



## Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 30 September

Events in History over the next 15 day period that had U.S. military involvement or impacted in some way on U.S military operations or American interests

- **Third Friday of Sep** – National POW/MIA day to pay tribute to the lives and contributions of the more than 83,000 Americans who are still listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action.
- Sep 16 1776 – Revolutionary War: The Battle of Harlem Heights - General George Washington arrives at Harlem Heights, on the northern end of Manhattan, and takes command of a group of retreating Continental troops. The day before, 4,000 British soldiers had landed at Kip's Bay in Manhattan (near present-day 34th Street) and taken control of the island, driving the Continentals north, where they appeared to be in disarray prior to Washington's arrival. Casualties and losses: US 130 | GB 92~390.
- Sep 16 1779 – Revolutionary War: The 32 day Franco-American Siege of Savannah begins. Casualties and losses: US/FR 948 | GB 155.
- Sep 16 1916 – WWI: Siegfried Line - One month after succeeding Erich von Falkenhayn as chief of the German army's general staff, General Paul von Hindenburg orders the construction of a heavily fortified zone running several miles behind the active front between the north coast of France and Verdun, near the border between France and Belgium. This "semi-permanent" defense line, as Hindenburg called it, would be the last line of German defense; its aim was to brutally crush any Allied breakthrough on the Western Front in France before it could reach the Belgian or German frontier. The British referred to it as the Hindenburg Line, for its mastermind; it was known to the Germans as the Siegfried Line.
- Sep 16 1940 – WW2: Draft - The Burke-Wadsworth Act is passed by Congress, by wide margins in both houses, and the first peacetime draft in the history of the United States is imposed. Selective Service was born. The registration of men between the ages of 21 and 36 began exactly one month later, as Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, who had been a key player in moving the Roosevelt administration away from a foreign policy of strict neutrality, began drawing draft numbers out of a glass bowl. The numbers were handed to the president, who read them aloud for public announcement. There were some 20 million eligible young men—50 percent were rejected the very first year, either for health reasons or illiteracy (20 percent of those who registered were illiterate). By war's end, approximately 34 million men had registered, and 10 million served with the military.
- Sep 16 1942 – WW2: The Japanese base at Kiska in the Aleutian Islands is raided by American bombers
- 16 1943 – WW2: The Allied invasion of Italy concludes when Heinrich von Vietinghoff, commander of the German Tenth Army, orders his troops to withdraw from Salerno.

- Sep 16 1950 – Cold War: Soviet representatives condemn an essay writing contest sponsored by the United Nations. The incident, though small, indicated that the Cold War was as much a battle of words as a war of bombs and guns.
- Sep 16 1950 – Korea: The U.S. 8th Army breaks out of the Pusan Perimeter in South Korea and begins heading north to meet MacArthur's troops heading south from Inchon.
- Sep 16 1960 – Vietnam: In a cable to Secretary of State Christian A. Herter, U.S. Ambassador in Saigon, Elbridge Durbrow analyzes two separate but related threats to the Ngo Dinh Diem regime, danger from demonstration or coup, predominantly “non-Communist” in origin; and the danger of a gradual Viet Cong extension of control over the countryside. A period of political instability ensued during which there was a series of “revolving door” governments.
- Sep 16 1967 – Vietnam: Siege of Con Thien Began.
- Sep 16 1969 – Vietnam: President Richard Nixon announces the second round of U.S. troop withdrawals from Vietnam. This was part of the dual program that he had announced at the Midway conference on June 8 that called for “Vietnamization” of the war and U.S. troop withdrawals, as the South Vietnamese forces assumed more responsibility for the fighting. The first round of withdrawals was completed in August and totaled 25,000 troops (including two brigades of the 9th Infantry Division). There would be 15 announced withdrawals in total, leaving only 27,000 U.S. troops in Vietnam by November 1972.
- Sep 16 1972 – Vietnam: South Vietnamese troops recapture Quang Tri province in South Vietnam from the North Vietnamese Army.
- Sep 17 1775 – Revolutionary War: The Invasion of Canada begins with the 47 day Siege of Fort St. Jean.
- Sep 17 1778 – The Treaty of Fort Pitt is signed. It is the first formal treaty between the United States and a Native American tribe (the Lenape or Delaware Indians).
- Sep 17 1778 – Revolutionary War: Mohawk Indian chief and British Loyalist leader Joseph Brant lead a force of 150 Iroquois Indians and 300 British Loyalists under the command of Captain William Caldwell in a surprise attack on the area of German Flats, New York. German Flats, now known as Herkimer, New York, was left virtually undefended by Patriot troops prior to the raid. The Indian and Loyalist raiders captured hundreds of head of cattle and sheep before setting fire to every house, barn and mill in German Flats.
- Sep 17 1862 – Civil War: The Allegheny Arsenal explosion results in the single largest civilian disaster during the war. 78 workers, mostly young women, were killed. Cause was officially unknown but it was speculated that the metal shoe of a horse had struck a spark which touched off loose powder



**Allegheny Arsenal Laboratory Building (circa 1870) and the Stone Road**

- Sep 17 1862 – Civil War: The Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest day in U.S. history, commences. Fighting in the corn field, Bloody Lane and Burnside's Bridge raged all day as the Union and Confederate armies suffer a combined 26,293 casualties. The battle stops the northward drive of Robert E. Lee's Confederate army



- Sep 17 1900 – Philippine American War: Filipinos under Juan Cailles defeat Americans under Colonel Benjamin F. Cheatham at Mabitac, Laguna.
- Sep 17 1902 – Latin America Interventions: U.S. troops are sent to Panama to keep train lines open over the isthmus as Panamanian nationals struggle for independence from Colombia.
- Sep 17 1916 – WWI: Red Baron - The German air ace Manfred von Richthofen shoots down his first enemy plane over the Western Front. By the end of 1916, Richthofen had downed 15 enemy planes. The following year, he surpassed all flying-ace records on both sides of the Western Front.
- Sep 17 1939 – WW2: Invasion and Occupation of Eastern Poland - Sixteen days after Nazi Germany's attack on that country from the west, Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov declare that the Polish government has ceased to exist, as the U.S.S.R. exercises the “fine print” of the Hitler-Stalin Non-aggression pact.
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- Sep 17 1944 – WW2: Allied Airborne troops parachute into the Netherlands as the "Market" half of Operation Market Garden.
- Sep 17 1957 – Cold War: Louis Armstrong, the famous African-American jazz musician, angrily announces that he will not participate in a U.S. government-sponsored tour of the Soviet Union. Armstrong was furious over developments in Little Rock, Arkansas, where mobs of white citizens and armed National Guardsmen had recently blocked the entrance of nine African-American students into the all-white Central High School.
- Sep 17 1970 – Vietnam: The People’s Revolutionary Government (PRG) for South Vietnam presents a new peace plan at the Paris talks. In exchange for the withdrawal of all U.S. and Allied forces by June 30, 1971, communist forces promised to refrain from attacking the departing troops and also offered to begin immediate negotiations on the release of POWs once the withdrawal was agreed to. The PRG statement demanded the purge of South Vietnam’s top three leaders which was a major inhibitor to any meaningful negotiation.
- Sep 17 1972 – Vietnam: POW’s – Three U.S. pilots are released by Hanoi. They were the first POWs released since 1969. North Vietnamese officials cautioned the United States not to force the freed men to “slander” Hanoi, claiming that “distortions” about Hanoi’s treatment of POWs from a previous release of prisoners in 1969 caused Hanoi to temporarily suspend the release of POWs. The conditions for their release stipulated that they would not do anything to further the U.S. war effort in Indochina. The rest of the POWs were released in March 1973 as part of the agreement that led to the Paris Peace Accords.
- Sep 17 1976 – Cold War: NASA publicly unveils its first space shuttle, the *Enterprise*, during a ceremony in Palmdale, California. Development of the aircraft-like spacecraft cost almost \$10 billion and took nearly a decade.

- Sep 18 1862 – Civil War: After the Battle of Antietam Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s army pulls away from Antietam Creek, near Sharpsburg, Maryland, and heads back to Virginia.
- Sep 18 1939 – WW2: The Nazi propaganda radio program Germany Calling, with a host nicknamed "Lord Haw-Haw", began broadcasting to audiences in the United Kingdom and the United States. Broadcasts continued until 30 APR 1945 when Hamburg was overrun by the British Army.
- Sep 18 1945 – WW2: General Douglas MacArthur moves his command headquarters to Tokyo as he prepares for his new role as architect of a democratic and capitalist postwar Japan.
- Sep 18 1947 – The United States Air Force becomes an independent service.
- Sep 18 1964 – Vietnam: South Vietnamese officials claim that two companies from the North Vietnamese army have invaded South Vietnam. A battle resulted in Quang Tri Province, just south of the Demilitarized Zone, but the North Vietnamese forces were defeated with heavy casualties. Since North Vietnamese main force units had not been seen in South Vietnam before, U.S. military advisers questioned whether these were actually North Vietnamese troops, but in fact Hanoi had ordered its forces to begin infiltrating to the South.
- Sep 18 1964 – Vietnam: U.S. destroyers’ fire on hostile targets.
- Sep 19 1777 – American Revolution: British forces win a tactically expensive victory over the Continental Army in the First Battle of Saratoga. Subsequent second battle on 7 OCT was a decisive American victory. Casualties and losses both battles : US 330 | GB 7,357
- Sep 19 1862 – Civil War: Battle of Iuka – Union troops under General William Rosecrans defeat a Confederate force. Casualties and losses: US 790 | CSA 1,516.
- Sep 19 1863 – Civil War: Two day Battle of Chickamauga begins.
- Sep 19 1918 – WWI: American troops of the Allied North Russia Expeditionary Force receive their baptism of fire near the town of Seltso against Soviet forces.
- Sep 19 1941 – WW2: Germans bombard Leningrad - as part of their offensive campaign in the Soviet Union, German bombers blast through Leningrad’s anti-aircraft defenses, and kill more than 1,000 Russians
- Sep 19 1944 – WW2: The 88 day Battle of Hürtgen Forest between United States and Nazi Germany begins. Casualties and losses: US 33,000 - Ger 28,000.
- Sep 19 1957 – Cold War: Rainer – First American underground nuclear bomb test (part of Operation Plumbbob). The United States detonated a 1.7 kiloton nuclear weapon in an underground tunnel at the Nevada Test Site (NTS), a 1,375 square mile research center located 65 miles north of Las Vegas. The test, known as Rainier, was the first fully contained underground detonation and produced no radioactive fallout. A modified W-25 warhead weighing 218 pounds and measuring 25.7 inches in diameter and 17.4 inches in length was used for the test.



- Sep 19 1966 – Vietnam: The Johnson administration and its handling of the war in Vietnam comes under attack from several quarters. A group of 22 eminent U.S. scientists, including seven Nobel laureates, urged the President to halt the use of antipersonnel and anti-crop chemical weapons in Vietnam.
- Sep 19 1969 – Vietnam: President Nixon announces the cancellation of the draft calls for November and December. He reduced the draft call by 50,000 (32,000 in November and 18,000 in December). This move accompanied his twin program of turning the war over to the South Vietnamese concurrent with U.S. troop withdrawals and was calculated to quell antiwar protests by students returning to college campuses after the summer.

- Sep 19 1994 – Latin America Interventions: Operation Uphold Democracy began (Haiti). U.S. troops land unopposed to oversee the country’s transition to democracy
- Sep 20 1777 – American Revolution: Near Paoli, Pennsylvania, General Charles Grey and nearly 5,000 British soldiers launch a surprise attack on a small regiment of Patriot troops commanded by General Anthony Wayne in what becomes known as the Paoli Massacre. Before it was over, nearly 200 Americans were killed or wounded. The Paoli Massacre became a rallying cry for the Americans against British atrocities for the rest of the Revolutionary War.
- Sep 20 1863 – Civil War: The Battle of Chickamauga ends in the most significant Union defeat in the Western Theater of the War. Casualties and losses: US 16,170 | CSA 18,454.
- Sep 20 1943 – WWII: British submarines attempt to sink the German battleship Tirpitz as it sits in Norwegian waters, as Operation Source gets underway. The Tirpitz was the second largest battleship in the German fleet (after the Bismarck) and a threat to Allied vessel movement through Arctic waters.
- Sep 20 1965 – Vietnam: Seven U.S. planes are downed in one day.
- Sep 20 1968 – Vietnam: U.S. military spokesmen defend the use of defoliants in Vietnam at a news conference in Saigon, claiming that the use of the agents in selected areas of South Vietnam had neither appreciably altered the country’s ecology, nor produced any harmful effects on human or animal life.
- Sep 20 1972 – Vietnam: The USAF reveals that U.S. planes have been mining the coastal rivers and canals of northern Quang Tri province below the DMZ, the first mining of waterways within South Vietnam.
- Sep 20 2011 – The United States ends its "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, allowing gay men and women to serve openly for the first time.
- Sep 21 1776 – American Revolution: Part of New York City is burned shortly after being occupied by British forces.
- Sep 21 1779 – American Revolution: On this day in 1779, the Louisiana governor and Spanish military officer Bernardo de Galvez, with the aide of American troops and militia volunteers, captures the British post and garrison at Baton Rouge, located in what was then British-controlled West Florida.
- Sep 21 1780 – American Revolution: American General Benedict Arnold meets with British Major John Andre to discuss handing over West Point to the British, in return for the promise of a large sum of money and a high position in the British army. The plot was foiled and Arnold, a former American hero, became synonymous with the word “traitor.”



- Sep 21 1939 – PreWW2: President Franklin Delano Roosevelt appears before Congress and asks that the Neutrality Acts, a series of laws passed earlier in the decade, be amended. Roosevelt hoped to lift an embargo against sending military aid to countries in Europe facing the onslaught of Nazi aggression.
- Sep 21 1942 – WW2: The U.S. B-29 Superfortress makes its debut flight in Seattle, Washington. It was the largest bomber used in the war by any nation. The B-29 was conceived in 1939 by Gen. Hap Arnold, who was afraid a German victory in Europe would mean the United States would be devoid of bases on the eastern side of the Atlantic from which to counterattack.
- Sep 21 1944 – WW2: U.S. troops of the 7th Army, invading Southern France, cross the Meuse River.
- Sep 21 1961 – Maiden flight of the CH-47 Chinook transportation helicopter.

- Sep 21 1961 – Vietnam: The U.S. Army’s 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, is activated at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The Special Forces were formed to organize and train guerrilla bands behind enemy lines.
- Sep 21 1967 – Vietnam: Gen. William Westmoreland, commander of U.S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam, welcomes 1,200 Thai troops as they arrive in Saigon. By 1969, Thai forces in Vietnam would number more than 12,000.
- Sep 21 2012 – POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Sep 22 1711 – Indian Wars: The Tuscarora War begins in present-day North Carolina between the British, Dutch, and German settlers and the Tuscarora Native Americans. A treaty was signed on 11 FEB 1715.
- Sep 22 1776 – American Revolution: Captain Nathan Hale is hanged as a spy by the British in New York City. His last words are reputed to have been, "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country."



- Sep 22 1782 – President Abraham Lincoln issues a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, which sets a date for the freedom of more than 3 million black slaves in the United States and recasts the Civil War as a fight against slavery.



- Sep 22 1914 – WWI: German naval forces bombarded Papeete, Tahiti in French Polynesia with the objective of seizing the coal piles stored on the island.
- Sep 22 1914 – WWI: In the North Sea the German submarine U-9 sinks three British cruisers, the Aboukir, the Hogue and the Cressy, in just over one hour. The one-sided battle, which claimed the lives of 1,400 sailors, alerted the British to the deadly effectiveness of the submarine, which had been generally unrecognized up to that time.
- Sep 22 1945 – WW2: Gen. George S. Patton tells reporters that he does not see the need for “this denazification thing” and compares the controversy over Nazism to a “Democratic and Republican election fight.” Once again, “Old Blood and Guts” had put his foot in his mouth.
- Sep 22 1964 Vietnam: Presidential candidate and senator Barry Goldwater (R-AZ) charges that President Lyndon Johnson lied to the American people and that he is committing the United States to war “recklessly.” Having previously called the war “McNamara’s War,” he now described it as “Johnson’s War.” Goldwater said that the United States should do whatever it took to support U.S. troops in the war and that if the administration was not prepared to “take the war to North Vietnam,” it should withdraw.
- Sep 22 1980 – Iran~Iraq War: Long-standing border disputes and political turmoil in Iran prompt Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to launch an invasion of Iran’s oil-producing province of Khuzestan. After initial advances, the Iraqi offense was repulsed.
- Sep 22 2006 – The F-14 Tomcat is retired from the United States Navy.

- Sep 23 1779 – American Revolution: Battle of Flamborough Head - The American navy under John Paul Jones, commanding from Bonhomme Richard, defeats and captures the British man-of-war Serapis.
- Sep 23 1780 – American Revolution: British Major John André is arrested as a spy by American soldiers exposing Benedict Arnold's change of sides.
- Sep 23 1899 – Philippine American War: American Asiatic Squadron destroys a Filipino battery at the Battle of Olongapo.
- Sep 23 1942 – WW2: The Matanikau action on Guadalcanal begins. U.S. Marines attack Japanese units along the Matanikau River.
- Sep 23 1945 – The first American dies in Vietnam during the fall of Saigon to French forces.
- Sep 23 1949 – Cold War: In a surprisingly low-key and carefully worded statement, President Harry S. Truman informs the American people that the Soviets have exploded a nuclear bomb. The Soviet accomplishment, years ahead of what was thought possible by most U.S. officials, caused a panic in the American government.
- Sep 23 1950 – Korean War: The Battle of Hill 282 – The first US friendly-fire incident on British Military personnel since World War II occurred. The mistaken air attack caused approximately 60 casualties.
- Sep 23 1965 – Vietnam: The South Vietnamese government executes three accused Viet Cong agents held at Da Nang. They did it at night to prevent foreign photographers from recording it, but nevertheless, the story got out. Three days later, a clandestine Viet Cong radio station announced North Vietnam's execution of two U.S. soldiers held captive since 1963, as "war criminals."
- Sep 24 1776 – American Revolution: The Continental Congress prepares instructions and guidance for the agents appointed to negotiate a treaty between the United States and France. The agents were also instructed to request immediate assistance in securing arms.
- Sep 24 1780 – American Revolution: Benedict Arnold flees to British Army lines after his plot to surrender West Point is exposed by the arrest of British Major John André.
- Sep 24 1918 – WWI: The government of Bulgaria issues an official statement announcing it had sent a delegation to seek a ceasefire with the Allied powers that would end Bulgaria's participation in World War I.
- Sep 24 1941– WWII: The Japanese consul in Hawaii is instructed to divide Pearl Harbor into five zones and calculate the number of battleships in each zone—and report the findings back to Japan.
- Sep 24 1953 – Cold War: In a speech that is by turns confrontational and sarcastic, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles declares that the United States will not "cringe or become panicky" in the face of Soviet nuclear weapons.
- Sep 24 1960 – USS Enterprise (CVN-65), the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, is launched.
- Sep 24 1957 – President Dwight D. Eisenhower sends 101st Airborne Division troops to Little Rock, Arkansas, to enforce desegregation.
- Sep 24 1960 – USS Enterprise (CVN-65), the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, is launched.
- Sep 25 1775 – American Revolution: Ethan Allen surrenders to British forces after attempting to capture Montreal during the Battle of Longue-Pointe. Benedict Arnold and his expeditionary company set off from Fort Western, bound for Quebec City.
- Sep 25 1846 – Mexican-American War: Battle of Monterey – American forces led by Zachary Taylor capture the Mexican city of Monterrey. Casualties and losses: US 531 - Mex 367.
- Sep 25 1915 – WWI: Battle of Loos - Following a four-day artillery bombardment along a six-and-a-half-mile front, British and French forces launch an attack on German positions at Loos, Belgium, beginning the Battle. Despite Allied numerical superiority, the Germans were able to successfully defend their positions. At Loos, the British employed poisonous gas for the first time in the war, Casualties and losses: Ger 60K, | Allied casualties 250K.

- Sep 25 1925 – USS S-51 (SS-162) – Sunk after collision with steamer City of Rome off Block Island, Rhode Island. 33 died.
- Sep 25 1942 – WW2: British bombers attempt to take out the local headquarters of the German secret state police, the Gestapo, in Norway. They miss—but send some Nazis running for their lives.
- Sep 25 1944 – WW2: Operation Market Garden - British troops began their withdrawal from the Battle of Arnhem in the Netherlands, ending the Allies' Operation Market Garden in defeat.
- Sep 25 1965– Vietnam: Senator Charles Goodell (a maverick Republican from New York) proposes legislation that would require the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam by the end of 1970, and bar the use of congressionally appropriated funds after December 1, 1970, for maintaining U.S. military personnel in Vietnam. The legislation failed to pass, but it was followed by 10 similar proposals over the next three weeks by legislators
- Sep 26, 1777 – American Revolution: The British army launches a major offensive, capturing Philadelphia.
- Sep 26, 1864 – Civil War: Confederate General Sterling Price invades Missouri and engages Union pickets near Fort Davidson at Pilot Knob. Price’s troops captured the fort within two days and scattered the Union defenders, but also suffered heavy losses.
- Sep 26 1918 – WW1: The 46 day Meuse (Argonne Offensive) – The bloodiest single battle in American history, begins. Casualties and losses: US 117,000 | FR 70,000 | GER 90~120,000.
- Sep 26 1944 – WW2: Operation Market-Garden, a plan to seize bridges in the Dutch town of Arnhem, fails, as thousands of British and Polish troops are killed, wounded, or taken prisoner. Of more than 10,000 British and Polish troops engaged at Arnhem, only 2,900 escaped.
- Sep 26 1945– Vietnam: First American soldier killed in Vietnam - Lt. Col. Peter Dewey, a U.S. Army officer with the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in Vietnam, is shot and killed by the Viet Minh in Saigon. Dewey was the head of a seven-man team sent to Vietnam to search for missing American pilots and to gather information on the situation in the country after the surrender of the Japanese.
- Sep 26 1950 – Korea: General Douglas MacArthur’s American X Corps, fresh from the Inchon landing, links up with the U.S. Eighth Army after its breakout from the Pusan Perimeter.
- Sep 26 1983 – Cold War: Soviet military officer Stanislav Petrov averts a likely worldwide nuclear war by correctly identifying a report of an incoming nuclear missile as a computer error and not an American first strike.
- Sep 27 1779 – Revolutionary War: The Continental Congress appoints John Adams to travel to France as minister plenipotentiary in charge of negotiating treaties of peace and commerce with Great Britain during the Revolutionary War.
- Sep 27 1864 – Civil War: A guerilla band led by William “Bloody Bill” Anderson sacks the town of Centralia, Missouri, killing 22 unarmed Union soldiers before slaughtering more than 100 pursuing Yankee troops. The Civil War in Missouri and Kansas was rarely fought between regular armies in the field. It was carried out primarily by partisan bands of guerilla fighters, and the atrocities were nearly unmatched.
- Sep 27 1938 – WW2: President Franklin Roosevelt writes to German Chancellor Adolf Hitler regarding the threat of war in Europe. The German chancellor had been threatening to invade the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia and, in the letter, his second to Hitler in as many days, Roosevelt reiterated the need to find a peaceful resolution to the issue.
- Sep 27 1939 – WW2: 140,000 Polish troops are taken prisoner by the German invaders as Warsaw surrenders to the superior mechanized forces of Hitler’s army. The Poles fought bravely, but were able to hold on for only 26 days.
- Sep 27 1940 – WW2: The Tripartite Pact is signed in Berlin by Germany, Japan and Italy.
- Sep 27 1941 – WW2: SS Patrick Henry – Launched becoming the first of more than 2,700 Liberty ships.





- Sep 27 1942 – WW2: Last day of the September Matanikau action on Guadalcanal as United States Marine Corps troops barely escape after being surrounded by Japanese forces near the Matanikau River.
- Sep 27 1944 – WW2: Kassel Mission – Results in the largest loss by a USAAF group on any mission in World War II. Casualties and losses: US 118 KIA & 25 of 29 B24's - GER 18 KIA & 29 Fighter planes.
- Sep 27 1950 – Korea: U.S. Army and Marine troops liberate Seoul, South Korea.
- Sep 28 1781 – American Revolution: Battle of Yorktown - Under Gen. George Washington American forces backed by a French fleet begin the siege of Yorktown, Virginia. Although the war persisted on the high seas and in other theaters, the Patriot victory at Yorktown ended fighting in the American colonies.
- Sep 28 1901 – Philippine-American War: Filipino guerrillas kill more than forty American soldiers while losing 28 of their own in a surprise attack in the town of Balangiga on Samar Island.
- Sep 28 1906 – Latin America Interventions: U.S. troops reoccupy Cuba, stay until 1909
- Sep 28 1912 – Corporal Frank S. Scott – The first United States Army enlisted man to die in an airplane crash. He and pilot Lt. Lewis C. Rockwell are killed in the crash of an Army Wright Model B at College Park, Maryland.
- Sep 28 1918 – WWI: In an incident that would go down in the lore of World War I history—although the details of the event are still unclear—Private Henry Tandey, a British soldier serving near the French village of Marcoing, reportedly encounters a wounded German soldier and declines to shoot him, sparing the life of 29-year-old Lance Corporal Adolf Hitler.
- Sep 28 1943 – WW2: USS Cisco (SS-290) – Sunk by Japanese observation seaplane (945th Kokutai) and gunboat Karatsu in Sulu Sea off Panay Island. 76 killed
- Sep 28 1968 – Vietnam: Battle for Thuong Duc - A battle begins for the Special Forces camp at Thuong Duc, situated between Da Nang and the Laotian border. The communists briefly captured the base before being driven out by air and artillery strikes. They then besieged the base, which was only lifted after a relief column, led by the U.S. 7th Marines, reached the base and drove the enemy forces out of the area.
- Sep 29 1789 – Congress votes to create a U.S. army. Department of War establishes a regular army with a strength of several hundred men.
- Sep 29 1864 – Civil War: Battle of New Market Heights - Union General Ulysses S. Grant unsuccessfully tries to break the stalemate around Richmond and Petersburg (25 miles south of Richmond) by attacking two points along the defenses of Confederate General Robert E. Lee. Casualties and losses: US 3300 | CSA 2,000
- Sep 29 1899 – Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) established.
- Sep 29 1918 – WWI: Battle of St. Quentin Canal – The Hindenburg Line, after a 56 hour bombardment, is broken by Allied forces. Bulgaria signs an armistice.
- Sep 29 1939 – WW2: Germany and the Soviet Union agree to divide control of occupied Poland roughly along the Bug River—the Germans taking everything west, the Soviets taking everything east.
- Sep 29 1941 – WW2: The Holocaust: German Nazis aided by their collaborators began the Babi Yar massacre in Kiev, Ukraine, killing over 30,000 Jewish civilians in two days and thousands more

in the months that followed. It is estimated that between 100,000 and 150,000 lives were taken at Babi Yar during the German occupation.

- Sep 29 1965 – Vietnam: Hanoi publishes the text of a letter it has written to the Red Cross claiming that since there is no formal state of war, U.S. pilots shot down over the North will not receive the rights of prisoners of war (POWs) and will be treated as war criminals.
- Sep 29 1995 – The United States Navy disbands Fighter Squadron 84 (VF-84), nicknamed the "Jolly Rogers".
- Sep 30 1864 - Civil War: Battle of Poplar Springs Church - In an attempt to cut the last rail line into Petersburg, Virginia, Union troops attack the Confederate defense around the besieged city. Initially successful, the attack ground to a halt when Confederate reinforcements were rushed into place from other sections of the Petersburg line. Casualties and losses: US 2800 | CSA 1300
- Sep 30 1938 - The League of Nations unanimously outlaws "intentional bombings of civilian populations".
- Sep 30 1938 - Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, French Premier Edouard Daladier, and British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain sign the Munich Pact, which seals the fate of Czechoslovakia. Upon return to Britain, Chamberlain would declare that the meeting had achieved “peace in our time”, virtually handing it over to Germany in the name of peace.
- Sep 30 1949 – Cold War: The Berlin Airlift – Officially halted after 277,264 flights.



**C-47s unloading at Tempelhof, formed the nucleus of the airlift until September when the larger and faster four-engine C-54s capable of hauling 10 tons had been put into service.**

- Sep 30 1950 – Korea: U.N. forces cross the 38th parallel as they pursue the retreating North Korean Army.
- Sep 30 1950: The USS *Nautilus*, the world’s first nuclear submarine, is commissioned by the U.S. Navy.
- Sep 30 2012 – Gold Star Mother’s Day established.

[Source: <http://www.history.com/schedule> Sep 2017++]

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