

Military History Anniversaries 16 Sep thru 15 Oct

Events in History over the next 30 day period that had U.S. military involvement or impacted in some way on U.S military operations or American interests

- Third Friday of Sep National POW/MIA day to pay tribute to the lives and contributions of the more than 83,000 Americans who are still listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action
- Sep 16 1776 Revolutionary War: The Battle of Harlem Heights is fought. Casualties and losses: US 130 GB 92~390.
- Sep 16 1779 Revolutionary War: The 32 day Franco-American Siege of Savannah begins. Casualties and losses: US/FR 948 - GB 155.
- Sep 16 1942 WW2: The Japanese base at Kiska in the Aleutian Islands is raided by American bombers
- 16 1943 WW2: The Allied invasion of Italy concludes when Heinrich von Vietinghoff, commander of the German Tenth Army, orders his troops to withdraw from Salerno.
- Sep 16 1950 Korea: The U.S. 8th Army breaks out of the Pusan Perimeter in South Korea and begins heading north to meet MacArthur's troops heading south from Inchon.
- Sep 16 1967 Vietnam: Siege of Con Thien Began.
- Sep 16 1972 Vietnam: South Vietnamese troops recapture Quang Tri province in South Vietnam from the North Vietnamese Army.
 Sep 17 1775 Revolutionary War: The Invasion of Canada begins with the 47 day Siege of Fort St. Jean.
- Sep 17 1778 The Treaty of Fort Pitt is signed. It is the first formal treaty between the United States and a Native American tribe (the Lenape or Delaware Indians).
- Sep 17 1862 Civil War: The Allegheny Arsenal explosion results in the single largest civilian disaster during the war. 78 workers, mostly young women, were killed. Cause was officially unknown but it was speculated that the metal shoe of a horse had struck a spark which touched off loose powder



Allegheny Arsenal Laboratory Building (circa 1870) and the Stone Road

- Sep 17 1862 Civil War: The Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest day in U.S. history, commences. Fighting in the corn field, Bloody Lane and Burnside's Bridge raged all day as the Union and Confederate armies suffer a combined 26,293 casualties. The battle stops the northward drive of Robert E. Lee's Confederate army
- Sep 17 1900 Philippine American War: Filipinos under Juan Cailles defeat Americans under Colonel Benjamin F. Cheatham at Mabitac, Laguna.
- Sep 17 1902 Latin America Interventions: U.S. troops are sent to Panama to keep train lines open over the isthmus as Panamanian nationals struggle for independence from Colombia.
- Sep 17 1944 WW2: Allied Airborne troops parachute into the Netherlands as the "Market" half of Operation Market Garden.
- Sep 18 1945 WW2: General Douglas MacArthur moves his command headquarters to Tokyo.
- Sep 18 1947 The United States Air Force becomes an independent service.
- Sep 18 1964 Vietnam: North Vietnamese Army begins infiltration of South Vietnam.
- Sep 18 1964 Vietnam: U.S. destroyers' fire on hostile targets.
- Sep 19 1777 American Revolution: British forces win a tactically expensive victory over the Continental Army in the First Battle of Saratoga. Subsequent second battle on 7 OCT was a decisive American victory. Casualties and losses both battles : US 330 GB 7,357
- Sep 19 1862 Civil War: Battle of Iuka Union troops under General William Rosecrans defeat a Confederate force. Casualties and losses: US 790 CSA 1,516.
- Sep 19 1863 Civil War: Two day Battle of Chickamauga begins.
- Sep 19 1918 WWI: American troops of the Allied North Russia Expeditionary Force receive their baptism of fire near the town of Seltso against Soviet forces.
- Sep 19 1944 WW2: The 88 day Battle of Hürtgen Forest between United States and Nazi Germany begins. Casualties and losses: US 33,000 Ger 28,000.
- Sep 19 1957 Cold War: Newton First American underground nuclear bomb test (part of Operation Plumbbob).



12 kilotons Nevada Test Site

- Sep 19 1994 Latin America Interventions: Operation Uphold Democracy began (Haiti).
- Sep 20 1863 Civil War: The Battle of Chickamauga ends in the most significant Union defeat in the Western Theater of the War. Casualties and losses: US 16,170 CSA 18,454.
- Sep 20 1965 Vietnam: Seven U.S. planes are downed in one day.
- Sep 20 2011 The United States ends its "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, allowing gay men and women to serve openly for the first time.
- Sep 21 1776 American Revolution: Part of New York City is burned shortly after being occupied by British forces.
- Sep 21 1780 American Revolution: Benedict Arnold gives the British the plans to West Point.
- Sep 21 1944 WW2: U.S. troops of the 7th Army, invading Southern France, cross the Meuse River.
- Sep 21 1961 Maiden flight of the CH–47 Chinook transportation helicopter.
- Sep 21 2012 POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Sep 22 1711 Indian Wars: The Tuscarora War begins in present–day North Carolina between the British, Dutch, and German settlers and the Tuscarora Native Americans. A treaty was signed on 11 FEB 1715.

• Sep 22 1776 – American Revolution: Captain Nathan Hale is hanged as a spy by the British in New York City; his last words are reputed to have been, "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country."



- Sep 22 2006 The F-14 Tomcat is retired from the United States Navy.
- Sep 23 1779 American Revolution: Battle of Flamborough Head The American navy under John Paul Jones, commanding from Bonhomme Richard, defeats and captures the British man–of–war Serapis.
- Sep 23 1780 American Revolution: British Major John André is arrested as a spy by American soldiers exposing Benedict Arnold's change of sides.
- Sep 23 1899 Philippine American War: American Asiatic Squadron destroys a Filipino battery at the Battle of Olongapo.
- Sep 23 1942 WW2: The Matanikau action on Guadalcanal begins. U.S. Marines attack Japanese units along the Matanikau River.
- Sep 23 1945 The first American dies in Vietnam during the fall of Saigon to French forces.
- Sep 23 1950 Korean War: The Battle of Hill 282 The first US friendly-fire incident on British Military personnel since World War II occurred. The mistaken air attack caused approximately 60 casualties.
- Sep 24 1780 American Revolution: Benedict Arnold flees to British Army lines after his plot to surrender West Point is exposed by the arrest of British Major John André.
- Sep 24 1960 USS Enterprise (CVN-65), the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, is launched.
- Sep 24 1957 President Dwight D. Eisenhower sends 101st Airborne Division troops to Little Rock, Arkansas, to enforce desegregation.
- Sep 24 1960 USS Enterprise (CVN–65), the world's first nuclear–powered aircraft carrier, is launched.
- Sep 25 1775 American Revolution: Ethan Allen surrenders to British forces after attempting to capture Montreal during the Battle of Longue–Pointe. Benedict Arnold and his expeditionary company set off from Fort Western, bound for Quebec City.
- Sep 25 1846 Mexican-American War: Battle of Monterey American forces led by Zachary Taylor capture the Mexican city of Monterrey. Casualties and losses: US 531 Mex 367.
- Sep 25 1925 USS S-51 (SS–162) Sunk after collision with steamer City of Rome off Block Island, Rhode Island. 33 died
- Sep 26 1777 American Revolution: The British army launches a major offensive, capturing Philadelphia.
- Sep 26 1918 WW1: The 46 day Meuse (Argonne Offensive) The bloodiest single battle in American history, begins. Casualties and losses: US 117,000 | FR 70,000 GER 90~120,000.
- Sep 26 1950 Korea: General Douglas MacArthur's American X Corps, fresh from the Inchon landing, links up with the U.S. Eighth Army after its breakout from the Pusan Perimeter.
- Sep 26 1983 Cold War: Soviet military officer Stanislav Petrov averts a likely worldwide nuclear war by correctly identifying a report of an incoming nuclear missile as a computer error and not an American first strike.
- Sep 27 1940 WW2: The Tripartite Pact is signed in Berlin by Germany, Japan and Italy.
- Sep 27 1941 WW2: SS Patrick Henry Launched becoming the first of more than 2,700 Liberty ships.



- Sep 27 1942 WW2: Last day of the September Matanikau action on Guadalcanal as United States Marine Corps troops barely escape after being surrounded by Japanese forces near the Matanikau River.
- Sep 27 1944 WW2: Kassel Mission Results in the largest loss by a USAAF group on any mission in World War II. Casualties and losses: US 118 KIA & 25 of 29 B24's GER 18 KIA & 29 Fighter planes.
- Sep 27 1950 Korea: U.S. Army and Marine troops liberate Seoul, South Korea.
- Sep 28 1781 American Revolution: American forces backed by a French fleet begin the siege of Yorktown, Virginia.
- Sep 28 1901 Philippine-American War: Filipino guerrillas kill more than forty American soldiers while losing 28 of their own in a surprise attack in the town of Balangiga on Samar Island.
- Sep 28 1906 Latin America Interventions: U.S. troops reoccupy Cuba, stay until 1909
- Sep 28 1912 Corporal Frank S. Scott The first United States Army enlisted man to die in an airplane crash. He and pilot Lt. Lewis C. Rockwell are killed in the crash of an Army Wright Model B at College Park, Maryland.
- Sep 28 1943 WW2: USS Cisco (SS-290) Sunk by Japanese observation seaplane (945th Kokutai) and gunboat Karatsu in Sulu Sea off Panay Island. 76 killed
- Sep 29 1789 Congress votes to create a U.S. army. Department of War establishes a regular army with a strength of several hundred men.
- Sep 29 1864 Civil War: Union troops capture the Confederate Fort Harrison, outside Petersburg VA.
- Sep 29 1899 Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) established.
- Sep 29 1918 WWI: Battle of St. Quentin Canal The Hindenburg Line is broken by Allied forces. Bulgaria signs an armistice.
- Sep 29 1995 The United States Navy disbands Fighter Squadron 84 (VF–84), nicknamed the "Jolly Rogers".
- Sep 30 1938 The League of Nations unanimously outlaws "intentional bombings of civilian populations".
- Sep 30 1949 Cold War: The Berlin Airlift Officially halted after 277,264 flights.



C-47s unloading at Tempelhof, formed the nucleus of the airlift until September when the larger and faster four-engine C-54s capable of hauling 10 tons had been put into service.

- Sep 30 1950 Korea: U.N. forces cross the 38th parallel as they pursue the retreating North Korean Army.
- Sep 30 2012 Gold Star Mother's Day established.
- Oct 00 1943 WW2: USS Dorado (SS–248) Date of sinking unknown. Most likely either accidently bombed and sunk by friendly Guantanamo–based flying boat on 13 October or sunk by a German submarine mine in the West Indies. 77 killed
- Oct 01 1880 John Philip Sousa becomes leader of the United States Marine Band.



- Oct 01 1942 WW2: USS Grouper torpedoes Lisbon Maru not knowing she is carrying 1800 British POWs from Hong Kong. Over 800 died in the sinking.
- Oct 01 1942 WW2: First flight of the first American jet fighter aircraft Bell XP–59 'Airacomet'. The USAF was not impressed by its performance and cancelled the contract when fewer than half of the aircraft ordered had been produced
- Oct 01 1943 WW2: Naples falls to Allied soldiers.
- Oct 01 1947 F-86 Sabre The transonic jet fighter aircraft flies for the first time.
- Oct 01 1951 24th Infantry Regiment, last all–black military unit, deactivated.
- Oct 01 1957 Cold War: B–52 bombers begin full–time flying alert in case of USSR attack.
- Oct 01 1979 The United States returns sovereignty of the Panama Canal to Panama.
- Oct 01 1992 U.S. aircraft carrier Saratoga cripples Turkish destroyer TCG Muavenet (DM–357) causing 27 deaths and injuries by negligently launched missiles.
- Oct 02 1780 American Revolution: John André, British Army officer of the American Revolutionary War, is hanged as a spy by American forces.
- Oct 02 1835 The Texas Revolution: Battle of Gonzales Begins when Mexican soldiers attempt to disarm the people of Gonzales, Texas, and encounter stiff resistance from a hastily assembled militia.
- Oct 02 1864 Civil War: Battle of Saltville 5,000 Union forces attack Saltville, Virginia, but are defeated by 300 Confederate troops. Combined casualties 458
- Oct 02 1912 Nicaraguan Occupation Aug-Nov: U.S. forces defeat rebels under the command of Benjamín Zeledón at the Battle of Coyotepe Hill. Casualties and losses: US 14 Rebels 32.
- Oct 02 1944 WW2: Battle of Aachen Germany begins. Fighting for the city took place between 13–21 OCT.
- Oct 03 1940 WW2: U.S. Army forms airborne (parachute) troops.
- Oct 03 1944 WW2: USS Seawolf (SS-197) accidentally sunk by naval aircraft from USS Midway (CVE-63) and USS Richard M. Rowell (DE-403) off Morotai Island. 100 died
- Oct 03 1993 Somalia Intervention: Battle of Bakhara Market, Mogadishu In an attempt to capture officials of warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid's organization in Mogadishu, Somalia, 18 US soldiers and about 1,000 Somalis are killed in heavy fighting.
- Oct 04 1777 American Revolution: Battle of Germantown Troops under George Washington are repelled by British troops under Sir William Howe. Casualties and losses: US 1111 GB 533.
- Oct 04 1918 An explosion kills more than 100 and destroys the T.A. Gillespie Company Shell Loading Plant in Sayreville, New Jersey. Fires and explosions continue for three days forcing massive evacuations and spreading ordnance over a wide area, pieces of which were still being found as of 2007.



Residents of Morgan, NJ flee from the Morgan Depot explosions to Perth Amboy.

- Oct 04 1943 World War II: U.S. captures Solomon Islands. Casualties and losses: Allies 10,600 KIA, 40+ Ships, & 800 aircraft JP 80,000 KIA, 50+ ships & 1500 aircraft.
- Oct 05 1813 War of 1812: Battle of the Thames U.S. victory in Ontario broke Britain's Indian allies with the death of Shawnee Chief Tecumseh and made the Detroit frontier safe. Casualties and losses: US 27 GB/Indians 616.
- Oct 05 1914 WWI: First aerial combat resulting in an intentional fatality.
- Oct 05 1943 WW2: 98 American POW's executed by Japanese forces on Wake Island.
- Oct 05 1965 Korea: U.S. forces in Saigon receive permission to use tear gas
- Oct 05 1966 Vietnam: Hanoi insists the United States must end its bombings before peace talks can begin.
- Oct 05 2001 Afghanistan: Operation Enduring Freedom begins (GWOT).
- Oct 06 1971 Vietnam: Operation Jefferson Glenn The last major operation in which US ground forces participated ends.
- Oct 07 1777 American Revolution: Americans beat British in 2nd Battle of Saratoga aka. Battle of Bemis Heights. The British surrendered 10 days later. Casualties and losses of both battles: US 330 -GB 8,398.
- Oct 07 1864 Civil War: Battle of Darbytown Road: Confederate forces' attempt to regain ground that had been lost around Richmond is thwarted. Casualties and losses: US 437 CSA 513.
- Oct 07 1864 Civil War: USS Wachusett Captures the Confederate raider ship CSS Florida while in port in Bahia, Brazil.
- Oct 07 1940 WW2: The McCollum memo proposes bringing the United States into the war in Europe by provoking the Japanese to attack the United States.
- Oct 07 1943 WW2: USS S–44 (SS–155) Lost to Japanese escort destroyer Ishigaki, northeast Araito Island off Kamchatka. 56 killed
- Oct 07 2001 GWOT: The U.S. invasion of Afghanistan starts with an air assault and covert operations on the ground.
- Oct 08 1862 Civil War: Battle of Perryville The Union is victorious at the largest Civil War combat to take place in Kentucky. Casualties and losses: US 4,276 CSA 3,401.
- Oct 08 1918 WWI: In the Argonne Forest in France, U.S. Corporal Alvin C. York leads an attack that kills 25 German soldiers and captures 132.
- Oct 08 1944 WW2: The Battle of Crucifix Hill Capt. Bobbie Brown receives a Medal of Honor for his heroics in this battle just outside Aachen on Crucifix Hill.
- Oct 08 1950 Korea: Chinese Communist Forces begin to infiltrate the North Korean Army.
- Oct 08 1968 Vietnam: Operation Sealord An attack on North Vietnamese supply lines and base areas in the Mekong Delta is launched by U.S. forces.
- Oct 08 1970 Vietnam: In Paris, a Communist delegation rejects US President Richard Nixon's October 7 peace proposal as "a maneuver to deceive world opinion".
- Oct 09 1812 War of 1812: In a naval engagement on Lake Erie, American forces capture two British ships: HMS Detroit and HMS Caledonia.
- Oct 09 1861 Civil War: Battle of Santa Rosa Island Union troops repel a Confederate attempt to capture Fort Pickens. Casualties and losses: US 67 CSA 87.

- Oct 09 1864 Civil War: Battle of Tom's Brook Union cavalrymen in the Shenandoah Valley defeat Confederate forces at Tom's Brook, Virginia. Casualties and losses: US 57 CSA 350.
- Oct 09 1914 WWI: Siege of Antwerp Antwerp, Belgium falls to German troops after 12 days. Casualties and losses: Ger Unk GB 2437, Netherlands 33,000 interned & 30,000 Captured.



Belgian artillery position around Antwerp

- Oct 09 1942 WW2: The last day of the October Matanikau action on Guadalcanal as United States Marine Corps forces withdraw back across the Matanikau River after destroying most of the Imperial Japanese Army's 4th Infantry Regiment.
- Oct 09 1966 Vietnam: Binh Tai massacre South Korean troops set fire to the Binh Tai villagers' homes and shoot 68 villagers who fled the burning buildings.
- Oct 09 1966 Vietnam: Dien Nien–Phuoc Binh massacre Over 2 days South Korean forces massacre 280 unarmed citizens in Tinh Son village. Most of the victims were children, elderly and women.
- Oct 09 1950 Korea: The invasion of North Korea begins when U.N. forces led by the 1st Cav Div cross the 38th parallel and begin attacking northward towards the capital of Pyongyang.
- Oct 09 2006 North Korea allegedly tests its first nuclear device.
- Oct 10 1812 War of 1812: In a naval engagement on Lake Erie, American forces capture two British ships: HMS Detroit and HMS Caledonia.
- Oct 10 1845 The U.S. Naval Academy (initially called the Naval School) at Annapolis MD opens with 50 midshipman students and seven professors.
- Oct 10 1861 Civil War: Battle of Santa Rosa Island Union troops repel a Confederate attempt to capture Fort Pickens.
- Oct 10 1862 Civil War: In the aftermath of the Battle of Antietam, Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart and his men loot Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, during a raid into the north.
- Oct 10 1864 Civil War: Battle of Tom's Brook Union cavalrymen in the Shenandoah Valley defeat Confederate forces at Tom's Brook, Virginia.
- Oct 10 1944 WW2: US. Forces take Okinawa
- Oct 10 1966 Vietnam: Operation Robin U.S. Forces launch operation in Hoa Province south of Saigon to provide road security between villages.
- Oct 10 1942 WW2: Battle of Cape Esperance On the northwest coast of Guadalcanal, United States Navy ships intercept and defeat a Japanese fleet on their way to reinforce troops on the island.
- Oct 10 1972 Vietnam: A race riot involving 100 to 200 Afro American sailors occurs on the United States Navy aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk off the coast of Vietnam during Operation Linebacker.
- Oct 11 1776 American Revolution: Battle of Valcour Island Benedict Arnold's Lake Champlain fleet defeated by the British but delays the British advance until 1777.
- Oct 11 1845 In Annapolis, Maryland, the Naval School (later renamed the United States Naval Academy) opens with 50 midshipman students and seven professors.
- Oct 11 1862 Civil War: Battle of Antietam In the aftermath of the battle Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart and his men loot Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, during a raid into the north.

- Oct 11 1942 WW2: Battle of Cape Esperance On the northwest coast of Guadalcanal, United States Navy ships intercept and defeat a Japanese fleet on their way to reinforce troops on the island.
- Oct 11 1943 WW2: USS Wahoo (SS-238) Sunk by Japanese naval aircraft, submarine chasers Ch 15 and Ch 43, and minesweeper W.18 in La Perouse Strait off Japan. 80 killed.



- Oct 11 1976 George Washington's appointment, posthumously, to the grade of General of the Armies of the United States by congressional joint resolution Public Law 94-479 is approved by President Gerald R. Ford.
- Oct 11 1986 Cold War: U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meet in Reykjavík, Iceland, in an effort to continue discussions about scaling back their intermediate missile arsenals in Europe.
- Oct 12 1861 Civil War: Confederate ironclad Manassas attacks and rams Union's ironclad Richmond. Manassas suffered the loss of her iron prow and smokestack(s) and had one of her two engines unseated from its mounts, temporarily putting it out of commission. She managed to retire under heavy fire.
- Oct 12 1915 WWI: British nurse Edith Cavell is executed by a German firing squad for helping Allied soldiers escape from Belgium



- Oct 12 1933 The United States Army Disciplinary Barracks on Alcatraz Island, is acquired by the United States Department of Justice
- Oct 12 1942 WW2: Battle of Cape Esperance (Guadalcanal) Japanese ships retreat after their defeat with the Japanese commander, Aritomo Goto dying from wounds suffered in the battle and two Japanese destroyers sunk by Allied air attack.
- Oct 12 1945 WW2: Desmond Doss is the first conscientious objector to receive the U.S. Medal of Honor.
- Oct 12 1943 WW2: The U.S. Fifth Army begins an assault crossing of the Volturno River in Italy.
- Oct 12 1945 WW2: Desmond Doss is the first conscientious objector to receive the U.S. Medal of Honor.
- Oct 12 1960 Cold War: Nikita Khrushchev pounds his shoe on a desk at United Nations General Assembly meeting to protest a Philippine assertion of Soviet Union colonial policy being conducted in Eastern Europe.



- Oct 12 1967 Vietnam: US Secretary of State Dean Rusk states during a news conference that proposals by the U.S. Congress for peace initiatives are futile because of North Vietnam's opposition
- Oct 12 2000 The USS Cole is badly damaged in Aden, Yemen, by two Al–Queda terrorists' suicide bombers, killing 17 crew members and wounding at least 39.
- Oct 13 1775 American Revolution: The US Navy was established when the Continental Congress authorizes construction of two warships.
- Oct 13 1812 War of 1812: Battle of Queenston Heights A Canadian and British army defeats the Americans who have tried to invade Canada.
- Oct 13 1915 WWI: The Battle for the Hohenzollern Redoubt marks the end of the Battle of Loos in northern France.
- Oct 13 1942 WW2: In the first of four attacks two Japanese battleships sail down the slot and shell Henderson field on Guadalcanal in an unsuccessful effort to destroy the American Cactus Air Force.
- Oct 13 1943 WW2: The new government of Italy sides with the Allies and declares war on Germany.
- Oct 14 1773 American Revolution: The United Kingdom's East India Company tea ships' cargo are burned at Annapolis, Maryland.
- Oct 14 1863 Civil War: Battle of Bristoe Station Confederate General Robert E. Lee forces fail to drive the Union Army out of Virginia.
- Oct 14 1943 WW2: U.S. 8th Air Force loses 60 B-17 Flying Fortresses during an assault on Schweinfurt Gemany.
- Oct 14 1952 Korea: Battle of Hill 598 (Sniper Ridge) 7th Infantry Division battles the Chinese near Kumhwa, the right leg of the Iron Triangle. The operation is a failure and the UNC never allowed Eighth Army to undertake a similar sized offensive for the remainder of the war
- Oct 14 1962 Cold War: Cuban Missile Crisis begins A U2 flight over Cuba takes photos of Soviet nuclear weapons being installed.
- Oct 15 1863 Civil War: The H.L. Hunley, the first submarine to sink a ship, sinks during a test, killing its inventor, Horace L. Hunley.
- Oct 15 1864 Civil War: Battle of Glasgow Ends with the surrender of Glasgow, Missouri, and its Union garrison, to the Confederacy. Casualties and losses: US 400 CSA 50.
- Oct 15 1965 Vietnam: The Catholic Worker Movement stages an anti-war rally in Manhattan including a public burning of a draft card; the first such act to result in arrest under a new amendment to the Selective Service Act.
- Oct 15 1969 Vietnam; The Moratorium to End the War in Vietnam is held in Washington DC and across the US. Over 2 million demonstrate nationally; about 250,000 in the nation's capital.

[Source: Various Sep 2014 ++]
