

1401. St Lawrence Seaway

Waterway to connect Great Lakes on the U.S./Canadian border to the Atlantic Ocean via the St. Lawrence River, it allowed better shipping and transportation, and improved international relations and trade.

1402. Landrum-Griffin Act

1959 - Specially tailored to make labor officials responsible for the union's financial affairs, to prevent bully-boy tactics, ensure democratic voting practices within unions, outlaw secondary boycotts, and restrict picketing.

1403. Jimmy Hoffa

Leader of the teamster's union, he was anti-AFL/CIO. He threatened to defeat for reelection an Congressman who dared to vote for a tough labor law.

1404. AFL-CIO merger

In 1955 at a New York City Convention, these two once-rival organizations decided to put aside their differences and unite. Had a total membership of over 15 million.

1405. Alaska, Hawaii

McKinley had purchased Alaska in 1867 for nine cents an acre and it was admitted to the Union in 1959. Alaska had great natural resources, including gold and oil reserves. Hawaii became the 50th state in 1959.

1406. Sputnik

October, 1957 - The first artificial satellite sent into space, launched by the Soviets.

1407. National Defense Education Act (NDEA Act)

1958 - This created a multi-million dollar loan fund for college students and granted money to states for upgrading curriculum in the sciences and foreign languages.

1408. "Military-Industrial Complex"

Eisenhower first coined this phrase when he warned American against it in his last State of the Union Address. He feared that the combined lobbying efforts of the armed services and industries that contracted with the military would lead to excessive Congressional spending.

1409. Philip Randolph

President of the Brotherhood of Car Porters and a Black labor leader, in 1941 he arranged a march on Washington to end racial discrimination.

1410. Fair Employment Practices Committee

Enacted by executive order 8802 on June 25, 1941 to prohibit discrimination in the armed forces.

1411. Detroit race riots

June 25, 1943 - Outright racial war broke out between Blacks and Whites and the government did not send help.

1412. Gunnar Myrdal, *An American Dilemma*

He wrote this to increase White awareness of the awful discrimination against Blacks.

1413. Rural South vs. Urban North

Southern communities were more rural and Northern communities more urban.

1414. To Secure these Rights

A report by the President's Committee on Civil Rights, it was given a year after the Committee was formed, and helped pave the way for the civil rights era. It recommended that the government start an anti-lynching campaign and ensure that Blacks got to vote.

1415. Desegregation of the Armed Forces, 1948

In July, Truman issued an executive order establishing a policy of racial equality in the Armed Forces "be put into effect as rapidly as possible." He also created a committee to ensure its implementation.

1416. Korean War (1950-1953)

At the end of WW II, Korea had been divided into a northern sector occupied by the U.S.S.R. and a southern sector occupied by the U.S. who instituted a democratic government. On June 25, 1950, the North invaded the South. The United Nations created an international army, lead by the U.S. to fight for the South and China joined the war on the side of North Korea. This was the first time the United Nations had intervened militarily.

1417. "Separate but Equal"

In 1896, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Plessy v. Ferguson* that separate but supposedly equal facilities for Blacks and Whites were legal.

1418. *Brown v. The Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*

1954 - The Supreme Court overruled *Plessy v. Ferguson*, declared that racially segregated facilities are inherently unequal and ordered all public schools desegregated.

1419. Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993)

In 1967, appointed the first Black Supreme Court Justice, he had led that NAACP's legal defense fund and had argued the *Brown v. The Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* case before the Supreme Court.

1420. Rosa Parks, Montgomery Bus Boycott

December, 1955 - In Montgomery, Alabama, she refused to give up her bus seat for a White man as required by city ordinance. It started the Civil Rights Movement and an almost nation-wide bus boycott lasting 11 months.

1421. Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)

An Atlanta-born Baptist minister, he earned a Ph.D. at Boston University. The leader of the Civil Rights Movement and President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, he was assassinated outside his hotel room.

1422. Little Rock, Arkansas Crisis

1957 - Governor Faubus sent the Arkansas National Guard to prevent nine Black students from entering Little Rock Central High School. Eisenhower sent in U.S. paratroopers to ensure the students could attend class.

1423. Civil Rights Act, 1957

Created by the U.S. Commission of Civil Rights and the Civil Rights division of the Justice Department.

1424. Civil Rights Act, 1960

It gave the Federal Courts the power to register Black voters and provided for voting referees who served wherever there was racial discrimination in voting, making sure Whites did not try to stop Blacks from voting.

1425. Literacy tests, grandfather clause, poll taxes, White primaries

Literacy tests: Voters had to prove basic literacy to be entitled to vote. Because of poor schools, Blacks were often prevented from voting. Grandfather clause: Said that a person could vote only if their grandfather had been registered to vote, which disqualified Blacks whose grandparents had been slaves. Poll taxes and White primaries were other methods used to keep Blacks from voting.

1426. *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, 1942

Decided that a state can require student to salute the flag in school.

1427. *Korematsu v. U.S.*, 1944

Upheld the U.S. government's decision to put Japanese-Americans in internment camps during World War II.

1428. *Smith v. Allwright*, 1944

Outlawed White primaries held by the Democratic Party, in violation of the 15th Amendment.

1429. *Dennis v. U.S.*, 1951

In 1948, the Attorney General indicted two key Communist leaders for violation of the Smith Act of 1940 which prohibited conspiring to teach violent overthrow of the government. They were convicted in a 6-2 decision and their appeal was rejected.

1430. *Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company v. Sawyer*, 1952

Supreme Court decision which restricted the powers of the president and the executive branch.

1431. *Sweatt v. Painter*, 1950

Segregated law school in Texas was held to be an illegal violation of civil rights, leading to open enrollment.

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1435. Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Headed by Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., a coalition of churches and Christians organizations who met to discuss civil rights.

1436. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

Founded in 1909 to improve living conditions for inner city Blacks, evolved into a national organization dedicated to establishing equal legal rights for Blacks.

1437. Urban League

Helping Blacks to find jobs and homes, it was founded in 1966 and was a social service agency providing facts about discrimination.

1438. Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)

1941-42 - Interracial until 1962, when it became predominately Black, after 1964, only Blacks were allowed to join. It concentrated on organizing votes for Black candidates and political causes, successful even in states like Mississippi and Alabama.

1439. Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)

Organized in the fall of 1960 by Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. as a student civil rights movement inspired by sit-ins, it challenged the status quo and walked the back roads of Mississippi and Georgia to encourage Blacks to resist segregation and to register to vote.

1440. Sit-ins, freedom rides

Late 1950's, early 1960's, these were nonviolent demonstrations and marches that challenged segregation laws, often braving attacks by angry White mobs.

1441. "I have a dream" speech

Given August 1963 from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1442. March on Washington, 1963

August - 200,000 demonstrators converged on the Lincoln Memorial to hear Dr. King's speech and to celebrate Kennedy's support for the civil rights movement.

1443. Medgar Evers

Director of the NAACP in Mississippi and a lawyer who defended accused Blacks, he was murdered in his driveway by a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

1444. Adam Clayton Powell

Flamboyant Congressman from Harlem and chairman of the House and Labor Committee, he was elected to the House of Representatives in 1968, but removed from office for alleged misuse of funds.

1445. H. Rap Brown

A proponent of Black Power, he succeeded Stokely Carmichael as head of SNCC. He was indicted by inciting riot and for arson.

1446. Malcom X

One-time pimp and street hustler, converted to a Black Muslim while in prison. At first urged Blacks to seize their freedom by any means necessary, but later changed position and advocated racial harmony. He was assassinated in February, 1965.

1447. Stokely Carmichael

In 1966, as chair of SNCC, he called to assert Black Power. Supporting the Black Panthers, he was against integration.

1448. Black Panthers

Led by Bobby Seale and Huey Newton, they believed that racism was an inherent part of the U.S. capitalist society and were militant, self-styled revolutionaries for Black Power.

1449. Black Muslims

Common name for the Nation of Islam, a religion that encouraged separatism from White society. They claimed the "White Devil" was the chief source of evil in the world.

1450. Angela Davis

Black Communist college professor affiliated with the Black Panthers, she was accused of having been involved in a murderous jail-break attempt by that organization.