

On This Day...

October 4

1777 - At Germantown, PA, Patriot forces and British forces both suffer heavy losses in battle. The battle was seen as British victory, which actually served as a moral boost to the Americans.

1822 - Rutherford B. Hayes was born. He became the 19th President of the United States.

1957 - The Soviet Union launched *Sputnik I* into orbit around the Earth. Sputnik was the first manmade satellite to enter space. *Sputnik I* fell out of orbit on January 4, 1958.

1994 - South African President Nelson Mandela was welcomed to the White House by U.S. President Clinton.

2001 - In Washington, DC, Reagan National Airport re-opened. The airport had been closed since the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001.

October 5

1813 - Chief Tecumseh of the Shawnee Indians was killed at the Battle of Thames when American forces defeated the British and the allied Indian warriors.

1830 - Chester A. Arthur was born. He became the 21st President of the United States.

1877 - Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce Indians surrendered to the U.S. Army after a 1,000-mile retreat towards the Canadian border.

1947 - U.S. President Harry S. Truman held the first televised presidential address from the White House. The subject was the current international food crisis.

1968 - Former Vice-President Richard Nixon was elected to be the 37th U.S. President.

October 6

1949 - U.S. president Harry Truman signed the Mutual Defense Assistance Act. The act provided \$1.3 billion in the form of military aid to NATO countries.

1961 - U.S. president John F. Kennedy advised American families to build or buy bomb shelters to protect them in the event of a nuclear exchange with the Soviet Union.

1973 - Egypt and Syria attacked Israel in an attempt to win back territory that had been lost in the third Arab-Israel war. Support for Israel led to a devastating oil embargo against many nations including the U.S. and Great Britain on October 17, 1973. The war lasted 2 weeks.

1986 - A Soviet nuclear submarine sank in the Atlantic Ocean about 1,200 miles from New York.

1992 - Ross Perot appeared in his first paid broadcast on CBS-TV after entering the U.S. presidential race.

October 7

1765 - Nine American colonies send a total of 28 delegates to New York City for the Stamp Act Congress. The delegates adopt the "Declaration of Rights and Grievances."

1777 - During the American Revolution the second Battle of Saratoga began.

1950 - The **U.S.**-led U.N. forces crossed the 38th parallel and entered North Korea. China in November proved their threat to enter the war by sending several hundred thousand troops over the border into North Korea.

1963 - **U.S.** President Kennedy signed a nuclear test ban treaty with Britain and the Soviet Union

1993 - **U.S.** President Clinton sent more troops, heavy armor, and naval firepower to Somalia

2001 - The **U.S.** and Great Britain began air strikes in Afghanistan in response to that state's support of terrorism and Osama bin Laden.

October 8

1869 - The fourteenth president of the United States, Franklin Pierce, died.

1871 - The Great Fire of Chicago broke out destroying about 17,450 buildings. About 250 people were killed and 90,000 were left homeless.

1945 - U.S. President Truman announced that only Britain and Canada would be given the secret to the atomic bomb.

1994 - U.S. President Clinton dispatched an aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf when Iraqi troops were spotted moving toward Kuwait. The U.S. Army was also put on alert.

2002 - U.S. President George W. Bush gave a national address to outline his case against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's regime. In the speech Bush called Hussein a "murderous tyrant" that may be plotting attacks on the United States.