

## U.S. Canadian Border

On **June 15, 1846**, Representatives of Great Britain and the United States sign the Oregon Treaty, which settles a long-standing dispute with Britain over who controlled the Oregon territory. The treaty established the 49th parallel from the Rocky Mountains to the Strait of Georgia as the boundary between the United States and British Canada. The United States gained formal control over the future states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana, and the British retained Vancouver Island and navigation rights to part of the Columbia River.

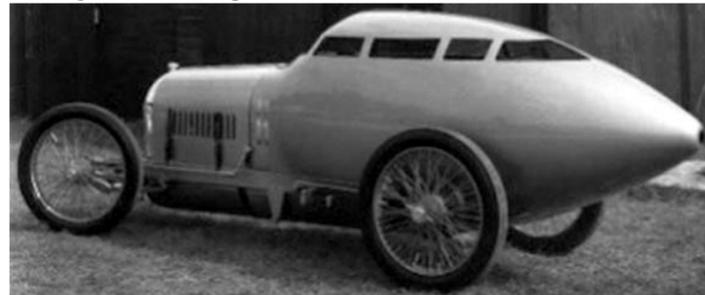
In 1818, a U.S.-British agreement had established the border along the 49th parallel from Lake of the Woods in the east to the Rocky Mountains in the west. The two nations also agreed to a joint occupation of Oregon territory for 10 years, an arrangement that was extended for an additional 10 years in 1827.

American expansionists urged seizure of Oregon, and in 1844 Democrat James K. Polk successfully ran for president under the platform "Fifty-four forty or fight," which referred to his hope of bringing a sizable portion of present-day Vancouver and Alberta into the U.S. However, neither President Polk nor the British government wanted a third Anglo-American war, and on June 15, 1846, the Oregon Treaty, a compromise, was signed. By the terms of the agreement, the U.S. and Canadian border was extended west along the 49th parallel to the Strait of Georgia, just short of the Pacific Ocean.

## Golden Submarine

On **June 16, 1917** Harry Miller completed the Golden Submarine, the first of his expensive custom-made race cars that would change the shape of things to come in American auto racing.

The Golden Submarine carried an unimaginable ticket price of \$15,000 at its



completion. Its gold color was the result of a combination of lacquer and bronze dust. Built for Barney Oldfield, America's most brash race-car driver, the Golden Submarine had an enclosed cockpit. Oldfield, who helped design the car, thought the closed cockpit would make the car safer if it rolled; he'd lost his close friend, Bob Burman, in a crash the year before.

The Golden Submarine was the first American race car to possess an all electrically welded steel chassis. Also unique to the sub was the liberal use of aluminum in engine and body components. The engine contained four cylinders and a single overhead cam. It put out 130hp at 290 cubic inches of piston displacement, and, most remarkable for its time, it only weighed 410 pounds. Consider that the car's competition carried engines that produced around 300hp at over 400 cubic inches of piston displacement, and it is clear how forward-thinking Miller was. Prior to Miller's designs, engines had just been getting bigger and bigger. With the use of alloys and revolutionary engineering, he began introducing light cars that handled well but provided enough power to push them down the straightaways at speeds comparable to those cars carrying the massive aircraft-type engines. Miller's engineering and Oldfield's daring were put on public display in late June of 1917, when Oldfield in the Golden Submarine raced arch-rival Ralph DePalma in a conventional Packard with a 12-cylinder aircraft engine.

The Golden Submarine never won the Indy 500, though it ran in 1919, pulling out with engine trouble; but its designs foreshadowed the future of American racing. Miller's design would dominate Indy for over 30 years.

# Summer Anniversaries

## Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy

One of America's most prominent first ladies, Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis was born on **July 28, 1929**. Educated at Miss Porter's School, Vassar College, and the Sorbonne, she earned a degree in French Literature from George Washington University. After college, Onassis worked as the Washington Times-Herald's «inquiring photographer.»

In 1952, she met the Democratic senator from Massachusetts, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, and a year later the two were married. The Kennedys had two children who grew to adulthood, Caroline, born in 1957, and John, Jr., born shortly after his father's 1960 election as president.

To the role of first lady, Mrs. Kennedy brought her interest in history and her appreciation of the fine and decorative arts. She focussed on restoring the White House rather than merely redecorating her new home. Mrs. Kennedy established a White House fine arts commission, hired a curator, and published the first historic guide.

In 1962, the first lady welcomed the public into the residence by hosting the first televised tour of the White House.

Mrs. Kennedy carried out the more traditional duties of presidential hostess with grace and style. In addition to presiding over state functions at home, she was a successful ambassador to foreign shores. On trips abroad, she proved nearly as popular as the president. Well educated, fashionably dressed, and fluent in their language, she was embraced by the French on a 1961 trip. She was also warmly welcomed on a solo goodwill tour to India and Pakistan the following year.

Following President Kennedy's assassination, Jacqueline Kennedy's image was seared into the minds of the American public who, via television, saw her return, blood-stained, to the capital. Mrs. Kennedy's remarkable composure in the days that followed, and her quiet determination to see the slain president buried in an appropriate manner facilitated the collective mourning of the American people.

In 1968, Mrs. Kennedy married shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. After his death in 1975, she embarked on a successful career as an editor in the publishing industry. Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis died in 1994 and is buried beside her first husband in Arlington National Cemetery.

## Adoption of the Declaration of Independence

On **July 4, 1776**, the Second Continental Congress unanimously adopted the Declaration of Independence. The Constitution provides the legal and governmental framework for the United States, however, the Declaration, with its eloquent assertion "all Men are created equal," is equally beloved by the American people.

Although Philadelphians marked the first anniversary of American independence with a spontaneous celebration, observing Independence Day only became commonplace after the War of 1812. Soon, events like ground-breaking ceremonies for the Erie Canal and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad were scheduled to coincide with July 4th festivities.

By the 1870s, the Fourth of July was the most important secular holiday on the calendar.



## U.S. Post Office's First Stamps

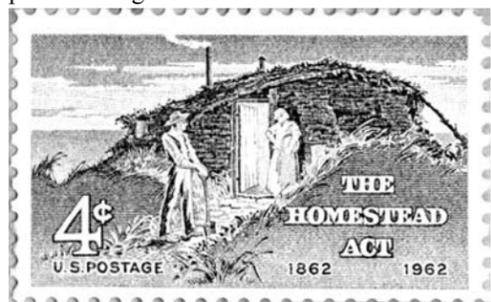
Pre-paid postal stamps were first issued in England in 1840. Their use spread rapidly throughout the world.

On **July 1, 1847**, the United States Post Office issued its first stamps, a five-cent stamp honoring Benjamin Franklin and a ten-cent stamp honoring George Washington. The first U.S. airmail stamps were issued to the public in 1915.

Stamp collecting soon became a popular hobby. In 1841, The Times of London printed the advertisement of "a young lady, being desirous of covering her dressing-room with cancelled postage stamps."<sup>1</sup>

Following the precedent set in England in 1840, Congress approved the Post Office Act of March 3, 1847. This authorized the U.S. Postmaster General "to prepare postage stamps, which, when attached to any letter or packet, shall be evidence of the payment of postage chargeable on such letter."

On June 26, 1847, the printers advised Postmaster General Johnson that 200,000 ten-cent stamps and 600,000 five-cent stamps were ready for delivery. Johnson dispatched a special post office agent, believed to be John Marron, Third Assistant Postmaster General, to take delivery of the precious cargo. Marron arrived in New York on



June 29 to take possession of the "parcel" of stamps. Before noon on July 1, Marron delivered 60,000 five-cent and 20,000 ten-cent stamps to Robert Morris, the New York City postmaster.

Today no full sheets of 200 stamps of the 1847 issue are believed to exist.

## The Spanish Civil War

The Spanish Civil War began on **July 17, 1936** as a series of military insurrections throughout the country. The Republicans fought to maintain the Republic while the Nationalists sought to restore the monarchy. Because the Spanish Civil War represented a major threat to international political equilibrium, Americans discussed and watched closely the events of the conflict.

The Republicans, or Loyalists, received aid from France, the Soviet Union, and Mexico. Sixty thousand members of the International Brigades, some 2,800 of whom were Americans volunteered their services. During the war, the Nationalists received troops from Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany. About 700,000 Spanish soldiers and civilians died from war or war-engendered disease and starvation.

## Gold Rush Heads North

On **August 14, 1896**, a Social Security poster addresses the benefits SS can provide to widows. In 1896, the gold rush headed north, as prospectors found the much-coveted metal in the Yukon Territory of Canada. The frenzy that had hit California earlier the century was on again, as over 30,000 people stormed to the Yukon to find their bit of fortune.

## Gold Rush Heads North

On **August 19, 1953**, the Iranian military, with the support and financial assistance of the United States government, overthrows the government of Premier Mohammed Mosaddeq and reinstates the Shah of Iran.

Iran remained a solid Cold War ally of the United States until a revolution ended the Shah's rule in 1979.

Mosaddeq came to prominence in Iran in 1951 when he was appointed premier. A fierce nationalist, Mosaddeq immediately began attacks on British oil companies operating in his country, calling for expropriation and nationalization of the oil fields. His actions brought him into conflict with the pro-Western elites of Iran and the Shah, Mohammed Reza Pahlevi. Indeed, the Shah dismissed Mossadeq in mid-1952, but massive public riots condemning the action forced the Shah to reinstate Mossadeq a short time later. U.S. officials watched events in Iran with growing suspicion. British intelligence sources, working with the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), came to the conclusion that Mossadeq had communist leanings and would move Iran into the Soviet orbit if allowed to stay in power. Working with Shah, the CIA and British intelligence began to engineer a plot to overthrow Mossadeq. The Iranian premier, however, got wind of the plan and called his supporters to take to the streets in protest. At this point, the Shah left the country for "medical reasons." While British intelligence backed away from the debacle, the CIA continued its covert operations in Iran. Working with pro-Shah forces and, most importantly, the Iranian military, the CIA cajoled, threatened, and bribed its way into influence and helped to organize another coup attempt against Mossadeq. On August 19, 1953, the military, backed by street protests organized and financed by the CIA, overthrew Mossadeq. The Shah quickly returned to take power and, as thanks for the American help, signed over 40 percent of Iran's oil fields to U.S. companies.

Mossadeq was arrested, served three years in prison, and died under house arrest in 1967. The Shah became one of America's most trusted Cold War allies, and U.S. economic and military aid poured into Iran during the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. In 1978, however, anti-Shah and anti-American protests broke out in Iran and the Shah was toppled from power in 1979. Angry militants seized the U.S. embassy and held the American staff hostage until January 1981. Nationalism, not communism, proved to be the most serious threat to U.S. power in Iran.

## The Last Cadillac Tank

The last Cadillac-built M-24 tank was produced on **August 24, 1945**, ending the company's World War II effort. Civilian auto production virtually ceased after the attack on Pearl Harbor, as the U.S. automotive industry turned to war production. Between 1940 and 1945, automotive firms made almost \$29 billion worth of military materials, including jeeps, trucks, machine guns, carbines, tanks, helmets, and aerial bombs.

## Yellow Cab Company is born

Walden W. Shaw and John D. Hertz formed the Walden W. Shaw Livery Company on **August 25, 1910**, which later became the Yellow Cab Company.



In 1907, the Shaw Livery Company purchased a number of small taxicabs equipped with meters. The first yellow cab (the Model J) hit the streets in 1915, and its distinctive color became the company's trademark. The company was also the first to use automatic windshield wipers, ultrahigh frequency two-way radios, and passenger seat belts.

## Beatles' Last Tour Date

On **August 29, 1966**, The Beatles play their final tour date, at Candlestick Park in San Francisco. The band gave up touring and made the rest of its music in recording studios. The Beatles broke up in 1970.