



THE REV. GEORGE LEE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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Dec.27,2012

History of month of December

Dec.1, 1918- Iceland was granted independence by the Danish parliament.

Dec.1,1640- A nationalist revolution in Portugal led to independence from Spain as the Spanish garrisons were driven out of Portugal.

Dec.1, 1919- Lady Nancy Astor became the first woman in the British house of commons.

Dec.1, 1925- The Locarno treaties were signed by France, Belgium and Germany, as a preventative measure to avoid another war, in the aftermath of world war I. Terms of the Locarno Pact were guaranteed by Britain and Italy.

Dec.1,1942- The Beveridge Report was published in Britain envisioning the welfare state including insurance for the entire population.

Dec.1,1955-The birth of the modern American civil rights movement occurred as Rosa Parks was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat to a white

man and move to the back section of a municipal bus. Her arrested resulted in a year- long boycott of the city bus system by African Americans and led to legal actions

the English channel broke through the last rock layer.

Dec.1, 1994- The head of the U.N. Commission on Rwanda estimated 500,000 deaths had resulted from genocide.

December 1, 1640 - A nationalist revolution in Portugal led to independence from Spain as the Spanish garrisons were driven out of Portugal.

ending racial segregation municipal buses throughout the south.

Dec.1, 1988- Benazir Bhutto was nominated to become prime minister of Pakistan, the first woman to govern a Muslim nation.

Dec.1,1989- Mikhail Gorbachev became the first Soviet Russian leader to visit the Vatican and meet the pope, thus ending 72 years of strict atheist policy in communist Russia.

Dec.1, 1990- England was connected to mainland Europe for the first time since the Ice Age as engineers digging a railway tunnel under

Dec.2,1804- Napoleon Bonaparte was crowned Emperor of France by Pope Pius VII in Paris.

Dec.2,1805- Napoleon defeated Russia and Austria in the battle of Austerlitz.

Dec.2,1852-The Second Empire was proclaimed in France with Napoleon III as emperor.

Dec.2,1859- Abolitionist leader John Brown was executed for treason at Charles town, west Virginia, following his raid on the U.S. Arsenal at Harper's Ferry.

Dec.2, 1942- Physicists led by Enrico Fermi carried out the world's first successful

Continuous of history of December

Nuclear chain reaction at the university of Chicago.

Dec.2,1954- The U.S. Senate condemned Senator Joseph McCarthy for misconduct following his ruthless investigations of thousands of alleged communists.

Dec.2,1979- Electors in Iran voted overwhelmingly in favor of a new construction granting absolute power to Ayatollah Khomeini.

Dec.2, 1982- The first permanent artificial heart was implanted in 61 year old

Barney C. Clark by Dr.William De Vries at the university of Utah Medical center in salt lake city. Clark, who was near death at the time of the operation, survived 112 days after the implantation.



Continuous of history of December

Dec.3,1931-British gained complete legislative independence as the statute of Westminster gave equal status to the dominions of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ireland, and Newfoundland.

Dec.3, 1962- Edith Sampson was sworn in as the first African American female judge, after she was elected associate judge of the Municipal court in Chicago.

Dec. 3, 1967- The first successful heart transplant was performed by Dr.Christian Barnard at Cape Town, South African, on Louis Waskansky, who lived for 18 days.

Dec3, 1984- A deadly gas leak (of methyl isocyanate) at a Union Carbide

plant in Bhopal, India, killed at least 3,000 persons and injured more than 200,000.

Dec.3,1993- Britain's princess Diana announced she was stepping out of the public spotlight, desiring, more privacy amid unyielding attention from the tabloid press and 'paparazzi.'

Birthday- Americans portrait painter Charles Stuart (1755-1828) was born near Narragansett, Rhode Island, best known for his portraits of George Washington, James Madison, James Monroe, and Thomas Jefferson.

Birthday-Polish novelist Joseph Conrad (1857-1924) was born in the Ukraine (as

Josef Teodor Conrad Korzeniowski). Although he could speak no English at age 20, he went on to become an outstanding novelist, best known for his tales of seafaring life including Heart of Darkness and Lord Jim.

Dec.4, 1791- The observer now the oldest Sunday newspaper in the world, was the first published in Britain.

Dec.4, 1829- The British banned the practice of "suttee" in India in which Indian females traditionally burned themselves to death on their husband's funeral pyre.

Dec.4, 1918- The kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes was proclaimed.

Continuous of history of December

Dec.4, 1943- During World War II, the second Cairo Conference took place attended by prime minister Churchill, president Roosevelt and President Inonu of Turkey.

Dec.4, 1991- The last American hostage held in Lebanon was released. Journalist Terry Anderson of the Associated Press had been kidnapped on March 16, 1985 and held for 2,454 days by Islamic Jihad (holy War) captors. He was one of 15 Americans held hostage for periods ranging from two months to more than six

years. Three of the hostages; William Buckley, Peter Kilburn and Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins, were killed during their captivity. The others were released one or two at a time.

Birthday- Scottish essayist and historian Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881) was born in the village of Ecclefechan, Scotland. He wrote a three volume history of the French revolution. Other works included; heroes and hero worship, life and letters of Oliver Cromwell and Frederick the great.

Dec.5,1492- Haiti was discovered by Christopher Columbus.

Dec.5, 1791- Wolf gang Amadeus Mozart died a pauper at age 35 in Vienna, Austria. He had become seriously ill and rapidly declined, leading to speculation that he had been poisoned, although this was later proven false. During his brief life, he created over 600 musical compositions and is widely considered one of the finest composers who ever lived.

Dec.5,1876- President Ulysses S. Grant

Continuous of history of December

Delivered a speech of apology to congress Claiming mistakes he made as president were "errors of judgment, not intent.

Dec.5, 1933- The 18th Amendment (prohibition amendment) to the U.S. constitution was repealed. For nearly 14 years, since January 29, 1920, it had outlawed the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the U.S.

Dec.5,1955- In Alabama, the Montgom-

ery bus boycott began in response to the arrest of Rosa Parks for refusing to give up her seat on a municipal bus to a white man organized by the African American community, the boycott lasted until Dec.20, 1956, when a U.S. supreme court Ruling integrated the public transportation system.

Birthday- Martin Van Buren (1782-1862) the 18th U.S. President was born in Kinderhook, New York. He was the first presi-

dent who was born a citizen of the United States. He served from March 4,1837 to March 3,1841.



Continuous of history of December

Birthday– George Armstrong Custer was born in New Rumley , Harrison County ,Ohio. He graduated from West Point at the bottom of his class in 1861, then became a dashing cavalry officer in the Civil War and fought at Bull Run . He was appointed brigadier general and served gallantly at Gettysburg and in the Virginia campaigns . After the war , he took part in the Western expedition against the Sioux Indians . In June 1867, Custer and over 200 of his soldiers from the U.S. seventh cavalry were killed by Sioux warriors at Little Bighorn in Montana .

Birthday– Walt Disney (1901-1966) was born in Chicago, Illinois . As a little boy ,

he liked to draw farms animals and eventually got a job as an artist. He moved to Hollywood and in 1928 produced Steamboat Willie, starring Mickey Mouse, in the first cartoon with synchronized sound . In 1937, he released his full length animated film, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs . He opened the Disneyland amusement park in Anaheim, California, in 1955. Five years after his death, Disney world opened in Florida. The company he founded has since grew into a global entertainment empire .

Dec.6,1492– The island of Hispaniola was discovered by Christopher Columbus. Today the island is divided between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Dec.6,1865– The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, abolishing slavery.

Dec.6,1877– At his laboratory in west orange, New jersey, Thomas Edison spoke the children’s verse “ Mary had a little Lamb...” while demonstrating his newly invented phonograph which utilized a revolving cylinder wrapped in tinfoil to record sounds.

Dec.6,1921– The Irish free state became an independent member of the British common wealth.

Dec.6,1973– Gerald ford was sworn in as vice president under Richard Nixon following the resignation of Spiro agnew who

Continuous of history of December

Pleaded no contest to charges of income tax evasion.

Dec.6,1978– In Spain, a new constitution was approved by reference, providing for a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary form of government.

Birthday– American poet Alfred Joyce Kilmer (1886-1918) was born in New Brunswick, New jersey. Best known for his poem trees, published in 1913. He was killed in action during world war 1 near ourcy, France. The U.S. army’s camp Kil-

mer was named in his honor.

Birthday- American lyricist Ira Gershwin (1896-1983) was born in New York City. He collaborated with his brother George to create many Broadway successes including . Lady Be Good, funny face, strike up the band, and songs such as the Man I Love, Someone to watch over me, and I got rhythm.

Dec.7, 43 B.C.– Cicero (Marcus Tullius) died. He was a writer, statesman, and was considered ancient Rome’s greatest

orator.

Dec.7, 1787– Delaware become the first state to adopt the new constitution of the United States of America.

Dec. 7,1941– The U.s. Naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked by

Continuous of history of December

Nearly 200 Japanese aircraft in a raid that lasted just over one hour and left nearly 3,000 Americans dead.

Birthday– wax modeler Marie Tussaud (1761-1850) was born, Switzerland. She established Madame Tussand”s wax-works in London in 1802 and later added a chamber of horrors.

Dec.8,1940– During the blitz, the house of commons and tower of London were seriously damaged amid an overnight air

raid by German bombers on London.

Dec.8, 1941– A day after the Japanese attack on pearl Harbor, the United States and Britain declared war on Japan.

Dec.8, 1980– Former Beatles musician John Lennon was assassinated in New York City.

Dec.8, 1987– President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Russia general secretary Mikhail Gorbachev signed the INF Treaty eliminating all intermediate– range and

shorter– range nuclear missiles.

Birthday– Cotton gin inventor Eli Whitney (1765-1825) was born in west boro, Massachusetts. Its invention used comb-like teeth to remove seeds from harvested Cotton and had a tremendous impact on the economy of the South. By 1800, cotton production increased from about 3,000 bales a year to 73,000. He also developed the concept of mass production of interchangeable parts and the

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THIS IS REV. GEORGE LEE MUSEUM THIS DAY IN HISTORY FORCUS MONTH OF DECEMBER THE YEAR IN REVIEW IN 2012 FOCUS TRIBUTE BARACK OBAMA WAS ELECTED FOR 2ND TERM FOR PRESIDENT LAST MONTH IN NOVEMBER.

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Continuous of history of December

Assembly line.

Birthday- General Motors founder William C. "Billy" Durant (1861-1947) was born in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dec. 9, 1941- During World War 2, China issued a formal declaration of war against Japan, Germany and Italy.

Dec.9,1948- The United Nations General Assembly unanimously approved the convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide. It took effect on Jan.12, 1951 following ratification by 20 member nations.

Dec.9, 1958- The John Birch Society was founded in the U.S. by Robert H.W. Welch as an anti-communist political organization named for Capt. John Birch, a U.S. Army officer killed in 1945 by Chinese communists.

Dec.9,1990- Lech Walesa won a landslide victory in the Polish president election.

Dec.9,1992- Buckingham Palace announced the separation of Prince Charles and Princess of Wales, Diana.

Dec.9, 1993- A five-day repair job in space on the \$3 billion Hubble space telescope was finished by U.S. astronauts

Dec.9, 1994- Sinn Fein, the Irish Republican Army's political wing, held its first formal talks with Britain in over 70 years.

Birthday- American industrialist Clarence Birdseye (1886-1956) was born in Brooklyn, New York. He developed a method of deep-freezing foods and was one of the founders of General Foods Corp..

Dec.10,1941- During World War 2, British battleships Repulse and Prince of Wales were sunk by Japanese war planes in the South China Sea, killing nearly 800 crewmen.

Dec. 10, 1948- The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Dec. 10, 1950- Dr. Ralph Bunche became the first African American man awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, for his efforts in mediation between Israel and nearby Arab states the previous year.

Dec.10, 1989- The first non-Communist government since 1948 assumed power in Czechoslovakia.

Birthday- Educator Thomas Gallaudet (1787-1851) was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He co-founded the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1817.

Dec.11, 1845- The first Anglo-Sikh war in India began as the Sikhs attacked British colonial forces. The Sikhs were defeated after four battles. Part of the Punjab region of northwestern India was then annexed by the British.

Dec.11, 1901- The first transatlantic radio signal was transmitted by Guglielmo Marconi from Cornwall, England, to St. John's, Newfoundland.

Dec. 11, 1936- King Edward VIII abdicated the throne of England to marry "the woman I love," a twice-divorced American in France on June 3, 1937, and then lived in Paris.

Dec.11, 1994- Russia sent tanks and troops into Chechnya to end the rebel