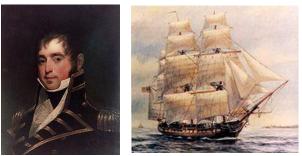# Military History Anniversaries 01 thru 15 Jun

> **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 security**

- Jun 00 1943 – WW2: USS Runner (SS–275) missing. Date of sinking unknown. Possibly sunk by a Japanese mine or combined air and surface attack off northeastern Honshu, Japan. 78 killed.
- Jun 01 1779 - Benedict Arnold, a general in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War, is court-martialed for malfeasance. Because of the way that he changed sides, his name quickly became a byword in the United States for treason or betrayal. His conflicting legacy is recalled in the ambiguous nature of some of the memorials that have been placed in his honor.

- Jun 01 1812 – War of 1812: U.S. President James Madison asks the Congress to declare war on the United Kingdom.
- Jun 01 1813 – James Lawrence, the mortally–wounded commander of the USS Chesapeake, gives his final order: "Don't give up the ship!"

Capt. James Lawrence   **USS Chesapeake**

- Jun 01 1861 – Civil War: Battle of Fairfax Court House - First land battle of American Civil War after Battle of Fort Sumter, first Confederate combat casualty. Casualties and losses: US 8 – CSA 8.
- Jun 01 1862 – Civil War: Peninsula Campaign - Battle of Seven Pines (or the Battle of Fair Oaks) ends inconclusively after 2 days, with both sides claiming victory. Casualties and losses: US 5,031 - CSA 6,134.

- Jun 01 1864 – Civil War: Battle of Cold War begins.
- Jun 01 1916 – WWI: Western Front - German and British naval forces clash in the North Sea during the Battle of Jutland and the French resist the persistent German siege at Verdun, German army troops launch a major attack on British lines in the Ypres Salient on the Western Front.
- Jun 01 1918 – WWI: Western Front - 26 day Battle for Belleau Wood began. Allied Forces under John J. Pershing and James Harbord engage Imperial German Forces under Wilhelm, German Crown Prince. Marine Captain Lloyd W. Williams of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines uttered the now-famous retort "Retreat? Hell, we just got here."

American Marines in Belleau Wood (1918)

- Jun 01 1942 – WW2: A Warsaw underground newspaper, the *Liberty Brigade,* makes public the news of the gassing of tens of thousands of Jews at Chelmno, a Nazi-operated death camp in Poland—almost seven months after extermination of prisoners began.
- Jun 01 1944 – WW2: USS Herring (SS–233) sunk by Japanese Army shore battery (Guards Division 52) off Matsuwa Island, Kuriles. 83 killed.
- Jun 01 1977 – Cold War: The Soviet government charges Anatoly Shcharansky, a leader among Jewish dissidents and human rights activists in Russia, with the crime of treason. The action was viewed by many in the West as a direct challenge to President Jimmy Carter's new foreign policy emphasis on human rights and his criticism of Soviet repression.
- Jun 02 1863 – Old West: Alarmed by the growing encroachment of whites squatting on Native American lands, the Shawnee Chief Tecumseh calls on all Indians to unite and resist.

- Jun 02 1863 – Civil War: Gettysburg PA - During the second day of the battle Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia attacks General George G. Meade's Army of the Potomac at both Culp's Hill and Little Round Top, but fails to move the Yankees from their positions.

- Jun 02 1917– WWI: Several weeks after King Constantine I abdicates his throne in Athens under pressure from the Allies, Greece declares war on the Central Powers, ending three years of neutrality by entering World War I alongside Britain, France, Russia and Italy.
- Jun 02 1944 – WW2: Allied "shuttle bombing" of Germany begins, with bombers departing from Italy and landing in the Soviet Union. Hungarian oil refineries and storage tanks, important to the German war machine, were destroyed by the American air raid. Along with this fire from the sky, leaflets threatening "punishment" for those responsible for the deportation of Hungarian Jews to the gas chambers at Auschwitz were also dropped on Budapest.
- Jun 02 1977 – Cold War: Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov walks out of a meeting with representatives of the British and French governments, signaling the Soviet Union's rejection of the Marshall Plan. Molotov's action indicated that Cold War frictions between the United States and Russia were intensifying.
- Jun 03 1861 – Civil War: Union defeats Confederacy in the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg at Philippi West Virginia, the first land battle of the war. Casualties and losses: US 23,049 - CSA 23,000 to 28,000 estimated of their 75,000 force.

"The Harvest of Death": Union dead on the battlefield at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, photographed July 5 or July 6, 1863,

- Jun 03 1864 – Civil War: Gen Lee wins his last victory of Civil War at Battle of Cold Harbor. Casualties and losses: US 12,737 - CSA 4,595.
- Jun 03 1916 – The National Defense Act is signed into law, increasing the size of the United States National Guard by 450,000 men.
- Jun 03 1940 – WWI: Operation Catapult - British naval forces destroy the French fleet at Mers-el-Kebir, a port in Algeria, in order to prevent Germany from co-opting the French ships to use in an invasion of Britain.
- Jun 03 1942 – World War II: Japan begins the Aleutian Islands Campaign by bombing Unalaska Island's Dutch Harbor fuel tanks, and a ship used for power generation (the Northwestern), as well as smaller random targets. In total, less than fifty men were killed in action
- Jun 03 1952 – Korea: A rebellion by North Korean prisoners in the Koje prison camp in South Korea is put down by American troops.

- Jun 03 1968 – Vietnam: The U.S. command in Saigon releases figures showing that more Americans were killed during the first six months of 1968 than in all of 1967. These casualty figures were a direct result of the heavy fighting that had occurred during, and immediately after, the communist Tet Offensive.
- Jun 03 1969 – The USS Frank E. Evans (DD-754) is cut in half by the HMAS Melbourne after inexplicably cutting across the Melbourne's bow killing 74 of the Evan's crew when the bow section sunk. The stern section was sunk as a target in Subic Bay on 10 Oct 1969.

The stern section of USS *Frank E. Evans* on the morning after the collision.

- Jun 04 1845 – Mexican American War: Conflict begins over dispute of the Rio Grande being the southern border of the U.S.
- Jun 04 1862 – Civil War: Confederate troops evacuate Fort Pillow on the Mississippi River, leaving the way clear for Union troops to take Memphis, Tennessee.
- Jun 04 1916 – WWI: The Battle of Lutsk marks the beginning of the Brusilov Offensive, the largest and most successful Allied offensive of World War I.
- Jun 04 1919 – Latin America Interventions: U.S. Marines invade Costa Rica.
- Jun 04 1939 – Holocaust: The MS St. Louis, a ship carrying 963 Jewish refugees, is denied permission to land in Florida, in the United States, after already being turned away from Cuba. Forced to return to Europe, more than 200 of its passengers later die in Nazi concentration camps.
- Jun 04 1940 – WW2: The Dunkirk evacuation ends - British forces complete evacuation of 338,000 troops from Dunkirk in France. To rally the morale of the country, Winston Churchill delivers his famous "We shall fight on the beaches" speech.
- Jun 04 1942 – WW2: Battle of Midway Island begins. Japanese Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, commander of the fleet that attacked Pearl Harbor, launches a raid on Midway Island with almost the entirety of the Japanese navy in hopes of finishing off the remaining U.S. Navy. It resulted Japan's 1st major defeat in WWII.
- Jun 04 1944 – WW2: Rome falls to the Allies, the first Axis capital to fall.
- Jun 04 1944 – WW2: USS S–28 (SS–133) lost during ASW exercises off the Hawaiian Islands. 50 died.
- Jun 04 1944 – WW2: A hunter–killer group of the United States Navy captures the German submarine U–505 – the first time a U.S. Navy vessel had captured an enemy vessel at sea since the 19th century.

U-505 **shortly after being captured**

- Jun 05 1864 – Civil War: Battle of Piedmont: Union forces under General David Hunter defeat a Confederate army at Piedmont, Virginia, taking nearly 1,000 prisoners. Casualties and losses: US 875 - CSA 1,500.
- Jun 05 1917 – WWI: Conscription begins in the United States as "Army registration day". Ten million U.S. men begin registering for draft.

- Jun 05 1942 – WW2: United States declares war on Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania.
- Jun 05 1942 – WW2: More than 1,000 British bombers drop 5,000 tons of bombs on German gun batteries placed at the Normandy assault area, while 3,000 Allied ships cross the English Channel in preparation for the invasion of Normandy—D-Day.
- Jun 06 1775 – American Revolution: Marinus Willett and a small group of Sons of Liberty confront British soldiers and seize five wagonloads of weapons as the Redcoats evacuate New York City.
- Jun 06 1813 – War of 1812: Battle of Stoney Creek – A British force of 700 under John Vincent defeats an American force two times its size under William Winder and John Chandler. Casualties and losses: US 154 - UK 214.
- Jun 06 1862 – Civil War: 1st Battle of Memphis – Union naval forces capture Memphis, Tennessee from the Confederates. Casualties and losses: US 1 - CSA ~180.
- Jun 06 1865 – Old West: William Quantrill, the man who gave Frank and Jesse James their first education in killing, dies from wounds sustained in a skirmish with Union soldiers in Kentucky.
- Jun 06 1918 – WWI: Battle of Belleau Wood – The U.S. Marine Corps suffers its worst single day's casualties while attempting to recapture the wood at Chateau–Thierry. In the first U.S. victory of the war, 9 officers and most of the 325 men of the battalion were lost.
- Jun 06 1942 – WW2: Battle of Midway. U.S. Navy dive bombers sink the Japanese cruiser Mikuma and four Japanese carriers.

The sinking of Mikum

- Jun 06 1944 – WW2: Operation Overlord - Future President Dwight D. Eisenhower, then supreme commander of Allied Expeditionary Forces in World War II gives the go-ahead for a massive invasion of Europe called Operation Overlord. Back in America, President Franklin Roosevelt waited for word of the invasion's success.
- Jun 06 1944 – WW2: Battle of Normandy. D–Day commences with the landing of 155,000 Allied troops on the beaches of Normandy in France. The allied soldiers quickly break through the Atlantic Wall and push inland in the largest amphibious military operation in history.

- Jun 06 1964 – Vietnam: Two U.S. Navy jets flying low-altitude target reconnaissance missions over Laos are shot down by communist Pathet Lao ground fire. Washington immediately ordered armed jets to escort the reconnaissance flights, and by June 9, escort jets were attacking Pathet Lao headquarters.
- Jun 06 1972 – Vietnam: South Vietnamese forces drive out all but a few of the communist troops remaining in Kontum. Over 200 North Vietnamese had been killed in six battles in and around the city.
- Jun 07 1863 – Civil War: Milliken's Bend - A Confederate attempt to rescue Vicksburg and a Rebel garrison was held back by Union forces to the east of the city. fails when Union troops turn back the attack at the Battle of Milliken's Bend, Louisiana. Casualties and Losses: CSA 185 and Union 652.. Hardest hit were the newly formed African-American regiments that were made up of freed slaves from captured areas in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The 9th Louisiana lost 45 percent of its force.
- Jun 07 1866 – 1,800 Fenian raiders are repelled back to the United States after they loot and plunder around Saint-Armand and Frelighsburg, Quebec. The ultimate goal of the Fenian raids was to hold Canada hostage and therefore be in a position to blackmail the United Kingdom to give Ireland its independence.

- Jun 07 1917 – WW1: Battle of Messines Ridge - British 2nd Army, led by Herbert Plumer, scores a crushing victory over the Germans at Messines Ridge in northern France, marking the successful prelude to an Allied offensive designed to break the grinding stalemate on the Western Front.
- Jun 07 1932 – Over 7,000 war veterans march on Washington, D.C., demanding their bonus pay for service in World War I.
- Jun 07 1942 – WW2: Battle of Midway ends. In the four-day sea and air battle, the outnumbered U.S. Pacific Fleet succeeded in destroying four Japanese aircraft carriers with the loss of only one of its own, the Yorktown, thus reversing the tide against the previously invincible Japanese navy. Casualties and losses: US 307 - JP 3,057.
- Jun 07 1942 – WW2: Japanese soldiers occupy the American islands of Attu and Kiska, in the Aleutian Islands off Alaska, as the Axis power continues to expand its defensive perimeter.
- Jun 07 1944 – WW2: Battle of Normandy – At Abbey Ardennes members of the SS Division Hitlerjugend massacre 23 Canadian prisoners of war.
- Jun 07 1965 – Vietnam: US troops ordered to fight offensively. General Westmoreland requests a total of 35 battalions of combat troops, with another nine in reserve. This gave rise to the "44 battalion" debate within the Johnson administration, a discussion of how many U.S. combat troops to commit to the war.
- Jun 08 1776 – American Revolution: Battle of Trois–Rivières. American attackers are driven back at Trois–Rivières, Quebec. Casualties and losses: Colonies 316 - Brit 16.
- Jun 08 1862 – Civil War: Battle of Cross Keys – Confederate forces under General Stonewall Jackson save the Army of Northern Virginia from a Union assault on the James Peninsula led by General George B. McClellan. Confederate victory. Casualties and losses: US 664 - CSA 287.
- Jun 08 1941 – WWII: Allies (British and Free French forces) invade Syria and Lebanon in Operation Explorer.
- Jun 08 1944 – WWII: Normandy - U.S. General Omar Bradley, following orders from General Eisenhower, links up American troops from Omaha Beach with British troops from Gold Beach at Colleville-sur-Mer. Russian Premier Joseph Stalin telegraphs British Prime Minister Winston Churchill to announce that the Allied success at Normandy "is a source of joy to us all," and promises to launch his own offensive on the Eastern Front,
- Jun 08 1959 – The USS Barbero and United States Postal Service attempt the delivery of mail via Missile Mail.
- Jun 08 1965 – Vietnam: A State Department press officer notes that, "American forces would be available for combat support together with Vietnamese forces when and if necessary," alerting the press to an apparently major change in the U.S. commitment to the war.
- Jun 08 1967 – Six Day War: The Naval Intelligence ship USS Liberty attacked in the Mediterranean by Israel killing 34 and wounding 171.
- Jun 08 1972 – Vietnam: Associated Press photographer Nick Ut takes his Pulitzer Prize–winning photo of a naked 9–year–old Phan Thi Kim Phúc running down a road after being burned by napalm.

- Jun 08 1985 – Bosnia: Downed U.S. Air Force pilot Captain Scott O'Grady is rescued by U.S. Marines in Bosnia.
- Jun 09 1772 – American Revolution: In an incident that some regard as the first naval engagement of the American Revolution, colonists board the *Gaspee,* a British vessel that ran aground off the coast of Rhode Island, and set it aflame.
- Jun 09 1862 – Civil War: Stonewall Jackson concludes his successful Shenandoah Valley Campaign with a victory in the Battle of Port Republic; his tactics during the campaign are now studied by militaries around the world. Casualties and losses: US 1,002 - CSA 816
- Jun 09 1863 – Civil War: Battle of Brandy Station, Virginia. Cavalry forces clash. Casualties and losses: US 907 - CSA 523. Result inconclusive.
- Jun 09 1945 – WW2: Japanese Premier Kantaro Suzuki declares that Japan will fight to the last rather than accept unconditional surrender.
- Jun 09 1954 – Cold War: In a dramatic confrontation, Joseph Welch, special counsel for the U.S. Army, lashes out at Senator Joseph McCarthy during hearings on whether communism has infiltrated the U.S. armed forces. Welch's verbal assault marked the end of McCarthy's power during the anticommunist hysteria of the Red Scare in America.
- Jun 09 1959 – The USS George Washington is launched. It is the first submarine to carry ballistic missiles.
- Jun 09 1965 – Vietnam: The 5 day Battle of Dong Xoai begins. Viet Cong victory. Casualties and losses: US 33 - ARVN 723 - VC 126.
- Jun 09 1972 – Vietnam: An Loc - Part of a relief column composed mainly of South Vietnamese 21st Division troops finally arrives in the besieged outskirts of An Loc. The division had been trying to reach the city since 9 APR, when it had been moved from its normal station in the Mekong Delta and ordered to attack up Highway 13 from Lai Khe to open the route to An Loc. This was the southernmost thrust of the North Vietnamese invasion that had begun on March 30; the other main objectives were Quang Tri in the north and Kontum in the Central Highlands.
- Jun 09 1999 – Kosovo War: The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and NATO sign a peace treaty.
- Jun 10 1775 – American Revolution: John Adams proposes to Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, that the men laying siege to Boston should be considered a Continental Army led by a general.
- Jun 10 1861 – Civil War: Battle of Big Bethel. Confederate troops under John B. Magruder defeat a much larger Union force led by General Ebenezer W. Pierce in Virginia. Casualties and losses: US76 - CSA 8.
- Jun 10 1864 – Civil War: Battle of Brice's Crossroads. Confederate troops under Nathan Bedford Forrest defeat a much larger Union force led by General Samuel D. Sturgis in Mississippi. Casualties and losses: US 2610 - CSA 492.
- Jun 10 1871 – Korean Expedition (Sinmiyangyo): Captain McLane Tilton leads 109 U.S. Marines in a naval attack on Han River forts on Kanghwa Island, Korea. Casualties and losses: US 3 - Kor 200+.
- Jun 10 1898 – Spanish-American War: U.S. Marines land on the island of Cuba.
- Jun 10 1940 – WW2: After withholding formal allegiance to either side in the battle between Germany and the Allies, Benito Mussolini, dictator of Italy, declares war on France and Great Britain. U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt denounces Italy's actions with his "Stab in the Back" speech at the graduation ceremonies of the University of Virginia.

- Jun 10 1940 – WW2: After two months of desperate resistance, the last surviving Norwegian and British defenders of Norway are overwhelmed by the Germans, and the country is forced to capitulate to the Nazis.
- Jun 10 1953 – Korea: Battle of Outpost Harry begins and lasts through the18th. Casualties and losses: US ~514 - VC 4000+.
- Jun 10 1965 – Vietnam: Battle of Dong Xaoi - Some 1,500 Viet Cong start a mortar attack on the district capital of Dong Xoai, about 60 miles northeast of Saigon, and then quickly overrun the town's military headquarters and an adjoining militia compound. Heavy U.S. air strikes eventually helped to drive off the Viet Cong. Casualties and losses: US 34- ROK 800-900, VC 550 Estimated.

- Jun 10 1991 – Philippines: At Clark Air Base 14,500 personnel are evacuated in anticipation of the eruption of Mount Pinatubo. Over the next several days, the eruptions killed hundreds of people and sent tons of ash and sulfur dioxide into the atmosphere. The mountain lost nearly 1,000 feet in the eruptions—it now stands at just 4,800 feet high.
- Jun 10 1999 – Kosovo War: NATO suspends its air strikes after Slobodan Miloševic agrees to withdraw Serbian forces from Kosovo.
- Jun 11 1775 – American Revolution: 1st Battle of Machias begins. The war's first naval battle. After 2 days the Unity (U.S.) manned by Patriot militia captures the schooner Margaretta (British). Casualties and losses: US 14 - Brit 13.
- Jun 11 1862 – Civil War: Stonewall Jackson concludes his successful Shenandoah Valley Campaign with a victory in the Battle of Port Republic; his tactics during the campaign are now studied by militaries around the world.
- Jun 11 1863 – Civil War: Battle of Brandy Station, Virginia.
- Jun 11 1864 – Civil War: A Confederate cavalry intercepts General Phillip Sheridan's Union cavalry as it seeks to destroy a rail line near Trevilian Station, Virginia. A two-day battle ensued in which the Confederates drove off the Yankees with minimal damage to a precious supply line. Casualties and losses: US 753 - CSA ~1,000
- Jun 11 1918 – WWI: After several months of an aggressive German offensive on the Western Front during the spring and early summer of 1918, the Allies begin their counterattack, including an assault on June 10, 1918, by four French and two American divisions on German lines near the town of Antheuil-Portes in central France, some 45 miles from Paris.
- Jun 11 1940 – World War II: Britain demonstrates that it will not remain on the defensive, by bombing Italian targets in response to Mussolini's declaration of war on England and France.
- Jun 11 1942 – World War II: The United States agrees to send Lend-Lease aid to the Soviet Union.

- Jun 11 1943 – World War II: Operation Corkscrew - After 10 days of bombing runs, Britain lands troops on the Italian island of Pantelleria, off the southern coast of Sicily. The Italian garrisons surrenders upon orders from Mussolini, who would later deny the order when the Germans express outrage. This defeat shakes the confidence of many in Mussolini's cabinet, since they had been assured that Pantelleria was impregnable.
- Jun 12 1775 – American Revolution: British general Thomas Gage declares martial law in Massachusetts. The British offer a pardon to all colonists who lay down their arms. There would be only two exceptions to the amnesty: Samuel Adams and John Hancock, if captured, were to be hanged.
- Jun 12 1862 – Civil War: Confederate General J.E.B - Stuart begins his ride around the Army of the Potomac during the Peninsular campaign in Virginia, after being sent on a reconnaissance of Union positions by Robert E. Lee. Four days later, Stuart had circled the entire Yankee force, 105,000 strong, and provided Lee with crucial information.
- Jun 12 1864 – Civil War: Battle of Cold Harbor – In the Overland Campaign Ulysses S. Grant gives the Confederate forces under Robert E. Lee a victory when he pulls his Union troops from their positions at Cold Harbor, Virginia and moves south. Casualties and losses: US 12,737 - CSA 4,505.
- Jun 12 1898 – Spanish American War: U.S. war ships set sail for Cuba.
- Jun 12 1898 – Spanish American War: During the Spanish-American War, Filipino rebels led by Emilio Aguinaldo proclaim the independence of the Philippines after 300 years of Spanish rule. By mid-August, Filipino rebels and U.S. troops had ousted the Spanish, but Aguinaldo's hopes for independence were dashed when the United States formally annexed the Philippines as part of its peace treaty with Spain.
- Jun 12 1918 – WWI: First airplane bombing raid by an American unit, France
- Jun 12 1940 – WWII: 54,000 British and French troops surrender to German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel at St. Valery-en-Caux, on the northern Channel border, as the Germans continue their gains in France.
- Jun 12 1943 – USS R12 (SS–89) foundered after battery flooded while off Key West, Florida. 42 died.
- Jun 12 1944 – USS Missouri (BB–63) the last battleship built by the United States Navy and future site of the signing of the Japanese Instrument of Surrender, is commissioned.
- Jun 12 1944 – WW2: American paratroopers of the 101st Airborne Division secure the town of Carentan, France.
- Jun 12 1970 – After being appointed on May 15, Anna Mae Hays and Elizabeth P. Hoisington officially receive their ranks as U.S. Army Generals, becoming the first females to do so.
- Jun 12 1987 – Cold War: At the Brandenburg Gate U.S. President Ronald Reagan publicly challenges Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin Wall.

- Jun 13 1777 – American Revolution: Marquis de Lafayette lands near Charleston S.C. in order to help the Continental Congress to train its army.
- Jun 13 1864 – Civil War: The bulk of the Union Army of the Potomac begins moving towards Petersburg, Virginia, precipitating a siege that lasted for more than nine months. By the next day, skirmishing flared around Petersburg and the last great battle of war in Virginia began. This phase of the war would be much different, as the two great armies settled into trenches for a war of attrition.
- Jun 13 1944 – WWII: Germany launches 10 of its new V1 rockets against Britain from a position near the Channel coast. They prove to be less than devastating.

- Jun 13 1971 – Cold War: The *New York Times* begins to publish sections of the so-called "Pentagon Papers," a top-secret Department of Defense study of America's involvement in the Vietnam War. The papers indicated that the American government had been lying to the people for years about the Vietnam War and the papers seriously damaged the credibility of America's Cold War foreign policy.
- Jun 14 1775 – American Revolution: The U.S. Army is founded when the Continental Congress authorizes the muster of troops.
- Jun 14 1777 – American Revolution: The Continental Congress adopts a resolution stating that "the flag of the United States be thirteen alternate stripes red and white" and that "the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."
- Jun 14 1846 – Bear Flag Revolt begins – Anglo settlers in Sonoma, California, start a rebellion against Mexico and proclaim the California Republic.
- Jun 14 1863 – Civil War: Second Battle of Winchester – A Union garrison is defeated by the Army of Northern Virginia in the Shenandoah Valley town of Winchester, Virginia. Casualties and losses: US 4,443 - CSA 269.
- Jun 14 1863 – Civil War: Second Assault on the Confederate works at the Siege of Port Hudson is a costly failure for Major General Nathaniel Banks. Casualties and losses: US ~10,000 - CSA ~7,500.
- Jun 14 1940 – WW2: Parisians awaken to the sound of a German-accented voice announcing via loudspeakers that a curfew was being imposed for 8 p.m. that evening-as German troops enter and occupy Paris.
- Jun 14 1944 – WW2: First B–29 raid against mainland Japan.
- Jun 14 1944 – WW2: USS Golet (SS–361) missing. Most likely sunk by Japanese guard boat Miya Maru, auxiliary submarine chaser Bunzan Maru, and naval aircraft off northern Honshu, Japan. 82 killed

- Jun 14 1945 – WW2: Battle of Bessang Pass – In Ilocos Sur province in Northern Luzon U.S and Filipino forces assault the last stronghold of the Japanese imperial forces in a four month campaign resulting in the first Filipino military victory of the war. It paved the way to the entrapment of Yamashita's forces in the Cordillera until the general's surrender in September 1945. Casualties and losses: US & RP 3,400 - JP 19,100.

General Tomoyuki Yamashita, Supreme Commander of Japanese Imperial Forces, comes out of the mountains to surrender to the 32D 'Red Arrow' Infantry Division

- Jun 14 1969 – Vietnam: The U.S. command announces that three combat units will be withdrawn from Vietnam consisting of about 13,000 to 14,000 men. These troops were part of the first U.S. troop withdrawal, which had been announced on 8 JUN by President Richard Nixon at the Midway conference with South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu.
- Jun 15 1775 – American Revolution: George Washington is appointed commander–in–chief of the Continental Army.
- Jun 15 1775 – American Revolution: The Assembly of the Lower Counties of Pennsylvania declares itself independent of British and Pennsylvanian authority, thereby creating the state of Delaware.
- Jun 15 1859 – Pig War: Ambiguity in the Oregon Treaty leads to the "Northwestern Boundary Dispute" between U.S. and British/Canadian settlers.
- Jun 15 1863 – Civil War: President Lincoln, in an effort to Washington, D.C., put out an emergency call for 100,000 troops from the state militias of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, and West Virginia. Although the troops were not needed, and the call could not be fulfilled in such a short time, it was an indication of how little the Union authorities knew of Lee's movements and how vulnerable they thought the Federal capital was.
- Jun 15 1864 – Civil War: Battle of Petersburg - Ulysses S. Grant's Army of the Potomac and Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia collide for the last time as the first wave of Union troops attacks Petersburg, a vital Southern rail center 23 miles south of the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia. The two massive armies would not become disentangled until April 9, 1865, when Lee surrendered and his men went home.
- Jun 15 1864 – Arlington National Cemetery is established when 200 acres (0.81 km2) around Arlington Mansion (formerly owned by Confederate General Robert E. Lee) are officially set aside as a military cemetery by U.S. Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton.
- Jun 15 1898 – Spanish American War: U.S. Marines attack Spanish off Guantánamo Cuba.
- Jun 15 1913 - Philippine American War: The 4 day Battle of Bud Bagsak ends with U.S. Brigadier General John "Black Jack" J. Pershing troops completely annihilating the Moro resistance fighters armed mostly with kris (dagger having a wavy double-edged blade), barongs (long, broad, leaf-shaped knifes), spears, and few guns.

- Jun 15 1940 - World War II: The 10 day Operation Ariel begins - Allied troops start to evacuate France, following Germany's takeover of Paris and most of the nation.
- Jun 15 1943– WW2: Paul Blobel, an SS colonel, is given the assignment of coordinating the destruction of the evidence of the grossest of Nazi atrocities, the systematic extermination of European Jews. Blobel certainly had some of that blood on his hands himself, as he was in charge of SS killing squads in German-occupied areas of Russia. He now drew together another kind of squad, "Special Commando Group 1,005," dedicated to this destruction of human evidence. Blobel began with "death pits" near Lvov, in Poland, and forced hundreds of Jewish slave laborers from the nearby concentration camp to dig up the corpses and burn them–but not before extracting the gold from the teeth of the victims.
- Jun 15 1944 – WW2: Battle of Saipan: The United States invade Japanese–occupied Saipan. The battle lasts 24 days with an ultimate U.S. victory.

LVTs heading for shore on 15 June 1944. *Birmingham* in foreground; the cruiser
firing in the distance is the *Indianapolis*.

- Jun 15 1965 – Vietnam: U.S. planes bomb targets in North Vietnam, but refrain from bombing Hanoi and the Soviet missile sites that surround the city. On June 17, two U.S. Navy jets downed two communist MiGs, and destroyed another enemy aircraft three days later. U.S. planes also dropped almost 3 million leaflets urging the North Vietnamese to get their leaders to end the war.

[Source: Various May 2017 ++]