



Independence to New Zealand
1907 A.D. After British occupation since 1839, the British colony of New Zealand was acknowledged as an independent dominion. It continued to support the UK in military actions during both World War I and II.



Austrian-Hungarian Annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina
October 6, 1908 A.D. Article 25 of the Treaty of Berlin (1878) allowed Austria-Hungary occupancy and administration over the two provinces, formally announcing their annexation in 1908 before a new Turkish regime could regain control. Further tensions led to the outbreak of WWI.



Kwame Nkrumah
1909-1972 A.D.
African statesman, philosopher, and first president of Ghana, he was instrumental in gaining the independence of the former Gold Coast Colony from Britain, making Ghana the first independent African nation south of the Sahara in 1957. In 1966 he was deposed in a coup d'état.



The Russian Mobilization
July, 1914 A.D. With Russia mobilizing its troops in defense of Serbia in July, mobilization notices were posted on August 1 in Germany, France, Austria-Hungary, and Russia, as well as Serbia, Belgium, and Great Britain in preparation for war.



The Balkan Wars
1912-1913 A.D. Two territorial wars prior to WWI, the first in which Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Montenegro defeated Turkey (1912-1913), gaining territory in Macedonia. The second began among the victors over Bulgaria's large acquisition, ending with the Treaty of Bucharest and the further division of the territory.



Communist Revolution in China
1912-1949 A.D. Beginning in 1911 with the May Fourth Movement, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) was formed in 1921 and was eventually led by Mao Tse-tung who also organized the Fourth Red Army in 1928. Civil war with the National Party under Chiang Kai-shek led to the Red Army's defeat and The Long March in 1934. Rebuilding his army and plotting to gain control, Mao established the People's Republic of China in 1949.



Mother Teresa of Calcutta
1910-1997 A.D. Albanian-born Indian nun, born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, who was called to leave the convent to serve and live among the desperately poor people of India. The founder of the Missionaries of Charity in 1950, she authored the book *Gift from God*, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979.



Francis & Edith Schaeffer
1912-1984 & 1914-2013 A.D. Authors and defenders of Christianity whose opposition to secularism is evident in their establishment of L'Abri Fellowship in 1955, a refuge and study center in the Swiss Alps that reached out to those searching for the truth.



World War I
1914-1918 A.D. A war in which Allied Powers of Britain, France, Belgium, Russia, Japan, Serbia, Italy, the United States, Portugal, Romania, and Greece fought and defeated Central Powers Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Turkey, and Bulgaria. Germany's ambitions to invade and rivalry in the Balkans were initial causes of the conflict.



RMS Lusitania is Sunk
May 7, 1915 A.D. German U-boat U20 targeted a British unarmed liner off the coast of Ireland, sinking it and killing 1,195 people, 123 Americans among them. This event fed hostility towards the Germans, contributing to the eventual U.S. involvement in WWI.



Introduction of Poison Gas and Tanks
1915/1916 A.D. Military weaponry changed with new elements of warfare. The German Army was the first to use poison gas in battle, dispersing chlorine gas over Allied lines at Ypres on April 22, 1915. The British were the first to deploy tanks during the Battle of the Somme on September 15, 1916.



Gallipoli Expedition
1915 A.D. A failed attempt by British, French, New Zealand, and Australian forces to take control of the strategic Turkish Dardanelles Straits. The Turkish and Allied losses amounted to about 500,000 by the campaign's end. Held responsible for the expedition, Winston Churchill resigned from the cabinet.