

Bomb Testing in the Pacific

November 1 1952, the United States successfully tested their first hydrogen bomb on Eniwetok atoll in the Pacific. This hydrogen bomb's explosion was 1000 times stronger than

the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. This bomb was more



powerful than the scientist who had created it predicted, because all their measuring equipment was overwhelmed by the pure force of the blast. One of the small atolls near the blast was completely vaporized and the mushroom cloud was around 100 miles wide. Opponents of development of the hydrogen bomb included J. Robert Oppenheimer, one of the fathers of the atomic bomb. He and others argued that little would be accomplished except the speeding up of the arms race. Russia responded by dropping their own bomb in 1961 that was 50 megatons compared to the United States 15. It was reported that a Japanese sailing ship had been in nearby waters and all of

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the crew received radiation. That was just a few of the 256 that also got sick from this radiation. It is very sad to see innocent people being affected by test like these.

Two New States Join the Union

On January 3 1959, Alaska became the 49th state to join the United States; Alaska was

bought from the Russians in 1867 for about 2 cents an acre, which comes out to about 7.2 million dollars. This great deal was made by William Henry



Steward, although at the time many people doubted the purchase. Many called it Seward's folly or Seward icebox because they thought there was nothing of value there. Today we no better that it is full of resources and has a pretty good amount of tourism.

Hawaii became the 50th and final state in the United States. It was first a territory in

19000 and the U.S. had a naval base their called Pearl Harbor. It was very important in the war against Japan. It finally became a state in 1959.



Rosa Parks and Her Bus Adventure

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, who at the time was 42 years old boarded a Montgomery City Bus. She was a female African American seamstress who was going from her home to work. The story begins where she was sitting in the middle of the bus, just behind the 10 seats reserved for the white's only section. Soon the rest of the bus had filled up and white male entered the bus and there were no seats left. The bus driver following the rules of the city forced the blacks sitting behind the white's only section to leave their seats. Mrs. Parks quietly refused to give up her seat. She was arrested and convicted up breaking the Jim Crow laws. Mrs. Parks appealed on and first challenged the legality of segregation. This event started a boycott of the Montgomery buys system and across cites in the South. African American riders made up 75 percent of the Montgomery bus system, this boycott posed a serious economic threat to the company. A group named the Montgomery Improvement Association, composed of local activists and ministers organized the boycott. There leader was Martin Luther King, Jr. he was

inspired by Rosa's actions. The boycott of the bus system lasted 381 days, into December 1956 when the U.S. Supreme Court finally decided it was unconstitutional to segregate people and the bus system became e integrated. The

Montgomery Bus Boycott was the beginning of a revolutionary era of non-violent mass protests in support of civil rights in the United States. This was when we started to see huge amounts of progress in the rights of Africans Americans, and this event was one of the most memorable in the civil rights movement.

Little Rock Nine

Little Rock Nine was a group of African American students enrolled in Little Rock Central High School in 1957. The Little Rock Crisis was when the students were prevented from entering the segregated school by the Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus. On the first day of school the Arkansas National guard would not let them enter the school and they were threatened by mobs making threats to lynch the nine students. The beginning to this whole event began a few years earlier in May 17, 1954 when the United States Supreme Court issued the ruling on Brown vs. Board of Education. This law made the segregation in schools was made unconstitutional and it called for all schools to become desegregated. After

the decision the NAACP or the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People attempted to fill schools in the South with black students. The NAACP was the one who registered the nine students to attempt Little Rock Central High. The nine kids were Ernest Green (b. 1941), Elizabeth Eckford (b. 1941), Jefferson Thomas (1942–2010), Terrence Roberts (b. 1941), Carlotta Walls LaNier (b. 1942), Minnijean Brown (b. 1941),







Gloria Ray Karlmark (b. 1942), Thelma Mothershed (b. 1940), and Melba Pattillo Beals (b. 1941). Segregationists threatened to hold protests at the school and Governor Orval Faubus supported them. The pictures of the National Guard blocking the

students caused national headlines. On September 9, Little Rock School District issued a statement condemning the governor's deployment of soldiers to the high school and called for a citywide prayer service on September 12. Even President Dwight Eisenhower attempted to de-escalate the situation and summoned Governor Faubus to meet him. The President warned the governor not to defy the Supreme Court's ruling. Woodrow Nilson Mann, the Mayor of Little Rock, asked President Eisenhower to send troops to enforce the integration and protect the nine students, In September 24 the 101st Airborne Division went to Little Rock and protected the students. Although the students finally were allowed to go to school they still faced verbal and physical abuse from the other students and received a lot of hatred from the other students. Melba Pattillo had acid thrown into her eyes and also recalled in her book, Warriors Don't Cry, an incident in which a group of white girls trapped her in a stall in the girls' washroom and attempted to burn her alive by dropping pieces of flaming paper on her from above.

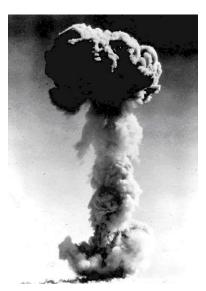
Tragedy in Dallas, Texas

One of the saddest events in the United States history occurred Friday, November 22, 1963 in Dallas Texas. President Kennedy was the 35th president of the United States of America. He was traveling with his wife Jacqueline, Texas governor John Connally and his with Nellie, all in his Presidential motorcade. Kennedy was one of the only four presidents to be assassinated. There was a ten-month investigation by the Warren Commission 1963-1964, concluded that the President was assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald acting alone and that Jack Ruby acted alone when he killed Oswald before he could stand trial. Many people considered this to be a cover up, and there have been reports that the investigation had been greatly flawed. No gunmen or groups involved in the conspiracy were identified by the committee, but the CIA, Soviet Union, organized crime and several other groups were said not to be involved in the assassination. The assassination is still a topic of conversation and debate.



A Truly Scary Show of Power

On October 16, 1964 China showed their true power successfully exploded its first atomic bomb. However it was only successful because of certain conditions. First off when the Peoples Republic of China was founded in 1949 the Soviet Union agreed to help china with all of their technology needs in the department of nuclear energy. However this agreement



broke down in June 1959 the USSR refused to provide relevant information; the Soviet Union recalled all of the technicians and advisers

from China. In July 1960 Chairman Mao Zedong relied on Chinese Scientists to develop China's atomic bomb within eight years. On October 16, 1964, China successfully exploded its first atomic bomb. The Chinese people had developed their own nuclear technology without the help from other foreign nations. On the same day, the Chinese government made a solemn promise to the world that it developed nuclear weapons only for the purpose of self-defense and safeguarding national security. China would never be the first to attack a nation with a nuclear bomb, but only use it for self defense.

A Leader in Africa is Imprisoned

On June 12, 1964 Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life for committing sabotage against the apartheid government of South Africa. He was a leader, organizing protests against apartheid and its racial implications. He was arrest in 1956 under the charges of treason. Mandela was the leader of the Africa National Congress which was banned by the government in 1960. However the group still operated in secrecy. After years of successful nonviolent protests the group finally decided to take military action. They decided to launch bombing attacks and started a campaign of guerrilla warfare. During his trial Mandela defended his use of violence and said it was necessary to his cause. A quote from Nelson, "During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But

if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die." Mandela was in prison for 27 years and finally released on February 12 1990. He was named president

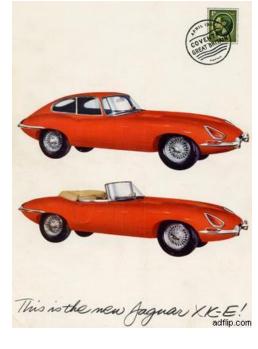


Shades of Rome: Ravioli with real Italian flavor



of the ANC and in 1993 was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. The following year, the ANC emerged victorious in South Africa's first democratic elections with universal suffrage. Mandela was named the first president of the post-apartheid South Africa.

before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth."



One Small Step for Man, One Giant Leap for Mankind

The Apollo 11 mission was the first time humans ever stood on the moon. The first two were Neil Armstrong and Edwin "BUZZ" Aldrin Jr. They landed July 20, 1969 at 20:17:39 UTC. It was televised back to earth. The Shuttle launched from the Kennedy Space Center in Merritt Island, Florida on July 16. This was the fifth manned missions and the third moon mission of the Apollo Program. The crew of three was made up of Neil Armstrong, Edwin "BUZZ" Aldrin Jr., and Michael Collins. Only Neil and Edwin actually got to land on the moon, Michael was orbiting around the moon in space. The two spent 21 hours and 31 minutes on the moon's surface, the crew later returned to earth July 24 landing back into the Pacific Ocean. The crew brought 47.5 pounds of lunar rocks back to earth. Apollo 11 fulfilled U.S. President John F. Kennedy's goal of reaching the

> Moon before the Soviet Union by the end of the 1960s, which he had expressed during a 1961 mission statement before the United States Congress: "I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal,



Kids and Their Right to Vote

The 26th Amendment states that anyone from the age of 18 and up is allowed to vote who is a citizen of the United States. This is controversial because in 1971 some people wanted the age limit to be lowered to the age of 16. This was in the heat of the Vietnam War, because 18 yearolds were being sent to war and not able to vote back at home so the people of America thought that if they could not vote then they should lower the voting age so that there were still the same amount of votes as if the 18 year olds were there to vote.

