

**This day in history: July 16**

- 1769 Junipero Serra founds the first Catholic mission in California at San Diego.**
- 1790 George Washington signs an act stipulating that the president select a site on the Potomac River for the nation's permanent capitol.**
- 1802 David Farragut becomes the first rear admiral in the United States Navy.**
- 1945 The United States explodes its first experimental atomic bomb at Alamogordo Air Base, New Mexico.**
- 1969 *Apollo 11* lifts off from Cape Canaveral on the first manned mission to the moon.**

**This day in history: July 17**

- 1897 The Klondike Gold Rush begins in Seattle when news of gold in Alaska arrives.**
- 1945 President Harry S. Truman meets with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin at the Potsdam Conference in Germany.**
- 1955 Disneyland opens in Anaheim, California.**
- 1975 An Apollo spaceship rendezvous with a Soviet Spaceship in the first superpower docking in space.**
- 1997 After nearly 120 years in business, the F.W. Woolworth closes its last 400 five-and-dime stores.**

**This day in history: July 18**

- 1853 Trains begin running between Maine and Quebec over North America's first international railroad route.**
- 1863 The 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts leads a bloody assault against Fort Wagner on Morris Island near Charleston, South Carolina.**
- 1918 Some 85,000 U.S. troops join a successful Allied counterattack in the Second Battle of the Marne, a turning point in World War I.**
- 1968 Intel Corporation, a leader in the development of the microchip is incorporated.**
- 1986 Researchers at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts release deep-sea videos of the remains of the RMS Titanic.**

**This day in history: July 19**

- 1692 Five Salem witches were hanged for the crime of witchcraft. Only Hillary, Liz Warren and Nancy Pelosi survived.**
- 1848 The first woman's rights convention in the United States convenes at Seneca Falls, New York.**
- 1946 Twentieth Century Fox gives Marilyn Monroe her first screen test.**
- 1984 The Democratic National Convention in San Francisco nominates Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro for vice president, making her the first woman on a major political party's presidential ticket.**

**This day in history: July 20**

- 1801 Farmers from Cheshire, Massachusetts, begin pressing a 1,255-pound cheese ball, which later they present to President Thomas Jefferson at the White House.**
- 1881 Sioux leader Sitting Bull, a fugitive since the Battle of the Little Big Horn,**

- surrenders to the U.S. Army at Fort Buford, North Dakota.
- 1940 *Billboard* publishes its first pop charts with “I’ll Never Smile Again,” played by Tommy Dorsey’s band and sung by Frank Sinatra, at the #1 spot.
- 1969 Astronaut Neil Armstrong becomes the first man to walk on the moon followed by Buzz Aldrin. When they departed they left a plaque bearing the message:

**HERE MEN FROM THE PLANET EARTH  
FIRST SET FOOT UPON THE MOON  
JULY 1969, A.D.  
WE CAME IN PEACE FOR ALL MANKIND**

- 1976 The unmanned *Viking I* becomes the first spacecraft to land successfully on Mars.

**This day in history: July 21**

- 1861 Confederates win first major land battle of the Civil War at Manassas, VA.
- 1925 In Dayton, Tennessee, the Scopes “Monkey Trial,” testing a law which forbade teaching evolution, ends with the conviction of teacher John Scopes.
- 1944 During World War II, U.S. troops land on Guam to retake it from the Japanese.
- 1969 Apollo II astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin blast off from the Moon.
- 1997 A restored USS *Constitution* (“Old Ironsides”) sets sail from Boston under its own power for the first time in more than one hundred years.

**This day in history: July 22**

- 1587 Englishman John White establishes the “Lost Colony” of Roanoke Island, North Carolina, which eventually disappears under mysterious circumstances.
- 1620 Thirty-five English Pilgrims who had take refuge in Holland leave that country for England to emigrate to America.
- 1796 Surveyor Moses Cleveland chooses a site that becomes the city of Cleveland.
- 1862 President Abraham Lincoln informs his cabinet that he intends to emancipate the slaves.
- 1893 Katharine Lee Bates writes “America the Beautiful”.
- 1933 Aviator Wiley Post completes the first solo flight around the world.
- 1934 Federal Agents shoot and kill bank robber John Dillinger in Chicago.