

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Europe Timeline

### 1914

#### July Crisis

Assassination of Franz Ferdinand (28 June)

#### August / September

Battles of Tannenberg & the Marne

Moltke resigns, replaced by Falkenhayn

#### October

First Battle of Ypres

Turkey joins Central Powers

#### December

Battle of the Falkland Islands

Submarine War Zone declared

### 1915

#### April

Gallipoli landings

Second Battle of Ypres

London Pact, Italy joins the Entente /

#### Allies

#### May

*Lusitania* torpedoed by *U20*

May crisis & shell crisis, Churchill fired by Asquith.

Zeppelins raid London

Galician offensive

#### July

First Chantilly Conference

First battle of the Isonzo front.

#### September/October

Bulgaria joins Central Powers

Briand becomes French PM

Serbia defeated by Central Powers

#### December

Second Chantilly Conference

Allies withdraw from Gallipoli

### 1916

#### January

Conscription introduced in Britain

#### February

Battle of Verdun commences

#### April

Easter Rising in Ireland

#### June

Battle of Jutland

Brusilov's offensive

Arab Revolt begins (T. E.

Lawrence)

#### July

Battle of the Somme begins

#### August

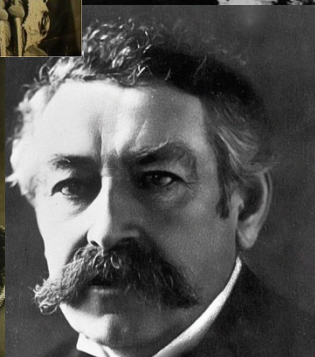
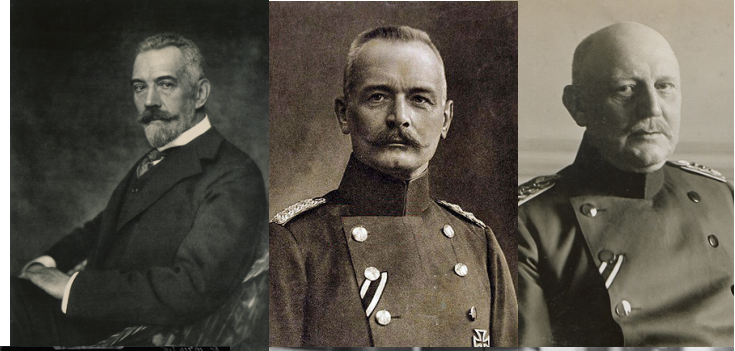
Rumania joins Allies

Hindenburg becomes Chief of Staff

#### November / December

Battles of Somme and Verdun end

David Lloyd George becomes British PM



## 1917

January

Unrestricted Submarine Warfare declared  
Zimmerman Telegram issued

March

"February" revolution, Czar abdicates  
Provisional Government and Petrograd Soviet established

April

First All Russian Congress of Soviets  
Nivelle Offensive, Battle of Arras,  
French Army mutinies, Petain and Foch  
Submarine Crisis, USA declares war on Germany  
Canadians storm Vimy Ridge

May

Gothas bomb London

June

Greece joins Allies  
Russian June Offensive

July

Third Battle of Ypres begins  
Corfu Declaration  
Kerensky government formed in Russia

August

Kornilov's attempted Coup in Russia

October

Battle of Caporetto (12<sup>th</sup> Isonzo)

November

"October" revolution, Bolsheviks storm Petrograd  
Balfour declaration on Palestine  
Allied Supreme War Council formed

December

Battle of Cambrai

## 1918

January

Wilson's Fourteen Points

February

Operation Thunderbolt  
Representation of the People Act (votes for Women in

UK)

March

Treaty of Brest-Litovsk  
Trotsky becomes War Commissar  
Foch becomes Supreme Commander  
Operation Michael

April

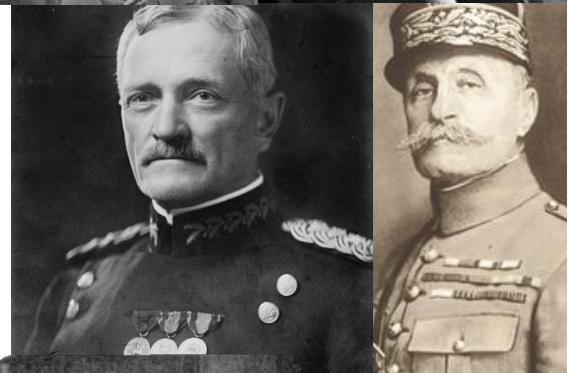
Kornilov killed

May

Finnish Civil War ends

June

Spanish Flu Pandemic  
Battle of Belleau Wood





July/August

Allies intervene in Russian Civil War  
Second Battle of the Marne  
Battle of Amiens begins (The 100 Days Offensive)  
Russo-German Peace, £300 million reparations to Germany

September

Hindenburg and Ludendorff agree war lost

October

Lenin appoints Stalin to War Council  
Pola Mutiny (29 October)  
Czechoslovakia and Polish Republic formed  
Armistice of Mudros with Turkey (30 October)

November

Kiel Mutiny (3 November)  
Kaiser abdicates (9 November)  
Armistice (11 November)  
Emperor Karl abdicates (13 November)  
Kolchak (White Russian) government established  
Kingdom of Serbia annexes Yugoslav states

December

Spartacists issue Manifesto

**1919**

January

Spartacist uprising, Luxemburg killed  
Irish Republic declared  
League of Nations formed

February

Polish-Soviet War begins

March

Comintern formed in Moscow

May

Turkish war for Independence begins

June

Treaty of Versailles  
German High Sea Fleet scuttled at Scapa Flow

August

British Ten Year Rule established  
Weimar Constitution ratified  
Hungarian Soviet Republic collapses due to Rumanian

intervention

September

Treaty of Saint-Germain dissolved Austro-Hungarian

Empire

**1920**

January

League of Nations convenes

February

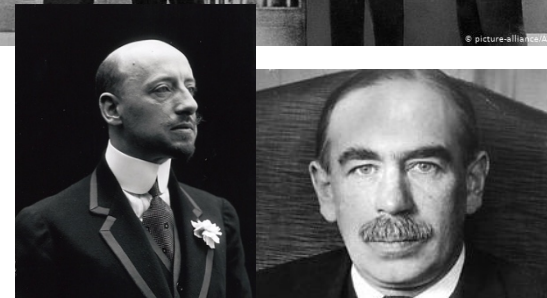
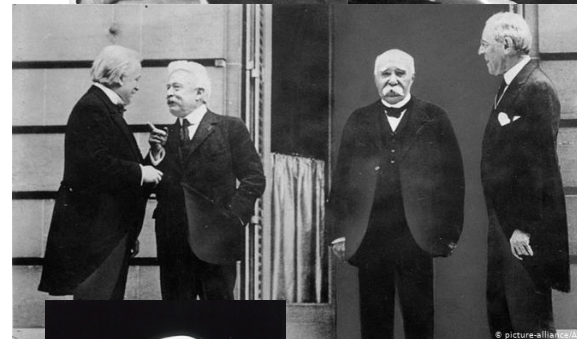
Kolchak is executed in Siberia  
Conference of London on dissolution of Ottoman Empire

March

Kapp Putsch against Weimar Republic

April

San Remo conference, establishes mandates for League of Nations



June  
Treaty of Trianon ends war between Allies and Hungary

August  
Treaty of Sevres ends Allied war with Ottoman Empire

September  
D'Annunzio captures Fiume (Italy)

October  
Polish- Soviet war ends

November  
Treaty of Rapallo resolves Italian-Yugoslav borders  
Danzig established as Free City (Poland)

December  
Brussels Conference on German reparations

**1921**

March  
Kronstadt rebellion  
New Economic Policy (NEP) declared by Lenin

April  
German reparations set at 132 billion marks

May  
Germany recognizes the Soviet Union

July  
President Warren Harding signs congressional resolution ending war w/ Germany

November  
Washington Naval Conference (ends February 1922)

National Fascist Party formed in Italy  
Hyperinflation in Germany

**1922**

February  
Washington Treaty ratified

March  
Egyptian Independence from Britain

April  
Stalin becomes General Secretary of the Communist Party  
Second Treaty of Rapallo (between USSR and Germany)

June  
Irish Civil War begins

September  
Greco-Turkish War ends

October  
Fascist march on Rome, Mussolini becomes PM  
Russian Civil War ends

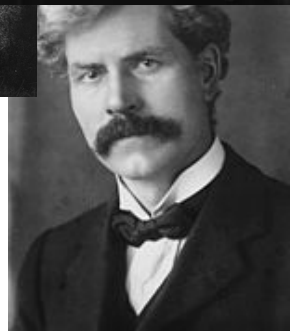
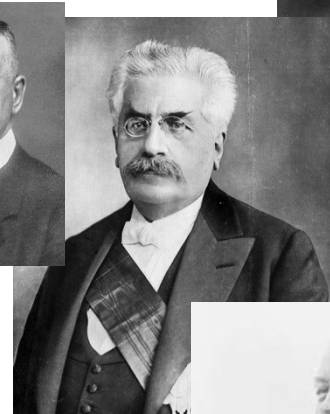
November  
Ottoman Empire formally abolished

December  
USSR formed

**1923**

January  
French occupation of the Ruhr

May  
Stanley Baldwin becomes Conservative PM of the UK





July

Treaty of Lausanne ends Turkish War for Independence

September

British Mandate in Palestine begins, French Mandates in Syria and Lebanon

October

Kemal Ataturk becomes first President of Turkey

November

Munich Beer Hall Putsch

**1924**

January

Lenin dies

Ramsay MacDonald becomes first Labour PM of

Britain

February/March

Treaty of Rome, Italy annexes Fuime

Caliphate Abolished

April

Dawes Committee convened

August

Dawes Plan Agreement

French withdrawal from Ruhr

October

Geneva Protocol of League of Nations proposed

Zinoviev forgery published in Britain

December

Hitler released from prison

**1925**

January

Mussolini declares dictatorship

April

Churchill (treasury secretary) returns Britain to gold standard

Hindenburg elected German President

June

Geneva Protocol signed (abolishes chemical weapons)

October/December

Locarno treaties, Allied troops withdraw from the Rhineland

**1926**

April

Treaty of Berlin, USSR and German non-aggression

treaty

May

Portuguese coup d'etat

August/ September

Second Hellenic Republic founded in Greece

Lebanese constitution ratified

Locarno treaties ratified

**1927**

January

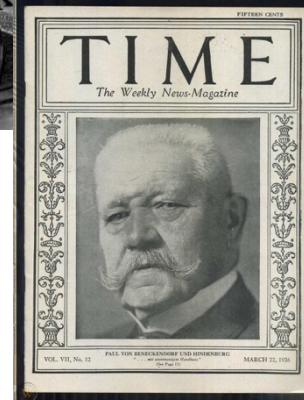
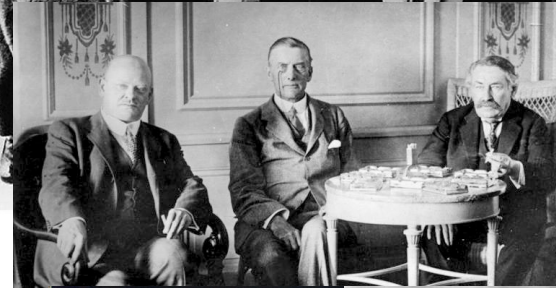
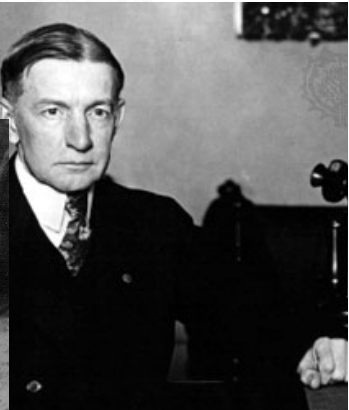
First transatlantic telephone call between London and New

York

Fritz Lang's *Metropolis* released

May

Lindbergh flies the Atlantic



October/November

Zinoviev, Kamenev and Trotsky dropped from Central Committee

December

British Iraq mandate ends

**1928**

May

Fascists abolish parties and votes for women in Italy

August

Kellogg-Briand Pact

Italian-Ethiopian treaty

October

Haile Selassie becomes King of Ethiopia

Stalin's First Five Year plan begins, end of NEP

**1929**

January

*All Quiet on the Western Front* published

Suspension of Yugoslav constitution by King Alexander

Bukharin resigns from Comintern, Trotsky expelled from USSR

February

Lateran Treaty between Vatican City and Mussolini

Litvinov Pact between USSR, Poland, Estonia, Romania and Latvia

Young Committee meets on German reparations

June/July

Young Plan finalized

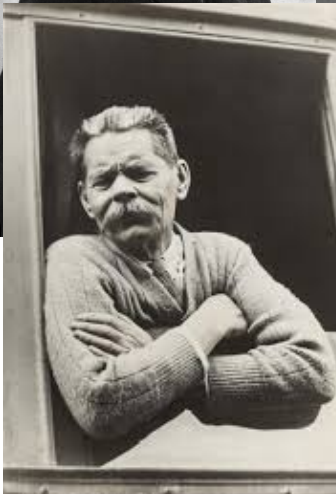
Ramsay MacDonald's second Labour government in UK

Poincare resigns, succeeded by Briand

October

Kingdom of Serbia becomes Kingdom of Yugoslavia

Wall Street stock market crash, Great Depression begins





# 1930

## March

Young plan approved in Germany and France  
Muller's socialist cabinet resigns, replaced by Brüning minority  
Stalin Publishes "Dizzy with Success" (collectivization)

## April

22 April, London Naval Conference  
Mahatma Gandhi's Salt March  
Turkestan-Siberian Railway completed  
London Naval Treaty signed

## May

French PM Tardieu decides to withdraw troops from Rhineland  
17 May, Young Plan begins

## June

Last Allied troops leave Rhineland  
30 June, British Iraq mandate ends with Anglo-Iraq treaty

## July

First FIFA World Cup held

## September

14 September, Reichstag elections, NSDAP takes 107 seats, Socialists 143.  
Kurdish Ararat rebellion suppressed by Turkey

## October

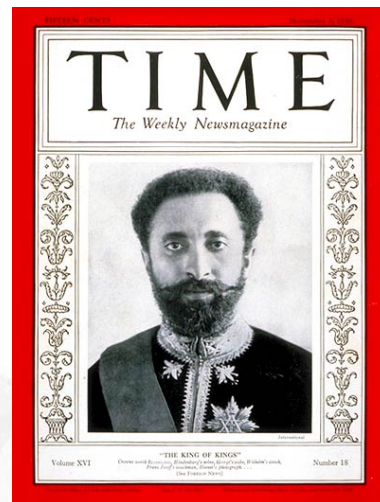
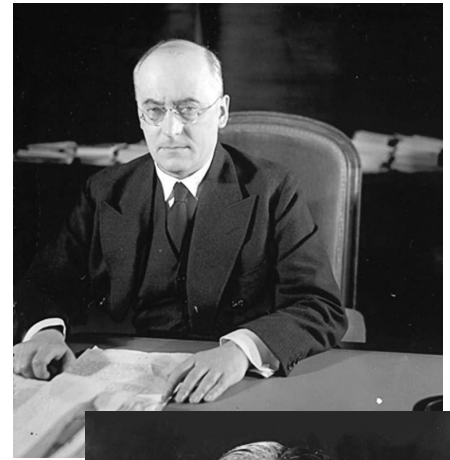
Rohm becomes head of SA  
R101 airship disaster

## November

Haile Selassie crowned Emperor of Ethiopia

## December

Spanish dictator Primo de Rivera resigns



# 1931

## January

Laval becomes French PM

## March

Sir Oswald Mosley founds British fascist New Party

8 March, Russo-Turkish Black Sea agreement

## April

14 April, Second Spanish Republic proclaimed, Catalan Republic proclaimed

Alfonso XIII of Spain abdicates

## May

Doumer elected French President

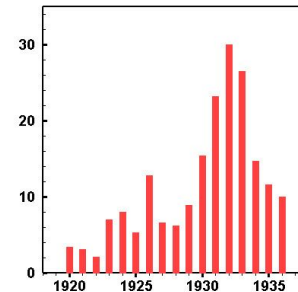
## June

Hoover plan for moratorium on reparations

## July

German unemployment at 4.25 million

German unemployment (%)



## August

11 August, run on British pound, European Banking Crisis

Hoover plan suspends German reparations payments for one year

24 August, Ramsay Macdonald forms National Government in Britain

## September

18 September, Mukden Incident, Japanese invasion of Manchuria

22 September, UK goes off gold standard

## November

Mao Zedong declares Chinese Soviet Republic

## December

9 December, Spanish constitution passed, Zamora elected President

31 December, Statute of Westminster, creates British Commonwealth





# 1932

## January

Bruning says Germany cannot pay reparations

## February

Tardieu ministry formed

*Brave New World* published by Aldous Huxley

Geneva Disarmament Conference

18 February, Japan creates Manchukuo

## March

13 March, Hindenburg 18 millions votes, Hitler 11 million for Presidency

## April

Famine in Ukraine

10 April, Hindenburg 19 million votes to Hitler 13 million in runoff

13 April, Brüning bans SS and SA

## May

6 May, President Doumer assassinated, succeeded by Lebrun

30 May, Brüning resigns, replaced by von Papen

## June

Herriot ministry formed in France

Von Papen revokes ban on SS and SA

16 June, Lausanne conference on reparations

## July

13 July, Anglo-French friendship pact

30 July, NSDAP wins 230 seats, Socialists 133 in Reichstag elections

## August

20 August, Ottawa Conference on Imperial Economics

30 August, Hermann Göring elected Speaker of the Reichstag

## September

12 September, von Papen dissolves Reichstag, calls elections

Famine in the USSR, Ryutin Affair and purges

## November

6 November, stalemate unresolved by Reichstag elections

8 November, FDR defeats Herbert Hoover in US Presidential election

17 November, von Papen resigns, Hitler refuses Chancellorship

27 November, Russo-Polish non-aggression pact

29 November, Franco-Russian non-aggression pact

## December

Schleicher becomes German Chancellor

Paul-Boncour ministry formed in France

Polish Cipher Bureau breaks German Enigma cipher



# 1933

## January

Anarchist rising in Barcelona

28 January, Schleicher resigns

30 January, Hitler appointed German Chancellor, von Papen Vice Chancellor

31 January, Daladier ministry formed

## February

27 February, Reichstag Fire, civil liberties curtailed

## March

5 March, NSDAP takes 288 seats in Reichstag elections

13 March, Goebbels appointed Propaganda Minister

22 March, Dachau concentration camp opens

23 March, Enabling Law grants Hitler dictatorial power 4 years

27 March, Japan announces intention to leave League of Nations

## April

7 April, Civil Service Law restricts Jewish employment in government

19 April, USA goes off gold standard

26 April, Gestapo established

27 April, Anglo-German trade agreement

## May

5 May, Russo-German treaties of 1926, 1929 extended

FDR signs New Deal legislation

## June

Peak of Holodomor, Ukrainian famine

12 June, London Economic Conference held, FDR & Keynes oppose currency stabilization

21 June, Germany becomes one party state

## July

3-5 July, London Convention on aggression

8-20 July, Vatican - German Concordat.

15 July, Four Power Pact signed in Rome, between Britain, France, Germany and Italy

## October

14 October, Germany withdraws from League of Nations

17 October, Einstein emigrates to the United States

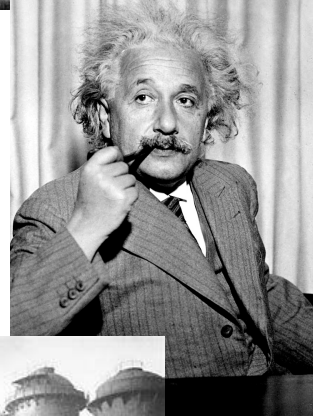
## November

Second Five Year Plan in USSR

## December

Stavisky affair in France

29 December, PM Duca of Romania assassinated





# 1934

## January

Second Daladier ministry

17 January, Mussolini signs Rome Protocols with Austria and Hungary

26 January, Polish-German non-aggression pact signed

## February

6 February, rioting in Paris

7 February, Daladier resigns, replaced by Doumergue's union ministry

9 February, Greece, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia form Balkan Pact

## April

7 April, Russo-Finnish 10 year non-aggression pact

## May

Austrian constitution formulated

15 May, Ulmanis establishes authoritarian Latvian government

19 May, Georgiev's coup in Bulgaria

## June

14 June, Hitler and Mussolini meet in Venice

30 June, Night of the Long Knives. Rohm and Strasser killed.

## July

Stalin creates NKVD

Mussolini deploys troops to Austrian frontier

20 July, Sudanese-Libyan border agreement

## August

2 August, Hindenburg dies. Hitler becomes President

8 August, Wehrmacht swears loyalty oath to Adolf Hitler

19 August, Referendum approves Hitler's elevation to Fuhrer

## September

5-10 September, Nuremberg Rally filmed by Leni Riefenstahl

12 September, Baltic states collaboration treaty

19 September, USSR joins League of Nations

## October

German Labour Front organized

6 October, Catalan separatist revolt in Barcelona suppressed

9 October, King Alexander of Yugoslavia assassinated

## November

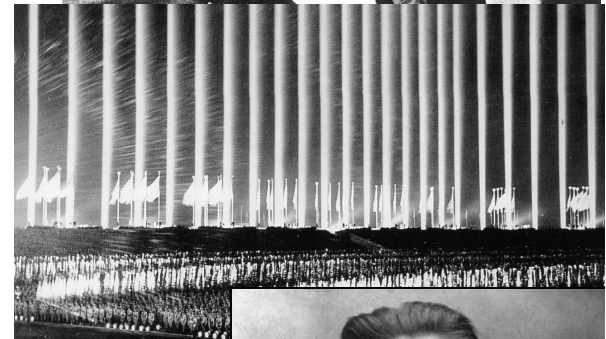
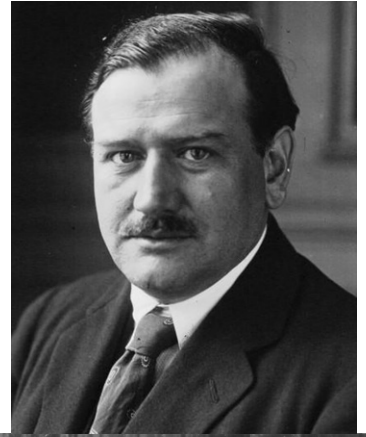
Italian Council of Corporations established

## December

Kirov assassinated, Nikolayev executed

6 December, Abyssinia (Ethiopia) crisis as a result of Walwal incident

29 December, Japan renounces Washington and London naval treaties



# 1935

## January

Zinoviev and Kamenev imprisoned

6-7 January, Franco-Italian agreement, France gives Italy freehand in Ethiopia

13 January, Saar plebiscite, votes to rejoin Germany

## February

10 February, Mussolini begins to deploy forces to Somalia for Ethiopian expedition

26 February, Luftwaffe formed, violating Versailles treaty

## March

1 March, attempted coup in Greece

9 March, Saar restored to Germany

16 March, Hitler repudiates disarmament, begins to rearm

28 March, *Triumph of the Will* released

## April

11 April, Stresa Conference on Anglo-Franco-Italian alliance

## May

2 May, Franco-Russian treaty and non-aggression alliance

16 May, Russo-Czech Pact of mutual assistance

20 May, League of Nations meeting on Ethiopian crisis

21 May, Hitler reintroduces conscription

## June

18 June, Anglo-German Naval Agreement

## July

25 July, final meeting of the Comintern

27 July, French government emergency powers decreed

## August

Stakhanovite movement

## September

15 September, Nuremberg Laws in Germany

## October

3 October, Italy invades Ethiopia after collapse of League of Nations mediation efforts

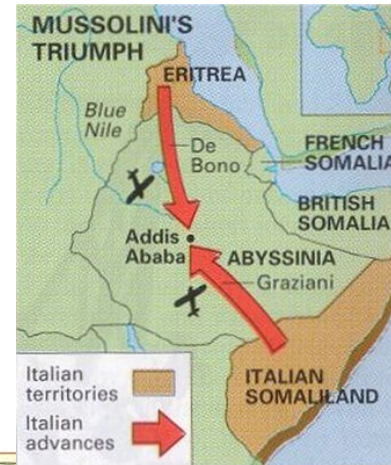
## November

3 November, Greece restores monarchy

7 November, Russo-Turkish treaty extended for 10 years

## December

Second London Naval Conference



Trotsky



Stalin



Kamenev



Zinoviev



Radek



Bujarin



Rykov



Tomski





# 1936

## January

20 January, Edward VIII succeeds George V

## February

10-19 February, Battle of Amba Aradam, Italy defeats Ethiopia

## March

7 March, Germany reoccupies Rhineland, violating Locarno and Versailles

## May

3 May, Popular Front wins 387 seats to 231 others in France

5 May, Italy captures Addis Ababa (capital of Ethiopia)

7 May, Italy annexes Ethiopia

10 May, Azana elected Spanish president

28 May, Alan Turing paper on Turing Machines (computers)

## June

4 June, Leon Blum forms Popular Front government

## July

17 July, General Franco in Morocco revolts against Spanish government, followed by General Mola

19 July, Republican Giral government formed.

20 July, Straits Convention signed at Montreux, Turkey regains control of Dardanelles

20-31 July, Republicans seize barracks in Madrid, take Catalonia. Nationalists take southern Spain

French PM Blum declares neutrality in Spanish civil war. Comintern, Hitler & Mussolini intervene

## August

Zinoviev and Kamenev executed. Tomsy commits suicide

1 August, 1936 Olympic Games held in Berlin

19 August, British arms embargo against Spain

26 August, Anglo-Egyptian treaty

## September

4 September, Caballero Republican government formed in Spain

9 September, Portuguese naval revolt

27 September, Nationalists take Toledo

## October

1 October, General Franco proclaimed head of Nationalist government in Spain

Hitler announces Goering's Four Year Plan

24 October, Rome-Berlin Axis proclaimed

Stalin's Great Purges begin

## November

3 November, FDR re-elected in US

Nationalists advance on Madrid amidst Condor Legion air raids, Republican government to Valencia

18 November, Germany and Italy recognize Franco's government

24-26 November, Anti-Comintern Pact signed between Germany and Japan

## December

5 December, 1936 Soviet Constitution adopted

10 December, King Edward VIII abdicates in favour of George VI

16 December, London protocol of non-intervention in Spain signed



# 1937

## January

Trial of Radek, Pyatakov and others

2 January, Anglo-Italian agreement

7 January, Polish-Danzig agreement

## February

Maginot Line extended

8 February, Nationalists take Malaga

Bukharin, Rykov and Yagoda expelled from Communist Party

## March

3-12 March, Republicans clash with Catalanian anarchists

10 March, Pius XI condemns Nazi racial & anti-Catholic policies

## April

26 April 1937, bombing of Guernica, setting of famous Pablo Picasso painting

## May

1 May, General strike in Paris

6 May, *Hindenburg* Zeppelin disaster

15 May, Caballero resigns as head of Republican government

17 May, Negrin government formed with Comintern backing

28 May, Neville Chamberlain replaces Stanley Baldwin

## June

Chief of General Staff Tukhachevsky executed, 400 officers purged

19 June, Nationalists capture Basque capital Bilbao

21 June, Blum's coalition resigns, replaced by Chautemps

## July

1 July, Irish Free State constitution adopted

2 July, disappearance of Amelia Earhart

5-28 July, Republican Brunete offensive fails

17 July, Anglo-Russian and Anglo-German naval agreements signed

31 July, NKVD liquidation orders issued for 75,000

## September

10-14 September, Nyon conference condemns Italian submarine attacks on neutral shipping

## October

13 October, Germany guarantees Belgian independence

17 October, Spain: Caballero denounces Negrin government

31 October, Republican government moves to Barcelona

## November

6 November, Italy joins Anti-Comintern pact

## December

Nanjing Massacre, Battle of Nanking

11 December, Italy withdraws from League of Nations

15-26 December, Spanish Republican offensive at Teruel



Keystone / Getty Images





# 1938

## February

4 February, Hitler abolishes War Ministry, Von Ribbentrop becomes German Foreign Minister  
12 February, von Schuschnigg of Austria meets with Hitler  
14 February, Carol II of Romania suspends constitution  
5-22 February, Spain: Nationalist counter-offensive, captures Aragon.

## March

2 March, Third Five Year Plan, Trial of the 21: Rykov, Kretinsky, Rakovsky, Yagoda  
12 March, Anschluss, Germany annexes Austria  
13 March, Blom forms second Popular Front government in France  
30 March, Mussolini gains executive power over Italian military

## April

France opens Spanish frontier, resupplies Republicans  
25 April, Anglo-Irish agreement

## May

5 May, General Beck prepares Case Green for the invasion of Czechoslovakia  
20 May, Czechoslovakia orders partial mobilization  
30 May, Hitler sets 1 October 1938 as date for war with Czechoslovakia

## July

Final Republican offensive halts Franco's drive on Valencia  
14 July, anti-semitic measures introduced in Italy

## August

28 August, Sudetenland or Czech crisis

## September

2 September, USSR guarantees Czechoslovakian independence  
15 September, Chamberlain meets with Hitler  
23 September, Czech army mobilizes  
28 September, Munich Conference, Czechoslovakia divided between Germany, Hungary and Poland  
29 September, France signs Munich agreement

## October

1 October, Germany occupies Sudetenland, Poland occupies Zaolzie  
16 October, Churchill condemns the Munich agreement  
24 October, Hitler prepares for annexation of Czechoslovakia and Danzig  
25 October, Italy annexes Libya  
30 October, Orson Welles broadcasts his radio adaptation of H. G. Wells' *War of the Worlds*

## November

2 November, Hungary annexes parts of Ruthenia and South Slovakia  
9 November, Kristallnacht, Night of Broken Glass, 267 synagogues destroyed  
25 November, Sergei Eisenstein releases *Alexander Nevsky* in Moscow  
30 November, Codreanu, Romanian Iron Guard leader is executed

## December

Hitler is *Time* magazine man of the year  
Beria becomes head of NKVD  
Spanish Nationalists attack Catalonia  
28 December, Russo-Polish friendship agreement



# 1939

## January

Nationalists capture Barcelona

19 January, Italian parliament dissolved

27 January, Germany's five year naval plan Z promulgated

## February

2 February, Hungary joins Anti-Comintern pact

6 February, Chamberlain declares solidarity with France

7 February, Republican President Azana resigns and goes into exile in France

26 February, Negrin makes last stand at Cartagena naval base

## March

2 March, Pope Pius XII elected after Pius XI's death

5 March, Negrin is deposed by anti-communists, flees to France

14 March, Slovakian independence declared

15 March, German troops occupy Bohemia and Moravia

17 March, Spanish Nationalists and Portugal sign defensive Iberian Pact

20-22 March, Germany demands and receives Memel from Lithuania

28 March, Franco's forces enter Madrid

31 March, France and Britain guarantee Poland's independence, Hungary annexes parts of Slovakia

## April

1 April, Franco declares Civil War concluded

3 April, Hitler orders planning for Case White, the invasion of Poland

Stalin proposes alliance with Allies, ignored.

7-9 April, Italy invades Albania

11 April, Hungary leaves League of Nations

13 April, France and Britain guarantee Greek and Romanian independence

18 April, Peace Front of USSR, France, Britain, Poland and Romania proposed

28 April, Hitler renounces Anglo-German and German-Polish treaties

## May

3 May, Molotov succeeds Litvinov as Soviet foreign minister

11 May, Battle of Nomonhan begins between USSR and Japan

22 May, Pact of Steel signed between Hitler and Mussolini

## June

3 June, Peace Front talks collapse

## August

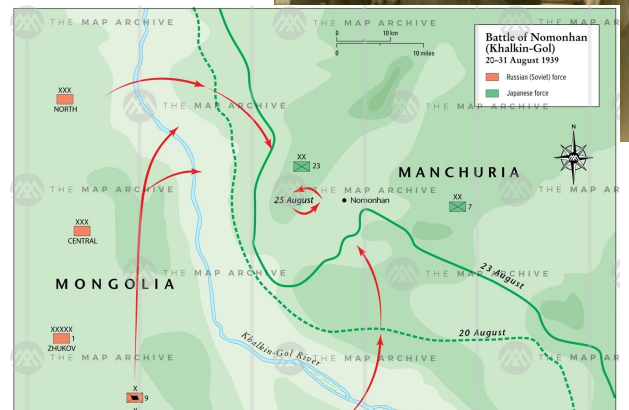
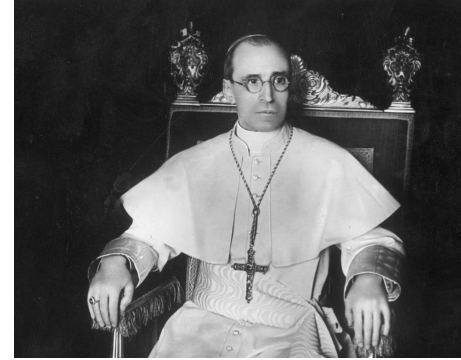
2 August, Einstein and Szilard sign letter to President

Roosevelt warning of atomic weapons

20 August, Zhukov defeats Japanese in Manchuria

23 August, Molotov-Ribbentrop pact, Danzig Crisis

25 August, Wizard of Oz released by MGM





## September

- 1 September, Case White, Germany invades Poland
- 3 September, Allies declare war on Germany
- 15 September, Germans surround Warsaw
- 16 September, Russo-Japanese armistice
- 17 September, USSR invades Poland
- 26 September, Daladier dissolves Communist Party of France
- 28 September, Lithuania to USSR, Warsaw surrenders
- 29 September, Estonia and Latvia become USSR proxies
- 30 September, British Expeditionary Force dispatched to France

## October

- 8 October, Germany creates General Government from western Poland
- 12 October, Stalin demands territory from Finland
- 19 October, Anglo-French-Turkish assistance treaty

## November

- 9 November, Finns reject Stalin's demands
- 30 November, USSR invades Finland (Winter War begins)

## December

- Joseph Stalin is Man of the Year in *Time*
- 13 December, Battle of the River Plate, *Graf Spee* scuttled four days later



# 1940

## January

First carbon monoxide euthanasia gassing in Nazi T4 program

## March

12 March, Treaty of Moscow, Winter War ends

18 May, Hitler meets with Mussolini and approve invasion of France

21 March, Reynaud succeeds Daladier as Premier of France

## April

9 April, Germany invades Denmark and Norway

14 April, British forces land in Norway

## May

10 May, Case Yellow & Red, invasion of France, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg

Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister

13 May, Germany breaches Maginot line

15 May, Dutch surrender

19 May, Weygand replaces Gamelin

20 May, Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp constructed

24 May, Britain begins withdraw from Norway

26 May, Operation Dynamo: Dunkirk withdrawal begins

28 May, Belgium surrenders

## June

4 June, Churchill delivers Never Surrender speech

10 June, Italy declares war on Allies, bombs Malta. Norway surrenders

11 June, British invade Libya

14 June, Germans enter Paris

15-17 June, USSR occupies Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia

16 June, Reynaud resigns, replaced by Petain. Churchill proposes Franco-British Union

22 June, France Surrenders

## July

1 July, Vichy government created

3 July, Operation Menace, Royal Navy destroys French fleet at Dakar

10 July, Third Republic dissolved.

Battle of Britain begins

## August

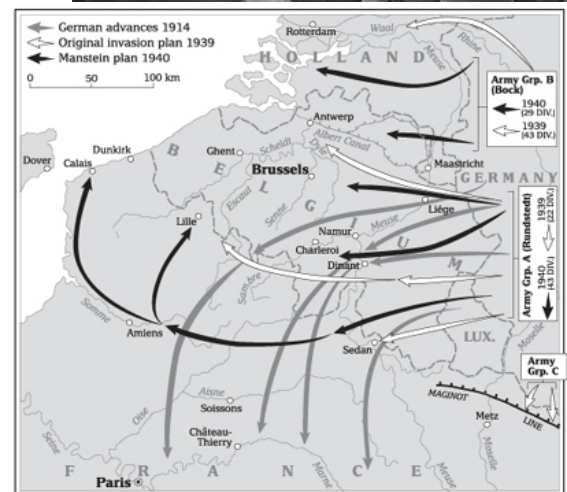
3 August, Italy invades Somaliland

13-18 August, peak of Battle of Britain

20 August, Trotsky assassinated by NKVD in Mexico

23 August, Blitz of against Britain begins

25 August, RAF bombs Berlin





## September

2 September, Churchill leases Bermuda &c to USA for destroyers  
7 September, Luftwaffe bombs London  
13 September, Italy invades Egypt  
17 September, Hitler postpones Operation Sealion  
27 September, Tripartite Pact signed between Japan, Italy and Germany



## October

Battle of Britain ends  
7 October, Germany seizes Romanian oilfields  
12 October, Hitler cancels Operation Sealion  
15 October, Charlie Chaplin's *Great Dictator* released in New York  
16 October, Warsaw Ghetto established  
28 October, Italy invades Greece



## November

5 November, Roosevelt reelected for third term  
11 November, Battle of Taranto, Royal Navy destroys Italian fleet with carrier strike  
13 November, Disney releases *Fantasia*  
20 November, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia join Axis

## December

Hitler orders planning for Operation Barbarossa  
Winston Churchill is Man of the Year in *Time*





# 1941

## January

22 January, Battle of Tobruk, British capture

## February

12 February, Rommel arrives in Tripoli

## March

1 March, Bulgaria joins Axis

11 March, Lend-Lease bill signed

24 March, Italians defeated in British Somaliland

25 March, Yugoslavia joins Axis

27 March, Battle of Matapan, Royal Navy defeats Italian fleet

Coup in Yugoslavia overthrows Axis government

## April

6 April, British liberate Ethiopia, Germany invades Yugoslavia & Greece

13 April, Soviet-Japanese non-aggression pact

18 April, Vichy withdraws from League of Nations

21 April, Greece surrenders

## May

1 May, *Citizen Kane* premieres in NYC

2 May, Britain invades Iraq

5 May, Haile Selassie returns to Ethiopia

10 May, Hitler's deputy Rudolf Hess parachutes into Scotland

16 May, the Duke of Aosta capitulates in East Africa

20 May, Battle of Crete (Operation Mercury)

24 May, *Bismarck* sinks HMS *Hood*

26-27 May, *Bismarck* is disabled and sunk

31 May, British occupy Iraq

## June

1 June, Crete surrenders

6 June, Allies invade Syria

14 June, USA freezes German and Italian assets

18 June, Germany and Turkey sign non-aggression pact

22 June, Operation Barbarossa: Germany, Italy, Hungary, Romania, Finland, Slovakia war vs USSR

29 June, Herman Goring appointed Hitler's successor

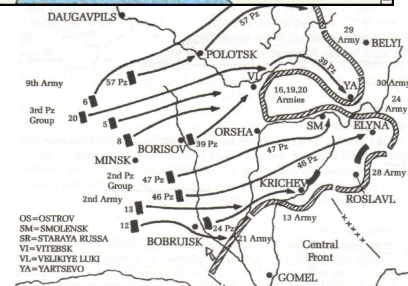
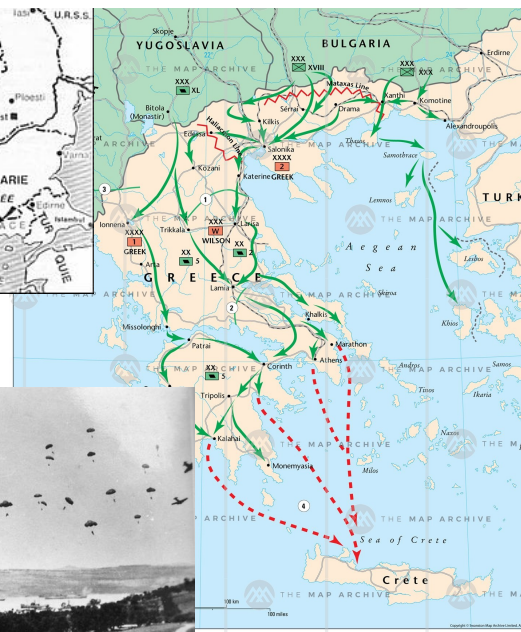
## July

7 July, Communist uprising in Serbia

12 July, Anglo-Soviet mutual assistance agreement

16 July, Germany takes Smolensk

31 July, Hitler and Goring order Heydrich to prepare Final Solution





## August

- 7 August, Stalin becomes Supreme Commander Red Army
- 11 August, Atlantic Charter between Roosevelt & Churchill
- 23-26 August, Battle of Kiev
- 25 August, Anglo-Soviet invasion of Iran to secure oil reserves

## September

- 8 September, Siege of Leningrad begins
- 19 September, Kiev captured
- 27 September, National Liberation Front of Greece established

## October

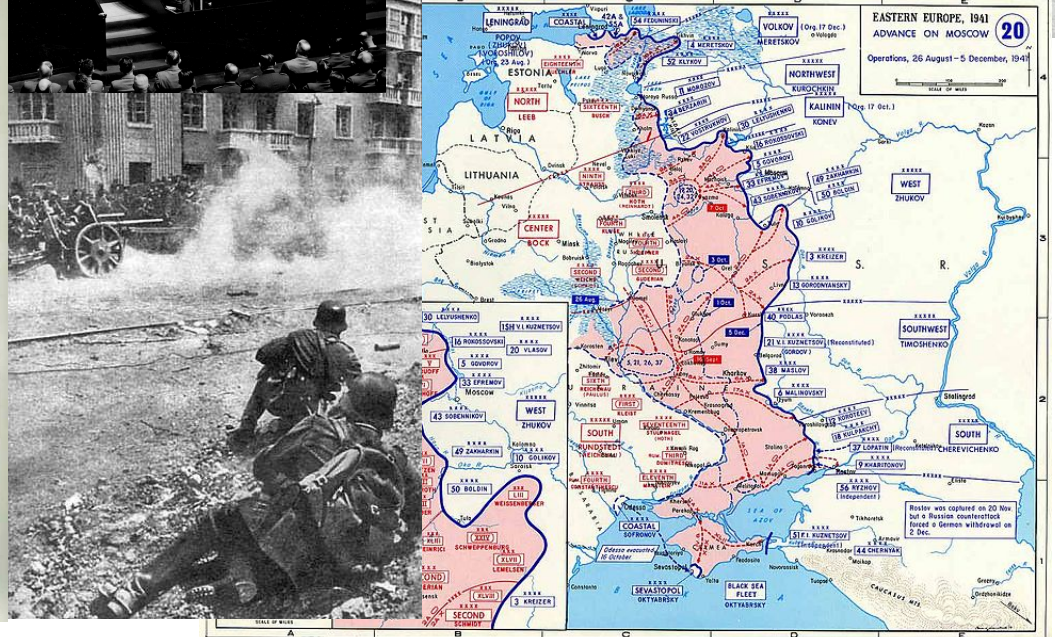
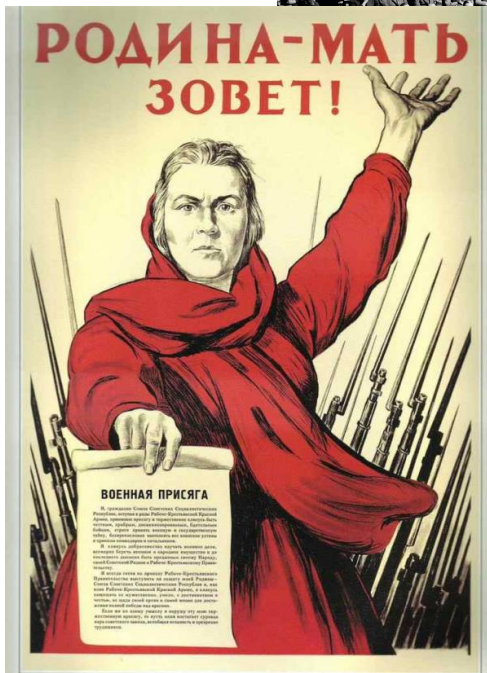
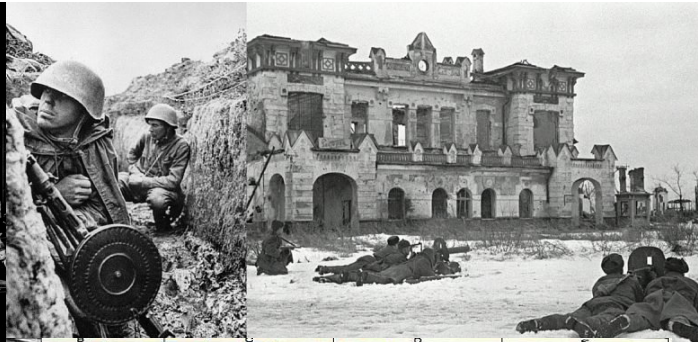
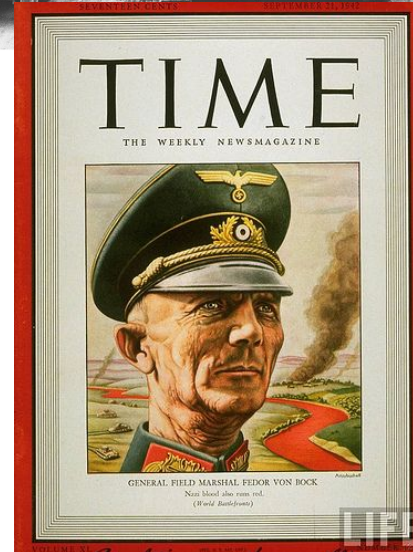
- 2 October, Operation Typhoon, Battle of Kharkov, Battles of Vyazma and Bryansk
- 13 October, Himmler order construction on Belzec extermination camp
- 30 October, FDR loans \$1 billion material to USSR

## November

- 12 November, Battle of Moscow begins
- 20-28 November, Germans capture Rostov
- 27 November, closest German approach to Moscow (20 miles)

## December

- 5 December: Soviet Moscow counter-offensive
- 7 December: Japanese attack Pearl Harbor
- 11 December, Italy & Germany declare war on the US
- 19 December, Hitler assumes Supreme Command of German army
- Franklin Roosevelt is Man of the Year in *Time*





## 1942

### January

2 January, Washington Pact of the 26 United Nations  
20 January, Wansee Conference, Reinhard Heydrich organizes Final Solution

### February

15 February, Singapore surrenders

### March

Extermination camps in Poland begin operating

### April

Anglo-Norwegian commandos destroy German heavy water facility at Rjukan, delaying nuclear research

### May

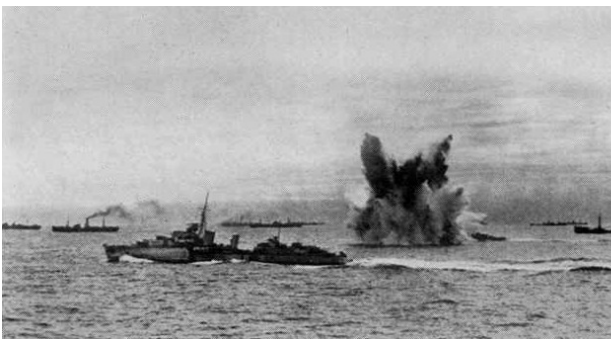
4 May, Battle of the Coral Sea  
12-17 May, Soviet Kharkov offensive halted  
Operation Reinhard extermination camps operational  
20-26 May, Anglo-Soviet treaty for 20 years  
27 May, Operation Anthropoid, Heydrich assassinated  
30 May, Cologne bombed by RAF 1,000 bomber raid

### June

4 June, Battle of Midway  
10 June, German Ukrainian offensive  
21 June, Tobruk falls to Rommel  
28 June, Case Blue, drive to Stalingrad begins  
29 June, Manstein surrounds Sevastopol  
Manhattan Project begins

### July

1-27 July, Battle of El Alamein  
2 July, Sevastopol surrenders  
22 July, liquidation of Warsaw Ghetto begins  
28 July, Germany recapture Rostov  
Britain suspends Arctic convoys due to losses





## August

- 19 August, Dieppe raid
- 22 August, Brazil declares war on Germany and Italy
- 23 August, Battle of Stalingrad begins

## September

- 5 September, Germany enters Stalingrad
- Allies suffer convoy losses in Atlantic to U-boats

## October

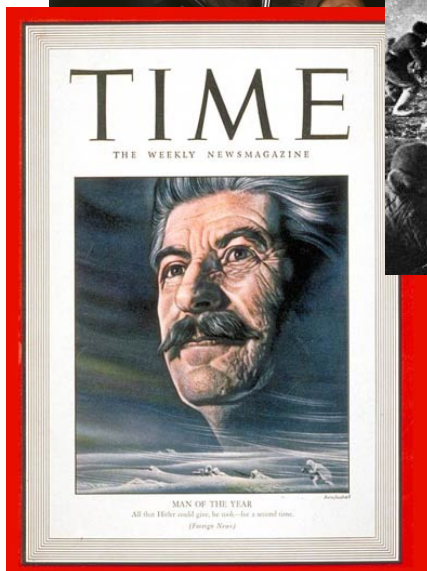
- 23 October, Second Battle of El Alamein

## November

- 4 November, British break Axis lines at El Alamein
- 8 November, Operation Torch, Allies land in Morocco
- 10 November, Germany occupies Vichy France
- 13 November, British capture Tobruk
- 19-22 November, Zhukov surrounds German 6<sup>th</sup> Army at Stalingrad
- 26 November, *Casablanca* released in NYC

## December

- First nuclear chain reaction occurs at University of Chicago under Enrico Fermi
- 12 December, Germany tries to relieve Stalingrad encirclement
- 17 December, Allies issue United Nations condemnation of Holocaust
- Joseph Stalin is Man of the Year in *Time* (again)





# 1943

## January

- 2 January, Germans begin withdrawal from Caucasus
- 18 January, Warsaw Ghetto liquidated
- 14-26 January, Casablanca Conference, calls of unconditional surrender
- 23 January, British capture Tripoli

## February

- 2 February, von Paulus surrenders, Battle of Stalingrad ends
- 8 February, Soviets capture Kursk
- 14 February, Soviets capture Rostov
- 16 February, Battle of Kharkov, Manstein halts Zhukov's offensive
- 19-24 February, Battle of Kasserine Pass

## March

- 15 March, Soviets defeated at Kharkov by Manstein

## April

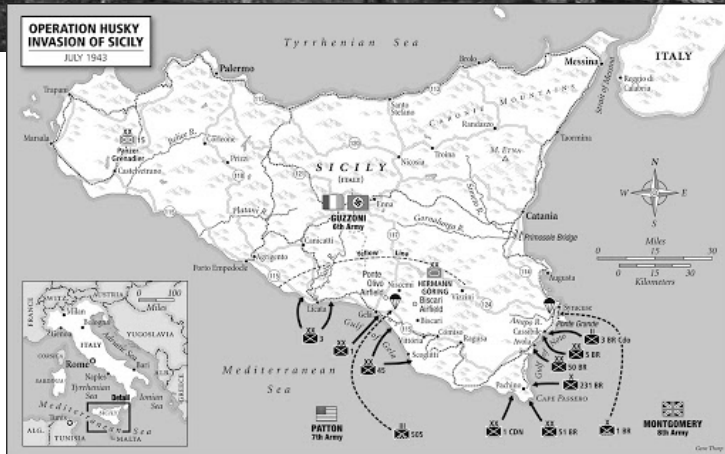
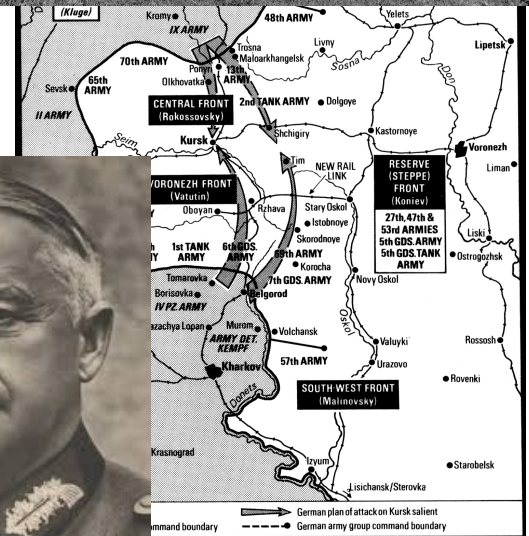
- 19 April, Warsaw Ghetto uprising, massacre
- 26 April, Katyn massacre discovered

## May

- Axis forces in North Africa surrender
- 12 May, Third Washington Conference
- 16-17 May, Operation Chastise, RAF bombs Ruhr valley dams

## July

- 5 July, Operation Citadel, Battle of Kursk begins
- 10 July, Operation Husky, Battle of Sicily
- 12 July, Soviet Orel counter-offensive, Citadel offensive halted
- 25 July, Mussolini deposed, replaced by Badoglio





## August

4 August, Soviets capture Orel

11-24 August, Quebec meeting, Churchill & FDR nuclear agreement

17 August, Sicily liberated

23 August, Battle of Kursk ends

## September

8 September, Italy surrenders to Allies, occupied by Germany

9 September, US 5<sup>th</sup> Army lands at Salerno

12 September, Mussolini rescued by German commando Skorzeny

23 September, Salò republic declared under Mussolini's leadership

## November

6 November, Soviets capture Kiev

22-26 November, Cairo Conference, Roosevelt, Churchill and Chiang Kai-shek

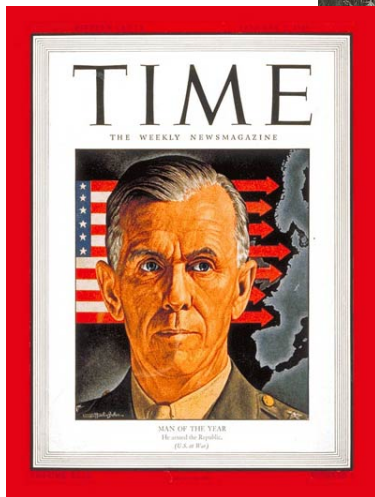
26 November Tehran Conference, Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin

## December

26 December, *Scharnhorst* sunk at Barents Sea

General Dwight Eisenhower appointed Supreme Allied Commander (Europe)

George Marshall is Man of the Year in *Time*





# 1944

## January

- 12 January, Marrakech conference
- 14 January, Siege of Leningrad ends with Soviet offensive
- 17 January, Battle of Monte Cassino begins
- 20 January, RAF drops 2.3 kilotons on Berlin
- 22 January, US 5<sup>th</sup> Army lands at Anzio
- 27 January, Auschwitz liberated

## February

- 15 February, Allies bomb Monte Cassino

## March

- 15-17 March, Allies capture Monte Cassino

## April

- 2 April, Soviets enter Romania

## May

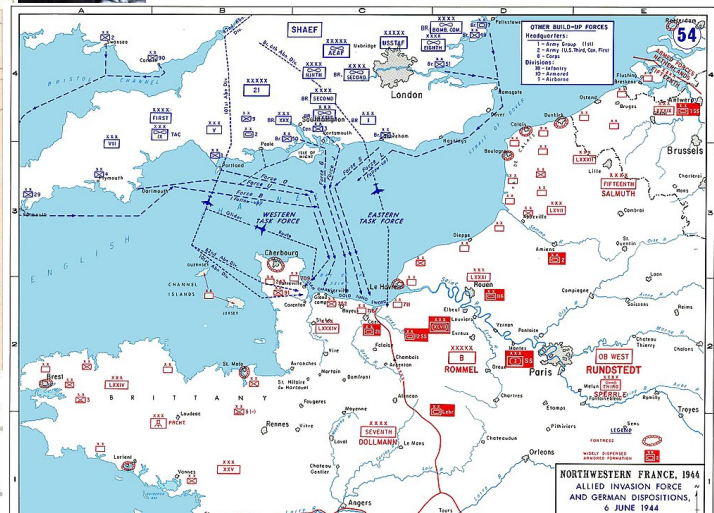
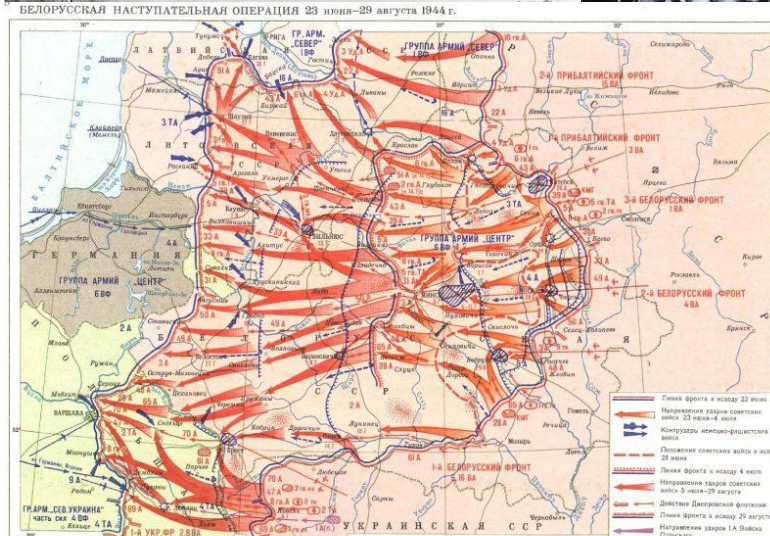
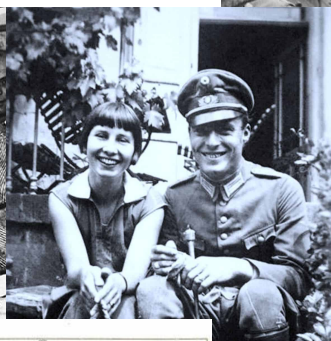
- 9-12 Soviets recapture Sevastopol

## June

- 4 June, Allies enter Rome
- 6 June, Operation Overlord, Allies land in Normandy
- 22 June, Operation Bagration, Soviets liberate Belorussia

## July

- 1 July, Bretton Woods Conference begins
- 3 July, Soviets liberate Minsk
- 13 July, Vilnius liberated
- 20 July, Hitler survives assassination attempt





## August

- 1 August, Warsaw uprising
- 15 August, Operation Dragoon, invasion of southern France
- 21 August, Dumbarton Oaks Conference on creation of United Nations
- 25 August, Liberation of Paris



## September

- 3 September, Brussels liberated
- 4-19 September, Russian armistice with Finland
- 5 September, USSR declares war on Bulgaria
- 8 September, first V2 attack on London
- 11-17 September, Quebec meeting of Churchill & Roosevelt on Morgenthau Plan
- 12 September, Russian armistice with Romania
- 17-26 September, Operation Market-Garden
- 22 September, Soviets recapture Estonia



## October

- 2 October, Warsaw uprising ends
- 9-19 October, Fourth Moscow conference, Churchill, Stalin spheres of influence
- 12 October, Allies liberate Athens
- 13 October, Latvia recaptured
- 20 October, Partisans liberate Belgrade
- 23 October, De Gaulle's government recognized
- 23-26 October, Battle of Leyte Gulf at the Philippines
- 27 October, Slovakian uprising crushed by Germany



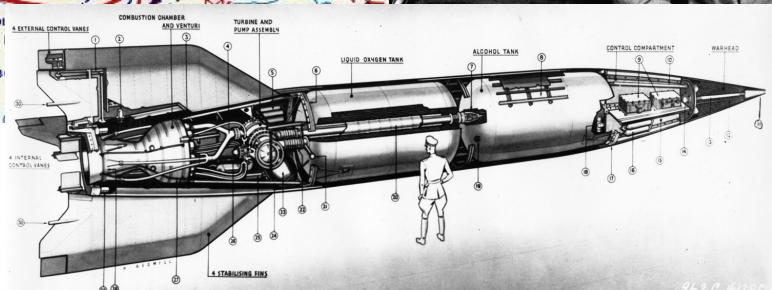
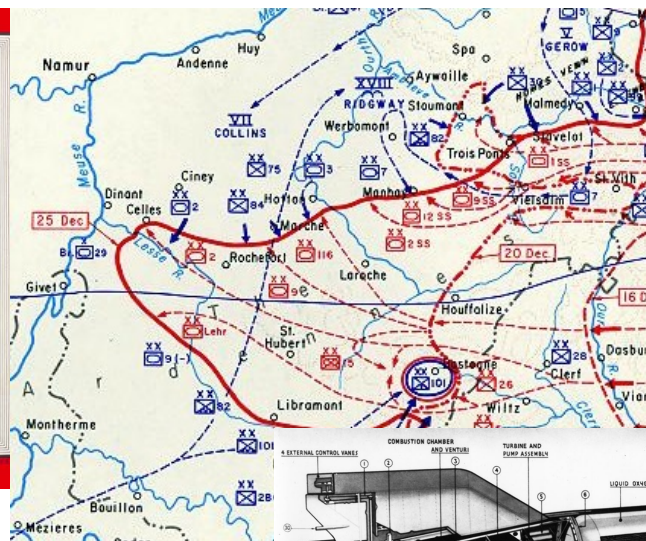
## November

- FDR wins fourth term



## December

- 3 December, attempted Communist rising in Athens, Greek Civil War
- 16 December, Battle of the Bulge, final German offensive in the West
- Eisenhower is Man of the Year in *Time*





# 1945

## January

- 13 January, USSR begins East Prussian offensive
- 17 January, USSR liberates Warsaw
- 20 January, Allies sign armistice with Hungary
- 30 January, *Wilhelm Gustloff* sunk, worst maritime disaster in history

## February

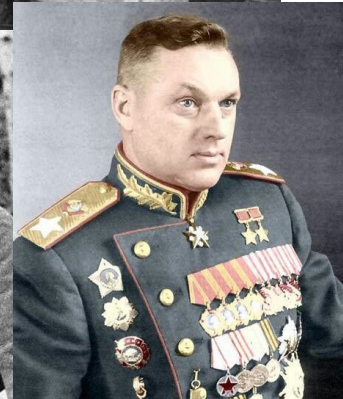
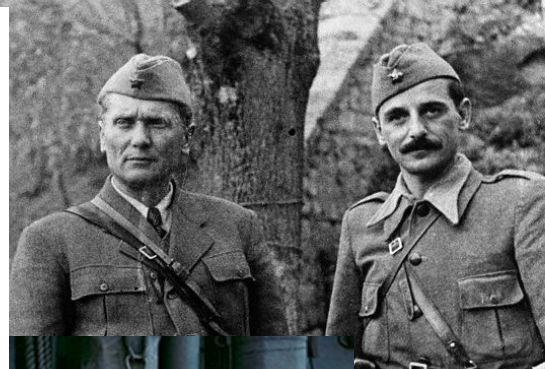
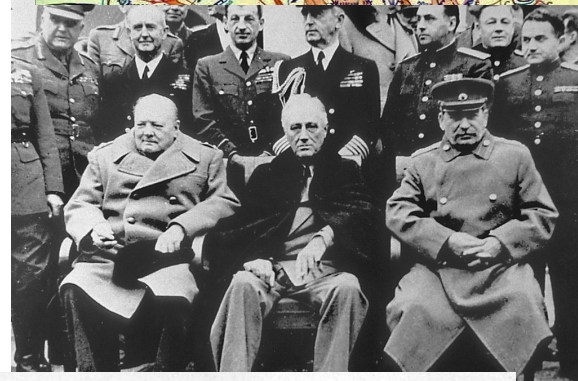
- 11 February, Yalta conference, divides Germany
- 13 February, USSR liberates Budapest
- Dresden bombed by RAF
- Bitter Lake agreement

## March

- 3 March, Finland declares war on Axis
- 6 March, Communist government organized in Romania
- 8 March, Tito forms Yugoslav government
- 15-31 March, Soviet Upper Silesian offensive
- 22 March, Arab League established
- 24 March, Operation Varsity, Allies cross Rhine
- 30 March, USSR liberates Hungary

## April

- 9 April, USSR captures Königsberg
- 12 April, Roosevelt dies, succeeded by Truman
- 13 April, USSR captures Vienna
- 14 April, Canadians liberate Netherlands
- 16 April, Soviets siege Berlin
- 25 April, San Francisco Conference begins
- 28 April, Mussolini executed by partisans
- 30 April, Hitler commits suicide in Berlin, Donitz becomes Fuhrer





## May

1 May, Goebbels commits suicide  
2 May, Fall of Berlin  
4 May, Donitz ends U-boat campaign  
5 May, Prague uprising  
7 May, Germany surrenders to Allies  
8 May, Germany surrenders to USSR  
9 May, Victory Day



## June

San Francisco conference ends, US, UK, France, China & USSR create SC  
26 June, UN Charter proclaimed



## July

16 July, Trinity test in New Mexico completes Manhattan Project  
26 July, Churchill, Stalin and Truman issue the Potsdam Declaration

## August

6 August, Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima  
9 August, Atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki. USSR declares war on Japan  
15 August, Emperor Hirohito surrenders

## September

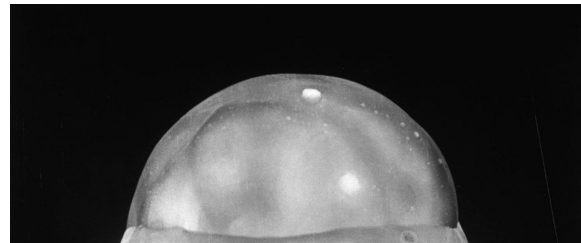
2 September, Japanese foreign minister Mamoru Shigemitsu signs surrender agreement with General Douglas MacArthur aboard *USS Missouri*

## October

24 October, The P5 powers ratify the UN Charter

## November

20 November, Nuremberg Trials begin



## **1946**

January

Atomic Energy Commission formed

7 January

Austria divided into occupation zones

11 January

Enver Hoxha declares himself Prime Minister of Albania

16 January

Charles de Gaulle resigns from French Provisional Government

31 January

Yugoslav constitution with six republics promulgated

14 February

Bank of England nationalized

5 March

Churchill gives Sinews of Peace speech

14 March

Stalin's response to Churchill

15 March

Clement Attlee promises India independence

17 April

Syria granted independence from France

18 April

League of Nations disbands, International Court of Justice convenes at the Hague

9 May

Victor Emmanuel III of Italy abdicates, succeeded by Umberto II

26 May

Communists win election in Czechoslovakia

May

Greek Civil War renewed between monarchists and communists

2 June

Italian referendum abolished monarchy, Umberto II leaves Italy for Portugal on 13<sup>th</sup>

3 June

Interpol reformed

14 June

Baruch Plan to internationalize nuclear weapons rejected by USSR

25 June

World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) formed



July

Bread rationing introduced in Britain

1 - 25 July

Operation Crossroads, American atomic weapons test at Bikini Atoll

4 July

Philippines granted independence from USA

1 August

Hungarian forint currency introduced to curb hyperinflation

6 August

Atomic Energy Act signed by Truman

2 September

Interim Government of India formed

8 September

Bulgaria declared People's Republic in referendum

28 September

George II returns to Greece

13 October

French Fourth Republic Established

2 October

Communists seize power in Bulgaria

23 October

United Nations General Assembly convenes in New York

4 November

UNESCO established

15 November

Netherlands recognize Indonesian independence

19 November

Communists win election in Romania

December

British and US occupation zones in Germany economically integrated

11 December

UNICEF founded

19 December

Viet Minh begin guerilla war against France in Indochina

## **1947**

1 January

British coal mines nationalized

24 January

Monarchist government formed in Greece

5 February

Boleslaw Bierut becomes Communist president of Poland

27 February

Truman Doctrine proposed by Dean Acheson

March

Anglo-French treaty of alliance

1 March

International Monetary Fund formed

12 March

Truman outlines doctrine to Congress

1 April

George II of Greece succeeded by Paul

20 April

King Frederick IX of Denmark succeeds father Christian X

22 May

US Congress authorizes aid to Greece and Turkey, implementing Truman Doctrine

31 May

Ferenc Nagy is deposed in Hungary and replaced by Soviet-backed Matyas Rakosi

June

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists introduces Doomsday Clock

5 June

Marshall Plan proposed by US Secretary of State George Marshall at a Harvard University speech

12-15 June

Non-communist nations establish Committee of European Economic Co-operation and draft European Recovery Program

6 July

AK47 development begins

26 July

Truman signs National Security Act, creates USAF, CIA, DOD

August

American military advisors arrive in Greece



14 - 15 August

Pakistan formed, Indian independence

16 August

General Markos Vafiadis takes power in Greece, establishes Communist dictatorship until 1949

22 September

Cominform created

14 October

Chuck Yeager breaks sound barrier

20 October

Indo-Pakistan conflict breaks out over Kashmir region

30 October

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), precursor to World Trade Organization, established

30 December

King Michael I of Romania abdicates

## **1948**

1 January

British railways nationalized

4 January

Burma granted independence from Britain

30 January

Mahatma Gandhi assassinated

31 January

Federation of Malaysia created

25 February

Czechoslovakia coup, Communists seize power

10 March

Czech Foreign Minister, Jan Masaryk, found dead

14 – 31 March

\$5.3 billion allocated for Marshall Plan aid

17 March

Brussels Treaty Organization, NATO precursor signed

7 April

World Health Organization established

16 April

Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) formed by Paris Treaty, BeNeLux customs union established

18 April

Christian Democrats win election in Italy

30 April

Organization of American States (OAS) founded

14-15 May

Israel declares independence. Arab-Israeli War: Egypt, Transjordan, Syria, and Iraq invade Israel

28 May

Apartheid begins in South Africa

30 May

National Front elections in Czechoslovakia

7 June

Czech President Benes resigns, succeeded by Gottwald

24 - 26 June

Berlin blockade and airlift begins

28 June

Informbiro, Yugoslav – Soviet split, Yugoslavia expelled from Comintern

5 July

British National Health Service (NHS) formed

10 December

UN Declaration on Human Rights

## **1949**

1 January

India-Pakistan ceasefire

25 January

Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON) established by USSR

31 January

Mao Zedong's communists take Beijing

4 April

NATO formed, signed by Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States

28 April

London Declaration formalizes British Commonwealth

5 May

Council of Europe created by Treaty of London

4-12 May

Berlin blockade ends



15 May

Communists take power in Hungary

20 May

Kuomintang flees to Taiwan

23 May

Federal Republic of Germany created

8 June

*1984* published by George Orwell

20 July

Arab-Israeli War end with ceasefire

12 August

Fourth Geneva Convention signed

29 August

USSR detonates first atomic bomb

31 August

Greek Civil War ends

15 September

Konrad Adenauer, leader of the CDU party, is elected Chancellor of West Germany

19 September

Devaluation of the British Pound

1 October

People's Republic of China proclaimed

7 October

German Democratic Republic, East Germany, established

8 December

Republic of China capital moved to Taipei

## **1950**

January

USSR withdraws from Atomic Energy Commission

8 February

Stasi formed in East Germany

1 March

Chiang Kai-shek forms KMT government in Taiwan

28 May

Hoxha's Stalinist dictatorship in Albania confirmed by election

25 June

DPRK invades ROK

15 September  
General MacArthur's landing at Inchon

19 October  
China intervenes in Korean War

## **1951**

18 April  
Treaty of Paris establishes European Coal and Steel Community between BeNeLux, France, Italy and West Germany

16 July  
Leopold III of Belgian abdicates in favour of his son, Baudouin

26 October  
Winston Churchill re-elected Prime Minister

2 November  
Britain deploys troops to secure Suez canal

31 December  
End of Marshall Plan aid

## **1952**

18 February  
Greece and Turkey join NATO

27 May  
European Defence Community created

3 October  
Britain tests atomic bomb

31 October  
Operation Ivy: Mike, USA detonates hydrogen bomb

## **1953**

5 March  
Stalin dies

27 July  
Korean War ceasefire

12 August  
USSR tests hydrogen bomb in Siberia

September  
Khrushchev confirmed as First Secretary of the Communist Party



## **1954**

12 January

US Secretary of State John Foster Dulles proclaims 'Massive Retaliation' doctrine

May

French defeat at Dien Bien Phu

5 May

Italy and West Germany enter Brussels Treaty Organization

September

USS *Nautilus*, first nuclear powered submarine commissioned

## **1955**

5 April

Churchill resigns, replaced by Anthony Eden

9 May

West Germany joins NATO

14 May

Warsaw Pact formed

July

Eisenhower proposes 'open skies' treaty to reduce risk of nuclear war

22 November

USSR detonates first hydrogen bomb

## **1956**

25 February

Khrushchev's secret speech

Hungary threatens to withdraw from Warsaw Pact

October

Anglo-French intervention in Suez

4 November

USSR invades Hungary, Nagy deposed, replaced by Kadar

Suez crisis in Egypt

## **1957**

9 January

Harold Macmillan becomes PM as a result of Anthony Eden's handling of Suez Crisis

25 March

Rome Treaties establish Euratom and European Economic Community (EEC)

July

UN International Atomic Energy Agency established

15 August

Britain explodes its first hydrogen bomb

26 August

USSR test fires ICBM

## **1958**

February

Khrushchev replaces Bulganin as Soviet Premier

13 May

French Army occupies Algeria

29 May

De Gaulle produces new French constitution

November

US tests Atlas ICBM

21 December

French Fifth Republic proclaimed

## **1959**

January

Castro takes Havana

7 September

Ten-Power Committee established, Britain, Canada, France, Italy, United States, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and USSR

November

European Free Trade Association established with Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, and UK

## **1960**

13 February

France tests atomic bomb

15 November

USS *George Washington*, first Polaris-missile submarine commissioned.

## **1961**

12 April

Yuri Gagarin is first man in space

21 April

French Army revolt in Algeria



10 August  
UK, Ireland and Denmark apply to join EEC

17 – 18 August  
Berlin Wall erected

## **1962**

14 March  
18 Nation Disarmament Committee meeting  
(Ten-Power Committee + Brazil, Burma, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria and Sweden)

May  
Eichmann executed in Israel

11 October  
Vatican II council opened by John XXIII

16-28 October  
Cuban Missile Crisis

November  
Soljenitzen publishes *Ivan Denisovitch*

December  
UK adopts Polaris missile system from US

## **1963**

January  
De Gaulle vetoes UK entry into EEC

5 April  
Hot Line established between USSR and USA

16 June  
Valentina Tereshkova is first woman in space

5 August  
Partial Test Ban treaty signed in Moscow. France refuses to sign Test Ban Treaty

October  
Adenauer resigns, succeeded by Ludwig Erhard

## **1964**

October  
Khrushchev removed from power, replaced by Brezhnev

Labour wins UK election, Harold Wilson becomes PM

16 October  
Chinese explode atomic device

## **1965**

## **1966**

30 November

Kurt-Georg Kiesinger becomes German Chancellor

14 December

NATO Nuclear Defence Affairs Committee established

## **1967**

28 January

Nuclear weapons banned from use in space

14 February

Nuclear weapons prohibited in Latin America

June

Six Day War between Israel and Arab states

27 November

De Gaulle again vetoes UK, Irish, Danish and Norwegian attempt to join EEC

## **1968**

January

Dubcek becomes First Secretary of Czechoslovak Communist Party, begins to implement 'socialism with a human face'

2 May – 23 June

Student unrest in Paris, General strike in France

1 July

Nuclear non-proliferation treaty signed

August

Prague spring crushed, Husak becomes First Secretary

25 August

France explodes hydrogen bomb

September

Salazar succeeded by Marcelo Caetano in Portugal

## **1969**

14 March

President Nixon announces intention to deploy 'Safeguard' anti-ICBM system

28 April

De Gaulle resigns as French President, succeeded by Georges Pompidou



20 July  
Neil Armstrong & Buzz Aldrin land on Moon

October  
Willy Brandt's Social Democrats win election in West Germany, beginning of *Ostpolitik*

17 November  
Helsinki summit between USSR and USA, SALT I preliminary

## **1970**

June  
First Minuteman III missiles equipped with MIRVs

August  
Poseidon missiles tested

28 June  
Edward Heath's Conservatives win UK election

9 November  
De Gaulle dies

December  
Rioting in Poland  
Gierek replaces Gomulka as First Secretary of Polish Workers party

## **1971**

11 February  
Sea-bed treaty prohibits deployment of nuclear weapons on ocean floor

28 October  
British Parliament votes to join European Common Market

## **1972**

26 May  
Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT 1) signed

5 September  
Munich terrorist attacks, death of Israeli Olympic athletes

November  
Brandt's government re-elected

## **1973**

January  
Britain, Denmark and Ireland join EEC

23 January  
Paris Peace accords ends US involvement in Vietnam war

22 June  
West and East Germany join the UN

6 -25 October  
Yom Kippur War, Egypt and Syria attack Israel

## **1974**

28 February  
Heath's Conservatives defeated by Wilson's Labour party in UK elections

2 April  
Death of Georges Pompidou, Giscard d'Estaing becomes president of France

25 April  
First free elections in 50 years held in Portugal

May  
Will Brandt resigns, replaced by Helmut Schmidt as German Chancellor

18 May  
India detonates atomic device

3 July  
Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty, limits ABM weapons to one area only (Washington DC and Moscow). Underground testing limited.

20 November  
Death of Franco, Juan Carlos I becomes King of Spain

24 November  
Vladivostok Accord establishes framework for future nuclear arms reduction negotiations

## **1975**

30 April  
Fall of Saigon

August  
Helsinki agreement on European security

## **1976**

5 April  
Harold Wilson resigns, succeeded by James Callaghan

## **1977**

27 May  
*Star Wars: A New Hope* released in US



15 June

General election in Spain, first in 40 years

7 July

US announces successful test of neutron bomb

## **1978**

28 September – 16 October

Death of Pope John Paul I, election of John Paul II, first non-Italian Pope in 400 years

## **1979**

29 March

Three Mile Island nuclear accident in US

3 May

Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives take power

30 October

Force reduction talks between NATO and Warsaw Pact in Vienna

June

Pope John Paul II visits Poland

First direct elections to European Parliament

18 June

SALT II agreement

25 December

Soviets invade Afghanistan

## **1980**

July

Polish worker strike in Gdansk

22 August

Lockheed Skunkworks begins development of stealth technology

8 September

Lech Walesa's Solidarity movement recognized in Poland

December

Death of Kosygin

## **1981**

February

General Jaruzelski replaces Pankowski as PM of Poland

23 February

Failed coup by Lt-Col Trejero Molina in Spain

10 May

Francois Mitterrand becomes President of France

13 May

Attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II

7 June

Israeli F16s bomb Iraq's Osirak nuclear plant

12 August

IBM PC computer introduced

2 October

President Reagan announces production of 100 Minuteman X missiles and B1 bomber

30 November

Intermediate-range nuclear forces talks at Geneva

December

General Jaruzelski declares martial law, arrests Solidarity members

## **1982**

April

Britain dispatches Falklands Task Force to retake islands from Argentina

30 May

Spain joins NATO

15 June

Argentine forces on Falklands surrender

29 June

Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) at Geneva

October

Helmut Kohl becomes German Chancellor

10 November

Death of Brezhnev, Andropov becomes First Secretary

## **1983**

23 June

Reagan announces Strategic Defense Initiative ("Star Wars")

## **1984**

24 January

Apple Macintosh computer introduced



9 February  
Death of Andropov, Chernenko becomes First Secretary

9 March  
12 month long miners strike begins in Britain

October  
IRA attempts to assassinate Thatcher

## **1985**

10 March  
Death of Chernenko, Gorbachev becomes First Secretary. Announces Glasnost and Perestroika reforms

July  
Soviet foreign minister Gromyko replaced by Gorbachev appointee

## **1986**

26 April  
Chernobyl nuclear disaster

11 – 12 October  
Reykjavik talks between Reagan and Gorbachev stall over SDI

## **1987**

June  
Karoly Grosz becomes Hungarian PM

August  
Protests in Baltic states

November  
Polish referendum on reforms

8 December  
Reagan and Gorbachev sign Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty

17 December  
Gustav Husak resigns leadership of Czechoslovakia, succeeded by Milos Jakes

## **1988**

29 May  
Moscow summit talks

## **1989**

February  
Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan

6 February

Solidarity negotiations with Polish government on reforms

10 May

Gorbachev offers to unilaterally cut short-range missiles

June

Elections held in Poland, Mazowiecki becomes PM

July

President George Bush discloses existence of stealth bombers

9 November

Berlin Wall breached after mass demonstrations in Berlin

4 December

Malta summit between President Bush and Gorbachev, declares Cold War over

19 December

Bulgaria to hold free elections

25 December

Nicolae Ceausescu executed

29 December

Vaclav Havel elected President of Czechoslovakia

## **1990**

11 - 13 March

Lithuanian declaration of independence, opposed by Gorbachev

18 April

Moscow cuts oil supplies to Lithuania

## **1991**

February

UN Coalition liberates Kuwait

24 August

8 December

Yeltsin signs Belovezha accords, dissolving USSR and creating CIS