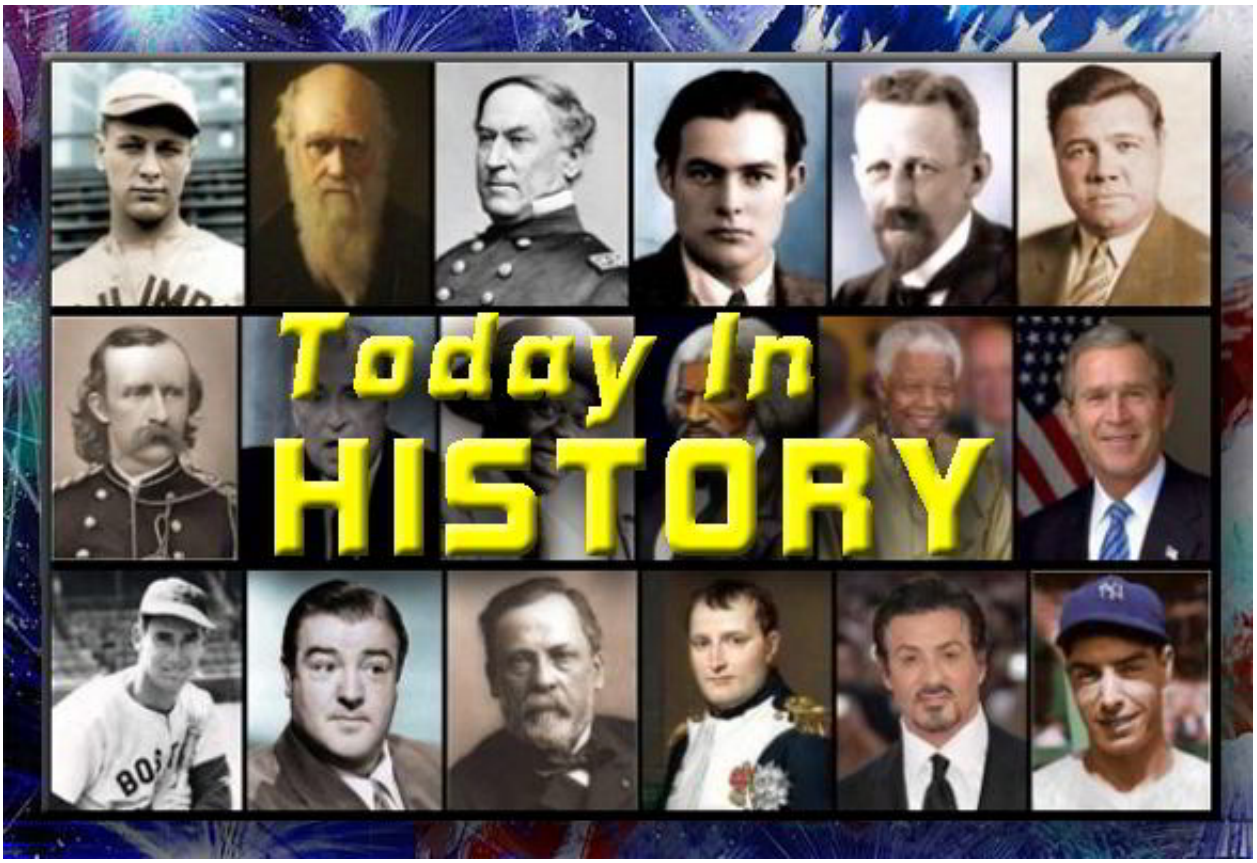


Today In History – August 12

Lincoln Herald Staff

Today in 30 BC, Cleopatra VII, Queen of Egypt, commits suicide; in 1908 the First Model T Ford was built; and in 1994 Major League Baseball players go on strike. The strike forces the cancellation of the World Series.

Our on this day in history archives contain over 200,000 events, birthdays and deaths from 6,000 years of history. Here is a roundup of a few of them:

August 12 is the 224th day of the year (225th in leap years) in the Gregorian calendar. There are 141 days remaining until the end of the year.

EVENTS

30 BC – Cleopatra VII, Queen of Egypt, commits suicide.

1099 – First Crusade: Battle of Ascalon - Crusaders defeat Saracens and the Kingdom of Jerusalem is established under Godfrey of Bouillon.

1121 – Battle of Didgori: The Georgian army under David IV of Georgia wins a decisive victory over the famous Seljuk commander Ilghazi.

1164 – Battle of Harim: Nur ad-Din Zangi defeats the Crusader armies of the County of Tripoli and the Principality of Antioch.

1323 – Treaty of Nöteborg - Sweden and Novgorod (Russia) regulates the border for the first time

1332 – Battle of Dupplin Moor - Scots under the Earl of Mar are routed by Edward Balliol.

1480 – Battle of Otranto: Ottoman troops behead 800 Christians for refusing to convert to Islam.

1499 – Battle of Zonchio: between Venetian and Ottoman fleets.

1596 – The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth is created.

1624 – The President of Louis XIII of France's royal council is arrested, leaving Cardinal Richelieu in the role of the King's principal minister.

1665 – The naval battle of the Bay of Bergen takes place during the Anglo-Dutch War, ending in a Dutch victory over English forces.

1676 – King Philip's War ends.

1793 – Rhone and Loire departments in France are created.

1806 – Santiago de Liniers, 1st Count of Buenos Aires retakes the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, after the first British invasion.

1825 – Simón Bolívar become president of Colombia.

1831 – French intervention forces William I of the Netherlands to abandon his attempt to crush the Belgian Revolution.

1833 – Chicago, Illinois is incorporated as a city.

1851 – Isaac Singer is granted a patent for his sewing machine.

1854 – Count Gaston de Raousset Boulbon is executed by shooting, for his part in the Battle of Guaymas.

1877 – Asaph Hall discovers Deimos, a moon of Mars.

1881 – The National Theater in Prague burns down.

1883 – The last quagga dies at the Artis Magistra zoo in Amsterdam

1898 – Armistice ends the Spanish-American War

1898 – The Hawaiian flag is lowered from Iolani Palace in an elaborate annexation ceremony and replaced with the American flag to signify the transfer of sovereignty from the Republic of Hawaii to the United States.

1908 – First Model T Ford built

1914 – World War I - Britain declares war on Austria-Hungary; British Empire countries automatically included.

1914 – Beginning of the Battle of Cer between Austria-Hungary and Serbia.

1928 – The 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam end.

1933 – Cuban leader Gerardo Machado is deposed by a general strike and flees the country.

1944 – Nazi German troops end the week-long Wola massacre, during which time 40,000 people were killed either randomly or by mass executions.

1944 – SS officers murder almost all residents of the Italian village of Sant'Anna di Stazzema, killing 560 people; 116 of them children.

1948 – The United States recognizes the government of South Korea but not the government of North Korea.

1950 – Korean War: Bloody Gulch massacre - American POWs are killed by the North Korean army.

1952 – 13 Jewish intellectuals are murdered in one night in Moscow.

1953 – Nuclear testing: The Soviet Union detonates its first hydrogen bomb.

1953 – The Greek islands of Zakynthos and Kefalonia are severely damaged by a magnitude 7.3 earthquake.

1958 – Art Kane photographs 57 important jazz musicians in the black and white group portrait "A Great Day in Harlem" in front of a brownstone in New York City.

1960 – Echo I, the first communications satellite, is launched.

1964 – South Africa is banned from the Olympics, because of its Apartheid policy. It is reinstated in the 1990s, after Nelson Mandela was released.

1969 – Violence erupts after the Apprentice Boys of Derry march in Northern Ireland, resulting in a three-day communal riot.

1976 – Between 1,000 and 3,500 Palestinians are killed in the Tel al-Zataar massacre.

1977 – First free flight of the Space Shuttle Enterprise.

1977 – The 1977 Sri Lankan riots, targeting the Tamil minority, begin. They ultimately result in the killings of around 300 Tamil people.

1980 – The Montevideo Treaty, creating the Latin American Integration Association, is signed.

1981 – The IBM PC, an early personal computer, is introduced.

1982 – The Debt Crisis affecting Latin America and less-developed countries begins when Mexico announces that it is unable to pay its enormous external debt.

1985 – Japan Airlines flight 123 Boeing 747 jumbo jet crashes into Mount Ogura, Japan killing 520, in the world's worst single-plane air disaster.

1990 – Sue, the largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton found to-date, is discovered by Sue Hendrickson in South Dakota.

1992 – Canada, Mexico and the United States announce completion of negotiations for the NAFTA.

1994 – The Woodstock '94 rock concert takes place.

1994 – Major League Baseball players go on strike. The strike forces the cancellation of the World Series.

2000 – Russian submarine K-141 Kursk sinks in the Barents Sea.

2000 – Ronald Venetiaan becomes President of Suriname.

2004 – Lee Hsien Loong is sworn in as Singapore's 3rd Prime Minister.

2004 – Sweden announces that it has reached a population of 9 million.

2005 – The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter space probe, of NASA, is sent to the planet Mars.

2010 – Desi Bouterse becomes President of Suriname.

2012 – The 2012 Summer Olympics in London end. The Great Britain team, hosting the event, finishes with 29 gold medals, coming third behind the United States and China.

2014 – Iranian-born Maryam Mirzakhani becomes the first woman to win the Fields Medal, one of the biggest prizes in mathematics.

2015 – Two explosions at a warehouse storing chemicals kill about 173 people in the city of Tianjin, China, and injure hundreds more.

2017 – A car attack occurs in Unite the Right rally.

2018 – NASA launches the unmanned Parker Solar Probe to study the Sun at close range and the solar wind.

2018 – The first multi-sport European Championships in Glasgow and Berlin come to an end.