israel was triumphant nearly everywhere and in nearly all ways. Syria lost control of the Golan Heights. Jordan lost half its population and economic resources, the West Bank, and the Arab quarter of Jerusalem or, depending how one looks at it, the former Jordanian-held East Jerusalem.

During the Arab Summit in Khartoum, Sudan announced "no recognition, no negotiation, and no peace with Israel."

Mines and scuttled ships closed the Suez Canal during and after the Six-Day War, which deprived the Egyptian economy of millions in revenues. (Shipbuilders in the following years built supertankers that could bypass the great canals at Suez and Panama.) President Nasser received Soviet encouragement and assistance.

During what some have called the Fourth Arab-Israeli War, the Israelis attacked Beirut airport, and Egypt attacked Israeli positions along the Suez Canal.

South Yemen became independent of its northern half.

Svetlana Alliluyeva, Stalin's daughter, defected to the West.

A "Universal and International Exhibition," frequently called Expo 67, was held in Montreal to celebrate Canada's centennial.

President Charles de Gaulle on 25 July declared impromptu "Vive le Quebec libre" during a state visit during Expo 67. De Gaulle's words greatly encourage French separatists in Quebec then and for many years thereafter.

After nearly four years of fighting, Rwanda and Burundi negotiated a ceasefire.

After nearly two years of fruitless insurrectionist activities, Che Guevara, supposedly one of the leading intellectuals of the Marxist revolutions in Latin America and a hero of the Cuban revolution, was killed by Bolivian government troops.

American bombers unsuccessfully tried to blow-up the Ho Chi Minh trail whereby supplies were moved from North to South Vietnam. Reportedly some 50,000 Chinese from the PRC helped to keep the trail open.

The PRC tested a thermonuclear bomb on 17 June, which especially frightened, quite rightly, China's neighbors, including South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, the USSR, Pakistan, and India.

After many promises and endless debates since 1919, and much opposition from physicians, the government of Canada created Medicare, a federally funded universal health system administered by the provinces.

The US Department of Agriculture experimented with irradiation as a means of killing insects on wheat, papaya, and other foods.

The American Academy of Sciences warned that adding antibiotics to animal food increased drug resistance in bacteria.

George/Georgios Papadopoulos (1919+?), a former resistance fighter and politician, and General Styliano Patakos led a successful military coup against Andreas Papandreou, who had just been elected prime minister a few weeks earlier, and the royal government in Greece. King Constantine II of Greece went into exile in Rome.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was founded for the purpose of
improving regional economic cooperation by the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. (Over the years following, it has gradually gone from strength to strength.)

The government of Thailand gave the USA permission to land B-52 bombers from Guam as part of the USA's Vietnam War effort.

Rene Favaoro, a Cleveland, Ohio, surgeon, did the first coronary bypass operation.

Approximately 200,000 people marched against the Vietnam War in NYC.

During Operation Chaos, the CIA/FBI spied on some 300,000 American citizens to discover if there were serious links between opposition to the Vietnam War and foreign interests, which, as they should have known in advance, there weren't.

There were race riots in about 127 American cities from Atlanta, Georgia, to Rochester, New York. Twenty-three people died in Newark, New Jersey, after and during rioting; 43 people died after a week of rioting in Detroit.

In July, a Black Power conference expressed contempt for Whites, Christians, and supporters of the USA's role in Vietnam. Stokely Carmichael, the leader of the Student National Coordinating Committee (SNCC), advised Blacks in August to prepare for "total revolution." A few weeks earlier, one of his associates, H. "Rap" Brown was arrested in Cambridge, Maryland, for allegedly inciting Black militants to riot and to "Burn this town down."

Thurgood Marshall (1908+?), who was the winning lawyer in the landmark 1954 case Brown v. Board of Education, was appointed the first US Supreme Court justice of African-American ancestry.

The UK devalued the pound sterling from $2.80 to $2.40 in an attempt to reduce inflation and improve their trade imbalances.

Nearly half of all Yugoslavs still lived and worked in the countryside.

After 20 years of study, fluorides added to the water supply of Evanston, Illinois, were shown to have reduced dental cavities by 58 percent.

The numbers of American mass transit riders had decreased by nearly two-thirds since 1945 as they moved to the suburbs where there often were no bus or train services. Suburbanites often reveled in their private autos and their "own space."

Fifteen American farmers received more than half a million dollars each in farm subsidies from the federal government, mainly for not planting crops and thus not increasing surpluses; five got more than a million each; and one took more than $4 million to the bank.

Behind the early organization created by the leadership of Giovanni Agnelli (1866+1945) who had formed the Fabbrica Italiana Automobili Torino (FIAT) in 1899 and who had been the overall organizer of Italian manufacturing during WWII, Fiat manufactured and sold more cars than Volkswagen.

Japanese corporations made and sold 50,000 microwave ovens, up from 15,000 a year earlier. Hibachi grills started to become rare.

France legalized birth control appliances and devices.

Israel's population surpassed 3.5 million.

The USA's population had doubled in half a century to 200,000,000 in November.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting was created in the USA in November with some federal money and the enthusiastic support of president and Mrs. Johnson. It was, in the opinion of some people, insufficiently influenced by the example of the BBC in the UK.

The Torrey Canyon tanker grounded on a submerged reef in March off the coast of Cornwall in the UK. More than 119,000 tons/860,000 barrels of crude oil leaked into the sea. It was the largest and most destructive oil spill to date.

Aborigines in Australia were given full rights as citizens.

Michael DeBakey (1908+2008), Denton Cooley, and other cardiovascular surgeons at the Baylor University College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, performed a successful heart-bypass operation. It routed blood around damaged
arteries thru vessels grafted from the patient's own body.

Christian Barnard (1922+?), a South African cardiovascular surgeon, performed the first successful heart transplants on humans. His first patient lived for only 18 days before dying of pneumonia. He second patient, operated on in January 1968, lived for 594 days.

An American pilot in an X-15A-2 rocket plane with a fixed-wing traveled at about 7232 km/4520 mph.

Gabriel Garcia Marquez (1928+?), a Colombian novelist, published 100 Years of Solitude. (He was awarded the Nobel prize for literature in 1982.)

Hannah Arendt: "Thinking, willing, and judging are the three basic fundamental activities." Golda Meir (1898+1978), Israeli stateswoman: "A leader who doesn't hesitate before he sends his nation into battle is not fit to be a leader." Ralph J. Bunche (1904+1971), American diplomat, expert on trusteeship matters, and recipient of the Nobel peace prize in 1950: "There are no warlike people - just warlike leaders." Marianne Moore (1887+1972), American poet: "Omissions are not accidents."

Walter Hallstein, the first president of the European Commission: "Anyone who does not believe in miracles in European affairs is not a realist." Saul Bellow, American novelist: "Art has something to do with the achievement of stillness in the midst of chaos. A stillness that characterizes prayer, too, and the eye of the storm ... an arrest of attention in the midst of distraction." Robert McNamara, the former president of Ford Motor Company, a "whiz kid," and the US Secretary of Defense (1961+1968): "The picture of the world's greatest superpower killing or injuring 1,000 noncombatants a week, while trying to pound a tiny backward nation into submission on an issue whose merits are hotly disputed, is not a pretty one." Arthur Koestler: "Two half-truths do not make a truth, and two half-cultures do not make a culture."

1967/8: The Cultural Revolution in the PRC negatively effected Hong Kong's economy.

1967+1969: Alexander Dubcek (1921+1992) was the brave reform-minded first secretary of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party until Soviet troops arrested him. (During 1989+1992, he again served his country as chair of the Czech federal assembly.)

The small state of modern Punjab, with its productive Sikh majority and fertile farms, had the highest per capita income in all of India.

1967+1974: what many Greeks ruled Greece and foreign observers thought was an oppressive military government.

The annual inflation rate in the USA increased from 3 percent to 12 percent.

1967+1975: Gough Whitlam exercised an important influence over Australian politics first as leader of the Australian Labor party, starting in 1967, and then as prime minister (1972+1975). During the Whitlam government, conscription and Australian participation in the Vietnam War were ended. The voting age was lowered to 18. The minimum wage, spending on education, and proactive/protective environmental and Aborigine policies and concerns were increased. In the years following the end of the reactionary "White Australia" policy, "New Australians," many from Asia and the Pacific, were to energize Australian society. The Labor government's management of the economy and the East Timor situation was much less impressive and popular.

1967+1980: There was guerrilla warfare in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe by Africans against the minority government of Whites.

1967+1984: Pierre Elliott Trudeau, French-English speaking Canadian, was the most important leader of the Liberal party in Canada. Before, during, and after his time as minister of justice and attorney general, he opposed the efforts of nationalist/localist/loyalists in Quebec to make the province independent. The economy in Quebec was backward, and the province's public debt was large. He became the leader of the Liberal party and prime minister in 1968 at the age of 49. He was brash, brilliant, and magnetic; some called it "Trudeaumania." He was popular in nearly all parts of Canada.

1967+1991: The people of Jordan were ruled by martial law.

1968: The North Vietnamese and the Vietcong with about 50,000 troops started their successful Tet Offensive on 30 January, the start of the
Vietnamese New Year/Tet. This campaign attacked some 30 cities in South Vietnam, including Saigon, where the American embassy was broken into for a short time. Hue, the old royal capital of Annam, was occupied for nearly a month. Tet caused a great reversal of fortune and morale for the American and South Vietnamese forces. Many members of the American public, who had repeatedly been told that the war was being won, were stunned into disbelief.

One week before Tet, the North Koreans captured the USS Pueblo, a spy ship, within 12 miles of their coast.

From January to April, about 20,000 Vietnamese troops sieged American positions at Khesanh in Quang Tri Province. When a relief operation arrived, the Vietnamese retreated into Laos.

When the Czechs tried to humanize and modernize communism, and some talked about “Prague Spring,” the Soviet Army with some of their Warsaw Pact allies invaded Czechoslovakia with some 500,000 troops on 21 August and arrested Alexander Dubcek and his supporters who had abolished censorship, increased freedom of expression, and introduced a series of important economic and political reforms. The situation in Czechoslovakia was similar to that in Hungary a dozen years earlier.

The dissident movement/инакомыслящих became more active in the USSR.

Spanish students at the universities of Barcelona and Madrid demonstrated against the Franco dictatorship.

Senator Eugene McCarthy, a "war dove," got a surprisingly, and, for the Johnson administration, embarrassingly large number of votes in the Democratic primary election in New Hampshire.

On 31 March, President Johnson, who popularity had fallen very low, announced he would not seek re-election. On the same day, he announced the suspension of US air strikes and naval bombardment north of the 20th parallel in Vietnam.

The FBI had placed Martin Luther King, Jr., under surveillance for the past six years because their extremist director, J. Edgar Hoover, thought the civil rights movement might be under communist or "foreign influences."

Despite the FBI's surveillance, King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on 4 April by a well-connected escaped convict, James Earl Ray. Widespread rioting and cynicism followed.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, a moderate Democrat from New York, with many doubts about American efforts in Vietnam, and brother of the late John F. Kennedy, had a string of primary victories in Indiana and Nebraska against all the other Democratic contenders. A deranged Jordanian-American murdered him in a Los Angeles hotel kitchen, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

During the first nine months of this year, there were some 164 race riots in the USA.

After nearly 40 years on the dictator's throne, Antonio Salazar retired in Portugal.

Brezhnev proclaimed the "Brezhnev Doctrine" in Warsaw in November. It was a statement of the obvious. Just as the Soviets had suppressed reformers in East Berlin in 1953, in Budapest in 1956, and in Prague in 1968, they would continue to do the same in the future.

After more than 153 years of British rule, Mauritius in the Indian Ocean became independent.

After 66 years of British rule, Swaziland became an independent kingdom.

After 124 years of Spanish rule, Equatorial Guinea in West Africa became independent.

Whites, who a decade earlier had controlled all of sub-Sahara Africa, now governed only in Angola, Mozambique, Rhodesia, the Union of South Africa, and Namibia/Southwest Africa.

The South Pacific island of Nauru - formerly a German colony, a British-New Zealand-Australia mandate, and then a UN Trust Territory - became an independent nation.

Iwo Jima, the largest of the Volcano Islands and the site of terrible fighting in 1945, was returned by the USA to Japan.

Ibo tribes people in Nigeria starved by the thousands.
Aden, between Yemen and Oman, and Socotra Island became part of independent South Yemen.

More than 500 unarmed Vietnamese were killed by US troops during the My Lai massacre in March. American military officials hid news about My Lai from the public for some 20 months.

The American were told to stay off the Mekong River in Cambodia by Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Supposedly the government on Taiwan, the Republic of China, had trained and equipped 17,000 marines, a strong division, for service during the Vietnam War. They never left home.

Pierre Trudeau (1919+?) was elected prime minister and succeeded Lester Pearson (1897+1972) as leader of the Liberal Party in Canada.

After extensive rioting against government policies by students and workers in Nanterre, Paris, and other cities, which nearly paralyzed France, both before and during the June elections, the Gaullist party won a strong majority.

Archaeologists found evidence of a Norse settlement in Newfoundland dating from about +1000.

More than 50 percent of eligible Blacks in the US South had been registered to vote partly as the result of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Opposition to American involvement in the Vietnam War increased. The police and self-styled revolutionists clashed violently in Chicago during August during the Democratic Party convention, which nominated vice president Hubert Humphrey (1911+1978) to lead the party in the upcoming elections.

Richard Nixon was nominated by the Republican convention and won the November election with only 43.4 percent of the popular vote.

George Wallace, arch segregationist and former governor of Alabama, ran for president on the American Independent Party platform and surprisingly, to some, won five southern states and 13.5 percent of the total popular vote which was the most for a 3rd party candidate since 1924.

Shirley Chisholm, from New York, was the first black woman to be elected to the US House of Representatives.

President Johnson added a 10 percent surcharge on income taxes to help pay for the war in Vietnam.

For the first time, Japan's GNP exceeded West Germany's. Japan thus had the world's second largest capitalist economy after the USA's. The USSR supposedly had the world's largest socialist-command economy and some thought, overall, the second largest economy, but given their bizarre and secretive accounting methods, it was difficult to tell.

Catholics clashed with the mainly Protestant police in Northern Ireland.

The Philippine Republic and Malaysia argued over Sabah on the island of Borneo, and Kuala Lampur severed relations with the Filipinos. Some experts speculated that this was a manufactured "crisis" by both sides in order to distract people from serious domestic problems at home.

Anti-war protests, sit-ins, demonstrations took place at Columbia and other American universities.

Dr. S. I. Hayakawa (1906+?), a Canadian-born American semanticist, became president of beleagured San Francisco State College that had been closed by student activists several times.

The "open classroom" became faddish in American public education circles, but many people wondered what had really changed.

Diebold, Inc., of Canton, Ohio, the leading American manufacturer of safes, bank vaults, drive-up installations, and burglar alarms, started making automated teller machines (ATMs).

Britain legalized abortions and thus repealed the anti-abortion law of 1861.

Alaska's North Slope was found to have the largest deposits of oil north of the Mexican border. Valdez, Alaska, an ice-free port, rebuilt since the devastating earthquake of 1964,
became a terminal for supertankers. The 800-mile pipeline from the North Slope to Valdez was the most expensive privately financed construction project in history, at some $9 billion, to that time.

US auto production reached 8.8 million with another 2 million trucks and buses; West Germany made 2.5 million cars and about 600,000 trucks; Japan 2.1 million cars, 2 million trucks; Britain 1.7 million cars and 400,000 trucks and buses; France 1.8 million cars, 243,000 trucks; and Italy 1.5 million cars, 115,000 trucks. Volkswagen held 57 percent of the America car import market, mostly "Beatles."

As a result of better vaccines, Americans had only 22,231 reported cases of measles, down from 400,000 in 1962.

The Olympic games were held in Mexico City.

The Redwood National Park, along 40 miles of California coastline, included a 369.2-foot redwood, the world's tallest tree.

The USA imported 58 percent of its fish.

For the first time since 1929, the yearly trading volume on the New York Stock Exchange went over 16.4 million shares.

Only 7 percent of Americans were farmers or ranchers. The average federal subsidy per farm was $1000.

The average American ate 3200 calories per day with 98 grams of protein.

More motion pictures were made in Italy than in Hollywood.

There was regular hovercraft service across the English Channel.

Arthur C. Clarke (1917+?), an English science fiction writer, published 2001: A Space Odyssey. (Stanley Kubrick made this into a very popular film.)

Jean Monnet, French economist, diplomat, and one of the founders of the European Community: "Europe has never existed. It is not the addition of national sovereignties in a conclave, which creates an entity. One must genuinely create Europe."  

Clark Clifford (1906+?): "It was startling to me [when I became the US Secretary of Defense] to find out that we have no military plan to end the [Vietnam] war."

Alexander Dubcek, Czechoslovak statesman and first secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, 1968/9: "In the service of the people we followed such a policy that socialism would not lose its human face." Martin Wight (1913+1972), British political scientist and historian: "Modern man in general has shown a stronger loyalty to the state than to church or class or any other international bond." "Today [during the Cold War] it requires a mental effort from us to regard as abnormal circumstances in which ships are sunk and aircraft shot down without warning, peaceable citizens are kidnapped and disappear, traitors flee from one side to the other bringing secrets and receiving moral acclaim, prisoners are tortured into apostasy, and diplomacy is replaced by propaganda." An anonymous US Army Major: "It became necessary to destroy the town [Ben Tre] in order to save it." George Orwell: "Good prose is like a window-pane." Andy Warhol (1927+1987), American pop artist: "In the future everybody will be world famous for fifteen minutes."

1968+1970: During the most severe decline since the Great Depression, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJI) fell 36 percent.


1968+1973: Portugal, one of the least prosperous and politically advanced nations in Europe, desperately tried to keep its hold on its African colonies: Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, and Mozambique. At the same time, progressive thinkers in Portugal were wondering what good could possibly come out of their nation’s protracted guerrilla wars in Africa.

1968+1978: The people of Uruguay suffered inflation of 1200 percent during this decade.

The Tupamaros, named after the Peruvian Indian rebel Tupac Amaru (1742?+1781), were leftist terrorists who attacked the government and foreigners, until they were defeated by the Uruguayan military.
1968+1979: Francisco Marcias Nguema was the dictator of Equatorial Guinea and by most accounts one of the worst rulers in the world.

1968+1974: A long drought resulted in the deaths of some 500,000 people in the southern Sahara from Mauritania to Chad.

1968+1975: Union membership in Italy, especially in the public and white-collar sectors, increased by half.


1968+1984: Pierre Elliott Trudeau, a former law professor at the University of Montreal, was a prominent Liberal Party politician. He opposed Quebec's separation from the rest of Canada and served as prime minister for more than 15 years.

There was a civil war in Chad caused, in part, by religious differences.

1968+2000: After being imprisoned and exiled for being involved in several attempted assassinations and efforts to overthrow the government, Saddam Hussein became a leading member of the Revolutionary Command Council (1968) and an increasingly powerful leader in Iraq until he had no rivals. He became president in 1979.

A Catholic civil rights movement and the Irish Republican Army (IRA) challenged the Protestant-Loyalist and Unionist majority and the so-called Stormont system which discriminated against the large Catholic minority in Belfast and other places in Northern Ireland/Ulster in jobs, housing, politics, and other ways. There were serious and intermittent conflicts between Catholics and Protestants. British troops arrived early on the scene and tried to keep the peace.

1969: The American petroleum company Phillips Petroleum discovered large amounts of petroleum at the Ekofisk field, which was part of Norway's continental shelf.

Japanese, German, and other industrial nations' exports were competing very well with American exports in a number of fields.

There was rioting against the Chinese in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The USA tested an atomic device at Amchitka, Alaska.

Chinese and Soviets troops had armed border clashes. The Chinese declared martial law, and the Chinese military became more powerful in relation to the Communist Party and the Central Committee.

Large parts of Shantung Province in China were flooded. Japanese reporters estimated the loss of life in the hundreds of thousands.

The government of Eduardo Frei in Chile pledged to nationalize the huge American-owned Anaconda Copper Company.

This was the peak year of American involvement in the Vietnam War. There were about 542,000 American troops there.

American B-52s from Guam "secretly" bombed Vietnamese bases in Cambodia. Presidents Nixon and Thieu met on the American island of Midway, northeast of Hawaii, on 8 June, and Nixon said "vietnamization" was the new policy, which meant, in essence, the Americans were going to become less involved directly in the war.

Ho Chi Minh, 79, the leader of North Vietnam, died in September.

The Official Languages Act in Canada made both French and English official in the civil service, federal courts, and in the delivery of federal services (in all places where a French or English language minority was at least 10 percent of the population). About 21 percent of Canada's population of 14 million people was non-French and non-English ethnic minorities. The provinces of Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan had substantial numbers of these minor ethnic groups. Bilingualism continued to be an important and heated political topic in most parts of Canada.

General Francisco Franco, the supreme caudillo, named Juan Carlos I (1908+?), a Borbon/Bourbon, as his successor and the next king of Spain.

A giant oil field in the North Sea was discovered to be 60 percent in British waters and 40 percent in Norwegian waters. People in both nations,
long importers of petroleum products, were delighted.

There were some 800,000 migrant Yugoslav workers in Western Europe.

The Woodstock music and art festival in upstate New York at Bethel in the Catskill Mountains attracted some 500,000 remarkably joyful and peaceful fun lovers for "three days of peace and music." Country Joe and the Fish, Jimi Hendrix, Jefferson Airplane, The Who, The Grateful Dead, Carlos Santana, and many other folk and rock groups performed in what may have been the most splendid outdoor rock and folk concert to that time.

The police killed two Black Panthers in Chicago.

President Nixon, Vice President Agnew, and their speechwriters, including Patrick B. Buchanan, attacked the media for their criticism of the Vietnam War and their administration in behalf of, as Nixon put it, "the great Silent Majority of my fellow Americans."

The US started peace talks with the Vietnamese communists and their united front partners.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average exceeded 1000 for the first time ever.

The Anglo-French Concorde supersonic commercial jet made its first successful, but expensive, flights all over the globe.

Ra, a papyrus raft, constructed by Thor Heyerdahl of 1947 Kon Tiki fame, crossed the Atlantic Ocean after starting its voyage from Egypt.

After milk was discovered to have high concentrations of pesticide, the state government of Arizona ordered a one-year moratorium on the use of DDT. It was a sign of the times.

Neil A. Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr. aboard the US Apollo 11 spacecraft, landed on the Moon for a brief while. Their landing was shown on a live television broadcast via satellite feed from the moon and was received by some 100 million worldwide viewers.

Two American space probes sent pictures of Mars back home.

James D. Watson (1928+?), an American biologist who worked at the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge with Francis Crick (1916+?), a molecular biologist, and New Zealand-born Maurice Wilkins (1916+?), a physicist who worked at the Medical Research Council's Biophysics Research Unit at King's College, London, published their account of their findings regarding DNA in The Double Helix. They had shared the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1962.

Charles Manson and his cult followers in California went on a rampage, helter-skelter, and killed seven innocent people. Supposedly it was a combination of drugs, religion, charisma, and sex that bound the crazed cultists together.

41 percent of all married women in the USA were employed; only four percent were farm hands or domestic workers.

Patrick Steptoe, a British surgeon, and Robert Edwards, a British physiologist, made the first "test tube baby."

**Alexander Solzhenitsyn**, Russian writer, in *The First Circle*: "You took my freedom away a long time ago and you can't give it back because you haven't got it yourself." "You only have power over people so long as you don't take everything away from them. But when you've robbed a man of everything he's no longer in your power - he's free again." **Isaiah Berlin**, English philosopher and historian: "Injustice, poverty, slavery, ignorance - these may be cured by reform or revolution. But men do not live only by fighting evils. They live by positive goals, individual and collective, a vast variety of them, seldom predictable, at times incompatible."

**Buckminster Fuller** (1895+1983), US architect and inventor: "I am a passenger on the spaceship Earth." **B.F. Skinner** (1904+1990), American psychologist: "The real question is not whether machines think but whether men do."

**Laurence J. Peter** and **Raymond Hull** writers of *The Peter Principle* that, in brief, stated: "In a hierarchy every employee tends to rise to his level of incompetence." **Henry Kissinger**, US statesman and historian: "The conventional army loses if it does not win. The guerrilla wins if he does not lose." **Timothy Leary**, the "guru" of LSD and other hallucinatory drugs: "Tune in, turn
"It was good for a time, then we went so far that we lost it."

1969+1971: East Pakistan became the independent nation of Bangladesh. The government of West Pakistan declared martial law in March 1969. Floods devastated East Pakistan in July 1970. Mujibur Rahman's Awami League candidates in East Pakistan nearly unanimously won in December 1970 during Pakistan's first nationwide popular election since becoming separate from India. General Yahya Khan (1917+1980), the president of [West] Pakistan refused to accept the results of the election. Strikes crippled the port city of Chittagong. The East Bengal Regiment supported the rebels, guerrillas, and separatists. During December, air and ground units from India's military, with some British support, helped Bengali regular and irregular soldiers, who were already fighting for their homeland, and attacked [West] Pakistani troops in both East and West Pakistan and quickly defeated the [West] Pakistan army. Many influential Americans complained of human rights abuses by the West Pakistanis who had enjoyed generous military aid from the USA since their independence. Some one million Bengali civilians fled East Pakistan into India during March of 1971 and became refugees. (Most had returned to their homes by March 1972.) Eventually nearly 10 million refugees from East Pakistan fled to India. After considerable foot-dragging by the West Pakistanis, threats and counter-threats by both sides, the nation of Bangladesh, came into existence in mid-December 1971. General Aga Muhammad Yahya Khan, West Pakistan's dictator, resigned his position later that month and spent the next five years under house arrest.

Starting in March and ending some 14 months later, American bombers, mainly from a base on Guam, started to drop their loads on communist sanctuaries in Cambodia.

1969+1972: The USA and USSR held Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) with some good results.

Real per capita national income in Palestine grew at an annual rate of about 20 percent.

The Saturday Evening Post (1969), Life (1972), and Look (1972) - long influential American magazines and all very popular in their time - went broke. Some people said TV did it.

1969+1973: After damaging Malay-Chinese riots in 1969, elections in Malaysia were suspended.

1969+1974: What started as a "hot autumn" of militancy in Italy lasted for years. It started as a call for political reform in the universities and spread to unions and various communities. Millions of working hours were lost.

1969+1982: Willy Brandt, a leader of the Social Democratic Workers' Party (SDP), was the chancellor of West Germany/the FRG (1969+1974). He had earlier been an anti-fascist, a moderate socialist leader, and the courageous mayor of West Berlin (1957+1966) during the Berlin Wall crisis of 1961. He received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1971.

Brandt and Helmut Schmidt (chancellor 1974+1982) headed a coalition of the SPD and the smaller Free Democratic Party (FDP) that governed West Germany quite well. Brandt initiated a foreign policy of Ostpolitik/"Eastern Policy" in an effort to improve East-West relations. The intent of their foreign policy was not only to continue Adenauer's integrationist policy with the West but also to improve West Germany's relations with the GDR/East Germany and the Soviet bloc states of eastern Europe.

1969+1985: Rural and urban guerrillas attacked the ineffective, repressive, and corrupt government/military in Brazil until civilian control was restored.

1969+1988: During the Ethiopian Civil War, the people of Eritrea tried to become independent. Somalia and other nations were involved one way and another.

1969+1998: The people of Northern Ireland suffered what looked to be a religious and political civil war. The opposing sides, to simplify, were the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and the Ulster Unionists. There were many false armistices and failed peace attempts.

1969+2000: Moamer al Khaddhafi/Gaddafi/Qaddafi ruled Libya in a
manner that was anti-American, pro-terrorist, and anti-Israeli.

Yasser Arafat was the most visible leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO).

Lassa virus, which can cause lethal hemorrhagic fever, was reported in West Africa. Mice often carry it.

1970s: The economy of the USSR, below the surface, started to show signs of being in a state of crisis.

Swedes had average incomes 300 percent higher than the world average according to the estimates of some economists.

Many African nations had military governments.

Most West European families could afford an automobile, a television, refrigerator, a washing machine, and a holiday vacation on the beaches of the Mediterranean, or its equivalent.

The first medical descriptions of AIDS and the Ebola virus were written.

Very few new cocoa trees had been planted in Ghana since independence and their nation's long-profitable cocoa production was in a sharp state of decline.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Indonesian Archaeological Service restored the great temple of Borobudur on the island of Java.

Jonathan and Richard Leakey found fossils of more advanced, tool-making humans than *Australopithecus*. They called them *Homo habilis* /"handy man." *Homo habilis* may have been the ancestor of *Homo erectus* and *Homo sapiens*.

1970: The USSR, USA, UK, and 45 other nations ratified the Treaty for Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

An estimated 130 million people were infected with measles and viruses during this year, and almost eight million of them died throughout the world.

Britain, France, Italy, and West Germany - all with populations over 50 million - were the largest states in Western Europe.

The 90 million people of Brazil had a per capita income of about $1300 a year, and about half of them were illiterate - and hence were ineligible to vote - and lived in extreme poverty.

The West Germans, the Soviets, and the Poles signed agreements fixing their borders.

There was rioting during December in Gdansk/Danzig, Gdynia, and Szczecin, Poland, over the formal establishment of the Oder-Neisse line as Poland's frontier with Germany, high prices, food shortages, and, in general, the incompetence of the government. The rulers of the USSR replaced Władysław Gomułka, who had attempted to promote more freedom for Poland, with a "technocrat," Edward Gierek (1913+?), as head of the politburo. (Gierek, after making some major contributions to the ruination of the economy, was forced to resign in 1980.)

The PLO and its new chairman, Yasser Aragat, were ousted from Jordan.

Nasser died and was replaced by President Sadat until his assassination in 1981 by Muslim extremists.

There were massive, peaceful demonstrations in Manila against President Marcos and the US government that supported him.

Chile had a population of about 13 million people, 4 million of whom lived in the capital of Santiago. The number of people who lived in the *callampas* /"mushrooms"/ slums around Santiago could only be guessed at. About 70 percent of the Chilean population lived in urban areas. The copper industry supplied about 80 percent of Chile's foreign trade. Agricultural production and the number of people who owned land were low.

Malaysia exported tin, textiles, rubber, and electrical/electronic goods.

In nine of the USA's 15 largest metropolitan areas, there were more jobs in the suburbs than in the central cities. Some 76 million Americans lived in "suburbia" while 64 million Americans lived in central cities.

Under pressure from the public and many Democrats, President Nixon and the Republicans in Congress passed the Clean Air
Act and created the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Canadians lowered their official voting age to 18.

American bombers, mainly based from the US island of Guam, bombed the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos.

Americans made and consumed 66 percent of the world's goods even though they made-up only 6 percent of the world's population.

Real wages in Japan were twice what they had been before WWII.

The Front de liberation du Quebec/Quebec Liberation Front (FLQ) kidnapped the British trade commissioner and the Canadian minister of labor (who was later found strangled) during October. Armed forces were put on alert in the event of an insurrection in Quebec and the FLQ was banned.

General Lon Nol, who had the support of the USA, drove Norodom Sihanouk, who had tolerated or ignored pro-Vietcong forces in Cambodia, from office during March. During May, South Vietnamese forces, with American support, invaded Cambodia.

American troops numbered somewhat less than 400,000 in Vietnam.

The Israelis attacked guerrilla bases in Lebanon, fought infiltrators on the Golan Heights from Syria, and bombed Jordanian army bases.

After the death of Nasser in September, his more moderate friend Mohamed Anwar El-Sadat (1918-1981) was elected president of Egypt. The Aswan High Dam was finished on the Nile River in Egypt.

During what some called "Black September," the army of Jordan suppressed Palestinian extremists within Jordan who were trying to oust King Hussein from power. Bedouin troops in Jordan drove PLO troops into Lebanon in September. This was part of King Hussein's efforts, as he described them, to keep Jordan from becoming a haven for anti-Israeli and anti-Western terrorists.

Of the 3.63 billion people worldwide, 1.13 billion lived in South Asia, 929.9 million in East Asia, 462.1 million in Europe, 344.4 million in Africa, 283.3 million in Latin America, 227.6 million in North America, and 19.4 million in Oceania.

Peru had one of the most destructive earthquakes in the history of the Western Hemisphere on 31 May. Some 15,000 people were killed and 50,000 injured. A tremendous earthquake hit Peru's highlands in June that left 60,000 dead and 800,000 homeless, mainly Peruvian Indians.

After some two million people had died, the Biafran secessionist movement failed and the Nigerian civil war, ongoing since 1967, ended.

Colonel Muammar Qadaffi became the premier of Libya in January and promised the French he would not support rebels in Chad; and then he broke his word.

American public education experts, never very secure in their convictions or understanding of their processes, embraced "team-teaching" methods of instruction. A study commissioned by the Carnegie Endowment found American public schools to be "grim," "joyless," "oppressive," and not very effective at educating their students. Studies showed that a considerable number of Americans over 18 years old were not high school graduates and many of them that were had literacy and numeracy problems.

The leaders of OPEC met in December in Caracas, Venezuela, and, in general, agreed to cut production and increase the prices of their essential commodities.

Red China shot its first satellite into space.

American production of oil was more than 3.5 billion barrels, way up from 60 million in 1900.

Mexico City's new metro subway opened.

After 70 years of British rule, the Kingdom of Tonga in the South Pacific became an independent country.

The same was true for Fiji as well, after 96 years as a British colony.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was started in the USA. President Nixon signed an executive order in February mandating the elimination of air and water pollution generated
by federal agencies, and in December he signed the Clean Air Act.

In October Nixon signed the Racketeer Influenced and Congress passed Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) after it. It was used to prosecute organized gangsters and white-collar criminals like Wall Street traders who used privileged, inside, confidential information for their own advantage at the expense of their customers and the public.

Nixon signed the Occupational Safety and Congress passed Health Act (OSHA) after it.

Hurricane Celia, with winds up to 145 miles per hour, struck Corpus Christi, Texas, on 3 August and wiped-out 90 percent of the downtown area.

Southern California had its worst ever brush fires in September.

Captain Ernest L. Medina, along with five others, was found guilty of the murder, rape, and maiming of non-combatants in the 1968 incident at My Lai/Songmy in South Vietnam. General Samuel W. Koster, currently the superintendent of West Point, resigned for his part in the "cover-up" of information concerning the above massacre during his tour in Vietnam.

The Russian dissident Alexander Solzhenitsyn was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature.

Engineers at IBM invented the floppy disk that became a common computer device for storing data.

About 38 percent of American homes had at least one color television set. (Nearly all of them had black-and-white sets.)

The Boeing 747, a jumbo jet, could carry more than 400 passengers and fly from New York to London in six hours.

As they legitimately protested against US involvement in the Vietnam War, poorly trained and panicky Ohio National Guardsmen killed four students at Kent State University.

Chicano/Hispanic activists met in Crystal City, Texas, to organize the La Raza Unida Party.

Of the 1200 men from the Harvard University graduating class of this year, only 56 rendered military service to their nation and just two of those served in Vietnam.

Cesar Chavez's United Farm Workers, who had led a national strike and boycott for several years, were recognized by 26 major grape growers as a legitimate union in the USA.

President Nixon appointed the first two US women generals.

Patton, about the gifted and eccentric American WWII general, was picked by the Academy as the best motion picture of the year.

Lord Montgomery (1887+1976), British field marshal and hero of WWII: "The U.S. has broken the second rule of war [in Vietnam]. That is, don't go fighting with your land army on the mainland of Asia. Rule One is don't march on Moscow." R. Buckminster Fuller: "We are not going to be able to operate our spaceship Earth successfully nor for much longer unless we see it as a whole spaceship and our fate as common. It has to be everybody or nobody . . ."

Abba Eban, Israeli diplomat: "History teaches us that men and nations behave wisely once they have exhausted all other alternatives."

1970/1: The government of Syria backed Palestinian guerrillas as they fought Jordanian soldiers.

1970+1973: The candidates of the communist party in Chile won a majority of the votes in fair elections in 1970. Salvador Allende (1908+1973), a physician and a Marxist, but supposedly not a communist, who had support from a socialist-communist alliance, was elected president.

During the national elections in March 1973 in Chile, the parties who opposed the socialist-communist alliance and the elected president, Salvador Allende, won a majority in both the senate and chamber of deputies. President Allende was killed, or possibly committed suicide, during a coup by military officers on 11 September. General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, the commander in chief of the Chilean army, was the leader of the junta and became the new president. He enjoyed the support of right-wingers and the American CIA. Informed guesses of the number of people who were killed during and after the coup range from 2000 to 10,000 or more.

1970+1975: After ousting Prince Sihanouk, General (mainly an honorary title) Lon Nol ruled
Cambodia until he was forced out of office by General Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge/"Red Khmers" who marched into Phnom Penh in April 1975. Lon Nol quickly showed himself to be anti-Vietnamese. The Vietnamese were a strong minority in Cambodia. In essence, Cambodia became a republic.

1970+1977: For the second time, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike was the elected prime minister of Ceylon/Sri Lanka.

1970+1981: Anwar el Sadat (1919+1981) was president of Egypt. He reestablished close and positive diplomatic relations with Israel's Menachem Begin (1913+?), for which the two shared a Nobel Peace prize in 1978, before Sadat was assassinated by Muslim fundamentalists.

1970+1979: Cambodians suffered a kind of life without light because of Pol Pot's brutal revolution, bloody genocide, and civil war.

1970+1987: The following countries had very large increases in their total external long-term debt and debt service costs as a percent of GNP: Argentina; Brazil; Mexico; Morocco; Nigeria; and the Philippines.

1970+1990: The government of Malaysia implemented a new economic policy that was intended to modernize the economy while increasing the wealth and control of the economy by the Malay population at the expense of the Chinese-Indian minorities and foreign investors. Many new Malay entrepreneurs with good political connections prospered.

The number of women in the American work force increased from 38 percent to nearly 50 percent. Women made significant gains and contributions in the medical, teaching, legal, and dental professions.

1970+1992: Mobutu Sese Seko ruled Zaire/the Congo with little help or wisdom from others.

1970+1996: The number of people in the world who lived in urban areas increased from 37 percent to 46 percent.


1971: East Pakistan became the independent Republic of Bangladesh in March.

The governments of the USA, the USSR, and mainland China/PRC started a policy of détente (coming together).

The government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) invited Henry Kissinger to make a secret trip to mainland China in order to discuss the possibility of America's official diplomatic recognition of China, which the USA had avoided granting since 1949.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, on behalf of her country, signed a 25-year Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation with the Soviet Union during August.

The Kingdom of Belgium became a federalized union with three provinces: Brussels, Flanders, and Wallonia.

Women were given the right to vote in Switzerland.

Britain's Parliament voted to join the European Economic Community (EEC) on 28 October.

Canada sent its first ambassador to the PRC, and received one in exchange.

Lin Pao/Biao, a veteran of the Long March in 1934, the Chinese defense minister, a national hero, tried to oust chairman Mao Zedong and his clique from power. He failed and supposedly died in a plane crash in Mongolia while trying to escape to the USSR.

The emirate of Qatar became fully independent of Britain.

South Vietnamese forces failed in their efforts to find communist sanctuaries in Laos and were easily driven away.

The US Supreme Court ruled that employers could be prosecuted if the racial composition of their work force did not reflect the composition of the local community. This was the start of administrative and judicial "affirmative action," racial quotas, "multiculturalism," and "diversity" that were meant to promote and compensate American Blacks, Puerto Ricans, American Indians, women, and some other minorities for various historical injustices, real and imagined. This policy of "social justice," which some called
the advancement of preferences and social engineering, went virtually unchallenged politically and in the courts for two decades.

Niklaus Wirth wrote a popular language for home computers called Pascal, which was named for the famous mathematician.

Pocketronic was the first pocket calculator. It was made by Texas Instruments and cost about $150.

After "Papa Doc" Duvalier and his Ton Ton Macoute had terrorized the people of Haiti for more than 13 years, the old dictator died. His son, Jean-Claude, and his violent associates carried on the family business.

The US had its first trade deficit, some 2.05 billion dollars, since 1888. Some experts said it was the most unfavorable balance of trade since the depression-recession year of 1893. (This was in fact the start of a long-term trend.)

US troops were reduced to about 200,000 from 534,000 in mid-1969 in Vietnam.

The US Senate voted in March to end spending on the enormously expensive supersonic jet transport/SST.

The 26th amendment to the US Constitution lowered the voting age from 21 to 18.

In accordance with US Supreme Court rulings, many public school systems started busing their students here, there, and everywhere in an effort to desegregate schools caused by old patterns of segregated housing and ethnic neighborhoods. The purpose was to achieve "racial balance" in school districts, despite the great expense to taxpayers and inconvenience to hundreds of thousands of families. Students were sometimes moved from segregated housing areas in the cities to integrated schools in the suburbs. Some critics claimed the money would have been better spent on improving inner-city schools.

Rolls-Royce, Ltd., the maker of luxury automobiles, declared bankruptcy in February after spending millions on the research and development of jet aircraft engines. The British government bailed them out.

14,000 demonstrators out of maybe half a million were arrested for protesting against the Vietnam War in Washington, DC.

Starting in June, the New York Times and the Washington Post started to publish excerpts from the "Pentagon Papers," which had been secretly leaked to them by a former defense department analyst Daniel Ellsberg. These documents showed the history of US involvement in Vietnam from 1944 to 1968. They had been prepared for the secretary of defense Robert S. McNamara. Ellsberg and Anthony Russo, a co-worker, were indicted by the federal government in December for conspiracy to commit espionage.

Los Angeles, California, was hit with a 6.6 earthquake on 10 February, which killed 51 and injured 880.

After being in continuous operation since 1865, with a peak in 1924, the Chicago Union Stock Yards closed and moved out into rural areas.

US beef intake averaged 113 pounds per person per year, up from 85.1 pounds in 1960.

The exchange rate was 349.33 Japanese yen to the US dollar.

Etna, the highest volcano in Europe, erupted again on Sicily, the largest island in the Mediterranean.

Unhappy Democrats, Republicans, and independents formed the Libertarian Party in the USA that was dedicated to extreme individualism and little or no government supervision of the economy.

Four times more American troops in Vietnam were treated for drug abuse than for combat-related wounds.

Intelsat IV, a communications satellite, relayed telephone calls and TV programs globally to members of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (Intelsat).

Arnold Toynbee: "All philosophies and religions would agree that a human being ought to strive to extinguish his self-centredness."

Buckminster Fuller: "Of all the disorder-to-order converters, the human mind is by far the most impressive." Samuel Goldwyn (1884+1974), American movie mogul: "You can include me out." "A verbal contract isn't worth the paper it's written on."
1971+1973: The pressures on the US economy caused by the Vietnam War were showing. President Nixon on 15 August 1971 proclaimed there would be a 90-day freeze on wages and prices. He asked Congress to put a 10 percent surcharge on imports and stop the conversion of American dollars into gold for foreign banks. In effect the government of the USA dropped the "gold standard" and depreciated the dollar.

1971+1973: Field-Marshal/"President for Life" Idi Amin (1925+?), the murderous commander-in-chief of the army and air force, grabbed power from president Milton Obote in Uganda in January and immediately started to eliminate some 300,000 of his opponents. About 49,000 Ugandan Asians, mainly Indians, were driven out of the country. Amin was largely defeated and driven into a long exile by troops from Tanzania, which Amin had invaded in 1978. During Amin’s presidency, Uganda went from being one of Africa’s most prosperous nations to being one of its poorest.

1971+1982: The USSR launched seven space stations as part of the Salyut series that kept two or three cosmonauts in space for several months.

1971+1997: The government sponsored, and many said controlled, Golongan Karya/"functional groups," or Golkar, which easily won all the elections in Indonesia they were supposed to win.

1971+1998: The number of women graduates in engineering in the USA increased from 0.8 percent to 19 percent of the total number of engineering graduates.

1971+2000: Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Ras al Khaimah, Sharjah, and Umm al Qaiwain, all in the Arabian/Persian Gulf, formed The United Arab Emirates.

Hafez al-Assad (1930+2000), who had risen to power thru both the Ba’ath party and the military, was the unelected president of Syria.

1972: The civil war in Lebanon was renewed.

President Richard Nixon and Premier Leonid Brezhnev signed in Moscow the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I), in the works since 1969, which limited for five years the number of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and, in another agreement, the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty which limited US and Soviet deployment and testing of defensive weapons systems. SALT II negotiations started almost immediately thereafter. The USA also agreed to sell the USSR, which had acute food shortages, nearly 25 percent of its wheat crop.

President Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law in the Philippines supposedly in response to a "communist rebellion" which many observers thought was mainly a sign of widespread public discontent with the Marcos regime itself.

President Richard Nixon and his entourage went to the PRC during February and met with Mao Tse-tung, the chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, Premier Chou En-Lai, and many other Chinese officials. They agreed to make efforts to improve relations between the two countries and to work towards the reunification of the Republic of China on Taiwan with the mainland. Many people all over the world hailed these meetings between Chinese and American leaders, the first since WWII, as a large step forward for world peace. Others saw this as an effort by Nixon and Mao to improve their own popularity standings in the international community and at home at the expense of the Republic of China on Taiwan. On 3 March, China’s new ambassador to the UN claimed Hong Kong, Macao, and the uninhabited Senkalu Islands would become part of the PRC.

In October the government of the nationalist Republic of China (ROC) on Taiwan, under the United Nations Resolution 2758, lost its seat in the UN to the communist PRC on the mainland. The People’s Republic of China became an official member of the United Nations in November.

The passage of the Equal Opportunities Act in the USA established the policy of "affirmative action" for minorities. It set up a commission to enforce the policy in organizations receiving public funds.

Behind the leadership of Prime Minister Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Ceylon became the republic of Sri Lanka.

After the Royal Ulster Constabulary had lost control over the situation, the British army was
called in to restore order in Ulster, especially in Belfast.

Willy Brandt of West Germany won the Nobel Peace Prize mainly for his efforts to reunify Germany and to include the Soviets' satellites in the unity of Europe as part of the policy of Ostpolitik.

George Wallace, originally a segregationist, often the governor of Alabama, and ideologically a political descendant of the Huey Long of the 1930s, was shot and severely paralyzed in mid-May which forced him to drop out of the race while running for the Democratic Party's nomination for president.

Violence between Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland was seemingly unending: 467 people there were killed during the year.

The richest one percent of Britons owned 25 percent of the UK's wealth, but the top 10 percent only owned 51 percent of the nation's wealth, down from 83 percent in 1960.

The new Chiapas-Tabasco oil field near Villahermosa gave Mexico one of the largest petroleum fields in the Western Hemisphere.

The government of Iraq nationalized its major oil fields.

Switzerland signed a free-trade agreement with the EEC.

American B-52s bombed Haiphong and Hanoi on 16 April in the first big raids since 1968.

Chinese, Soviet, North Vietnamese, and Mongolian leaders met in Beijing on 19 May to coordinate aid to North Vietnam and the Vietcong. Zhou En-lai shortly thereafter met with premier Pham Van Dong of North Vietnam to reassure him of the PRC's continuing support for their cause.

The USA returned the important island of Okinawa to Japan after 27 years of control, but retained Kadena Air Base, Camp Butler, and a number of other facilities mainly for the training of US Marines.

Le Duc Tho, a North Vietnamese diplomat, and Henry Kissinger of the Nixon administration started secret negotiations to end the Vietnam War during the summer. After these talks broke-off in mid-December, American B-52s bombed North Vietnam's two largest cities, Hanoi and Haiphong in what some called the 'Christmas bombings.'

On 17 June, a great American crisis began when five men were arrested inside the Democratic Party national headquarters in the Watergate apartment complex in the District of Columbia. Some of the participants had connections with the CIA, the White House, and the Republican Party. On 1 August, Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein reported that there was a financial link between the Watergate burglary and the Committee for the Re-election of the President (CREEP), which was under the control of President Nixon's White House staff.

Nixon won re-election overwhelmingly over the Democrat's ticket of Senator George S. McGovern and R. Sargent Shriver, two weak candidates, in November. McGovern-Shriver won only in Massachusetts. Strangely enough, the Democrats won majorities in both houses of Congress that proved to many that the party and its ideology was more popular than its leaders.

Sheik Mujibur Rahman became the prime minister of the new nation of Bangladesh, and East Pakistan passed into history.

General Lon Nol and his supporters seized complete control of Cambodia.

The United Reformed Church was created by a combination of the Presbyterian and Congregational churches in England, Wales, and the USA.

The US Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 that capital punishment was "cruel and unusual punishment" and hence unconstitutional.

The US Congress passed a Water Pollution Control Act.

The San Francisco Bay Rapid Transit System (BART) started operating in September; it was the first new American subway in more than half a century.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average of 30 American stocks closed over 1000 on 14 November.

The US imported nearly 30 percent of its petroleum, up from 20 percent in 1967.
Prime Minister Trudeau in Canada was re-elected, but the Liberals had only two more seats than the Conservatives in the House of Commons.

The Labor parties in New Zealand and Australia won elections.

Eight Black September/Palestinian terrorists at the 18th Olympic Village in Munich, Germany, murdered eleven Israeli athletes during the Olympic games.

The Glotik Tokyo, a "mega tanker" had a capacity of nearly half a million tons and cost $56 million to build.

The world's largest diamond, the Star of Sierra Leone, weighed 969.8 carats.

The first and only director of the USA's Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) since 1924, J. Edgar Hoover, practically died while working in his office. (Some people joked he was afraid to go home.)

Two different groups of American astronauts spent time on the Earth's moon.

One of the last surviving active duty Japanese soldiers from WWII were found on the island of Guam, where he long been hiding and waiting.

When tropical storm Agnes hit the East Coast of the USA during 10-20 June, only 134 people were killed although extensive property damage was done in parts of Florida, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York.

One of the longest running Broadway shows in history - *Fiddler on the Roof* - closed after more than 3000 performances.

Richard Leakey and Glynn Isaac found a 2.5 million-year-old human skull in northern Kenya.

There were severe earthquakes in Iran.

An earthquake in Managua, Nicaragua, killed some 10,000 persons.

John Bardeen, who had been a winner in 1965, was awarded another Nobel Prize for his work on superconductivity.

**Bernard Lovel**, British astronomer: "A study of history shows that civilizations that abandon the quest for knowledge are doomed to disintegration."  **Susan Sontag** (1895+1985), American writer: "Lying is an elementary means of self-defense."

1972/3: Until this time, Ecuador, South America’s most densely populated country, earned its national income from growing bananas, cocoa, coffee, and sugar. Now it quickly became South America’s second largest exporter, after Venezuela, of oil.


1972+1981: Ferdinand Marcos officially ruled the Philippine Islands under martial law. Even after this date, the government still retained many martial law powers.

1972+1992: There was a jihad in Afghanistan against communism and foreign occupation led by fundamentalist Islamic students/Talaba/Taliban and other organizations. Soviet troops were withdrawn from Afghanistan in mid-February 1989. The Russian supported puppet regime was driven from power during the last days of 1992.

1972+2000: The Parliament of Northern Ireland was suspended and the British government, with a few brief pauses, ruled the province directly.

1972+2000: Tamil insurgents, who mainly lived on the northern and eastern parts of the island, fought the Sinhalese and the Sri Lankan army for their own separate state.

1973: In January the USA-South Vietnam and North Vietnam-Vietcong signed a cease-fire. US combat losses in Vietnam during 1965+1973 were 45,948, plus 10,298 noncombat deaths, with 303,640 wounded. (There were also 570,000 draft dodgers and many less-than-honorable discharges.) The South Vietnamese had 184,546 deaths and nearly half a million wounded during the same period. The North Vietnamese and Vietcong had nearly one million combat deaths of which half were civilians, with about the same number of civilians wounded. Nearly all American troops had left South Vietnam by 29 March.

The total cost of the Vietnam debacle to the US taxpayers for the same 1965+1973 period was an estimated $109.5 billion.
The European Economic Community (EEC)/Common Market expanded. Britain, Denmark, and Ireland joined the EEC that then numbered nine nations with a combined population of 257 million people.

October 6, the Jewish Holy Day of Atonement, was the start of the 18-day Yom Kippur or October War, the fifth and most extensive Arab-Israeli war since 1948. Egyptians invaded from five points across the Suez Canal, and Syrians attacked from two places on the Golan Heights with some 1400 tanks. Iraqi troops supported the Syrians; Jordanian troops helped the Syrians defend Damascus. The Battle of the Sinai was one of the longest tank battles ever. The Israelis defeated the combined forces of their opponents, yet the Egyptian armies recaptured some territory held by the Israelis since the Six Day War in 1967. Egypt had 7500 casualties, Syria 7300, and Israel 4100, including 2522 dead.

Guinea-Bissau became an independent country, and Portuguese Guinea was no more.

The USSR airlifted war materials to Egypt and Syria. To counter Soviet shipments of arms to the Arabs, the US sent military aid to Israel.

King Faisal Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia declared his country would freeze its petroleum production as long as the USA supported Israel. Other Arab nations followed his lead against the USA and other nations that supported Israel. The Syrians, Egyptians, and other Muslim oil-producing nations and other members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) started to embargo petroleum shipments to the USA, Western Europe, and Japan, all allies and pro-Israeli nations. The result was the international "Oil Crisis." Petroleum prices almost everywhere did indeed skyrocket almost immediately. Not only home heating oil and gasoline prices increased but also those of plastics, paint, fertilizers and many other petroleum-based products.

A resolution for a ceasefire in the Near East jointly sponsored by the USA and USSR was approved 14-0 in a UN Security Council meeting on 22 October. Israel and Egypt agreed to this resolution on 24 October.

President Salvador Allende, who had been fairly elected, was overthrown in Chile by Chilean military with the connivance of the American CIA. It was the start of a long and brutal military dictatorship in Chile.

Venezuela and Canada supplied most of the USA's imported petroleum.

The petroleum embargo worked, but the shortages and increased prices generated great anger among consumers all over the world. The oil and resulting grain shortages accompanied by rapid and large price increases in the cost of living caused a global economic recession. The US dollar was devalued by 10 percent, which made Soviet gold more valuable, for instance, and US wheat, which the Soviets had contracted to buy in large quantities, cheaper. Many critics charged the oil producers and suppliers who used this occasion to earn themselves huge profits engineered the "shortage of oil".

Trudeau and the Liberals in Canada promoted new exploration and energy conservation and used taxes on western Canadian oil and gas exports to the USA to provide subsidies for eastern Canada's oil imports. Among other efforts, they also created a government-run oil company.

The Japanese economy suffered an "oil shock" along with most of the rest of the world in October and following.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the USA had already gone up to an 8.5 percent rate during the six months thru September.

The Bahamas became an independent country after being a British colony for 256 years.

Australia surrendered its White-only immigration policy that had long been under attack.

The USA's bombing of parts of Cambodia continued, supposedly to help end the war in Vietnam.

Congress passed the War Powers Resolution in November over Nixon's veto. It limited - as the Constitution intended - a president's power to commit American troops abroad without congressional approval.

East and West Germany established diplomatic relations for the first time since WWII.
West Germany joined the United Nations.

250 people were killed in Northern Ireland as part of the continuing violence between Protestants and Catholics.

At current rates of production, the USA pumped 9.5 million barrels of crude oil per day, the Saudi Arabians 6.5 million, Iran 5 million, Kuwait 3 million, Libya 2.2 million, Abu Dhabi 1.2, Iraq 1.1, Qatar 550,000, and Oman 300,000 barrels a day.

Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi nationalized foreign-operated oil firms in Iran and the Abadan Refinery.

Saudi Arabia greatly increased its financial interest in the 40-year-old Aramco oil consortium.

Pakistan withdrew from the Commonwealth of Nations.

With Britain’s entry into the European Community, the Commonwealth ended preferential tariffs for its member states. Some called this the very end of the British Empire and nearly the end of the Commonwealth of Nations as an economic association.

Mohammed Daud and his supporters ended the monarchy of Mohammed Zahir Shah and proclaimed Afghanistan a republic.

James W. McCord, Jr., a former CIA employee, and four other Watergate defendants pled guilty in the court of justice John W. Sirica. Two of Nixon's top aides, H.R. Haldeman and John Erlichman, resigned on 17 April, after John W. Dean III, a former White House legal advisor, testified honestly before Senator Samuel J. Ervin's investigating committee.

Gerald Ford, Republican leader of the House of Representatives, became the USA's first appointed vice president when he replaced Spiro T. Agnew who resigned on 10 October and pled "no contest" to charges of income tax evasion on graft money and bribes, he received while he had been governor of Maryland.

Nixon fired special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox, a Harvard law professor, on 20 October when he asked for all the recordings of conversations about Watergate in the president's possession. Some of the tapes were released, eventually, but they had been tampered with and were incomplete. Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson, who had replaced the discredited John Mitchell, was an honest, principled official and resigned his office in protest at Cox's dismissal.

Only about 50,000 American troops remained in Vietnam.

The draft was ended as a way of enlisting young men into the armed forces of the USA; they were replaced with all-volunteers.

The US Supreme Court on 22 January ruled in Roe v. Wade that women had a legal right to have abortions during the first six months of their pregnancies, without outside interference. This decision provoked vigorous opposition from Catholics and many Protestant religious groups.

President Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act.

A median priced singe-family house in the US cost $28,900, up from $20,000 in 1968.

Wheat production in the US hit a new high: almost 50 million metric tons, some 1.71 billion bushels. US corn yields were, on average, 96.9 bushels per acre, up from 70 in 1968. Grain exports, mainly to communist countries, drove American prices up. The average US farm worker grew enough food to feed 50 people.

Farm workers comprised only 5 percent of the American workforce.

Nixon ordered a freeze on all retail food prices on 13 June.

There were some 800 homosexual organizations in the USA.

The Sears Tower in Chicago, Illinois, became the tallest building in the world at 442 m/1450 feet in height.

Pablo Casals (1876+1973) a famous Spanish cellist died, as did Gene Krupa (1909+1973), the great American jazz drummer.

Pablo Picasso died at the age of 92 and left some 50,000 works - including 1228 sculptures, 1885 paintings, 2880 ceramics, 6112 lithographs, and 18,095 engravings - all valued at more than one billion dollars. Picasso had been an innovative leader of or participant in all the important
movements of his time: cubism, "primitivism," and surrealism. Two of his most famous paintings were Les Demoiselles d'Avignon and Guernica, but he did so many more.

Richard Milhous Nixon urged a number of measures to de-regulate (i.e. get the government out of) the domestic production of petroleum and other sources of energy in May. In June, he told Congress "While we have 6 percent of the world's population, we consume one-third of the world's energy output." Nixon in reference to the Watergate scandal: "There will be no whitewash in the White House." "I am not a crook." Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr., of North Carolina, the outstanding leader of the Senate inquiry into the Watergate affair: "Divine right went out with the American Revolution and doesn't belong to White House aides. That is not Executive privilege. It is Executive poppycock." Pablo Picasso, artist: "I paint objects as I think them, not as I see them." Julian Huxley: Our destiny "...is to be the sole agent for future evolution of this planet." Jacob Bronowski (1908+1974), American mathematician and historian: "That is the essence of science: ask an impertinent question, and you are on the way to a pertinent answer." "The world can only be grasped by action, not by contemplation... The hand is the cutting edge of the mind."

1973+1975: Mainly young officers in Portugal formed the Armed Forces Movement (MFA). Their political positions varied widely. Reform minded military leaders, some of whom had served in Guinea-Bissau and other parts of Africa, could see the madness of the effort to fight to the death in order to keep the Portuguese Empire intact. They overthrew the dictatorship in Portugal (April 1974) and brought their country into the 20th century and removed many vestiges of the Salazar regime. General Antonio de Spinola became the president of the Portuguese Republic on 15 May 1974 and resigned that same office, as the result of popular discontent with yet another conservative/reactionary military government, on 30 September 1974. A more progressive general, Costa Gomes, the chief of the General Staff, replaced him. Finally, on 25 April 1975, the long-suffering people of Portugal voted for their representatives in the Constituent Assembly. Twelve parties contested the election and the largest number (37.9 percent) of votes went to the Socialist Party.

1973+1975: The first phase of the Lebanese Civil War primarily between Muslims and Christians.

1973+1976: General Juan Peron and his third wife Isabelita Martinez de Peron were elected president and vice-president of Argentina after returning from exile in Spain. He had twice before - 1946+1955 and 1973+1974 - been president of Argentina. After the old man died, Isabelita became the first woman head-of-state in the New World in July 1974. She was ousted from office by a military putsch led by many of her late husband's friends and associates. (She was then accused of corruption and held under house arrest for five years before she went into exile again in Madrid in 1981.) Reformers in Thailand, including many student groups, attempted to advance democratic politics and civilian control of the government.

1973+1980: Inflation in Chile fell from 508 percent to about 70 percent per year. The real per capita national income in Palestine grew at an annual rate of about five percent.

1973+1987: The indebtedness of the developing nations increased from about $130 billion to about $1000 billion.

1973+1998: General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, the commander in chief of the army, was the military dictator of Chile. Many thousands of his opponents were buried or disappeared one way or another. Many others were imprisoned incommunicado. The number of political prisoners who were tortured is also in dispute. He was eventually voted out of office as "president," but remained as commander in chief of the Chilean army from 1990 until 1998. Chile produced more copper, fishmeal, and molybdenum than any other country in the world.

1973+2000: Finland's GDP averaged 2.5 percent per year.

1974: The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), including Nigeria, ended their oil embargo against the Western allies of Israel, including Japan, in March. Oil prices had increased from $3 a barrel before the boycott to
almost $12 a barrel by the time the OPEC embargo ended.

The Supreme Court ruled 8 to 0 on 24 July that President Nixon was obliged to give the special prosecutor some 64 recordings of conversations secretly made in the White House on government time at government expense.

On 30 July the House of Representatives' Judiciary Committee recommended the impeachment of Richard Nixon for obstruction of justice (offering "hush" money to witnesses, failing to uphold the law, and withholding evidence), abuse of power (using federal government agencies to deprive citizens of their constitutional rights), and defiance of Congress (for withholding evidence and for refusal to honor subpoenas).

On 9 August, faced with an impeachment trial by the Senate, Richard Nixon resigned as the result of the Watergate scandal. He was the only US president ever to resign for any reason. Many said faced with almost certain conviction, he resigned to protect his pension.

President Gerald Ford, sworn-in on 9 August, shocked many people and gave Nixon a "full, free, and absolute pardon" for any criminal offenses he may have committed while in office. Public criticism of this action was intense and not short-lived.

By this year, Whites controlled only the governments of Rhodesia, South Africa, and South-West Africa/Namibi in sub-Saharan Africa.

The USA and USSR signed a Threshold Test Ban Treaty that limited underground atomic testing to 150 kilotons, more than twice the size of the largest device yet tested. Nonetheless, many people felt it was a step towards controlling the size of underground tests.

Angola, Mozambique, and Portuguese Guinea/Guinea-Bissau continued to struggle for independence from Portugal.

Despite the opposition of the Trudeau government and many English-language groups all over Canada, the government of Quebec approved making French the official language of business and government in that province. All immigrant children were required to attend French-language schools.

After more than 200 years of British rule, Grenada in the southern Windward Islands in the Caribbean Sea became independent.

By choice, Somalia became a quasi-Soviet satellite.

A coup by the Ethiopian military displaced Emperor Haile Selassie, emperor and "lion" of Ethiopia, who had ruled the country since 1930 - except for the Italian occupation during 1936+1941. Communists-socialists who seem not to have been much, if any, more progressive in deed than the government they replaced dominated the new regime, as in Somalia.

An Arab summit ruled that the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Yasser Arafat, not King Hussein of Jordan, were the official representatives of the Palestinian people.

India joined the USA, USSR, Britain, France, and China as an atomic power in May after it tested a nuclear device under the Rajasthan desert.

About 75,000 persons died in India of a smallpox epidemic.

Severe inflation hurt the economies of Israel, India, Brazil, and Japan, while recession hurt nearly all other nations' economies. Some economists described the common situation as "stagflation": stagnant economic growth compounded with inflation. Worldwide inflation caused increases in the cost of fuel, food, and most everything. Economic growth stopped in most industrialized nations and regressed in most developing nations.

Canada had 9 percent inflation.

The cost of an average mid-sized American automobile was $4,767.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA), a stock index, dropped to 663, its lowest level since 1970.

After it was revealed that a high-ranking member of his staff was an East German spy, Willy Brandt, the outstanding West German chancellor, resigned. Helmut Schmidt, also a member of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) replaced him. Schmidt's announced foreign policy was the "...political unification of Europe in partnership with the United States."
Aleksandr L. Solzhenitsyn, who published *The Gulag Archipelago* that was a terrible damnation of communism and the Stalinists, was exiled to West Germany and had his Soviet citizenship taken away from him.

Ex-president Nixon agreed to pay more than $400,000 in back taxes.

President Ford signed the Employee Retirement Income Security Act in September. It allowed tax-free Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and started a trend toward private retirement plans as a supplement to Social Security in the USA.

Over president Ford's veto, Congress in November passed the Freedom of Information Act that allowed private citizens to request copies of documents concerning them from the federal government.

The Franklin National Bank of New York was secretly looted by the Italian financier Michel Sindona and became the largest bank failure in American history to that date.

On 9 December, the Dow Jones Industrial Average sank to 570.01.

Crude oil prices reached $11.25 per barrel by the end of the year, up from $2.50 per barrel at the beginning of 1973.

Harold Wilson's Labour Party in Britain won its second British general election in less than a year.

Britain had inflation of 19.1 percent for the year.

Irish terrorists operated in Northern Ireland and England.

The Liberals and Pierre Elliott Trudeau, who staunchly opposed Quebec's separation from the rest of Canada, were reelected with a larger than expected majority.

Moshe Dayan, the minister of defense (1967 and 1969+1974) and Golda Meir, the prime minister of Israel, resigned because of criticism of their nation's lack of preparedness for the 1973 October/Yom Kippur War. Both had distinguished themselves over many years by their service to Israel. Yitzhak Rabin succeeded Mrs. Meir.

Greek Cypriot troops staged a coup against their government in mid-July and declared *enosis*/union with the mainland. Archbishop Makarious, who escaped, blamed the Greek military dictatorship on the mainland for his removal. On 20 July, Turkish troops invaded Cyprus. Turkish troops held 45 percent of Cyprus and instituted *taksim*/partition of the island.

On 23 July, the military junta in Greece resigned and the first civilian government since 1967 took office. Georgios Papadopoulos, who had been one of the lead engineers of the 1967 military coup against the monarchy of Constantine II, was convicted of high treason, but his sentence of death was later commuted.

During a famous referendum on civil divorce, which the Roman Catholic Church vigorously opposed, Italian voters approved the measure by the ratio of 6 to 4.

A majority of members of the American Psychiatric Association decided that homosexuality is not a "mental disorder."

Local farmers near Xian in Central China unearthed an army of life-size terra-cotta statues of archers, cavalry and infantry troops, charioteers, chariots, and horses, eventually some 7500 in number and covering an area of about 500 acres. They were made individually, according to some sources. This army was made to guard and encircle the imperial mausoleum of supposedly the first emperor to unify China, Qin Shihuangdi, "the first emperor" (-221-210).

Anthropologists Donald Johanson and Tony Gray discovered at Hadar, Ethiopia, "Lucy," an adolescent girl some three and a half feet high, another *Australopithecus afarensis* skeleton. She is probably the earliest species, found to date, and is some 3.1 million years of age.

The CN Tower in Toronto, Canada, mainly designed to transmit radio and television, became the tallest structure in the world at 550 m/1805 feet in height.

About 40 percent of US adults, according to a Gallup Poll, attended church services weekly.

Jim Bakker started the Praise the Lord/PLT television ministry in the USA.
Astronauts from the US Skylab 3 spent 84 days in space; US Mariner 10 took detailed pictures of both Venus and Mercury.

The American Telephone & Telegraph Co. (AT&T) was the largest corporate employer in the USA.

After shifts in production to the Philippines and Thailand, Hawaiian pineapples were only one-third of the world crop, down from 72 percent in 1950.

Pocket calculators were sold in many places.

Andrei Sakharov, Russian nuclear physicist: "Every day I saw the huge material, intellectual and nervous resources of thousands of people being poured into the creation of a means of total destruction, something capable of annihilating all human civilization. I noticed that the control levers were in the hands of people who, though talented in their own ways, were cynical." Milton Friedman, American economist: "Inflation is the one form of taxation that can be imposed without legislation."

Margaret Thatcher: "The charm of Britain has always been the ease with which one can move into the middle class." Golda Meir: "Pessimism is a luxury that a Jew never can allow himself."

1974+1977: The USA's Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) became the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) and then a division of the Department of Energy.

1974+1978: By some estimates, 20,000 homosexual males moved to San Francisco, California.

1974+1981: Giscard d'Estaing, long a supporter of Charles de Gaulle, was the president of France. He attempted to create a "new center" in French politics.

1974+1982: There was a tremendous increase in the petroleum production of Indonesia that was encouraged by a variety of government policies and actions.


1975: The communists launched a massive attack against South Vietnam and its defenders. The armies of North Vietnam captured the city of Danang in March. Xuan Loc, only 38 miles northeast of Saigon, fell in April. Nguyen Van Thieu, the president of South Vietnam, resigned on 21 April and left the country. Saigon was surrounded by 26 April. Three days later the Americans evacuated in a hasty scramble some 1373 of their own personnel plus 5595 Vietnamese. On 30 April the Vietnam War, after more than 20 years of American involvement, was in most ways over. Thousands of people who had supported the South Vietnamese regime escaped on their own, mainly by boat.

According to some sources, an estimated three million civilians and combatants were killed on all sides during the Vietnam War.

Some 57,605 Americans had died in the futile effort in Vietnam to defeat Vietnamese nationalism and international communism.

British voters approved by 67 percent to 33 percent a referendum on Britain's 1972/3 decision to join the European Economic Community (EEC). It was indeed a history making decision for all concerned and much perturbed all the Commonwealth nations that now had to seriously consider permanent changes in their many relationships with the United Kingdom.

Guinea-Bissau in west central Africa on the Atlantic coast separated and became independent of Portuguese rule. After 470 years of Portuguese rule, Mozambique became independent with an unknown Maoist as president. There was extensive guerrilla fighting in Angola between one side, supported by outsiders from South Africa, and another supported by some 13,000 Soviet-equipped Cuban troops. Angola became independent in November, but the new government needed Cuban troops and Soviet weapons to keep itself in power. Angola was 23 times larger in terms of territory than Portugal. The Cape Verde islands in the Atlantic off the west coast, after 480 years of Portuguese rule, and Sao Tomé and Principe, in the Gulf of Guinea in western Africa, also became independent of Portugal.
For the first time in its history, the Conservative party in Britain elected a woman, Margaret Hilda Thatcher, as their leader.

After 74 years as an Australian mandate and trusteeship, Papua New Guinea became an independent country.

Portuguese Timor, often known as East Timor, amid much confusion and bloodshed and heavy-handed interference by the Indonesian military and the lack of a proper plebiscite, became part of Indonesia. The situation had been complicated by the discovery of oil and natural gas in the Timor Sea that excited both Indonesia and Australia as they had defense and economic concerns and claims, or so they thought.

The pro-communist Pathet Lao, led by Kaysone Phomvihane, ended the monarchy in Laos and founded the Lao People’s Democratic Republic on 2 December.

After 160 years of Dutch rule, Dutch Guiana/Netherlands Guiana, between Guiana and Guyana (formerly French Guiana), north of Brazil, became independent Suriname.

Congress appropriated $405 million to relocate 130,000 Vietnamese to the USA, many of whom passed thru the island of Guam as a transit point.

The USA acquired a new interest in Micronesia, at the request of the majority of the people of the Mariana Islands in mid-February. The islands of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Pagan and several minor islands became the US Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), as the result of negotiations started in 1973. The CNMI had a population of about 23,000 natives, who, like their fellow self-governing Chamorros on Guam, enjoy the rights of American citizenship. The people of the CNMI enjoyed generous local control over labor, land, immigration, and taxes (they were exempt from federal taxes). (Between 1922+1944 these islands were part of the Japanese mandate from the League of Nations. After WWII and until this time, they had been part of the UN’s Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands that was administered by the USA.)

After five years of conflict between Lebanese and Palestinian refugees, Lebanon again burst into fighting between Christians and Muslims in Beirut. The Lebanese Civil War continued between the Christian-dominated government and various Muslim factions such as the Sunni, Shi‘ite, Druze, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The Israelis and Syrians also increasingly involved themselves in the fighting in Lebanon, which not long before, according to some people, had been the most prosperous and progressive country in the Middle East.

Unemployment reached 9 percent in the USA.

After a five-year civil war with the communist Khmer Rouge, Cambodian president Lon Nol sneaked out of Phnom Penh as the communist-led Khmer Rouge approached. During mid-April, Pol Pot, the brutal leader of the Khmer Rouge, headed the Kampuchean People’s Republic, with support from Prince Norodom Sihanouk. Many people in Phnom Penh and other places were forced to take harrowing marches to the countryside as part of their new political "education."

Iran and Iraq supposedly settled their border dispute over the Shatt Al-Arab estuary formed by the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Iran promised not to support Kurdish rebels in Kurdistan.

Prince Faisal Musad Abdel Aziz assassinated his uncle King Faisal of Saudi Arabia on 25 March. He was himself beheaded within 90 days and replaced by his brother Khalid ibn Abdul Aziz (1913+1982) as king.

Finally Generalissimo Francisco Franco, the fascist dictator of Spain since 1939, finally died in November. Prince Juan Carlos Alfonso Victor Maria de Borbón became Juan Carlos I, the first Spanish king in 44 years, and Spain again was a constitutional monarchy.

The Suez Canal was reopened on 5 June for the first time since it had been closed during the Arab-Israeli war of June 1967.

Some 40 Islamic nations voted at a gathering in Saudi Arabia to drive Israel from the United Nations.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) increased global crude oil prices by about 10 percent.
India’s high court found Indira Gandhi in June guilty on two counts of illegally winning her electoral victory in 1971 by using corrupt practices. Her conviction would have kept her from holding or running for any elective office for six years. She refused to resign, declared a "state of emergency" in June, and huge demonstrations against her and her government occurred all over India, as they had earlier in the year. Gandhi used repressive measures against the press, her political opponents, and the demonstrators. Some 400,000,000 Indians were starving or very near it, according to some estimates. Fewer than 2000 Indian taxpayers admitted to having a taxable income of more than $1300 a year.

Mujibur Rahman abolished representative government in Bangladesh and imposed presidential rule. Leaders of the Regular Army in Dacca murdered him and his family in a coup during August. General Zia-ur Rahman (who was himself murdered by another general in May 1981) became the dictator of Bangladesh.

Sikkim/Denjong, in northeastern India, on the southern slopes of the Himalayas between Nepal and Bhutan, was annexed by India.

The separatist Parti Quebecois was elected to office in the province of Quebec in Canada.

The US government temporarily cut off aid to Turkey as the result of Turks on Cyprus establishing a separate state in the northern part of their island.

More than 37 percent of Canadian nonagricultural workers belonged to unions.

Dahomey, formerly part of French West Africa, renamed itself Benin after the 17th century African kingdom.

After Spain withdrew from the Western Sahara, the Spanish Sahara was split and the northern part was annexed by Morocco and the southern portion was taken by Mauritania. Boundaries were still disputed.

After 89 years of French rule, the Comoros Islands near Madagascar in the Indian Ocean became independent.

Ethiopian government troops and secessionist guerrillas slaughtered each other in the province of Eritrea.

Some 45,000 Africans and 15,000 "technicians" from the People's Republic of China built the Great Uhuru Railway, some 1162 miles long, from Kapiri Mposhi, Zambia, to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

William Henry Gates III, 19, and Paul Gardner Allen, 22, founded the Microsoft Corporation in Seattle, Washington. (Gates, a Harvard University dropout, would reportedly become a billionaire before he was 30.)

The president of Nationalist China (1950+1975) on Taiwan, Jiang Jieshi/Chiang Kai-shek died. His son, Chiang Ching-Kuo (1910+1988), who was already the prime minister of Taiwan, succeeded him as the head of the Guomingdang/Nationalist Party.

The USA withdrew its last combat aircraft from Taiwan and reduced its military force there to almost nothing as part of its new "one China" policy.

Russian physicist Andrei D. Sakharov, the main developer of the Soviet hydrogen bomb, who had become a persistent and effective critic of the communist regime, won the Nobel peace prize, but was denied a visa by his government to attend the award ceremonies in Sweden.

The US Viking unmanned spacecraft started on a 500-million mile journey to Mars.

The US Apollo and Soviet Soyuz 19 spacecrafts joined 140 miles above Earth.

Raul H. Castro, a citizen with both Mexican and American heritages, became the governor of Arizona.

New York City needed a bailout by the federal government in order to avoid defaulting on its debts.

Wallace Muhammad succeeded his father, Elijah Muhammad/Elijah Poole (1897+1975) as leader of the US Black Muslims.

The USA started celebrating its Bicentennial of the American Revolution.
Will and Ariel Durant completed the 11th book, *The Age of Napoleon*, in their series about the history of world civilizations.

The World Council of Churches, in only their fifth assembly, called for a "radical transformation of civilization." Many people continued to scratch their heads.

Atlantic salmon returned to spawn in the Connecticut River in the USA after being absent for a century; sturgeon also started coming back to the Hudson River.

The former US secretary of commerce, Maurice H. Stans, pled guilty to five misdemeanors related to the 1972 Nixon re-election campaign. Also convicted and sentenced to prison terms of more than two years each were John N. Mitchell, John D. Erlichman, H.R. Haldeman, and Robert Mardian - most of Nixon's old White House gang - for their crimes in the Watergate cover-up.

American unemployment reached 9.2 percent, its highest rate since 1941.

The Episcopalian Church in the USA permitted women to become ordained priests.

Mauna Loa volcano erupted again on the "Big Island" of Hawaii.

The big boss of the American Teamsters' Union, Jimmy Hoffa, vanished on 30 July and was widely believed to have been murdered by some of his fellow gangsters.

W.A. "Tony" Boyle, formerly the president of the United Mine Workers in the USA, was sentenced to three consecutive life terms for arranging the murder of Joseph A. Yablonski, a reform union official.

Mexico had a 45 percent inflation rate, a foreign debt of $18 billion, and a $3.7 billion trade deficit.

On 21 December, radical Palestinians forced their way into an OPEC conference in Vienna, killed three persons, and then took 81 hostages, including 11 OPEC ministers.

Japan's population was 112 million, the USA had 213, the USSR 255, India 615, and China 843 million.

The American Voting Rights Act applied to Spanish-speaking and other "language minorities" who were now allowed to vote using ballots in their native languages.

The Age Discrimination in Employment Act tried to prevent age discrimination against older American workers. To some people it seemed like another feeble effort on the part of American politicians to show that they were "doing something."

The global economy showed signs of recovery despite persistent high inflation and unemployment in many places. Hourly wages for production workers increased dramatically in Belgium, Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Sweden, USA, and West Germany.

Gold prices dropped from $174.50 per ounce in January to $140 per ounce in October.

The Overthrust Belt, a geological area reaching some 2300 miles from Montana thru Arizona, was a major new oil and gas discovery in the USA.

Britain got 42 percent of its energy from oil, 30 percent from coal, 17 percent from natural gas, and 11 percent from hydroelectric and nuclear power.

*The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences selected One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest as the best film of the year.*

Marshall McLuhan, Canadian philosopher: "Television brought the brutality of war into the comfort of the living room. Vietnam was lost in the living rooms of America - not on the battlefields of Vietnam." Indira Gandhi, Indian stateswoman: "There exists no politician in India daring enough to attempt to explain to the masses that cows can be eaten." Mother Teresa/Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhui (1910+1997), Roman Catholic nun and missionary: "The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted, uncared for and deserted by everybody." Margaret Thatcher, British politician and prime minister: "I'm not hard - I'm frightfully soft. But I will not be hounded." Eric Hoffer (1902+1983), American philosopher: "Power corrupts the few, while weakness corrupts the many. Hatred, malice, rudeness,
intolerance and suspicion are the fruits of weakness."

1975/6: Members of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and other supportive groups tried to force the conservative Maronite/Uniate Christians, who controlled the government, to share political power. The civil war in Lebanon continued. The Syrian army intervened, and Libya sent weapons and supplies to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). After 19 months of warfare in Lebanon, the Syrian army was in control of much of the country. 35,000 people had been killed, and much of the historic and commercial city of Beirut was rubble. Military forces from Syria drove the PLO from Lebanon during 1976 and then, at various times, stayed on as an occupation army.

The government of Venezuela nationalized, with fair compensation to their owners, foreign and domestic, iron mines and oil fields. The Petroleos Venezolanos, Petroven, national oil company was formed.

1975+1977: Following the Soweto incident, a series of riots and boycotts by Blacks swept over South African townships. Altogether some 600 Blacks were killed during the worst demonstrations and most brutal responses from the government in South Africa's history.

1975+1979: After the genocidal pro-Chinese, communist Khmer Rouge/Red Khmers, led by Pol Pot/Saloth Sar/Tol Saut/Pol Port (1928+1998), had finally defeated the forces of the inept General Lon Nol, they were responsible for a bloodbath while they brutally ruled Cambodia until they were overthrown by Vietnamese troops and their quislings. Some as the People's Republic of Kampuchea, a bloody revolutionary utopia, knew Cambodia and maybe 2.5 million or more people died in "killing fields" for political and other war-related reasons. Some experts put the number of dead at 12 percent to 25 percent, including sizeable emigration, depending on one's source, of Cambodia's population of some 7.2 million people.

The shah of Iran ruled his country with a single-party government under his control.

A military government ruled the people of Bangladesh.

1975+1980: Robert Mugabe was one of the leaders of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) guerrillas who fought against the White-only government of Southern Rhodesia. (Earlier during 1964+1974, he had been a political prisoner in Rhodesia.)

1975+1989: During the Angolan Civil War, Cuba and the USA became involved in various ways.

1975+1990: There was a civil war between Christians and Muslims in Lebanon that greatly reduced that once prosperous and progressive nation.

1975+1991: Some 160,000 Vietnamese became refugees in Hong Kong.

1975+1999: President-General Suharto of Indonesia ordered the invasion of the Portuguese colony of East Timor in the Lesser Sundra Islands, a mountainous place where there were many Christians. This was done with great savagery and loss of civilian lives. During the next five years, possibly half of the island's 600,000 people were killed or starved to death. East Timor, without any questions being asked, was annexed by Indonesia during 1976. (Some observers claim that Portugal abandoned its former colony.) Nearly 80 percent of the voters in East Timor voted for independence in 1999 during an election supervised by United Nations' observers.

1975+2000: New oil fields were discovered in Mexico along the gulf coast from Tampico to Villahermosa. The expected and unexpected short and long-term results were inflation, cheap oil, a larger national debt, a brain drain from the country (mainly to the USA), a long-term decline in the value of the peso, and thousands of Mexican workers slipping into the USA illegally. Many experts of being horribly corrupt, overly bureaucratic, and terribly ineffective have consistently accused Pemex, the national oil company. After being tied to the American dollar for 22 years at 12.5 to one US dollar, the Mexican peso was allowed to float, and thus devalue.

1976: Zhou Enlai, 77, and Mao Zedong, 82, the founders and implementers of communism in
mainland China, died in January and September, respectively.

After Mao's death, his widow, Jiang Qing, Zhang Chunqiao, and their associates, known collectively as the Gang of Four, tried to seize power in Shanghai and Beijing. Instead, more moderate communists arrested these Maoist radicals for their extreme views and actions. (Jiang Qing was expelled from the Communist Party, tried and found guilty of subverting the government and for violating and torturing many innocent people, and sentenced to death in 1980. Her sentence was later commuted.)

The Communist Party in Italy was more popular than ever before or since and received 34.4 percent of the vote.

The people of Argentina were again ruled by martial law after President Isabel Peron was deposed in a bloodless coup.

The Parti Quebecois retained control over Quebec’s legislature. Many Canadians were deeply grieved when they learned that localists/loyalists/loyalists/nationalists/separatists in Quebec had given the Parti Quebecois 41 percent of the vote mostly at the expense of the Liberals whom most Canadians expected would be able to counter the extremists. Prime Minister Trudeau’s popularity suffered.

The Transkei became the first Bantustan in South Africa.

Prime minister Kakuei Tanaka of Japan resigned in November amid a financial scandal involving Tanaka’s Liberal-Democratic party and charges he personally accepted bribes from the Lockheed Corporation (which was trying to sell the Japanese government airplanes). The scandal was first reported in foreign newspapers.

After 166 years of British rule, the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean became independent.

Saigon, the Paris of Asia some had called it, was now Ho Chi Minh City in the new, united Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

After 44 years of governing, the socialists lost the September elections in Sweden to the conservatives.

Jimmy Carter, a Democrat, became the first American president from the South since Zachary Taylor (who had been one of the heroes of the Mexican-American war) when he defeated the unpopular Gerald Ford in the November elections.

When some 15,000 school children in Soweto township, only 10 miles from Johannesburg, in June demonstrated, the South African police opened fire on them and about 176 people were killed.

Some US supreme justices changed their minds and ruled capital punishment was not "cruel and unusual punishment."

Closed since 1966, mainland Chinese universities re-opened with restricted curriculums and very small enrollments.

Canadian airline pilots, with much public support, went on strike as a means of opposing the compulsory use of the French language over Quebec airspace.

In July one of the world's worst earthquakes killed some 655,000 people around Tangshan, China. There were also severe earthquakes killing thousands in Guatemala in February, Indonesia in June, and the Philippines in August, and eastern Turkey in November.

Likud, headed by Menachem Begin, formed the first non-Labor government in Israel.

Facsimile transmission/fax machines became popular despite poor quality reproductions.

Stephen G. Wozniak, 26, and Steven Jobs, 21, both college dropouts, founded Apple Computer in California with some $1500 in capital and became enormously successful.

Robert Murdoch, whose father owned the *Melbourne Herald* in Australia, built a global media empire with 83 newspapers and 11 magazines that specialized in sensational journalism. Murdoch bought the *New York Post* in November.

The World Health Organization reported that there were no cases of smallpox in Asia for the first time in history.

The new metro subway started operation in the USA’s District of Columbia in March.

The first subway in Brussels started running in September.
Moroccan and Algerian troops fought over control of the Western Sahara.

Dissident Tanzanians and Ugandans invaded Uganda.

A resolution calling for a total withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories taken since 1967 and the creation of an independent Palestinian state was vetoed by the USA in the UN Security Council.

Israel and Egypt signed an agreement concerning the Sinai territory on 10 October.

Montreal hosted the Olympic games that, unfortunately, were boycotted by 31 anti-Western nations.

There was an outbreak of Ebola virus in the northern Zaire/Congo Republic and some 318 people became infected, most of whom died.

Israeli commandos freed 100 Israeli hostages held by Palestinian terrorists from Entebbe, Uganda, in a special forces' operation that was studied and admired in some parts of the world.

A few people and companies started to do more than just think about genetic engineering.

The supersonic jet airliner Concorde, a French-British-European joint venture, went into regularly scheduled passenger service. It could cruise at 1350 miles an hour and carry 100 passengers.

Ian Smith, Prime Minister of Rhodesia 1964+1979: "I don't believe in black majority rule in Rhodesia - not in a thousand years." J. Paul Getty (1892+1976), American oil tycoon, commenting on Pemex, the national oil company of Mexico: "[Pemex] . . . is the only oil company I have known that lost money."

1976+1978: Adolfo Suarez Gonzalez became the prime minister of Spain; parliamentary elections were held; the voters approved a new democratic constitution; and Catalonia and the Basque country became somewhat autonomous.

1976+1983: An abusive military junta ruled Argentina. During the "Dirty War" of this period possibly some 9000 to 30,000 opponents of the junta "disappeared" forever or were brutally victimized.

1976+1986: General Eanes Antonio dos Santos Ramalho was twice elected president of Portugal with the support of the Socialist Party, the People's Democratic Party, and the Social Democratic Center Party.

1976+1990: Once purged as a revisionist, Deng Xiaoping/Teng Hsiao-p'ing, 73, emerged as the new paramount leader of the People's Republic of China by out-maneuvering the "Gang of Four" Maoists. The "pragmatists" were supposedly back in power in China and wanted, more than anything else, to modernize the economy without surrendering any of their power. Some claimed Deng Xiaoping continued in this role even after his retirement (1990) and until his death in February 1997.

1976+1996: GDP in Hong Kong grew at an average rate of 5.6 percent per year.


1976+2000: Portugal has had a civilian and republican government for the first time since General Antonio Carmona led a military coup against the government in 1926. Mario Soares, the leader of the Socialist Democratic Party (PSD), was the leading politician in Portugal until the 1990s.

1977: The Israel Labor party was voted out of power, and the Likud alliance of conservative parties made Menachem Begin the new prime minister. President Anwar el-Sadat of Egypt was invited to Tel Aviv by Begin to discuss ways to improve relations between the two countries. It was a bold initiative and response.

The voters in India's general election turned against Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, her party, and their policy of "emergency rule" during the past 18 months. (She was arrested on corruption charges and later served a brief term in prison.) This was the first time in 30 years that the Congress Party had lost a national election.

The military, supported by a variety of right-wing Islamic parties, ousted Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto (1929+1979) of Pakistan in July and declared martial law. General Yahya Khan had put Bhutto and his party into power in 1971. Bhutto was removed from office because of a widespread conviction that he had ordered the
assassination of several of his opponents and was corrupt and incompetent. (Bhutto was hanged by the government in April 1979.)

For the first time in 40 years there were democratic elections in Spain.

Frightened by the persistent strength of democratic reformers within Thailand and the successes of the communists in Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia, among other fears, the Thai military again asserted itself and seized control of the government.

President Carter in January pardoned all Vietnam era draft dodgers, but not deserters. In September, Carter approved two treaties with Panama, which called for the phase-out of American control over the Panama Canal. California governor Ronald Reagan opposed the ratification of the treaties as did S.I. Hayakawa, the tough former president of San Francisco State University and now a Republican senator from California, who quipped: "It's ours. We stole it fair and square."

The government of Quebec passed Bill 101 that required among other measures, outdoor signs be written in French only.

Dr. Andreas R. Gruentzig (1939-1985) invented balloon angioplasty as a technique for unclogging arteries with a device of his own invention that was an alternative to bypass surgery. Gruentzig, who overcame much skepticism and resistance from many of his colleagues, performed the first operation at University Hospital in Zurich, Switzerland, on Adolph Bachman who lived in good health for more than two decades thereafter.

For the first time, Japanese automobile manufacturers sold more than two million units a year in the USA.

Effective 1 March 1977, the US government on 13 April claimed a 200 mile offshore resource limit.

Burt Lance, President Carter's friend and director of the office of management and budget, was widely criticized for his earlier questionable practices as a banker. Lance resigned in September after damaging the reputation of his friend the president considerably.

Carter called on Americans to conserve energy, but many Americans felt the "energy crisis" was a rigged deal by the oil companies at their expense. Commonly gasoline cost $.70 in the USA per gallon.

500 million pairs of blue jeans were sold in the USA, up from 200 million in 1967.

Steven P. Jobs and Stephen Wozniak released their Apple II personal computer that quickly became a tremendous favorite with consumers. The Apple II PC stored data on an audiocassette, used a TV monitor as a screen, and cost about $1298.

Canadian law required licenses for people to own rifles, shotguns, and handguns.

On 21 July the US Congress passed the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act that obliged mining companies to restore stripped coal lands.

The Clean Air Act of 1970 was amended. California was allowed to have even stricter air pollution standards in order to reduce smog. Catalytic converters reduced tailpipe emissions in California and eventually everywhere in the country.

In December, Congress banned the manufacture in the USA of most aerosol products with fluorocarbons that polluted the ozone that in turn protects the earth from ultraviolet radiation from the sun.

The US Food and Drug Administration, influenced by a Canadian study, banned the use of saccharin - an artificial sweetener - in food, confections, soft drinks, chewing gum, and toothpaste for fear it caused cancer in people, as it had been shown to do in rats.

The US Senate and House voted to ban the use of federal funds for abortions except in cases of rape, incest, or where childbirth would threaten the mother's life.

On 13 July a 25-hour power blackout plunged New York into darkness. Looters cheered.

Congress created the US Department of Energy in August. It quickly became a huge bureaucracy with a budget of $11 billion and 20,000 employees.

The USA had a neutron bomb.
The National Women's Conference, mainly a gathering of feminists, was held in Houston, Texas.

Several American corporations began to experiment with the possibilities of using fiber-optic cables.

The president and 10 other government officials were murdered in Ethiopia in February. Lt. Gen. Mengistu Haile Mariam became the new leader and relied on Cuban advisers. The Soviets backed this new regime and ended military aid to Somalia.

On 26 October the last known case of smallpox was reported in Somalia. The disease that once ravaged millions of people had been eradicated where proper public health procedures were funded and followed.

French Somaliland became Djibouti in eastern Africa on the Gulf of Aden.

The Orient Express that had connected Istanbul with Paris, some 1900 miles away, since 1883, stopped running. The trip by rail took 60 hours while it only took 180 minutes by air.

The Canadian economy suffered from stagflation, and many Canadians worried about what the separatists in Quebec would do next.

A few people in the USA started to vocalize their views that students should not be able to graduate from schools until they could define and distinguish ignorance from stupidity without taking too many hours to do it and should be able to answer simple questions without being glib and foolish while repeating some rubbish they recently learned from a TV show or their ignorant friends.

Anastasio Somoza (1925+1980), Nicaraguan dictator to his electoral opponents: "You won the elections, but I won the count."

1977/78: Somalia and Ethiopia warred.

1977+1979: The Sandinista National Liberation Front was winning the war against the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua.

1977+1983: Menachem Begin was the prime minister of Israel.

1977+1985: Pakistan was again ruled by the military.

1977+1987: According to Congressional Budget Office data, expressed in 1987 dollars, after-tax family income of the highest one percent of Americans increased by 74.2 percent. It increased 24.4 percent on average for the upper 10 percent of American families; and for the lowest 10 percent it decreased 10.5 percent. Some people started talking about the new American "underclass" and "overclass."

1978: Trouble in Iran started in January. Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi declared martial law in an ineffective effort to end anti-government demonstrations urged by the exiled Moslem fundamentalist leader Ayatollah (an honorific title for great mullah/religious teacher) Ruhollah Khomeini (1900+1989). There were some 180,000 Muslim preachers in the country. Some of the religious rioters opposed the government's emancipation decrees for women, among other complaints. Savak, the shah's secret police; gambling casinos; the influence of the Baha'i sect; the prime minister; western influences; the shah himself - these were all popular targets for the critics. The shah's government blamed the unlikely combination of "Islamic Marxists" for the nation's problems. The cabinet resigned in November. The military overtly ran the government for the first time in some 25 years, until the shah allowed the opposition party, the National Front, to establish a new civilian government at the end of the year.

The USSR experienced a series of bad harvests and was again dependent on foreign grain purchases mainly from the USA and Canada. Half of the USSR's petroleum production went to cover subsidies and trade losses with its East European satellites, Mongolia, Cuba, and other Marxist third-world losers.

President Jimmy Carter hosted the Camp David talks between the leaders of Israel, Menachem Begin, and Egypt, Anwar Sadat, which led to a kind of long-term armistice between the two nations. Both Begin and Sadat were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts.

Thirteen OPEC nations controlled about half of the world's crude oil production.

Deng Xiao-ping announced that the PRC would push an Open Door Policy towards Hong Kong.
On 16 September an earthquake in northeastern Iran killed 25,000 people.

Inflation in the USA stood at 10 percent.

A pro-Soviet group in April seized power by force in Afghanistan and signed a long-term economic and military agreement with the USSR.

There was internal violence against the leaders of both North Yemen/the Yemen Arab Republic and South Yemen/the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen at the tip of the Arabian Peninsula. The president of North Yemen was assassinated; and a pro-Soviet group executed the president of South Yemen during a coup. Attempts at reconciliation between the two countries grew very weak.

Syrians and the Christian militia in Lebanon again fought each other in February.

The Sandinistas, named after the leading left-wing radical of the 1930s, Augusto Sandino, captured most of Nicaragua's members of congress and exchanged them for 83 political prisoners.

After Al Fatah guerrillas killed 30 Israeli civilians on the Haifa-Tel Aviv road, Israel invaded Lebanon on 14 March, surrounded Beirut, set-up a "security zone," and forced the PLO's forces to retreat into Syria. UN peacekeepers tried to establish a "buffer zone" between Israel and Lebanon in April and May. The Israelis withdrew from Lebanon on 13 June, and the Christian militia then occupied some of their positions.

Canadians served in the peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon.

A Soviet satellite fell in northern Canada and spread radioactive debris.

Soviet officials were expelled after trying to penetrate the security of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Mikhail Gorbachev, something of an agriculture expert, became a member of the Communist Party's central committee in Moscow.

The boss of Mauritania for the past 18 years was finally booted out of his office.

Rebels who had help from Angolans, Cubans, and Russians invaded Katanga/ Shaba Province in Zaire, supported by France and Belgium. The province was full of rioting and killing, and Europeans were evacuated.

The Soviet UN Undersecretary for Political and Security Council Affairs defected to the USA.

The constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) - formerly some of the islands of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands - was ratified by the voters of Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk/Truk, and Yap. The constitution made the islanders independent but still on good terms with the USA.

After 85 years of British rule, the Solomon Islands in Oceania became independent.

After 86 years of British rule, the Ellice Islands became independent as the new nation of Tuvalu in the western Pacific/Oceania north of Fiji.

Honduras was taken over by a military junta.

During the 200th coup in Bolivia's history since the Spanish were ejected, army officers took control of the government.

General Romeo Lucas Garcia of Guatemala began his bloody and corrupt four-year dictatorship.

After 153 years of British rule, the island of Dominica in the Lesser Antilles in the Caribbean became independent in November. For one of the first times in Dominican history, there was a peaceful transfer of power between constitutionally elected governments.

South Africa approved a UN plan to establish an independent government in Namibia/South-West Africa. The UN was supposed to oversee the guerrillas of the South-West Africa People's Organization/SWAPO during a cease-fire.

Despite world opinion, a Soviet court sent Anatoly/Natan Shcharansky, a mathematician, to prison for 13 years for his pro-human rights activities and his requests to be allowed to emigrate to Israel. The Soviets imprisoned many human rights activists for "malicious hooliganism" and other phony charges during this period.
President Carter signed a law that raised the mandatory retirement age from 65 to 70 years of age in the USA.

65 percent of California's voters passed "Proposition 13" which cut property taxes by 57 percent and which also slashed the amount of money available for many services provided by the local and state governments in California.

Thousands of "boat people" scrambled out of Vietnam looking for political asylum and better lives.

The Supreme Court considered the case of Allen Paul Bakke, a very well qualified candidate, who was denied admission by the University of California Medical School at Davis because the quota for Whites had been filled. The Court found that the special admissions quotas at that university violated the Civil Rights Act. Still, paradoxically, the policy of "affirmative action" and the use of quotas to promote "diversity" in the student body were not struck down as being illegal.

Production of the Volkswagen's "Beetle" in Germany ended in January. It had been one of the most popular car models ever made, and 19.2 million of them had been sold, more than Ford's Model T.

The American Airline Deregulation Act went into effect, and supposedly started a phase-out of government regulation of the aviation industry.

After 15 years as pope, Paul VI, 89, died. His successor John Paul I died after only 34 days in office. John Paul II, Karol Wojtyla, 58, a Pole, became on 16 October the first non-Italian pope since 1523.

Even though the Vatican labeled abortion as murder, a majority of Italians voted to legalize the operation during the first 90 days of pregnancy.

Population increases were dramatic in the Near East. Between 1950 and this year, Egypt's numbers grew from 20.5 to 39.8 million people, Iran's from 17.4 to 38.2, Iraq's from 5.2 to 12.3, Syria's from 3.5 to 8.1, Saudi Arabia's from 3.4 to 7.9, Israel from 1.3 to 3.7, and Jordan and Lebanon each from about 1.3 to 2.9 million.

At Port Kaituma airport in Guyana on 18 November, US congressman Leo J. Ryan of California and four other members of his investigating team were shot dead. Their assassins were members of a commune at Jonestown, the People's Temple, originally a California-based religious cult, founded by an extremist from San Francisco, Jim Jones. Following Ryan's murder, 917 of Jones's followers, and the cult leader himself, killed themselves with cyanide or were executed by their fellow cultists.

The residents of houses built over an abandoned toxic chemical site, in an area near Niagara Falls, New York, which some ironically called Love Canal, started to notice and report high numbers of birth defects and chronic illnesses in their children.

The Italian Red Brigade kidnapped Aldo Moro, a former prime minister, and when the government refused to exchange imprisoned terrorists for him, Moro was shot and killed in May.

Gold was worth about $243.65 an ounce.

The Canadian dollar fell to a 45-year low against the US dollar.

The Japan's Nikkei stock index closed above 6000 on 1 December.

Soviet cosmonauts set an endurance record of 139 days and 15 hours in space.

The USA had its longest coal strike that lasted 110 days.

Margaret A. Brewer became the first female American Marine Corps general.

Americans bought 13 million pairs of jogging shoes.

The first legal gambling casino outside of Nevada opened in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on the Boardwalk.

Thor Heyerdahl, the Norwegian explorer-ethnologist, sailed on a reed boat from Iran to the coast of Djibouti.

Engineers from Philips Corporation in the Netherlands invented the compact disc.
The US government took the first steps towards reducing lead in gasoline products.

Louis Joy Brown, the first test tube baby, was born to Lesley Brown in Britain.

The American research submersible Glomar Challenger collected core samples from the seafloor some 23,104 feet deep.

A Gutenberg Bible was sold at a New York auction for $2 million dollars, the most ever paid for a printed book.

The Polish-born American-Yiddish writer Isaac Bashevis Singer (1904+?) was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.


Alexander Solzhenitsyn: "Hastiness and superficiality are the psychic diseases of the 20th Century, and more anywhere else this disease is reflected in the press." "This debilitating dream of a status quo is the symptom of a society that has come to the end of its development." "After the suffering of decades of violence and oppression, the human soul longs for higher things, warmer and purer than those offered by today's mass living habits, introduced as by a calling card by the revolting invasion of commercial advertising, by TV stupor and by intolerable music."

1978/9: The PRC dropped its economic isolation and joined the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and applied for foreign loans and investments. Four "special economic zones" were created to attract foreign capital at Zhuhai, Shenzhen, Shantou, and Xiamen. To many people it looked like at long last the Industrial Revolution had come to mainland China.

Its anti-Israel members dropped Egypt out of the Arab League.

There was a civil war in Nicaragua.

The military government of Chile imported some 900,000 tons of wheat from the USA in order to keep their people from starving.

1978+1981: Adolfo Suarez, the leader of the Democratic Center Party, was the first democratically elected prime minister of Spain since 1937.

1978+1982: About 700,000 Chinese-Cambodians left Cambodia as the government of Cambodia turned anti-Chinese and as there was a famine in the northern provinces.

1978+1984: P.W. Botha was prime minister of South Africa.

1978+1990: Vietnam invaded and occupied Cambodia/Kampuchea late in 1978 and partially ended the rule of the Khmer Rouge there. Han Sen, a Vietnamese puppet, became the prime minister of the new People's Republic of Kampuchea. Mainland China/PRC attempted to militarily intervene, as did some of the supporters of Prince Sihanouk.

1978+1990: Pope John Paul II/Karol Jozef Wojtyla, Margaret Thatcher, and Ronald Reagan, among many others, separately and together, rallied worldwide resistance to communism and thus helped bring the crumbling Soviet Empire down.

1978+1992: American taxpayers sent some $420 million in subsidies of several kinds to the citizens of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the Western Pacific, which amounted to some $2000 per person per year.

1978+1997: As the result of Deng Xiao-ping’s leadership and the PRC’s new open policy towards Hong Kong, trade between the PRC-Hong Kong increased at an average rate of 28 percent per year. Manufacturing businesses in Hong Kong started to move their operations to the mainland and profit from cheaper labor. Hong Kong was starting to become part of the Pearl River delta-Guangdong industrial complex.


John Paul II was a hard-working, ubiquitous, appealing, and conservative pope who earned himself the reputation with many people as the world’s most influential and visible religious leader.
1979: the first citizens of the member nations of the European Economic Community elected European Parliament. The European Monetary System (EMS) attempted to stabilize exchange rate fluctuations among its members.

The USA's Carter administration finished the initiative started by Nixon and Kissinger and established full diplomatic relations on 15 December with the People's Republic of China (PRC) and declared it would no longer recognize the Republic of China on Taiwan, which had enjoyed that status since 1949, as the official government of China.

Iran ceased to be a monarchy and became an Islamic republic. After 35 years as the shah of Iran, Mohammed Rez Pahlevi rushed to temporary exile in Egypt in January. The shah's opponents overwhelmed the Imperial Guard on 11 February. Returning home after 15 years of exile, some of it in France, Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini, 78, an extreme Shiite Muslim, became the new leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Thousands of people died in riots and mass executions. Other people danced wildly in the streets. Khomeini called the USA a "satanic" power while he sent troops to cut down Kurdish separatists. When the former shah was admitted to a New York City hospital for gall bladder surgery, Iranian militants, mainly students, stormed the US embassy in Tehran/Teheran, Iran, and took 52 hostages on 4 November. The Ayatollah Khomeini approved; the American hostages were not released until January 1981.

The Carter administration froze Iranian assets in the USA and imposed a trade embargo.

An international group of experts insisted that smallpox had been defeated. The following year, the World Health Assembly approved this finding.

President Anwar el-Sadat of Egypt (1918+1981) and Prime Minister Menachem Begin (1913+1992) of Israel agreed on a "framework for peace" in the Near East on 17 September. Many called their agreements "the Camp David accords." Egypt officially recognized the state of Israel, and Israel agreed to return all Egyptian land in the Sinai. In effect they ended the state of war between their two countries since 1948. They also agreed to future talks about the Palestinian refugee problem. It was a major step forward for peace in the region and the world and interrupted, many hoped ended, 31 years of intermittent warfare between Israelis and Egyptians. Sadat and Begin shared the Nobel Peace prize for their efforts. Most Muslim leaders all over the world denounced the treaty.

Saddam Hussein became the president of Iraq.

The US Senate by a vote of 68 to 32 in April approved the Panama Canal treaties negotiated by the Carter administration with the military dictator General Omar Torrijos that gave the government of Panama complete operational control of the canal starting the end of 1999. The people of Panama imported five times more than they exported. They "balanced" their national budget with earnings from the canal, including registration fees from foreign ships, wages paid to canal workers, and tourism. Growing numbers of people suspected that some Panamanians were also earning money by allowing or encouraging their country to become an important nexus for South American drug traffickers.

The Israeli government refused to stop the building of new Israeli settlements on the West Bank of the Jordan River where many Palestinian refugees hoped to settle.

Margaret Thatcher, since 1975 the first woman leader of the Conservative Party, now became in May the first woman prime minister of the United Kingdom and also the first in Europe.

After ruling Nicaragua for some 46 years, the corrupt dictatorship of the Somoza family lost a lengthy civil war to the Sandinista rebels in July. The Sandinistas grabbed control of the National Palace and the government in Managua in August. They established what was originally called a National Reconstruction Government. The Sandinistas had pulled off what some regarded as the most important leftist happening in Latin American politics since Castro and the Cuban Revolution some 20 years earlier.

Some Somoza followers and anti-Sandinista guerrillas, the Contras, continued resistance with some help from the USA. Anastasio "Tacho" Somoza, Jr., fled to Miami and then Paraguay where he was protected by his friend and fellow
tyrant General Alfred Stroessner. (His enemies assassinated Somoza in 1980. Stroessner was ousted by a coup in 1989.)

Some Iranian women protested against the regressive measures against children, women, and families. Ayatollah Khomeini’s government, among other measures, abolished coeducational schools and compelled women to wear the chadar, a thick veil.

Throughout the series of events in Iran, many top leaders in the USA, including the president and the CIA, always seemed to be a step or two behind both the events and the news.

Iran announced in February that its exported oil would cost about 30 percent more than OPEC prices. Iranian oil accounted for about 6 percent of US consumption in 1978. American and other motorists from May thru the summer experienced long gas lines, shortages, and higher prices.

In a show of force, China invaded Vietnam’s northern provinces and captured the border town of Lang Son, which they quickly abandoned. Point made.

North and South Yemen started a border war in February. The USA sent arms to the North, the Cubans and Soviets sent about 3000 troops to the South.

A group of extremist Muslims occupied the Great Mosque in Mecca.

The PRC announced it would not renew the 1950 treaty of friendship and cooperation with the USSR. The Americans granted the PRC most-favored-nation trading status in July.

As part of the total population of the USSR, the Russians, at about 52 percent, were falling behind the minorities and were in danger of becoming a minority themselves.

According to the Los Angeles Times newspaper, there were about one million illegal immigrants from Mexico in Los Angeles with maybe another five million in other parts of the USA. Many Americans were surprised while many others were disbelieving or indifferent.

The USA cancelled the 1954 security treaty with the Nationalist Chinese government on Taiwan. In short, the governments of the USA and the PRC "normalized" their diplomatic relations at the expense of the Nationalist Chinese government on Taiwan.

Global inflation was real. American prices increased 13.3 percent for the year, the largest surge since 1946. Many other nations were, of course, also hurt in the same manner. The price of oil, as the result of OPEC's actions, was more than 10 times its pre-1973 level in North America and many other places.

The European Monetary System (EMS) started to create a framework for exchange rates that would reduce unnecessary fluctuations.

Unit II of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, overheated and shut down automatically on 8 March. Some 144,000 people, mainly children and women, were temporarily evacuated from the area. No one was hurt, but many were frightened. There was also an unrelated incident at the nuclear reactor at Church Rock, New Mexico. American power utility companies because of public fear and high interest rates canceled orders for 11 new reactors.

After 64 years of British rule, the Gilbert Islands, including Tarawa, Ocean, Gilbert, Line, and the Phoenix group, became independent as the new nation of Kiribati in the western Pacific/Oceania.

The metropolitan rapid transit system/MARTA started operating in Atlanta, Georgia, 30 June.

Congress passed and the president signed the Chrysler Loan Guarantee Bill on 27 December to save America's third largest automobile manufacturer from bankruptcy. The loans were worth $1.2 billion.

Renault of France saved American Motors from bankruptcy by buying a controlling interest in the USA's forth-largest auto manufacturer.

Spending on American public education increased from $8.3 billion in 1950 to $151.5 billion this year. Meanwhile most students' standardized test scores fell during this period.

Jerry Falwell, a Baptist, founded the Moral Majority in the USA. Falwell's Old Time Gospel Hour was shown on 364 American and foreign TV stations.
According to official figures, the USA had 21,456 murders for the most recent year, 63 percent caused by handguns, rifles, and shotguns. Canada had 207 shooting deaths. Japan had 171 murders and robberies involving firearms.

A Japanese test train, working on the principle of magnetic levitation, reached speeds over 320 miles per hour.

The largest oil spill ever recorded started on 3 June with the blowout of a Mexican offshore oil well in the Gulf of Mexico. It lasted three months and spread oil 600 miles from the well.

Saddam Hussein tightened his grip around the government and people of Iraq and deported tens of thousands of Iraqis of Persian ancestry, executed and tortured dissidents, and used poison gas to obliterate whole Kurdish villages.

Mikhail Gorbachev became not quite a full member of the politburo of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU).

Afghanistan was invaded by the USSR on 24 December. Babrak Karmal headed a pro-Soviet government. The USA supported and supplied the opposition Afghan guerrillas for something like the next nine years.

After five years of negotiations, President Jimmy Carter and Soviet premier Leonid Brezhnev signed a Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II) in Vienna on 18 June that put limits on strategic launch vehicles and curtailed the development of new missiles. This agreement was never ratified by the US Congress after the USSR invaded Afghanistan and for a number of reasons related to inadequate inspection provisions. Instead, the USA started to develop the enormously expensive MX mobile missile program which supposedly could survive a “first strike” by hiding these missiles in nearly 9000 underground shelters underneath the desert regions of Utah, Nevada, and other western states.

All 70 members of the national assembly resigned on October 4 in protest of the government’s authoritarian policies. The director of Korea’s main intelligence agency murdered President Park Chung Hee of South Korea on 26 October.

The six-year-old civil war in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia, and limited international economic sanctions, mainly imposed by the British, ended when exhausted and defeated Rhodesian Whites voted on 30 January to create a new multiracial government controlled by Blacks. Bishop Abel Muzorewa replaced Ian Smith as Rhodesia’s new leader.

Uganda’s Idi Amin Dada, after eight years of brutal rule, was driven into exile by Tanzanian troops and Ugandan exiles in April.

Ghana had a coup on 4 June led by an admiral of Libya’s Muammar Qadaffi.

There was a coup in Equatorial Guinea which threw-out pro-Soviet president Masie Nguema Biyog Nguem Ndong, who had ruled for 11 long years. A tribunal found Masie Nguema guilty of genocide, embezzlement, treason, and other crimes. Being shot dead punished Nguema and six of his closest associates.

His own people drove Emperor Bokassa I of Central Africa into exile in September and the country became the Central African Republic.

Morocco took over the Western Sahara when Mauritanian troops withdrew.

Bulfikar Ali Bhutto, formerly the prime minister of Pakistan, was hanged in April for malfeasance in office.

The Panama Canal started to fall under Panamanian control 1 October as the start of a 20-year transition.

After about 175 years of colonial rule, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and the Grenadines, all in the Caribbean, gained their independence between February and October.

Maurice Bishop, an admirer of Fidel Castro, and his New Jewel Movement, seized control of the government in Grenada on 13 March.

After 47 years of hard military government, El Salvador got a more progressive military junta to run the country in October.

Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Prize for peace for her remarkable work in lessening the suffering of destitute people in Calcutta, India.

After dominating Canadian politics for 11 years, Pierre Trudeau’s party lost in a general election.
Ian Donald invented the ultrasound scan.

Genetic engineers synthesized human insulin.

The Russians built the huge Rogun Dam near the borders of Russia, Afghanistan, and China in Tajikistan.

An important study by Herbert Needleman showed that children with lead-contaminated blood had lower IQ test scores than the general population.

A demonstration at Bougon, France, proved that 200 people - some pulling, some pushing, and some using levers - could move a 32-ton rock on rollers placed on top of wooden rails. The point made was that our ancestors and the megalith and pyramid builders fully knew what they were doing without any help from aliens.

Francis Ford Coppola’s film *Apocolypse Now*, based on Joseph Conrad’s novella *Heart of Darkness* (1902), was, at its simplest level, about the Vietnam War.

**Alexander Solzhenitsyn**: "For us in Russia communism is a dead dog, while, for many people in the West, it is still a living lion."

1979/80: The Japanese economy again, as in 1973, suffered an "oil shock." The annual economic growth rate dropped to 5 percent.

1979+1981: the siege of the US embassy in Teheran and the holding of 52 American hostages by Iranian revolutionaries for 444 days caused the USA-Iran crisis.

1979+1982: The Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and the Republic of Belau/Palau, all formerly parts of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI), became self-governing and freely associated with the USA.

1979+1983: Nigeria, again, had a military government.

1979+1989: Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeine was the Shiite Muslim ruler of Iran. He waged war with Iraq, suppressed all those who were not fundamentalists of his persuasion, abetted terrorists, and was hostile towards American, Christian, and European culture.

During the Afghan Civil War, Soviet troops, attempting to install a pro-Soviet government and fought against various rebel/Muslim bands many of which were supported by the USA. Fighting continued long after the ineffective Red Army withdrew.

The leftist Sandinista government in Nicaragua, in addition to widespread violations of freedom of the press and other civil rights, presided over a shocking reversal of the economy that saw very high inflation, very low productivity, a seriously eroded currency, a wild black market, and enormous increases in the national debt.

1979+1990: Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, a Conservative, was the prime minister of Britain.

1979+1981: a puppet government dominated by the Vietnamese governed the people of Cambodia.

1979+1983: In a classic boom to bust cycle, unemployment in the Canadian province of Alberta went from nil to 10 percent.

1979+1995: Union membership in the USA fell from 24 percent of the workforce to 15.5 percent.

1979+1998: There was a remarkable change in public opinion, as expressed in referenda, in Scotland and Wales concerning the formation of local legislative assemblies. During 1979 the opposing votes were overwhelming. During the referenda of 1998, the votes in favor of restoring a Scottish Parliament and an executive were 71 percent of the total and in Wales narrowly in favor of a similar proposal.

1979+2000: Some historians are regarding these as the years, and beyond, as World War IV, an international struggle between intensely religious Islamic radicals and terrorists against Israel and other non-Muslim, democratic, technologically advanced, primarily secular or Christian nations all over the world.

Idi Amin Dada, the exiled dictator of Uganda, lived in Egypt.

1980s: The USSR was spending about 30 percent more of its real GNP on the military and nuclear power production than was stated in the official budget. Aircraft, missiles, and tanks were in great supply. There were severe shortages everywhere of consumer goods of all types. The USSR was a needy importer of grains. Possibly half of the USSR’s food production came from
hidden gardens and the black-markets. The only way to cross the USSR from East to West and back was by the single-track trans-Siberian railway, built in the 19th century or to fly. As yet, the USSR still had no super-highway system. The USSR exported gold and petroleum and little else. Pollution and environmental degradation caused by industrialization and careless planning was enormous.

Japan had the second most powerful economy in the world next to the USA’s. The Japanese made more steel and motor vehicles than the Americans. Japan became a major international creditor for the first time in its history.

Finland’s economic growth was faster than most advanced industrialized economies. Nokia became the nation’s largest manufacturer and a world force in mobile phones and related technologies and manufacturing.

Some critics claimed that the USA’s economy by the middle of this decade was “living on credit.”

In nations in Asia and Africa between 75 percent and 93 percent of the working population did so in agriculture. In China the figure was about 69 percent. In most of the industrialized nations the number was less than 10 percent.

The world economy was growing at an average of 2.5 percent a year. The growth of real GDP was 4 percent in Japan, 7.2 percent in Hong Kong, 9.3 percent in South Korea, 6.9 percent in Singapore, 8.1 percent in Taiwan, 5.2 percent in Indonesia, 5.4 percent in Malaysia, 1.7 percent in the Philippines, and 7.1 percent in Thailand.

More than a million Canadians, many of them workers and managers in the resource industries, lost their jobs. Interest rates hit a post-war high of 22.5 percent in 1981. Job losses and economic hardships were worst in Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick. Canada's GNP plunged four percent in 1982 which was the worst since the Great Depression of the 1930s. The value of the Canadian dollar dropped to 70 cents to one US$ in 1985.

Spanish-speaking immigrants were common and increasingly influential in Miami, many parts of the American Southwest, and in California and Texas.

The illegal drug business, mainly in cocaine, became the most important national and social problem in Colombia. Drug cartels, with their own private armies, became empires unto themselves and influenced nearly all aspects of life in Colombia. Their profits, mainly from sales to the USA, exceeded those from coffee and recently discovered petroleum.

Many foreign investors in Africa put their money into timber cutting in Gabon, gold mining in Ghana, oil production in Nigeria, or copper mining in Zaire.

Albania had the last of the old-time Stalinist-type governments in Europe, according to some sources.

The average annual growth rate in the Latin American economies was less than 2 percent. During 1977+1979 it had been 4.5 percent.

There were about 15,000,000 "guest workers," many of them Turks, in Europe. They amounted to about 17 percent of all the workers in Switzerland and 10 percent of those in Germany.

Spain, a member of the EEC - despite continuing problems from time to time with Catalan separatists in Barcelona and angry words over British control of Gibraltar - enjoyed remarkable economic growth.

Only the small and relatively prosperous nation of Botswana, with a population of about one million, in all of Africa could claim to have had an operating multiparty parliamentary democracy since independence. The people of Botswana exported diamonds and successfully raised cattle.

The American population increased to nearly 250 million. Most of this growth was in the southern and western states like Florida, Texas, and California. Iowa, New York, and West Virginia lost residents and consequently representation in the House of Representatives. The number of American cities with populations of 100,000 or more increased to 195.

The Fianna Fail/ "Soldiers of Destiny" and the Fine Gael/ "Race of Gaels" dominated Irish party politics. The Irish Republican Army was feared, tolerated, and illegal on both sides of the Irish border.
Finland, by treaty with the USSR, and Austria, by Staatsvertrag/"state treaty" with the four occupying Allied powers, were both militarily neutral nations. Economically they prospered.

Social Security payroll taxes in the USA increased 14 percent during this decade. Both workers and their employers paid them. It was a regressive tax since very high wageworkers, like movie stars and professional athletes and business executives, were exempt.

San Marino, an independent republic since 1631, with a current population of some 23,000 people completely surrounded by Italy, operated quite well as a tax haven mainly for affluent Italians.

The number of unwed mothers in the USA increased 35 percent during this decade.

The Grand Duchy of Liechtenstein between Austria and Switzerland, founded in 1719, with a population of about 27,000, had one of the highest per capita GNP's in Europe because of its hospitality to financial, banking, insurance, and related businesses. The Principality of Monaco on the Riviera, a self-governing protectorate of France, with a population of about 30,000, was still governed as a monarchy by members of the Grimaldi dynasty. It was the home of the famous casino at Monte Carlo. The Republic of Andorra in the eastern Pyrenees between Spain and France, which is jointly protected by both of those nations, has been self-governing since 1278. It had a population of about 43,000. Its economy was based on tourism, skiing, and duty-free shopping. The Isle of Man, in the Irish Sea, with a population of about 65,000, and the Channel Islands (Alderney, Guernsey, Jersey, and Sark), with a population of some 134,000 people, were British dependencies that were able to offer attractive tax advantages and havens to the wealthy. Gibraltar, a British dependency, had a population of about 30,000.

Black males in the USA between the ages of 20 and 29 were nearly six times more likely to be prisoners, on parole, or on probation than to be college-university students.

About 25 percent of 250 million Americans claimed to be of African, Asian, Hispanic, or American Indian ancestry: Blacks comprised about 12 percent of the total population, Hispanics about 9 percent, Asians about 3 percent, and American Indians about 1 percent.

Legal immigration to the USA during this decade was about 7 million persons. Only 12 percent of these immigrants came from European nations.

1980: Indira Gandhi was returned to power in India.

Josip Broz Tito, 87, the leader of the anti-German partisans in Yugoslavia during WWII, died after 35 years as the president of his country. Slovenia and Croatia were the most prosperous regions of Yugoslavia.

To protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, on the advice of President Carter's very able security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, the Carter administration dropped all consideration of the SALT II treaty, stopped grain sales to the USSR, persuaded 64 nations to boycott the Moscow summer Olympics, and pledged to hold the line against any additional Soviet advances in the Middle East.

The Carter administration bungled in April an attempted rescue of the American hostages held in Tehran since the previous November. It was a poorly planned and prepared attempt to rescue the American hostages with Special Forces, most of whom crashed and burned in the desert. President Carter's public support fell very low during and after this hostage rescue fiasco.

During May there were massive demonstrations against the military government in South Korea. General Chun Doo Hwan, the head of the military junta, ordered his troops to fire on demonstrators at Kwangju. Some 2000 anti-government demonstrators in South Korea were killed during riots this year.

The Carter administration persuaded Congress to approve a $75 million aid package for the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

The non-communist trade union movement started during a strike in the Gdansk/Danzig shipyards in Poland led by a plucky electrician Lech Walesa during August. The shipyard workers in Gdansk quit working in protest at the government's lack of respect for human rights and failures to cut basic living costs. The Poles
suffered meat and other rationing. Their movement, eventually some 10 million strong, was called Solidarity, which became by force of determination and guile, the first independent labor and political union within the Soviet or Chinese communist blocs. The Soviets massed 55 divisions on the Polish border but were afraid to use them in defiance of Polish and world opinion.

The USA's economy was in recession with unemployment at 7.5 percent, mortgage rates at 15 percent, and interest rates at 20 percent, the highest in American history. Inflation averaged about 12.5 percent.

Jerusalem became the capital of Israel.

Brazil's best foreign customer was West Germany.

Japanese farmers were 9 percent of the population but contributed somewhat less than 3 percent of the GNP.

India probably had its own nuclear warheads and intermediate missile delivery system capable of reaching Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad in Pakistan.

Andrei Sakharov, the famous physicist and reformer, was exiled within the USSR.

Hundreds of thousands of Cubans sought asylum in the USA and other countries.

As the result of international public opinion, the efforts of the Organization of African Unity, the efforts of the British government, and the depredations of the nationalist guerrillas, Rhodesia became the independent Republic of Zimbabwe in Southeast Africa during April under the leadership of a Marxist, Robert Mugabe, and other Africans.

Liberia's president and 27 other high officials were executed in April by a coup headed by master sergeant Samuel K. Doe, who quickly became a general.

Libyan troops became involved in a civil war in Chad.

Voters, 60 percent to 40 percent, defeated separatists during a referendum in Quebec on the question of whether Quebecers should have the right to negotiate with the government of Canada for their sovereignty and then the right to vote again on the outcome. Trudeau and the Liberals were returned to power in the Canadian general election.

Mount St. Helens, a dormant volcano since 1857, in Washington State, erupted. Some experts calculated the explosion, the largest in American history, was many times more powerful than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945.

The islands of New Hebrides in the southwestern Pacific became Vanuatu and independent of their condominium masters of 93 years, Britain and France.

Ronald Reagan (1911+?), 69, campaigned on promises to increase American military might, to outlaw abortions, to allow the right of prayer in public schools, and to lower inflation. He also talked about cutting taxes. George W. Bush (1924+?), another candidate for the presidency, called increasing spending and cutting taxes "voodoo economics." Reagan and his advisers called it "supply-side economics." Reagan was popular with many blue-collar families, conservative Catholics, suburbansites, traditional anti-communist conservatives, and the so-called Moral Majority, a coalition of fundamentalist Christians led by the Jerry Falwell and other conservative Christian leaders. Reagan was elected president of the USA in November. His Republican Party gained control of the US Senate for the first time since the 1950s.

The government of Chile privatized the nation's social security system and thus pioneered the international trend away from public to private services.

There was another gold rush in the Amazon jungle region of Brazil.

The National University of Mexico, with about 150,000 students, was one of the largest in the world.

The price of gold spiked to $875 an ounce in January.

The interest rate on loans to America's banks' best customers - the prime rate - went to 20 percent in April and 21.5 percent in mid-December. Domestic oil cost on average, in the USA, was about $22 per barrel, up from $8.57 in 1977. American gasoline prices were about $1.21
per gallon, up from $.66 in 1978. Many motorists in Europe, Japan, and other places paid twice these prices per gallon. High interest and mortgage rates resulted in a 33 percent decline in US housing starts during the past 12 months. An estimated 15 percent of American builders went out of business.

Ted Turner started-up his 24-hour Cable News Network (CNN) in Atlanta, Georgia, in competition with the established networks ABC, CBS, and NBC which had dominated TV news since the 1950s. There were about 4,225 cable-TV channels, some 750 commercial TV stations, and more than 7000 radio stations in the USA.

The Chesapeake & Ohio, Baltimore & Ohio, Western Maryland, Atlantic Coast Line, Louisville & Nashville, and other railroads and the Seaboard Airline - all properties of the Chessie System and the Seaboard Coast Line Industries - became North America's largest railroad company, CSX Corp., in November with some 27,000 miles of railroad tracks, plus ports, wharves, warehouses, and other transportation facilities.

US corn yields were up to, on average, 90 bushels per acre from 43 in 1960. The average price for an acre of farmland in the USA was $609. This price had increased about 20 percent or more in many states despite falling farm incomes during the past year.

Oil imports to Japan, which has no petroleum of its own, cost the nation $39.5 billion for the year ending 31 March. This resulted in a $14.4 billion national deficit in comparison to a $13.4 billion surplus the year before.

More than 40 million automobiles were made worldwide this year. Japanese automakers produced some 11 million cars and trucks, more, for the first time, than the USA, which produced some 7.8 million cars and trucks. Japanese imports, cars and trucks, amounted to almost 25 percent of those bought in the USA.

The Japanese yen-US dollar exchange rate was 226.74 yen to the dollar.

Declining general scores in the USA on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) started in 1964. Some experts blamed the decline on the displacement of active reading and manipulation of symbols, signs, and signals by passive picture watching.

The US food and drug administration approved a new rabies vaccine that used only five shots in the arm instead of 23 in the stomach.

Voyager I, a US spacecraft, explored Saturn in November as part of a three-year, 1.3 billion mile journey of discovery.

The USA made Cruise missiles that could fly close to the ground and avoid detection by radar.

The USA's new Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands had a population of 16,758 persons, mainly on Saipan (13,000), Rota (1200), and Tinian (750). About 2000 foreigners - mainly Filipino and Korean contract manufacturing and construction workers - also were on the islands without the protection of American labor laws. Manufactured items made in the CNMI were allowed free entry into the mainland USA. Labor problems and discrimination were common.

Amid demonstrations, Beatrix Wilhelmina Armgard succeeded her mother Juliana in April as queen of the Netherlands. The new queen was married to a former Nazi SS officer.

The Alternative Service Book replaced The Book of Common Prayer, used by the Church of England since 1549.

A lunatic killed John Lennon, 40, formerly of the rock-band the Beatles, outside his home in New York City in December.

There were an estimated 55 million handguns all around the USA.

Dornier Medical Systems of Munich, Germany, made a lithotripter which used sound waves to break-up patients' kidney stones.

Will Durant, historian: "As knowledge grew, fear decreased; men thought less of worshiping the unknown, and more of overcoming it."

"Civilization is the order and freedom promoting cultural activity." B.F. Skinner (1904+1990), American psychologist: "Cultures
Margaret Thatcher: "If a woman like Eva Peron [of Argentina] with no ideals can get that far, think how far I can go with all the ideals that I have." "No one would have remembered the Good Samaritan if he only had good intentions. He had money as well."

1980+1983: Bolivia had seven different governments.

1980+1984: A refurbished Indira Gandhi at age 62 and her own Congress-I (for Indira) party won a general election, and she again was the prime minister of India after being out of office for 33 months. India's seven tribal states - Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Tripura - all threatened to secede at one time or another, as they had during earlier years. Mrs. Gandhi's government imposed martial law on some of the troubled regions from time to time.

1980+1985: Milton Obote was the president of Uganda before being removed from office again by a military coup.

Israel had hyperinflation that averaged about 400 percent per year.

1980+1987: General Chun Doo Hwan ruled South Korea.

Per capita gross domestic product decreased by 1.1 percent in South Africa.

1980+1988: Ronald W. Reagan was the president of the USA.

The Iraqis started the Iraq-Iran war on 22 September 1980 when they attacked 10 airfields and the oil refinery at Abadan. Much of the conflict was over control of the Shatt Al-Arab estuary, which is formed by the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers running into the Persian/Arabian Gulf. Allegedly the Iraqis used mustard and nerve gases to repel an attack by some 100,000 Iranians in 1984. Some experts calculate more than 1.1 million lives were lost forever during this conflict.

General Prem Tinsulanonda was the prime minister of Thailand with the support of King Bhumibol.

1980+1989: The USSR trapped itself in a losing effort to impose a communist government on the people of Afghanistan. More than one million Afghans and 15,000 Soviets lost their lives during this conflict according to the best estimates.

The national debt of the USA increased by more than 300 percent from $908 billion to $2.9 trillion. Some people, including true conservatives, said it was indeed "voodoo economics."

The special economic zone of Shenzhen was organized opposite Hong Kong on the Guangdong coast. Shenzhen's population grew from 20,000 to 600,000 people.

1980+1990: This has been called Argentina's "lost decade." The national economy decreased by 10 percent, salaries shrank by 15 percent, and the annual inflation rate was 400 percent. Automobile production and building construction declined sharply.

The USSR heavily subsidized the Cuban economy, which they always hoped would become a showcase for communism, during this decade. In fact, the Cuban economy was in a steep decline. Cuban soldiers who went to Africa ("Latin Legions" as some Africans called them) were in reality mercenaries who were paid by the Russians.

Samuel Doe and his followers controlled the government of Liberia until Doe himself was killed during a rebellion.

1980+1991: Solidarity/Solidarnosc, a brave confederation of labor unions headed by Lech Walesa, transformed Poland from a communist and Soviet dictatorship into a democratic and free market republic, a remarkable, enormously encouraging achievement and a shining example of a modern, quiet revolution without much shooting, terror, or a civil war.

1980+1992: On average, as estimated by the World Health Organization (WHO), some 2.5 million children died each year of measles, even though a successful vaccination had been available since 1961.

1980+1999: Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, and, less consistently, the nations of Southeast Asia all had remarkable economic growth rates and improvements in the quality of their economic outputs.
1981: The approximately 700 million people living in the industrialized nations had an average annual income of about $11,100. The approximately 2.2 billion people who lived in the poor and developing nations had an average annual income of about $275.

When Anwar el-Sadat, 62, one of the best statesmen of his era, enforced the laws against Islamic extremists, a few of them assassinated him in Cairo on 6 October. Hosni Mubarak, who continued most of Sadat's policies, succeeded him.

A right-wing coup failed in Spain.

On his last day in office in January, President Carter released several billion dollars of Iranian assets in exchange for the American hostages in Teheran. On the very day Ronald Reagan was inaugurated, Iran released the 52 American hostages they had held for 444 days.

President Reagan signed the Economic Recovery Tax Act on 4 August. The economist Arthur Laffer called it "supply-side economics". Most important, it cut personal income taxes 25 percent over 33 months, reduced the top tax rate from 70 percent to 50 percent, reduced the capital gains tax from 28 percent to 20 percent. The Reagan administration also cut government, but not defense, spending by $35.2 billion. Unemployment and inflation remained high.

The ongoing guerrilla war in El Salvador, Central America, burned even brighter during January. The USA sent aid to support the administration of President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

The Reagan administration claimed that the Sandinista guerrillas in Nicaragua were heavily supported by communist Cuba and that the Sandinistas were sending Soviet and Cuban arms and munitions to the rebels in El Salvador. The Reagan administration and the CIA supported anti-communist Nicaraguan guerrillas, the remnants of the Nicaraguan National Guard, who were called Contras.

Inflation in Canada reached 12.5 percent and interest rates reached 20 percent (four times higher than 1965).

Francois Mitterrand, a socialist, was elected the president of France.

South African troops attacked independence fighters in bordering Angola, Mozambique, and Namibia.

On 31 March a demented crazy seriously wounded President Reagan and three others with a handgun in the District of Columbia.

In May, a Turkish-Bulgarian, possibly with connections to the Soviet and Bulgarian secret police, shot and seriously wounded pope John Paul II in St. Paul's Square in Rome.

Non-OPEC oil producers like Britain, Norway, and Mexico increased the supply of petroleum. As the prices fell, the global economy improved.

Israel occupied the Golan Heights.

On 6 August, President Reagan fired some 11,500 striking members of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization/PATCO. This encouraged or accelerated a nationwide anti-union movement supported by many employers and non-union workers. Some called this event dramatic evidence of a prolonged decline in the influence and relevance of labor unions in the USA.

Sandra Day O'Connor (1930+?), nominated by Reagan, became the first woman justice to serve on the US Supreme Court.

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the latest Polish hard man and the head of the army's political-military operations, tried to turn the clock backward in Poland. He declared martial law in mid-December, outlawed the Solidarity movement, and arrested 40,000 to 50,000 of their leaders in a sudden nationwide sweep. The popularity of the Solidarity movement did not wane.

US car sales dropped to 6.2 million, a 20-year low point.

On 12 August IBM started selling personal computers/PCs using a Microsoft disk-operating system/MS-DOS and soon both IBM and Microsoft had 75 percent of the market. This machine had 64 kilobytes of memory and cost about $3000. Many people wondered why the world's largest computer company did not make its own operating system. Competitors in several places soon after made IBM "clones" for less money using Microsoft software.
The exchange rate was 220.54 yen to the US dollar.

Colonel Manuel Antonio Noriega, 48, became the dictator of Panama when his boss was killed in a plane crash on 31 July.

There was a severe, long drought in many parts of Africa.

British Honduras in Central America became the independent nation of Belize in September.

Eight years of martial law ended on 17 January in the Philippines. President Ferdinand Marcos was re-elected to another six-year term on 16 June amid widespread charges of improper electioneering by the incumbent and his "goons, guns, and gold."

Greece joined the European Economic Community and became its 10th member.

On 7 June, Israeli jets destroyed the Osirak nuclear reactor in Iraq where plutonium was allegedly being made for weapons of mass destruction.

Israel occupied the Golan Heights on 14 December after weeks of heavy fighting between Israeli and PLO forces operating from within Lebanon.

Some 800 public school teachers on Guam, many of them from the mainland USA, went on strike against the inept governor and the self-serving politicians in the Guam Legislature. The teachers were illegally fired from their jobs (as determined by the courts during the next few years), and the island's students suffered inferior schools thereafter for many years.

Pope John Paul II visited Guam after the teachers' strike.

Lotus 1-2-3 was written by Michell Kapor as a spreadsheet for use with IBM PCs and compatibles.

Serbs were about 12 percent of the population of Croatia and 32 percent of the population of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The British built the longest suspension bridge in the world over the Humber estuary. It is 1410 m/4526 feet long.

The French *Train de Grande Vitesse*/TGV super train reached speeds of 380 km/236 miles per hour and was the fastest in the world.

The World's population reached 4.5 billion, up from 2.5 billion in 1950, with these numbers in millions for these countries: People's Republic of China, 957; India, 664; USSR, 266; USA, 228; Indonesia, 152; Brazil 122; Japan, 117; Bangladesh, 88; Nigeria, 77; Mexico, 72; West Germany, 61.4; Italy, 57; Britain, 56; France, 54; Vietnam, 52; Spain, 38; Poland, 35; Canada, 24.

Toronto was Canada's largest city, surpassing Montreal, and also became the country's financial center.

Belfast in Ulster had a population of 306,000 while Dublin in the Republic of Ireland had 526,000 residents.

The *Columbia* re-usable spacecraft, which was lofted into orbit by a rocket, made its first flight in April and was flown by John W. Young and Robert L. Crippen, American astronauts.

Umberto Eco, an Italian semioticist, semanticist, and novelist, published *The Name of the Rose*, a suspense story, which sold more than 10 million copies by 1995.

The first four cases of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) were described in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Some people compared the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome/AIDS to the Black Death of the 14th century.

1981+1982: World coffee prices fell, which hurt the economies of many Central American and other coffee growing nations. Costa Rica, the exception to the "banana republic" syndrome that has plagued many Latin American countries - with a strong democratic tradition, a small army-police establishment, low unemployment, relative prosperity, and relatively fair land distribution - had its worst economic downturn since 1929.

1981+1983: From late 1981 until early 1983 there was a sharp recession in the USA's economy.

Costa Rica became the USA's second largest per capita foreign aid recipient after Israel.
1981+1985: Probably another 500,000 Ugandans were killed during their inter-tribal civil war.


1981+1988: Iran and Iraq were at war. At one time or another, the USA supplied arms to both sides.

The USA’s government debt as a part of the gross national product (GNP) increased from 19 percent to 31 percent during the Reagan administration. Most of the increase went for military spending.


1981+2000: Hosni Mubarak was the president of Egypt.

Robert Mugabe was prime minister of Zimbabwe that became a one-party state after 1988.

Mathathir bin Mohamad, a physician by training, was the pro-Malay champion of “Asian values” and the prime minister of Malaysia.

1982: The People’s Republic of China (PRC) was the first nation in world history to have a population of one billion or more persons. About 8 percent of the population was members of some 55 minorities. The largest of those were the Zhuang (some 15 million), the Hui, Muslims, the Uighur, Miao, and Tibetans.

Mexico had its worst financial crisis in half a century. The US government and bankers helped Mexico overcome this situation with new loans and by advancing credit based on Mexico’s future oil sales.

The new Constitution Act of Canada replaced the British North America Act of 1867. Some of its more interesting provisions were these: ”Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law . . . .” “English and French are the official languages of Canada and have equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all institutions of the Parliament and government of Canada.”

The Centers for Disease Control in the US identified a new disease called AIDS.

Israel withdrew from its forces from the Sinai Peninsula. Israel attacked Lebanon in an effort to destroy PLO bases there. The president-elect of Lebanon was assassinated; Christian Phalangists murdered Palestinians in refugee camps.

Spain joined NATO, and the Socialists won the national elections.

The USA and the USSR held Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) that tried to reduce their countries strategic nuclear weapons by half.

The Khmer Rouge and Prince Sihanouk formed a Cambodian government in exile.

In May, the Iranians, with some Syrian arms, recaptured the port city of Khurramshahr and took 30,000 Iraqis as prisoners.

Israeli forces in June invaded Lebanon and advanced as far as Beirut and attempted to drive the PLO out of southern Lebanon where their terrorists had repeatedly attacked settlements in Israel and those of Arab Christians in Lebanon. There was intense and sporadic warfare between the Israelis and Palestinians-Syrians based in Lebanon. The USA and other nations attempted to mediate. The president-elect of Lebanon was killed by a bomb at the headquarters of his Christian Falangist party in Beirut in September. In retaliation, the Falangists massacred many civilians in Sabra and Chatilla, and the Israelis moved troops into West Beirut in an effort to keep the peace. Twelve hundred US Marines were sent to Lebanon as part of an international effort in late September to keep Lebanon from falling apart and into the hands of extremists. The Italians, French, and Americans sent "peacekeepers" to Lebanon where their efforts were not appreciated.

Hezbollah/Hizbollah, the so-called Party of God, was founded by a group of clerics inspired by the Iranian revolution. Their goals were to drive Israel from Lebanon and to spread the fundamentalist Islamic and Shiite revolution throughout the region. Hezbollah absorbed or subsumed members of the Islamic Jihad. Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, at this time, was a Hezbollah military commander. Hezbollah quickly became popular in southern Beirut, southern Lebanon, and the Bekka/Al Biqa Valley.
Israel pulled its last troops back from Egypt’s Sinai late in the year in accordance with the provisions of the 1979 Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty.

Syrian government forces reportedly killed some 5000 Islamic militants within their own borders.

More than three million people were unemployed in Britain.

During fiscal year 1982, the federal government’s deficit in the USA almost doubled to $110.6 billion. The total national debt, for the first time, climbed above $1 trillion.

The US Congress voted, and the president approved, an increase in military spending by $12.3 billion that amounted to about 6 percent over inflation. Reagan had wanted a 13 percent increase.

Budget cuts reduced spending on public education, health, housing, urban aid, food stamps for the poor, and school lunches, among other programs, in the USA.

Braniff International Airways, after 52 years in business, filed for bankruptcy in May. It was the first major American airline to ever fail.

The US Congress in August reduced the tax cuts of 1981, and some said this was the end of "supply-side" economics. Possibly, according to which experts said what, the Reagan tax cuts began to stimulate a revival of the financial markets.

A new banking law signed by President Reagan on 15 October deregulated the savings and loan industry. The results were many reckless, illegal, and unethical business dealings and wheelings.

Unemployment in the USA reached 10.4 percent, a postwar high, in October as the global recession continued. Even though the USA’s economy, including the job market, was in a slump for much of the year, interest rates remained high.

Unemployment in Canada almost reached 13 percent, the worst since the Great Depression.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) hit a low of 777 during August but the rebounded to a record high of 1072.55 on December 27. The 777 was the start of a great bull market that lasted until the end of the century.

As the result of an anti-trust-monopoly suit first filed by the US government in 1974, American Telephone & Telegraph/ATT divorced 22 regional companies - including the so-called "Baby Bells" - while keeping for itself Bell Laboratories, Western Electric, and its long-distance telephone business.

In April, the brave leaders of the Argentine junta sent a large invasion force to the Falkland Islands/Las Malvinas, in the South Atlantic, where they brushed aside 84 British marines.

The Falklands had been a British territory since 1833 and was home to some 2000 Britons. In short order, the British assembled an armada of some 100 ships, and Prime Minister Thatcher sent them towards the Falklands. The members of the United Nations Security Council stamped their feet and resolved that Argentina should withdraw. After a short war during which the Argentineans lost some 1000 troops, the British were triumphant by June. General Leopoldo Galtieri the commander of the army and president of Argentina was forced to resign, obviously not with full honors.

Romeo Lucas Garcia, the dictator of Guatemala, was overthrown by a military junta and charged with having murdered some 5000 of his political opponents.

Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, and more than 20 other developing countries declared they could not repay their foreign debts.

Some 10,000 Miskito Indians from Nicaragua were forced by the Sandinista government to become refugees in Honduras.

The Reagan administration approved $24 million in covert aid to the Contras.

Electronic mail by fax machines - some 350,000 in the USA by year’s end - became increasingly popular.

Barney Clarke, an artificial-heart patient, lived 112 days.

Supposedly about 25 million Americans smoked and ate marijuana regularly. President and Mrs. Reagan proclaimed a war on drugs in mid-
October that was a war fought almost exclusively with words.

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), which supposedly was intended to give women full rights with men - which many people felt they already had - failed to get ratified by the necessary number of states in the USA.

CBS/Sony and Philips made and sold compact discs/CDs: a 120-mm-diameter plastic disk with signals that can be read by a laser.

Anne M. Gorsuch was the first cabinet-level administrator to be cited for contempt of the US Congress for not revealing to them embarrassing environmental protection agency documents.

The Vietnam War Memorial was dedicated in Washington.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences picked Gandhi as the best film of the year.

**Margaret Thatcher:** "Victorian values . . . were the values when our country became great."

**Paul Davies,** an Australian physicist and philosopher: "Science offers a surer path to God than religion."

**Alice Walker,** American writer: "When I found out I thought God was white, and a man, I lost interest."

**1982/3:** Guatemala had a particularly bloody military government headed by Efrain Rios Montt, the founder of the Guatemalan Republican Front.

Unemployment in Australia was almost ten percent.

**1982+1986:** Steel workers and companies in the USA saw their industry in a state of decline and retrenchment caused by foreign competition and automation.

The people of Bangladesh were again ruled by martial law and the military.

**1982+1987:** The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) of stocks in the USA increased in value by 250.4 percent.

**1982+1990:** The government of the USA contended with the radical leaders of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (founded 1961) in Nicaragua.

The number of people who worked for the federal and state governments in Mexico increased from 640,000 to 4.4 million.

**1982+1991:** The people of Somalia and their warlords waged a civil war, and maybe more than one.

**1982+1997:** Hong Kong had an average unemployment rate of only 2.5 percent.

**1982+1998:** Helmut Kohl, the leader of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), headed a successful coalition government in West Germany as chancellor in partnership with the CDU's smaller sister party the Christian Social Union (CSU), which mainly had its strength in Bavaria.

**1982+2000:** Israeli armed forces invaded Lebanon and then occupied parts of that country in the south.

**1983:** The population of the PRC was 1.05 billion. The population of India was 731 million.

It was discovered that the most severe of the sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome), was caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), a retrovirus, which is transmitted by blood and sexual secretions.

Martial law ended in Poland.

Margaret Thatcher led the Conservatives, in office since 1979, to reelection.

The USA deployed Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe.

The computer language ADA was named after Augusta Ada Byron, who had been a famous 19th century mathematician and associate of Charles Babbage, an inventor of an early analytical machine that was something like a computer.

A fanatical Muslim truck-bomber during October in Beirut, Lebanon, killed 241 American marines and 58 French paratroopers who were serving as peacekeepers. The terrorist was connected to the Hezbollah/"Party of God" movement in Lebanon that was nurtured and supported by the Iranian and Syrian governments to attack Israel. The USA and
France withdrew their troops from Lebanon by the end of this year.

Marxist revolutionaries with ties to Cuban communists seized power in Granada, the southernmost of the Windward Islands in the Caribbean, population 110,000, on 12 October and then killed most of the leaders of the legitimate government. Responding to requests for help from the governments of neighboring islands, the USA on 25 October sent 1900 troops, plus volunteers from a number of Caribbean nations, ostensibly to evacuate Americans. While they were there, they also deposed the unpopular government.

The governments of Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, and Panama - the Contadora Group - attempted to find a peaceful solution to the civil and guerrilla wars in Central America.

Sally K. Ride was the first American woman astronaut.

The US Supreme Court ruled that the federal government could deny tax exemptions to private schools that practice racial discrimination.

A government report stated that the USA was "a nation at risk" as a result of the low educational attainments by public school students, especially in the hard subjects such as the sciences and mathematics, as compared to students in other industrialized nations.

On March 8, Ronald Reagan described the USSR as "an evil empire."

Reagan, in a speech on 23 March, proposed a bold, expensive, and some thought zany "Strategic Defense Initiative," popularly called "Star Wars." The system would have installed satellites in outer space with the capability to destroy incoming missiles with lasers, and maybe do a few other tricks as well.

Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., the leading opponent of president Ferdinand Marcos, was assassinated on 21 August as he stepped off an airplane at Manila Airport that brought him home from exile in the USA. He had been the leader of an anti-Marcos coalition since January 1982. It was widely believed, and still is by many people, that Marcos and his wife Imelda, or their associates, had Aquino murdered.

More than 5000 USA and Honduran troops staged several joint military exercises in Honduras.

Pope Paul II visited Nicaragua during March.

Riots among various ethnic and religious groups in Assam, India, killed 5000 persons and made another 300,000 refugees.

Soviet pilots and their commanders blundered and shot down a South Korean airliner with 269 passengers on board.

North Korean terrorists senselessly killed 19 and wounded 49 at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Rangoon, Burma/Myanmar. Sixteen of the dead were South Korean politicians. The president of South Korea barely escaped injury.

Kakuei Tanaka, the former Japanese prime minister, was convicted in October of having accepted a $2.2 million bribe from the Lockheed Corporation in return for using his influence with All Nippon Airways to persuade them to buy Lockheed Tristar jets. He was fined and sentenced to jail for four years.

The US Food and Drug Administration approved cyclosporine, an immunosuppressant that makes organ transplants safer and more successful. Immediately the survival rates for major organ transplant patients improved dramatically.

The first regular US cellular telephone system began.

After eight years of military rule and a humiliating defeat by the British in the Falkland Islands War, Argentina returned to a civilian government in December.

Nigeria had a military coup the last day of the year that ended a brief experiment with democracy.

An international agreement specified that the speed of light is 1, 299,792,458 meters per second.

The IBM PC-XT was the first personal computer with a hard disk drive; it had 10 megabytes of memory. Compaq sold its first portable computer that weighed 28 lbs. and cost $3000.

The worst drought since 1936 severely reduced American farm production. A payment-in-
kind/PIK scheme allowed marginal American farmers to get paid for not planting crops. In total, farm support programs cost taxpayers $21.5 billion.

In August, the USA agreed to sell and the USSR to buy at least nine million metric tons of grain each year for the next five years. These figures were higher by half than the 1975 agreement.

1983/4: American peacekeepers were stationed in Beirut, Lebanon.

Yuri Andropov (1914+1984), who had made his reputation by crushing dissident groups, was the general secretary of the communist party in the USSR for some 15 months.


Hezbollah initiated a wave of kidnappings and suicide bombings in Lebanon.

1983+1987: Bettino Craxi (1934+?), a socialist, led a broad-based coalition government in Italy.

1983+1989: Manuel Noriega was the head of the Panamanian Defense Forces and the drug-dealing tyrant of Panama.

1983+1990: The American Strategic Defensive Initiative (SDI), a defensive system to ward-off incoming missiles, called by some "Star Wars," cost some $16.5 billion, during this time frame.

1983+1991: Robert James Lee "Bob"Hawke, after serving as the President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions during 1970+1980, became the leader of the Labor party and only a month later the prime minister of Australia. He was a trained economist with a degree from Oxford. The theme of his four governments was "Reconciliation, Recovery, and Reconstruction." Bob Hawke and his Treasurer, Paul Keating, reached an "Accord" with trade union leaders that gave them jobs in return for holding down real wages. The Labor government in Australia, especially in its political and economic philosophy, stood in marked contrast to the right-wing governments since 1979 of Ronald Reagan in the USA and Margaret Thatcher in the UK.

1983+2000: The Tamil guerrillas violently opposed the government in Sri Lanka/Ceylon, which was a very troubled nation.

1984: The results of the parliamentary elections in Israel on 23 July were inconclusive: the Labor Alignment party, led by Shimon Peres, got 44 seats in the Knesset; the Likud party, led by prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, got 41 seats. Neither party had a 61-seat majority, so the solution to this impasse was both creative and unique. The Knesset/parliament voted on 14 September to have a coalition government with Peres serving as prime minister for the first 25 months and Shamir taking the job of PM for the next 25 months.

Iran and Iraq spread their war to Iran's Kharg Island and other spots in the Persian Gulf. Both sides attacked oil tankers in the Persian Gulf. Some experts guessed that about 100,000 Iranians and 50,000 Iraqis had been killed since the start of their war.

At the cost of many lives, Indian troops and tanks during June recaptured the Golden Temple - a sacrosanct place for Sikhs - in Amritsar, Punjab, from followers and defenders of their faith who had earlier forced their way inside. Thousands were killed inside the temple grounds. The Sikhs had repeatedly asked for the independence of the Punjab where they were a majority.

Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two of her Sikh bodyguards on 1 October. They were angered at her use of troops to suppress Sikh nationalists in the Golden Temple at Amritsar. Reportedly Hindus in Delhi massacred some 3000 Sikhs during the following days. Hindus killed many Sikhs all over India during the days and weeks following.

There were about 27.5 million Blacks, about 4.5 million Whites, and about four million Coloureds (including Indians and mixed-race people) in South Africa.

After 16 years as prime minister and Liberal party leader, Pierre Trudeau resigned from office in June. The Progressive Conservatives won a snow slide victory in the September elections, capturing 211 out of 282 seats in the House of Commons, and Brian Mulroney (1938+?) became the new prime minister of Canada.

President Reagan easily won reelection with 59 percent of the popular vote. His opponent,
Walter Mondale, and his running mate congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro, both ineffective Democrats, only won in the District of Columbia and Minnesota.

The American economy grew at a 6.8 percent rate, the highest since 1951. Inflation in the USA was only 3.7 percent, the lowest since 1967.

The Soviet economy grew at its lowest reported rate, 2.6 percent, since WWII, but there was no independent or reliable corroboration of the Soviets' figures.

Brunei Darussalam, long a British protectorate and an oil-rich sultanate on the Indonesian island of Borneo, which had briefly considered joining the Federation of Malaysia in 1963, became an independent nation and the sixth member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The Department of Energy in the USA proposed several sites to house the nation's high-level nuclear waste. One of those places was Yucca Mountain at the Nevada Test Site, which was, of course, a plan generally opposed by most Nevadans, especially those who lived in nearby Las Vegas. About 75 percent of the people in Nevada lived in Clark County where Las Vegas is located.

The Americans developed a working antiballistic missile (ABM).

The PRC and the USSR agreed to a $1.2 billion trade pact in February.

Prime minister Margaret Thatcher of the UK and the premier of the PRC, Zhao Ziyang, signed a Joint Declaration on 19 December whereby the Crown Colony of Hong Kong/Xianggang Island and the New Territories would pass into the hands of the PRC after 30 June 1997 and then become a "special administrative region" within the PRC. Supposedly the people of those places would be able to keep, if they wished, their own economic and social systems for half a century thereafter.

General Pinochet's Chilean police surrounded the slum district of La Victoria in Santiago on 15 November and herded some 32,000 anti-government suspects into a football stadium reportedly for "interrogations." Some of the people detained were never heard of again. Daniel Ortega of the Sandinista National Liberation Front was elected president of Nicaragua in what some people regarded as a fixed election.

The US Congress, controlled by the Democrats, passed the Boland amendment that banned US financial aid to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua and Honduras. Both civilian and military officials in the Reagan administration secretly violated this ban.

On 1 January, Ameritech, Bell Atlantic, Bell South, Nynex, Pacific Telesis, Southwestern Bell, and US West - the "baby Bells" - took over 22 Bell units as regional holding companies. The decentralization of American Telephone & Telegraph Co. was nearly complete.

Both Britain and Japan also made moves to end government ownership of their telephone systems.

The federal government extended $4.5 billion in loan guarantees to the Continental Illinois Bank on 10 May to keep it from folding. Public confidence in American banks was at its lowest since the Great Depression, according to some sources.

The average price of a new, single-family house in the USA was $101,000 in May.

American publishers sold some 2.168 billion books; there were more than 23,000 bookstores in Canada and the USA.

On 3 December, in Bhopal, India, a pesticide plant operated by Indians but owned by Union Carbide of the USA leaked poisonous gas that killed 3,500 and sickened another 200,000 people.

At the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver, William H. Clewall did the first successful pre-birth surgery on a fetus.

Some 1.1 million Ethiopians died of starvation caused by the following: extended drought in the sub-Sahara, civil war, inadequate infrastructure, corruption, and lack of effective government action.

On the island of Hawaii, Mauna Loa, the world's largest active volcano, erupted in March an event that was widely reported and televised all over the world.
Kathryn D. Sullivan was the first woman to walk in space.

The CIA was criticized in Congress and elsewhere for secretly mining Nicaraguan harbors.

A federal judge in Salt Lake City ruled that the federal government had been negligent in its aboveground testing of nuclear weapons in Nevada between 1951 and 1962. (Utah is "upwind" from the Nevada Test Site.)

The government of South Africa was penalized by international economic sanctions as a form of protest against the policy and practice of apartheid.

As was extensively reported in the global media, terrorists with connections to the PLO hijacked an Italian cruise ship and killed a few foreigners.

The multinational peacekeeping corps was withdrawn from Lebanon in frustration.

Millions of CD-ROM/compact disk read-only memory optical disks were made and sold by Philips and Sony.

Apple made and sold the graphics-based Macintosh PC that featured icons, a mouse, and an intuitive user interface.

Western countries started directly airlifting relief supplies to famine-struck African nations like Ethiopia.

Based on unique DNA codes, genetic fingerprinting became possible.

Desmond Tutu (1931+?), a South African Anglican Bishop, was awarded the Nobel Prize for peace for his efforts to correct the abuses of apartheid.

The Parana River power plant between Paraguay and Brazil went on line with 16 turbines and produced some 12.6 million kilowatts of electricity for the betterment of many people's lives.

The USSR, its satellites, and client nations boycotted the Los Angeles Olympics.

The Academy picked Amadeus (Mozart lived 1756+1791) as the best film of the year.

Margaret Thatcher: "Young people ought not to be idle. It is very bad for them." Terry Wogan, Irish broadcaster: "Television contracts the imagination and radio expands it." The editors of Time magazine: "In 1970, only 699 women graduated from U.S. medical schools and 891 from law schools; just over a decade later, there were 3,833 graduating from medical schools and 11,768 from law schools."

Emmamay Norman King, American pianist: "Teaching. It has to be from my view a long time dedication to helping others who at the same time help the teacher in some mysterious way."

1985: Mikhail Gorbachev, who was widely regarded as an economics expert, became the general secretary of the Communist Party and hence the leader in March of the USSR.

When Reagan and Gorbachev met in November, they agreed to accelerate arms control negotiations.

The government of P. W. Botha declared a state of emergency in many townships as the Whites increasingly lost control of the situation in South Africa. The South African Rand lost about 66 percent of its value between August and November as foreigners sold the currency heavily and the international boycott continued to harm the economy.

The government of Ethiopia spent about half of its income trying to suppress rebels, of one sort or another, in Eritrea and other parts of the country.

Canada sold 80 percent of its exports to the USA and bought 70 percent of its imports from the same country.

Roman Catholicism ceased to be the state religion of Italy.

Blacks and Whites could legally marry in South Africa.

In March, depositors panicked in Ohio when Home State Savings and Loan closed its doors. The governor of Ohio shut down 70 other thrifts/S&Ls. Their receipts from mortgages were less than their interest payments to depositors. This was the start of a decade-long savings and loan banking crisis in the USA largely caused, many people thought, by "deregulation" which really meant a decrease in federal government supervisions of the savings and loan industry.
A few top government officials in Argentina were convicted of human-rights abuses including mass murders after the 1976 coup.

Colombian left-wing terrorists seized the Palace of Justice and executed some 100 people including 11 judges.

The drug business, especially in cocaine, boomed in Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, and the USA, among other places.

For the first time since 1914, the USA in September became a debtor nation.

There were some elections with multiple candidates in Hungary.

During the last month of the year, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 1500.

India’s trade with the USA amounted to about $4 billion that was less than 5 percent of the USA’s trade with Japan.

New Zealand banned nuclear weapons and nuclear-powered ships, including those from the USA, from its waters and harbors.

After 41 years as the communist tyrant of Albania, Enver Hoxha - almost the last of the guerrilla leaders of WWII - died.

Armed with French Exocet missiles, Iraqi jets in August attacked Iran’s Kharg Island oil terminal.

The Khmer Rouge was nearly driven from sight by mid-February by the Vietnamese invaders in Cambodia.

The Israelis evacuated their troops from Lebanon.

Palestinian terrorists attacked airports in Rome and Vienna.

After 21 years of military rule, Brazil tried democratic, civilian government again in January.

Peru - which had not had a constitutional change of government since 1945 - got an elected government in July. The Sendero Luminosa/Shining Path and their Maoist-type bandits controlled many parts of Peru.

After 12 years of military rule, Uruguay tried another civilian government. Unemployment stood at 30 percent in Uruguay with inflation at 66 percent and with $5 billion worth of foreign debts.

Many observers described El Salvador as an archetypal "banana republic." The nations' people were burdened with a dictatorial government, a corrupt justice system, rightist death squads (usually composed of volunteers from the police and the military), high inflation, low wages, high unemployment, little or no industrialization, and no land for the poor.

Sudan had a military coup in April.

Uganda had a military coup in July, and president Obote went into exile.

Nigeria had a military coup in August.

West Germany had the largest population in Western Europe with some 61.1 million people.

After 21 unimpressive years in power, Julius Nyerere resigned as president of Tanzania.

The South African government declared a national state of emergency in July that gave almost unlimited power to the army and police.

Microsoft created the graphics-based Windows for IBM PCs and their compatibles.

Saudi Arabian oil minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani in September announced that his country would lower oil prices. This was a severe blow to OPEC. World oil prices dropped 60 percent during the next six months. The downturn in the global economy had hurt Saudi Arabia’s and other oil producers' economies and had lowered the value of their overseas financial assets. Almost suddenly there was a worldwide glut of petroleum.

Asian-Americans, although only 1.6 percent of the American population, made-up 20 percent of the first-year students at the top-flight California Institute of Technology and at the University of California at Berkeley and 11 percent of the first-year students at Harvard University.

Japanese engineers built the world’s longest railroad tunnel, 33.5 miles, between Hokkaido and Honshu islands.

During November, some 25,000 persons were killed or missing after Nevado del Ruiz volcano erupted in Colombia.
Mexico City had an earthquake that measured 7.8, some said 8.1, on the Richter scale on 19 September. More than 5000 people were killed.

Rock Hudson, a well-known American movie actor, died of AIDS in Beverly Hills in October amid much publicity about the disease.

Robert D. Ballard discovered the 1912 wreck of the *Titanic* with an Argo remote-controlled robot equipped with video cameras.

Gary Kasparov, 22, a Russian dissident, became the new world chess champion in Moscow.

Desmond Tutu, a distinguished South African clergyman: "We don't want apartheid liberalized. We want it dismantled. You can't improve something that is intrinsically evil."


1985+1987: The Palo Verde Nuclear Plant, not far from Phoenix, Arizona, went into operation. It was the largest nuclear plant in the non-communist world at the time.

1985+1989: The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) finished up each year for five consecutive years.

According to figures assembled by the United Nations' Development Program, the following were, in ascending order, some of the least to most "developed"/advanced nations as one considers their people's life expectancy at birth, adult literacy, and real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita rates: Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Chad, Afghanistan, Bhutan, China/PRC, Libya, Lebanon, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Turkey, Peru, Ecuador, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Nepal, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Haiti, Tanzania, Pakistan, India, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea, Kenya, Morocco, Egypt, Laos, Bolivia, Honduras, Indonesia, Guatemala, Vietnam, Tunisia, Iran, Syria, Philippines, Brazil, Albania, Malaysia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Venezuela, Romania, Mexico, Cuba, Panama, Portugal, Singapore, South Korea, Poland, Argentina, Hungary, Bulgaria, Chile, Greece, Israel, USA, Austria, Ireland, Spain, Belgium, Italy, New Zealand, West Germany, Finland, Britain, Denmark, France, Australia, Norway, Canada, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden, and Japan.

1985+1990: The government of Iraq received nearly $500 million worth of advanced American computer, missile, and machine-tool technology from the government of the USA.

1985+1991: Mikhail S. Gorbachev, who always seemed to be more popular outside his country than inside, was the head of the USSR and the general secretary of the Communist Party. Gorbachev was the fourth general secretary in four years. He was something of a reformer and introduced *perestroika*//"restructuring," which meant in effect "market socialism," and *glasnost*//"openness," a diplomatic rapprochement with the Western capitalist nations. His efforts to reform and modernize the Soviet economy were not successful at all. Espousing a "detente offensive" as his foreign policy, Gorbachev held a series of summits with President Reagan (1985+1988), signed an Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty in 1987, and approved the USSR's military withdrawal from Afghanistan in 1989. As the USSR was disintegrating, he resigned.

1985+1992: The members of the European Economic Community successfully worked to build and fulfill the promise of the Single European Act, which promised to create a common market of 320 million customers, the removal of internal frontiers, equalization of living standards, harmonization of taxes, uniform standards for professional qualifications, and many other reforms.

1985+1993: Hun Sen - formerly a member of the Khmer Rouge army who switched in 1977 to the side of the anti-Khmer Cambodian forces based in Vietnam - was prime minister of Cambodia. He helped in 1991 to get the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) established as part of a move towards a civilian, democratic government.

1985+1996: During this span, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) finished year up 11 out of 12 years, except for a small downturn in 1990.

1985+1999: The Hezbollah//"Party of God," which was sponsored by the Iranians and the Syrians, controlled parts of southern Lebanon and waged war against the Israelis. They established their own training camps and
operated their own schools, hospitals, dental clinics, and TV and radio stations mainly for the benefit of poor Shiite Muslims and refugees.

1986: The European Economic Community again expanded. Spain and Portugal joined on 1 January and became the 11th and 12th members.

The People Power movement in the Philippines - an informal and spontaneous coalition of military, religious, and political reformers - started in February as an uprising against the corrupt regime of President Ferdinand Marcos. Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino, widow of the martyred Benigno Aquino, was elected - despite a violent and fraudulent campaign waged by the incumbents - as the first woman president of the Philippines. It was necessary for the defense minister and deputy chief of staff to defect, rally their loyal troops, and barricade themselves against Marcos's forces who, when the crunch came, mainly stayed at home. Roman Catholic religious leaders showed support for Mrs. Aquino. Encouraged by tens of thousands of street demonstrators in Manila along the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (Edsa), the rebels literally faced down the pro-Marcos elements of the military, who obviously did not want to fire on their own people. Massive numbers of Filipinos of all sorts gathered around the pro-Aquino forces all over the Philippines.

After a 20-year rule, Marcos and his wife had obviously lost the confidence of key military, religious, business, and civilian leaders, both at home and abroad, in addition to most of the Filipino public. When it was time for the Marcoses to do an about-face, they fled to US Clark Air Base in Luzon where they caught an American military flight to exile in Hawaii with their family members and some key members of their administration. It was truly another example of a modern, almost bloodless revolution. At the end, the Americans who had been his supporters earlier in his career when he had showed signs of being a progressive, anti-communist leader, in effect dumped him.

During the Marcos years, the poverty rate in the Philippines went from 28 percent to 70 percent of the population, according to some estimates. His family's "cut" of massive corruption in the Philippines may have been some $5 billion, although some say the figure was much higher.

A few Israelis approached Robert McFarlane, the US national security adviser, and proposed a deal involving a notorious Iranian arms merchant. Thus was born the Iran Gate scandal, as it was called by the media and congressional investigators, which basically was meant to exchange covert arms to the Iranians for American hostages taken by Iranian terrorists in Lebanon and money which would be illegally used to help the Contra guerrillas overthrow the Sandinistas in Nicaragua. Secretary of state George Schultz and defense secretary Casper Weinberger, both very able administrators, consistently opposed these suspicious and illegal transactions, which went forward anyway, even after they resigned. President Reagan authorized the secret sale of American weapons directly to the Iranians in return for assistance in releasing American hostages in the Middle East. McFarlane's deputy, Oliver North of the US Marine Corps, was the self-proclaimed "spear carrier" and the willing bagman who carried "profits" from the sale of arms to the Iranians to the Contras.

The districts of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands - excluding the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands - became the self-governing Federated States of Micronesia (Ponape/Pohnpei, Chuuk/Truk, Yap, and Kosrae/Kusaie); the Republic of the Marshalls; and the Republic of Palau. The United Nations formally ended the UN trusteeship for Micronesia. The USA signed compacts/treaties of free association with these new nations. Considerable numbers of Micronesians emigrated to Guam.

The Iran-Iraq war continued.

Asia's population (excluding the Asiatic parts of the USSR), which amounted to about 60 percent of the world's total, was about 2.9 million persons, up from 813 million in 1900.

South African troops fought against independence fighters in Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Botswana.

For the first time in 25 years, Guatemala had a civilian government.

Nearly 2000 people in Cameroon died when toxic gas was released by volcanic activity under Lake Nios.
In retaliation for several terrorist actions, President Reagan ordered air strikes on Libya's Muamar Qadaffi's headquarters in Tripoli. Libyan stooges in Lebanon killed three American hostages in retaliation. Islamic terrorists made many people in many places fearful. There were attacks in Athens, Heathrow Airport near London, Karachi, Istanbul, Paris, and West Berlin, among other places.

The nuclear power station at Chernobyl, not far from Kiev in the central Ukraine in the USSR, as the result of shoddy construction and safety practices and bad engineering, became dangerously inoperable. The reactor overheated, leaked, and sent radioactive fallout over large parts of Europe on 26 April. There were only 31 deaths at first, but cancer and birth defect rates increased dramatically in the immediate area. It was the worst nuclear "accident" of the entire atomic era.

After Americans had safely gone into space 55 times over a 25 year period, the $1.2 billion space shuttle Challenger, which had already completed nine missions successfully, exploded on 29 January and all seven astronauts aboard were killed.

The members of the Commonwealth of Nations and the USA continued to impose economic sanctions against the Union of South Africa. Some multinational corporations stopped doing business with or in South Africa. The US Senate, over President Reagan's veto, imposed tougher economic sanctions against South Africa.

France and Britain decided to build the cross-Channel tunnel.

Brazil's population was about 143 million persons, up from 98 million in 1975 and 17 million in 1900.

Nearly one third of Americans who lived in "the richest nation on God's good earth" had little or no health insurance.

In Somalia only about 18 percent of the adult males were literate, and the female rate was estimated to be 6 percent. In South Korea the above literacy rates were, respectively, 96 percent and 88 percent. According to reliable figures, the adult female literacy rate in the Yemen Arab Republic was 3 percent, in Afghanistan 8 percent, in Oman 12 percent, in Sudan 14 percent, in Honduras 58 percent, in Singapore 79 percent, in Thailand 88 percent, in Canada 93 percent, in Chile 96 percent, and in Hungary 98 percent.

Ivan F. Boesky, hotshot American go-getter: "Greed is all right . . . . Greed is healthy. You can be greedy and still feel good about yourself."

1886/7: The overall inflation rate in Latin America increased from 65 percent to 187 percent. The highest rate was in Nicaragua at 1225 percent and the lowest was in Peru at 105 percent. These rates remained much the same for 1988+1992.

1986+1992: Corazon Cojuangco Aquino did a decent job as the president of the Philippines despite several putsch attempts by military dissidents. She had been one of the leaders of the "people's power" movement which ousted the "conjugal dictators," Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos.

1986+2000: Slobodan Milosevic was president of Serbia. He set about to increase the power of the central government, the Serbs, and reduce the independence of the provinces and the minorities. There were repeated ineffectual demonstrations against his government in Kosovo, where many people of Albanian ancestry lived, and in other places.

1986+now: The Rio Group of Latin American nations was composed of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. They tried to improve regional cooperation and economic development.

1987: Some UN experts estimated the population of the world to be five billion people.

Hamas, from the Arabic word for "zeal," or the Islamic Resistance Movement, was founded in Palestine from the various nationalist groups including the Muslim Brotherhood. Many Palestinians started an uprising against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.
Student and other demonstrators protested the repressive policies and practices of the military dictatorship in South Korea. Many middle class Koreans who previously had been silent or silenced now supported the demonstrators. During April thru June, General Chun Doo Hwan dragged his feet. When he proposed that his close associate General Roh Tae Woo should follow him as leader of the junta, many demonstrations became violent. Since South Korea had already been awarded the Olympics for Seoul in 1988 and was under the international media spotlight, the government, unlike May 1980, was afraid to use overwhelming force against the demonstrators. Instead, Chun retired. General Roh Tae Woo during June then accepted most of the reforms that were most popular: an end to police surveillance of civilians and constitutional changes that would lead to parliamentary democracy.

The governments of Bolivia, Brazil, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, Sudan, and Zaire were all in default on their foreign debts.

The monsoon season in Bangladesh left some 24 million people homeless.

There were active communist-led insurgencies, of one intensity and effectiveness or another, in Burma, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

There were mass demonstrations against General Manuel Noriega and his military dictatorship in Panama.

A 19-year old German, Matthias Rust, in May flew a civilian monoplane, in several stages, from Hamburg to Latvia and then underneath one of the most advanced air defense systems in the world to Moscow where he embarrassed many experts and landed his tiny plane near Red Square. Some people began to wonder what the enormously expensive Cold War military-industrial complexes in the USSR and the USA had really achieved.

Violent conflicts between pro-Iranian Shiites and pro-Iraqi Sunnis broke-out in Mecca during the annual *hadj* /pilgrimage in August.

After much criticism of Soviet abuses of civil rights from the international community of nations, Andrei Sakharov was freed after seven years of internal exile and captivity in Gorky.

Boris Yeltsin earned a reputation as a popular, active reformer as the Moscow party chief.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan during a summit at Reykjavik, Iceland, in December agreed, at the surprising insistence and initiative of Gorbachev, to a historic arms reduction treaty including Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF). (Intermediate-range missiles with a range of 300 to 3000 miles accounted for about 4 percent of the total number of missiles on both sides.) There were provisions in this agreement for on-site inspections by both sides. It was not the end of the "arms race" by any means, but it was an important nuclear arms drawdown and a significant advance towards world peace. In retrospect, the weight of the arms race on the economy of the USSR must have been debilitatingly heavy.

Fiji became a republic and left the Commonwealth of Nations after a military coup led by Fijians was widely condemned. There had been conflict between Fijians and immigrant Indians for several generations.

The government of Canada attempted to amend its 1982 Constitution Act so that it was understood that "...Quebec constitutes within Canada a distinct society." The legislatures of Newfoundland and Manitoba refused to ratify it. Voters in six of ten provinces, including Quebec, refused to approve the amendment during a national referendum. Some thought it offered too much; others thought it offered not enough. The Reform Party was organized in western Canada. Its leaders were critical of the federal government's costly welfare spending (much of it in Quebec), fiscal mismanagement, bilingualism, and multiculturalism.

During January the DJIA closed above 2000. During mid-July, the DJIA closed above 2500. On "Black Monday," 19 October and continuing until the 23rd, the Dow Jones Industrial Average experienced a drop of 508 points, 22.6 percent, to 1738.74. (The market had fallen 12.8 percent on 28 October 1929.) This drop amounted to some $500 billion in paper assets, equal to the gross national product (GNP) of France at that time. Some blamed computerized trading programs
for the sharpest single-day loss ever on Wall Street. Others blamed fears about the seemingly unending increases in the national debt and the USA's increasing balance of payments problems. Perhaps even more surprising, the market rebounded quickly.

At the same time, the London Financial Times 100 Index fell by 25 percent, the European index by 17 percent, and the Tokyo index by 12 percent. The stock markets also plunged in Paris, Toronto, and many other places. It was a temporary reminder about the dangers of panic.

A joint House-Senate investigating committee held televised hearings about the Iran-Contra affair in the USA. The role of President Reagan in these illegal dealings was problematic; he was not indicted. Of the six persons who were indicted, only John Poindexter, a retired high-ranking naval officer and the president's national security advisor, was convicted (1990) and sent to jail, for six months, for lying to Congress and obstructing the investigation.

In comparison to an annual inflation rate of 4.4 percent for this year, health care costs in the USA increased 9.8 percent.

Heating gas consumption in Bucharest, Romania, during the winter was limited to two hours a day.

Criminals were convicted in Britain and the USA, in a few jurisdictions, on the basis of "genetic fingerprinting."

Mangosuthu Buthelezi, a Zulu prince and the founder in 1975 of the Inkatha Party, declared opposition to the African National Congress and its program of following Nelson Mandela. Inkatha had some 1.7 million members, mainly Zulus. There were violent strikes by Blacks in many places directed against the South African government.

Klaus Barbie (1913+1991), 73, the Gestapo chief in Lyons during WWII, who was captured in Bolivia in 1983, was found guilty in France of war crimes against Jews, resistance fighters, and innocents and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Communist Party of the USSR 1985+1991 and President 1988+1991: "The guilt of Stalin and his immediate entourage before the Party and the people for the mass repressions and lawlessness they committed is enormous and unforgivable."

1987/8: Naval forces of the USA and Iran clashed in the Persian Gulf and spilled blood.

Union of South Africa troops, long involved in an illegal war against Angolan nationalists, were slowly withdrawn from Angola.

Hainan, in the South China Sea, China's second largest island, was made a "special economic zone" and separated from Guangdong province. The plan seemed to be to develop a tourist industry there.

1987+1990: India sent, by invitation, some 45,000 troops to Sri Lanka in an effort to bring peace to that troubled island and to help the government disarm the Tamil Tigers. This effort resulted in much bloodshed, in the thousands, but not much success as peace making.

1987+1993: The first Palestinian uprising or intifada in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

1987+1994: The Eurotunnel, a primarily British-French consortium, supervised the construction of a tunnel - eventually called by many the Chunnel - under the English Channel. Their stock, which initially had been bought by some 700,000 enthusiastic investors, rose to some $10 per share. Each year, however, the cost of the project went over budget. Extra shares were sold. The overall cost doubled to almost $15 billion by the early 1990s. The shares were valued at one quarter of their peak value by the time the Chunnel opened in 1994. No profits were expected until 2005.

1988: Popular support for the communist governments in Eastern Europe became extremely difficult to find. Anti-communist humor flourished everywhere.

There was a national election on 26 April in South Korea that transformed that nation from a successful military dictatorship into a successful parliamentary democracy. It was a tremendous triumph, not only for the peoples of East Asia that had great significance then and later.

Nationalist-ethnic groups in Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia, and Uzbekistan asked - in a great variety of ways -
the largely Russian leaders of the USSR for self-rule, sovereignty, and self-determination.

The National Independence Movement was formed in Latvia.

The National Independence Party was formed in Estonia.

There were 92 nationalities and 112 official languages in the USSR.

Lee Teng-Hui became the first Taiwanese president of Nationalist China. He succeeded Chiang Kai-shek's son, Chiang Ching-kio, who had died in January.

After almost eight years of war resulting in a stalemate, Iran and Iraq agreed to a cease-fire arranged by the UN in August. Iraq owed both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait large debts.

Pro-democracy student demonstrations in Burma gave the military government a bad name and exposure that it did not want in the international media. The government of Burma imposed a curfew to stop rioting. Former dictator and general U Ne Win returned to power and with Saw Maung directed the killing of hundreds, if not thousands, of demonstrators in Rangoon, Mandalay, and other places in order to keep their control complete. The generals attempted to improve their image by appointing a new junta called the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), but General U Ne Win was still the power behind the scenery. The European nations, Japan, and the USA, among others, withdrew their diplomatic missions and boycotted trade with Burma. More important, the World Bank refused to extend SLORC any more credit. Aung San Suu Kyi, the daughter of the nationalist hero General Aung San (who had been assassinated in 1947), returned to Burma from abroad to care for her ailing mother and had many supporters.

Slobodan Milosevic, a lawyer and communist party functionary, addressed a large audience, mainly composed of Serbs, at a celebratory meeting on the "Field of the Blackbirds" at Kosovo (which has been rhetorically called the "heart of Serbia"), where the Serbs lost an important battle to the Turks in 1389, where their last king was killed, and where Serbia, along with Bulgaria, became a province of the Ottoman Empire. He promised, in effect, that Tito's old policy that insisted on the primary importance of Yugoslavia over that of the nationalities was finished. Extreme Serb nationalists were greatly encouraged and energized.

The first of some 115,000 Soviet troops started leaving Afghanistan in May and the rest were supposed to be out by February of the following year. The CIA-backed Mujahedeen guerrillas continued to fight against the pro-Soviet government in Kabul.

The USSR and USA agreed in the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) to withdraw and destroy their intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Eastern and Western Europe.

The government of Iraq massacred many thousands of Kurds for supposedly supporting Iran against Iraq.

The PLO declared an intifada/interfadeh/"uprising" against Israel and received control of the West Bank from King Hussein of Jordan on 31 July. King Hussein supposedly remained the "guardian" of Jerusalem's Muslim holy places.

In Chile 2.1 percent of all the estates/fundo - which only only a few hundred families owned - controlled 59.8 percent of all the farmland in the country.

In Malaysia petroleum/natural gas contributed 18 percent of their export earnings.

F.M.M. Mitterand, a WWII hero and moderate leftist, was reelected president of France over Jacques Chirac of the "right coalition."

The first free labor union since before WWII was formed in Hungary.

After Hurricane Joan smashed Nicaragua and caused some $840 million in damages in October, inflation in that country soared to more than 30,000 percent, according to some reports.

Among other problems with the Yugoslav economy, such as shortages of many supplies and products, inflation had reached 250 percent.

A number of scientists all over the world shared the view that Earth's ozone layer was being depleted. They promoted efforts to decrease or
ban CFCs/chlorofluoro-carbons that were thought to be responsible for the depletion.

The USSR, which over the years had provided India with various weapons, sent them two nuclear-powered Russian submarines.

The first trans-Atlantic optical fiber cable, with 37,800 voice channels, went into operation.

An abortion pill, RU-486, was developed in France. It was used to induce an abortion up to seven weeks after fertilization.

Former president of South Korea, Chun Doo Hwan, after being charged with corruption, handed over his personal financial assets to the government.

An estimated two million black South African workers went on strike to protest apartheid.

South African and Cuban troops withdrew from Angola.

American grand juries in Miami and Tampa, Florida, indicted Panama's strongman, President-General Manuel Antonio Noriega, and 15 of his associates for numerous drug deals, drug trafficking, and bribery. The Reagan administration and the CIA as a force for stability in Central America had long favored Noriega.

US aid to Israel amounted to $631 per Israeli. For the people of sub-Sahara Africa such aid amounted to about $2 per person.

The USA owed $532 billion to foreigners and was the world's largest debtor nation.

American companies produced 13 million cars and truck this year.

Daniel Ortega, the president of Nicaragua, started to negotiate with the Contra rebels.

Venezuela ended payments on its foreign debts because of falling oil prices.

Stephen Hawking, the Lucasian professor of mathematics at Cambridge University, published *A Brief History of Time* that was the most popular science book about cosmology ever written to date. Many people called him a worthy successor to Isaac Newton (1642+1727), who also had been the Lucasian professor of mathematics.

Green parties dedicated to "preserve the planet and its people" became somewhat important in the politics of several European nations.

In the Olympic games in Seoul, Korea, during which there were few problems of any kind, Soviet athletes won 132 medals, the East Germans 102, and the Americans 94.

During the national election during November, only half of the American people who were eligible voted. It was the lowest voter turnout since 1924. Some observers and analysts regarded this as a sign of general apathy. Others said it was a lack of public support for the policies of both the major parties.

Salman Rushie, a British citizen, infuriated many Muslims with his book *The Satanic Verses*. It was banned in India.

Yet another scientific examination by experts proved that the Shroud of Turin is a medieval fake.

The French-British Concorde supersonic passenger plane crossed the Atlantic at an average speed of 1215 mph.

The Italian filmmaker Bernardo Bertolucci directed *The Last Emperor* about the last Manchu emperor. This film won nine Academy Awards, including those for the Best Director and Best Picture.

**Mikhail Gorbachov:** "The Soviet people want full-blooded and unconditional democracy."

**Lech Walesa**, Polish trade unionist and statesman on his first trip outside Poland to Paris: "You have riches and freedom here but I feel no sense of faith or direction. You have so many computers, why don't you use them in the search for love?"

**Robert Runcie**, archbishop of Canterbury: "We must reject a privatization of religion which results in its reduction to being simply a matter of personal salvation."

**1988+1990**: Benazir Ali Bhutto, 35, daughter of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto who had been executed in 1979, was elected prime minister of Pakistan. She thus became the first woman to ever head a Muslim state. She was accused of corruption and removed from office by the military after not many months had passed.
There were some 400,000 to 700,000 Tutsis in exile from Rwanda. Many of them supported the Rwandese Patriotic Front in Uganda.

1989: People could still get shot in some places for trying to exit thru the Iron Curtain and heading for the West. Popular support for the communist governments in the Baltic states, Yugoslavia, Romania, Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, China, and Bulgaria noticeably withered. During October, some of the leaders of Estonia, Chechnya, Croatia, Latvia, and Lithuania, declared, in one way or another, their independence from the USSR. Armenia, Bosnia, Georgia, Macedonia, Moldavia, and the Ukraine all looked to be nearly ready to do the same.

Elections were held for 450 seats in the Supreme Soviet of the Congress of People's Deputies during March. This was the first elected parliament in Russia since 1918. Boris Yeltsin, Andrei Sakharov, and other opposition candidates won. Most members agreed that Gorbachev had too much power and was not improving the economy.

University students gathered in April to honor the death of a progressive politburo member, Hu Yaobang, who supposedly favored democracy. They remained in Beijing's Tienanmen Square for weeks as they staged a hunger strike and discussed the need for more political participation and, among other failings, less government corruption. During the 70th anniversary of the demonstrations of 4 May 1919 in Beijing and other cities, there were unofficial parades. Students in several cities called for the resignation of premier Li Peng and President Yang Shangkun. The students built a statue of the Goddess of Democracy in Tienanmen Square on 29 May. On 6 June, Mao's heir, Deng Xiaoping, sent some 10,000 troops from the People's Liberation Army to Tienanmen to decisively restore order. Some government troops openly sympathized with the students. Most, however, did their jobs. Between 400 and 800 people, not all students, were killed during the night of 3/4 June. Leaders of the democracy movement were executed, arrested, or driven into hiding or exile. By the end, more than 2000 persons were killed during the pro-democracy demonstrations.

Lithuanian leaders proclaimed in May their nation was sovereign and that its incorporation into the USSR was illegal.

With support from Lech Walesa and Roman Catholic primate Jozef Cardinal Glemp, many Solidarity candidates easily won during the June parliamentary elections in Poland. Many people refused to vote for communists even when they were the only choice on the ballot. The Solidarity candidates formed a government in August with a well-known Catholic, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, as premier. This was the first move to end more than 40 years of communist control. The zloty was devalued 12 times, and hyperinflation in Poland was 600 percent. When he visited the USA in November, Walesa got a most cordial and admiring welcome.

Ayatollah Khomeini died and was replaced by the Ayatollah Khameini in Iran.

Ukrainian coal miners organized a strike for improved working conditions and an end to the Communist Party's monopoly of political power during July. The first National Congress of the Ukrainian Nationalist Party/Rukh met during September.

There were public anti-communist demonstrations in Latvia.

The Sajudis/independent movement was formed in Lithuania during May.

The Popular Front was formed in Moldavia during May.

The Popular Front was formed in Byelorussia during June.

On the 33rd anniversary of the Hungarian uprising, on 23 October, the Hungarian People's Republic was terminated in Budapest and multi-party elections were scheduled.

Thousands of East German "holiday visitors" were allowed to cross Hungary into Austria and freedom during October. East Germans, by the millions, were allowed to visit the West without visas in early November. More than 170,000 East Germans escaped to the West one way or another. It was an impressive exodus and was surely another of the many examples in history of people "voting with their feet." As East German border guards casually watched,
crowds of East Germans on 9 November escaped to the West. By 22 December, the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin was opened, and the city was no longer divided into sectors. By year's end, Germans on both sides of the Wall had knocked down the Berlin Wall - built in 1961 to keep "freedom flyers" from escaping to the West, and the East German government had collapsed. A reformer replaced Erich Honecker, who had been the boss of East Germany since 1971.

Starting in October, there were anti-government demonstrations in Czechoslovakia. One of the demonstrators was the famous writer Vaclav Havel. The police used force against the huge crowds in Prague's Wenceslas Square and elsewhere. When the communist president resigned and a new cabinet was formed with a majority of reformers holding portfolios, in mid-December, some called it a "velvet revolution." The Parliament voted for a democratic form of government on 19 December and ten days later elected Havel president of the Czechoslovakian Republic. Alexander Dubcek, 67, the leader of the 1968 "Prague Spring," became the chairman of the Parliament.

After 35 years as president, party leader, and dictator of Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov, 78, resigned on 10 November. Other Stalinist types were demoted or ousted in late November. Many Bulgarians insisted the time had come to revamp the backward economy and end domination of the government by communists.

Some 10,000 people in Romania died during an intense civil war. After 24 years as the ruthless Stalinist tyrant of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, no longer had the support of his own secret police and army. Romania became an independent republic. Ceausescu and his wife were captured on 22 December, charged with stealing $1 billion of the people's money, and "genocide." They were promptly executed on Christmas day.

On 11 December Andrei Sakharov, now an elected member of the Congress of People's Deputies, called for the end of the communists' monopoly of power in the USSR. He died the same day.

During December, the Communist Party of Lithuania declared its independence from the Communist Party of the USSR.

Conservative, pro-business politicians in Canada and the USA had negotiated more "free trade" between the two nations. The Free Trade Agreement went into effect on 1 January. It had as its aim the gradual elimination of tariffs and other impediments to each other's markets, with few exceptions. And, it also provided for freedom for investors of both countries to do business without unnecessary government restrictions. Many people in both countries were not convinced the agreement worked to the advantage of workers, consumers, and small businesses.

Coal miners in Siberia, Central Asia, and the Donets Basin in the Ukraine organized the largest strike in the USSR since the 1920s during the fall, but the communists still held control of the council of trade unions.

Protesters in Georgia were suppressed by Soviet troops. The Soviets threatened the Lithuanians and others. The Popular Movement of the Ukraine (RUKH) called for independence.

Japan had a favorable annual balance of trade worth about $90 billion. The Japanese economy had long overshadowed Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, and Singapore and now put China, Malaysia, and Thailand in its shade. Some people worried about the "hollowing out" of the Japanese economy as "out-sourced" jobs went from Japan to lesser-developed countries where workers made much lower wages.

The Azerbaijani Popular Front, composed mainly of Muslim Azerbaijans, became involved in a civil war with the communist government and blockaded freight entering Christian Armenia.

Of the 45 sub-Saharan nations in Africa, only seven had governments that resembled modern democracies.

After almost 11 years of interference, the last Vietnamese soldiers left Cambodia/Kampuchea in September. The Khmer Rouge tried to fight their way back into control of the country but they were denied victory by government forces.
A coalition of 17 anti-military parties elected a civilian, Patricio Aylwin, as president of Chile and attempted to restore democracy to their country. This nearly ended the military government of Augusto Pinochet.

Burma became Myanmar, and Rangoon became Yangon.

Noboru Takeshita, head of the long-dominant Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and prime minister since 1987, resigned amid charges of corruption and financial misconduct in office. After revelations of many different kinds of misdoings by its leaders, Japan's voters repudiated the nation's long-time majority party during the July elections.

After 62 tumultuous years on the "Chrysanthemum Throne," Hirohito/Showa, 87, died on 7 January. His son, Akihito, as the new emperor of Japan, succeeded him.

Iraq had a gross national product of $35 billion and spent much of it on its military.

Parts of Yugoslavia had inflation of 490 percent. Ethnic tensions increased.

A cease-fire ended the Angolan civil war.

In the Philippines during December there was the longest and most dangerous yet military putsch against the democratically elected civilian government of president Corazon Aquino. It failed.

During the autumn, the leaders of the most westernized parts of Yugoslavia wrote and passed a new constitution that gave legislative sovereignty to Slovenia.

For the first time since 1929, there was a two-party election in Mexico even if it was only a local election for governor in the state of Baja California.

Muslim and Christian moderates reached a compromise on a new government for Lebanon in October. But extremist bombers killed the new president, the Christian Maronite Rene Moawad, and 23 other officials on 22 November in Beirut. The newfound unity quickly came unglued.

General Colin R. Powell became the first black/African-American Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the USA and one of the most important military figures in the world.

After 35 years as the tyrant of Paraguay, General-President Alfredo Stroessner, was forced out of office by a military coup in February.

Before the Ayatollah Khomeini died, he offered a $3 million reward for the writer Salman Rushdie's head and thus outraged many tolerant people all over the world. The Ayatollah considered The Satanic Verses to be blasphemous writing. A more moderate politician, Hashemi/Hoshami Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, succeeded him as president.

For the first time in 29 years, the voters of Brazil were allowed by their military rulers to choose their own president during democratic elections.

For the first time since 1927, there was a peaceful change of leaders in Argentina in May. The new president of Argentina, Carlos Menem, promised to improve the tax system, control the nation's hyperinflation, and privatize some 25 industries that had been nationalized years before by Juan Peron. Menem tried to enforce laws against tax thieves and used free-market forces to solve some of the economy's problems.

The Farabundo Martin National Liberation Front failed to topple the government during a "final offensive" in November in El Salvador's decade-long civil war.

The USA's government tried to persuade American bankers to ease the weight of huge foreign debts on Mexico.

Venezuela had burdened itself with some $33 billion in foreign debts. When the government started austerity measures, there were severe riots and many deaths.

Frederick de Klerk, a moderate progressive, became the president of South Africa when P.W. Botha became ill and retired in September. De Klerk promptly started peace talks with the illegal African National Congress.

There was a plague of locusts in many of Africa's desert regions.

President George H.W. Bush, the elder, signed on 9 August the Financial Institutions Rescue,
Recovery, and Enforcement Act that kept many savings and loan association banks from sinking. The government sold many S&LS as bargains to other banks and private citizens at deeply discounted prices.

Signed by President Bush in November, the Internment Compensation Act gave $20,000 to each surviving Japanese-American who was interned during WWII.

The USA launched a "Star Wars" satellite, the Delta Star that supposedly could find and track Soviet missiles.

Carlos Menem, the president of Argentina, pardoned Gen. Santiago Omar Riveros who was one of the leaders of the military dictatorship of 1976+1983. Riveros was widely thought to have condoned, or worse, many human rights abuses such as abductions, torture, and the killings of dissidents.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed the year at 2753.

The brokerage firm of Drexel Burnham Lambert and their star "junk bond" magician Michael Milken, his brother, and a former pal, were indicted on 98 various counts of wrongdoing including massive fraud, inside trading, and other misdeeds against their clients. Some estimates put Michael Milken's salary with bonuses at about half a billion for the year's 1984+1986 and for 1987 alone. Milken, the so-called "king of junk bonds," eventually pled guilty to illegal trading and violating securities laws, was forced to pay $600 million in fines, and was sentenced to three years in prison.

Studies showed that when comparing mathematics' skills of students in six countries, South Koreans were first and American students last.

After 32 years of service, the main reactor at the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania was transported to Hanford Military Reservation in Washington State for disposal.

The first portable Macintosh computer weighed 15.8 lbs. and cost $6500. The first portable color LCD computer by NEC cost $8499.

Ford Motor Co. bought Jaguar Motors for $2.5 billion. General Motors in the USA bought half of the Swedish manufacturer Saab.

As the result of an ethics scandal involving money, the US House of Representatives' speaker, Jim Wright, and the majority whip, Tony Coelho, both Democrats, resigned.

The American evangelist Jim Bakker, formerly of the PTL (Praise the Lord), was convicted in October of having stolen for his own use $158 million from his TV audience. He got 45 years in prison and a $500,000 fine.

A 41-story Marriott Hotel was completed in Warsaw, Poland, with 520 guest rooms, a shopping mall, and offices.

The Ivory Coast, with a population of 10 million, of whom about 10 percent were Christians, saw the construction of Our Lady of Peace, the largest Christian church in the world.

The supertanker Exxon Valdez ran aground full of 11.26 million barrels of crude oil in March and spilled more than a quarter million barrels into Prince William Sound off the coast of southern Alaska. Some 1056 miles of shoreline were fouled. The Iranian tanker Khark leaked 20 million gallons of crude oil in the Atlantic off Morocco's coast in December. Both were major ecological disasters.

The Americans developed the Stealth/B-2 bomber; it could not be found by radar.

The number of African elephants was estimated to have fallen to about 625,000.

About 88 percent of Brazil's forestlands had been burned for grazing land or cut for logging or firewood.

California's most dangerous earthquake since 1906, which has been estimated at 8.3 on the Richter scale, hit San Francisco on 17 October with a quake of 7.1. Highways buckled, the Nimitz Highway collapsed, some 90 people were buried or crushed, and about $6 billion dollars worth of property damage was done.

Oliver North was convicted in July as a "fall guy" in the Iran-Contra scandal, but he was given a suspended sentence and a fine, which was easily and quickly covered by his handsome speaking fees.
America’s Voyager 2 cruised near Neptune and discovered, among other things, that it had a 3rd moon.


By this time some 58,000 persons had died of AIDS, mainly in Central Africa.

**Desmond Tutu**, South African cleric: "Africans believe in something that is difficult to render in English. We call it *ubuntu botho*. It means the essence of being human. You know when it is there and when it is absent. It speaks about humaneness, gentleness, hospitality, putting yourself out on behalf of others, being vulnerable. It embraces compassion and toughness. It recognizes that my humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together."  

**Vaclav Havel**: "I really do inhabit a system in which words are capable of shaking the entire structure of government, where words can prove mightier than ten military divisions."

**John Lukacs**, American historian: "The twentieth century was marked not by the strength of classes and not even by a struggle of ideas. It was marked by the struggle of nations."

**President George Bush**: "Congress will push me to raise taxes, and I’ll say no, and they’ll push, and I’ll say no, and they’ll push again. And all I can say to them is, read my lips: no new taxes."

**Tony Benn**, British politician: "A faith is something you die for; a doctrine is something you kill for: there is all the difference in the world."

**Nicolaie Ceausescu**, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania 1974+1989: "Fidel Castro is right. You do not quieten your enemy by talking with him like a priest, but by burning him."


**1989+1990**: The East Germans opened the crossing points in the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989. Within less than a year, the GDR and the FRG, the governments of East and West Germany were united again for the first time since 1945. The most important component of the USSR’s eastern European satellite system had now turned against it.

Panamanians voted against General Manuel Noriega, a major drug lord and president of Panama, on 7 May 1989. But, he still controlled the ballot boxes and "won" the election. He refused to step down from office, as provided for in the constitution, and as advised by all ten of Panama’s Catholic bishops. He defeated a botched coup attempt by reformers in October 1989.

Some 24,000 American troops (including 12,000 who were already there to defend the Panama Canal) took over the vital parts of Panama during December 1989. The USA put a price tag of $1 million on Noriega’s head. The UN criticized the action as a "flagrant violation of international law." The estimates of casualties varied widely from source to source. One count put the cost at 24 American and 4000 Panamanian lives. Noriega sought refuge with Roman Catholic Church officials in Panama City, but within a few days surrendered to American officials in January 1990. Whether Panama then became a democracy was problematic. (Eventually Noriega was given to civil authorities for trial in Miami, Florida, where he was convicted in April 1992 and given a sentence of 40 years in prison in the USA for money laundering and drug trafficking.)


**1989+1992**: Vaclav Havel, a distinguished writer, human being, and opponent of communism, was president of Czechoslovakia, which he tried his best to keep united.

**1989+1993**: F.W. de Klerk was president of South Africa.

**1989+2000**: The Heisei/Akihito period in Japan.

**1990s**: The eight most important killers of the 1920s, excluding wars, caused few deaths during the 1990s except in places where modern, scientific medicine was not practiced. There were 46 continental and five offshore island states in Africa, which was four times the number in South America and three times the number in Asia (even though its land-surface is larger by nearly half). Few states in Africa were
democracies. Instead they were commonly characterized by one-man, one-party regimes, often dominated by the military and economic-tribal elites.

New Russian oligarchs emerged from the ashes of the USSR. These were capitalists who had enormous riches, special economic relations with the government, military, and other important organizations, and who enjoyed and used special economic, political, financial, legal, and bureaucratic levers to their own advantage. Some of them were Boris Berezovsky, Vladimir Vinogradov, Mikhail Friedman, Alexander Smolensky, Vladimir Gusinsky, and Vladimir Potanin.

About 90 percent of all the people in India were Hindus. There were some 300 million poor, landless peasants and urban slum-dwellers in India.

The slow-growth economies and low-wage workers of Indonesia, Vietnam, and mainland China all competed to be the lowest-cost-possible producers of a wide variety of goods for export markets.

*Maquiladoras*/assembly plants sprouted mainly along the Mexican-American border. They were owned, built, and operated by Mexican, American, European, Japanese, and other foreign investors. They finished-off a variety of appliances, office supplies, toys, sporting goods, shoes, tools, parts, and many other products which originated all over the world. They received tax breaks from the Mexican government, and their products were then exported to the USA. The workers were mostly young women who worked for low wages and lived in miserable living conditions. The plants they worked in were often heavy polluters of the environment.

The Canadian economy again slowed into recession during the early years of this decade. Financial problems in Asia hurt Canada's West Coast economy. The overall economy was still heavily dependent on resource industries, but as the years passed increasingly became more high-tech and information related. The government came close to balancing the nation's budget by 1997.

The population of the Galapagos Islands, about 600 miles west of the mainland, nearly doubled to 20,000 people as the result of increased tourism and commercial fishing. Nearly all of the immigrants to these Ecuadorian islands, first made famous by Charles Darwin's visit in 1835, came from the mainland.

About 86 percent of people in Singapore lived in, and in many cases owned, high-rise government-built apartments/flats.

The average life expectancy for Americans was 76 years.

Some 215 drugs were being developed by global pharmaceutical industries to treat and cure various kinds of cancer.

**1990:** On 13 February in Ottawa, Canada, the UK, France, USA, and USSR - the Allied occupying powers - agreed to the reunification of Germany. Gorbachev in July agreed that the unified Federal Republic of Germany could belong to NATO.

Iraq invaded Kuwait. On 2 August, the Iraqis invaded Kuwait without provocation and took over that nation's valuable oil fields. Kuwait's billionaire emir Sheik Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah escaped to Saudi Arabia. Kuwait produced nearly 20 percent of the world's oil. The USA, USSR, Japan, the United Kingdom, Iran, France, and even China all denounced Iraq's action. With only Yemen and Cuba abstaining, the UN Security Council voted to sanction and embargo trade with Iraq.

Faced by Iraqi troops on its border, Saudi Arabia agreed to house American troops, which started arriving on 7 August. The USA sent planes, missiles, and troops to defend Saudi Arabia. Military units from Britain, Egypt, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, quickly joined them and the United Arab Emirates that were deployed about the region. Egypt, Syria, and Morocco voted on their own initiatives on 10 August to defend Kuwait.

Saddam Hussein declared a "holy war" against Zionists and Westerners. The UN Security Council voted on 29 November to use all necessary force to expel the Iraqis from Kuwait if they had not withdrawn by 15 January 1991.
Amid food shortages, anti-government demonstrations, and general strikes Boris Yeltsin was elected chairman of the Parliament/Duma of the Russian Republic.

During February, Estonia's Supreme Soviet reduced the power of the Estonian Communist Party. During March, a majority of Latvian Popular Front candidates were elected to the Supreme Council. The Estonian Communist Party voted to break with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. At the same time, the Lithuanian Supreme Council and the new Lithuanian Parliament, where hardly any communist candidates had won seats during a recent election, declared their independence from the USSR. The elected leaders of Lithuania on 7 December changed their constitution so that communists would no longer automatically control the government. Gorbachev, in an empty gesture, threatened to send Soviet tanks and troops into Vilnius. By the end of the year, there was a Lithuanian Republic separate from the USSR.

Soviet troops invaded Azerbaijan during January supposedly in an effort to help stop the repression and killing of Armenians in the Baku area.

The per capita GDP in 1985 international dollars was Malaysia 5775, Singapore 14, and 941, Burma/Myanmar 562, Thailand 3694, Indonesia 2118, Philippines 1934, South Korea 6012, and Japan 13,197.

During April non-communists were elected in Croatia and Slovenia.

The Christian Democrats won the elections in the five states of East Germany in mid-March. This was the first all-German federal election since Hitler and the Nazis made their country a one-party dictatorship in 1932. It was a victory for Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his moderate-progressive supporters who governed the new Federal Republic of Germany on 3 October. East and West Germanys created a common currency the first of July.

The USSR imposed an economic blockade on Lithuania from April to July.

Armenia declared its independence from the USSR and became the Republic of Armenia during August amid a number of massacres.

There were a number of massacres in Azerbaijan as part of the liberation struggle.

The Hungarians held free elections in March and communist candidates ran fourth with less than 9 percent of the votes.

There were multiparty elections in Croatia during April and May for the first time since 1938. Nationalists won and elected a non-communist government. The autonomous Republic of Croatia was proclaimed in September.

After more than 27 years in prison, Nelson Mandela, 71, the leader of the South African Black nationalists, was set free by the White-dominated government which was led by the forward-thinking F.W. de Klerk, the leader of the National Party, who also ended the 30-year ban on the African National Congress (ANC). Negotiations advanced unity between Mandela's African National Congress and the South Africa's government. Most of the Zulus, however, continued to resist supporting Mandela.

The USA and USSR agreed to a new reduced parity of military forces in Europe.

Viswanath Pratap Singh, the prime minister of India, endorsed the Mandal Commission Report and its recommendations that almost 60 percent of all new civil service jobs and higher-education admissions should be awarded to India's supposedly ex-Untouchables. Many upper-caste Hindus, immediately protested.

Mexico, with a population of about 80 million people, was the most populous Spanish-speaking nation in the world: twice the size of Spain and equal in population to Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela combined. About half of the people in Mexico lived at a subsistence level. Mexico City had a population of about 20 million people. The government spent about 25 percent of the national budget on education and only 10 percent on the military. Monterrey, the second largest city in Mexico with a population of about two million, was the nation's largest industrial
Honduras showed all the signs of being a "banana republic": military dictatorships, mass poverty and illiteracy, few schools, poor transportation and communications, widespread corruption, a very unbalanced economy heavily dependent on growing and exporting bananas and coffee. The military and the Catholic Church were probably the two most effective and influential institutions in the country.

With an economic growth rate of about seven percent and exports comprised of 30 percent manufactured goods, the common definition of a "newly industrialize country" (NIC), Malaysia had moved far beyond its history as a source of tin and rubber.

Alberto Fujimori, an agricultural engineer and former university president, surprisingly was elected president of Peru. He was the offspring of Japanese immigrants. Some of his opponents called him el chinito/"the little Chink," but this did not disqualify him with the masses who quite often are wiser than their so-called leaders.

The citizens of Leningrad voted to rename their city St. Petersburg, as it had been called before the Russian Revolution.

Cubans, with heavy rationing of many necessities, had a per capita income of $1700. Canadians, with no rationing of anything, had a per capita income of $15,000.

Brazil had a population of about 159 million people. Sao Paulo, the industrial center of Brazil and the fastest growing city in South America, had a population of over 14 million people, many of whom lived in slums. Only an estimated one-third of the houses in Sao Paulo had indoor plumbing connected to sewer lines and only half had running water.

The General Accounting Office estimated that the cost of the federal bailout of the many fiscally irresponsible savings and loan (S&L) banks during the 1980s had cost the US taxpayers some $500 billion.

Namibia became an independent nation in March. It had been a German colony and then, for 74 years, a virtual colony of South Africa.
president of Poland in December after the first democratic elections in Poland since the 1930s.

Violetta Barrios de Chamorro, the widow of a slain opponent of the Samoza regime, the publisher of the newspaper La Prensa, and the candidate of the National Opposition Union (a coalition of 14 parties), was elected president of Nicaragua in February and fairly defeated the incumbent Marxist Daniel Ortega and the Sandinistas at the ballot box with 55 percent of the vote. The Contras were demobilized in June.

Poland and some other East European countries experimented with capitalism.

Argentina had inflation that reached 8000 percent per year.

Per thousand, half the number of infants died in Japan in comparison with the USA.

The United Nations Security Council had by this time officially ended its oversight of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, except for the Republic of Belau/Palau.

Another coup attempt by the military against the government of Corazon Aquino in the Philippines failed.

The USA gave a home to twice as many immigrants as the rest of the world put together, by some experts' calculations. This year 656,111 immigrants arrived in the USA. About 62 percent of these immigrants, in descending order of numbers, came from Mexico, the Philippines, Vietnam, the Dominican Republic, Korea, mainland China, India, the Soviet Union, Jamaica, Iran, Taiwan, the UK, Canada, Poland, and Haiti. (About 38 percent of the total came from countries other than the above.)

The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), a fundamentalist group, won municipal and provincial elections in Algeria but not control of the national government.

Some experts estimated that 20 percent of American children lived in poverty.

Magellan, a US space probe launched in 1989, reached Venus and made detailed maps.

After many years of separate existence and much conflict, the People's Arab Republic became part of the Republic of Yemen on 23 May.

During July 1426 pilgrims were suffocated or trampled to death in a pedestrian tunnel in Mecca when the ventilators failed.

The Gothic-style Washington National Cathedral/the Cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul was completed in Washington, DC. (Construction started in 1912.)

Mary Robinson was elected the first woman president of the Republic of Ireland/Eire.

For the first time since 1957, the voters of Haiti went to the polls in December and elected Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a critic of the military government, president. Aristide was almost immediately ousted from office in December by a military junta despite protests by the USA and many other democratic nations.

After 10 years of misrule, President Doe of Liberia was murdered. One of the contenders for his job was Charles Taylor who was supported by Libya's Muammar Qadafi. Estimates were that about 400,000 Liberians escaped from the country.

A second attempt to give the province of Quebec a special constitutional position was rejected by the other provincial governments.

Oil prices zoomed upwards with the lack of production and the uncertainties about the Persian Gulf situation. Many nations of the world boycotted oil from Iraq.

Tuition at Stanford, Yale, Princeton, Columbia, Harvard, and other expensive, top-tier, private American universities averaged $14,000 per year or more, which was still less than the cost of keeping a prisoner in jail for a year, although many people wondered why.

There were twice as many prisoners, 1.3 million, in the USA at this time than in 1980. This increase was caused largely by an increase in drug related crimes.

Tobacco smoking was ended on nearly all domestic American passenger flights in February.

Voters in Nevada passed a constitutional amendment that prohibited a state income tax.
The Dow Jones Industrial Average finished the year at 2633.66, down 4.3 percent for the year. The Nikkei Dow Jones Average in Japan, after being down 50 percent in September, closed the year down 39 percent. During mid-year, the US dollar-Japanese yen exchange rate was 160.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade/GATT negotiations in Brussels were inconclusive as governments clashed over the issue of governments' subsidies to farmers. 14 percent of world trade was composed of farm products.

After successfully controlling and guiding Singapore for 31 years, Lee Kuan Yew, one of the most constructive leaders of the post-WWII era, retired. His influence continued to shape the future of the prosperous city-state for years thereafter.

Earthquakes in northern Iran in June killed about 50,000, injured another 200,000, and made some 500,000 homeless.

Some experts began to describe the following as megacities: Tokyo-Yokohama, 27 million people; Mexico City, 23 million; Sao Paulo, 18; Seoul, 16; New York, 14; Bombay, 12; Calcutta, 12; Buenos Aires, 11.5; Rio, 11; Moscow, 10; Los Angeles, 10; Cairo, 9.8; Teheran, 9.3; London, 9; Paris, 8.7 million.

The UN found it difficult and dangerous to aid refugees during the Ethiopia-Somalia War.

In mid-July a 7.7 earthquake devastated Baguio City, Cabanatuan City, Dagupan City, and parts of La Union, Abra, and Nueva Vizcaya in the Philippines on the island of Luzon.

The 15-year-old civil war in Lebanon ended again, and Syrian troops started to withdraw.

About 78 percent of Americans lived in metropolitan urban areas (including the suburbs). About 2 percent of Americans lived on farms.

The Albanian government agreed to hold elections in 1991.

President Ghulam Ishaq closed down the national assembly in August, fired Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for corruption and ineffectiveness, and, again, the military ruled Pakistan.

During August, Croatian Serbs rebelled against the Croatian government in Zagreb.

Argentina again resembled a democratic republic.

The USA placed into a 370-mile high orbit the US$1.5 billion Hubble space telescope. (In December 1993, seven astronauts rode the _Endeavor_ shuttle to the Hubble telescope and repaired it.)

There were 100,796 motor vehicles registered on the US island of Guam in the western Pacific which had a population of 133,152 persons and was 212 square miles/551 sq. km in size.

_Violeta Chamorro_: "The Sandinistas are, without question, worse than Somoza ever was. They are a disaster. After ten years of their control, there is nothing to eat. I had hoped, oh, how I had hoped, that their revolution would be for the people. But it's all for themselves." _Max Agbanglo_, Filipino intellectual: "Study what is to be done. Then, find the genius people at the lowest levels where they are needed and let them do their jobs." _Arthur C. Clarke_, English science fiction writer: "How inappropriate to call this planet Earth when it is clearly Ocean."

1990+1991: King Hussein of Jordan had a two-faced policy during the Gulf War caused by his own weakness. He declared his country to be neutral, but he also supposedly denounced Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Federal law from $3.35 to $4.25 per hour increased the minimum wage in the USA, which had not changed since 1981.

1990+1992: The value of the Tokyo stock exchange index fell by half and real estate prices in many places followed suit as the highly inflated "bubble economy" burst. The Japanese economy continued to show signs of recovery without fully recovering for the remainder of the 1990s.

1990+1997: Alberto Fujimori was president of Peru. His administration was plagued by the Sendero Luminoso/"Shining Path" terrorists who worked against the democratic process.

1990+1998: Las Vegas, Nevada, was the fastest growing metropolitan area in the USA. Its population increased 55 percent from 468,900 to
1,321,546 persons, many of whom were Hispanics, retired people, and Southern Californians.

1990+1999: About 1,050,000 immigrants, many from the USSR, went to Israel.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) of stocks increased from 2365.10 to 11,497.12 an increase in value of 486 percent. Many of the gains were attributed to computers, the Internet, software, biotech, and other high-tech advances.

1990+2000: Some observers thought that Syrian had in many respects annexed Lebanon.

1991: The mighty USSR became the reduced Commonwealth of Independent States in December.

Soviet forces tried and failed to overthrow the pro-independence Latvian and Lithuanian governments during January. Dozens of people were killed.

The exclusive hold of the Communist Party on the USSR, which lasted for some 74 years, came to an end in February when there were elections and non-communist candidates were allowed to run for office. There were elections for regional deputies representing parts of the Russian Federation.

Foreign embassies left Baghdad in January. As promised, on 17 January, Desert Shield became operation Desert Storm as warplanes and ships from six allied nations struck targets in Iraq, which had not withdrawn from Kuwait by the publicly declared deadline of 15 January, with missiles and bombs.

On 18 January Iraqi missiles hit Tel Aviv and Haifa with some effect. American anti-missile Patriot missiles destroyed most of Iraq’s Soviet-made Scud missiles that had been aimed at both Israel and Saudi Arabia.

The USA led a coalition of 28 nations with a combined total of over 500,000 combat troops from 16 nations. Allied forces on the ground in descending order of numbers committed were the USA, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the UK/Britain, Syria, France, Pakistan, the Gulf Cooperation Council/United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Qatar. Other nations that made contributions to the alliance were Bangladesh, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Senegal, Turkey, and Czechoslovakia.

The Iraqis set fire to some 732 oil wells and two refineries during January and February and pumped Kuwaiti crude oil into the Persian Gulf.

Operation Desert Storm became a 100-hour, 4 day ground war on 23 February when some 270,000 combat troops, mainly American, British, and French, forced 100,000 Iraqi troops to surrender. Another 100,000 Iraqi troops that fought and refused to surrender perished. The Allied nations and Iraq fought the largest tank battle since WWII.

During February, more than 90 percent of Lithuania’s citizens voted for independence from the USSR during a referendum.

The Republic of Krajina, a part of Croatia where there was a majority of Serbs, was proclaimed during February.

During March 75 percent of the Latvians who participated in a public referendum voted for independence.

The leaders of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia declared their nation’s independence from the USSR in April.

During May, 94 percent of Croatian voters approved of independence from the Yugoslav federation.

Croatia and Slovenia officially declared their independence from the Yugoslav federation during June. The Serb-led Yugoslav army almost immediately attacked them.

Russian reformers during the summer months openly defied the Soviet government. Boris Yeltsin was overwhelmingly elected president of the Russian Republic during May-June. Following the lead of Yeltsin, large numbers of public officials resigned from the Communist Party in July.

During mid-August, neo-Stalinist reactionaries tried a coup in Russia, but Soviet troops - including most of the elite shock troops - supported Boris Yeltsin the popular president of the Russian Republic. Gorbachev, whose sympathies were uncertain, was put under house arrest in the Crimea. Yeltsin and other democratic reformers barricaded themselves in
The Parliament building in Moscow and were protected by special forces and other troops who defended the reformers of the Soviet system. The coup attempt lasted only three days.

President Gorbachev, who lost much public support during the coup attempt, had the plotters and instigators arrested and disbanded the all-Soviet Congress in August and September. State Council, which was set-up by the Congress of People’s Deputies, governed during the emergency. Yeltsin disbanded the Communist Party, and statues of Lenin and Stalin were pulled down nearly everywhere.

The Supreme Soviet in Minsk declared the independence of what became the Republic of Belarus in August.

Moldova separated from the USSR and became the independent Republic of Moldova in August.

The government of the USA established diplomatic relations with the independent government of Estonia.

During September and October, the leaders of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan all declared their independence from the USSR and became republics.

A new assembly in Macedonia declared their independence from the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. This decision was approved by 95 percent of the voters during a referendum in September.

The Russians recognized the independence of the Baltic Republics of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. They became truly independent countries during September for the first time since before WWII.

The voters approved by 99 percent of Armenia becoming an independent nation according to a referendum in September.

The Serbs behind their leader Slobodan Milosevic attacked Slovenia and Croatia in September and seized about one-third of Croatia. Bosnia's population was about 41 percent Muslim, 35 percent Serb, 20 percent Croat, and the remainder were mixed or "Yugoslavs." Civil war "without front lines" became a fact in Yugoslavia. Serbian bombs damaged the capital city of Croatia, Zagreb, during the civil war in October. Serbs still controlled the budget and national government of "Yugoslavia." Some experts observed that Yugoslavia was imploding.

Russian forces attacked Grozny, the capital of the Republic of Chechnya, where the people were attempting to breakaway from the USSR in November.

A referendum on independence for the Ukraine on 1 December passed by 90.3 percent. The Republic of the Ukraine became the fifth most populous and second largest nation (in terms of territory) in Europe.

Belarus (formerly Byelorussia), Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania became independent members of the United Nations.

The leaders of the Slavic republics of Belarus, Russia, and the Ukraine declared that the USSR "ceased to exist" and formed the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) on 8 December that was quickly, before the end of the year, joined by all the former republics of the USSR except for Estonia, Georgia (which joined in 1993), Latvia, and Lithuania. Among other changes, the CIS created a free-market ruble zone and put the nuclear weapons of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and the Ukraine under joint control. On 25 December, Gorbachev resigned as president of the USSR and turned over his responsibilities to Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Republic, the largest component of the CIS, and now the most powerful politician in the region.

The USSR and USA agreed in the START Treaty to reduce their strategic nuclear weapons by a quarter.

The American economy was growing slower under the Bush administration than at any time since WWII.

The government of India tried to make Indian corporations more competitive in the global marketplaces, encouraged foreign investments, and also attempted to end what had been decades of over-protection for their socialist economy.

Kurds in northern Iraq stepped-up a guerrilla war against Saddam Hussein's dictatorship.
Shiite Muslims in the south, who were a minority in Iraq but a majority in Iran, did the same. Hussein suppressed dissident Shiites and Kurds in his own country and remained in power. Some one million Kurds from Iraq sought asylum in Iran from Iraqis.

President George H.W. Bush's standings in the polls fell from great heights as many people watched and waited for the USA and its allies to not only win the war but also the peace. It looked to many Americans that victory was slipping between the fingers of the Bush administration - despite the Allies' tremendous military victory - because the Americans were uncertain about their post-war aims.

One of the best potato crops in Soviet history rotted in the ground for lack of adequate transportation and storage facilities. Bread was in short supply. Many people feared famine.

The last Red Army troops withdrew from Hungary.

The Warsaw Pact was dissolved.

Canadian workers were about eight times more productive than Brazilian workers.

Japan, with a smaller population than Brazil, had a GNP five times larger than Brazil’s.

Berlin replaced Bonn as the capital of the reunified Germany in June.

The annual deficit in the USA increased from $150 billion to $450 billion.

Almost immediately, with varying degrees of enthusiasm, some people began talking and thinking about admitting Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Slovenia into the European Economic Community.

After 15 years in office, Prime Minister Chatechai Choonhaven was forced from power by Thailand’s military. Sunthron Kongsompong was the lead general of a military junta that took and then held power in Thailand.

The United Somali Congress drove president Mohammed Siad Barre, dictator of the country for the past 21 years, out of Mogadishu in January. The leader of the guerrillas, Ali Mahdi Mohammed, became the new leader, if that is an appropriate title. Somalia fell apart and the nation regressed towards total anarchy. The warlords, or as some called them "gangsters," became more powerful than ever before.

The USA ended economic sanctions against South Africa on 10 July after the repeal of the 41-year-old Population Registration Act by the Parliament. That legislation had categorized people racially for purposes of voting, land ownership, and a variety of other civil and legal purposes.

The Albanians held their first elections since well before WWII.

Ethiopia's government stumbled, and the region of Eritrea again sought independence.

Pakistan made the Shari'a, the Islamic legal code, and the national law.

African National Congress troops fought with Zulu troops from the Inkatha Party in South Africa.

In response to drug and law enforcement authorities worldwide, Swiss banking officials ended the practice of secret, numbered bank accounts in July.

Bangladesh was hit by a cyclone from the Bay of Bengal the end of April. Nearly 140,000 people died while vast croplands and 80 percent of their livestock were drowned.

Germany recognized the independence of Slovenia and Croatia.

World population reached 5.5 billion, up from 3.63 billion in 1970. China had 1.15 billion, India 850 million, the former USSR 293, Indonesia 186, Brazil 150, Japan 125, Nigeria 117, Bangladesh 116, Mexico 88, united Germany 77, Vietnam 68, UK 58, France 57, Egypt 56, Turkey 56, Iran 53.5, South Korea 44, Spain 39.5, Poland 39, Canada 26.5, North Korea 24, Taiwan 20, Iraq 17, Saudi Arabia 15.3, and Israel 5 million.

Japan had 37 atomic energy plants. On 9 February they experienced an alarming leak and shutdown at the Mihama plant in Fukui prefecture.

After being "extinct" for some 600 years, early in June Mount Pinatubo on the northernmost island of Luzon in the Philippines began to erupt. It did incalculable damage to parts of the
"rice bowl" of Pampanga province as thousands of tons of volcanic "ash"/lahar, very much resembling grey beach sand, was cast about by a passing typhoon. The Subic Bay area was covered with 18 inches of ash and sand. Hundreds of thousands of people became homeless. Many farms were ruined. Flooding was commonplace.

Clark Air Base, a huge American air base east of Mr. Pinatubo in Angeles City, was abandoned because of extensive damage, and some 20,000 Americans were evacuated from Clark Air Force Base by air and aircraft carrier thru the USA's nearby joint Subic Bay Naval Station and Cubi Naval Air Station which also had been heavily damaged by the volcanic ash from Pinatubo. By the end of June, Clark Air Force Base was closed.

The Philippine Senate voted in September, contrary to nearly all of the public opinion polls, to eject all American forces from their country and denied a new ten-year lease to the USA of the major Subic Bay-Cubi Point naval shipyard and airfield complex.

The Japanese yen-US dollar exchange rate was 134.71.

California suffered thru its 5th year of drought. The DJIA closed above 3000 in April.

There was severe famine in the Sudan.

There were an estimated one million refugees in Ethiopia.

In July the Lebanese army attacked the PLO.

The Arabs and Israelis held peace talks in Madrid in October.

Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the National League for Democracy, which opposed the ruling military dictatorship, was awarded the Nobel peace prize for her "non-violent struggle for democracy and human rights" in Myanmar/Burma.

Edith Cresson briefly became France's first woman prime minister.

Eastern Airlines, which had been flying passengers, cargo, and mail for 62 years, in the USA closed down in January. Their machinists had been on strike for 22 months.

Martha Graham (1894+1991), one of the founders, along with Isadora Duncan, of many modern dance styles died.

Isaac Asimov, the author of many significant nonfiction and science fiction books, in his dedication to Asimov's Chronology of the World: "Human history: A dark and turbulent stream of folly, illuminated now and then by flashes of genius."

1991/2: From May until January, there was a war between Serbia and Croatia.

1991+1993: Representatives of the United Nations helped to negotiate a settlement in Cambodia/Kampuchea. The result was a coalition government headed by both Hun Sen of the Cambodian People's Party and Prince Ranariddh, one of Sihanouk's sons.

1991+1995: Parts of Yugoslavia were in a state of war and fragmentation.

1991+1996: The DJIA finished up in all of these years.

1991+1999: There was a bloody civil war in Sierra Leone on the Atlantic coast of West Africa between the government and the Revolutionary United Front. Tens of thousands of people were killed. More than half of the nation's 4.7 million people - it has been estimated - were displaced from their homes during the conflict.

The Russians tried, with several intervals of peace, to quell the Islamic guerrillas in Chechnya on the northern slopes of the Caucasus Mountains, who declared their independence in 1991. The Russians had first invaded the Caucasus region some 400 years earlier. The Islamic Chechen rebels had increasing support as the conflict continued from Muslims in Afghanistan, Qatar, Egypt, neighboring Georgia and Dagestan, and especially in Turkey where some five million Turks had their roots in the Caucasus region. The fighting first became very serious during 1994+1996. Some 250,000 Chechens became refugees during this time.

1991+1999: Boris Yeltsin was president of the Russian Republic.

The Commonwealth of Independent States was composed of all the members of the former USSR except for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania:
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia (joined in 1993), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

Life expectancy in Somalia was about 48 years; only about 16 percent of children went to any kind of school; and the average annual income was $110. Cholera, a water-borne disease, was more common now at this time than before.

1992: The Maastricht Treaty paved the way for the transformation of the European Economic Community into the more comprehensive European Union (EU) of 15 nations which was the world’s largest single trading region, with a population of 344 million persons who carried-on and created about 25 percent of the world’s commerce. The leading economies of the EU were Germany, France, Italy, and Britain, in that order.

The voters of Denmark rejected the Treaty on European Union during a referendum.

A ceasefire was arranged among Serbia, Croatia, and Slovenia during January.

The members of the European community officially recognized the independence of Macedonia.

UN peacekeepers arrived in independent Bosnia-Herzegovina, which was threatened by the Serbs, during January.

Some 14,000 UN troops were placed in Croatia during February to stabilize the situation.

Most members of the international community officially recognized the Republic of Croatia, with its capital in Zagreb, during May.

Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, and Macedonia became free and independent republics and members of the United Nations.

Canadians voted on a complicated package of constitutional changes that included self-government for Aborigines, “equitable” representation for the provinces in the Senate, a recognition that Quebec was unique. With varying enthusiasm, the voters in Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and, surprisingly, Quebec voted against. (Newfoundland/Labrador, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Ontario voted “yes.”) Most Canadians clearly thought the changes, taken together, were excessive.

Palestinians and Israelis started secret peace talks in Oslo, Norway.

After serious demonstrations in Bangkok against the military government, a civilian government in Thailand was elected.

ASEAN admitted Vietnam as a member state.

The General Synod of the Church of England voted to authorize the ordination of women priests.

India had an army over 500,000 strong stationed in Kashmir where the total population numbered some seven million people.

During the American presidential campaign, the candidates hardly said a word about foreign affairs that had been a significant topic in every election since 1936.

The people of Bulgaria voted directly for their first president.

Hungary applied for membership in the European Union.

Both Venezuela and Colombia, unlike most other South American countries, had had by this time democratically elected governments for more than 30 years.

Mexico City had a population of about 18 million persons, Rio de Janeiro over eight million, and Santiago, Lima, Caracas, and Bogotá all about four million each. They all had their barrios bajos/"low districts"/slums/shantytowns called callampas/"mushrooms" in Chile, ranchos/"country hovels" in Venezuela, barrios clandestinos/tugurios in Bogotá, favelas in Brazil, barriadas in Lima, and villas miserias in Buenos Aires.

There were about 950,000 Brazilians of Japanese ancestry. About 13 percent of the students at the University of Sao Paulo were of Japanese ancestry.

The Western nations in April promised a $24 billion aid package for Russia.
Agreement was reached among the parties in the Union of South Africa for all-race elections leading to a majority rule government. Scores of people died in clashes between the Zulu Inkatha movement and the ANC.

Of the major Latin American countries of Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico, only Argentina was a self-supporting food producer.

Independent candidate H. Ross Perot of the Reform Party won 19 percent of the votes in the American presidential election, which is the best any third party candidate has ever done since Theodore Roosevelt ran as a Progressive in 1912 and got 27.2% of the votes cast. Many people interpreted this as a sign of deep discontent among voters with both the Republican and Democratic parties and their leaders.

A Democrat, William Jefferson "Bill" Clinton, was elected president. It was the first time his party had captured the White House since 1980.

John Major and the Conservatives won a fourth consecutive general election in Britain.

The USA conducted another nuclear test and then unilaterally started a nine-month moratorium, which later was extended indefinitely. Nuclear weapons had been tested at the Nevada Test Site for 44 years.

A majority of Muslims and Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina voted for independence. Local Serbs boycotted the election. Serbian forces invaded Bosnia-Herzegovina from the east, and Croatian forces invaded from the west.

Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina were widely recognized as independent republics by the international community of nations.

The members of the European Union recognized the independence of Bosnia-Herzegovina as an autonomous nation in April while at the same time Serbia and Montenegro united as a new Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The UN imposed ineffective sanctions against Serbia-Montenegro.

Pictures and news reports about Serbian concentration camps and "ethnic cleansing" in Bosnia disgusted many people all over the world.

UN forces sometimes controlled the Sarajevo airport in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

A few Serbs protested against President Milosevic and his administration in Belgrade, Serbia.

The Subic Naval Base, which included a ship repair facility and the adjacent Cubi Naval Air Station, one of the USA's major military complexes overseas, was closed and all the facilities were turned-over to the government of the Philippines after 94 years of American occupation. All remaining USA naval and air bases, including the non-operational Clark Air Base, were closed during November, as requested by the Senate of the Republic of the Philippines.

General Fidel Ramos, one of the heroes of the People Power Revolution and a supporter of Mrs. Aquino, won the presidential elections in the Philippines.

More than 440,000 immigrants entered Germany. They were mainly from the eastern parts of Europe, but 123,000 of them came from what had been Yugoslavia. Not all of these immigrants were welcomed, especially in the high unemployment parts of what had been eastern Germany.

The UN imposed an air embargo on Libya.

After only five months in office, the Algerian president, Mohammed Boudiaf, was assassinated. Muslim fundamentalists and the military were powerful in Algeria.

There was renewed violence in Angola.

There were clashes between the army and pro-democracy proponents in Thailand.

China tested its biggest ever nuclear bomb.

President Najibullah was overthrown in Afghanistan.

The Olympic games were held in Barcelona, and the World Expo-92 was in Seville.

The recession in the USA that had started in July 1990 continued and some two million workers lost their jobs. Nearly 20 percent of American workers, at one time or another during the year, but not all at the same time, were unemployed. Many of them were white-collar, knowledge,
technical, and managerial workers. The terms "restructuring," "downsizing," and "realigning" entered common parlance. Subcontracting jobs, outsourcing, and hiring temporary workers/temps became commonplace.

During April and May there were more riots in the Watts section of Los Angeles, much like in August 1965. This time there were 55 deaths, 2383 injured, about 720 structures were damaged or destroyed, and the price tag for the physical property damage was about $1 billion.

The population of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) was estimated at 111,000 persons on 670 islands covering 270 square miles. Their subsistence economy mainly relied on fishing, much of which was done by licensed foreign ships with foreign crews.

After Menachim Begin died in June, Yitzhak Rabin replaced Yitzhak Shamir as prime minister of Israel.

Israeli tanks moved into Lebanon after Hezbollah terrorists attacked Israeli towns.

The exchange rate was 126.65 yen for a US dollar.

The World Health Organization reported 2200 cases of poliomyelitis worldwide for the year.

There were fewer than five polio cases in the USA.

Tim White from the University of California discovered the 17 oldest, to date, hominid fossils at Aramis, Ethiopia, which were dated to 4.4 million years ago. They composed a new species Australopithecus ramidus that is thought, by some, to be the long-sought-after "missing link" between humans and apes.

The Yankee Rowe nuclear plant in Rowe, Massachusetts, was shut down for good.

**1992+1994:** UN troops occupied portions of Mogadishu, the capital, and other parts of Somalia. Refugees flocked in all directions as the UN attempted to deliver relief supplies everywhere. The United Nations, with substantial help from the USA, attempted and failed to restore peace in Somalia and to guarantee food and relief deliveries in behalf of the UN.

**1992+2000:** The EEC became the European Union with 15 members. The member nations of the European Union created a single market for goods and services.

**1992+now:** The Taliban Islamic Movement of Afghanistan (TIMA) emerged as a most powerful ruling group in what became the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.

UNTAC, the United Nations' peacekeeping force in Cambodia, tried to establish peace, order, democracy, and the rule of law.

**1993:** Czechoslovakia split into separate countries, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, on 1 January, and both became members of the United Nations. Vaclav Havel became president of the Czech Republic in February.

During a second referendum, a majority of the voters in Denmark approved the Maastricht Treaty and their country thus joined the European Union.

Croatian forces occupied parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of Croats there. They also attacked the forces of the so-called Republic of Serb Krajina (RSK).

Despite the discovery of large amounts of petroleum in Nigeria in 1958 and the dramatic increase in government revenues since that time, per capita income in that country, which had a high birth rate, was still only US$310.

In Canada the Liberals won the federal elections with 177 seats, but the Bloc Quebecois had the next largest number of members (54) in the Parliament and were the Official Opposition. The Reform Party gained only two seats fewer than the Bloc Quebecois.

Hamas initiated the first of its suicide bombings against Israelis.

General Motors had a loss of $23.4 billion, the largest one-year corporate reversal in American history.

Hizballah bases in southern Lebanon were attacked by Israel.

The president of Sri Lanka was assassinated.

Nelson Mandela and Frederik Willem de Klerk shared the Nobel Prize for peace for their
successful efforts to create a modern, multiracial nation in South Africa.

Boris Yeltsin and the reformers won approval for their political and economic reforms during a referendum held in April. Yeltsin suspended the obstructionist Congress of the People's Deputies in September and used units of the police-army to do so. During December 58 percent of the voters approved a new Yeltsin-drafted constitution for the Russian Republic.

During April thru August, Israeli and Palestinian diplomats worked secretly in Oslo, with help from the Norwegian foreign minister, on an agreement to give the Palestinians self-rule in the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank in Jericho. They agreed on a Declaration of Principles or the 'Oslo Accords.' Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel and Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir Arafat shook hands on the lawn of the White House and signed, in front of President Bill Clinton and the media of the world, an agreement for a plan that many believed and hoped would give both the Palestinians and Israelis more security.

Russian troops withdrew from Lithuania, but not Latvia and Estonia.

The Serbs controlled about 70 percent of Bosnia by the middle of the year.

Lawyer Srdja Popovic, a Yugoslav and the founder of the progressive magazine Vreme, signed a letter to Bill Clinton along with some 100 other intellectuals from all over the world, asking for the USA to stop the aggression in Bosnia by the Milosevic regime and its Serb and other supporters.

President Clinton, with considerable, perhaps too much, help from his wife Hillary, presented a bold, complicated health-care plan to Congress in late September which was widely rejected by many health insurance companies, politicians and taxpayers.

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which originally had been negotiated by the Bush administration, was passed by Congress and signed by President Bill Clinton in November, despite opposition by the leaders of most American unions (who traditionally have been bulwarks of the Democratic Party). It created the largest free trade area (in terms of space) - Canada, USA, and Mexico - in the world.

President Yeltsin used military force to suppress a minor revolt against his government during October.

During a shoot-out between American peacekeepers and Somalia gangsters in October, 18 Americans and some 300 Somalis were killed.

Scientists from MIT and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, working separately, launched autonomous robots to do long-term undersea exploration projects at depths of about 6 km/4 miles.

During December, world oil prices fell to a 5-year low of below US $14 per barrel.

Intel manufactured the Pentium chip that contained 3.1 million transistors that were capable of 100 MIPs (millions of instructions per second).

The Third River Canal in Iraq, from near Baghdad to Basra, some 560 m/350 miles in length, connected the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers for the purposes of cleansing the soil of salts and for draining large marshlands.

The Khmer Rouge communists refused to participate in the UN-sponsored elections in Cambodia.

Conservatives won the elections in France.

There was another political bribery scandal in Italy.

The DJIA closed above 3500 during mid-May.

A survey showed that 99.5 percent of Italian households had at least one television set.

The Portland General Electric Company closed its Trojan nuclear plant at Rainier, Oregon.

John Lukacs, historian: "At the end of the twentieth century we see, almost everywhere, overextended and heavily bureaucratic governments vacillating atop societies whose cohesion is lessening visibly, with the former cement of civility, morals, common sense, and law and order dissolving in places, failing to hold them together. The size of the state increases along with the decrease of its
authority, because of the decreasing respect and the decreasing efficiency of its powers."

**Pope John Paul II:** "Vast sections of society are confused about what is right and what is wrong." **Yitzhak Rabin** (1922-1995), Israeli Prime Minister 1992-1995, to the Palestinians at the signing of the Israel-Palestine Declaration: "We say to you today in a loud and a clear voice: enough of blood and tears. Enough."

**1993+2000:** Jean Chrétien, a moderate, was the leader of the Liberal Party and prime minister of Canada. His finance minister was Paul Martin. He was a protégé of Pierre Trudeau. On the question of Quebec, like Trudeau he was a Canadian first. He was one of only four Canadian prime ministers to lead his party to three consecutive election victories.

Václav Havel was the elected president of the Czech Republic.

**1994:** After a fair, non-racial election in April, apartheid, officially started in 1948, ended in South Africa as the minority government of Whites was replaced by a majority government of Blacks headed by Nelson Mandela, the newly elected, first Black president ever of South Africa. South Africa had an electorate of some 22.7 million people.

The members of the European Union and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) created the European Economic Area, a single market of 19 countries.

The governments of Mexico, Canada, and the USA signed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). It was an extension of the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the USA of 1989. There continued to be considerable opposition on both sides of the American-Canadian border from labor, consumer, and other groups.

The Kingdom of Jordan and the Republic of Israel signed a peace treaty.

AIDS had become the leading cause of death among American men between the ages of 25 and 44. About one million American men were estimated to be infected with the virus that had already killed 221,000 persons in the USA.

The new Federal Assembly of Russia, elected during December 1993, started its work in January.

Israel and the PLO agreed to establish self-rule for the people of the Gaza Strip. Israel and Jordan sign a peace treaty. Rabin, Arafat, and Peres received the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo.

American troops landed in Haiti during mid-September and were welcomed by nearly everyone. The military junta had already folded and temporarily vanished.

During the midterm elections in the USA, the Republican Party won majorities in both houses of Congress for the first time since 1952 and promised a new conservative era in American politics. Congressman Newton Leroy "Newt" Gingrich from Georgia became the new, controversial speaker of the House of Representatives.

In Rwanda, between April and July - a so-called 100-days of genocide - violence erupted between members of the Patriotic Front, a rebel group dominated by members of the Tutsi tribe, and supporters of the government, which was dominated by Hutus. Rwandan Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana and Joseph Kavuruganda, the president of the Supreme Court, among hundreds thousands of others, were killed. Some sources claim the Tutsi population was cut from about 930,000 to about 130,000. For years thereafter refugees from this slaughter were scattered all about the region.

The ROC/Republic of Korea had a population of 21 million and a gross national product that ranked 20th in the world. It donated $32 million in relief aid to the UN during the Gulf War of 1990.

Trade between Taiwan and the Chinese mainland was worth more than $31 billion. At least 109,000 Taiwan businesses operated on the Chinese mainland with investments of approximately $11 billion.

The USA ended its trade embargo of Vietnam.

The Republic of Belau/Palau in Micronesia signed a compact of free association with the USA, and the UN stopped overseeing the trusteeships that had started after WWII because
there were no more. Belau became the newest, the 185th, member of the United Nations.

The cost of an average mid-sized automobile in the USA was $13,800.

Most American credit cards carried an interest rate of 18 percent to 20 percent.

The Japanese yen-US dollar exchange rate was 111.49 in January and 100.17 in December.

In a world of some 5.576 billion souls, about a third of them were Christians; possibly half of those numbers were Roman Catholics. About a billion people in the world, about 18 percent, were Moslems; about 13 percent were Hindus; about 6 percent were Buddhists; less that one percent were Jews and Sikhs. About 21 percent of the world’s people were not religious.

Canada and the USA had a combined population of 282 million and about 85 percent were Christians. Of that number 35 percent were Roman Catholics; 34 percent were Protestants; Jews, Anglicans, and Orthodox Catholics made-up each about 2.5 percent each; and the non-religious were about 9 percent.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average ended the year at 3834.44. A 30-year US Treasury Bond yielded 7.9 percent interest.

Inflation in Brazil reached 2500 percent.

Spelunkers discovered cave paintings by Cro-Magnon artists, some 30,000 years old, in the Ardeche region of southeastern France.

Vaclav Havel, the president of the Czech Republic: "The central political task of the final years of this century . . . is the creation of a new model of coexistence among the various cultures, peoples, races, and religious spheres within a single interconnected civilization."

1994/5: More scientific research papers per capita were published in Cambridge, England, than in any other place in Europe.

1994+1997: British troops left Gibraltar, Belize, Berlin, and Hong Kong.

1994+2000: The Russian Security Council voted to send military-police to Chechnya, north of Georgia and the Caucasus Mountains, in late 1994 where there was an uprising by Muslims which continued on and off for years. Many nations and people throughout the world expressed their disapproval of the Russian’s actions that were for the purpose of keeping Chechnya as a part of Russia. The armistice of August 1996, which only lasted a few months, required Russian forces to withdraw from Chechnya and for the determination of independence to be postponed for five years.

There were several on-and-off ceasefires between the IRA and the Protestant Loyalists in Ulster/Northern Ireland.

Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, both of whose parents had been prime ministers of their country, was the president of Sri Lanka while her mother, Sirimavo Bandaranaike, the world’s first elected woman prime minister (1960), served for the third time as prime minister.

1995: Austria, Finland, and Sweden joined the 12 other members of the European Union on 1 January and made the total 15 nations.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Yasir Arafat, chairman of the PLO, signed an accord to transfer much of the West Bank to the control of its Arab residents.

A Jewish extremist murdered Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister of Israel, on 5 November. A native-born national leader, he fought in the War of Independence of 1948/9, was the chief-of-staff of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) during the Six Day War of 1967, ambassador to the USA during 1968+1973, and was the Labor party leader/prime minister for the first time during 1974+1977. After serving as Minister of Defense during 1984+1990, his second administration as prime minister made remarkable progress towards a general peace in the Near East when Israel signed a peace accord with the PLO in 1993 and another with Jordan in 1994. Rabin was one of the most important peacemakers in the entire history of the Near East, according to many people.

Croatian troops defeated the Serbs during May in western Slovenia a few miles/kilometers east of Zagreb. Some 150,000 Serbs fled or were driven out of Croatia.

United Croatian, Bosnian Croat, and Bosnian forces attacked Serbs in Krajina.
The civil war in Bosnia was in its third year. Bosnian Serb troops slaughtered some 8000 unarmed Muslim men in Srebrenica during July. NATO forces bombed Bosnian Serbs around Sarajevo during August. The Serbs captured UN weapons depots and safe areas and took peacekeepers as hostages.

There was a cease-fire in Bosnia-Hercegovina in early October that was supervised by UN representatives.

American troops arrived in Bosnia as part of an international peacekeeping force in December.

The General Framework for Peace in Bosnia-Hercegovina was initiated in Dayton, Ohio, and signed in Paris, France, during late November and mid-December by the presidents of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the Republic of Croatia, and the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Bosnia-Herzegovina was divided into two parts during March: the Bosnian Serb Republic/Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia, which was composed of Croats and Muslims. Representatives of the Contact Group of nations, who had largely been responsible for this diplomatic solution, witnessed this agreement: Britain, France, Germany, Russia, the USA, and a special negotiator from the European Union.

Canadian voters were asked to vote on the simple constitutional question of whether the province of Quebec should become sovereign. Outside of Quebec, most Canadians were seriously alarmed that their national unity was indeed being threatened. Ninety-three percent of eligible voters voted, many with anger. Almost all English-speakers voted "no." Even in Quebec, where nearly everyone spoke French, sixty percent of the votes were "no." The Quebec separatists were exposed as being a small minority with much less popular support that they had claimed to have for many years. Once again it became clear if you want to know what people really want or think, have an election.

Pope John Paul II visited the Philippines during five days in January. An estimated two to five million people, some from other countries, participated in a mass in Manila.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 4000 for the first time on 23 February.

Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the elected president of Haiti, returned to his country and office during March. The American forces, except for about 2400 that remained during a transition and training period, were replaced by UN peacekeepers.

There was an Ebola epidemic in parts of the Congo Republic (formerly, until 1997, known as Zaire). At least 316 persons were infected and 244 of them died.

On 17 January, Japan had a severe earthquake - the worst in 70 years - lasting about 20 seconds, centered in the Kobe-Osaka area, with a magnitude of 7.2 on the Richter scale. About 130 huge fires destroyed what was not razed by the quake. 300,000 plus people became homeless, more than at any time since WWII. More than 5000 people died in the quake and another 27,000 were injured; some 57,000 buildings were damaged.

In March - and thereafter on several other occasions in and out of Tokyo - thousands of subway commuters in Tokyo were sickened by a deadly nerve gas; ten of them died. German scientists developed the toxic agent used in these attacks during WWII. A Japanese cult, Aum Shinri Kyo/"Sublime Truth," was responsible for this and several other acts of terrorism.

An unmanned Japanese ocean probe reached what is thought to be the deepest part of the world's oceans, the Challenger Deep, a section of the Mariana Trench, near Guam in the western Pacific/Oceania. The depth is 10,911.4 meters/36,008 feet or 6.8 miles.

Thousands of Rwandan refugees, trying to escape violence in Burundi, sought sanctuary in Tanzania.

President Clinton agreed to allow some 20,000 Cubans who were attempting to flee the Castro regime, after months of detention at Guantanamo Bay, into the USA in May.

Membership by working Americans in labor unions was about 14.9 percent, down from 34.7 percent in 1954.
Aung San Suu Kyi was freed in July after nearly six years of house arrest by the military dictators of Burma/Myanmar.

British soldiers ended their daytime patrols in Belfast, Northern Ireland, as peace seemed to be working.

Language experts estimated there were some 6000 spoken languages in the world at the start of the 20th century, but that up to half were in danger of becoming extinct during the 21st century because of the pervasive influence of the global electronic media and the convenience and utility of the global languages like English and Spanish. (North America itself is estimated to have had at this time 200 to 250 native languages.) The experts were even less helpful when it comes to telling us how many languages there were in the distant past.

Robert Mugabe had been the one and only president of Zimbabwe (formerly Southern Rhodesia) since 1980. There were numerous complaints that his Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front intimidated the opposition politicians and had a stranglehold on the government.

On 19 April, American fanatics, who were angry with the government for obscure reasons, bombed the federal building in Oklahoma City killing 168 and wounding 503 persons. Some 249 children lost one or both of their parents in this senseless act of violence.

President Clinton on 11 July announced that the USA would re-establish normal diplomatic relations with Vietnam. Some war heroes like Senators John McCain, a Republican from Arizona who had long been held as a prisoner of war by the Vietnamese, and Bob Kerrey, a Democrat from Nebraska who lost part of a leg during the war, both supported Clinton's decision.

Iraq had a population of 19.9 million and an economy based on producing petrochemicals, textiles, oil refining, and cement.

During the first half of the year, the US Standard and Poor's 500 Stock Index increased in value by 20.2 percent.

Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan organized and addressed an estimated 400,000 black men at a so-called Million Man March in Washington, DC in October.

On 30 October, Quebecois/Quebecers very narrowly voted not to separate their mainly French-speaking province, which includes the city of Montreal, from the rest of Canada.

Voters in Ireland narrowly approved a measure in November to make divorce legal despite the strong opposition of the Catholic Church. Divorce was already legal everywhere else in Europe and most other parts of the world.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed about 5000 for the first time on 21 November.

The Fresh Kills Landfill on Staten Island in New York, started in 1948, was the world's largest artificial structure and surpassed in size the Great Wall of China.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) started a campaign to outlaw antipersonnel mines.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that in the USA one out of every 70 males had AIDS and one of every 700 females. As of October, 501,310 persons had been reported to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, as having AIDS. Of that number 62 percent had died.

Vaclav Havel: "We must discover a new respect for what transcends us: for the universe, for the earth, for nature, for life, and for reality."

Robert McNamara, former American Secretary of Defense during the Vietnam War: "We . . . acted according to what we thought were the principles and traditions of this nation. We were wrong. We were terribly wrong." "Military force - especially when wielded by an outside power - cannot bring order in a country that cannot govern itself." Alvin Toffler, American futurist: "Starting 8,000 to 10,000 years ago, agriculture was invented in the Middle East - probably by a woman. That's the First Wave. Roughly 250 years ago, the Industrial Revolution triggered a Second Wave of change. Brute-force technologies amplified human and animal muscle power and gave rise to an urban, factory-centered way of life. Sometime after World War II, a gigantic Third Wave began transforming the planet, based on tools that amplify mind rather
than muscle. The Third Wave is bigger, deeper and faster than the other two. This is the civilization of the computer, the satellite and Internet." **Newton Gingrich**, historian and Speaker of the US House of Representatives in reference to the USA: "No society can survive, no civilization can survive, with 12-year-olds having babies, with 15-year-olds killing each other, with 17-year-olds dying of Aids, with 18-year-olds getting diplomas they can't read."

**1995+1998**: There were widespread reports that the people of North Korea were starving because of floods during 1995/6, because of the end of subsidies from the USSR and China, and because of the inefficiencies of the government and the disproportionate size of the military establishment. Many people subsisted on half a cup of rice or corn a day and not much else. The government, nonetheless, found the resources to spend huge amounts of money on the development of nuclear and missile programs.

**1996**: Before the Taliban Muslim government took over control of the government of Afghanistan, 40 percent of the physicians and more than half of the nations' teachers were women. After the take-over by the Taliban, according to the Taliban's interpretation of Islamic laws, women were forbidden to have jobs of any kind outside their homes or to go to school. They were, without exception, also required to wear a black *burka*, which covered them from head to foot, with a thick net or perforated cloth over their faces.

There were only 2090 cases of poliomyelitis reported worldwide.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 6448.3, up some 26 percent for the year. The 30 stocks in the average at this time, which were selected by the editors of *The Wall Street Journal* and the owners of its publisher Dow Jones & Co., were these: AT&T, Allied Signal, Alcoa, American Express, Bethlehem Steel, Boeing, Caterpillar, Chevron, Coca-Cola, Disney, DuPont, Kodak, Exxon, General Electric, General Motors, Goodyear Tire & Rubber, International Business Machines, International Paper, McDonald's, Merck, Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing, J.P. Morgan, Philip Morris, Procter & Gamble, Sears, Texaco, Union Carbide, United Technologies, Westinghouse, and Woolworth. The best performing sectors of the economy for this year were oil drilling stocks, semiconductors, footwear, stock/securities brokers, international banks, computers, cosmetics, conglomerates, computer software, and clothing/fabrics.

Arafat became the president of the Palestinian Authority.

Outside of the USA, other star performers for the year were stock markets - not adjusted for inflation - in Argentina, up nearly 25 percent; Belgium, up 21.5 percent; Canada, up 25.8 percent; China, up 144.6 percent; the Czech Republic, up 27.1 percent; Denmark, up 28.3 percent; Egypt, up 37.5 percent; Finland, up 52 percent; Germany, up 28.2 percent; Hong Kong, up 33.5 percent; Hungary, up 170.7 percent; Iceland, up 59.4 percent; Indonesia, up 24.1 percent; Iran, up 57.7 percent; Ireland, up 23 percent; Kuwait, up 38.3 percent; Malaysia, up 24.4 percent; Mexico, up 20.8 percent; Mongolia, up 17.1 percent; Morocco, up 27.1 percent; the Netherlands, up 33.6 percent; Nigeria, up 36.6 percent; Norway, up 32.2 percent; the Philippines, up 22.2 percent; Poland, up 87.4 percent; Portugal, up 32.5 percent; Russia, up 170.5 percent; Saudi Arabia, up 12.5 percent; Slovakia, up 15.8 percent; Swaziland, up 38.6 percent; Sweden, up 38 percent; Switzerland, up 19.9 percent; Taiwan, up 34.4 percent; Turkey, up 135.6 percent; the United Kingdom, up 11.6 percent; Venezuela, up 228 percent; and Zimbabwe, up 121.5 percent.

Countries with stock markets that experienced very low growth or that lost ground were Barbados, Bermuda, Bulgaria, Chile, Cyprus, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Malta, Namibia, Pakistan, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, and Uruguay, minus 64.7 percent, which was the worst of the above bunch.

The Peoples' Republic of China (PRC) had a favorable balance of trade with the USA. It grew by 17 percent to $39.5 billion, the highest trade gap the Americans had ever had with any nation next to Japan.

The Likud Party, and their energetic, conservative, tough-talking, youthful leader Benjamin Netanyahu, defeated Shimon Peres
and his coalition of peacemakers during Israel's election in late May. Almost immediately relations between Israel and its neighbors worsened.

During March, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia moved closer towards integration.

In elections held during June and July, Yeltsin won reelection over the communist candidate Gennady Zyuganov.

During the course of the year, the Russians were embarrassed by their inability to crush the rebels in Grozny and other places in Chechnya. Full-scale combat ended in Chechnya during August. Russian troops temporarily started their withdrawal from their deployments on the north slopes of the Caucasus Mountains during the last month of the year.

During August, president Clinton signed the first minimum wage increase - to be spread-out over 13 months - in the USA in five years. Republicans approved the measure reluctantly. During the November elections, Bill Clinton was reelected as president, but the Republicans again controlled both houses of Congress.

Tutsi rebels during November supposedly agreed to a ceasefire in eastern Zaire in order for Hutu refugees to return to their homes in Burundi and Rwanda. The internecine tribal warfare and atrocities, which had started long before, continued long after.

President-General Suharto of Indonesia suppressed his political opponents.

The Subic Bay Freeport in the Philippines became an important center for manufacturing, trade, commerce, and tourism. It used many of the facilities left by the Americans in 1992 and hosted the Asia Pacific Economic Conference.

After many unsuccessful efforts over a decade, Dr. Ian Wilmut and his team cloned "Dolly," a sheep, from her mother in Roslin, Scotland.

There were 296 acts of international terrorism this year, and 25 percent of them were directed against US targets.

John Paul II, Polish cleric and Pope since 1978: "It would be simplistic to say that Divine Providence caused the fall of communism. It fell by itself as a consequence of its own mistakes and abuses. It fell by itself because of its own inherent weaknesses."

1996+1999: There was a vicious war between guerillas of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) and the Serbian army in Pristina and elsewhere in the province of Kosovo. A three-month air war by NATO forces against Serbia in 1999, economic sanctions, and the weight of international public opinion eventually forced the Serbs to quit Kosovo. As the Albanian majority returned home from Albania, Macedonia, and other places, most of the Serb minority in Kosovo became refugees.

1997: Deng Xiao-ping, pragmatic and effective red emperor of China since about 1977, died in February. He promoted the modernization and growth of China's economy. Also, it should be noted, he approved, if not directed, the massacre of student and other political reformers and protesters at Tiananmen Square in 1989. He was replaced, or had already been replaced, by President Jiang Zemin.

Hong Kong ceased to be a British colony in July and became, again, part of mainland China and the PRC. Supposedly the new policy under the Basic Law was "one country/two systems." It has been estimated that Hong Kong companies and joint ventures in Guangdong province employed some five million people and that Hong Kong's investments in Guangdong amounted to some US$48 billion in not only manufacturing but also in retail trade, tourism, and financial services.

The Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Burma/Myanmar, Malaysia, and Singapore - all members of ASEAN - had populations respectively of about 74, 66, 60, 44, 22, and 3.5 millions. East Timor had a population of about 800,000. The Islamic sultanate of Brunei Darussalam had a population of over 300,000.

The military government failed to manage the economy of Thailand well and precipitated a financial crisis which again for the second time resulted in the election of Chuan Leekpai, who had several years earlier resigned after a scandal, as the civilian prime minister. Thailand's financial problems quickly spread throughout most of the other "Tiger" economies
of Southeast Asia. During July, the value of the Thai baht collapsed and started a currency crisis in Asia.

The short, intense global fright of this year started with the failure of confidence following the rapid depreciation of the Thai baht in July. During October, the collapse of the Hong Kong stock market sent world stock markets plunging. The economies of the "Asian tigers" — Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, as well as Indonesia and the Philippines and others all of a sudden came under intense scrutiny by the international investment community that feared more bursting bubbles similar to the recent and continuing Japanese example.

There was a long drought and extensive damage caused by forest fires in Sumatra and Indonesian Borneo/Kalimantan. The rice crops were small while shortages and increased prices resulted.

For the first time since 1929, opposition parties in Mexico — mainly members of the National Action Party (PAN) — won control of the lower house, the Chamber of Deputies, from the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). The problem of "oversized" presidential power, which many people have claimed has hampered the development of democratic politics in Mexico, was publicly discussed during the campaign.

During the national elections in Canada, some observers noticed that national politics were becoming regionalized as the Bloc Quebecois, the Reform Party, and the Liberals dominated respectively Quebec, the West, and Ontario.

Only four months after rising above 6000, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 7000 in mid-February.

Albania burst into a many-sided civil war and anarchy. Criminal gangs seemed to be everywhere. Arms from the disintegrating Albanian army were sent to the Kosovo Liberation Army.

During the same month, Presidents Yeltsin and Clinton met in Helsinki, Finland, to discuss the expansion of NATO.

The British Labour Party scored an overwhelming victory in the general parliamentary elections in May. Anthony "Tony" Blair became the new prime minister.

Mobutu Sese Seko, the lifetime ruler of Zaire for more than 30 years, was ousted from power. The country, where the average worker made about $200 a year, was quickly renamed, once again, the Congo by the new military government.

The troops of strongman Hun Sen and the Cambodian People's Party broke the coalition government he had formed with Prince Norodom Ranariddh of Cambodia by attacking and defeating the royal forces and driving them across the Thai border.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar/Burma became members of ASEAN.

A grey acrid haze caused by fires that deforested parts of Southeast Asia sometimes covered places in Indonesia, Malaysia, Malaysian Borneo, and the Philippines.

There were 304 acts of international terrorism during this year and one-third of them were directed against US targets.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta/Agnes Gonxha Bohaxhiu (1919+1997), an Albanian Roman Catholic nun, died in India after many years of tending to the needs of the poor and sick with love, respect, and compassion.

Maureen Dowd, American journalist: "The Princess of Wales was the queen of surfaces, ruling over a kingdom where fame was the highest value and glamour the most cherished attribute." Robert Wilensky, American academic: "We've all heard that a million monkeys banging on a million typewriters will eventually reproduce the entire works of Shakespeare. Now, thanks to the Internet, we know this is not true."

1997/8: Starting in Thailand, there was a Southeast Asian and East Asian, especially in Korea, financial crisis that did not markedly spread to the rest of the world. The global economy's major markets in Europe and North American remained healthy.
**1997+2000:** General Hun Sen unleashed a coup against the government and made himself the latest strongman in Cambodia. The country of the Khmers remained very poor, corrupt, economically undeveloped, and politically backward according to most sources.

The Karen National Union in Myanmar/Burma, which included some children and Christians, militarily opposed the government. One of their small guerilla groups was called God's Army.

**1998:** The members of the European Union opened membership negotiations with representatives of Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, and Slovenia.

The first major fatwa by the wealthy Saudi Arabian outlaw Osama Bin Laden and Al Qaeda. In August, American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were car-bombed by Muslim terrorists with the loss of 224 lives and another 5500 innocents injured, almost all of whom were Africans.

During the early weeks of the year, about two million jobs were lost during a financial crisis in Indonesia.

During April, Pakistan tested a medium-range missile that could reach India. For the first time in 24 years, the government of India tested nuclear weapons on 11 May in the Rajasthan desert. Two weeks later, Pakistan tested five nuclear devices of their own under the hills of Baluchistan. Thus, South Asia quickly became one of the world's major nuclear hotspots.

The *Human Development Report* of the United Nations ranked Pakistan 138th and India 139th out of 174 nations. The most important criteria were real-income, life expectancy, and education.

For the first time since "the troubles" started in Ulster in the late 1960s, all of the major parties there signed a Good Friday Agreement to share power and restore the Northern Ireland Assembly and the province's executive government.

Per capita GDP in the USA was $27,331, in Argentina $9219, and in Australia $20,390.

The leaders of the PRC publicly announced that their government would make a major effort to control flooding and pollution in the Yangtze and Yellow river valleys.

Pope John Paul II visited Cuba where the Catholic Church had been suppressed since Fidel Castro's takeover in the late 1950s.

An earthquake in Afghanistan killed some 4000 people in February.

In March, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, brokered a deal with the government of Iraq whereby the Iraqis agreed to let UN inspectors search for weapons of mass destruction.

Serbian troops-police used force to control the people of Kosovo province where Albanians, who were mostly Muslims, were in a majority.

Mass trials of suspects responsible for the genocidal murders of some 500,000 persons in 1994 started in Rwanda.

Civilian aircraft makers in Britain, France, Germany, and Spain agreed during March to form a unified European aerospace and defense company.

The UN's Security Council placed an arms embargo on Yugoslavia.

During mid-April, Pol Pot, died in the Khmer Rouge stronghold of Anlong Veng along the Cambodian-Thai border where his own fearful supporters had placed him under house arrest. Supposedly he had ordered the execution of some two million Cambodians while he led the Khmer Rouge regime.

The parent company of Germany's Mercedes-Benz automobile manufacturer arranged to buy America's Chrysler Corporation for more than $37 billion.

Unpaid workers all over Russia went on strike.

General Thojib Suharto, 76, sought re-election with B.J. Habibie as his vice president. There were extensive and prolonged protests and demonstrations against both of these candidates and the government's ineffectiveness in the face of the economic and financial crisis of 1997/8. Several thousand people were killed and many more injured. There were scapegoat and diversionary attacks on the residents of Jakarta's Chinatown. During May, Suharto, who had
ruled Indonesia since 1967, was forced to resign in favor of Habibie, who as yet had not been elected to any office, by anti-government, pro-democracy demonstrators who objected to Suharto's and his family's enrichment at the people's expense and the poor state of the nation's economy. Indonesia was our planet's fourth largest nation overall and the largest Muslim nation with a population, at that time, of about 202 million.

There was fighting between the forces of the former Soviet republic of Georgia and their breakaway province of Abkhazia in late May.

An earthquake killed about 5000 persons in northern Afghanistan during late May.

Refugees from Kosovo province in southern Yugoslavia fled from armed Serbs to Albania and Macedonia.

Prince Ranariddh returned to Cambodia but lost a disputed general election to Hun Sen and his supporters from the Cambodian People's Party.

Germany's Volkswagen AG bought Britain's Rolls-Royce Motor Cars for $700 million.

The USA, at the request of Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, helped keep the Japanese yen from sinking to a dangerously low level.

A 23-foot tidal wave killed some 3000 people along the coast of Papua New Guinea in July.

Russia received an $11.2 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund, and Thailand received a $700 million loan from the World Bank during July to keep their economies afloat.

The government of Iran tested a medium-range missile that could reach Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Forces from India and Pakistan again fought briefly over control of the mountainous but fertile Kashmir region of northern India.

More than 2000 Chinese died as the result of flooding in the Yangtze River valley.

Swiss banks, long under pressure to do the right thing, agreed to pay $1.25 billion in restitution to Holocaust victims who had "lost" their assets in Switzerland during WWII.

While embroiled in the investigation of his "inappropriate" affair with a young White House intern, President Clinton in August ordered Tomahawk cruise missile attacks on the camps, compounds, and chemical factories of international Muslim terrorists in Afghanistan and the Sudan.

The government of Pakistan during August officially adopted a new Islamic code and legal system based on the Koran.

A United Nations' tribunal in Arusha, Tanzania, found Jean Kambanda, the Rwandan prime minister at that time, guilty of ordering genocidal killings by his government's officials during 1994 of minority Tutsi and moderate Hutu tribes people in Rwanda. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

After a general election, the Bundestag/federal Parliament elected Gerhard Schroeder, the leader of the Social Democratic Workers' Party (SDP) in Germany, chancellor of a coalition government in September. The SDP's junior partner was the Green Party. Schroeder replaced longtime Christian Democratic Union (CDU) leader Helmut Kohl who had been chancellor for 16 years.

The prime interest rate in the USA was 5.25 percent in late September.

During November, and before and after, unemployment in Germany was about 10 percent or more.

Hurricane Georges extensively damaged 17 Caribbean islands and killed about 400 persons in September.

During October, hurricane Mitch killed some 11,000 people, mainly in Honduras, and caused ruinous damage to the infrastructure of Central America.

During November UN observers in Afghanistan reported that the Taliban militia killed some 5000 people in order to maintain their control of a single town. The Taliban-controlled government of Afghanistan gave the outlaw terrorist Osama bin Laden refuge.

The IMF gave Pakistan a $5.5 billion loan to keep its economy from sinking.

Germany's Deutsche Bank AG bought America's Bankers Trust Corporation for $10.1
billion and thus formed the world's largest financial institution.

Queen Elizabeth II, on behalf of the Labour government, announced in late November that the 759 members of the House of Lords who had inherited their lifetime-seats, rather than earned them by merit (currently some 550 in number), would in the future no longer be allowed to vote on legislation raised in the House of Commons. The born-right blue-bloods - lords, ladies, earls, marquises, countesses, baronesses, viscounts - and their ancestors had run the upper house of Parliament for some 900 years since the 11th century. The power of the House of Lords had, however, been greatly diminished ever since the passage of the Bill of Rights of 1689 which gave preeminent power to the elected House of Commons. This announcement was seen by many people as a belated effort by the British government to reform and update itself.

Augusto Pinochet, after 17 years as dictator and 25 years as the commander in chief of the Chilean army, was appointed senator-for-life in March by his political stooges under the constitution that he had imposed on the people of Chile. There were many protests at this action in Chile and abroad.

In October, British police who were serving the warrant of a Spanish judge who had charged Pinochet with the deaths of numerous Spaniards in Chile while Pinochet was in office arrested Pinochet in London, where he was ongoing back surgery.

During October, some 10,000 Turkish soldiers attacked Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq.

Some 200,000 Iranian troops threatened members of Afghanistan's Taliban army across their common border during early October.

Finance officials in early October from 182 nations discussed ways to end what some called the worst economic crisis since the end of WWII. The USA pledged $17.9 million to keep the International Monetary Fund (IMF) afloat.

During November the law-lords of the House of Lords voted that Pinochet, as he claimed, had no immunity from prosecution in Britain as a foreign government official.

For the first time since the Irish Republic was founded in 1922, a British prime minister, Tony Blair, in late November gave a speech before the Irish Parliament. He expressed hope and confidence that the peace process would work in Northern Ireland.

Tobacco companies settled civil suits brought by 46 states for health problems caused by their product for $206 billion, which made it the largest civil settlement in the USA's history.

During mid-December a majority of voters in the American Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (population 3.8 million) decided to keep their current political-economic status and cast their ballots for "none of the above." This resulted in less than half of the registered voters supporting the statehood option. Independence, another option, hardly received any votes at all.

The USA and the UK, in behalf of the United Nations, in December launched missile and air attacks for four nights against military targets in Iraq during mid-December. Saddam Hussein, the leader of Iraq, had repeatedly refused to allow weapons inspectors free access to search for missiles and weapons of mass destruction for many months.

A majority of members of the US House of Representatives, led by Republicans, on 19 December voted to impeach President William Jefferson Clinton for lying to a federal grand jury and obstructing justice. They sent the charges to the US Senate where Clinton was tried after the holiday season. This was the first time an elected president had ever been impeached in US history (Vice President Andrew Johnson had succeeded Lincoln as president, but had not been elected, after Lincoln's assassination and then been put on trial; Richard Nixon had resigned before he faced an impeachment trial).

During the course of the year, the economies of various nations in Asia, Latin America, and Russia looked and acted very shaky. The USA's and most European economies continued to be strong.

About 54 million people died of all causes worldwide. AIDS - one of the world's top five causes - was responsible for some 2.3 million of these deaths that was more than malaria, tuberculosis, or lung cancer.
John Glenn, 77 years old, who had been the first American space traveler 36 years earlier and a US Senator for 24 years, again completed a space mission as an astronaut in October.

1999: On the first of January, Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain - 11 of the 15 members of the European Union (EU) - took the first step in the creation of a European currency. Britain, Denmark, Greece, and Sweden, also members of the EU, decided to keep their own currencies and not join the common currency agreement at that time. The arrangement was that national currencies would remain in circulation until 2002 when the first Euro notes and coins will appear on 1 January.

One hundred members of the Senate of the USA during February voted to acquit President William Jefferson Clinton of two impeachment articles brought against the president by the House of Representatives. The vote was 45 "guilty" and 55 "not guilty" on the charge of perjury and 50 "guilty" and 50 "not guilty" of obstruction of justice. The USA Constitution requires a two-thirds vote for conviction.

Macao/Macau, at the mouth of the Pearl River, once again became part of China after having been a Portuguese colony since 1557.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average in the USA passed the 10,000 mark for the first time in March.

The members of the European Union started preliminary membership negotiations with representatives of Turkey.

Brazil had a population of about 165 million people, at least half of whom were descendants of African slaves. It was the world’s fourth largest country in physical size, the sixth largest in population, and had the ninth largest economy in the world. More people spoke Portuguese in Brazil than anywhere else.

Minorities - non-Han Chinese - comprised about 8 percent of mainland China's population.

From ancient times until now, and probably well into the future, the puna/altiplano/high Sierra/high plateau, at altitudes of some 12,000 feet, in Peru and Bolivia, the heartland of the ancient Inca Empire, has repeatedly proven to be a hostile, barren, arid, cold environment. More than half of the people of Peru and about 80 percent of all Bolivians lived and suffered there. Some experts have called them the "sick people" of South America.

Israel had a population of about 6,300,000 and of that number about 78 percent were Jews, and about 20 percent of the Jews were recent immigrants from the USSR. Per capita income in Israel was about US$20,000 that was similar to what prevailed in most industrialized nations.

A Welsh Assembly, a Scottish Parliament, and executives in both regions were established.

King Hussein ibn Talal of Jordan (1935+1999), who had repeatedly tried to keep in the middle between the Palestinians, Iraq, Syria, Arab nationalists, the PLO, and the Israelis, died of cancer in February. His son Abdullah, 37, succeeded him.

Raul Salinas, the brother of commonly disparaged former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico, was convicted of organizing the assassination of a leader of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI in Spanish) and was sentenced to 50 years in jail. Later in the year, in July, his sentence was cut in half, which lived up to the low expectations many people in Mexico have for their judicial and law enforcement systems.

Smith College in Massachusetts, one of the so-called "Seven Sisters" of women’s higher education in the USA, decided to add a department of engineering, the first of its kind at an all-women’s university-college. About 9 percent of all working engineers in the USA were women. About half of all the law and medical students in the USA were women.

Chit Coeun, alias Ta Mok, nicknamed by many "The Butcher," 72, one of the last of the major leaders of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia was arrested near the Thai border. He and his aging
colleagues Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea, who ruled Cambodia for four years, 1975+1979, were put on trial for making and enforcing policies that resulted in the deaths of some two million people. (Pol Pot, the chief of the Khmer Rouge, had been placed under house arrest by Ta Mok in 1997 until he died a year later.)

By the end of the 20th century, the last nanosecond or smallest unit of time left in this year, it is estimated that some 300 million people died of smallpox which is more than died in all the wars of this century combined.

The USA in March formally gave Rodman Naval Base, built in 1917 near the Pacific side of the canal, to Panama as the first step in turning over complete control of the Canal under the terms of the 1979 treaty signed by President Carter.

Ethiopians and Eritreans continued to fight over their border as they have, on and off, since Eritrea gained its independence in 1993.

Some experts have estimated that their own governments worldwide during the 20th century killed 170 million people.

In Third World countries some 40 million people became infected with measles viruses this year. Of that number about one million died.


The Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland became members of NATO in March.

During April, May, and June NATO forces, led by the USA and Britain, attacked selected targets in Serbia with air power in an effort to keep Serbian forces from annihilating ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. Hundreds of thousands of Kosovars were driven from their homes by the Serbs and became refugees in Macedonia, Albania, and other nearby areas.

There continued to be violent clashes between ethnic groups in Indonesia, especially in the outlying areas like West Kalimantan on Borneo, the Spice Islands/East Moluccas, and East Timor.

His own bodyguards possibly with the approval of the nation’s military leaders assassinated Ibrahim Bare Mainassara, the president of Niger. Niger, on the southern edge of the Sahara Desert between Mali and Chad, had a population of about 9.7 million people, most of whom were exceedingly poor.

Military units from India and Pakistan repeatedly clashed over Kashmir during the spring and summer.

After a series of unsuccessful military governments over the past 15 years, Olusegun Obasanjo, a former military leader, was elected the civilian president of Nigeria, which had, at this time, a population of about 120 million people.

Representatives of the 14-member nations that form the Rio Group - Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, and Paraguay plus representatives from Central America and the Caribbean islands - met in Mexico City during May to discuss free-market economic reforms and regional cooperation. The Rio Group was founded in Brazil in 1986.

During mid-June, after some 78 days of bombing by UN forces, the Serbian government withdrew its troops from the province of Kosovo which was then occupied by a NATO peacekeeping force - including German, Italian, British, America, Canadian, Dutch, and French troops - plus some irregular Russian troops who grabbed control of the Pristina airport in the capital city. Almost immediately, tens of thousands of the 860,000 ethnic Albanians who were part of Kosovo’s pre-March population of 2.1 million people, started to return to their homes from refugee camps in Macedonia, Albania, and other places. The leaders of the Serbian Orthodox Church called for the resignation of Serbian president Slobodan Milosevic and four of his senior associates who had been accused of various war crimes by the United Nations’ war crimes tribunal for Yugoslavia in The Hague,
Netherlands. NATO troops found evidence of atrocities and mass graves in Kosovo.

As the result of the second general all-race elections since the Republic of South Africa became a democratic, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic nation five years earlier, Thabo Mbeki succeeded his associate and fellow leader of the African National Congress 80-year-old Nelson Mandela as the president of his country and was sworn in during ceremonies in Pretoria during mid-June. Mbeki took his oath of office in the Zulu, Setswana, English, and the Afrikaans languages.

In Kuwait, out of a total population of 2.3 million only 793,000 were citizens. The remainders were guest workers from more than a 100 different countries. Only 14 percent of the citizens, about 113,000, all males over 21 years old, were eligible to vote for the all-male members of the national Parliament. The nation's ruler, Sheik Jaber, promised in May that in 2003 women would become eligible to vote and hold political offices.

The Emirate of Bahrain had a population of about 600,000 people.

From the spring thru the end of the year, students from the Zapatista Army, other radical political groups, and their sympathizers at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), the country's and Latin America's largest university with some 268,000 students, barricaded their campus and closed their institution. The single most important cause of the closure was a plan to raise tuition for the first time in more than 50 years.

For the first time since before the Act of Union in 1707 between England and Scotland, a Scottish Parliament met. There were 129 members who were empowered to raise taxes and legislate on some domestic issues. The Labor Party formed a majority, and the Scottish National Party was the second-largest party. Queen Elizabeth II, her husband Prince Philip, and her son Prince Charles were all in Edinburgh for the opening ceremonies in early July.

During the summer, Russian troops again, after a hiatus of almost three years, openly attacked freedom fighters in Chechnya and other places in the North Caucasus region.

There were 114 historically nearly all-black colleges and universities in the USA, which amounted to some 3 percent of the country's total colleges, and universities. Blacks by choice earned some 28 percent of their degrees from these institutions, some of which were founded in the 1830s and 1840s.

The world's population reached 6 billion people. It had doubled within 40 years. It was currently increasing by 78 million people a year.

Some 71 percent of women in the USA, the world's third most populous country behind China and India, used some form of family planning. The replacement rate to keep population at its current level was 2.1 children per woman. Some 61 of the world's 191 countries had a rate below this rate. The rate in the USA, with a population of 270 million, was 1.96.

About 40 percent of the adults in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, formerly Southern Rhodesia, were HIV-positive. About 7 million Asians, 1.4 million Latin Americans, and one million North Americans lived with AIDS.

There was a devastating 7.4-magnitude earthquake in August, similar to the one of 7.9-magnitude that hit San Francisco in 1906, near the city of Izmet along the North Anatolian fault about 80 miles southeast of Istanbul. Some of the worst hit areas were along the Sea of Marmara. The worst hit places were in Avcilar, Izmit, Golcuk, and other recent boom and slum areas, called gecekondus/"put up overnight," where the quality of construction was very low and where building codes were often broken or bent. Some 17,000 people (estimates varied greatly) were killed and hundreds of thousands more were injured, homeless, and missing. Property losses amounted to about $30 billion. Emergency workers from many parts of the international community, including Turkey's fellow NATO members, sent help immediately. There was considerable local criticism of the government of Turkey's own relief efforts.

During August, September, and October, Russian troops again tried to eliminate Islamic-nationalist rebels in their strongholds in the
Caucasus Mountains in the so-called republics of Dagestan/Daghestan and Chechnya. The Russian government's spokespeople several times claimed victory for their side.

The voters of East Timor in southeastern Indonesia overwhelmingly (about 78.5 percent) expressed their desire to become independent in early September amid violence, especially in the provincial capital of Dili. The western part of the island was known as Netherlands Timor until 1946 when it became part of Indonesia. East Timor, where many Christians lived and worked, was Portuguese Timor until 1975 when it was militarily invaded and overrun by Indonesian forces and then annexed a year later. Darwin, Australia, is only some 370 miles southeast of East Timor.

Pro-Indonesia militiamen tried to intimidate voters in East Timor where the election was monitored by United Nations' observers who also were attacked by the militiamen. The militias who started a wave of terror drove thousands of people from East Timor from their homes. The government, after considerable international criticism, finally declared martial law in East Timor after doing nothing while the province's security broke down. Initially the Indonesian government refused to allow UN peacekeepers into East Timor, but international pressure - like the USA's threat to cut-off all military and other aid to Indonesia - changed the Indonesian leaders' minds. By 20 September, nearly 3000 Australian, New Zealand, and British troops - later supplemented by seven other nations - had occupied parts of Dili and other important places in East Timor. The total multinational Australian-led peacekeeping force initially numbered about 7000. The Indonesian government gradually withdrew some 16,000 of their troops from East Timor, mainly to West Timor. Estimates varied widely, but as many as 400,000 people may have been dislocated from their homes by the Indonesian militias and have become refugees.

Jamaica had a population of about 2.6 million people.

The Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in September, after a number of bomb attacks against civilians in Moscow and various places in southern Russia, called Chechnya a criminal state.

A powerful earthquake, recorded at 7.6 on the Richter scale, and many aftershocks hit the island of Taiwan during September and killed some 2100 people, injured many thousands, and destroyed and damaged tens of thousands of structures worth more than $1 billion.

A military coup in Pakistan removed the democratically elected government during October, which had stepped-back from a confrontation with India over the Himalayan province of Kashmir during the summer of this year. Until this time, Pakistan had been an independent country for 52 years and had been ruled by military governments for 25 of those years.

For the first time since 1955, there were free elections in Indonesia. During October, the 700-member People's Consultative Assembly surprisingly elected Abdurrahman Wahid, a Muslim cleric and leader of the National Awakening Party, president of his country. Many to win the election had favored his main opponent, Megawati Sukarnoputri, the daughter of former President Sukarno. She accepted the position of vice president amid violent demonstrations and great uncertainty. B.J. Habibie, who had lost a vote of confidence shortly before the election and had withdrawn his election bid, had served as the unelected president for the past 17 months following the resignation of General Thojib Suharto in May 1998. Suharto, with the full support of the military, had been president for 32 years.

Cambodia became a member of ASEAN.

The Republic of Croatia had a population of 4.676 million people.

Bosnia-Herzegovina, with its capital at Sarajevo, had a population of 3.482 million people.

The Republic of Macedonia, with its capital in Skopje, had a population of about two million people.

During October, after some 30 years of consultation between their theologians, representatives of the some one billion Roman Catholics and 61.5 million Lutherans signed an agreement 482 years after Martin Luther posted
his 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. The essence of the agreement was “Together we confess: By grace alone, in faith in Christ's saving work and not because of any merit on our part, we are accepted by God and receive the Holy Spirit, who renews our hearts while equipping and calling us to good works.”

A Spanish judge, Baltasar Garzon, had for months past been trying to prosecute former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet. During November he tried to prosecute 98 Argentinean ex-junta-military leaders who were believed by many to have been guilty of brutal crimes during 1976–1983 against some 9000 to 30,000 leftists and other opponents of the military dictatorship. Carlos Menem, the president of Argentina for the past 20 years, denied that the Spanish government had jurisdiction in this case. He had granted a blanket pardon in 1990 to all those persons accused of committing crimes during the so-called "Dirty War."

Some experts were predicting that the world’s population would increase by two-thirds between 1999 and 2050 to 10 billion people.

Twenty percent of the richest nations of the world controlled 86 percent of global gross domestic product (GDP); 20 percent of the poorest nations controlled only one percent of global GDP.

Germany and France spent about 10 percent of their GDP on health care; the Netherlands about 9 percent; and Britain about 7 percent of GDP.

The elected members of Venezuela’s constitutional assembly, which first met in July, became embroiled in a conflict with President Hugo Chavez and the traditional parties over government corruption and the powers of the presidency during July. It was difficult to identify the reformers from the others. Chavez had led a failed coup against the government in 1992. A solid majority of desperate and angry Venezuelans voted during December to make significant changes in their constitution that would eliminate their Senate, reduce civilian control of the army, increase the term length and power of their president, and increase the government’s powers to control the economy. The leader of the push for these changes was, without surprising many people, President Hugo Chavez. The new constitution was drafted by a 131-member assembly who were well aware that oil-rich Venezuela had squandered its resources, been dominated by ineffective political parties, and had allowed corrupt judges to remain in their courtrooms for too long.

A USA-led consortium signed a $4.6 billion contract with North Korea to build two nuclear reactors in that country. In return, and with some irony, it was expected that the North Koreans would unplug their nuclear weapons program.

During December, there were disastrous floods in Venezuela that may have killed 20,000 people with concomitant damage to property and the infrastructure.

Portugal turned-over control of its nearly 442-old colony of Macau, which had a population of some 430,000 people in an area of 8.8 square miles, to the PRC on 20 December. Gambling casinos were Macao’s major employers and money earners. In recent years, mobsters and warring gangs had threatened the peace and prosperity of Macao. An estimated 10,000 triad members may have lived there until the time of the PRC’s take over. A few of the native Macanese - a mixed people of Portuguese, Chinese and Indian descent - had started abandoning the colony as early as WWII. Portugal had freed all of its remaining colonies in 1974 except for Macao. (Portugal had been the first European nation to colonize parts of Asia, followed by the French, Dutch, and British.)

Indonesia had a population of about 225 million of which number about 60 percent lived on the island of Java.

As they had for many months, if not years (since such information is often kept secret), the People’s Republic of China (PRC) persecuted members, some of whom were influential people, of the Falun Gong spiritual-meditation movement which is influenced by Buddhism, Taoism, and the ideas of the founder Li Hongzhi, a former grain clerk who managed to escape to the USA.

According to an annual report in late December by the National Defense Council Foundation in
the USA, a third of the world's 193 nations were involved in internal and external military conflicts of one sort or another. Military coups against democratic governments were increasing.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average of stocks closed the year up 25.22 percent. The NASDAQ Composite (mainly high-technology companies) was up 85.59 percent for the year. The Standard and Poor 500 index was up 19.53 percent. The Russell 2000 was up 19.62 percent. The Wilshire 5000 was up 22.05 percent.

Experts calculated there were some 5000 to 7000 traditional spoken languages in use. But, some 550 were spoken and understood by 100 or fewer people and thus were threatened with near extinction while some 2500 other languages, used by only a few thousand people each, were threatened with extinction within a few decades.

**1999+2000:** Despite dire warnings by ill-informed alarmists predicting massive computer failures with the arrival of the new millennium worldwide, New Year's Eve of Y2K (+2000) was a non-event worldwide.
Select Sources


