

Peace and War ... A Year of Decision

CHRONOLOGY OF 1950

DISASTERS Tragedy in Numbers

January

- 7-Forty-one die in week of rains, sleet, blizzards, flood and cold across U.S.
- 7-Forty-one die in fire at Catholic Mercy hospital, Davenport, Ia.
- 13-Thirteen die in army paratroop glider crash at Lawson Field, Ga.
- 20-Crash of Bolivian transport plane near Yacopartijo kills 32.
- 26-Iran earthquake kills 20.

February

- 12-Tornadoes take 43 lives in Shreveport area of Louisiana.



- 17-Thirty killed in Long Island RR wreck.
- 28-32 survivors of British ship Clam lost when lifeboats capsized off Iceland.

March

- 7-Thirteen perish as Washington, Seattle plane strikes flagpole in Minneapolis.
- 23-B-50 crash near Hyder, Ariz., kills 12.
- 28-U.S. ambassador to Canada, Lawrence Steinhardt, and four others killed in Ontario plane wreck.

April

- 20-Collision of Communist steamer and American liner kills 70.
- 21-Crash of air force transport near Tokyo kills 35.

May

- 18-Sixteen U.S. airmen die in B-26 crash in Azores.
- 19-Ammunition barges at South Amboy, N.J., blow up, killing 30.
- 21-Peru earthquake takes 58 lives.
- 25-Collision of Chicago streetcar and gasoline truck causes 33 persons to burn to death.

June

- 19-Explosion of British freighter in Red sea kills 72.
- 24-Plane's fall into Lake Michigan kills 58.
- 25-West Virginia floods take 33 lives.

July

- 4-July 4th accidents take 856 lives.
- 16-Columbia quake kills 126.
- 18-B-50 crash near Lebanon, Ohio, kills 16.
- 23-Air force crash near Myrtle Beach, S.C., kills 59.
- 30-Series of plane crashes in week kills 121.

August

- 5-B-29 crash at Fairfield-Suisun air base, Calif., kills 17, injures 60.
- 15-200 killed in India by second heaviest earthquake ever recorded.
- 16-China floods cause 489 deaths.
- 23-Navy hospital ship Benevolence collides with freighter near San Francisco, killing 18.

September

- 5-AP reports Labor Day death toll at 565.
- 7-Coal mine cave-in near New Cumberland, Scotland, kills 13.
- 9-Indian government reports that 1,000 died in August 15 Assam earthquake.
- 11-Train wreck takes lives of 33 Pennsylvania national guardsmen.
- 19-Navy air transport crash off Marshall Islands kills 26.
- 26-Eighty miners die in colliery fire at Creswell, England.

October

- 17-London plane crash kills 28.
- 18-Worst hurricane in 24 years batters Florida, causing \$15 million damage, killing three, injuring 65.
- 31-Second London air crash takes 28 lives.

November

- 4-Bombay to London plane missing with 48 aboard.
- 8-Wreckage of plane found near Butte, Mont., containing 22 dead.
- 23-Long Island, N.Y., train crash kills 77.

December

- 10-Three killed, 15 seriously injured in Cincinnati plant blast.

FOREIGN Aid Arms and Alliances

January

- 5-Truman rules out American defense of Formosa.
- 5-Britain recognizes Communist government of China.
- 9-U.S. says it will help Yugoslavia resist invasion.
- 12-Security Council accuses Russia of grabbing Chinese territory.
- 19-Bulgaria demands recall of U.S. minister as a spy.
- 26-India becomes a republic with no ties to British crown.
- 31-Truman orders U.S. production of hydrogen super-bomb as warning to foreign aggressors.

February

- 3-Top British scientist, Klaus Fuchs, arrested as Soviet atomic spy.
- 7-Western powers recognize pro-French Viet Nam.
- 14-Russia and Red China sign 30-year pact.
- 21-Two Americans sentenced in Hungary as spies.
- 21-U.S. breaks diplomatic relations with Bulgaria.

March

- 1-Chiang Kai-shek reclaims Chinese presidency.
- 1-Klaus Fuchs receives 14-year sentence as atom spy.
- 12-Belgian King Leopold wins narrow plebiscite victory.
- 22-West Germany offers plan for unification of Germany and a union between Germany and France.
- 31-U.S. house passes foreign aid bill.

April

- 1-Unified Atlantic defense plan ordered into effect.
- 8-India and Pakistan end strife.
- 13-Israel rejects Arab peace terms.

- 22-U.S. promises to defend west Berlin against Reds.
- 23-Chinese Red invaders overrun Hainan island.

May

- 3-Chinese Reds announce full surrender of Hainan.
- 8-U.S. approves arms aid for Indo-China.
- 10-Acheson wants west Germany as partner in cold war.
- 15-Trotsky Lie talks with Stalin in Moscow.
- 28-Berlin survives east German youth rally.

June

- 4-Pro-Leopoldists win narrow election victory in Belgium.
- 14-Trusteeship council gives up U.N. rule of Jerusalem.
- 25-North Koreans march on South Koreans, bringing biggest war crisis since World War II.
- 27-President Truman orders U.S. forces to help repel North Korean communists and says they will act as part of UN police force. Navy ordered to repel any Formosan invasion.

July

- 13-U.S.-South Korean retreat continues during third week.
- 24-Reds strengthen dictatorship in East Germany.
- 25-U.S. forces lose Yongdong.
- 26-Five more nations offer troops to UN as U.S. plans to demobilize 48 warships.

August

- 1-Belgian King Leopold agrees to abandon throne after uprisings. Russia returns to security council as Malik presides, but fails in move to expel Nationalist China.
- 3-Security council rebuffs Russia, votes to continue Korean discussion.
- 10-U.S. forces Soviet to admit in U.N. that Korean Reds have Russian weapons. Russian chairman deadlocks security council over procedural question.



- 18-Belgium's Communist leader assassinated.
- 20-"Burma Surgeon" Seagrave held as aide to Karen rebels.
- 22-Canadian railroads tied up in strike.
- 24-Red China asks UN to oust U.S. forces from Formosa.
- 27-Red China says U.S. planes have attacked Manchuria.
- 31-Russia's Malik ends month as security council chairman.

September

- 6-Russia vetoes anti-North Korean resolution.
- 19-Atlantic foreign ministers announce their nations will fight if Reds attack west Germany, agree to increase west German police and steel production, ease occupation curbs; disagree over use of German troops.
- 20-U.N. assembly convenes as U.S. proposes world peace plan.
- 26-North Atlantic foreign ministers agree on creating joint army.
- 28-Indonesia becomes U.N.'s 60th member.
- 29-U.N. security council invites Chinese Reds to November hearings on Formosa.

October

- 1-Fighting intensifies in French Indo-China.
- 12-Russia vetoes new term for U.N. Secretary General Trygve Lie.
- 19-U.N. approves U.S. veto-proof plan to enforce peace.
- 19-Sir Stafford Cripps resigns as British chancellor of the exchequer.
- 23-Chinese Reds announce they will invade Tibet.
- 27-India denounces Chinese invasion of Tibet.
- 31-U.N. adds three years to Secretary General Trygve Lie's term and favors ending boycott of Spain.

November

- 1-Puerto Rican revolt crushed.
- 4-French army routed again in Indo-China as Reds threaten Hanoi, the capital city.
- 4-U.N. rescinds diplomatic ban against Soviet.
- 6-Yugoslavia will side with U.N. on China policy.
- 6-Yugoslavia asks that Italy be admitted to U.N.
- 6-Burma court reduces treason charges against Dr. Gordon S. Seagrave.
- 8-U.N. invites Chinese Reds to answer U.S. charges of aggression in Korean war.
- 8-Chinese Red invaders near Tibetan capital.
- 30-President Truman's suggestion we use atom bomb frightens world.

December

- 6-Truman, Acheson reject appeasement of China.
- 10-Reds say Europe theirs if U.S. starts war.

KOREA U.N. and the 38th Parallel

June

- 25-North Korean Reds invade South Korea.
- 25-U.N. security council issues cease fire order.
- 27-President Truman orders U.S. naval forces under General MacArthur to help repel North Korean invaders and orders navy to defend Formosa.
- 27-Security council, minus Russia, invokes military sanctions against North Korea.
- 28-Seoul abandoned to Red invaders.

July

- 1-First American troops land in Korea as British navy goes into action.
- 5-U.S. troops enter Korean battle and Reds advance 15 miles.
- 7-U.N. authorizes U.S. to establish unified U.N. command in Korea.
- 8-Chunghui Chechun fall and Truman names MacArthur U.N. commander. U.S. second infantry alerted for Korean duty.
- 12-U.S. troops retreat across Kum as 10 U.S. tanks are destroyed in first tank battle at Chonui and Chochiwon.
- 16-South Koreans repel Reds above Pohang. U.S. first cavalry lands at Pohang and the 25th infantry division at Pusan.
- 20-U.S. abandons Taegu.
- 24-Reds in western Korea reach south coast and turn toward Pusan.
- 31-First marine division and second infantry reach Korea.

August

- 1-Americans counterattack 30 miles west of Pusan.
- 3-Americans fall back to Nakdong river line eight miles from Taegu as Reds drive to within 40 miles of Pusan. Security council rebuffs Russia and votes to continue Korean discussion.

Weekly Publishers Select Top Ten Stories

Here are the top ten news stories of 1950 as selected by a representative panel of weekly newspaper publishers, polled on their choices by The Publishers' Auxiliary:

1. Chinese Red intervention in Korea.
2. The initial invasion of South Korea and the U.N. decision to send military assistance.
3. President escapes assassination attempt.
4. Alger Hiss convicted of perjury.
5. Trial of Dr. Herman Sander on mercy killing charge.
6. Brink's robbery in Boston.
7. Senate investigates McCarthy charges.
8. MacArthur sends troops north of the 38th parallel.
9. President orders H-bomb production.
10. Pope proclaims dogma of assumption of Virgin Mary.

- 10-Reds strike at Pohang on east coast as Americans near Chinju. Soviet drive to admit North Koreans have Russian weapons.
- 13-Reds cross Nakdong as U.S. air forces stop using Pohang airstrip.
- 16-B-29 raid results in recapture by allies of Waegwan and repelling of Reds southeast of Taegu.
- 17-Reds near Taegu as South Koreans re-enter Pohang.
- 18-Reds halted at Taegu.
- 20-Reds' Nakdong river bridgehead eliminated as U.N. starts offensive north of Pohang.
- 26-Allies retreat near Pohang.
- 27-Reds take Kigye. Red China says U.S. planes attacked Manchuria.
- 28-Reds ousted from Kigye as first British troops arrive in South Korea.
- 31-Malik ends month as security council head. Pohang battle subsides.



September

- 15-U.N. forces land at Inchon, stop Reds in south.
- 21-Enemy approach Seoul in Korean offensive.

October

- 4-U.N. gives green light for all-out drive against North Korea.
- 6-MacArthur sends U.N. units across 38th parallel; Wonsan falls.
- 15-MacArthur-Truman hold meeting on Wake Island.
- 19-U.N. troops enter Pyongyang, North Korea, the capital city.
- 20-South Koreans reach Manchurian border.

November

- 1-Red Chinese stop U.N. drive in Korea.
- 3-North Korean and Red Chinese drive back U.N. elements 50 miles and trap several thousand U.S. troops.
- 6-MacArthur officially lashes Red China's intervention in Korea in note to U.N.
- 21-U.N. troops reach Manchurian border at Hyesanjin.
- 26-Enemy counterattacks stall U.N. push.
- 29-General MacArthur says we face new war in facing Chinese in Korea; Reds continue advance.

December

- 3-Two Red drives threaten rout of U.N. forces.
- 5-U.N. forces retreat to new line above Seoul.
- 5-Army spokesman says our position in Korea "not hopeless."
- 11-Encircled marines reach escape route.
- 11-India's U.N. delegate drafts ceasefire plan as Reds group just north of 38th parallel.

DOMESTIC Spies... A Hog in the House

January

- 3-Congress reconvenes. Truman asks passage of Fair Deal program, slight rise in taxes.
- 9-UMW begins series of "wildcat" strikes, heightening coal shortage.
- 9-Truman submits third deficit budget-income \$37.3 billion, outgo \$42.4 billion.
- 21-Alger Hiss, convicted of perjury, gets five years.
- 31-U.S. Missouri is pulled out of the mud.

February

- 6-Truman invokes Taft-Hartley act against coal miners.



March

- 11-John L. Lewis' miners refuse his advice, they obey two court injunctions and return to work.
- 22-Senate votes to investigate Senator McCarthy's charges there are Reds in state department.

April

- 4-Thomas Finletter becomes air force secretary.
- 10-Harry Bridges gets five years in prison for perjury.
- 26-Administration asks for defense-budget increase.

May

- 7-President begins "whistle stop" to defend Fair Deal.

- 10-Twenty-seven state railroad strike begins.
- 16-Six-day railroad strike ends.
- 23-General Motors signs five-year contract with UAW.

June

- 15-Second U.S. chemist Alfred Dean Slack arrested as Soviet spy.
- 25-AFL switchmen strike five western and mid-western railroads.

July

- 6-Strike against four of five railroads ends.
- 7-Truman asks for money for the FBI.
- 7-Army calls for 20,000 draftees.
- 9-W. Stuart Symington becomes civilian mobilization chief.
- 12-Government reports say profiteers send food and other prices climbing.
- 17-Ons atom spy confesses, fourth arrested.
- 24-Truman asks for \$10.5 billion to increase armed force by 600,000.
- 28-Truman calls for \$4 billion increase in foreign arms aid.

August

- 15-New York Mayor O'Dwyer named ambassador to Mexico.
- 17-Congress votes extension of social security coverage.
- 18-Eighth atomic spy suspect seized by FBI.
- 23-Nationwide railroad strike called for Aug. 28.
- 25-Truman seizes railroads to forestall strike.
- 28-Truman rebukes MacArthur on Formosa statement.

September

- 1-Senate votes \$4.5 billion in emergency taxes for Korean war.
- 12-General George Marshall replaces Defense Secretary Johnson.
- 20-Congress passes Communist control bill.
- 25-Supreme Court Justice Jackson decides 10 Red leaders may stay free on bail.

October

- 1-260 U.S. critical A-bomb target areas mapped.
- 2-Defense orders given priority.
- 7-Dr. Alan Valentine becomes stabilization chief.
- 15-Dewey endorses Eisenhower for president and denies he bought gubernatorial nomination.
- 18-Second Communist atom spy confesses.
- 23-U.S. round up 88 top alien Reds for deportation.
- 25-Truman says high rate of draft rejections calls for U.M.T.

November

- 1-President Truman escapes assassination attempt by Puerto Rican Nationalists.
- 3-Peter Collazo, Puerto Rican Nationalist, who was wounded in attempt on Truman's life, indicted for murder of Truman's guard as New York police round up New York Nationalists.
- 7-Democrats retain slim margin in house and senate.
- 30-Ways and Means committee approves excess profits tax of \$3.4 billion.

December

- 1-Truman asks \$17 billion for military program.
- 8-General Motors, Ford refuse to suspend price raises.

SPORTS Pennant for the Phillies

January

- 1-Bowl Games: Rose Bowl-Ohio State 17, California 14; Sugar Bowl-Oklahoma 33, Louisiana State 0; Cotton Bowl-Rice 27, North Carolina 13; Orange Bowl-Santa Clara 21, Kentucky 13.
- 14-Seven NCAA schools defy "sanity code."

March

- 18-CCNY defeats Bradley in national invitational basketball tournament.
- 28-CCNY becomes first team to win both national invitational and NCAA net tournaments by defeating Bradley.



April

- 8-Barney Ewell sets world 220-yd. dash record-20.8 secs.
- 9-Johnny Parsons captures Masters tourney in Augusta.
- 30-Fred Wilt runs Atlantic City Boardwalk Mile in 4 min., 5.5 secs., fastest outdoor mile run by an American.

May

- 6-Middleground wins Kentucky derby.
- 30-Johnny Parsons wins Indianapolis speedway Memorial Day classic.

June

- 2-Jim Fuchs, Yale, sets world's 12-lb. shotput record, 67' 1".
- 5-Ray Robinson defeats Robert Villamain for Pennsylvania recognition as middleweight champ.
- 17-U.S. team takes Wightman tennis cup.
- 23-Joe McCarthy resigns as manager of Boston Red Sox.

August

- 9-Ray Robinson retains welterweight title in fight with Charlie Fusari.
- 11-College All-Stars football team beats Philadelphia Eagles, 17-7.
- 27-Australian team wins international Davis Cup finals.

September

- 9-Sal Maglie, Giants, pitches fourth straight shutout to tie N.L. record.
- 12-Ezzard Charles retains heavy weight title by beating Joe Louis.

October

- 7-Yankees take fourth straight world series game from Philadelphia.
- 7-Notre Dame loses to Purdue after 38 straight victories.
- 16-Eddie Dyer resigns as St. Louis Cardinal manager.
- 18-Connie Mack retires as Philadelphia Athletics manager.

November

- 6-Branch Rickey takes over generalship of Pittsburgh Pirates.
- 6-A.P., U.P. polls rate first four grid teams in this order: Army, Ohio State, Oklahoma, Kentucky.
- 6-Eddie Sawyer, Phillies, selected baseball manager of the year; Walt Droppo, Boston Red Sox, selected rookie of the year.
- 27-Ray (Sugar) Robinson KO's France's Jean Stock.
- 29-Joe Louis outpoints Cesar Brion.

December

- 2-Navy eleven upsets Army, 14-2.
- 9-Noor wins \$100,000 Hollywood Gold Cup.

PANORAMA Eurasia and Elephants

January

- 17-Nine men in Halloween masks hold up Brink's, Inc., Boston, and escape with \$1 million in cash.

February

- 2-Ingrid Bergman gives birth to a son in Rome.
- 7-Carol Paignt acquitted in Bridgeport, Conn., of "mercy killing" of her father.



March

- 9-Dr. Herman Sander acquitted of "mercy killing."
- 22-Circus elephant kills schoolboy and is poisoned in Sarasota, Fla.

April

- 6-Kansas City political boss, Charlie Binaggio, slain.
- 27-Mrs. Elizabeth Bender Cloud, West Linn, Ore., half Indian, chosen mother of year.

May

- 14-Sen. Brien McMahon urges U.S. lead mightiest peace crusade in history.
- 22-Florida gets all-Negro court to try all-Negro cases.

June

- 7-Roy Shelton, third of notorious Shelton gang, slain.
- 17-Thomas E. Dewey announces re-election from politics after present term as governor of N.Y.

July

- 26-AMA plans to spend \$1,000,000 in advertising-lobbying program to defeat national health insurance.

August

- 7-Two Americans scale Peru's 21,769-ft. Mt. Yerupaja, highest unscalped peak in the Americas.
- 15-Wisconsin farm wife claims seeing her seventh victim of Virgin Mary.

September

- 1-Maj. Gen. Orvil Anderson suspended as commandant of war college for advocating preventive war.
- 5-Army asks for 70,000 draftees.
- 6-Truman apologizes to marine corps.
- 23-Two men investigating crime in Chicago killed by gangster bullets.

November

- 1-Pope Pius XII proclaims assumption of Virgin Mary.
- 4-Former circus roustabout admits settling 1944 Ringling Bros. circus fire.
- 5-Miami housewife booked for tossing children hot coins Halloween night.
- 6-Stocks decline in response to war news.
- 8-Capt. Daniel A. Gilbert, world's richest policeman, trounced in Chicago sheriff's race.

December

- 5-Gallup Poll says 55 percent of people feel World War III has started.
- 8-Truman threatens to punch music critic in nose for rapping Margaret's voice.

DEATHS Shaw, Arnold, Nijinski

January

- 15-Gen. Henry H. (Hap) Arnold, World War II commander.

February

- 13-Rafael Sabatini, Italian author.
- 26-Sir Harry Lauder, Scotch comedian and minstrel.

March

- 11-Brock Pemberton, theatrical producer.
- 19-Edgar Rice Burroughs, novelist.
- 25-Frank Buck, wild animal hunter.
- 30-Leon Blum, president of French Socialist party and former premier.

April

- 7-Walter Huston, stage and screen actor.
- 8-Vaslav Nijinsky, dancer.

May

- 4-William Rose Benet, Pulitzer prize poet, critic and editor.
- 24-Fred Marshall, Earl Wavell, British military leader.

June

- 23-Jane Cowell, stage star and playwright.

July

- 17-General Evangeline Cory Booth, formerly Salvation Army international commander.
- 18-Carl Van Doren, literary figure and teacher, Pulitzer prize winner.



August

- 22-William Lyon Mackenzie King, Canadian Liberal party chief and formerly prime minister.

September

- 11-Jan Christian Smuts, former prime minister of South Africa.
- 25-Eugene O'Neill, Jr., son of the playwright.

October

- 19-Edna St. Vincent Millay, poetess.
- 20-Henry L. Sumson, state secretary under Hoover, war secretary under Taft, F.D.R., Truman.
- 23-Al Jolson, singer.
- 29-Maurice Costello, former matinee idol.
- 29-King Gustav of Sweden.

November

- 2-George Bernard Shaw, playwright and wit.
- 4-Grover Cleveland Alexander, base ball pitcher.

December

- 5-Charles Ross, Presidential press secretary.



Crisis Conference

