

This day in history: March 4

- 1789** The U.S. Constitution goes into effect as the first session of Congress meets in New York City.
- 1791** Vermont becomes the 14th state.
- 1829** The White House is overrun with partygoers when Andrew Jackson holds an “open house” to celebrate his inauguration.
- 1837** The Illinois legislature grants a city charter to Chicago.
- 1865** Abraham Lincoln delivers his second inaugural address.
- 1933** Frances Perkins, secretary of labor in Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration, becomes the first woman to serve in the Cabinet.

This day in history: March 5

- 1770** British soldiers fire on colonists in what becomes known as the Boston Massacre.
- 1933** President Franklin D. Roosevelt declares a “bank holiday” closing U.S. banks for four days to keep panicked depositors from withdrawing all their money.
- 1946** In a speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, Winston Churchill declares that an “Iron Curtain” has fallen across Eastern Europe, trapping millions behind it in Communist states.
- 1963** Country music star Patsy Cline dies in a plane crash near Camden, TN.

This day in history: March 6

- 1836** A Mexican army overwhelms the defenders of the Alamo.
- 1857** The Supreme Court rules in favor of its infamous *Dred Scott* decision that blacks are not citizens and that Congress cannot prohibit slavery in U.S. territories.
- 1896** Charles King test his “horseless carriage” in Detroit, becoming the first person to drive a car in Motor City.
- 1930** Charles Birdseye begins to sell prepackaged frozen food in Springfield, Massachusetts.
- 1951** Julius and Ethel Rosenberg go on trial for spying for the Soviet Union during World War II.

This day in history: March 7

- 1876** Alexander Graham Bell receives a patent for the telephone.
- 1897** In Battle Creek, Michigan, Dr. John Kellogg serves the world's first cornflakes to patients in hopes that a better diet will help cure some of their ailments.
- 1926** The first successful transatlantic radio-telephone conversation takes place, between New York City and London.
- 1933** Businessman Charles Darrow of Atlantic City, New Jersey, trademarks the board game Monopoly.
- 1945** U.S. troops cross the Rhine River at Remagen, establishing the first Allied bridgehead in Germany during World War II.
- 1963** Police attack peaceful civil rights demonstrators trying to march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

This day in history: March 8

- 1796** The U.S. Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of a congressional act for the first time when it upholds a carriage tax in *Hylton v. United States*.
- 1857** The Supreme Court rules in favor of its infamous *Dred Scott* decision that blacks are not citizens and that Congress cannot prohibit slavery in U.S. territories.
- 1817** The New York Stock Exchange is formally chartered.
- 1965** The first U.S. combat troops arrive in South Vietnam when Marines land near Da Nang to secure an air base.
- 1983** In a speech in Florida, President Ronald Reagan refers to the Soviet Union as an “evil empire”, signaling that he is determined to stand fast against Communist totalitarianism.

This day in history: March 9

- 1847** U.S. forces land near Vera Cruz and lay siege to the city during the Mexican War.
- 1862** The first battle between two ironclad ships, the Union *Monitor* and the Confederate *Virginia* (formerly the *Merrimack*), takes place at Hampton Roads, Virginia.
- 1916** Mexican raiders led by Pancho Villa attack Columbus, NM, killing 18 people.
- 1943** U.S. bombers drop incendiary bombs on Tokyo, engulfing much of the city in firestorm.
- 1964** The Ford Motor Company produces the first Mustang.

This day in history: March 10

- 1785** Thomas Jefferson is appointed minister to France, succeeding Benjamin Franklin.
- 1864** Abraham Lincoln promotes Ulysses S. Grant to commander of all Union Armies.
- 1876** Alexander Graham Bell succeeds in sending words over a telegraph wire.
- 2000** The NASDAQ Composite closes at 5048.62, and all-time high that precedes the end of the dot-com boom of the 1990's.