

*The Date-A-Base Book*

**2016**

*sorted by date*

*Free Sample Edition  
Contains January 2016 only*

**ideas4writers**

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## *Introduction*

Welcome to the ninth edition of The Date-A-Base Book!

As always, every entry has been cross-checked with Encyclopaedia Britannica, official websites and other sources. This is not an easy process as there's an awful lot of 'disinformation' out there, and it's definitely getting worse. Whenever there was doubt – which there frequently was – we've tried to go back to the original source. Even so, we advise you to double-check each entry before using it, and satisfy yourself that it is 100% correct. If you come across any mistakes please let us know.

We'll post any corrections we hear about on the official ideas4writers blog:  
<http://ideas4writers.wordpress.com>

As far as possible, and where appropriate, we've used New Style (NS) dates from the Gregorian calendar.

Celebrities are notorious for knocking a few years off their ages. Wherever possible we've given both their real and claimed dates of birth, and noted which is which. Similarly, they don't always go by their real names, so we've used the names by which they are most commonly known. Their real names can easily be found in Encyclopaedia Britannica, Wikipedia, and other sources.

With such a vast number of worthy people to choose from, we elected to list only those who are included in Encyclopaedia Britannica, or those we've definitely heard of. We apologise if a few non-British household names didn't make the final cut.

We have generally not included living people, except for royalty and heads of state.

It was not possible to include every significant event from every war. We've chosen what we think are the main ones, but if we've left out something that you think should have been included please let us know.

### *How to use this book*

The **Ann.** column gives the anniversary of each entry, so 500 means the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that event. The date on which the event took place is listed next, followed by a brief description.

The most obvious way to use this book is to choose the entries that interest you, then write news reports, newspaper and magazine articles, short stories, novels, essays, stage plays, screenplays, poems, jokes, non-fiction books, guidebooks, biographies, TV/ radio features, and so on about them.

But how about thinking outside the box? For example, you might try to see the event through the eyes of someone who was there at the time. Or think about how the world might have been different if that person hadn't been born or had done something else, or if an event hadn't taken place, or if it had happened in a different way or at a different time. You could also use an event, or a series of them, as background detail in a novel or screenplay. Have your characters think about the events, and talk about them. Perhaps they could influence an event, or be influenced by it.

What most editors, publishers, broadcasters and producers are looking for is something original; something that hasn't been done before. They don't (necessarily) want the same old summary of a person's life, or a potted history and timeline of an event. They can probably write that in-house anyway, using their own staff writers – though it's always worth making an enquiry just in case. But you'll probably have more success if you provide them with something different, more compelling, a new angle; something that ties in with the date of the event, but which can run alongside the more

general features.

If you're writing about a person, don't just focus on his accomplishments; have a look at the other things going on in his life: problems, interests, hobbies, associations, relatives and relationships, fans, and so on. See if you can tie that in with one of your own areas of interest – you probably already read publications and visit websites related to that interest, so that's a good first market to aim for.

See if you can relate the item to something from your own life, or use it as a trigger to set off a series of memories and reminiscences that could lead to a new writing project. If you haven't written much before, or have never had anything published, try using the item as a starting point and write a letter about it to the editor of your local newspaper or your favourite magazine. Then see if you can get the coveted 'star letter' slot. Once you've achieved that, move on to other things such as short articles.

Don't limit yourself to printed publications. There are plenty of online publications that need writers, and some of them will even pay you. And don't limit yourself to your own country – there's a whole world out there that's interested in what you have to say.

Timing is important too, of course. You need to start work well in advance of the anniversary, so that your finished piece of writing appears in print – or on stage or screen – at exactly the right time. Most magazines work several months in advance, and if you're writing for the stage or screen you might need to have your script ready more than a year before the anniversary occurs. So you should look at getting the next edition of *The Date-A-Base Book* as soon as it becomes available!

**Dave and Kate Haslett**  
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## JANUARY 2016

Ann.	Date	Event
300	1 Jan 1716 (or 31 Dec 1715?)	Death of William Wycherley, English dramatist. Best known for his Restoration comedies <i>The Country-Wife</i> and <i>The Plain Dealer</i> .
250	1 Jan 1766	Death of James Francis Edward Stuart, (the 'Old Pretender'). Prince of Wales. Claimant to the English and Scottish thrones.
100	1 Jan 1916	Birth of Marvin Camras, American electrical engineer and inventor. Regarded as the father of magnetic tape recording.
70	1 Jan 1946	The first civil flight took off from London's Heathrow Airport, heading to Buenos Aires, Argentina.
60	1 Jan 1956	Sudan gained its independence from the United Kingdom and Egypt.
60	1 Jan 1956	Birth of Mark Reynolds Hughes, American entrepreneur. Founder of Herbalife. (Died 2000.)
50	1 Jan 1966	Jean-Bédél Bokassa became President of the Central African Republic after seizing power from David Dacko in a coup. He was also the self-proclaimed Emperor of Central Africa (1976–79), though this was not recognised internationally.
50	1 Jan 1966	Death of Vincent Auriol, President of France (1947–54) – the first president of the French Fourth Republic.
40	1 Jan 1976	The United Nations Centre Against Apartheid was established.
30	1 Jan 1986	Portugal and Spain joined the European Union.
30	1 Jan 1986	Aruba became autonomous from the Netherlands Antilles, though it remained part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
25	1 Jan 1991	The Soviet Union established full diplomatic relations with South Korea. (It had previously only recognised North Korea.)
25	1 Jan 1991	The Independent Television Commission (ITC) began operating in the UK. It licensed and regulated commercial television, replacing the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA). Its main functions were taken over by the Office of Communications (commonly known as Ofcom) in 2003.
20	1 Jan 1996	Death of Arleigh Burke, U.S. Navy admiral. One of the finest naval commanders in WWII and the Korean War. Chief of Naval Operations (1955–1961).
10	1 Jan 2006	The Pirate Party was founded in Sweden. It is currently the third-largest political party in Sweden (by membership) and aims to reform copyright and patent laws. Other Pirate Parties have since been established in other countries.
10	1 Jan 2006	Death of Harry Magdoff, American economist, educator and magazine editor. Known for his bestselling book <i>The Age of Imperialism: The Economics of U.S. Foreign Policy</i> , and as the co-editor of the Marxist publication <i>Monthly Review</i> .
150	2 Jan 1866	Birth of Gilbert Murray, Australian-born British classical scholar. A leading authority on Ancient Greece. Noted for his translations of the masters of ancient Greek drama.
80	2 Jan 1936	Birth of Roger Miller, American singer, songwriter and musician. Best known for his novelty and country songs. (Died 1992.)

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Ann.	Date	Event
75	2 Jan 1941	World War II: Llandaff Cathedral in Cardiff, Wales was severely damaged during a German bombing raid.
70	2 Jan 1946	King Zog I of Albania formally abdicated. He had been in exile since 1939. (See also: 11 <sup>th</sup> January below.)
30	2 Jan 1986	Death of Bill Veeck, American baseball executive and promoter. Particularly noted for his publicity stunts.
25	2 Jan 1991	Sharon Pratt Dixon became Mayor of Washington, D.C., becoming the first African American woman to lead a major U.S. city.
20	2 Jan 1996	The first convoy of American peacekeeping troops arrived in Northern Bosnia following the end of the Bosnian War. This was the USA's first military involvement in Europe since WWII.
15	2 Jan 2001	Sila María Calderón became the first female Governor of Puerto Rico.
10	2 Jan 2006	Death of Cecilia Muñoz-Palma, the first woman to be appointed as an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court of the Philippines.
100	3 Jan 1916	Birth of Maxene Andrews, American singer (The Andrews Sisters).
100	3 Jan 1916	Death of Grenville Mellen Dodge, American army officer, civil engineer, businessman and Congressman who helped direct the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad.
75	3 Jan 1941	World War II: the U.S. Government announced its Liberty ship-building programme. Hundreds of cargo ships would be built to support the war effort and replace those that had been lost.
70	3 Jan 1946	Death of William Joyce, ('Lord Haw-Haw'), British fascist politician who broadcasted Nazi propaganda from Germany during WWII. (Executed for treason.)
60	3 Jan 1956 (or 4 <sup>th</sup> ?)	Death of Alexander Gretchaninov (also spelled Aleksandr Grechaninov), Russian-born American composer. Noted for his religious and children's music.
60	3 Jan 1956	Death of Joseph Wirth, Chancellor of Germany (1921–22).
50	3 Jan 1966	The President of Upper Volta (now Burkina Faso), Maurice Yaméogo, was forced to resign following widespread protests over his single-party rule. He was succeeded by Sangoulé Lamizana who led a provisional military government until a new constitution was approved in June 1970.
50	3 Jan 1966	The Psychedelic Shop, the first head shop (also known as a legal high shop) in the USA, opened in San Francisco, California. (It sold hallucinogenic herbs, legal highs, incense, counterculture art and music, underground newspapers and magazines, new age clothing, and related products, some of which were illegal in other states or countries.)
15	3 Jan 2001	Former U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton became the first female Senator from New York, and the first former First Lady to be elected to public office.
10	3 Jan 2006	Death of Sir Bill Skate, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea (1997–99). He helped broker a ceasefire between the Government and Bougainville Island rebels, which ended the island's war of secession and led to its autonomy.
80	4 Jan 1936	<i>Billboard</i> magazine published the first music hit parade in the USA.

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Ann.	Date	Event
75	4 Jan 1941	Birth of Maureen Reagan, American political activist and women's rights advocate. Daughter of U.S. President Ronald Reagan. (Died 2001.)
75	4 Jan 1941	Death of Henri Bergson, major French philosopher and literary stylist. Winner of the 1927 Nobel Prize for Literature.
65	4 Jan 1951	Korean War: North Korean and Chinese forces captured Seoul, the capital city of South Korea.
40	4 Jan 1976	The Troubles in Northern Ireland – the Reavey and O'Dowd killings, County Armagh. 6 unarmed Catholic civilians were shot dead by members of the Ulster Volunteer Force. (This led to a revenge attack – see below.)
30	4 Jan 1986	Death of Christopher Isherwood, British-born American novelist.
30	4 Jan 1986	Death of Phil Lynott, British-born Irish rock singer and musician (Thin Lizzy).
20	4 Jan 1996	Death of Ramón Vinay, Chilean operatic tenor.
10	4 Jan 2006	Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon suffered a stroke that left him in a coma for the rest of his life. Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Olmert took over. (Ariel Sharon died in January 2014.)
10	4 Jan 2006	Death of Sheikh Maktum ibn Rashid al-Maktum (also spelled Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum), Emir of Dubai (1990–2006), Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates (1971–79, 1990–2006).
10	4 Jan 2006	Death of Irving Layton, Romanian-born Canadian poet.
75	5 Jan 1941	Death of Amy Johnson, pioneering British aviator. (Drowned in the Thames Estuary near London after bailing out of her plane which had run out of fuel and crashed in adverse weather.)
60	5 Jan 1956	Death of Mistinguett, popular French singer and entertainer. The world's highest-paid female entertainer. Noted for her beautiful legs and lively stage persona.
40	5 Jan 1976	The Troubles in Northern Ireland – the Kingsmill massacre, County Armagh. 10 Protestant workmen travelling in a minibus were shot dead by members of the South Armagh Republican Action Force in a revenge attack for the Reavey and O'Dowd killings the previous day (see above).
40	5 Jan 1976	Pol Pot's communist Khmer Rouge regime proclaimed a new constitution in Cambodia and renamed the country Democratic Kampuchea. (The regime collapsed in 1979 and the country was renamed the People's Republic of Kampuchea until May 1989 when it became the State of Cambodia.)
40	5 Jan 1976	A nationwide television service was launched in South Africa. It was a colour service from the outset, though there was only one channel. (A second channel was introduced in 1981.)
40	5 Jan 1976	Death of John A. Costello, Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of Ireland (1948–51, 1954–57).
25	5 Jan 1991 (to 24 June 1992)	Georgian–Ossetian Conflict – the South Ossetia War (also known as the First South Ossetia war), northern Georgia. After the war, the region was divided between Georgia and Ossetia.
25	5 Jan 1991	Death of Vasko Popa, Serbian poet.

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20	5 Jan 1996	Death of Lincoln Kirstein, American writer, impresario and art connoisseur who co-founded the New York City Ballet.
10	5 Jan 2006	Death of Lord Merlyn-Rees, Welsh-born Labour politician. Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (1974–76), Home Secretary (1976–79).
400	6 Jan 1616	Death of Philip Henslowe, English theatrical entrepreneur and impresario.
125	6 Jan 1891	The world's first penalty kick (football/soccer) was taken by Airdrieonians FC in Scotland. (The first penalty kick in the English football league was taken by Wolverhampton Wanderers in September 1891.)
75	6 Jan 1941	U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his famous <i>Four Freedoms</i> speech in his State of the Union Address. They were: the freedom of speech and expression, the freedom of people to worship God in their own way, the freedom from want, and the freedom from fear.
70	6 Jan 1946	Birth of Syd Barrett, British rock singer, guitarist and songwriter (Pink Floyd). Noted for his secluded lifestyle and drug abuse. (Died 2006.)
50	6 Jan 1966	Death of Jean Lurçat, French artist and designer. Noted for reviving the art of tapestry.
25	6 Jan 1991 (to 7 <sup>th</sup> )	Attempted coup in Haiti. Roger Lafontant, the former leader of the Tonton Macoutes, launched a failed bid to take over the government. He and his accomplices were arrested. (He was sentenced to life in prison and was killed during a prison coup in September.)
10	6 Jan 2006	Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical <i>The Phantom of the Opera</i> became the longest-running show in Broadway history, beating the record held by <i>Cats</i> .
10	6 Jan 2006	Death of Lou Rawls, American gospel / R&B / soul / jazz / blues singer, actor, voice actor, songwriter and record producer.
100	7 Jan 1916	Birth of Paul Keres, Estonian chess grandmaster and writer.
75	7 Jan 1941	Birth of Iona Brown, British violinist and conductor. (Died 2004.)
50	7 Jan 1966 (to 8 <sup>th</sup> )	The current world record for the most rain in 24 hours was set: 71.9 inches (1,825 mm) at Foc-Foc, Réunion, Indian Ocean, during tropical cyclone Denise. (The current record for the most rain in 12 hours was also set.)
50	7 Jan 1966	Birth of Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy, American publicist. Wife of John F. Kennedy, Jr. (Died 1999.)
30	7 Jan 1986	Death of Juan Rulfo, Mexican novelist, short story writer and photographer. Considered one of Latin America's finest authors.
20	7 Jan 1996	Death of Károly Grósz, Hungarian communist politician. Prime Minister of Hungary (1987-88).
10	7 Jan 2006	Death of Heinrich Harrer, Austrian mountaineer, explorer and writer. A member of the team that made the first successful ascent of the North Face of the Eiger. Known for his books <i>Seven Years in Tibet</i> and <i>The White Spider</i> .
100	8 Jan 1916	Death of Ada Rehan, popular Irish-born American actress.
90	8 Jan 1926	Abdul-Aziz ibn Saud became King of Nejd and Hejaz. In 1932 he united 4 regions and established the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with himself as its first King.



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75	8 Jan 1941	Birth of Graham Chapman, British comedian and writer (Monty Python). (Died 1989.)
75	8 Jan 1941	Death of Robert Baden-Powell, 1 <sup>st</sup> Baron Baden-Powell, British army officer. Founder of the Scouts and Guides movements.
50	8 Jan 1966 (to 14 <sup>th</sup> )	Vietnam War – Operation Crimp (the Battle of the Ho Bo Woods). U.S. and Australian forces targeted a key Viet Cong headquarters, believed to be concealed underground. US–Australian tactical victory.
50	8 Jan 1966	Birth of Andrew Wood, American alternative rock singer, songwriter and musician (Mother Love Bone, Malfunkshun). (Died 1990.)
40	8 Jan 1976	Death of Zhou Enlai, the first Premier of China (1949–76).
30	8 Jan 1986	<i>The Hacker Manifesto</i> (also known as <i>The Conscience of a Hacker</i> ) was published.
25	8 Jan 1991	Cannon Street Station rail crash, London. A commuter train ran into buffers at the end of a platform, killing 2 people and injuring over 500.
25	8 Jan 1991	Death of Steve Clark, British rock guitarist (Def Leppard).
20	8 Jan 1996	Netgear, the computer networking equipment manufacturer, was founded in San Jose, California, USA.
20	8 Jan 1996	Death of François Mitterrand, President of France (1981–95).
10	8 Jan 2006	Death of Tony Banks, Baron Stratford, British Labour politician. Minister for Sport (1997–99). Noted for his outspoken comments and his passion for sport and animal welfare.
200	9 Jan 1816	British inventor Sir Humphry Davy tested his miners' safety lamp (also known as the Davy lamp) for the first time at Hebburn Colliery, Tyne and Wear.
100	9 Jan 1916	World War I: the Gallipoli Campaign ended. Ottoman victory.
100	9 Jan 1916	Birth of Vic Mizzy, American film and television music composer and songwriter. Best known for the themes to the 1960s TV shows <i>The Addams Family</i> and <i>Green Acres</i> . He also composed music for popular songs recorded by Doris Day, The Andrews Sisters and others.
100	9 Jan 1916	Birth of Peter Twinn, important British mathematician and WWII code-breaker who worked with Alan Turing to break the Enigma code.
80	9 Jan 1936	Death of John Gilbert, ('The Great Lover'), American actor. One of the major stars of the silent film era.
75	9 Jan 1941	Britain's Avro Lancaster heavy bomber made its first flight. It entered service in February 1942.
65	9 Jan 1951	The United Nations headquarters in New York City, USA was officially opened.
60	9 Jan 1956	The first <i>Dear Abby</i> advice column appeared in the <i>San Francisco Chronicle</i> . It is now syndicated to about 1,400 newspapers worldwide.
30	9 Jan 1986	Britain's Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine resigned from the Cabinet after a row with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher over the Westland helicopter affair. (See also: 24 <sup>th</sup> January below.)
30	9 Jan 1986	Kodak ceased making instant cameras and film after losing a patent battle with Polaroid.

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20	9 Jan 1996 (to 18 <sup>th</sup> )	First Chechen War – the Kizlyar–Pervomayskoye hostage crisis. Chechen separatist guerrillas attacked a military airbase near Kizlyar and took thousands of civilians hostage. In the ensuing battle with Russian forces, the village of Pervomayskoye was completely destroyed by artillery fire. Chechen separatist victory.
15	9 Jan 2001	DNA analysis of Mungo Man (ancient human remains found in New South Wales, Australia) showed that it was the earliest human specimen ever found in Australia. It also challenged the theory that all modern humans evolved in Africa as it appeared to have evolved from a separate genetic line. The findings are controversial as the remains were in poor condition and the indigenous people have refused to allow further testing.
10	9 Jan 2006	<i>The Howard Stern Show</i> moved to the USA's Sirius Satellite Radio network in an exclusive \$100 million per year deal that multiplied his audience by almost 10 times.
100	10 Jan 1916 (to 16 Feb)	World War I – Caucasus Campaign – the Erzerum Offensive (Ottoman Empire). Russian victory.
100	10 Jan 1916	Birth of Sune Bergström, Swedish biochemist. Joint winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his work on prostaglandins.
80	10 Jan 1936	Birth of Stephen Ambrose, American biographer and historian. Best known for his biographies of Presidents Eisenhower & Nixon. (Died 2002.)
80	10 Jan 1936	Birth of Burnum Burnum, Australian Aboriginal activist, actor and writer. Noted for his flamboyant stunts. (Died 1997.)
75	10 Jan 1941	Death of Frank Bridge, British composer, conductor, teacher and viola virtuoso. One of the most accomplished musicians of his era.
70	10 Jan 1946	The United Nations General Assembly convened for the first time, in Westminster Central Hall, London. (See also: 17 <sup>th</sup> January below.)
60	10 Jan 1956	Elvis Presley recorded the song <i>Heartbreak Hotel</i> . It was his first single for RCA and was released on 27 <sup>th</sup> January. It topped the Billboard chart for 7 weeks and became his first record to sell over 1 million copies.
40	10 Jan 1976	Death of Howling Wolf (Chester Burnett), American Chicago Blues singer, guitarist, harmonica player and composer.
30	10 Jan 1986	Death of Jaroslav Seifert, Czech poet, writer and journalist. Winner of the 1984 Nobel Prize for Literature.
125	11 Jan 1891	Death of Georges-Eugène Haussmann, (Baron Haussmann), influential French urban planner who reconstructed central Paris.
75	11 Jan 1941	Death of Emanuel Lasker, German chess master. World champion 1894–1920. Considered one of the greatest players of all time.
70	11 Jan 1946	Following King Zog I of Albania's abdication (see 2 <sup>nd</sup> January) Prime Minister Enver Hoxha declared the People's Republic of Albania with himself as leader/dictator.
65	11 Jan 1951	The USA established the Nevada Test Site for the testing of nuclear devices. The first test was carried out on 27 <sup>th</sup> January when a 1-kiloton bomb was dropped on Frenchman Flat, a dry lake bed.
50	11 Jan 1966	Death of Alberto Giacometti, Swiss sculptor and artist. Noted for his attenuated, isolated figures.

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Ann.	Date	Event
50	11 Jan 1966	Death of Hannes Kolehmainen, Finnish long-distance runner. The first of the 'Flying Finns'. Gold medallist in the 5,000m, 10,000m and cross-country at the 1912 Olympics, and the Olympic marathon winner in 1920.
50	11 Jan 1966	Death of Lal Bahadur Shastri, Prime Minister of India (1964–66).
30	11 Jan 1986	The Gateway Bridge in Brisbane, Australia was officially opened.
30	11 Jan 1986	Death of Sid Chaplin, British novelist, television screenwriter, short story writer and poet. Noted for his works set in north-east England during the 1940s and 50s.
25	11 Jan 1991	Death of Carl David Anderson, American physicist. Joint winner of the 1936 Nobel Prize for Physics for discovering the positron – the first known antimatter particle. He also discovered the muon.
20	11 Jan 1996	Ryutaro Hashimoto became Prime Minister of Japan following Tomiichi Murayama's resignation.
15	11 Jan 2001	AOL and Time Warner merged to form AOL Time Warner.
10	11 Jan 2006	Death of Mark Spoon (real name: Markus Löffel), German DJ, musician and record producer who helped pioneer trance music.
150	12 Jan 1866	The Royal Aeronautical Society was founded in London (as the Aeronautical Society of Great Britain).
100	12 Jan 1916	Birth of P. W. Botha, State President of South Africa (1984–89), Prime Minister of South Africa (1978–84).
100	12 Jan 1916 ?	Birth of Jay McShann, American jazz / blues / swing pianist, singer, composer and big band leader who helped create the 'Kansas City Sound'.
75	12 Jan 1941	Birth of Long John Baldry, British-born Canadian blues singer and voice-over artist. (Died 2005.)
50	12 Jan 1966	Vietnam War: in his State of the Union address, U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson said U.S. forces should continue fighting in Vietnam until communist aggression there was ended.
50	12 Jan 1966	The first episode of the television series <i>Batman</i> was broadcast on ABC in the USA.
40	12 Jan 1976	Death of Dame Agatha Christie, British crime novelist, short story writer and playwright. Best known for creating the characters Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, and for the world's longest-running play <i>The Mousetrap</i> .
25	12 Jan 1991	Gulf War: the U.S. Congress voted in favour of military action against Iraq to end its occupation of Kuwait if it did not withdraw by the UN's 15 <sup>th</sup> January deadline. (See also: 16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> January below.)
20	12 Jan 1996	The first Malaysian communications satellite <i>MEASAT-1</i> was launched.
10	12 Jan 2006	At least 346 people were killed in a stampede during the annual Hajj pilgrimage in Mina, Saudi Arabia.
400	13 Jan 1616	Birth of Antoinette Bourignon, French–Flemish mystic who believed she was chosen by God to restore true Christianity on Earth.
75	13 Jan 1941	Death of James Joyce, Irish novelist ( <i>Ulysses</i> , <i>Finnegans Wake</i> , <i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> , <i>Dubliners</i> ).
65	13 Jan 1951 (to 17 <sup>th</sup> )	First Indochina War – the Battle of Vinh Yên. French Union victory.

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Ann.	Date	Event
40	13 Jan 1976	American inventor Raymond Kurzweil unveiled the Kurzweil Reading Machine – a flatbed scanner which could read pages of text out loud in a synthesised voice. It allowed blind people to understand written text.
40	13 Jan 1976	Death of Margaret Leighton, British stage, film and television actress.
25	13 Jan 1991	Soviet forces attacked the Vilnius TV Tower in an attempt to prevent the secession of Lithuania, which had declared independence in March 1990. 14 people were killed and 400 injured. (Lithuania's independence was widely recognised in Sept 1991. It joined the UN on 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1991.)
15	13 Jan 2001	El Salvador earthquake and landslide. More than 800 people were killed. A second earthquake struck a month later.
250	14 Jan 1766	Death of Frederick V, King of Denmark and Norway, Duke of Schleswig and Holstein (1746–66).
150	14 Jan 1866	Birth of Art Young, American socialist/satirical cartoonist, writer and campaigner. Particularly known for his cartoons which appeared in <i>The Masses</i> magazine.
50	14 Jan 1966	Death of Bill Carr, American athlete. Gold medallist in the 400m and 4 x 400m relay at the 1932 Olympics.
50	14 Jan 1966	Death of Sergei (also spelled Sergey) Korolev, Soviet rocket engineer and spacecraft designer. Considered the father of practical astronautics.
40	14 Jan 1976	The first episode of the science fiction television series <i>The Bionic Woman</i> was broadcast on ABC in the USA. It was a spin-off show from <i>The Six Million Dollar Man</i> and ran for 3 seasons.
40	14 Jan 1976	Death of Abdul Razak Hussein, Prime Minister of Malaysia (1970–76).
30	14 Jan 1986	Death of Donna Reed, award-winning American film and TV actress.
20	14 Jan 1996	Álvaro Arzú became President of Guatemala.
10	14 Jan 2006	Death of Jim Gary, American sculptor. Best known for creating large metal dinosaurs from discarded car parts. He also created figures and other artwork including stained glass.
10	14 Jan 2006	Death of Shelley Winters, Academy Award-winning American stage, film and television actress ( <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> , <i>A Patch of Blue</i> , <i>A Place in the Sun</i> , <i>The Big Knife</i> , <i>Lolita</i> , <i>The Night of the Hunter</i> , <i>Alfie</i> , <i>The Poseidon Adventure</i> , and more).
150	15 Jan 1866	Birth of Nathan Söderblom, Swedish Lutheran archbishop and theologian. Winner of the 1930 Nobel Peace Prize.
80	15 Jan 1936	The first building to be made entirely from glass blocks was completed: the Owens-Illinois Glass Company's Research Laboratory in Toledo, Ohio, USA. It was built using the company's own <i>Insulux</i> blocks.
75	15 Jan 1941	Birth of Captain Beefheart (Don Van Vliet), American rock / blues / jazz / avant-garde singer, musician, songwriter and artist. (Died 2010.)
50	15 Jan 1966	The Prime Minister of Nigeria, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, was overthrown and executed in a military coup. He was succeeded (as Head of the Federal Military Government) by Major General Johnson Aguiyi-Ironsi.
30	15 Jan 1986	The National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) opened at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, providing high-performance computing resources to researchers across the USA.

## JANUARY 2016

Ann.	Date	Event
20	15 Jan 1996	Death of Moshoeshoe II, Paramount Chief (King) of Lesotho (1966–90, 1995–96). Succeeded by his son Letsie III.
20	15 Jan 1996 (or 18 <sup>th</sup> ?)	Death of Minnesota Fats, American pool player.
15	15 Jan 2001	Wikipedia, the online collaborative encyclopaedia, was officially launched.
10	15 Jan 2006	The capsule from NASA's <i>Stardust</i> spacecraft successfully returned to Earth after a 6-year mission to collect cosmic dust and dust from the coma of the comet <i>Wild 2</i> . (In August 2014 scientists announced that the capsule had possibly captured the first interstellar dust particles ever returned to Earth.)
10	15 Jan 2006	Death of Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of Kuwait (1977–2006). Succeeded by Saad Al-Salim Al-Sabah (for 9 days) and then by Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah (on 29 <sup>th</sup> January).
500	16 Jan 1516 or 13 <sup>th</sup> ?	Birth of Bayinnaung, Emperor of Siam (1564–81), King of Burma (Myanmar) (1550–81).
400	16 Jan 1616	Birth of François de Vendôme, Duke of Beaufort, French prince and admiral. A prominent figure in the Fronde.
150	16 Jan 1866	Death of Phineas Quimby, American spiritual teacher, mesmerist and healer. An exponent of mental healing. Regarded as the founder of the New Thought movement.
125	16 Jan 1891	Death of Léo Delibes, French composer of operas and ballets.
30	16 Jan 1986	The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) was established. Its purpose is to create voluntary standards to maintain and improve the usability and interoperability of the internet.
30	16 Jan 1986	Death of Herbert W. Armstrong, American evangelist, author and publisher. A pioneer of radio- and tele-evangelism. Founder of the Radio Church of God (later renamed the Worldwide Church of God).
25	16 Jan 1991	Gulf War: Iraqi forces began setting fire to oil wells in Kuwait. Between 605 and 732 oil wells burned uncontrollably until April when the first fire was extinguished and the well capped. The last well was capped in November. Approximately 1 billion barrels of oil were lost.
20	16 Jan 1996	Death of Marcia Davenport, American writer, biographer and music critic.
10	16 Jan 2006	Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf became President of Liberia – the first female elected head of state in Africa.
70	17 Jan 1946	The United Nations Security Council met for the first time, in London.
50	17 Jan 1966	Palomares Incident, Spain. A U.S. Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs collided with a Boeing Stratotanker while attempting to refuel over the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Spain. The Stratotanker exploded, killing all four crew. Three of the B-52's seven crew were killed. Three of the bombs landed near the village of Palomares, Spain and were quickly recovered – the non-nuclear explosives in two of them had detonated, contaminating the area with plutonium. The fourth bomb was recovered from the sea on 7 <sup>th</sup> April after an extensive search.
50	17 Jan 1966	The album <i>Sounds of Silence</i> by Simon and Garfunkel was released.

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Ann.	Date	Event
25	17 Jan 1991 (to 28 Feb)	Gulf War – Operation Desert Storm. US-led coalition forces bombed Iraq and forced it to withdraw its forces from Kuwait. Coalition victory.
25	17 Jan 1991	Death of King Olav V of Norway. Succeeded by his son Harald V.
20	17 Jan 1996	Death of Amber Hagerman, American child who was kidnapped and murdered, aged 9, leading to the introduction of the 'Amber Alert' child abduction alert system.
20	17 Jan 1996	Death of Barbara Jordan, American politician, lawyer, educator and civil rights leader. The first African American congresswoman from the southern states.
150	18 Jan 1866	Wesley College was established in Melbourne, Australia.
80	18 Jan 1936	Death of Rudyard Kipling, British writer and poet ( <i>The Jungle Book</i> , <i>Kim</i> , <i>If</i> and many others). Winner of the 1907 Nobel Prize for Literature.
75	18 Jan 1941	Birth of David Ruffin, American soul singer and musician ( <i>The Temptations</i> ). (Died 1991.)
50	18 Jan 1966	Robert Clifton Weaver became U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development – the first African American member of the U.S. cabinet.
40	18 Jan 1976	The Scottish Labour Party was formed, as a breakaway party from the UK Labour Party. (It was dissolved in 1979.)
25	18 Jan 1991	The USA's Eastern Air Lines closed down after 62 years due to financial problems.
20	18 Jan 1996	Death of N. T. Rama Rao, award-winning Indian film actor, director and politician. Chief Minister of the state of Andhra Pradesh (1983–84, 1984–89, 1994–95). Founder of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP).
15	18 Jan 2001	Death of Laurent Kabila, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (1997–2001). Assassinated by one of his bodyguards. Succeeded by his son Joseph Kabila.
250	19 Jan 1766	Death of Giovanni Niccolò Servandoni (also known as Jean-Nicolas Servan), Italian-born French theatrical designer and architect. Known for his Baroque stage sets and for the façade of the Church of Saint-Sulpice in Paris, France.
80	19 Jan 1936	Birth of Ziaur Rahman, President of Bangladesh (1976–1981).
75	19 Jan 1941	Birth of Tony Anholt, British television actor. Best known for his role as Charles Frere in the series <i>Howards' Way</i> . (Died 2002.)
70	19 Jan 1946	U.S. General Douglas MacArthur ordered the establishment of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East to try Japanese war criminals following WWII. It convened for the first time on 29 <sup>th</sup> April.
40	19 Jan 1976 (to 9 Feb)	Swine flu outbreak, Fort Dix, New Jersey, USA. 1 person died and 13 required hospitalisation. The outbreak prompted a mass immunisation programme throughout the USA. (There were multiple reports of side-effects from the immunisation; 500 people are thought to have contracted Guillain-Barré syndrome as a result, of whom 25 died.)

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Ann.	Date	Event
30	19 Jan 1986	The first computer virus that affected IBM-compatible PCs appeared. The virus, called (c) Brain, was created by two brothers from Pakistan and spread via infected floppy disks. (The first computer virus was Creeper, which appeared in 1971 and infected DEC PDP-10 mainframe computers. The first virus to infect personal computers was Elk Cloner, which appeared in 1982 and infected Apple II computers.)
20	19 Jan 1996	North Cape oil spill, Rhode Island, USA. Approximately 828,000 gallons (3.1 million litres) of heating oil was spilled in Block Island Sound and the Trustum Pond National Wildlife Refuge when a barge ran aground. The first major oil spill in the USA since the 1990 Oil Pollution Act was passed.
15	19 Jan 2001	Internet twins scandal. Two 6-month-old American twin girls were seized from a hotel in north Wales and taken into care after being bought over the internet for £8,200 by British couple Alan and Judith Kilshaw.
10	19 Jan 2006	NASA launched its <i>New Horizons</i> space probe to study the dwarf planet Pluto and its moons. It is expected to reach Pluto on 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2015.
10	19 Jan 2006	Death of Tony Franciosa, award-winning American stage, film and television actor.
10	19 Jan 2006	Death of Wilson Pickett, American soul / R&B / rock and roll singer and songwriter. His hit songs include <i>In the Midnight Hour</i> , <i>Mustang Sally</i> and <i>Funky Broadway</i> .
300	20 Jan 1716	Birth of Charles III, King of Spain (1759–88).
300	20 Jan 1716	Birth of Jean-Jacques Barthélemy, French archaeologist and writer. Best known for his popular novel <i>Travels of Anacharsis the Younger in Greece</i> .
125	20 Jan 1891 (or 30 <sup>th</sup> ?)	Death of Kalakaua, last King of Hawaii (1874–91). Succeeded by his sister Liliuokalani (see below).
80	20 Jan 1936	Death of King George V of the United Kingdom. Succeeded by Edward VIII.
75	20 Jan 1941	Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated as President of the United States for an unprecedented third term. (He was inaugurated for a fourth term in 1945, but died less than 3 months later.)
30	20 Jan 1986	Martin Luther King Day was celebrated as a federal holiday in the USA for the first time.
20	20 Jan 1996	The first Palestinian general election took place. Yasser Arafat was elected President of the Palestinian National Council in a landslide victory.
20	20 Jan 1996	Death of Gerry Mulligan, American jazz saxophonist, clarinetist, composer and arranger who helped popularise cool jazz.
15	20 Jan 2001	George W. Bush was inaugurated as the 43 <sup>rd</sup> President of the United States.
15	20 Jan 2001	The President of the Philippines, Joseph Estrada, was ousted amid mass protests of corruption. Vice-President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was sworn in as his replacement.
250	21 Jan 1766	Death of James Quin, British actor. The highest-paid British actor of his era. Convicted of manslaughter for killing another actor in a duel.
75	21 Jan 1941	World War II: the British communist newspaper, the <i>Daily Worker</i> (now the <i>Morning Star</i> ), was banned because of its support for the Soviet Union. (Ban lifted September 1942)

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Ann.	Date	Event
40	21 Jan 1976	The supersonic airliner Concorde went into commercial service in Britain and France, with simultaneous take-offs from London to Bahrain and Paris to Rio de Janeiro.
10	21 Jan 2006	Death of Ibrahim Rugova, first President of Kosovo (1992–2000, 2002–06).
100	22 Jan 1916	Birth of Henri Dutilleux, French composer.
80	22 Jan 1936	Birth of Ong Teng Cheong, the first directly elected President of Singapore (1993–99). (Died 2002.)
75	22 Jan 1941	World War II – Operation Compass – Allied forces captured Tobruk, Libya from Germany.
70	22 Jan 1946	U.S. President Harry S. Truman created the Central Intelligence Group. The interim authority was the direct predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and was disestablished in September 1947.
25	22 Jan 1991	Death of Robert Choquette, American-born Canadian novelist, poet, playwright and diplomat. Canadian ambassador to Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay (1968–70).
20	22 Jan 1996	Bosnian War: a mass grave was discovered near Brcko, Bosnia that contained the bodies of nearly 3,000 victims of Serb ethnic cleansing. They had been killed in May – June 1992.
10	22 Jan 2006	Evo Morales became President of Bolivia – its first democratically elected president to come from the indigenous population.
500	23 Jan 1516	Death of Ferdinand II, King of Sicily (1468–1516), King of Aragon (1479–1516), King of Castile (as Ferdinand V) (1474–1504), King of Naples (1504–16), King of Navarre (1512–16). Best known for sponsoring Christopher Columbus's voyage of discovery to the New World.
150	23 Jan 1866	Death of Thomas Love Peacock, English satirical novelist and poet. A close friend of poet Percy Bysshe Shelley – they influenced each others' work.
100	23 Jan 1916	Birth of Airey Neave, British politician, barrister and army officer. Shadow Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (1974–79). Escaped from Colditz Castle during WWII. (Killed by an INLA car bomb in March 1979 while leaving the House of Commons.)
75	23 Jan 1941	Aviator Charles Lindbergh, spokesman for the America First Committee (an anti-war organisation), testified before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He proposed that the USA should negotiate a neutrality pact with Germany, and voiced his opposition to the Lend-Lease bill. (President Franklin D. Roosevelt called his views 'defeatist', leading Lindbergh to resign his commission with the U.S. Army Air Force.)
60	23 Jan 1956	Death of Sir Alexander Korda, Hungarian-born British film director and producer. Founder of London Films. Owner of British Lion Films.
40	23 Jan 1976	Death of Paul Robeson, American actor, singer and civil rights activist.
30	23 Jan 1986	The first members were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame: Chuck Berry, James Brown, Ray Charles, Fats Domino, The Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley.
30	23 Jan 1986	Death of Joseph Beuys, controversial German avant-garde sculptor and performance artist.



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Ann.	Date	Event
25	23 Jan 1991	Death of Northrop Frye, Canadian literary critic and theorist. One of the most important literary theorists of the 20 <sup>th</sup> century.
100	24 Jan 1916	Birth of Jack Brickhouse, American sports broadcaster. Best known for his coverage of baseball games, particularly those involving the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago White Sox.
100	24 Jan 1916	Birth of Rafael Caldera, President of Venezuela (1969–74, 1994–99).
80	24 Jan 1936	Albert Sarraut became Prime Minister of France following Pierre Laval's resignation over the Abyssinia crisis.
60	24 Jan 1956 (or 26 <sup>th</sup> ?)	Birth of Lounès Matoub, Algerian singer, poet and political activist. (Assassinated 1998.)
50	24 Jan 1966	Indira Gandhi became Prime Minister of India for the first time [-1977]. (She was Prime Minister again from 1980 until her assassination in 1984.)
30	24 Jan 1986 (to 5 Feb 1987)	Wapping Dispute: 6,000 newspaper workers in London began a year-long strike against News International. There were several outbreaks of violence during the strike and over 1,000 arrests. The strike ultimately failed, ending restrictive trade union practices in the British newspaper publishing industry.
30	24 Jan 1986	British Trade and Industry Secretary Leon Brittan became the second cabinet minister (after Michael Heseltine) to resign over the Westland helicopter affair. (See also: 9 <sup>th</sup> January above.)
30	24 Jan 1986	The U.S. space probe <i>Voyager 2</i> made its closest approach to Uranus. The images it sent back led to the discovery of ten new moons and several new rings. It was the first (and, so far, only) spacecraft to visit Uranus. (It also visited Neptune in August 1989.)
30	24 Jan 1986	Death of L. Ron Hubbard, American science fiction writer who developed the Dianetics self-help system and founded the Scientology religion.
30	24 Jan 1986	Death of Gordon MacRae, American actor and singer. Best known for his roles in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals <i>Oklahoma!</i> and <i>Carousel</i> .
20	24 Jan 1996	Polish Prime Minister Jozef Oleksy resigned over alleged connections with the Soviet KGB.
10	24 Jan 2006	Death of Fayard Nicholas, American tap-dancer, actor and choreographer (the Nicholas Brothers).
10	24 Jan 2006	Death of Chris Penn, American film and television actor ( <i>Reservoir Dogs</i> , <i>Footloose</i> , <i>Rush Hour</i> and more). Brother of the actor Sean Penn.
20	25 Jan 1996	Death of Billy Bailey, American convicted murderer. The last person to be hanged in the USA.
20	25 Jan 1996	Death of Jonathan Larson, American composer and playwright. Best known for the Pulitzer Prize-winning rock musical <i>Rent</i> .
10	25 Jan 2006	Independent observers confirmed the discovery of OGLE-2005-BLG-390Lb, the first 'super-Earth' rocky extrasolar planet. It is thought to be about five times larger than the Earth with a surface temperature of around -220°C (-370°F).

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Ann.	Date	Event
300	26 Jan 1716	Birth of George Germain-Sackville, 1 <sup>st</sup> Viscount Sackville, British soldier and politician. Dismissed from the British Army for failing to obey orders. As Secretary of State for the Colonies (1775–82) he was partly to blame for the British defeat at Saratoga in the American Revolutionary War.
90	26 Jan 1926	Scottish engineer and inventor John Logie Baird gave the first demonstration of his television system to members of the Royal Institution and a reporter from <i>The Times</i> newspaper, at his laboratory in London.
70	26 Jan 1946	Félix Gouin became President of the Provisional Government of France (for 6 months).
60	26 Jan 1956 (to 5 Feb)	The 1956 Winter Olympics were held in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.
30	26 Jan 1986	Yoweri Museveni declared himself President of Uganda after his National Resistance Movement toppled Tito Okello's government. (He was sworn in on 29 <sup>th</sup> January.)
25	26 Jan 1991	Somalian dictator Siad Barre was forced out of office by a coalition of armed opposition groups. He was succeeded as President of Somalia by Ali Mahdi Muhammad.
20	26 Jan 1996	Whitewater scandal: Hillary Clinton testified before a grand jury regarding her investments in the Whitewater Development Corporation. This was the first time in U.S. history that a First Lady had been subpoenaed to testify before a grand jury.
20	26 Jan 1996	Death of Harold Brodkey, American novelist and short story writer.
20	26 Jan 1996	Death of Henry Lewis, American double bassist, conductor and orchestra director. The first African American to conduct at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
20	26 Jan 1996	Death of Dave Schultz, American Olympic and world champion freestyle wrestler. Olympic gold medallist 1984. (Shot dead by his team's sponsor, who was declared mentally ill.)
15	26 Jan 2001	Bhuj earthquake: a massive earthquake struck the Indian state of Gujarat, killing more than 20,000 people and injuring over 150,000. More than a million buildings were damaged or destroyed.
200	27 Jan 1816	Death of Samuel Hood, 1 <sup>st</sup> Viscount Hood, British admiral. Noted for his service in the American Revolutionary War and French Revolutionary Wars. Mentor to Horatio Nelson.
100	27 Jan 1916	World War I: Britain passed the Military Service Act, introducing conscription for all single men aged 18 to 41. Those who were exempt had to apply for a certificate of exemption before the Act came into effect on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March.
80	27 Jan 1936	Birth of Troy Donahue, American actor. A teen idol of the 1950s and 60s. (Died 2001.)
75	27 Jan 1941	The U.S. Ambassador to Japan, Joseph Grew, cabled the U.S. State Department to warn them that Japan was planning an attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. (His warning was ignored. The attack occurred on 7 <sup>th</sup> December. Some commentators say Britain and the USA knew of the attack in advance but allowed it to happen in order to bring the USA into WWII. Mainstream historians reject this.)

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Ann.	Date	Event
75	27 Jan 1941	Birth of Beatrice Tinsley, award-winning British-born New Zealand astronomer, cosmologist and educator. Noted for her important research on how stars and galaxies evolve over time. (Died 1981.)
60	27 Jan 1956	The first episode of the experimental radio anthology series <i>CBS Radio Workshop</i> was broadcast in the USA. It featured Aldous Huxley reading <i>Brave New World</i> . The series paved the way for other science fiction radio and television series such as <i>The Twilight Zone</i> .
60	27 Jan 1956	Death of Erich Kleiber, Austrian conductor.
20	27 Jan 1996	The first democratically elected President of Niger, Mahamane Ousmane, was overthrown in a military coup. He was succeeded by Ibrahim Baré Maïnassara (who was overthrown and assassinated in April 1999).
20	27 Jan 1996	International Holocaust Remembrance Day was observed for the first time. (27 <sup>th</sup> January marks the date when Auschwitz–Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp, was liberated.)
10	27 Jan 2006	Western Union discontinued its telegram service. It was the last company in the USA to offer the service. The service was acquired by iTelegram, which continues to operate it.
10	27 Jan 2006 ?	Death of Jean-Christophe Lafaille, celebrated French mountaineer. Noted for his 1992 solo 1-mile descent from Annapurna with a broken arm after his climbing partner was killed. (Disappeared on this date while attempting a solo climb of Makalu in Nepal.)
10	27 Jan 2006	Death of Gene McFadden, American singer, songwriter, musician and record producer (McFadden and Whitehead). Best known for the song <i>Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now</i> .
10	27 Jan 2006	Death of Johannes Rau, President of Germany (1999–2004).
175	28 Jan 1841	Birth of Sir Henry Morton Stanley, Welsh-born journalist and explorer of central Africa. Best known for his successful search for the missionary and explorer Dr. David Livingstone, and for his discoveries and subsequent development in the Congo region.
100	28 Jan 1916	Birth of Vergílio Ferreira, Portuguese teacher and novelist.
75	28 Jan 1941	The French–Thai War ended when a Japanese-mediated armistice came into effect. Ceasefire documents were signed on 31 <sup>st</sup> January and a peace treaty was signed on 9 <sup>th</sup> May when France ceded several Cambodian provinces to Thailand.
65	28 Jan 1951	Death of Carl Gustaf Mannerheim, President of Finland (1944–46).
60	28 Jan 1956	Elvis Presley made his first appearance on national television in the USA, on the Dorsey Brothers' variety show <i>Stage Show</i> .
30	28 Jan 1986	Space Shuttle <i>Challenger</i> disaster: the U.S. space shuttle <i>Challenger</i> exploded shortly after lift-off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, killing all 7 astronauts.
25	28 Jan 1991	Death of Red Grange, American football player (most notably with the Chicago Bears). One of the most famous players of the 20 <sup>th</sup> century. Named the best college football player of all time. Helped to popularise the NFL.
20	28 Jan 1996	Death of Joseph Brodsky, Russian-born American poet. Winner of the 1987 Nobel Prize for Literature. U.S. Poet Laureate (1991).

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Ann.	Date	Event
20	28 Jan 1996	Death of Jerry Siegel, American comic book writer. Co-creator of Superman with Joe Shuster.
10	28 Jan 2006	Death of Yitzhak Kaduri, Israeli Kabbalist rabbi, political campaigner and scholar of Jewish mysticism.
10	28 Jan 2006	Death of Henry McGee, British comedy actor. Best known for <i>The Benny Hill Show</i> and the <i>Sugar Puffs</i> commercials featuring the honey monster.
150	29 Jan 1866	Birth of Romain Rolland, French novelist, dramatist, essayist, idealist and pacifist. Winner of the 1915 Nobel Prize for Literature.
125	29 Jan 1891	Liliuokalani became Queen of Hawaii. She was its last monarch and only reigning queen.
90	29 Jan 1926	Violette Anderson became the first African American woman to practice law before the U.S. Supreme Court.
80	29 Jan 1936	The first inductees into the Baseball Hall of Fame were announced: Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson, Babe Ruth, and Honus Wagner. (Note: The Hall of Fame did not open until 1939.)
80	29 Jan 1936	Birth of Patrick Caulfield, British Pop Art artist and printmaker. (Died 2005.)
80	29 Jan 1936	Birth of James Jamerson, influential American bass guitarist who played on most of the Motown hits of the 1960s and early 70s. (Died 1983.)
75	29 Jan 1941	Death of Ioannis Metaxas, Prime Minister/dictator of Greece (1936–41).
60	29 Jan 1956	Death of H. L. Mencken, American journalist, essayist, satirist, critic and magazine editor. The most influential American literary critic of the 1920s.
50	29 Jan 1966	The musical <i>Sweet Charity</i> opened on Broadway.
40	29 Jan 1976	12 small IRA bombs exploded in the West End of London during the night. 1 person was injured.
40	29 Jan 1976	A former male model, Norman Scott, claimed in court that he was the homosexual lover of British Liberal Party leader Jeremy Thorpe during the 1960s. The scandal led to Thorpe resigning as party leader, losing his seat as an MP, and being charged with conspiracy to murder Scott. (He was later acquitted.)
30	29 Jan 1986	Death of Leif Erickson, American actor. Best known for playing Big John Cannon in the Western television series <i>The High Chaparral</i> .
25	29 Jan 1991 (to 1 Feb)	Gulf War – the Battle of Khafji, Saudi Arabia. The first major ground battle of the war. Iraqi troops attacked the city but were quickly driven back by Saudi and Qatari forces aided by U.S. Marines and U.S. air support.
25	29 Jan 1991	Death of Yasushi Inoue, Japanese historical novelist, poet, essayist and short story writer.
20	29 Jan 1996	La Fenice opera house in Venice, Italy was destroyed in an arson attack by two electricians who were facing heavy fines over delays in repair work. (Rebuilding began in 2001. The current opera house opened in Dec 2003.)
200	30 Jan 1816	Birth of Nathaniel Prentice Banks, American politician. Speaker of the House of Representatives (1856–57), Governor of Massachusetts (1858–61).
175	30 Jan 1841	Birth of Félix Faure, President of France (1895–99).

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Ann.	Date	Event
65	30 Jan 1951	Death of Ferdinand Porsche, Austrian automotive engineer who designed the Volkswagen Beetle and the Tiger tank and founded the Porsche sports car company.
30	31 Jan 1986 (& 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb)	Liechtenstein general election. This was the first election in Liechtenstein in which women were allowed to vote.
25	30 Jan 1991	Death of John Bardeen, American physicist and electrical engineer. Joint winner of the 1956 Nobel Prize for Physics for inventing the transistor. Joint winner of the 1972 Nobel Prize for Physics for developing the theory of superconductivity. The only person to win the prize twice.
10	30 Jan 2006	Death of Coretta Scott King, American civil rights activist and writer. Wife of Martin Luther King, Jr.
100	31 Jan 1916 (or 13 Feb?)	Birth of Frank Parker, American tennis player. World number 1 in 1948.
80	31 Jan 1936	<i>The Green Hornet</i> radio show was first broadcast on WXYZ in Detroit, USA.
70	31 Jan 1946	Yugoslavia adopted a new constitution and established 6 constituent republics: Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Macedonia.
60	31 Jan 1956	Death of A. A. Milne, British writer, poet, humorist and playwright. Best known for his hugely popular children's stories about <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> .
50	31 Jan 1966	The Soviet Union launched its spacecraft <i>Luna 9</i> to the Moon. On 3 <sup>rd</sup> February it became the first spacecraft to achieve a soft landing on another moon or planetary body, and the first to send back photos from the surface of another moon or planetary body.
40	31 Jan 1976	Death of Ernesto Miranda, American labourer whose conviction for kidnapping, rape and armed robbery was reversed when it was revealed that he had been interrogated by police and signed a confession without being told he had the right to remain silent or to have a lawyer present. This landmark case led to the police having to give 'Miranda warnings' to everyone they arrested, to inform them of their rights.
20	31 Jan 1996	Comet Hyakutake was discovered by Yuji Hyakutake, a Japanese amateur astronomer. It made its closest approach to the Earth on 25 <sup>th</sup> March and was easily visible to the naked eye, though only for a few days.
15	31 Jan 2001	A Scottish court sitting in the Netherlands convicted Abdelbaset Ali al-Megrahi from Libya of carrying out the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. A second Libyan was acquitted.
10	31 Jan 2006	Death of Moira Shearer, Scottish ballet dancer and actress. Best known for her performance in the film <i>The Red Shoes</i> . Wife of the journalist and broadcaster Ludovic Kennedy.

**End of Sample**

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