History of New York City's Ticker-Tape Parades

1. October 28, 1886. Dedication of the Statue of Liberty

New York City's first ticker-tape parade took place in 1886, when Wall Street workers spontaneously began throwing ticker tape out of their office windows to celebrate the unveiling of "Liberty Enlightening the World" in New York Harbor. Though the statue was originally slated to be revealed on July 4, 1886, delays in construction pushed the Statue of Liberty inaugural ceremony back to October 28, a day renamed Bartholdi Day after its designer, Frenchman Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi. Despite the fog and rain, parade-goers marched through the streets and down to the Battery to witness the Statue of Liberty's unveiling on Bedloe's Island (today Liberty Island). As she was revealed, French and American flags waved in the air, guns fired, cannons blasted, church bells rang, and cheers echoed through the streets.

Upwards of a million people attended the parade, making it a spectacle of epic proportions. Not all onlookers, however, watched contentedly. Members of the New York State Woman Suffrage Association, who declined to participate in the parade, voiced their displeasure from a nearby boat, condemning the nation's celebration of a female symbol of liberty while it denied its women full citizenship. Some women's rights organizations could even be heard chanting in protest as Bartholdi undraped the Statue. Nonetheless, in his closing remarks, President Grover Cleveland pledged to the crowd: "We will not forget that Liberty has made here her home, nor shall her chosen altar be neglected."

2. April 29, 1889. Centennial of George Washington's inauguration as first president of the United States

The centennial of George Washington's presidential inauguration provided the occasion for New York City's second ticker-tape parade. Hoping to outshine Philadelphia's centennial celebration of the Declaration of Independence thirteen years prior, New Yorkers conceived a festival of massive proportions. The three-day anniversary event featured dinners, balls, concerts, and speeches by the nation's leading officials to enormous crowds. The eight-hour commemorative ticker-tape parade—the main spectacle—included nearly every club, organization, and trade association in New York City, including ex-Civil War soldiers, police officers, local fire brigades, and even a Ladies Auxiliary unit. Among the marchers and horse-drawn carriages, President Benjamin Harris rode atop a white horse, as Washington himself had on his inauguration day. Spectators recalled ticker tape and rose petals covering the streets as the sound of fireworks, church bells, cannons, and music filled the air; poet John Greenleaf Whittier even composed a special fifth verse to "America" ("My Country 'Tis of Thee") for the occasion.

As a testament to Washington's legacy, local businessman William Rhinelander Stewart erected a large triumphal arch in Washington Square for the centennial parade. The arch was so well received that the city commissioned the Washington Arch by architect Stanford White in 1892;

it would become the emblem of Washington Square Park and a permanent fixture in New York City architecture.

3. September 30, 1899. Adm. George Dewey, hero of the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War

The third ticker tape parade in New York City's history occurred in 1899, when Admiral George Dewey returned home from his victory in the Battle of Manila Bay in the Philippines. Dewey had served as commander of the seven-warship U.S. Asiatic Squadron during the Spanish-American War. On April 30 of 1898, Dewey's fleet had entered the Spanish-controlled waters of the Philippines at Manila Bay, and by May 1, he had decimated the Spanish fleet and forced all remaining vessels to surrender. The naval victory was a key moment in the American victory, and the Treaty of Paris, which officially brought the war to an end in August 1898, resulted in U.S. cession of Puerto Rico, Guam, and—for a sum of twenty million dollars—the Philippines.

Dewey's triumph in the Spanish-American War marked the end of U.S. isolationism in global affairs and further distinguished the nation as a leading political and military power. But the occupation of these new and far-flung territories also marked the country's first foray into imperialism, a development that raised alarm with many Americans. Their dismay only grew more intense as U.S. occupation of the Philippines spurred years of war on the islands and the death of tens of thousands of Filipinos.

Despite this dissent, the two-day ticker-tape parade held in Dewey's honor branded him a hero and led to his promotion to rear admiral in 1899 and to full admiral the following year. The celebration further ushered in a new era of military pageantry in New York City. Memorializing the legacy of military leaders and soldiers in ticker-tape parades quickly became a staple of New York political and popular culture.

4. June 18, 1910. Theodore Roosevelt, former president of the United States, on his return from an African safari

Theodore Roosevelt's return from his fifteen-month African safari was the largest recorded parade to that date and the first "officially sanctioned" ticker-tape parade in New York City. Though President Roosevelt had left office in March 1909, his homecoming from Africa over a year later earned him a hero's welcome, attracting an estimated one million spectators. The day before his arrival, the Atlantic Constitution even reported that "It [was] a remarkable tribute to the man's personality that virtually every element of citizenship in the country should be more or less on tiptoes in the excitement of anticipation."

As President Roosevelt entered New York Harbor the next day on the luxury liner *Kaiserin*, he was greeted by cheering crowds, an extravagant naval display, and a twenty-one-gun salute. Following his remarks, Roosevelt and his family, escorted by 150 members of his Rough Rider unit from the Spanish-American war and thousands of police officers, veterans, and soldiers, led

a five-mile procession from Broadway to 59th Street and Fifth Avenue. Even as the parade proceeded down Wall Street (home to many of the same big businesses that were often the target of Roosevelt's political rhetoric), office workers ardently applauded the president's return, a testament to his powerful political legacy in New York.

Roosevelt was a hero to many for his projection of masculine American power at home and around the world, for his championing of conservation and public lands, and for his strong stance against concentrated economic power. But the reality of his legacy was more complex. One example: as a Republican president and thus heir to the Party of Lincoln, he sought to appeal to black voters by speaking out against lynching and by inviting the African-American leader Booker T. Washington to the White House. But he also alienated many African-Americans by ordering the dishonorable discharge of 167 black soldiers during the controversial Brownsville Affair of 1906, when white Texans falsely accused the soldiers of going on a violent rampage (they were not granted honorable discharges until 1972).

Two years after his ticker-tape parade, Roosevelt ran for president once again on his newly established Progressive Party ticket—popularly known as the Bull Moose Party. The third party advocated for social reform and the regulation of trusts and monopolies while also striking a blow to party support for the Republican candidate and Roosevelt's protégé, William Howard Taft. While Roosevelt did not win the 1912 presidential election, the Progressive Party's presence on the ballot undermined the Republican Party and led to Democratic nominee Woodrow Wilson's victory.

While President Theodore Roosevelt's ticker-tape parade was truly a media sensation, his legacy continues to make for arguments and headlines today. In October 2017, protestors vandalized the statue of Roosevelt located outside the American Museum of Natural History. Erected in 1940, the statue had previously been a lightning rod for protests. It depicts Roosevelt on horseback aside a Native American man and an African man, imagery demonstrators referred to as an emblem of "patriarchy, white supremacy and settler-colonialism."

5. May 9, 1917. Joseph J. C. Joffre, Marshal of France

Joseph J. C. Joffre, known as "Papa Joffre" in France, arrived in the United States in April 1917, just days after the nation declared war against Germany in World War I. As the former head of the French army, Joffre commanded the French forces on the Western Front in World War I and led the decisive victory at the Battle of the Marne in September 1914, where he effectively pushed back German forces. Yet while Americans praised Joffre as a war hero, the French later blamed him for the German military attack at Verdun in 1916, and the general resigned under duress as chief of the French army in December 1916 to be succeeded by General Robert Nivelle.

Months later, however, French Prime Minister Alexandre Ribot appointed Joffre Marshal of France and assigned him to accompany former French prime minister and then Lord Chancellor René Viviani on a mission to the United States that April. Ribot believed Joffre, still a celebrated

war hero in America, would be the best representative of the French army and could help cultivate a working relationship between the two allies in the battle to come.

Ribot was right: Joffre convinced the American forces to agree to his proposal and grant the French much-needed supplies and troops. His negotiations helped influence the American military and their role in the First World War, eventually leading to Allied victory. Following his diplomatic feat, Joffre embarked on a tour of the United States. New Yorkers welcomed the famed general with a ticker-tape parade; his ceremonial presence united the newly allied nations and gave the American people an opportunity to honor the French army.

6. September 8, 1919. Gen. John J. Pershing, Commander of the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I

Nearly a year after World War I ended, New Yorkers gathered to honor the return of General John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in Europe, with a victory ticker-tape parade. President Woodrow Wilson appointed Pershing, a veteran of the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars, to command American troops overseas in 1917. Nicknamed "Black Jack" Pershing by his cadets at West Point for his recurring command of black troops, Pershing's forces were instrumental in helping British and French allied troops force an armistice on the Germans in November 1918.

Pershing spent the early years of his career fighting Native Americans with the 6th Cavalry in New Mexico and assisting in their deportation west. Following the Indian campaigns, Pershing led the African-American 10th Cavalry Regiment in the Spanish-American War, eventually leading his Buffalo Soldiers to victory alongside Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders in the Battle of San Juan Hill. With the outbreak of the Philippine-American War, Pershing served with the 1st Cavalry Regiment, and later the 15th, which used guerrilla warfare to help put down the last of the Muslim tribesmen in what is called the Moro Rebellion. He later spearheaded the brutal battle at Bud Bagsak, the Moro natives' final failed resistance effort against American and Filipino troops. His victory ended the Moro Rebellion and secured America's position as a global power. After returning to the United States, Pershing was ordered to pursue Mexican Revolutionary Francisco "Pancho" Villa, who had crossed over the Mexican-American border in March 1916 to attack and kill American civilians and soldiers in New Mexico. Pershing's efforts ultimately failed, a defeat only to be trumped by America's entrance in World War I a month later, where General Pershing redeemed his popular reputation and led the American Expeditionary Forces to victory.

When Pershing returned to New York from Europe, he was greeted with a military plane flyover, gun salutes, ringing bells, and a city draped in flags. Ticker tape, confetti, and roses fell from office windows as Pershing and over thirty thousand soldiers, Red Cross women, and servicemen marched through the city streets. The procession included twenty-five thousand U.S. soldiers who had served under Pershing in the AEF First Division on the Western Front, all outfitted in full combat gear. Soon after his ticker-tape parade, President Woodrow Wilson promoted

Pershing to the rank of General of the Armies of the United States, making him one of the highest-ranking military figures in U.S. history. To this day, Pershing's personal insignia, four gold stars, have not been worn by any other military official. Yet in recent years, Pershing's reputation has been marred by rumors of anti-Islamic treatment of Muslim soldiers in the Philippines. While historians have come to General Pershing's aid in debunking the myth that he dipped fifty bullets in pig's blood and used them to execute forty-nine Muslims, they still emphasize his use of brutal violence in the pursuit of native Moro annihilation.

7. October 3, 1919. Albert and Elisabeth, King and Queen of the Belgians

The ticker-tape parade held in honor of the visiting Belgian King Albert and Queen Elisabeth marked the first of its kind held for royal heads of state. The king and queen's official three-month visit to the United States from September to November 1919 took place nearly one year after the conclusion of World War I. Many Americans had heard of the foreign dignitaries' role in the war. It was King Albert's refusal to allow the Germans peaceful passage through Belgium to attack France—and his subsequent command of the Belgian army to hold back German forces—that facilitated British and French victory at the Battle of the Marne. King Albert and Queen Elisabeth were also champions on the front lines—Albert as commanding officer and Elisabeth as a nurse. The pair's bravery and dedication garnered widespread praise.

Despite their efforts, the Belgians were unable to hold off the Germans and were forced to retreat to North Belgium; the call to "Remember Belgium!" became a rallying cry for American wartime propaganda. The Germans eventually occupied nearly ninety percent of Belgium, leaving behind a war-torn and depleted nation. Americans rallied to raise funds and send resources to Belgium after the war, an endeavor King Albert and Queen Elisabeth honored with their tribute visit to the United States the following year. The king and queen spent the remainder of their reign rebuilding Belgium as well as undertaking reform and conservation efforts in the Congo, Belgium's only overseas colony, which Albert's uncle, Leopold II, had reduced to a personal possession and a site of extraordinary repression and genocidal violence.

After King Albert died in a mountaineering accident in 1934, Queen Elisabeth, then queen dowager, resumed her role as Belgium's first lady. When German forces occupied Belgium in 1940, she worked tirelessly to rescue hundreds of Jewish Belgians from Nazi persecution.

8. November 18, 1919. Edward Albert, Prince of Wales

Before taking the British throne in 1936 and abdicating less than a year later to marry an American divorcee, Wallis Simpson, King Edward VIII (then Prince Edward of Wales) visited the United States on a royal tour. At the behest of his father, King George V, twenty-five-year-old Edward first arrived on the *HMS Renown* to New York City in November 1919 to an enthusiastic welcome. A celebrity in his own right, Edward attracted a large crowd of spectators and socialites alike, all vying for his attention.

Just one year prior, Edward had returned from World War I, where he had served as a staff officer to Field Marshal Sir John French at the British Expeditionary Forces general headquarters in France. Though Edward was eager to join the armed forces when the war broke out in 1914, War Secretary Lord Kitchener refused to let him seek active service, for his own protection. Yet despite being barred from fighting on the frontline, Prince Edward joined the Royal Navy and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards before serving as a staff officer of the XIV Corps. By the close of the war, the French and Russian governments had recognized Edward as a war hero and decorated him accordingly. The prince, embarrassed by his inability to fight, refused to wear his war medals, arguing that he was only awarded them because of his position and "there were so many thousands of gallant officers...who have been in battles of the fiercest kind...who were not decorated."

The fame and attention Prince Edward received upon his arrival to New York changed the course of the monarch's life. A visit originally intended to strengthen diplomatic relations instead turned into a hysterical mob of people, thousands of whom mobbed the prince and tore at his clothes. The parade and Edward's ceremonial presence, though considered a success back in the United Kingdom, contributed to Edward's decision to distance himself from much of the pomp and circumstance associated with royalty. Rather than dedicate the remainder of his career to his public duties, Edward adopted a lifestyle marked by love affairs and scandal, leisure, and ultimately despondency. He became an acclaimed playboy and resolute romantic willing to resign his claim to the throne and live in exile to marry his American mistress Wallis Simpson. The Duke and Duchess of Windsor, as they were known, also became long-term New Yorkers, living in a luxury apartment at the Waldorf Astoria Towers.

King Edward (crowned for a short period in 1936) is seldom remembered today, as he once was, for his veteran war efforts or diplomacy. Rather, Edward is often associated with a controversial decision he made in October 1937 when he and Wallis visited Adolph Hitler. While Edward considered the visit a mere tour of Germany's housing and labor conditions, Goebbels and Hitler's publicity team used the trip for propaganda purposes, exploiting the ex-King's "Heil Hitler" salutes. Word of Edward's fraternization with the Nazis tarnished his reputation back home and branded him a Nazi sympathizer.

9. October 19, 1921. Gen. Armando V. Diaz, Chief of Staff of the Italian army

The 1920s continued the tradition of honoring visiting World War I foreign dignitaries with ticker-tape parades, including Italian General and Chief of Staff of the Italian Army Armando V. Diaz, who received a parade in October 1921. Over the course of the war, General Diaz had scaled the chain of command, beginning as a major general in 1914, to head of the operations office in 1915, to lieutenant general and head of the 49th Infantry Division in 1916. By April 1917, General Diaz had become commander of the XXIII Corps, positioning him to replace General Luigi Cadorna as chief of staff of the Italian army in November of that year.

Italy first joined World War I in May 1915, when it declared war on Austria-Hungary. Despite the nation's earlier alliance with Germany and Austria-Hungary, Italy ultimately sided with the Allies (Britain, France, and Russia) after both parties signed the Treaty of London in April 1915, which assured Italy's control over desired territory on the Austria-Hungary border. Their declaration of war opened a new front on the Italian/Austro-Hungarian border.

General Diaz's appointment as Chief of Staff followed Italy's disastrous defeat at the Battle of Caporetto on the Italian front, when under General Cadorna's leadership Italian troops were forced to withdraw to the Piave River line. General Diaz successfully recovered his army and launched a counter-defensive that led to Italian victory in the Battle of the Piave River and an offensive victory at the Battle of Vittorio Veneto in 1918. Diaz's effective military command decimated the Austro-German army and ended the war on the Italian front.

General Diaz's 1921 visit to New York City occurred in conjunction with an Armistice Day celebration ceremony at Arlington Cemetery that November. He kicked off his national tour with his ticker-tape parade, where the New York Board of Aldermen granted Diaz the Freedom of the City, an award bestowed only on the most accomplished of "Envoys Extraordinary to the United States." The first of a string of distinguished guests, Diaz was honored as a diplomat, a statesman, and a soldier, especially by Italian-American New Yorkers.

10. October 21, 1921. Adm. Lord David Beatty, commander of the British and Allied fleets during World War I

Just two days after Italian General Armando Diaz's parade, New York City celebrated Admiral Lord David Beatty's accomplishments in World War I with a ticker-tape parade of his own. After building an impressive resume serving as Winston Churchill's Naval Secretary and commander of the Grand Fleet's Battlecruiser Squadron, Admiral Beatty began the war with small naval victories at the Battle of Heligoland Bight (1914) and Dogger Bank (1915).

But Beatty is best remembered for his strategic performance at the Battle of Jutland in May 1916. After suffering the loss of three of his battlecruisers to German forces, he lured his German pursuers directly into the path of Admiral Lord John Jellicoe and the British Grand Fleet, who demolished the German ships. Beatty's strategy to act as bait forced all but one of German Admiral Hipper's ships out of commission. When Jellicoe was promoted to First Sea Lord months later, Beatty succeeded him as commander of the Grand Fleet, and when the United States entered the war in April 1917, Beatty's Grand Fleet joined with six American battleships to become the Allied fleet. Beatty and Rear Admiral Hugh Rodman eventually secured the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet and Ally naval victory. Following the war, Beatty served as First Sea Lord, a position he held until 1927.

Like General Diaz and Commander Ferdinand Foch, Admiral Beatty visited the United States in 1921 in part to attend and be honored at an Armistice Day ceremony at Arlington Cemetery. One of Beatty's stops during his trip was to New York City, where the Board of Alderman, Mayor Hylan, and observing New Yorkers welcomed the naval hero with a ticker-tape parade and

celebratory dinner. Despite facing criticism for the alleged errors he made at the Battle of Jutland, Beatty is remembered today as a clever naval commander and crucial player in the armistice negotiations ending the Great War.

11. October 28, 1921. Ferdinand Foch, Marshal of France, commander of the Allied armies during World War I

Seven days following Admiral David Beatty's parade, Marshal of France and Commander of the Allied armies in World War I Ferdinand Foch was celebrated with a ticker-tape parade. Before becoming the supreme commander of the Allied forces and Marshal of France, Foch, then commander of the French XX Army Corps and the Ninth Army, helped secure victory at the First Battle of the Marne in 1914 and went on to command the Northern Army. Despite the high number of casualties associated with Foch's offensives and his brief presence on the Italian Front, French Prime Minister Georges Clemenceau encouraged Foch's promotion to supreme commander in 1918. Clemenceau believed Foch's military genius would be crucial to helping the French and British Allied forces fight off the Germans on the Western Front until American troops arrived.

Foch effectively withstood the Ludendorff Offensive in March 1918 and claimed victory in a counter-attack at the Second Battle of the Marne that July, earning him the title Marshal of France. Marshal Foch's defeat of the Germans at the Marne led to their surrender, which the marshal personally negotiated in November 1918.

Set to join the pantheon of World War I military leaders visiting New York City that October, Marshal Foch arrived to the city on the steamship *Paris* just hours after American General and WWI Commander John Pershing. After Governor Miller and General Pershing greeted Foch, they escorted him to Battery Park, where he was welcomed by a crowd of over 100,000, by the sound of gunshots and steam whistles, and by flowing confetti and ticker tape. The parade to follow proceeded up Broadway and toward City Hall, where Mayor John Hylan awarded Foch the Freedom of the City award, a tribute to Foch personally and France nationally.

For the American people, Marshal Foch was not only a key military commander, but he was thought by many to be largely responsible for winning World War I. Newspapers and government officials referred to the marshal as the "world's greatest soldier" and a representative of the enduring union between America and France. No other visit of a distinguished European, the Board of Alderman remarked, equaled Foch's "in extent, depth of feeling, or significance."

12. November 18, 1922. Georges Clemenceau, premier of France during World War I

Known as "the tiger," Georges Clemenceau succeeded Paul Painleve as French prime minister in 1917, a position he had held once before (1906-1909). Clemenceau served France through the First World War and was instrumental in helping persuade Allied forces to unite their militaries under Commander Ferdinand Foch, a key move in the eventual Allied victory.

Prime Minister Clemenceau is perhaps best remembered for his role in the Paris Peace Conference in 1919 and in the drafting of the Treaty of Versailles, a compact that included the creation of the world's first intergovernmental organization for international cooperation—the League of Nations—but which has also been criticized for the harshness of the terms imposed on Germany, which critics say helped eventually to fuel the rise of Nazism. A staunch advocate for the absolute destruction of the German Empire and heavy reparations, Clemenceau butted heads with President Woodrow Wilson, who sought a fairer peace and disarmament. The conflict ultimately led to the U.S. Senate's rejection of the Versailles Treaty and the United States' absence from Wilson's proposed League of Nations.

Clemenceau's visit to the United States followed Wilson's failed effort to get Senate ratification for the League of Nations. Although Clemenceau had left office by 1922, he toured the U.S. in the hopes of securing American military commitment to France in the event of future German attack. His visit, despite attracting a large and well-receiving audience, particularly at his ticker-tape parade in New York City, failed to influence America's policy of isolationism, which continued in the post-World War I years.

13. October 5, 1923. David Lloyd George, prime minister of Great Britain during World War I

Nearly a year after French Prime Minister Georges Clemenceau's 1922 visit to New York City, the British prime minister and third member of the Paris Peace Conference's "Big Three" arrived in New York harbor to a ticker-tape parade. Lloyd George is remembered for the crucial role he played as mediator between punitive French Prime Minister Clemenceau and idealistic President Woodrow Wilson over the Treaty of Versailles. Appointed prime minister of Great Britain in 1916, Lloyd George had watched his nation suffer throughout the war. The hardship the nation experienced encouraged Lloyd George's people to seek harsh punishment for the German Empire, an idea he himself opposed. Instead, he believed Britain should repair its relationship with its prewar trading partner to restore the nation to its former prosperity. Against his better judgment, Lloyd George ultimately bowed to public pressure and pushed for considerable reparations, resulting in a particularly stringent treaty.

The prime minister remained in office until October 1922, when reports of a corruption scandal forced him to resign. Despite the scandal and Lloyd George's perceived leniency toward Germany, he remained a politically relevant figure, both in the United Kingdom and internationally. He toured the U.S and Canada in September 1923 as part of an effort to further revive his political standing. Lloyd George received a hero's welcome in New York City. His ticker-tape parade celebrated his legacy as both a war hero and the pioneer of Britain's social welfare system.

14. August 6, 1924. U.S. Olympic athletes, on their return from the Paris Games

The first sports-related ticker-tape parade occurred in August 1924, when the U.S. Olympic team returned victorious from the summer and winter Olympic Games in Paris. The parade marked a

new tradition in the city celebrating champion athletes. The U.S. team had won nearly one hundred medals, over twice as many as their nearest competitor, Finland. Among the athletes honored was Harold Osborn, who won gold medals and set Olympic records in the high jump and the decathlon. Other victors included U.S. swimmer Johnny Weissmuller, who won three gold medals in swimming and one bronze medal in water polo, although he became even better known for going on to play the legendary role of Tarzan.

Although female athletes comprised only ten percent of the U.S. Olympic team, they took home eight gold, five silver, and four bronze medals, accounting for roughly twenty percent of the 1924 U.S. team's wins. In tennis, Helen Wills Moody walked away with gold medals for singles and doubles. For swimming, Ethel Lackie won for the 100-meter freestyle swim; Martha Norelius, for the 400-meter freestyle; and Sybil Bauer, for the 100-meter backstroke, also making her the first female athlete to beat a male record in swimming. Fellow teammates Elizabeth Becker and Caroline Smith won gold for the springboard and platform dive, respectively. Swimmer Gertrude Ederle also made her Olympic debut that year, where she received two bronze medals and one gold in the women's 100-meter freestyle relay. Two years later, Ederle would receive a ticker-tape parade of her own for her record-breaking swim on the English Channel.

15. February 16, 1926. Capt. George Fried and the crew of the steamship *President Roosevelt* for rescuing the crew of the British freighter *Antinoe*

Captain George Fried received a ticker-tape parade and 21-gun salute upon his return to New York Harbor following his rescue of *HMS Antinoe* in 1926. As captain of the luxury liner SS *Roosevelt*, Fried received an SOS on the morning of January 24 from the British freighter *Antinoe*. Fried changed *Roosevelt*'s course and traveled 100 miles through the snow and cold to the cargo ship's location. A newly installed radio compass device reportedly enabled Fried to find *Antinoe* in the storm. According to Captain Fried, they "arrived alongside her at noon…accompanied by violent snow squalls and high rough seas." Worried the ship would not stay afloat, Fried's crew attempted to send over lifeboats, but none was able to weather the storm. After losing six lifeboats, Captain Fried waited for the sea to calm and sent over Lundin boats, larger boats with watertight compartments. Fried and his crew were able to rescue *Antinoe*'s 25-man crew.

Upon their return to New York, Captain Fried and his crew were greeted by local dignitaries, including New Jersey Governor Harry Moore, New York Governor Frank Allen, and New York City Mayor James Walker. New Yorkers showered Fried with ticker tape and streamers as he made his way up Broadway; they regarded his rescue mission as one of the most dramatic sea rescues of the era. Three years later, while in command of SS *America*, the captain conducted yet another valiant rescue at sea, saving the 32-man crew of the Italian steamship *Florida* while in command of SS *America*. His actions warranted another ticker-tape parade of even grander proportions and the title of "Captain George Fried, hero of several sea rescues."

16. May 27, 1926. Gustaf Adolph and Louise, crown prince and princess of Sweden

In 1926 the crown prince and princess of Sweden, Gustaf Adolph and Louise, undertook a highly publicized international trip to "benefit Swedish interests." Their visit to the United States was particularly fruitful, as it helped establish the couple's reputation as approachable and egalitarian. Reports that the Prince and Princess mingled with the local people and refused a formal reception line further cemented this perception. After arriving in New York aboard *Gripsholm*, Prince Adolph and Princess Louise paraded up Broadway to City Hall, where Mayor James Walker formally welcomed them to New York City. Walker also paid tribute to engineer John Ericsson, the Swedish-American engineer behind the creation of the Civil War ironclad ship USS *Monitor*, whose memorial was to be unveiled during the royal couple's visit.

17. June 23, 1926. Lt. Cmdr. Richard E. Byrd and Floyd Bennett for the first flight over the North Pole.

Marking the first of many ticker-tape parades celebrating the accomplishments of American pilots, explorer Richard E. Byrd, copilot Floyd Bennett, and their crew were honored in the Canyon of Heroes in 1926 for the first successful flight over the North Pole. The pair allegedly traveled over 1,500 miles from Norway to the North Pole and back in the monoplane *Josephine Ford*, taking a total of fifteen and a half hours. The acclaimed flight established Byrd as a national hero and recipient of the coveted Congressional Medal of Honor.

Byrd's achievement attracted a media sensation in New York, where he and his crew were greeted by senators, congressmen, and prominent army and navy officers. According to the *New York Times*, a "blizzard of paper snow and hundreds of miles of ticker tape" fell from occupied buildings, and "a score of planes roared overhead" as Byrd led a procession from the Battery to City Hall. "I believe there can be no happier moment in a man's life than when he returns to his own country and is welcomed as we have been this morning," Byrd said as he thanked the city for the warm reception.

Despite the festivities, some skeptics cast doubt on Byrd's voyage and accused him of falling short of the North Pole. The discovery of Byrd's original flight diary in 1996, which revealed that Byrd and Bennett may have turned back 150 miles short of the North Pole due to an oil leak in the *Josephine Ford*, has since strengthened this skepticism. If these allegations are accurate, the rightful title of first pilot to fly over the North Pole belongs to Italian Umberto Nobile, American Lincoln Ellsworth, and Norwegian Ronald Amundsen, who made the successful journey just three days after Byrd's voyage, on May 12, 1926. Biographers and historians have since come to Byrd's defense, arguing that if Byrd had not achieved his goal, he would have destroyed the journal; in fact, Byrd published two references to the journal in the years following the mission. The 1926 flight was the first of three record-breaking flights Byrd made, all of which would be honored with subsequent ticker-tape parades.

18. July 2, 1926. Bobby Jones, British Open champion

Bobby Jones became the first American golfer to win the British Open in June 1926. Though he originally went to Great Britain to play in the 1926 Walker Cup and the Amateur at Muirfield, after losing the Amateur Jones stayed on to participate in the British Open. His victory at the Open earned him a ticker-tape parade upon his return to the U.S. a few weeks later.

The celebration, described in the *New York Times* as a three-hour festivity unrivaled by any royal greeting in the city, spread from the Battery to City Hall. Jones, whom reporters characterized as shy and overwhelmed, first appeared in New York Harbor around noon on the deck of *Aquitania*, where he was welcomed by screaming, cheering, sirens, and waved hats. The Atlanta native was also greeted by a boat carrying hundreds of Georgians, including Bobby's family and grandparents; the Atlanta mayor; and other prominent Atlantans, who traveled to New York on a designated train to celebrate the golfer's homecoming.

The crowd shouted, "Our Bobby" as Jones was brought to shore and led up Broadway toward City Hall. A police motorcade and marching band led the procession as ticker tape and confetti fell on the golfer. After shaking Mayor Walker's hand, Jones commented that he had "not experienced anything like this before. When I came up Broadway I tried to figure the reason for it. All I can say is I am overwhelmed by the welcome I have received from the people of New York." A 400-person dinner at the Vanderbilt Hotel capped off the festivities. Four years later, Bobby Jones would receive a second ticker-tape parade for his golf exploits, making him the only sportsman to receive two ticker-tape parades in New York City history.

19. August 27, 1926. Gertrude Ederle, first woman to swim the English Channel

The first ticker-tape parade to honor an individual woman came during the 1920s, a period that celebrated new freedom and empowerment for women. A native New Yorker, Gertrude "Trudy" Ederle broke barriers in August 1926 when she became the first woman to successfully swim the English Channel. At the young age of 17, Ederle had competed in the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris, leaving with three medals, one of them gold. The following year, she became the first woman to swim the length of New York Bay, a task she completed faster than any of her male counterparts. Ederle kept this mentality when she swam the 21 miles of the English Channel, breaking the previous record—set by all five men to swim the Channel before her—by nearly two hours.

New Yorkers celebrated Ederle's accomplishment with a ticker-tape parade in her honor, one of only two ticker-tape parades held for swimming in the city's history. The Queen of Waves, as she was named, was welcomed by thousands of fans, including Mayor Jimmy Walker, who personally congratulated her. Although an injury forced Ederle to stop swimming in 1933, she held her record as the fastest female to swim the Channel until 1950. One newspaper quoted her as saying, "I knew if it could be done, it had to be done, and I did it."

20. September 10, 1926. Mille Gade Corson, second woman to swim the English Channel

Just two weeks after Gertrude Ederle's record-breaking swim, New Yorkers held another ticker-tape parade for Amelia "Mille" Gade Corson, who became the second woman to successfully swim the English Channel in August 1926. The Danish-born swimmer, who immigrated to New York City in 1919, had a talent for long-distance swimming. In 1921, prior to conquering the English Channel, Gade Corson swam from Albany to New York City, and that same year became the second woman to swim around the island of Manhattan. Despite failing her first attempt to swim the English Channel in 1923, Gade Corson succeeded in 1926, just trailing the accomplishments of Gertrude Ederle, who became the first woman to swim the Channel weeks earlier.

It was rumored that Gade Corson resented Ederle's trailblazing swim, as she hoped to reap the financial benefits of being the first woman to successfully swim the Channel. She once remarked in an interview that she was swimming "for the kiddies," referring to her two young children, Barrett and Cannon, whom she wanted to be able to provide for. Although Gade Corson did not beat Ederle's time, tipping in at just over 15½ hours (an hour more than Ederle), she happily picked up the endorsements and offers Ederle turned down, including becoming the spokesmodel for the controversial bathing suit, the Jantzen, which she claimed to wear during her swim. Gade Corson's ticker-tape parade, though not as large as Ederle's, marked the second—and final—ticker-tape parade held in honor of a swimming achievement.

21. October 18, 1926. Marie, queen of Romania

Queen Marie of Romania disembarked in New York on October 18, 1926, accompanied by two of her children, Prince Nicholas and Princess Ileana, as part of an effort to raise Romania's international standing after the First World War. After serving as a nurse during the war, and being branded the "Soldier Queen" and Romania's most influential patriot, the queen had personally represented her nation at the 1919 Paris Peace Conference. There, she convinced Allied powers to reinstate and expand Romanian territory to compensate for the nation's losses in the war. Marie officially undertook the trip to the United States to dedicate the Maryhill Museum of Art in Washington, but she hoped that the diplomatic visit would help solidify the prestige and recognition Romania gained by siding with the Allies during the war and provide an opportunity to "see the country, meet the people and put Romania on the map."

Although some critics dismissed the trip as a publicity stunt while others suggested the queen was looking for a rich American husband for her daughter, Queen Marie's visit was a media sensation. When she arrived in New York aboard *Leviathan* she was met by Mayor Jimmy Walker, the city's "official greeter" Grover Whalen, and a 21-gun salute. At the City Hall ceremony following her parade, the queen expressed her gratitude for the American loan to Romania that helped them fight the German Army and avoid retreat to Russia.

Marie returned to Romania months later to find her husband, King Ferdinand, on his deathbed. In 1929, two years after the king's passing, the queen rejected a vacant seat in the Romanian

regency that was to oversee the reign of her 5-year-old grandson, newly crowned King Michael. In 1930, when Michael's father (the Queen's eldest son Carol, who had originally waived his right to the throne), deposed his son, the queen dowager withdrew from politics completely and secluded herself in the country.

22. June 13, 1927. Charles A. Lindbergh, for the first solo nonstop transatlantic flight

On May 21, 1927, Charles Lindbergh, popularly nicknamed Lucky Lindy, became the first solo pilot to fly nonstop from New York to Paris. The flight, funded by a group of St. Louis businessmen, followed French hotelier Raymond Orteig's 1926 announcement that he would award a $25,000 prize to the first pilot who successfully completed the transatlantic flight. Orteig hoped the flight would inspire future aviation and strengthen diplomatic relations between France and the United States. The following year, Lindbergh answered the call. His journey began with a record-setting test-run flight from San Diego to New York in his custom-built plane, the *Spirit of St. Louis*. One week later, on the morning of May 20, Lindbergh took off from Roosevelt Field in Long Island, beginning his journey to Paris. Nearly thirty-three hours later, he touched down in Paris.

The transatlantic flight made the twenty-five-year-old a worldwide celebrity. Parisian reporters characterized his reception at Le Bourget Aerodrome as a celebration unparalleled since the Armistice in 1918. None of the festivities, however, compared to the welcome Lindbergh received upon his return to New York that June. Onlookers on more than four hundred boats watched as Mayor Jimmy Walker's yacht *Macom* escorted Lindbergh to the Battery, where twenty-two planes and 300,000 people, including his mother, greeted him. At least twenty thousand more people stood along the Palisades on the Hudson River, miles away from the Battery, hoping to witness the pilot's arrival. The parade led Lindbergh's car from the Battery to City Hall, where the Mayor awarded him the Medal of New York City. An estimated four million spectators then watched as ten thousand soldiers and sailors led Lindbergh's parade up Fifth Avenue. The *New York Times* documented the procession as the "greatest demonstration in New York history." Even Lindbergh himself remembered the New York celebration as being "so much more overwhelming than all the others." It took over two thousand street cleaners days to clean up the two thousand tons of paper left on the ground in the aftermath of the parade. Some described the ticker tape in the air as being so thick few could see Lindbergh through the paper storm. "I guess when I leave here they'll have to print another edition of the telephone book," Lindbergh commented.

Lindbergh's accomplishment earned him the New York Medal of Valor, the Congressional Medal of Honor, and the Pulitzer Prize years later for his account of the flight. Desperate to evade his newfound fame, however, Lindbergh sought to retreat from public life in the years following his transatlantic feat. His efforts proved unsuccessful in 1932 when his infant son was kidnapped and later found murdered; Bruno Hauptmann, a carpenter from the Bronx, was convicted of the murder and sentenced to death in the so-called trial of the century, and Congress passed the Lindbergh Law, which made kidnapping across state lines a federal offense. Lindbergh again

made headlines in the early 1940s as a leader of the U.S. isolationist "America First" movement. Critics decried the pilot for racist and anti-Semitic remarks, including his initial opposition to World War II because he feared it would "reduce the strength and destroy the treasures of the white race." He also accepted a medal from the Nazis in 1938. Despite his initial opposition to the U.S. entry into the war, which he felt was unwinnable, Charles Lindbergh offered his services to the air force after Pearl Harbor and, after he was turned down, ultimately flew over fifty combat missions as a civilian in the Pacific.

23. July 18, 1927. Double parade for two separate transatlantic flights, one by Cmdr. Richard E. Byrd, Lt. George O. Noville, Bernt Balchen, and Bert Acosta; and the other by Clarence D. Chamberlin and Charles A. Levine

One month after Charles Lindbergh's record-setting transatlantic flight, two sets of pilots were honored with the first double ticker-tape parade in the city's history for their transatlantic exploits. Among those honored were pilot Clarence D. Chamberlin and millionaire businessman and first passenger Charles A. Levine, whose transatlantic flight followed Lindbergh's by only a few short weeks, on June 4, 1927. Levine originally commissioned the construction of the monoplane *Columbia* and sponsored Chamberlin's flight in an effort to set a record for the first nonstop flight from New York to Paris. When Lindbergh's journey proved successful, however, Levine and Chamberlin decided to reroute to Berlin, Germany, instead. Levine further shocked crowds—and his wife—on the day of takeoff when he got in the plane with Chamberlin at Roosevelt Field and became the first passenger on a nonstop transatlantic flight. Two days later, Chamberlin and Levine ran out of gas and landed in Eisleben, Germany, one hundred miles short of Berlin. Despite not reaching their goal, the two set a distance record of 3,911 miles, surpassing Lindbergh's journey by over 300 miles.

In preparation for his transatlantic flight, Chamberlin had collaborated with fellow pilot Bert Acosta that April to set the record for the longest flight duration, remaining in flight for over fifty-one hours. That same month, explorer Richard E. Byrd; his copilot, Lloyd Bennett; and Lt. George Noville attempted a test flight to prepare for their transatlantic trip from New York to Paris, originally planned for early June. Upon landing, however, the plane came down on its nose and flipped over, severely injuring both Bennett and Noville. While the pilots recovered and the plane was repaired, Lindbergh beat out his competitors and became the first to fly nonstop from New York to Paris. Byrd, still eager to make the flight, replaced the injured Bennett with Bert Acosta and on June 29, despite doubts the plane could take off, Acosta, Byrd, Noville and Bernt Balchen took off for Paris. Rain, wind, and turbulence followed the aircraft, forcing the crew to fly over Paris and crash-land off the coast of Brittany in the water at Ver-sur-Mer. Notwithstanding the landing, President Calvin Coolidge awarded Byrd and Noville, both members of the armed forces, with the Distinguished Flying Cross for their journey.

All the pilots honored at the ticker-tape parade that July went on to long careers in aviation and set significant records in endurance and altitude flights, including a flight over the South Pole that earned Richard Byrd his third New York ticker-tape parade.

24. November 11, 1927. Ruth Elder, first woman to attempt a transatlantic flight, with pilot George Haldeman

Ruth Elder became the first woman to attempt a transatlantic flight in October 1927 when she and copilot George Haldeman took off from Roosevelt Field for Europe aboard *American Girl*. Nearly 350 miles short of the Azores on the Spanish coast, the single-engine Stinson aircraft began losing oil pressure, forcing the plane to crash-land in the water near a Dutch tanker, SS *Barendrecht*. A small boat rescued the two pilots shortly before the plane exploded. Despite falling short of their goal, Elder and Haldeman set an endurance record by becoming the first pilots to fly over water for thirty-six hours or 2,632 miles.

Although Elder did not become the first woman to fly over the Atlantic—Amelia Earhart would claim this title in 1928—her reported courage and beauty made her an instant celebrity. By the time of her homecoming reporters referred to the female aviator as “the Miss America of Aviation" and “the pretty, dark-eyed girl” flier; she became aviation’s first female icon and an inspiration for future female fliers. Few Americans viewed the flight as a failure; instead they marveled at the very idea of a woman attempting such a dangerous mission. At the City Hall ceremony following Elder’s ticker-tape parade, Mayor Walker even joked that he hoped the Dutch ship that assisted Elder’s crash landing had shock absorbers, insinuating that seeing a female pilot was analogous to a New Yorker “turning from a side street into Broadway and [running] into a whale or a sea serpent.”

While Elder’s accomplishments would soon be overshadowed by Amelia Earhart’s, her time in the spotlight gave female aviators and women everywhere a platform to defy gender boundaries and exercise their independence. According to Mayor Walker, the trailblazer took her place “in the history of beautiful, cultured, courageous, self-sacrificing American womanhood.”

25. January 20, 1928. William Cosgrave, president of Ireland

William Cosgrave, president of the Executive Council of the Irish Free State, became the first head of an independent Ireland to visit the United States when he came to New York in 1928. Although the president’s stay in New York was brief, reporters described thousands standing in the cold to catch a glimpse of the man who “represents to many Irishmen the attainment of a centuries-old ideal.” Mayor Jimmy Walker, the son of an Irish immigrant, was particularly proud to welcome the president to the city.

Cosgrave’s visit came just five years after twenty-six counties in Ireland won their independence from Britain. As an early supporter and representative seat holder of Sinn Fein, Ireland’s left-wing republican political party, Cosgrave became minister of the local government in the first Irish Assembly, the Dáil Éireann, when the party declared an Irish Republic in 1919.

Following Britain's acceptance of the Irish Free State in 1921, Sinn Fein and the Irish people split between Irish nationalists (treaty supporters) and Irish Republicans (treaty opponents), resulting in the Irish Civil War. After the assassination of Free State president Michael Collins in August 1922, Cosgrave became president of the Irish Free State. In 1923 President Cosgrave, treaty supporters, and the newly formed National Army defeated the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and Anti-Treaty Republicans, both parties having implemented guerilla warfare tactics still highly contested today. Under Cosgrave's leadership, pro-treaty nationalists executed at least seventy-seven opponents.

Despite the controversy surrounding Cosgrave, the president remained in office until 1932, when his party lost the election. And while newspaper reporters characterized Cosgrave's visit to New York as a successful "mission of friendship" and a chance for the president to thank the American people for their support of the Irish cause, both Cosgrave and his party proved equally controversial in New York, as parts of his visit were interrupted by anti-Free State demonstrations led by Republican sympathizers and supporters of Cosgrave's adversary, Republican Éamon de Valera.

26. April 30, 1928. Capt. Hermann Koehl, Maj. James Fitzmaurice, and Baron Guenther Von Huenefeld for the longest westward transatlantic flight

In 1928, a year the first flight from America to Europe, an east-to-west transatlantic flight—flying against the prevailing winds—had still not been accomplished. The ninth attempt to meet this goal was made on April 12 of that year, when pilot Hermann Koehl and passenger Baron Guenther Von Huenefeld were joined by copilot James Fitzmaurice of the Irish Air Force on what would become the longest westward transatlantic flight yet. The three men set off from Baldonnel Aerodrome outside of Dublin, Ireland, in the all-metal, low-wing Junkers monoplane, *Bremen*, on a Thursday morning. Captain Koehl and Von Huenefeld, both German, were calculated in their decision to recruit an Irish copilot, as they believed a successful west-to-east flight from Ireland would not only help develop the Irish Free State as an aviation center, but also bolster German interests in obtaining air footing there. Americans also viewed an Ireland-to-New York flight as a bonding opportunity. Nearly four hundred miles into their trip, however, the pilots hit fog, lightning, and one-hundred-mile-per-hour winds, forcing them to steer north and land off the Labrador south coast on Greenly Island thirty-six hours into their journey. Despite attempts to fix their plane and complete their trip, the three men eventually abandoned their mission to reach New York by air and traveled overland to Washington.

Although Koehl, Von Huenefeld, and Fitzmaurice did not reach New York, their expedition marked the longest westward transatlantic flight to date, earning them a ticker-tape parade upon arriving to New York later that month. Mayor Walker, Grover Whalen, and even famous pilot Charles Lindbergh welcomed the three pilots as they stepped off the Mayor's yacht *Macom* in New York Harbor. Timothy Smiddy, minister of the Irish Free State, also greeted the men. According to reporters, "thousands [of New Yorkers] jammed Fifth Avenue and the side streets" to catch a glimpse of the transatlantic heroes as police escorted them to City Hall and St.

Patrick's Cathedral to see Cardinal Hayes. For the airmen and the American people, the reception was seen as America "outstretching its arms, even to an old enemy, saying 'let's be friends.'" For Von Huenefeld and Koehl, who had both served in the German Army in World War I, the trip was particularly emotional; it was the first time Americans took off their hats and honored the German anthem since the Great War.

27. May 4, 1928. Prince Ludovico Potenziani Spada, governor of Rome

In May 1928, Fascist Governor of Rome Prince Ludovico Potenziani Spada and his daughter Princess Miria made their first visit to the United States, fulfilling a promise to Mayor Jimmy Walker to see New York, made during Walker's trip to Rome the summer before. The Fascist Duce (Leader) and Italian Prime Minister (1922-1943) Benito Mussolini had chosen Prince Potenziani, a member of one of the leading families in the Italian aristocracy, to manage the capital of Rome in the aftermath of his takeover in December 1926. As Roman governor, the prince exercised control over the city administration and police. He remained in office until September 1928 and later became a senate member in the Kingdom of Italy.

Upon his arrival in New York, the Roman governor was greeted by over two thousand people at the Battery and over three thousand more at the entrance to City Hall. He was constantly surrounded by a heavy police presence to deter any impending anti-Fascist demonstrations, though none materialized. On the contrary, reporters noted some onlookers raising their hands in the Fascist salute as the prince's motorcade made its way up Fifth Avenue. Even Mayor Walker was keen to mention that New York City boasted one of the highest Italian populations in the world, consisting of over one million people.

The Prince's memorable reception in New York may have been due to Americans' perceived fascination with Mussolini. In 1928 the prince stated, "Mussolini's character and personality carry a strange fascination to Americans…it is my opinion that whatever Italy might ask today of American financiers would be conceded without question, for Americans like strong people." The governor's comments point to a possible motive behind his visit: to garner support for the Fascist project.

28. July 6, 1928. Amelia Earhart, first woman to complete a transatlantic flight, with pilot Wilmer Stulz and Louis E. Gordon

On June 17, 1928, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to complete a transatlantic flight from Newfoundland to Wales, along with Captain Wilmer Stulz and mechanic Louis E. Gordon. The flight lasted twenty hours and forty minutes, as Earhart would later note in the title of her publication chronicling the flight. Although Earhart was only a passenger of the three-engine Fokker *Friendship*, her accomplishment made her an overnight celebrity. Upon her arrival home to New York City, acting Mayor McKee and a crowd of over five thousand onlookers welcomed Earhart and the crew with a ticker-tape parade. The procession marked the first of two such

celebrations for Earhart; the second would take place following her successful solo flight across the Atlantic in June 1932, the first by a woman.

Amelia Earhart became one of the nation's most celebrated aviators. She even earned the nickname "Lady Lindy," denoting her similarities with famous pilot Charles Lindbergh. During the crew's award ceremony following the parade at City Hall, McKee applauded Earhart, telling her, "You have justified our belief that new laurels would come to America, that one of her daughters would wear with grace and dignity a new crown of aviation—the undying fame of being the first woman to span the Atlantic by plane…In winning this prize of fame we realize how you have glorified the name of American womanhood and have won the indisputable right to take your place among the American heroines whose names are writ large on the golden page of our country's history." Less than a decade later, in 1937, Earhart, her navigator Frederick Noonan, and their plane disappeared during a flight over the Pacific as they attempted to circumnavigate the globe, leaving the details of the aviator's fate a mystery to this day.

29. October 16, 1928. Dr. Hugo Eckener and the crew of the dirigible *Graf Zeppelin* for the first commercial transatlantic flight

On October 16, 1928, New Yorkers celebrated the first successful transatlantic commercial flight with a ticker-tape parade. German engineer and chairman of the Zeppelin Company, Dr. Hugo Eckener commanded the aircraft, a German-built, passenger-carrying dirigible called the *Graf Zeppelin*. The plane, named after German noble and airship pioneer Ferdinand von Zeppelin, was hydrogen fueled, making it the first of its kind to cross the ocean. The trip took over 111 hours, the result of both the aircraft's heavy weight and the severe weather Eckener and the crew encountered over the Atlantic. At one point, crew members had to repair the ripped fabric on the outside of the plane mid-flight, almost forcing the LZ-127 to crash-land. The repairs strained the aircraft's stabilizers, forcing them to continue at half speed. Despite these circumstances, the *Graf Zeppelin* landed safely in Lakehurst, New Jersey, proving that the airship was fit for commercial transatlantic service. The voyage marked the first of over 590 flights over the course of its operating life (1928-1937), including a round-the-world tour in 1929, an expedition to the Arctic in 1931, and two trips to the Middle East.

While the *Graf Zeppelin* was scrapped in 1940, its accomplishments were eclipsed by Dr. Eckener's most memorable design, *Hindenburg*, remembered for its disastrous fate in 1937. That transatlantic aircraft caught fire while landing in Lakehurst, resulting in the death of thirty-six of the ninety-seven passengers on board. Following the *Hindenburg* disaster, Dr. Eckener initially alleged that the fire may have been the result of internal sabotage. His complaints cited numerous attempts on behalf of the Nazi regime to depose him from his position as head of the Zeppelin Company, in an effort to prevent him from enforcing safety measures that they felt were slowing progress. Eckener's outspoken opposition to Hitler ultimately cost him what little remaining influence he had over the company.

30. January 28, 1929. Capt. George Fried, Chief Officer Harry Manning, and the crew of the steamship *America* for rescuing the crew of the Italian freighter *Florida*

New Yorkers honored Captain George Fried with his second ticker-tape parade in January 1929, following his rescue mission of the thirty-two-man crew of the Italian steamship *Florida* while in command of the SS *America*. His first parade had come three years earlier, after the Captain and his crew rescued the twenty-five-man crew of the British freighter, HMS *Antinoe*. Fried's rescue of the *Florida* earned him the title of "Captain George Fried, hero of several sea rescues."

The Captain's attempt to rescue the sinking *Florida* came only after two other ships' unsuccessful attempts to locate the vessel nearly seven hundred miles off the coast of Virginia. Unlike Captain Fried's vessel, *America*, the other ships were not equipped with a radio compass enabling them to pinpoint *Florida's* exact location. The expert navigation of *America*'s chief radio operator Nelson Smith helped *America* answer the SOS in record time and arrive just minutes before sinking seemed imminent. As in his previous rescue of *Antinoe* in 1926, Captain Fried attributed the mission's success to Nelson Smith and his radio compass. Upon his arrival home, however, Captain Fried received most of the praise. Reporters labeled the mission "an epic of human heroism and skillful navigation," and Mayor Jimmy Walker applauded Fried for his "indomitable spirit" and "service for his fellow men."

31. October 4, 1929. Ramsay MacDonald, prime minister of Great Britain

The Prime Minister of Great Britain, Ramsay MacDonald, received a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival to New York in October 1929. The visit, which MacDonald made with his daughter Ishbel, was the first leg of a United States trip following his appointment as prime minister just four months earlier. MacDonald, a Scottish man of working-class descent and one of the three original founders of Britain's Labour Party, had served as prime minister once before, in 1924, an appointment that made him Britain's first Labour prime minister. Later in his career, however, the Labour Party denounced MacDonald and accused him of treason to the party, leading to his expulsion in 1931. Although MacDonald regained power through a new National Government group, anger at his political maneuverings grew, and he was personally blamed for the fall of the Labour government, a resentment that followed him to the end of his life six years later.

At the time of his visit to New York, however, the prime minister was celebrated in the New York press for his work on naval disarmament. Millions of people cheered, and hundreds of steamboats whistled as MacDonald made his way from the Battery to his reception at City Hall. The prime minister waved his hat as he "rode through a paper storm" up Broadway. Mayor Jimmy Walker presented the head of the British Government the Freedom of the City, declaring MacDonald the representative of a "unified nation." In response, MacDonald replied, "We are the representatives of our people…you, representing the United States…me, representing Great Britain, we feel that looking forward into the future we must be inspired by a new faith of fraternity." If the United States and Britain worked together to ensure peace, he argued, they

would be successful. “If we stand side by side for peace,” the prime minister concluded, “who can resist us?”

32. April 29, 1930. Henry Lewis Stimson, secretary of state, and U.S. delegates returning from the London naval disarmament conference

In April 1930 the United States participated in the third in a series of five conferences held in the wake of World War I, aimed at limiting the naval capacity of the world’s leading powers. The London Naval Conference included the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan. Representing the United States was President Herbert Hoover’s secretary of state, Henry Lewis Stimson, who led the efforts of the conference to limit the naval race, to place restrictions on each nation’s permitted tonnage for light cruisers and auxiliary ships, and to restrict the size and firepower on submarines and destroyers. Ironically, for the United States, the arms limitation conference actually set levels that were above its current capacity. Once the U.S. Senate approved the treaty in July 1930, the nation launched a shipbuilding program to build the number of cruisers allowed under the treaty.

Secretary Stimson’s negotiations in the London Conference were considered a “great step forward on the road to international disarmament and peace.” Upon their return to New York, Stimson and his delegation were honored with a ticker-tape parade boasting a crowd over thirty thousand people. As the delegates reached the Battery, a nineteen-gun-salute sounded, and a formation of Falcon planes flew overhead. Stimson and Commissioner Grover Whalen led the motorcade procession up to City Hall, followed by battalions of the marines, army, and navy.

One year later, Japan’s occupation of Manchuria led the secretary of state to instate the Stimson Doctrine, which declared that the United States would not recognize territorial changes that came about as a result of military aggression. The doctrine secured Stimson’s position as a leading figure in foreign policy in the U.S. His legacy in foreign policy was solidified in 1940, when President Franklin Roosevelt recalled him to serve as secretary of war. Stimson was instrumental in the atomic bomb program (the Manhattan Project) and was one of the Interim Committee members who advised President Harry Truman to drop the atomic bombs on Japan without warning in 1945. While Stimson expressed a personal disaffection with “unethical” nuclear technology, he defended the use of the bomb in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the role that atomic force played in determining the outcome of the war, international order, and future foreign policy.

33. May 26, 1930. Marquis Jacques De Dampierre and family, descendants of the Marquis De Lafayette, passengers on the maiden voyage of the French ocean liner *Lafayette*

On May 17, 1930, the French ocean liner *Lafayette* left Le Havre, France, on its maiden voyage to New York. Nearly ten days later, the ship arrived in New York harbor to a warm reception and ticker-tape parade. On board *Lafayette* was Marquis Jacques de Dampierre, his wife, and their

two sons, all of whom were being honored as descendants of the American Revolutionary hero, Marquis De Lafayette, whose sister married Dampierre's great-grandfather.

The theme of the visit was the celebration of Lafayette's invaluable role in aiding American troops during the American Revolution. The ship itself was adorned with Revolutionary art, including portraits of Lafayette, George Washington, and Thomas Jefferson. Captain Jules Chabot even stopped the *Lafayette* halfway through its maiden journey to drop flowers for the ninety-fourth anniversary of Lafayette's death. Upon their arrival, Marquis Dampierre and his family were welcomed by a water salute and a parade consisting of police and National Guardsmen wearing traditional Revolutionary uniforms. Spectators "stood four deep along the sidewalks" as a motorcade transported Dampierre to City Hall, where hundreds of middle and elementary school children greeted the French head of government. The students represented PS 3, on Hudson Street, a school Lafayette himself visited during his trip to New York in 1824; during the City Hall ceremony, acting Mayor Joseph McKee and the Board of Education announced they would name a new high school in Lafayette's honor. Three days after the arrival of the Dampierre family in New York, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation at Monticello sponsored an American Revolution-themed costume ball aboard *Lafayette* to celebrate its maiden voyage.

34. June 11, 1930. Dr. Julio Prestes De Albuquerque, president-elect of Brazil

President-elect of Brazil Dr. Julio Prestes De Albuquerque became the first Brazilian to be honored with a ticker-tape parade when he made a good-will visit to New York in June 1930. The former governor of the state of São Paulo had won the national presidential election just three months prior. Although a heavy fog had delayed the president-elect's arrival to New York Harbor, thousands lined up at the Battery and along Broadway to watch as a motorcade escorted the foreign dignitary up the Canyon of Heroes to City Hall, where he was welcomed by Mayor Jimmy Walker. It took over three hundred police officers to hold back the crowds as Mayor Walker celebrated Dr. Prestes's "gesture of friendship," both officials noting that the visit had "no political or international significance *other than* friendship." Just hours after his arrival, Prestes left New York for Washington, where he was greeted by President Hoover. His visit marked the first of three presidential-elect visits from Latin American leaders to the U.S. that month, yet only Prestes's arrival garnered a ticker-tape parade in New York.

Despite Prestes's warm reception in America, his presidential election back in Brazil was hotly contested. He faced formidable political opposition from other states, most notably Minas Gerais and the Mineiro Republican Party (PRM), the majority of whom supported Prestes's opponent, gaucho Getúlio Vargas, for the presidency. When Prestes won the March 1930 presidential election, his opponents called the election fraudulent, claiming that Vargas had received nearly one hundred percent of the votes in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. On October 3, 1930, the pro-Vargas Liberal Alliance led a coup against sitting President Washington Luis and President-elect Júlio Prestes, resulting in the overthrow of the government and exile of

Prestes. The Revolution of 1930 marked the official end of the "Old Republic," and a military junta installed Getúlio Vargas as leader of the provisional government, and Prestes never took office.

35. June 18, 1930. Rear Adm. Richard E. Byrd for his first Antarctic expedition and flight over the South Pole

New Yorkers celebrated explorer Richard E. Byrd with his third and final ticker-tape parade in June 1930 for his successful two-year-long Antarctic expedition and flight over the South Pole. Byrd's first parade, for his flight over the North Pole, and his second, for participating in one of the first transatlantic flight attempts, paled in comparison to the welcome he received for his exploits in the South Pole. According to the *New York Times*, the celebration was "one of the most elaborate welcomes ever staged by the city for returning heroes and its echo [would] reverberate through the nation." Upon his arrival to New York Harbor, Byrd was greeted by a thirteen-gun-salute, a marine pageant consisting of more than twenty-three vessels, a ticker-tape procession including more than two thousand soldiers, sailors, marines, and National Guardsmen, and a City Hall ceremony that reportedly drew over fifty thousand spectators. Mayor Jimmy Walker awarded the man who "brought the North and South Poles together" with the city's Medal for Merit and an honorary doctorate in engineering from New York University.

Among Byrd's achievements on the expedition (which included the American discovery of over 125,000 miles of uncharted land), he and three companions successfully flew from their base camp, Little America, to the South Pole and back in eighteen hours and forty-one minutes. The flight, piloted by Bernt Balchen, allowed navigator Byrd to drop an American flag at the South Pole, securing the United States' position as the leader in Antarctic discovery and reigniting its polar interest. Three years after Byrd's return, the explorer set out on his second Antarctic expedition, from 1933 to 1935, eager to capitalize on the success of his first trip. These expeditions, and his three to follow, enabled Byrd to map over 500,000 square miles of the continent.

36. July 2, 1930. Bobby Jones, British Open champion

Bobby Jones received his second ticker-tape parade in July 1930 when he won the British Open and British Amateur Championships. The size of the celebration exceeded that of Jones's first parade in 1926, when New Yorkers showered the golfer with ticker tape for becoming the first American to win the British Open. Four years later, hundreds of thousands awaited Jones's arrival to New York to celebrate his victories. Mayor Jimmy Walker, Jones's wife, and his Atlanta family and friends all greeted him as he stepped on to the Battery. A "ticker-tape blizzard" surrounded the motorcade as it made its way up Broadway to City Hall. Reporters applauded Jones for bringing "new athletic laurels to America," and Mayor Walker told him he had "done everything in golf there is to do and [he was] an inspiration to the youth of America."

At the age of 28, Jones had joined the ranks of the era's "super athletes," among them Babe Ruth, Jack Dempsey and Bill Tilden.

Jones's accomplishments made him the first and only golfer in history to hold all four major golf championships (the American and British Open and Amateur Championships) in a single year, a feat known as a Grand Slam. Though Jones—never fond of the spotlight—retired from tournament golf following his victory, he went on to teach and instruct budding golfers and even co-founded the Masters Tournament, which would later become one of the four leading golf championships in the world. He remains today the only individual athlete to receive two ticker-tape parades in New York City.

37. September 3, 1930. Capt. Dieudonné Costes and Maurice Bellonte for the first nonstop transatlantic flight from Paris to Long Island

A landmark in transatlantic aviation came in October 1930 when two Frenchmen, Captain Dieudonné Costes and navigator Maurice Bellonte, successfully flew from Paris to Long Island. The journey marked the first westward transatlantic flight from Europe to the United States. In comparison to famous aviator Charles Lindbergh's New York-to-Paris flight three years prior, Costes and Bellonte's feat was much more difficult, owing principally to the headwinds that had the ability to slow the plane down and drive it off course, wasting precious fuel. Yet unlike Lindbergh, the two airmen traveled in a heavier, more powerful and better-equipped Breguet sesquiplane, far superior to Lindbergh's monoplane. Upon their arrival in the United States, Costes and Bellonte were greeted with a ticker-tape parade in their honor and with a warm welcome from the nation's leading aviators, Charles Lindbergh and explorer Richard E. Byrd.

Captain Costes continued to fly following his transatlantic feat, and in 1942 he posed as a Nazi spy at the behest of the FBI, in an effort to learn of German military intelligence. His work as a double agent helped the FBI identify and apprehend French Air Force officer Paul Jean Marie Cavaillez, who had conspired against France to transmit information to the German military. Two years later, in 1947, Captain Costes himself was arrested in Paris on charges of "relations with the enemy." It was alleged the pilot had aided the Germans in locating hidden air material in France during occupation and that he made flights for the Germans to North Africa and South America. Costes insisted that he had entered relations with the Germans under the knowledge of and cooperation with the United States FBI. The charges against Costes were eventually dropped, restoring his reputation as an honorable war hero and formidable aviator.

38. July 2, 1931. Wiley Post and Harold Gatty for their flight around the world (eight days, fifteen hours and fifty-one minutes)

On the tail of the pioneering aviation movement were pilot Wiley Post and navigator Harold Gatty, who successfully circumnavigated the globe from June 23 to July 1, 1931. Wiley, an Oklahoma native, and Gatty, an Australian, set a record-breaking time of eight days, fifteen hours, and fifty-one minutes, beating out the previous record-holder, the *Graf Zeppelin*, by

twelve days. After traveling over 15,400 miles, the pair landed their plane, the *Winnie Mae of Oklahoma*, at the Floyd Bennett Field in New York, where they were greeted by a crowd of over fifty thousand spectators. Some compared the ticker-tape parade that followed to that of famous aviator Charles Lindbergh's for his historic transatlantic flight in 1927. According to the *New York Times*, the procession consisted of a solid mass of men and women up Broadway, and the "high towers of the massive buildings were half-hidden by the paper storm" of ticker tape.

Three years later, Post became the first person to make a solo flight around the world when he landed the *Winnie Mae* in New York on July 22, 1933. The flight was made possible by the advancement of new aeronautical devices: a radio direction finder and an autopilot. Post's flight in 1935, however, was not as successful. That July, Post and a fellow Oklahoman, actor, humorist and social commentator, Will Rogers, took off on yet another planned trip around the world. But on August 15, just as the pair took off from a lagoon in Alaska, the plane took a nosedive and landed in the water, killing both men. Post, just 36 years old, is today best remembered for his contributions to the study of high-altitude flying and the development of one of the first pressure suits for pilots.

39. September 2, 1931. Olin J. Stephens Jr. and the crew of *Dorade*, winners of a transatlantic yacht race from Newport, R.I., to Plymouth, England

Yacht designer Olin Stephens Jr. and his crew earned a ticker-tape parade in 1931 after Stephens's fifty-two-foot yacht, *Dorade*, triumphed in the Transatlantic Race. A pioneer of scientific yacht design, the twenty-three-year-old designed *Dorade* for his father, initiating a decades' long domination in yacht racing. Teamed with his brother Rod, Stephens partnered with yacht broker Drake Sparkman in 1929 to form Sparkman and Stephens Inc. (S&S). The partnership enabled Stephens and his team to enter the transatlantic race in 1931, which the brothers co-skippered. They were victorious once again later that season in Plymouth when they won the heavy-weather Fastnet Race, and they triumphed in the Transpac race the following year. In fact, even when Olin and Rod were not racing, S&S yachts were triumphant in nearly every America's Cup from 1937, when Stephens's 135-foot J-Class sloop *Ranger* won, to 1980.

In 1993, Olin Stephens was inducted into the America's Cup Hall of Fame in Bristol, Rhode Island, commemorating his production and design of over two thousand yachts over the span of his five-decade career. He and his team remain one of only two yachting groups to receive a ticker-tape parade in New York, the second being Dennis Conner and the *Stars & Stripes* crew for winning the America's Cup in 1987.

40 and 41. October 22, 1931. Pierre Laval, premier of France; October 26, 1931. Henri Philippe Pétain, marshal of France

During his first, brief time as premier of France in 1931, Pierre Laval visited New York, where residents welcomed the foreign dignitary with a warm reception and a ticker-tape parade. Four

days later, Henri Pétain, military hero of World War I and marshal of France, received a similar honor. Both dignitaries went on to infamous and ignominious ends.

Laval, who had entered French government in the 1910s and was elected to the Senate in 1927, served as premier from January 1931 to February 1932, and again from June 1935 to January 1936. Today, however, Laval is remembered as "one of the most controversial figures in French history," principally due to his role as a Nazi collaborator in World War II. Laval capitalized on the German occupation of northern France in 1940, using it as an opportunity to support Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain's government and take office once again, this time as chief of government to the French state. Shortly after his appointment, Laval met with Hitler and pledged his collaboration, Pétain following suit soon thereafter. And while Pétain attempted to dismiss Laval in 1940 following his secret negotiations with Germany, the Germans pressured Pétain to reinstate Laval, resulting in his return to power in 1942 as the virtual head of Vichy France.

In November 1942, as Nazi forces moved into the south of France, the Vichy government was relegated to little more than a mouthpiece for the German forces, compelling Laval to negotiate with Germany once again. At this time Laval adopted a system called "la Relève," in which for every three French workers he sent to work in Germany, France was rewarded with the return of one of its prisoners of war. The scheme accompanied Laval's increased efforts to strip French Jews of their rights and even organize for the deportation of over seventy thousand non-French Jews to German concentration camps and almost certain death, a horrific plan Pétain sanctioned. When Allied victory seemed imminent, Laval attempted to reform the French National Assembly and reinstate the French government, fleeing before Nazi forces could arrest him. In 1944, American forces captured Laval in Austria and turned him over to French authorities, and in 1945, French general Charles de Gaulle tried both Laval and Marshal Pétain for high treason. Both men were sentenced to death, yet Pétain's sentence was commuted to life in prison, where he died in 1951. On October 6, 1945, following a failed attempt to swallow cyanide, Pierre Laval was executed by firing squad.

Just four days after Laval's visit to New York in 1931, New Yorkers celebrated the arrival of Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain, at the time a distinguished World War I military general and feted war hero. As the leader of the nine-month-long battle in Verdun, Pétain was celebrated as the "Lion of Verdun" for his triumph over German forces. Immediately following World War I, Pétain was widely considered France's greatest military hero. Like Laval, however, Pétain is remembered today for his leadership of the Vichy government and its deadly collaboration with Nazi Germany in World War II.

42. November 20, 1931. Dino Grandi, foreign minister of Italy

Dino Grandi, Fascist minister of foreign affairs in Italy, visited the United States in 1931 in the hopes of seeking international cooperation and peace and securing disarmament. According to Grandi, the original purpose of his visit was to meet with President Hoover to discuss disarmament, signaling Fascist Italy's "new diplomacy" and "solidarity among nations."

At the time, some expressed hope that Grandi's trip would strengthen the prospects for the Geneva Arms Conference planned for the following year.

Dino Grandi was one of Italian dictator Benito Mussolini's first political allies. As a captain in World War I, Grandi helped Mussolini form armed Fascist squads and, after his election to Parliament in 1919, he published a Fascist newspaper, *L'Assalto*, or *The Charge*. In 1922, Grandi served as one of the leaders of the March on Rome, the insurrection that brought the Fascists to power. Mussolini expressed his gratitude by making Grandi undersecretary of the interior in 1924 and foreign minister in 1929, a post he held until 1932. As foreign minister, Grandi served as a delegate to international conferences and parlays, including on his 1931 trip to the United States.

When Grandi arrived in New York, he was welcomed by Mayor Jimmy Walker and thousands of spectators, some of whom were wearing black shirts in support of Mussolini and his paramilitary "Blackshirts." Though there were not any public counter demonstrations or protests, Grandi's visit was accompanied by the heaviest police guard yet to assemble in New York for the protection of an official guest. Over 1,500 police and multiple bomb squads patrolled Broadway as Grandi's motorcade procession made its way to City Hall. So much ticker tape was thrown from the buildings that newspapers reported "needing a fresh supply" in the aftermath of the parade.

In 1939 Grandi, then acting as ambassador to London, was recalled to Italy after failed efforts to persuade Mussolini to support Britain and Allied powers and to prevent Italy's entrance into World War II. Under pressure from Hitler, Mussolini removed Grandi from his diplomatic post and appointed him minister of justice. During the war, Grandi's opposition intensified, and in 1943 he successfully deposed Mussolini and the Fascist government from power. The coup encouraged an alternate Fascist government in northern Italy, the Italian Social Republic, to put out a warrant for Grandi's arrest and execution in 1944. Grandi fled to Portugal until after the war, when the Roman court cleared him of charges of complicity in Fascist crimes.

43. June 20, 1932. Amelia Earhart for the first solo transatlantic flight by a woman

Amelia Earhart received her second ticker-tape parade in 1932, when she became the first woman to fly solo from New York to Ireland. The flight across the North Atlantic warranted "the largest celebration since Charles Lindbergh's" for his own first historic transatlantic flight in 1927. Thousands gathered at the Battery—and thousands more along the streets and buildings of Broadway—to welcome the aviator home from her solo journey in *Harbor Grace*. Earhart was escorted off Mayor Walker's yacht, *Macom*, and onto the Battery by a slew of army and navy officials and renowned pilots and their wives that included Bert Blachen, Richard E. Byrd, and Floyd Bennett. After receiving a ticker-tape parade on her way up to City Hall, she accepted the New York Medal of Honor, the United States Flag Association medal, and the Cross of Honor from Mayor Jimmy Walker. In his ceremonial speech, Mayor Walker praised Earhart as "the

most welcome visitor that has ever come into this chamber," celebrating in Earhart "the spirit and courage of American womanhood."

In 1937, Earhart, her navigator Frederick Noonan, and their plane disappeared during a flight over the Pacific. There are a number of passionately argued theories about Earhart's fate, but ultimately the details of her death remain a mystery that has gripped the attention of many for over eighty years.

44. July 21, 1933. Italian Air Marshal Italo Balbo and the crews of twenty-four seaplanes for their flight from Rome to Chicago

Italian aviator and Air Marshal Italo Balbo and his crew received a ticker-tape parade in 1933 to honor their transatlantic flight from Rome to Chicago. The flight involved a series of mass formation "air cruises," eventually named after Balbo, of twenty-five twin-hulled Savoia-Marchetti S.55 flying boats that successfully took off from the Italian Seabee at Orbetello and landed in the Alps. After flying across Europe, the formation crossed the North Atlantic in stages, their final destination being Chicago and the Century of Progress Fair. With Balbo leading, the fleet—in full formation—traversed over 6,065 miles over the course of forty-eight hours and forty-seven minutes, kept in formation by wireless "roll calls" and Balbo's command.

The event was celebrated as a master class in airmanship, bringing unprecedented prestige to the Fascist regime and Italian aviation. None was as celebrated as Balbo himself, a radical "Blackshirt" militia general and World War I veteran who had led the March on Rome in 1922 and facilitated Benito Mussolini's rise to power. As Italy's minister of aviation from 1926 to 1933, Balbo had led two internationally heralded mass transatlantic flights, but neither compared to his July 1933 feat. The flight earned the general the Distinguished Flying Cross and a personal invitation to lunch from President Franklin D. Roosevelt, as FDR sought to build relationships with Mussolini's Italy, which was still years from allying with German to create the Axis powers. Over sixty-five thousand Italian-Americans and other New Yorkers greeted Balbo and his crew in New York later that July, thousands raising their hands in the Fascist salute. At the City Hall reception Balbo stated, "We will tell our chief that America is a great and hospitable country; that we have felt as though we were in our own native land."

Mussolini celebrated Balbo's return to Italy by appointing him the first marshal of the Regia Aeronautica. However, he remained cautious of Balbo's newfound success and popularity, worried that the general's celebrity posed a threat to his authority. Indeed, Mussolini subsequently banished Balbo and reassigned him to a purported promotion as governor-general of the Italian colony of Libya, where he remained from 1933 to 1940. The anti-German, pro-Jewish Fascist led the province until 1940, when Italy joined World War II as an ally of Germany. Just three weeks later, Balbo was shot down by friendly fire in his SM.79 at Tobuk during a low-level raid. While some conspiracy theorists claim Balbo's death to have been the result of an intricate assassination plot, little evidence has been discovered corroborating the theory.

45. July 26, 1933. Wiley Post for the first solo flight around the world (seven days, eighteen hours, and forty-nine minutes)

Wiley Post became the first aviator to fly solo around the world when he landed his *Winnie Mae* in Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, New York on July 22, 1933. The flight, totaling seven days, eighteen hours, and forty-nine minutes, earned him a hero's welcome by New Yorkers, who showered him with a ticker-tape parade three days later. The celebration marked Post's second ticker-tape parade (the first had taken place after he and his navigator, Harold Gatty, made one of the first flights around the world in 1931). A crowd of over eighteen thousand spectators watched Post as his motorcycle procession made its way up Broadway to City Hall, where Mayor John O'Brien awarded the aviator with a gold medal made for the occasion and compared the flight to the voyages of explorers Magellan and Drake.

In July 1935, Post and fellow Oklahoman, legendary humorist and actor Will Rogers, set off on yet another trip around the world. But on August 15, just as the pair took off from a lagoon in Alaska, the plane took a nosedive and landed in the water, killing both men. Post, then just thirty-six years old, is best remembered for his contributions to the study of high-altitude flying and the development of one of the first pressure suits for pilots.

46. August 1, 1933. Pilots Amy Johnson and Capt. James A. Mollison, the first married couple to fly the Atlantic

Just one week after pilot Wiley Post made the first solo flight around the world, New Yorkers celebrated pilots Amy Johnson and James Mollison for becoming the first married couple to fly over the Atlantic from east to west. Known in the press as the Flying Sweethearts, the Mollisons took off in the *Dragon* on July 22 from South Wales. Though the couple had originally planned to land in New York, they were forced to crash-land in Bridgeport, Connecticut, after running out of fuel. At the ticker-tape parade the next day, both Jim and Amy were wearing bandages—Jim's on his face and Amy's under her stockings. The unexpected landing did not deter crowds from attending the celebration, however, with crowds that reached over fifty thousand people and three hundred police officers.

Amy Johnson, Britain's most famous female pilot, and James Mollison, a Scottish record-setting aviator, were each accomplished pilots in their own right. In July 1931, he set a record of eight days, nineteen hours flying from Australia to New England, and in March 1932, another record for his four-day, 17-hour flight from England to South Africa. Amy became one of the first women in the world to serve as a ground engineer, and in 1930, she became the first woman to fly alone from London to Australia. For the next two years, she set flight records on journeys from both England to Japan and from England to Cape Town. She also beat her husband's record-setting flight by nearly ten hours when she flew her own England to South Africa flight shortly after they married in 1932.

Following their first transatlantic flight together, the Mollisons flew from England to Australia in the 1934 air race, setting yet another record-breaking time. They continued to fly together until

they divorced in 1938, after which they remained close friends. After the outbreak of World War II in Britain, Amy Johnson took a position as a ferry pilot for the Air Transport Auxiliary, transporting aircraft to and from the Royal Air Force base. In January 1941, Johnson lost control of her aircraft, flew off course, and parachuted into the water of the Thames estuary. When speedboats failed to find her, Johnson was declared missing and reported dead from drowning.

47. September 3, 1936. Jesse Owens, the track and field athlete, and the Olympic team

Lauded American track and field athlete Jesse Owens and his teammates returned to New York City from the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin to a ticker-tape parade of epic proportions celebrating their victory. Thousands gathered on September 3 to congratulate the Olympian on winning four gold medals and setting numerous Olympic records; one person even handed Owens a paper bag containing ten thousand dollars. For the first time, the ticker-tape parade proudly celebrated and elevated an African-American athlete and hero.

Raised by sharecroppers, the Buckeye Bullet, as Owens was nicknamed, challenged a society deeply rooted in racial segregation and discrimination. While Hitler expected the Berlin Olympics to be a display of Aryan supremacy, Owens proved that African-Americans were not only capable athletes, but also victorious ones. Much more than an Olympic triumph, Owens's win effectively ripped at a social fabric constructed on racism and prejudice. Despite his achievements and their symbolic importance, however, Owens and his teammates were famously not publicly congratulated by Adolph Hitler. But just as significantly, he was snubbed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who failed to invite him and seventeen other African-American Olympians to the White House. Owens would not shake a U.S. President's hand until 1976, when President Gerald Ford presented him with the Medal of Freedom.

48. July 15, 1938. Howard Hughes and crew for their record-breaking flight around the world (three days, nineteen hours, and eight minutes)

On July 10, 1938, Howard Hughes and his crew departed on what would become the fastest round-the-world flight yet, for which they were honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York City upon their return.

Scion to one of the nation's largest oil-drilling tool manufacturing companies, Hughes inherited Sharp-Hughes Tool Company at age eighteen, making him an instant teenage millionaire. Not long after, he set his eyes on the film industry, and Hughes relocated to Hollywood, where he ultimately would go on to produce twenty-six films and direct the movies *Hell's Angels* and *The Outlaw*.

Amidst his industrial inheritance and burgeoning film career, Hughes also set out to pursue his passion for flying. In 1932 he established Hughes Aircraft Company and six years later, after already having set numerous aviation records, Hughes took off from New York with a four-man crew on a round-the-world flight in his Lockheed *Super Electra*. Stopping only to refuel, Hughes

landed back in Brooklyn just three days, nineteen hours, and eight minutes later, breaking the previous record by days.

Upon their return, Hughes and his crew were greeted by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia and a crowd estimated at over 1,500,000 spectators. As Hughes's motorcade procession made its way up Broadway, reporters observed the "paper snowstorm" grow in intensity, seemingly calming Hughes's otherwise nervous demeanor. Even then, Hughes was reluctant to participate in the parade, delaying the procession on the grounds of his "shyness." Despite being one of the wealthiest men in the world, acquiring airlines like Trans World Airlines and Air West, Hughes became increasingly reclusive in his later years. He reportedly suffered from obsessive-compulsive disorder, chronic pain, and germ phobia. The diseases and the pain he experienced in consequence of his numerous aircraft crashes deteriorated the aviator's health and ultimately contributed to his death in 1976.

49. August 5, 1938. Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan for his flight from New York to Ireland instead of his "intended" destination of California

Douglas Corrigan earned a ticker-tape parade in August 1938 when he became the first pilot to fly nonstop from New York to Dublin. A Texas-born airplane mechanic, Corrigan was among the mechanics to work on famed aviator Charles Lindbergh's *Spirit of St. Louis* in preparation for his 1927 transatlantic flight. Corrigan drew on this experience when he pursued his own dream to fly over the Atlantic in a refurbished Curtiss Robin that he purchased and restored himself. For his first flight, Corrigan ventured to fly his plane *Sunshine* nonstop from California to New York. Surprised the plane made the flight, media outlets sensationalized Corrigan's trip. Corrigan promptly tried to capitalize on the momentum and attempted—unsuccessfully—to obtain a license to fly *Sunshine* across the Atlantic. When his requests were denied, Corrigan took off the next day from Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn for what most thought to be a return flight to California. The plane disappeared into the clouds, only to land in Dublin, Ireland, twenty-eight hours later. Few believed Corrigan when he claimed to have lost direction in the clouds, and his pilot's license was subsequently suspended.

When he returned to New York, however, Corrigan received a hero's welcome. Nicknamed Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan, the pilot received a ticker-tape parade that rivaled Lindbergh's 1927 celebration. A crowd of one million gathered to catch a glimpse of the young aviator, who had set a new record for the fastest solo nonstop transatlantic flight. Corrigan stuck to his story in interviews, commenting that, "I got turned around up there and wound up flying east." Even on his deathbed the pilot maintained that his historic 1938 transatlantic flight had been an accident.

50. April 27, 1939. Olav and Martha, crown prince and princess of Norway

The crown prince and princess of Norway, Olav and Martha, received a ticker-tape parade upon their arrival in New York City in April 1939. The royals' trip, intended as a goodwill visit, came on the eve of New York's 1939 World's Fair, which opened in Flushing Meadow in May. The

couple expressed their excitement to have Norway represented at the fair, stating that their visit and presence in New York City was to be considered "a handshake from the Norwegian democracy to the American nation."

Olav and Martha's stop in New York marked the beginning of an extensive journey in the United States, during which they developed a deep friendship with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. This relationship would prove important with the outbreak of World War II and the German invasion of Norway in 1940. In an effort to protect the crown princess and the royal family, the United States arranged for the protection of Martha and her three children, all of whom were kept safe in the White House during the war. In fact, Princess Martha spent so much time in the United States with the Roosevelts that rumors began circulating about a supposed affair between Princess Martha and President Roosevelt. But back home, Norwegians referred to Martha as the mother of the nation, and the crown princess led a massive mobilization effort, working with the American Red Cross to help protect the Norwegian people and ensure their liberation.

Separated from his wife, Crown Prince Olav V offered to stay behind and lead the Norwegian resistance as admiral of the Royal Norwegian Navy and general of the Norwegian Army, but ultimately complied with his government's orders and accompanied the king and parliament into exile in the United Kingdom during the Nazi occupation. In England, he became top envoy to the United States and key advisor to the Norwegian government. In 1945, he aided the Allied liberation of Norway, for which the United States awarded him the U.S. Legion of Merit. Like Crown Princess Martha, Olav was greeted on his return as a hero and symbol of resistance to Nazi occupation.

51. May 1, 1939. Rear Adm. Alfred W. Johnson, officers and men of the Atlantic squadron of the U.S. fleet

With the 1939 World's Fair underway in New York, Rear Admiral Alfred Johnson and the officers and crew of the Atlantic Squadron were greeted with a ticker-tape parade in May 1939. Johnson, who had taken command of the Atlantic Squadron in 1938, had also led the U.S. Navy in the Spanish-American War and World War I. The admiral and the estimated 11,700 navy officers of the Atlantic Squadron, arriving aboard thirty-two men-of-war vessels, were to be celebrated not only by a ticker-tape parade and motorcade procession up Broadway to City Hall, but also at a grand 1939 Fleet Ball at the Waldorf Astoria that evening. The parade attracted crowds of over two hundred thousand, all eager to view the battleships and cruisers that made up the Atlantic Squadron in New York Harbor. The Fleet Ball was attended by New York's elite and royal dignitaries alike, including an informal appearance by the crown prince and princess Olav and Martha of Norway.

While the celebrations remained jubilant, the following day Admiral Johnson and the Atlantic Squadron were warned that the navy could likely be called upon at any time to defend the nation in war. Just four months later, when Britain declared war on Germany in September

1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt directed Admiral Johnson and his Atlantic Squadron to lead the "Neutrality Patrol" in the Atlantic. Although Johnson was relieved of the position weeks later and he attempted to retire in 1940, Roosevelt recalled him in January 1942 to serve as the nation's naval delegate to the Inter-American Defense Board during the war. He did not officially retire until the war's end in August 1945.

52. June 19, 1945. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force in World War II

General Dwight D. Eisenhower's parade in June 1945 marked the first New York ticker-tape parade since the outbreak of World War II, as well as the first of a cadre of parades celebrating the national and international military leaders and war heroes of the conflict. According to Mayor Fiorello La Guardia, "a million and a half people" gathered in New York that day to watch General Eisenhower be awarded the golden medal, New York's honorary citizenship, and the symbolic key to Brooklyn (later reports testify to crowds reaching over four million). The celebration followed Eisenhower's numerous military victories as supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force (AEF) during the war.

Emerging as a colonel in 1940, Eisenhower was assigned to chief of staff of the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, and soon after, reassigned to chief of staff of the IX Corps. In 1941, he worked as chief of staff in the Third Army at San Antonio. His experience earned him a call to Washington soon after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. Having earned the trust of General George C. Marshall and President Roosevelt, General Eisenhower relocated to England, where he became the commander of the American forces. His performance in Operation Torch, the invasion of English and American troops to North Africa, resulted in a successful negotiation for Italian surrender in 1943, which prompted Allied authorities to name Eisenhower supreme commander of the AEF, charged with leading the Allied armies, navies, and air forces. Most notably, Eisenhower led the massive invasion of Nazi-occupied France in Operation Overlord, which began on D-Day, June 6, 1944. The invasion forced the German army out of France, eventually leading to Hitler's suicide on April 30, 1945 and German surrender a week later, on May 7.

Months after the New York parade, Eisenhower returned to Washington to replace General Marshall as chief of staff of the army. In December 1950, President Truman recalled Eisenhower to serve as the supreme Allied commander in Europe once again, where he organized military forces for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The famed war general would go on to become the president of New York's Columbia University and later the nation's 34th President, serving from 1953 to 1961. During his presidency, Eisenhower ended the Korean War and managed U.S. relations with the Cold War-era Soviet Union, oversaw the creation of the interstate highway system, and decried what he called the "military-industrial complex." Although he was criticized for failing to fully enforce the 1954 *Brown v. Board of*

Education decision that legally desegregated schools, President Eisenhower signed the Civil Rights Act of 1957 and 1960.

53. August 27, 1945. General Charles de Gaulle, president of the provisional government of France

The president of the provisional government of France, Charles de Gaulle, arrived in New York City following a trip to Washington, where he and President Harry S. Truman met to agree on the "fundamental harmony" between their two nations. De Gaulle was welcomed by over two million people, whose attendance, according to the newspaper accounts, was a testament to New York's "faithful friendship" and "regard for France." After de Gaulle's procession made its way to City Hall, Mayor Fiorello La Guardia awarded the president with the title of honorary citizen of New York.

A military leader and German prisoner of war during World War I, de Gaulle took up arms against Germany once again after the Nazi invasion of France in 1940. Named leader of the Free French Forces by Britain in 1940, de Gaulle dedicated himself to the defeat of Nazi Germany and to the liberation of France. Despite attempts on behalf of the German-occupied Vichy government in France to assassinate de Gaulle, the wartime politician earned the respect and protection of Allied leaders in England and spearheaded the French resistance movement.

In 1945 de Gaulle became president of France's provisional government, but he soon resigned and briefly withdrew from politics. By January 1959 de Gaulle entered political life once again as the founder and president of France's Fifth Republic, working to distance the nation from world superpowers like the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union and facilitating independence for Algeria and other French colonies. Though some have criticized de Gaulle as overly nationalistic and anti-American— including his critique of the U.S. intervention in France's former colony in Vietnam—his tenures as president were instrumental to France's recovery after World War II.

54. September 13, 1945. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, hero of the battles of Bataan and Corregidor in World War II

New York City held the nation's third homecoming receptions (after San Francisco and Washington) for General Jonathan M. Wainwright upon his return to the United States from World War II in September 1945. Wainwright's ticker-tape parade marked the first in the aftermath of U.S. victory in the Pacific, drawing crowds estimated between four and six million. The Department of Sanitation recorded picking up approximately 490 tons of ticker tape from the streets the following day. Wainwright's homecoming was a particularly emotional one, celebrating not only the general's efforts at the battles of Bataan and Corregidor, but also his liberation from a Japanese prison camp, where he had been held for three years, three months and eighteen days.

When the United States joined World War II following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and their invasion of the Philippines in December 1941, Wainwright was already stationed in the Philippines as commander of U.S. and Filipino troops under General Douglas MacArthur. Tasked with resisting Japanese advancement, Wainwright's forces led a major assault in January on the Bataan Peninsula at the entrance to Manila Bay. Their defensive earned his troops the title of the Battling Bastards of Bataan. But when MacArthur was ordered to leave Bataan in April 1942 and Wainwright became temporary lieutenant general of the U.S. forces in the Philippines, Japanese troops pushed his forces further back onto the island of Corregidor and forced their surrender. By June, U.S. command in the Philippines had ended, and the Japanese had taken Wainwright and his soldiers as prisoners of war.

They were freed in August 1945, when the Russian army liberated the Manchurian camp. Upon his arrival home, Wainwright was promoted to general and was awarded the Medal of Honor, despite his objections that his decision to surrender at Corregidor made him unworthy—a feeling shared by General Douglas MacArthur, who originally opposed his nomination for the medal in 1942. Wainwright nonetheless returned home to a hero's welcome. He retired from active duty in 1947.

55. October 9, 1945. Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the navy's Pacific fleet in World War II

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz received a ticker-tape parade during his visit to New York just one month after he signed the Japanese surrender documents on behalf of the United States, officially ending the war in the Pacific. An estimated four million spectators came to honor Nimitz's wartime service, which had been marked by a series of victorious navy battles, including the Battle at Midway in June 1942, considered by many to be a decisive turning point in the war.

Nimitz, then serving as chief of the Bureau of Navigation, immediately reported to duty following the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. Just three weeks later he took command of the Pacific Fleet and went on to become the fleet admiral in 1944. Nimitz played a critical role in the defeat of Japan: he assembled and commanded the Pacific force of two million men and five thousand ships that eliminated the Japanese naval threat to Hawaii, the Panama Canal, and the Philippines. By the time Nimitz negotiated Japan's surrender, his fleet had been responsible for sinking hundreds of Japanese naval vessels and thousands of their warships and merchant ships. Although Nimitz was unable to prevent the Battle of Bataan and the U.S. surrender at the Battle of Corregidor in the Philippines, his forces were instrumental not only in the Japanese defeat at Midway, but also the limited offensive in the Solomons and the Central Pacific counteroffensive from 1943 to 1945.

The month of Nimitz's return, President Harry S. Truman presented the admiral with a Gold Star, and that December Nimitz became the nation's chief of naval operations, a position he held until

December 1947. Nimitz today remains one of the most celebrated naval figures in U.S. history, memorialized in schools, parks, and institutions across the nation.

56. October 27, 1945. Harry S. Truman, president of the United States

President Harry S. Truman's ticker-tape parade and City Hall celebration in October 1945 were the first of their kind for a sitting U.S. president. While his "informal visit" to see Mayor Fiorello La Guardia garnered a crowd of only about twenty thousand people, over five million witnessed the other events of President Truman's Navy Day visit, including a ticker-tape parade, a review of the fleet, and an address on foreign policy in Central Park. Having taken office just six months prior following the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Truman urged the crowd to encourage and embrace the continued cooperation with Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and China.

Just two months earlier Truman had made the decision to drop atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The bombings, which led to Japan's surrender a week later and killed over two hundred thousand people, remain one of the most controversial decisions an American president has ever made. With the start of the Cold War in 1946, Truman prioritized the prevention of the spread of communism. His strategy was expressed in the 1947 Truman Doctrine, under which the U.S. helped Greece and Turkey combat communism, and the Marshall Plan, which gave European nations billions of dollars in aid in an effort to restore their postwar economies and stabilize them politically. Despite declining public support, he was narrowly reelected in 1948. His approval ratings continued to drop during his second term, as he launched U.S. intervention in the Korean War and the country reckoned with McCarthysim. Truman chose not to run for another term in 1952.

57. December 14, 1945. Fleet Adm. William F. Halsey Jr, Commander of the navy's Third Fleet in World War II

Commander of the navy's Third Fleet during World War II, Fleet Admiral William Halsey received a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival to New York just three months after the Japanese signed their surrender on his flagship, *Missouri*, that September. Throughout his career, Admiral Halsey earned a reputation as a "fighting man" that "valued shooting first," helping him to garner massive support when it was announced that he would become the commander of the navy forces in the South Pacific in October 1942. One soldier commented that Halsey was "the sort of leader men will follow to hell and back," and that "his return to active service [was] the best news [he had heard] in months." Halsey's ruthless approach to the Third Fleet's defense of the Philippines is captured in his famous saying, "hit hard, hit fast, and hit often." The admiral was responsible for destroying more than three thousand planes and sinking 1,650 Japanese ships over the course of the war.

Despite criticisms that Halsey's strategy at the massive Battle of Leyte Gulf in 1944, otherwise known as the Second Battle of the Philippines, endangered the American fleet and enabled the

Japanese to pass through the San Bernardino Strait, his battle tactics were instrumental in the capture of the Western Carolines and ultimately Japan's surrender.

The Admiral received a hero's welcome in New York, where he was honored with the city's Medal of Honor and a procession down Broadway full of "paper in every shape and color, ticker tape in contorted spirals, [and] large sheets of bonds and foolscap [that] fell on the admiral's and mayor's shoulders." Admiral Halsey expressed his gratitude at his City Hall reception, where he stated that he "thought it was wonderful to see all those thousands of good, smiling faces, particularly after looking at dirty Japanese faces." His prejudice coexisted with his postwar opposition to atomic warfare: the admiral became one of the leading military advisors urging the United Nations to outlaw the atomic bomb. He retired from active service in 1947.

58. March 15, 1946. Winston Churchill, prime minister of Great Britain during World War II

The ticker-tape parade for Great Britain's former prime minister, Winston Churchill, occurred in March 1946, just days after Churchill delivered his famous "Iron Curtain" speech to an audience at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. His visit to the United States came after his unsuccessful bid to win re-election as the British prime minister the previous year. Churchill was a force in forging the Allied alliance with the United States and Soviet Union that defeated the Axis powers and put down Nazi Germany. His wartime leadership of Great Britain is cemented in history. At the time of this parade, his efforts out of office turned toward maintaining the "special relationship" with the United States in the wake of World War II and reflected the growing attention being paid to Communist power in Eastern Europe.

Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech advocated for a defensive alliance with the United States against the Soviet Union to prevent the spread of Communism. The speech was controversial, including among Americans who feared the threat of a new conflict, and it drew the ire of Soviet Union leader Joseph Stalin, who referred to Churchill as an imperial racist. When Churchill arrived in New York he encountered a mixed crowd; a flooding downpour of rain did not deter hundreds of thousands from expressing either their support or discontent for the former prime minister. War veterans and members of the Communist Party staged numerous protests as Churchill's motorcade procession made its way up Broadway, including one at City Hall where thirteen were arrested. Protesters chanted "Churchill wants war, we want peace," and "The English kicked Churchill out" as Mayor William O'Dwyer welcomed the prime minister. Picketers disseminated copies of the *Daily Worker* with the phrase "Churchill wants your son" printed across the top and accused Churchill of fomenting war with Russia.

Churchill returned to power in 1951, when the Conservative Party retook the plurality in the House of Commons. The subsequent domestic reforms he passed helped renew the prime minister's legacy in the United Kingdom, and in 1953 Churchill received the Nobel Prize in Literature and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II. His final term was marred by foreign policy moves that seemed to echo his lifelong relationship to colonialism. Controversial conduct that

dated back to his role in the violent suppression of dissent in Pakistan, South Africa, and Ireland as well as the brutal suppression of the Mau Mau uprising in Kenya in the 1950s complicate the debate over Churchill's full legacy to this day.

59. October 23, 1946. Delegates to the first plenary session of the General Assembly of the United Nations

On October 23, 1946, more than two hundred delegates from around the world arrived in New York to attend the General Assembly of the United Nations. The event marked the United Nation's second official meeting and its first in New York City, the former having taken place in London a year prior. In 1951, thanks in large part to an $8.5 million grant from John D. Rockefeller, the world capital became the institution's permanent headquarters. According to President Harry Truman, the meeting held a special historic significance for the United States, as the nation refused to join the League of Nations in the wake of the First World War. This time, Truman declared, the United States was "not only a member, it [was] host to the United Nations," symbolizing the "official end to the United States' policy of isolation."

The United Nations, originally established to maintain peace and security in the postwar world, consisted of fifty-one founding members. While the nations participating in the first United Nations Assembly in January 1946 resolved to use peaceful atomic weaponry, the October meeting endeavored to ratify the United Nations Charter, which had been signed by all delegates in San Francisco that June. On October 24, the U.N. Charter was ratified by the five permanent members of the Security Council (China, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, France and the United States). Today, the United Nations includes 193 nations.

An estimated four hundred thousand people gathered to view the ninety-six-car motorcade carrying more than two hundred delegates up Broadway that October morning. Although the General Assembly delegates did not receive "quite as enthusiastic [a welcome] as [they] could have wished for" in comparison to other ticker-tape receptions in the city, reporters characterized the Assembly as "an institution and not a spectacle." Especially newsworthy, however, was the presence of the Soviet Union's foreign minister, Vyacheslav Molotov. Molotov had earned a reputation for being hostile toward Western powers and served as the namesake for "Molotov cocktails," the flammable liquid weapons he ordered to be produced during World War II.

60. October 25, 1946. Col. Clarence S. Irvine, commander of the B-29 *Dreamboat*, and his crew of army airmen for their Honolulu-to-Cairo flight over the North Pole

Colonel Clarence Irvine and his nine-man crew received a ticker-tape parade observed by over one hundred thousand New Yorkers for their historic flight in the B-29 *Pacusan Dreamboat* from Honolulu, Hawaii to Cairo, Egypt in October 1946. As deputy chief of staff of the 21st Bomber Command in the Pacific during World War II, Irvine commanded *Dreamboat* as part of the air force's long-range flight program. The experience he gained producing and modifying B-29 Superfortresses with the air force in the early 1940s helped Irvine develop new cruise control techniques that extended air force bombers' flight range, allowing him to traverse over 9,500

miles from Honolulu to Cairo over the North Pole in one nonstop thirty-nine-hour flight. The voyage eclipsed two of Irvine's previous record-setting flights, one from Los Angeles to New York in five hours and twenty-seven minutes, and the other a flight from Guam to Washington, D.C.

His success is attributed to his aircraft's advanced lightweight build. The Bell Aircraft Corporation B-29B-60-BA Superfortress did not carry the defensive weapons and heavy armor of a typical B-29, and it was equipped to fly at lower altitudes. Additional fuel tanks allowed *Dreamboat* to carry ten thousand gallons of gasoline, making Irvine's flight possible. The colonel continued to fly as commander of the 509th Strategic Bomb Wing at Walker Air Force Base in 1948, and in 1950 he became commanding general of the B-36 wing at Carswell Air Force Base in Texas. By 1955, Colonel Irvine was relocated to the air force headquarters, where he was designated deputy chief of staff for materiel.

61. January 13, 1947. Alcide De Gasperi, premier of Italy

Italian Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi's ticker-tape parade took place during his official visit to the United States, where he was sent to obtain financial help to rebuild Italy in the aftermath of the Second World War. Just days before his two-day visit to New York, the Truman administration agreed to give De Gasperi and the Italian government a one hundred million dollar loan in the hopes it would help strengthen the newly democratic nation's position against Communism. While De Gasperi's parade garnered a crowd estimated at just over one hundred thousand, his trip was viewed as a media triumph, helping Italy to not only develop trade with the United States, but also promote its position as a "Christian civilization" willing to collaborate for peace and democracy.

De Gasperi was instrumental in reconstructing Italy in its transition from a dictatorship under Benito Mussolini's Fascist regime to a democracy in the wake of World War II. As one of the original founders of the Italian Popular Party (PPI) in the early 1900s, De Gasperi was arrested in 1927 for his opposition to the fascist government takeover in Italy. After his release he served as a librarian for the Vatican, a position he held until 1943 when Mussolini's Fascist regime fell. De Gasperi revived the PPI under a new party title, Christian Democracy, and he was formally appointed the Italian prime minister in December 1945. As prime minister, De Gasperi signed a peace treaty with the Allies, and in 1948, he enacted a new constitution. His desire to maintain closer ties with the West encouraged the prime minister to ally with the United States in its Cold War battle against Communism, which helped the Christian Democrats defeat the Communists in the 1948 general election. De Gasperi served as prime minister for the next eight years until his government fell in 1953, forcing his resignation.

62. February 7, 1947. Harold Alexander, viscount of Tunis, field marshal of the British Army in World War II, and governor general of Canada

Viscount Harold Alexander was honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York during his official visit to the United States as the governor general of Canada. As a representative to King

George VI, the governor stressed the important bond of friendship between the United States and Canada. New York Governor Thomas Dewey joined New Yorkers in their praise of Alexander's military accomplishments, noting his command of the British 1st Corps at Dunkirk and his defeat of the Germans in 1943 as British commander in chief in North Africa. Some 25,000 spectators watched as Governor Alexander's motorcade procession made its way up Broadway to City Hall, where he was welcomed by Mayor William O'Dwyer.

Among his many titles, Alexander served as Field Marshal of the British Armies in World War II. He was knighted in 1942, became commander in chief of all Allied forces in Italy in 1944, and he was made Viscount of Tunis in 1946. He served as the Canadian Governor General until 1952, when he returned to Britain and served as Winston Churchill's minister of defense. In 1954 he made the decision to retire, and passed away in 1969.

63. May 2, 1947. Miguel Aleman, President of Mexico

Nearly one million New Yorkers celebrated the arrival of Mexican President Miguel Aleman to New York City with a ticker-tape parade in May 1947. Elected just one year prior, President Aleman's visit made him the first Mexican President to visit the White House. He hoped his trip would instill a sense of unity and international cooperation in the American people, who would then be compelled to invest in his platform to reform Mexican agriculture and industrialize the nation. Under Aleman's presidential tenure, Mexico granted women the right to vote in municipal elections, established the National University of Mexico, and vastly improved its infrastructure. Perhaps most importantly, President Aleman supported the United States during the Cold War and upheld an anti-Communist stance. His foreign diplomacy earned him an honorary doctorate in law from Columbia University and honorary citizenship upon his visit to New York.

Prior to his presidency, Aleman worked as a labor lawyer and wealthy financier. In 1930, he was appointed to serve as Senator for Veracruz and six years later, he was elected Governor. Aleman resigned in 1940 to work on General Manuel Avila Camacho's presidential campaign, resulting in his appointment as Minister of Interior. In 1946, Aleman pursued the presidency himself, winning the election on the Revolutionary Institutional Party ticket by a landslide and beating out his opponent Ezequeiel Padilla. He served as the President of Mexico until 1952. Despite allegations of corruption surrounding Aleman's presidency, he is best remembered today for helping develop Mexico's economy.

64. June 9, 1947. Willie Turnesa, British amateur golf champion, and fellow members of the victorious American Walker Cup team

Willie Turnesa and the American Walker Cup team received a ticker-tape parade in June 1947 upon their victorious return from the British Amateur Golf Championship. Their participation marked America's first time playing in the tournament since World War II. The team

encountered a warm welcome as thousands of New Yorkers lined Broadway to shower the 12-car motorcade with ticker tape as they made their way to City Hall to meet Mayor O'Dwyer.

Turnesa, a Westchester native, came from a long line of golfers; he was the youngest of six golfing brothers, today referred to as "the greatest family dynasty in golf history." Although Willie was the only brother never to go pro, he is considered to be the best amateur in golfing history following Bobby Jones, the only other golfer to receive a ticker-tape parade in New York for his golf exploits in 1923 and 1930. Prior to his victory in Scotland, Turnesa won the United States Amateur Championship in 1938, and once again a year after his 1947 victory overseas. In 1949, Turnesa participated in the British tournament once again, this time coming in as runner-up. The golfer also served as captain of the 1951 Walker Cup team, leading them to three victories.

65. November 5, 1947. Officers and crew of the French warship *Georges Leygues* for bringing rare French tapestries for exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

A crew carrying French tapestries from France to New York for an exhibition opening at the Metropolitan Museum of Art were honored with a ticker-tape parade upon their arrival to New York Harbor in November 1947. The 96 officers and sailors of the ship, led by Captain Jaques A. Willaume, were carrying a collection of paintings and drawings made by official French marine artists, including watercolors of the Parisian landscape and woodcuts of ships and seamen. The pieces made up a temporary exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art honoring the 57 French artists and their "priceless treasures." Mayor O'Dwyer believed the crew's trip would "contribute immensely to the realization that France remain[ed] the greatest bastion of Western European culture she ha[d] always been." The French returned their gratitude to the United States the following February, when they scheduled the opening of an exhibition in Paris that planned to display the work of artists attached to the American Navy. According to Captain Willaume, the exhibitions were proof that the two nations were willing to "cooperate for the peace of the world."

The cruiser that carried the works of art to New York was significant in its own right. The *Georges Leygues* first came into service in 1937, to be used in the Atlantic against the Germans. When Germany invaded France, however, the ship served Vichy France, remaining under German control until Operation Torch, when the Allies landed in North Africa and took the ship back under their control. After the *Georges Leygues* was restored in a Philadelphia port in 1943, it returned to its home port in Dakar, where it served in Operation Neptune and the bombings at Omaha Beach and D-Day in 1944, and the Italian waterfront at Genoa in 1945.

66. November 18, 1947. Friendship Train bearing gifts and supplies from the United States to Europe

Just two weeks after the ticker-tape parade celebrating a collection of art arriving from France on the *Georges Leygues,* the city welcomed the Friendship Train, what the *New York Times* referred to as "the world's current champion—food for the hungry mouths of Europe." Initially conceived

by journalist Drew Pearson, the Friendship Train collected food, clothing, and medical supplies from American donors across the country to relieve the displaced French and Italian people in the wake of World War II. The Train's transcontinental trip began in Los Angeles and ended in New York City eleven days later, accumulating over 270 train cars worth of goods. In total, an estimated 700 cars of foodstuffs were transported overseas. Over 125,000 New Yorkers gathered down Broadway to watch the overfilled trucks travel through the parade route holding their state's donations.

In addition to the train being a gesture of goodwill, peace, and friendship, Mayor O'Dwyer referred to the Friendship Train as "a material symbol of the desire of our people to relieve the hunger and suffering of our fellow humans in Italy and France." Most importantly, however, the Train helped execute America's Marshall Plan, an initiative to provide financial assistance to Western Europe after WWII, which further protected the nation's positive image in the midst of Cold War propaganda. Two years later, France reciprocated the Friendship Train by sending a Train of their own, the French Gratitude Train, or the Merci Train, a 49-car train carrying gifts for the United States. The Train arrived in New York on February 2, 1949. Like the Friendship Train, the Merci Train's arrival was also celebrated with a ticker-tape parade.

67. March 9, 1948. Eamon de Valera, former Prime Minister of Ireland

The former Prime Minister of Ireland and New York native Eamon de Valera was welcomed by a ticker-tape parade and reception upon his arrival to New York City in 1948. His visit trailed the February elections in Ireland in which he lost the majority of his votes that he had held since 1933. De Valera passed the parliamentary reins of the Fianna Fáil government to his deputy Seán Lemass and embarked on a world tour, hoping to garner support for Irish unification. "No Irishman and certainly no Irishwoman," de Valera stated during his City Hall interview, "will be satisfied until the whole of Ireland is as free as the twenty-six counties."

De Valera's efforts were realized a year later, when Ireland became a republic and effectively gained its independence from Great Britain. De Valera returned to power for a short time in 1951, and eventually ran for and was elected President of Ireland in 1959, to be re-elected in 1964. The statesman retired in 1973, then serving as the oldest head of state in the world. Today, however, de Valera holds a mixed legacy. While some applaud his efforts to achieve Irish unification, others criticize him for his early rejection of the Anglo-Irish Treaty in 1921-22 and his failure to reverse the provision of the 1937 Constitution that neglected to assert the sovereignty of the Irish people. Historians have characterized the President as perhaps both the most significant and the most divisive figure in 20th-century Irish history. Englanders in particular resent de Valera for his association with Irish neutrality in World War II; the prime minister denied the British use of Irish ports during the war and even called the German envoy to Ireland to offer his condolences following Hitler's death.

68. July 7, 1948. Rómulo Gallegos, President of Venezuela

Thousands of New Yorkers gathered down Broadway in the summer of 1948 to witness the arrival of Venezuela's first popularly elected president, Rómulo Gallegos. The president's visit followed his inauguration just five months earlier in what is largely considered to have been the first honest election in Venezuela's history. Gallegos ran as a candidate for the Democratic Action Party, or the Acción Democrática, succeeding the president of Revolutionary Junta, Rómulo Betancourt, and ending the Medina regime.

In his early career, Gallegos was best known as one of the nation's most acclaimed authors. His most popular novel, *Dona Barbara*, published in 1929, was critical of the regime of Juan Vicente Gomez. His work forced him to flee the country, only to return in 1936 to serve as the Minister of Education. One year later, Gallegos was elected to Congress, and in 1940 he became the Mayor of Caracas. After taking office as president in 1948, Gallegos visited the United States on a mission of "Pan Americanism." Grover Whalen referred to him as a "scholar, educator, and great friend of America." Despite facing criticism from both Conservative and Communist factions in Venezuela, Gallegos enacted a tax scheme known as the "fifty-fifty," which raised the state's tax revenue for oil profits. His administration, however, was short lived. Just nine months into his presidency, a military coup d'état overthrew Gallegos, leading the former president to take refuge in Cuba. Gallegos returned to Venezuela in 1958 after dictator Marcos Pérez Jiménez was removed from power and democracy had been restored, but never returned to politics.

69. February 3, 1949. French Gratitude Train bearing gifts from France to the United States in appreciation of the Friendship Train

Two years after the United States sent France and Italy the Friendship Train—a shipment of fresh food, clothing, and medical supplies for those in need of assistance in France and Italy after World War II—France returned the favor with the French Gratitude Train, or the Merci Train, which arrived in New York harbor on February 2, 1949. Similar to the Friendship Train, the Merci Train contained forty-nine "40 and 8" box cars, one for each state plus an additional car for Washington D.C. and the Hawaii territory, carrying cultural and historical gifts to express their gratitude for America's assistance two years before.

Conceived by French railroad worker Andre Picard and organized by French veteran organizations, the Merci Train received contributions from over six million French people. Each car contained an estimated 10,000 items, including vases, tapestries, dolls, swords, silks, laces, and various historic documents. Upon the Merci Train's arrival in New York City, a ticker-tape parade was held displaying some of the goods in the New York box. Some of its treasures included Napoleon's sword, manikin dolls priced at 1,000 dollars each, rare paintings and books, army swords, a church bell, engravings and sculptures, and the first motorcycle ever built. Each nation's gesture solidified the mutual respect and enduring alliance between the United States and France.

70. May 19, 1949. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, Military Governor of Germany and commander of the Berlin airlift

As Military Governor of Germany and Commander of the United States forces in Europe in the years following World War II, General Lucius D. Clay is accredited with halting the spread of Communism in Europe when he resisted the Soviet Union's attempt to force Allied occupying forces out of Berlin in 1948 and 1949. Clay organized an airlift during the 327-day Communist land blockade of the Western sector that facilitated the delivery of 2,343,315 tons of food and coal to over two million Allied people in Berlin. His accomplishments earned him a ticker-tape parade and a hero's welcome in New York after the blockade was officially lifted on May 12, 1949. According to Mayor O'Dwyer, "Russia's agreement to lift the Berlin blockade [was a] vindication of General Clay's policies and a tribute to the outstanding success of the Allied airlift." The "hero of Berlin," as he was named, retired shortly after his return home, having earned four star rank despite not holding a combat command.

Over 250,000 people attended General Clay's ticker-tape parade, eager to watch his open-car motorcade and 2,500 person military parade make their way up Broadway to City Hall. At his reception, Clay commented that "you cannot stop communism with starvation," defending his decision to order and maintain the airlift in the face of the Soviet blockade. In the years following the Berlin airlift, General Clay continued to work with Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson as an adviser and emissary and in 1966 he took a position under New York Mayor John Lindsay to help revitalize New York's industry. The general died peacefully in 1978.

71. May 23, 1949. Eurico Gaspar Dutra, President of Brazil

Brazilian President Eurico Gaspar Dutra made a visit to the United States in 1949, the first visit to the nation by a Brazilian head of state since 1876. His arrival in New York earned him a ticker-tape parade and celebration at City Hall. Dutra's trip to New York followed a formal meeting with President Harry Truman the day before, in which the two mapped out the economic ties between the two nations and drafted a U.S.-Brazilian cultural treaty. The meeting was meant to promote U.S. investment in Brazil's expanding economy. Upon his arrival, Mayor O'Dwyer welcomed Dutra as a "good neighbor and friend," applauding him for standing with the American people in World War II and the Cold War.

Dutra served as the first President of the Second Brazilian Republic from 1945 to 1950, immediately following the dictatorship of the Getúlio Dorneles Vargas regime, who seized power in 1930 as the result of a military coup. Known for his restoration of constitutional democracy, Dutra became an official candidate of the Social Democratic Party, or the Partido Democratic Social (PSD), helping to depose Vargas and take his place as President in the 1945 election. As president, Dutra enacted the fifth constitution of Brazil, passed the "Salte" economic plan, and improved relations with the United States by locating and punishing Brazilian communists. Dutra's achievements were eclipsed in 1950, however, when Vargas defeated Dutra

in the presidential election. Dutra attempted to run for the presidency once again in 1964, but was defeated once again in a landslide victory by General Humberto de Alencar Castelo Branco.

72. August 11, 1949. Elpidio Quirino, President of the Philippines

Elpidio Quirino, the sixth president of the Philippines, received a ticker-tape parade witnessed by over 100,000 onlookers upon his arrival to New York in August 1949. At his City Hall ceremony Quirino emphasized the importance of working with the United States, declaring that "No country today can stand alone. This is the age of associations; this is the age of banding together; this is the age of cooperation so that all can live in peace." His remarks reflected both his nation's newfound independence as well as its gratitude for the increased aid from the United States in the wake of World War II.

Quirino was first elected to the Philippine House of Representatives in 1919, eventually being elected to the Senate in 1925. He played an instrumental role in securing the Tydings-McDuffie Act and freeing the Philippines from American control in 1934. When the Japanese invaded the Philippines in 1942, Quirino, unwilling to submit, went underground. The Japanese eventually captured Quirino and his family as they fled their home in the Battle of Manila, leading to his family's untimely murder. Eager to restore independence to the Philippines, Quirino took leadership of the majority Liberty Party after the war, taking office as Manuel Roxas's Vice President following the April 1946 elections. Roxas passed away unexpectedly shortly thereafter, making Quirino the second president of the Independent Republic of the Philippines, a position he held until 1953, despite allegations of corruption. Quirino's former Defense Secretary Ramon Magsayay resigned in the aftermath of the corruption scandal, only to beat him as a member of the opposition Nationalist Party in the 1953 presidential election. Quirino retired and died three years later.

73. August 19, 1949. Connie Mack on his 50th year as Manager of the Philadelphia Athletics baseball team

Over 300,000 New Yorkers gathered down Broadway on August 19, 1949, to honor the accomplishments of Connie Mack, who came to New York to celebrate a 65-year-long career and his 50th year managing the Philadelphia Athletics. Seldom referred to by his real name, Cornelius McGillicuddy, Mack began his career in professional baseball as a catcher with the Washington Nationals in 1886. Over the course of the next ten years, he played for the Buffalo Bisons and both played for and managed the Pittsburgh Pirates. By 1901, Mack had become the treasurer, manager, and part owner of the Philadelphia Athletics, remaining with the franchise until his retirement in 1950. Over the course of his 50 years with the Athletics, Mack, affectionately known as "Mr. Baseball" and "The Tall Tactician," led the team to nine American League pennants and five World Series titles. At the time of his retirement, Mack had won 3,731 games, lost 4,025, and managed 7,755. In 1937, the same year he became the sole owner of the Athletics, Mack was selected as part of the second class elected into the

National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. He remains today the longest-serving manager in Major League Baseball history.

74. September 16, 1949. Forty-eight European journalists in celebration of Freedom of the Press Day during their U.S. tour

To mark the finale of a two-week coast-to-coast sightseeing tour, 48 visiting journalists from 14 Western European countries were honored with a ticker-tape parade and gala celebration in New York on September 16, 1949. The reception, including a 22-car motorcade up Broadway, a gift exchange at City Hall, boat ride and a luncheon, celebrated the journalists as representations of the freedom of the European press. According to Mayor William O'Dwyer, who dubbed the day of their visit "Freedom of the Press Day" in New York City, "each journalist was free to criticize the governments and institutions of all the world...without fear of the people of his country." Their visit, he further remarked, was an effective way to promote permanent peace. An estimated 160,000 spectators gathered to watch as the all-male journalist troupe—four German newspaper men among them—made their way from the Battery to City Hall.

75. October 4, 1949. Raymond A. Garbarina Memorial Post 1523 for winning the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps National Championship

The Senior Drum and Bugle Corps of the American Legion's Raymond A. Garbarina Memorial Post 1923 received an official ticker-tape welcome in their honor, celebrating the Legion's victory at the National Championship in October 1949. The corps, based out of New York City, received a certificate of "distinguished and exceptional service" following their motorcade procession up Broadway to City Hall. Originally chartered in 1946, the post was named after World War II army veteran Raymond "Gabby" Garbarina, killed in combat overseas in November 1944. Garbarina played with both the Grand Street Boys and Hearst Post corps prior to his wartime service. Following their victory at the 1949 National Championship, Post 1523 became known first as the Garbarina Skyliners, and later as the New York Skyliners. In 1950, the corps won their second consecutive championship, and in 1951, they changed their official title to the Garbarina-Mazarakos American Legion Post 1523 to honor the passing of corps member John F. Mazarakos. The corps is still in existence today.

76. October 17, 1949. Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of an independent India, visited the United States on a goodwill tour in 1949 in an effort to strengthen friendly relations with the U.S. His trip occurred alongside an arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union, both attempting to seek out India as an ally in the Cold War. Despite these efforts, Nehru used his visit to declare neutrality and India's non-alignment policy. The Prime Minister, considered the "father" of modern India, called for an end to the arms race, and insisted that, "We [India] have no intention to commit ourselves to anybody at any time... Only brotherhood of man can achieve peace."

Prime Minister Nehru's attacks on western imperialism were rooted in his political upbringing. A central figure in India's independence movement from Britain, Nehru joined the India National Congress at a young age, working under the tutelage of pacifist and activist Mahatma Gandhi. In 1928 Nehru became the president of the India National Congress, devoting himself fully to winning India's independence. In 1930, Nehru attended the first Round Table Conferences with the British to arrange India's eventual independence, leading to the signing of the Gandhi-Irwin pact, which declared a truce between India and Britain. When the British failed to honor the pact, however, Gandhi and Nehru fomented another civil disobedience movement, for which they were jailed. By 1935, the Government of India Act had given India power over their government, but just three years later, with the outbreak of World War II, the British committed India to their war effort without their permission. Gandhi and Nehru pushed back, resulting in three years of periodic prison sentences.

Finally, in August 1947, Nehru and the India National Congress made an agreement with British viceroy Louis Mountbatten and the Muslim League to divide India, creating the new Muslim country of Pakistan and Hindu nation of India. The British officially withdrew from India and Nehru became independent India's first prime minister, ending nearly 400 years of British rule. Nehru served as prime minister until his death in 1964, during which time he pursued a policy of industrialization mixed with socialist economic reforms. His legacy in foreign affairs also includes conflict with Pakistan over the state of Kashmir, and a policy of non-alignment during the Cold War. In 1966 his daughter, Indira Gandhi, succeeded him and became India's first, and to date only, female prime minister.

77. November 21, 1949. Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran

The last Shah of Iran, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, received a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival to New York during a six-week goodwill tour of the United States in 1949. According to the Shah, the purpose of his visit was to not only promote understanding of Iranian culture, but also to obtain and ensure American aid for Iran, a bordering nation of the Soviet Union and principal ally to America in the fight against Soviet imperialist expansion. The Shah left the U.S. in December with President Truman's promise of American support and military aid to combat the Soviet threat. Among the assistance provided to Iran, Truman offered the Shah a $26 million loan for the purchase of American military equipment and a share in the $27,640,000 military aid fund earmarked for Korea and the Philippines.

As the eldest son of Reza Shah Pahlavi, who for suspicion of possible cooperation with Nazi Germany was forced to abdicate by the Allied powers as Shah of Iran during World War II, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi replaced his father as Shah in 1941.

Both his domestic and foreign policies, however, met criticism from those who accused his government of corruption and forced westernization. A crisis came in the early 1950s, when Prime Minister Muhammad Mosaddegh consolidated his own power, enacted sweeping reforms, and angered British and U.S. oil interests by nationalizing Iran's petroleum industry. In 1953, a

CIA-orchestrated coup restored the Shah to power. Over time, internal resistance grew against the Shah's increasingly oppressive regime, a regime embodied in many respects by the growth of SAVAK, a secret police force. The Shah's autocratic rule as well as his "White Revolution," a series of liberalizing reforms beginning in the 1960s, ultimately spurred widespread opposition to the government including a reactionary rise of Islamic fundamentalist resistance, spearheaded by cleric Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. In 1979, the unrest surrounding the Shah's leadership came to a head, with the Iranian Revolution and the declaration of an Islamic republic in Iran, led by Khomeini. Forced into exile, the Shah fled to the United States, where he received cancer treatment. Anger over the U.S. decision to welcome the ailing Shah helped spur Iranian students to take more than 60 American hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. The Shah died in Egypt in 1980, six months before the hostage crisis finally ended.

78. April 17, 1950. Gabriel Gonzalez Videla, President of Chile

Gabriel Gonzalez Videla, the President of Chile, was honored with a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival to New York in April 1950. Over 150,000 spectators gathered to watch President Videla's motorcade make its way up Broadway to City Hall, eager to celebrate a figure Mayor William O'Dwyer called "a good neighbor" and "brother in the cause of peace and democracy." The goal of the president's trip was to demonstrate to the American people Chile's commitment to their nation and their joined effort to combat the spread of communism. In fact, Videla outlawed Chile's Communist Party the year before, in 1948, despite the fact that he had welcomed communist support in his presidential and Senate campaigns in the years prior. When asked about communism at his press conference in New York, the President replied that he "believed they were ready to cooperate after the war...but I was blindfolded." President Videla's comments seemingly sparked a small set of protests throughout his visit in New York, including one led by the Spanish Trade Union Committee outside of City Hall. The picketers carried signs reading "down with the murderer of the Chilean people."

Prior to becoming President of Chile, Videla served as president of the Radical Party from 1931 to 1937 and ambassador to France, Portugal, and Brazil under the presidency of Pedro Aguirre Cerda. When Cerda fell ill and passed away in 1941, Videla attempted—and failed—to win the Radical Party nomination, losing to Juan Antonia Rios, who won the election and took office in 1942. Videla was elected Senator three years later for the provinces of Tarapaca and Antofagasta, and one year after that, received the Radical Party primary candidacy for president. With the help of the Communist Party, Videla won the 1946 election. As the Cold War escalated, however, Videla made the decision to side with the right and outlaw communism in Chile. His decision further strengthened the nation's relationship with the United States, which invested over $300,000 (the equivalent of over $3 million in 2019 dollars) in Chile's copper production in the postwar years. By 1952, when Videla's term ended, he had lost the support of the majority government, consisting of the conservatives and the liberals, and in 1971 he formally resigned from the party.

79. April 28, 1950. Adm. Thomas C. Kinkaid, hero of World War II naval battles and retiring commander of the Navy's eastern sea frontier and the Atlantic reserve fleet

Commander of the Navy's Eastern Sea Frontier and Atlantic Reserve Fleet, Admiral Thomas Kinkaid received a ticker-tape parade in honor of his retirement in 1950 after 46 years of service. Prior to the parade, Admiral Kinkaid also attended a ceremony in his honor at the New York Naval Shipyard in Brooklyn, where he officially turned control over to Vice Admiral Oscar C. Badger, former Commander of the Naval Forces of the Western Pacific.

Kinkaid came from a long naval background, but his legacy as a naval leader and war hero developed during World War II, when he led the United States Seventh Fleet through some of the war's largest sea battles, including the battles of Midway, Coral Sea, Guadalcanal, the Solomon Islands, the raiding of the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, and the invasion of the Philippines. His service earned the admiral his second Distinguished Service Medal in January 1943, and after the war, he was appointed commander of the Eastern Sea Frontier. He retired as one of the most decorated naval officers in the nation's history.

80. May 8, 1950. Liaquat Ali Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan

Liaquat Ali Khan, the first Prime Minister of Pakistan, received a traditional ticker-tape parade when he arrived to New York on a state visit in 1950. As with Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's visit six months earlier, President Harry Truman hoped the trip would strengthen ties between the two countries and position Pakistan as an ally to the U.S. in the Cold War. Ali Khan, however, resented the fact that the United States extended an invitation to India's prime minister, who had made attacks on western imperialism in the past, before inviting Pakistan, which had shown more allegiance to America (although like India, Pakistan had declared itself nonaligned in the Cold War struggle between the U.S. and the Soviet Union).

Ali Khan first entered politics in 1923 when he was elected to the provincial legislature of the United Provinces and then to the central legislative assembly under the British Indian Empire. As a member of the Muslim League and protégé of Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Ali Khan was the obvious choice for prime minister when independence was won in 1947. As one of the founding fathers of Pakistan, Ali Khan at first received the respect of a wide cross section of the Pakistani people, however he was soon seen with some skepticism by religious minorities when he promulgated the Objectives Resolution. The resolution, which ostensibly aimed at checking religious groups' influence in politics, in many ways inculcated Islam into the fabric of Pakistan's government. Just one year after his visit to the United States and four years into his term as Prime Minister, Ali Khan was assassinated in Rawalpindi by a hired Afghan national, Said Babrak. To this day the assassination is mired in mystery and intrigue.

81 and 82. May 9, 1950. Fernando Casas Aleman, Governor of Mexico City Federal District; May 10, 1950. Ten foreign mayors attending the 18th annual U.S. Conference of Mayors

Fernando Casas Aleman, the interim Governor of Mexico City Federal District, and ten foreign mayors received two consecutive ticker-tape parades during their visit to New York for the 18th annual United States Conference of Mayors. Each parade attracted crowds estimated at 80,000-100,000 spectators. Mayor William O'Dwyer welcomed the delegates to the three-day conference with a call for "a better and safer future for peoples of the whole world."

While the mayors in attendance represented the cities and nations of Geneva, Rome, Finland, Mexico, Colombia, Haiti, Hawaii, Buenos Aires, Germany, and Canada, it was the arrival of Governor Casas Aleman that warranted a parade up Broadway. According to Mayor William O'Dwyer, the welcome was scheduled to return the courtesy shown to him during his visit to Mexico City the year before. The former Governor of Veracruz (1936-1940) and then interim Governor of Mexico City called for a "policy of positive continental unity." After his short term as governor, in his later years, Aleman would be appointed Ambassador of Mexico for Europe and Asia.

83. June 2, 1950. Fourth Marine Division Association veterans of Pacific battles in World War II

June 2, 1950 marked the third annual reunion of the Fourth Marine Division Association of World War II veterans of the war in the Pacific. The three-day event was held to remember what Mayor William O'Dwyer referred to as "the bloody battles [American marines] fought across the Pacific" and to pay tribute to marines who fell at Iwo Jima, Saipan, Roi Namur, and Tinian in World War II. Marching in the parade were 800 marines of the Fourth Division, divided into two groups of 400. Followed by a Marine Band, the marines were led by Brig. General Edwin A. Pollack of the U.S. Marine Corps.

The Fourth Marine Division had an exemplary combat record during World War II, participating in four major assaults and winning two presidential citations from 1944 to 1945. The Division suffered an estimated 17,000 casualties. In February 1966, it was reactivated as the only division in the Marine Forces Reserve, and in 1990, it was mobilized in the Gulf War to assist in Operation Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield.

84. August 4, 1950. Robert Gordon Menzies, Prime Minister of Australia

The Prime Minister of Australia, Robert Gordon Menzies, was welcomed with a ticker-tape parade when he visited New York in August 1950. Arriving just two months after the outbreak of the Korean War, the prime minister positioned the trip as an opportunity to pledge Australia's support in the war and to call for democratic countries to unite with "a proper sense of partnership and common decency" to the threat of communism. Following his motorcade procession, Menzies addressed the crowd at City Hall, urging democratic nations defend freedom

“by strength, not by weakness.” In addition to advocating an Australian-U.S. alliance, the prime minister promised Australian ground troops in Korea. As he noted, Australian navy and air units were already engaged in the Korea campaign and he confirmed their dedication to fight side by side with American troops.

Robert Gordon Menzies had entered politics in the 1930s, when he became Attorney General under Prime Minister Joseph Lyons and deputy leader of the United Australia Party (UAP) shortly thereafter. When Prime Minister Lyons died in office in April 1939, Menzies replaced him. He led the UAP government as prime minister from 1939 to 1941, until party dissension forced him to resign. In 1944, Menzies helped create the Liberal Party of Australia out of the remnants of the UAP and was once again elected prime minister in December 1949. Among Menzies’s efforts to expand the Australian economy and immigration policy, he signed the ANZUS pact in 1951, which formalized a military alliance between Australia, New Zealand, and the United States in the event of armed attack. Menzies won six additional general elections before stepping down in 1966 after 18 years, making him Australia’s longest serving prime minister.

85. August 22, 1950. Lt. Gen. Clarence R. Huebner, Commander of U.S. armed forces in Europe

In August of 1950 Lieutenant General Clarence Huebner received a ticker-tape parade and City Hall reception in New York to honor his retirement from 40 years of service in the United States Armed Forces. During World War I, Huebner had served on the Western Front in France, participating in battles at Cantigny through Soissons, Saint-Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne. His service earned him two Distinguished Service crosses, a Silver Star, and a Distinguished Service Medal. With the outbreak of World War II, Lieutenant Huebner served as deputy commander in chief of the European Command and Commander of the armed forces in Europe and the occupation in Germany.

In 1943, Huebner took command of the First Infantry Division, otherwise known as the “Big Red One,” which spearheaded the invasion of Omaha Beach in June 1944 and successfully repelled German troops at Mortain. By January 1945, the Lieutenant General took command of the Fifth Corps, the first troops to make contact with the Soviet Army in Germany. After the war, Huebner was appointed military governor of the American sector in Germany, a position he held until returning to the United States in 1950, when he retired from the armed forces.

One year after announcing his retirement, Huebner became director of the New York State Civil Defense Commission, a post he held until 1961.

86. August 31, 1950. William O’Dwyer upon his resignation as Mayor of New York City

In August of 1950 William O’Dwyer resigned his post as mayor, only to receive a ticker-tape parade in his honor the very same day. Despite being involved in one of the biggest police scandals in New York City history, O’Dwyer’s earlier reputation for cracking down on organized

crime and crushing the infamous Murder Incorporated crime syndicate made him a celebrated public figure.

O'Dwyer's political career in New York began when he became magistrate in 1931. In 1938 he became county judge and, one year later, he was elected district attorney of Kings County, where he gained a reputation as a formidable prosecutor. In 1941, Tammany officials tapped the Irish immigrant as their mayoral candidate, but he was defeated by the Fusion incumbent, Fiorello H. La Guardia. When La Guardia turned down the option to run for re-election in 1945, however, O'Dwyer easily clinched the mayoral election, becoming New York City's 100th mayor. He easily won reelection in 1949.

O'Dwyer's political platform focused on improving schools, hospitals, city infrastructure, and the transit system. To take care of the construction that had been deferred during the Depression and WWII, he appointed "masterbuilder" Robert Moses to the newly created position of Coordinator of the Office of City Construction. During O'Dwyer's term construction projects included massive housing developments and the groundbreaking for the permanent headquarters of the United Nations (although the mayor did raise the fare on the subways for the first time in New York City's history—from five to ten cents). Less than one year into his second term, he resigned, ostensibly for medical reasons. But allegations quickly surfaced that he had ties to organized crime, including racketeers and bookmakers. It was a shocking end for a one-time crimebuster. Despite the scandal, he was never charged with a crime, and President Harry S. Truman appointed him Ambassador to Mexico immediately following his resignation.

87. April 3, 1951. Vincent Auriol, President of France

Just days after appearing on the cover of *Time* magazine, President of the Fourth French Republic Vincent Auriol was greeted with a ticker-tape parade in New York City. Auriol's visit accompanied an official trip to the United States that aimed to strengthen Franco-American relations as the Cold War intensified. New Yorkers gathered from the Battery up to City Hall to welcome President Auriol to the city. As leader of the French delegation to the United Nations and his nation's first representative on the U.N. Security Council in 1946, Auriol praised the role of the United Nations in New York, expressing his support for what he characterized as "the great hope of mankind." According to President Auriol, France had "always been the first to rise against aggression, even at the risk of endangering her own existence."

Auriol first entered the French government in 1914, when he was elected to the Chamber of Deputies. In 1936, as leader of the Socialist Party's parliamentary delegation, Auriol became the Minister of Finance under Premier Leon Blum, and later, Premier Camille Chautemps's Minister of Justice. By 1938, Auriol returned to the Chamber of Deputies under Edouard Daladier, and he served as one of the more outspoken deputies to oppose the powers granted to Prime Minister Philippe Petain in 1940. Auriol's resistance to France's Nazi-aligned Vichy government landed him in prison in 1940, however he was able to escape to the French Resistance in 1942, and by

1945 he accepted a position as Minister of State in the government in exile under Charles de Gaulle.

Two years later Auriol was elected President of France, a position he held until 1954. President Auriol inherited a war-torn nation, and his presidency witnessed economic depression, growing Communist power, and the decay of France's colonial empire. In 1954 Auriol refused re-nomination and he officially removed himself from politics in 1960.

88. April 20, 1951. Gen. Douglas MacArthur

General Douglas MacArthur received a hero's welcome upon his return to New York City in April 1951, just two weeks after President Truman had relieved the five-star general of his duties in Japan and Korea. The six-hour parade and City Hall demonstration made New York City history, attracting an estimated 7.5 million spectators—nearly twice the number of people who came to witness Dwight D. Eisenhower's ticker-tape parade in 1945. Newspapers reported an epic 2,850 tons of paper falling from the local buildings and the 7,000 patrolmen on duty were reportedly up to their ankles in ticker tape, which required 3,200 sanitation workers and 200 trucks to collect.

MacArthur's military career began when he graduated from West Point in 1903. He served with the 42nd Division in France during the First World War and was named chief of staff of the army by President Herbert Hoover in 1930. In the years leading up to World War II, MacArthur helped organize American forces in the Philippines and eventually became field marshal of the Philippines and Commander of the U.S. Army Forces in the Far East in 1941. When the Philippines fell to the Japanese a year later, General MacArthur led the Allied forces that retook the islands in October 1944. MacArthur's leadership earned him the Medal of Honor and promotion to the General of the Army in the Pacific.

After the war, MacArthur remained in the Pacific to oversee Allied occupation of postwar Japan. With the outbreak of the Korean War in June 1950, MacArthur led the United Nations troops. Strategic differences between President Truman and MacArthur quickly manifested themselves. In 1951, Truman's denial of MacArthur's request for permission to bomb Communist China and MacArthur's continued insubordinate efforts to build support for an expanded war led Truman to initiate MacArthur's removal from command. Despite Truman's decision to fire MacArthur, the general was welcomed as a war hero on his return to the United States.

When asked about MacArthur, legendary Australian General Sir Thomas Blamey once said, "The best and the worst things you hear about him are both true."

89. May 9, 1951. David Ben-Gurion, Prime Minister of Israel

Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, was welcomed to New York with a ticker-tape parade in May 1951. Nearly a million people gathered to watch as Ben-Gurion, widely considered to be the essential founding father of Israel, was led by a motorcade procession up Broadway to City Hall. The prime minister's visit to New York accompanied his campaign to

obtain a $500 million State of Israel Independence bond from the United States. He promised that the money would be "put to diversified productive work that [would] extend [Israel's] economic structure and enable [the state] to absorb more immigrants," primarily of Jewish descent, in the postwar years. Above all, Ben-Gurion used the trip to stress the importance of democracy and Israel's continued effort to obtain peace in the Middle East.

In his early political career, Ben-Gurion (born David Green) founded the national federation Histadrut, serving as its representative in the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency. After becoming chairman of both organizations in 1935, Ben-Gurion devoted himself to winning Israel's independence from England, and in May 1948, after overseeing the removal of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from the territory that was to become Israel, he became the new nation's first prime minister and minister of defense. When Israel was invaded by five neighboring states immediately after its declaration of independence, Ben-Gurion led the new Israeli army to victory in the War of 1948.

Following a brief hiatus from government, Ben-Gurion returned in 1955 and took office as Prime Minister once again, a position he held until 1963, maintaining a commitment to the idea that Judaism is a nationality and true Jewish life was only possible within Israel, a position that angered many Jews in the diaspora. Ben-Gurion stayed active in politics in the 1960s, supporting the consolidation of Israel's control over Jerusalem but opposing the taking of additional Arab lands during the 1967 War, and contributing to the formation of the Israel Labor Party in 1968, before formally retiring in 1970.

90. May 24, 1951. U.S. Army Fourth Infantry Division, Eighth Regimental Combat Team, the first U.S. NATO troops to be sent overseas

Just days before it was scheduled to deploy to Germany, the U.S. Army Fourth Infantry Division's Eighth Regimental Combat Team received a ticker-tape parade up lower Broadway. The 5,000 soldiers were being sent overseas to join NATO troops opposing Soviet power in Germany during the escalating Cold War. An estimated 100,000 spectators gathered to bid farewell to the troops, among them friends, family members, and war veterans.

The Fourth Infantry Division was established in 1917 when America entered the First World War. It is best known for its Eighth Regimental Combat Team (known as the "Ivy Division"), said to be the first Allied unit to arrive at the beaches of Normandy on D-Day (June 6, 1944). Men of the Fourth Infantry Division advanced through France and reached Paris in August 1944. By the time the war ended in May 1945, the Ivy Division had earned five battle streamers, most notably for holding off the Germans at the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944. The Division briefly returned home at the close of World War II, only to return to Germany in 1951 as the first U.S. division committed to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The Division remained stationed in Germany for the next six years, as NATO sought to counteract Soviet power in Western Europe.

91. June 25, 1951. Galo Plaza Lasso, native New Yorker and President of Ecuador

President of Ecuador Galo Plaza Lasso received a ticker-tape parade for his visit to New York City in 1951. Plaza was born in New York while his father and former President of Ecuador, General Leonidas Plaza, was serving as Minister to the United States. During his 1951 visit Plaza recalled selling apples during the Great Depression, when his father cut his allowance to teach him how to survive on his own. Living in New York City, he claimed, is what helped him learn the virtues of freedom and democracy, tenets he worked to uphold during his time as the Ecuadorian President, from 1948 to 1952.

Plaza was born in New York but returned to Ecuador in 1930 to run his family's cattle-breeding ranch and soon entered politics. In 1938 he became Ecuador's Minister of War, and by 1944 he served as Ambassador to the United States under President Carlos Alberto Arroyo del Rio. After forming his own political party, the Independent Citizens Party, in 1947, Plaza ran for and was elected to Congress on his party's ticket; one year later, he was elected President. As President, he dedicated his office to the economic development of Ecuador, resulting in a decline in inflation and the beginning of the "banana boom," largely supplying the U.S. market. Although the agricultural exports helped stabilize Ecuador's economy, Plaza was criticized for facilitating U.S. imperialism. These criticisms were augmented in 1951 when, during his New York visit, he announced the signing of a 20-year contract with the Chemical Plants Corporation on Fifth Avenue to exploit Ecuadorian sulfur deposits. Nevertheless, Plaza's commitment to modern democratic values and press freedom is widely recognized as an important boon for his nation. Following his term as President, Plaza worked with the United Nations and in 1968, he became Secretary General of the Organization of American States, a position he held until 1975.

92. September 17, 1951. Sir Denys Lowson, 623rd Lord Mayor of London

In September 1951, Sir Denys Lowson, the Lord Mayor of London, was greeted in New York with a ticker-tape parade. Lowson's visit was part of his goodwill tour of several countries and marked his first visit to the city, just one year after becoming London's youngest Lord Mayor, a largely ceremonial role that involves representing the country's financial interests abroad.

Lowson's later career was mired by a business scandal. In 1972, the financier and his son, Ian Lowson, were investigated by the Director of Public Prosecution for "conspiracy and breach of trust." The case followed the Lowsons' purchase of nearly 80 percent of the shares in the National Group of Unit Trusts from a block of companies directly tied to their family. The Lord Mayor then sold the shares a year later at 14 times what he paid, yielding an estimated $11 million profit. Although Lowson never went to trial, immediate restitution was ordered. By the time of Lowson's death in 1975, however, he had repaid less than half of the money owed to the city of London. The insider trading incident branded Lowson one of the richest and most controversial financiers in Britain's history.

93. September 28, 1951. Alcide De Gasperi, Premier of Italy

The Premier of Italy Alcide De Gasperi received his second ticker-tape parade in New York during his visit in September 1951, just two weeks after the Lord Mayor of London Sir Denys Lowson's parade. While De Gasperi's first parade in 1947 accompanied the close of the Second World War, his second had a more explicitly political purpose: to urge the United States to help Italy solve its overpopulation problem by easing U.S. immigration restrictions. Spectators gathered to watch the Premier's 15-car motorcade and 1,500 military marchers make their way up Broadway to City Hall, where Acting Mayor Joseph Sharkey praised De Gasperi's anti-Communist campaign in Italy.

De Gasperi was instrumental in reconstructing Italy in its transition from the Mussolini dictatorship to a democracy in the wake of World War II. As one of the original founders of the Italian Popular Party (PPI) in the early 1900s, De Gasperi was arrested in 1927 for his opposition to the fascist government takeover in Italy. After his release, he served as a librarian for the Vatican, a position he held until 1943, when Mussolini's fascist regime fell. De Gasperi revived the PPI under a new party title, Christian Democracy, and he was formally appointed the Italian Prime Minister in December 1945.

As Prime Minister, De Gasperi signed a peace treaty with the Allies and in 1948, he enacted a new constitution. His desire to maintain closer ties with the West encouraged the prime minister to ally with the United States in its Cold War battle against communism, which helped the Christian Democrats defeat the Italian Communist Party in the 1948 general election. De Gasperi served as Prime Minister for the next eight years, until his government fell in 1953, and he died the next year.

94. October 8, 1951. New York National Guard's 165th Infantry Regiment on its Centennial

A hundred years after its formation on October 15, 1851, New York National Guard's 165th Infantry Regiment was honored with a ticker-tape parade to celebrate the centennial of its formation. Among the marchers in the parade were 1,200 members of the 165th, all New Yorkers. Known as the "Fighting 69th" regiment, so named by Robert E. Lee after he witnessed their charge at the Battle of Fredericksburg during the Civil War in 1862, the 165th served as an infantry regiment of the United States Army. At its inception, the unit was organized as a militia for Irish immigrants, leading some to call them "the Fighting Irish."" Still in existence today, the regiment remains, according to 2019 battalion commander Lieutenant Colonel Don Makay, "a reflection of New York City's immigrant community."

With headquarters in the 69th Regiment Armory on Lexington Avenue in Manhattan, the "Fighting 69th" saw combat in five wars: the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In World War I, the regiment served in the trenches as part of the Army's 42nd Infantry "Rainbow Division"; during World War II the regiment was assigned primarily to the Pacific, leading campaigns in Makin, Saipan, and Okinawa. As a National Guard

unit, the regiment was not called to service in the Vietnam or Korean wars, instead staying in New York to care for the home front. On September 11, 2001, the 69th was one of the first military units to respond to the attacks at the World Trade Center, where two of its members lost their lives. As a testament to the Fighting 69th's legacy in New York and its Irish heritage, the regiment continues to lead the New York City Saint Patrick's Day parade.

95. October 29, 1951. Fifty wounded United Nations veterans of the Korean War

Stopping in New York in late October 1951 were 50 wounded United Nations veterans of the Korean War. The visit accompanied a tour organized by the Department of Defense to attempt to foster understanding of the United Nations' mission to support South Korea against aggression from the Communist North. All 50 veterans, including sailors, marines, and airmen, received a ticker-tape parade upon their arrival. Thousands gathered to watch 25 jeeps, each sporting the veterans' national flags, make their way from the Battery to City Hall, where Mayor Vincent Impellitteri awarded each man a bronze Medal of Honor of the City of New York. The 50 servicemen represented 19 United Nations countries, including Australia, Canada, Belgium, Greece, India, New Zealand, South Africa and Turkey. Each veteran had been wounded fighting in Korea under the banner of the United Nations. On the last day of their visit the veterans toured the United Nations building, where they received a standing ovation.

96. November 13, 1951. Women in the Armed Services

The Women of the Armed services received a ticker-tape parade in November 1951 as part of the Department of Defense's campaign to recruit women to the Armed Services. Mayor Vincent Impellitteri designated the week "Women in the Armed Forces Week" in an effort to address what the Defense Department described as a "manpower shortage." In order to meet this shortage, the Armed Services hoped to recruit an estimated 72,000 women by July 1, which would increase the number of women in the women's branch of the Armed Services to 112,000. Assistant Secretary of Defense Anna Rosenberg assured the public that the recruited women would be safe and that joining should be considered a privilege and not a sacrifice.

The call for women's enlistment in "voluntary emergency service" occurred just three years after the passage of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act (1948), which created regular and reserve status for women in the Army. Only Army nurses, however, were allowed into combat during the Korean War. By 1959, women were issued green Army uniforms for the first time, marking one of the first steps toward male and female soldiers' equality.

97. January 17, 1952. Capt. Henrik Kurt Carlsen for his heroic attempt to save his sinking ship, the SS *Flying Enterprise*

The first ticker-tape parade of 1952 honored Captain Henrik Kurt Carlsen, who received a hero's welcome upon his return to New York after refusing to abandon his sinking ship, *Flying Enterprise*, off the coast of Falmouth, England. The Denmark-born Carlsen had immigrated to

New York in 1938. His career at sea started at age 15, when he started working on freight liners, and by the age of 22 he was named captain of his first ship.

On December 29, 1951, *Flying Enterprise* hit a rough wave on the English Channel, which ripped open the ship's hull and forced Captain Carlsen to order his 40-man crew and 10 passengers overboard. Carlsen remained with his sinking ship—alone—for seven days, until on January 5, another storm threatened his safety and finally forced Carlsen to abandon the vessel, which he watched sink from a nearby tugboat. Carlsen's heroism earned him a ticker-tape parade attended by over 300,000 people, as well as New York City's Medal of Honor and the Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Award.

98. April 7, 1952. Juliana, Queen of the Netherlands, and Prince Bernhard

Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands received a ticker-tape parade during their first official visit to New York in 1952. An estimated 350,000 people gathered to watch as the foreign dignitaries made their way from the Battery to City Hall, where Mayor Vincent Impellitteri greeted the couple. The Mayor particularly praised the Queen's ability to "hold equally precious [her] role as a wife and mother with [her] sovereign duties." His comments likely were a reference to Juliana's commitment to her four daughters, Beatrix, Irene, Christina, and Margariet, and her husband, Prince Bernhard, whom she married in 1937.

Queen Juliana took the throne in 1948 when her mother, Queen Wilhelmina, announced her abdication. Her ascension came at a difficult moment for the Netherlands, which was still recovering from World War II. One of Juliana's first acts as Queen was to oversee Indonesia's liberation from Dutch rule. Her reign also witnessed the Netherlands' signing of the Treaty of Rome and its admission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Despite controversies involving her daughters' marriages in the 1960s and scandal around Prince Bernhard's acceptance of a bribe from the U.S. Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in 1976, Queen Juliana was popular throughout her reign, owing mostly to her lack of formality and efforts to promote social welfare. In 1980, Juliana followed in her mother's footsteps and abdicated the throne to her daughter Beatrix.

99. May 14, 1952. Mayors of 250 cities attending the 20th annual U.S. Conference of Mayors

In May 1952 New York City hosted the annual United States Conference of Mayors for the seventh time. Upon their arrival, the mayors and their families received a ticker-tape parade up lower Broadway. The 1952 conference boasted its largest attendance yet, gathering over 600 city officials representing 250 American and 27 foreign cities. The conference program included discussions of issues relating to transit, traffic congestion, tax coordination, airport safety, and foreign affairs, but the mayors' primary matter of concern was the Korean War.

Still in existence today, the U.S. Conference of Mayors was formed under Herbert Hoover during the Great Depression. The organization held its first meeting in June of 1932 in Detroit,

Michigan. The USCM remains a non-partisan organization, now consisting of 1,407 U.S. mayors representing cities with populations exceeding 30,000 people.

100. July 7, 1952. Send-off of U.S. Olympic team to the Helsinki games

The 1952 U.S. Olympic team, consisting of 336 athletes, received a ticker-tape parade send-off in New York City just hours before they were scheduled to depart for the summer games in Helsinki, Finland. Crowds estimated at 100,000 people watched as the team, their coaches, trainers, and managers made their way up Broadway, led by marching bands from the police and fire departments, army, navy, and air force. Former Olympians also marched in the parade, including gold medal swimmer Gertrude Ederle, who had received a ticker-tape parade of her own for her swimming accomplishments in 1926.

At the City Hall ceremony, United States Olympic Committee President Avery Brundage declared the members of the Olympic team to be ambassadors of goodwill who would "pierce the Iron Curtain with their friendliness and comradeship." In fact, 1952 marked the Soviet Union's Olympic debut. The United States ultimately won a total of 76 medals (40 gold, 19 silver, and 17 bronze), while the Soviets earned a total of 71. The nation's victories were read as particularly significant in what pole vaulter Robert Richards referred to as "times of international tension."

101. July 18, 1952. Commodore Harry Manning, Chief Engineer William Kaiser, and crew of the SS *United States* for setting a transatlantic speed record

Commodore Harry Manning received his second ticker-tape parade in July 1952, along with his Chief Engineer and crew, for setting a transatlantic speed record on the nation's largest passenger ship yet, *United States.* The ship's maiden voyage from New York Harbor to Cornwall, England lasted a total of 3 days, 10 hours, and 40 minutes, earning Manning and his crew a 2,000-man parade up Broadway. Despite heavy rain, the celebration garnered over 150,000 New Yorkers. The 990-foot super-liner *United States* solidified the nation's role as a maritime power capable of building and sailing record-breaking passenger fleets.

Commodore Manning's parade in 1952 marked his second ticker-tape parade in New York. His first parade had come in 1929, when Captain George Fried, first officer Manning, and the crew facilitated the rescue of an Italian freight liner, *Florida,* in the Atlantic. Three years later, Manning, still serving under Captain Fried, commanded a lifeboat that rescued transatlantic flier Lou Reicher, who had been forced down off the coast of Southern Ireland. Aside from his rescue missions, Commodore Manning served in the navy during both World Wars, and in 1944 he became superintendent of the U.S. Maritime service radio training station. In 1946, he was appointed captain of the *America*, a position he held until 1948 when he began advising the construction of the *United States*.

In addition to his life at sea, Manning also obtained his pilot's license in 1930, and in 1937 served as navigator for Amelia Earhart on her first attempt to fly across the world. While

Commodore Manning retired in 1953 a decorated naval hero, his tumultuous relationship with the press and many of his crew members has contributed to a mixed legacy. Manning was repeatedly criticized for missteps ranging from exploiting his celebrity at City Hall, to recklessly speeding in the fog through rough seas, to lending his name to cigarette endorsements.

102. December 18, 1952. Lt. Gen. Willis D. Crittenberger, retiring Commander of the First Army

On December 18, 1952, New Yorkers celebrated the retirement of Lieutenant General Willis D. Crittenberger, Commander of the First Army, with a ticker-tape parade. Crittenberger's retirement followed a 40-year long career in the military, which included commanding the Allied troops that accepted the first surrender of the German Army during World War II. An estimated 200,000 spectators gathered to watch Crittenberger make his way up Broadway to City Hall, where he received the Medal of Honor of the City of New York. The veteran lieutenant general was honored for "having symbolized the eminently humanitarian role of the soldier in a democracy."

Crittenberger's military career began in 1913, when he graduated from West Point. When his classmates went off to war in 1917, however, he remained at West Point as a cavalry instructor. In the 1930s, Crittenberger transferred to active forces, serving as a military intelligence officer in the Philippines from 1932 to 1934. During World War II, he organized and ultimately commanded the III Armored Corps, and later, in 1944, commanded the IV Corps in the Italian Campaign, leading his forces through 326 days of combat. In April of 1945 General Crittenberger received the Germans' surrender in Italy, earning him the Distinguished Service Medal. When he returned to New York, the General served as a principal military adviser to the United States delegation of the United Nations, and in 1950 he became Commander of the First Army.

103. January 30, 1953. Vice Adm. Walter S. Delany, Commander of the Navy's Eastern Sea Frontier and the Atlantic reserve fleet

The Commander of the Eastern Sea Frontier, Vice Admiral Walter Delany, received a ticker-tape parade for his retirement from active duty in January 1953. The celebration followed a nearly 45-year-long career in the navy. Delany graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1912 and served in both World Wars: on destroyers in the Atlantic during World War I and as assistant chief of staff and operations officer of the Pacific Fleet in World War II where he participated in the Battle of Guadalcanal. In 1942, Delany became captain of his own ship, *New Orleans*. Following the war, the Admiral commanded ships in the Pacific Fleet before returning to serve as commander of the Third Naval District in New York. Delany's services earned him two Legions of Merit.

Just six months before his retirement, Admiral Delany was appointed the commander of the Atlantic Reserve Fleet and Western Atlantic Subarea of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's naval forces. Nearly 50,000 spectators gathered to watch Delany and his 2,000-man procession

make its way up Broadway to City Hall, where Mayor Vincent Impellitteri awarded him the Medal of Honor of the City of New York and a scroll for distinguished service.

104. April 3, 1953. Metropolitan New York combat contingent, the first U.S. Army troops to return from the Korean War

On Good Friday, April 3, 1953, 351 GIs from New York and New Jersey returned from a year of service in Korea to a ticker-tape parade up Broadway. The veterans were among 2,207 Army enlisted men and 31 officers who had disembarked at the Brooklyn Army Base. An estimated crowd of 4,000 family members, mostly women and children, gathered at New York Harbor on Friday morning to welcome home their sons, fathers, and husbands. After the procession and a short reception Mayor Impellitteri welcomed the veterans at City Hall. Eager to go home, the veterans participated in a brief ceremony in their honor before they were transported to Camp Kilmer in New Jersey for discharge or furlough.

105. April 24, 1953. Gen. James A. Van Fleet, retired Commander of the United Nations ground troops in Korea

General James A. Van Fleet received a ticker-tape parade honoring his retirement from the armed forces in April 1953 after nearly 38 years of service. According to Mayor Vincent Impelliterri, the return home of the Commander of the United States and United Nations ground troops in Korea came after his “military victory over communism” overseas. An estimated 55,000 people gathered to watch General Van Fleet’s open motorcade and 2,000-member procession make its way from the Battery to City Hall. As one of the Army’s most decorated soldiers, General Van Fleet’s service earned him the Distinguished Service Cross, the Medal of Honor, a Purple Heart, Silver Star, and Bronze Star Medals.

Van Fleet’s military career spanned nearly four decades. He first served as a battalion commander during World War I in France, and by World War II he had moved his way up in command to a corps commander. In 1947 Van Fleet returned to Europe, where he worked as a part of the United States Mission for Aid to Greece. He eventually became commander of the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group and helped the Greek military suppress the Communist rebels during that nation’s civil war. The general returned to the United States for a brief time before being sent to Korea in April 1951 to command the Eighth Army of the United States and United Nations forces after his predecessor, General Matthew Ridgway, was assigned to take over the post of General Douglas MacArthur. Upon Van Fleet’s return home, President Truman declared Van Fleet “the greatest general [the nation] has ever had” citing his successful service in Greece after World War II, and in Korea. In fact, Van Fleet had complained in the closing days of the Korean War that he could have fully defeated the North Koreans in 1951, not just driven them back, if he had been given the opportunity.

106. May 26, 1953. New York City departments and units of the armed services to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the laying of City Hall’s cornerstone

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of City Hall, New York's city departments and armed services participated in a ticker-tape parade up Broadway on May 26, 1953. The procession was followed by a brief ceremony at City Hall, where a group of students from the High School of the Performing Arts re-enacted the 1803 ceremony, dressed in the tall hats and white stockings of the era. As part of the celebration, the Public Works Department announced a fundraising campaign for City Hall's restoration, urging residents to donate in the hopes the building could be restored to its "pristine beauty."

New York's City Hall was designed by the architectural team of Joseph François Mangin and John McComb Jr. in 1802 and is considered a masterpiece of Federal style architecture. For generations its future was the subject of debate. As a result of the 1953 fundraising campaign, the deteriorating exterior marble and brownstone stonework was replaced by marble and granite, and in the early 21st century, a major rehabilitation project restored or renovated its façade, windows, public spaces, and building systems.

107. July 21, 1953. Ben Hogan, British Open champion

Ben Hogan became the second professional golfer to earn a ticker-tape parade in New York when he returned home after winning the British Open in July 1953. Hogan's victory at the Open came in the same year as victories at the Masters and the U.S. Open, as well as the Pan American Open, and the Colonial Invitational Tournament. One reporter dubbed the sweep a "Hogan Slam." When Hogan and his wife arrived at New York Harbor aboard *United States*, they were greeted by a crowd of over 150,000 people. After his open-car motorcade procession made its way to City Hall, Hogan declared that the British Open course was the hardest course he had ever played. As Mayor Vincent Impellitterri awarded Hogan the key to the city, he praised Hogan for being "an inspiration for the youth of the nation."

Hogan began golfing at a young age. His endless hours of practice paid off when he won his first golf tournament, the Hershey Four-Ball, in 1940. For the next 20 years, Hogan played in almost every national golf tournament. In 1948 alone, the pro golfer won ten tournaments, including the U.S. Open, and in 1949, he appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine for his victories in the U.S. Open and PGA Championships. Amid his success, Hogan and his wife were in a serious car accident in late 1949, leaving the golfer in critical condition and forcing him to take a hiatus from playing. When he returned to tournament golf in 1950 however, Hogan—against all odds—won both the 1950 and 1951 U.S. Opens. The same year of Hogan's sweep and ticker-tape parade, the golfer opened Ben Hogan Golf Company in his hometown of Fort Worth, Texas, where he remained a dedicated instructor and apprentice. Hogan's 1953 record-breaking "Hogan Slam" would not be broken until Tiger Woods' victory in all three major national tournaments in 2000.

108. October 1, 1953. Jose Antonio Remon, President of Panama

Colonel Jose Antonio Remon, President of Panama, received a ticker-tape parade and City Hall reception during his visit to New York City in 1953. The foreign dignitary's trip followed

meetings with President Dwight D. Eisenhower to renegotiate the Panama Canal Treaty. At his City Hall ceremony, where Mayor Vincent Impellitteri awarded him the Distinguished Service Medal of Honor, President Remon emphasized his desire to provide his people with economic opportunity. Remon asserted that he "did not come to ask for money...I came to ask for justice, and by justice, I mean Panama should receive its proper share of the great enterprise that is the canal."

President Remon took office as the 29th President of Panama in October 1952 as leader of the National Patriotic Coalition (CNP). In his early political career, Remon served as the chief of the national police and one of the leaders in the coup against President Daniel Chanis Pinzon. Once in office, Remon made it his primary mission to improve Panama's labor and industry, which he sought to achieve through the Remon-Eisenhower Treaty, ratified in 1955. The Treaty raised the annual annuity paid from the U.S. to Panama from 430,000 to 1.93 million dollars and ensured equal pay for equal work between Panamanian and American Canal Zone workers. Just weeks before the treaty was finalized in January 1955, however, President Remon was assassinated while visiting a racetrack in Panama. Despite an in-depth investigation and multiple arrests, by 1957, all suspects had been acquitted, and it remains unclear who ordered the assassination.

109. October 20, 1953. General Mark W. Clark, retiring Commander of U.S. forces in the Far East

Three hundred thousand people gathered to watch as General Mark W. Clark's ticker-tape parade made its way up Broadway to City Hall in October 1953. The City Hall ceremony and procession of military bands and veterans honored the General's announcement of his retirement after nearly 40 years of service in the United States military in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War.

General Clark was a third-generation soldier, whose first entry into combat came in France during World War I. During World War II, Clark gained notoriety for his role helping to plan and execute the invasion of North Africa in 1942. As commanding general of the Fifth Army, and then the 15th Army Group and the British 8th Army, Clark remained a key figure in the Mediterranean theater campaign. His work earned him a Distinguished Service Medal Award from President Dwight D. Eisenhower and status as the youngest three-star general in the Army.

In 1944, General Clark received praise once again for beating other U.S. commanders to Rome and capturing the Italian capital. While some of his tactics—and the self-proclaimed glory of his pursuits—were criticized by many, President Franklin D. Roosevelt awarded Clark the Distinguished Service Cross for Heroism. One year before his retirement, General Clark was sent to Tokyo to serve as United Nations commander in Korea and Commander in Chief of the United States Far East Command. It was here that he signed the Korean armistice in July 1953 and initiated a prisoner exchange, putting an official end to the Korean War. After he returned home General Clark became the president of the Citadel Military College in Charleston, a position he held until 1965.

110. October 26, 1953. Maj. Gen. William F. Dean, hero of Taejon and prisoner of war for three years during the Korean War

Major General William F. Dean received a hero's welcome with a ticker-tape parade and celebration in honor of his September 1953 repatriation after serving as a prisoner of war for three years in Korea. The procession, attended by over 500,000 spectators, honored not only the general's service as a POW, but the many GIs and officers with whom Dean served in World War II and Korea. The General used the occasion to honor both his living and dead comrades.

General Dean had served in the Second World War prior to his assignment in Korea. In December 1944 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross after successfully leading the 44th Infantry Division—a unit he eventually commanded in France and Germany—through an artillery barrage. After WWII, Dean was sent to South Korea to help serve as military governor and in 1948 he began arranging for the withdrawal of his Seventh Infantry Division to northern Japan. Dean was appointed commanding officer of the 24th Infantry Division in October 1949, which is when he received the nickname "Walking General" for his preference to walk alongside his troops rather than ride in a staff car.

By June 1950, the North Korean People's Army (NKPA) launched an attack at the 38th Parallel, officially beginning the Korean War. Dean's 24th Division—under-armed and outnumbered—were deployed soon after to receive evacuees from Korea, and it was during these missions that the Koreans captured General Dean, making him the highest-ranking U.S. POW in Korean imprisonment. The general was released in September 1953, after serving three years in a Korean POW camp. His experience as a POW made Dean one of the first and most memorable heroes of the Korean War. He retired in 1955 after 32 years of service.

111. November 2, 1953. Paul I and Frederika, King and Queen of Greece

The King and Queen of Greece, Paul I and Frederika, stopped in New York City in 1953 as part of a "gratitude tour" of the United States. Upon their arrival the couple received a ticker-tape parade attended by over 750,000 New Yorkers, many of whom were Greek Americans. The tour occurred just in time to celebrate the 13th anniversary of Greece's resistance to Italian invasion in 1940; it also served as one of the last parades and City Hall receptions of Vincent Impellitteri's mayoralty.

King Paul and Queen Frederika announced that their tour would serve as a means to express their gratitude to the United States for providing the Greek government monetary aid in the postwar years. Greece was nearly bankrupt in 1947 and facing a possible Communist victory in its civil war when Paul returned to the previously German-occupied nation. Afraid of the specter of growing Communist power, the United States Congress, under the containment policy of the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan, loaned Greece $400 million to secure the country's borders and, with America's political, military and economic backing, helped the Greek army defeat Communist insurgents.

King Paul and Queen Frederika reigned from 1947 to 1964, when Paul died and Frederika withdrew from public view. Their son and heir, Constantine II, succeeded Paul as king, but was forced into exile in 1967 after a coup that followed his clashes with liberal reformers and an ensuing constitutional crisis. In June 1973, when the Greek monarchy was formally abolished, Frederika went into self-imposed exile to Rome and then to India.

112. November 5, 1953. Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle and marching units from the armed forces in observance of the 50th anniversary of powered flight

Lieutenant General James H. Doolittle and four other fliers were honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York on November 5, 1953, to mark the 50th anniversary of powered flight. Among the other celebrated pilots were Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker, chairman of the board of Eastern Air Lines, and Sergeant Gerald J. Crosson of the Police Department. Some one hundred and fifty thousand people gathered to watch the aviators make their way from Broadway to City Hall, where they received Distinguished Service Medals from New York City.

General James Doolittle was perhaps the best known honoree at the ticker-tape parade, having been responsible for leading the air raid on Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe, Nagoya, and Osaka four months after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941. A noted aviator, stunt pilot, and aviation engineer, Doolittle first served in the military during World War I when he enlisted as a flying cadet in the Army Signal Corps, though he never went overseas in that conflict. By the 1940s, Doolittle had been appointed lieutenant colonel in the Army Air Corps, the position he held when he led the raid on Japan. The bombs Doolittle and his men dropped on Tokyo in 1942 were the first American attack on Japan after Pearl Harbor and were seen as a morale boost, so much so that President Roosevelt awarded Doolittle the Medal of Honor and promoted him to the rank of full colonel. Doolittle went on to command the Northwest African Strategic Air Forces, the 12th Air Force in Britain, and 15th Air Force in North Africa during World War II. In fact, his Eighth Air Force was responsible for bringing down an estimated 10,000 enemy aircraft and played an instrumental role in forcing Germany to surrender in May 1945.

113. December 21, 1953. One-hundred forty-four convalescing Korean War veterans from the New York metropolitan area

One hundred and forty-four Korean War veterans received a hero's welcome and ticker-tape parade upon their return home to New York in December 1953. Greeted by Mayor Vincent Impellitteri, retired General James Van Fleet, and Grover Whalen—for his last ticker-tape reception as the city's official greeter—the GIs were applauded and showered with ticker tape as their jeeps proceeded up Broadway to City Hall. Relatives and friends gathered to celebrate the veterans' homecoming and General Van Fleet honored each of the wounded veterans as soldiers in the Cold War fight against Communism, referring to them as "our heroes...who carried the fight to that godless, ruthless enemy that would enslave mankind."

114. February 1, 1954. Celal Bayar, President of Turkey

Celal Bayar, the third President of the Turkish Republic (1950-1960), stopped in New York City on the first leg of his national tour in 1954. His arrival was accompanied by a ticker-tape parade and City Hall ceremony, the first under New York's new official greeter, Richard C. Patterson. Despite cold temperatures, Bayar made his way in an open-car motorcade up Broadway, preceded by a 1,500-person procession. President Bayar's visit to the United States was diplomatic; he used the trip to appeal for continued foreign capital. Vice President Richard Nixon, who was present at the ceremony, praised Turkey for standing up to Soviet imperialism and applauded Bayar's mission to help Turkey become more democratic and self-sufficient.

Bayar's political career began in his early twenties, when he became secretary of the Smyrna branch of the Committee of Union and Progress following the Young Turk Revolution in 1908. When the Ottoman Empire collapsed at the close of World War I, Bayar joined the newly formed Grand National Assembly of Turkey and served as Minister of Economy under President Mustafa Kemal Ataturk starting in 1932. He became prime minister in 1937, but when Ataturk passed away in 1939, Bayar resigned his position. Six years later Bayar further resigned from Parliament and the Republican People's Party of Ataturk to help form a new political party, the Democrat Party. Bayar was elected president on his party ticket in May 1950 and was re-elected in 1954 and 1957. While in office, Bayar advocated for Turkey to adopt a policy of private enterprise.

In 1960, opposition increased against his administration, including student riots against restrictions on the press and political repression. Bayar was arrested and tried when the armed forces staged a coup amid tensions over lifting restrictions on religion and imposing new restrictions on the press; they sentenced him to death in 1961. The sentence was later commuted to life in prison, but in 1964 Bayar was released for health reasons, and he was eventually pardoned in 1966.

115. March 31, 1954. Four-thousand New York City firefighters in observance of Firemen's Day

Over 4,000 firemen—3,800 regular and 300 auxiliaries—received a ticker-tape parade in celebration of Firemen's Day on March 31, 1954. Dressed in old-fashioned red shirts and helmets, the firefighters marched from the Battery to City Hall, where they were honored for their service. The procession, led by Commissioner Edward Francis Cavanaugh Jr. and Fire Chief Peter Loftus, paraded antique and modern fire engines up Broadway as a symbol of their continued commitment to New York City residents. The parade also served to garner public awareness of the fire prevention program Commissioner Cavanaugh had recently instituted. During the City Hall ceremony, 41 firefighters were promoted to lieutenant, four lieutenants to captains, and six captains to battalion chiefs. The celebration ended with a demonstration of a probationer making a 52-foot leap off a fire ladder into a net.

116. April 22, 1954. Veterans of the 45th Thunderbird Infantry Division on their return from the Korean War

A thousand soldiers from the 45th Thunderbird Infantry Division received a rousing welcome home and ticker-tape parade in April 1954 upon their return from the Korean War five days prior. Nearly 250,000 spectators gathered to watch the veterans, escorted by 1,500 troops, make their way up Broadway to City Hall. The sun was so hot that 20 soldiers, all wearing winter-weight uniforms, collapsed from the heat. The Thunderbird Division was the first division to return home from Korea as a unit. As part of the praise and thanks they received, Mayor Robert F. Wagner Jr. emphasized their survival and sacrifice as a symbol of American strength during the Cold War. At the City Hall ceremony he remarked that he "believe[d] that more than the fear of atomic warfare, more than the fear of hydrogen devastation, Russia fears the indomitable will and unified courage of the American soldier. No soldier anywhere represents the strength that is America and the devotion that is American than do you men of the 45th Infantry Division."

The 45th Infantry Division, originally built around the Oklahoma National Guard, was formed in 1924 and reactivated and deployed in June 1943 to North Africa, and later to Sicily and southern France. The unit was responsible for the capture of the cities of Nuremberg and Munich in 1945. Following their victories in Germany, the unit liberated the Dachau concentration camp, helping rescue more than 30,000 prisoners. In 1951, the 45th was sent to Korea during the Inchon landing, where they served in combat for 429 days straight. During their time in Korea the division raised over $300,000 to support organized charities in Korea, including the Orphans Home of Korea, which housed 700 children. At the City Hall ceremony the Division offered a check of $41,000 to be established as a trust fund for the maintenance of the Orphans Home.

117. June 1, 1954. Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia

Emperor of Ethiopia Haile Selassie received a ticker-tape welcome during his five-day trip to New York City in June 1954. The emperor's visit to New York served as the first leg of his tour of the United States, Canada, and Mexico, intended to strengthen cultural and commercial ties between the United States and Ethiopia. In addition to the honors Selassie received at his parade, attended by an estimated one million people, the emperor also received tributes at the United Nations, an organization he celebrated for its achievement in repelling aggression in Korea.

Reputedly a descendent of King Solomon and Makeda, Queen of Sheba, Selassie (born Tafari Makonen) came to power in 1916 as a leader of the Christian opposition to Lij Yasu. His progressive politics made Selassie popular among the younger population, and he capitalized on this fame when he led Ethiopia into the League of Nations in 1923. In 1928 Selassie appointed himself king and two years later, in 1930, he officially took the throne as Ethiopia's 225th and last emperor. His coronation was greeted by Jamaican followers of the activist Marcus Garvey as a fulfillment of Garvey's prophecy of an African messiah, which spurred the birth of the

Rastafarian religion, named after Selassie's birth name, Ras (Prince) Tafari, and Rastafarians continue to regard him as a deity.

Just six years after Selassie was crowned, the Italian dictator Mussolini's Fascist regime invaded Ethiopia in 1936, forcing Selassie into exile for part of the Second World War. When he came back into power in 1941, with the help of the British, he led a campaign to modernize Ethiopia through various social, educational, and economic reforms, including granting a new Ethiopian constitution in 1955 establishing equal rights for his citizens.

The constitution did little, however, to lessen Selassie's own powers. By the 1970s famine and underemployment undermined Selassie's rule and in 1974 Marxist dictator Mengisty Haile Mariam overthrew the emperor and forced him out of office. Selassie died while under house arrest one year later, allegedly executed by the new government. His remains were not located until 1992; some Rastafarian followers dismissed the report of his death as a lie.

118. July 26, 1954. Geneviève De Galard-Terraube, a nurse known as the angel of Dien Bien Phu for staying with wounded French soldiers in Vietnam

The "angel of Dien Bien Phu," French nurse Geneviève De Galard-Terraube, was honored with a ticker-tape parade upon her arrival in New York City in July 1954. Galard's trip overseas followed her service as a flight nurse for the French air force during the French War in Indochina. Nearly 250,000 New Yorkers gathered to watch the nurse and celebrated war hero make her way up Broadway to City Hall, where Mayor Wagner awarded her with city honors and praised her for her work on the front lines of the French struggle against Communist revolutionaries in Vietnam. Her role in tending to wounded soldiers had already attracted worldwide press attention.

Geneviève Galard was one of many nurses who served the French during the war between the French and Vietminh. Initially stationed in Hanoi, Galard occasionally flew on casualty evacuation flights from Pleiku and Dien Bien Phu. But in March 1947, one of these C-47 rescue planes overshot its landing, leaving Galard and the crew stranded in Dien Bien Phu. Rather than leave, Galard started work at a field hospital in Dien Bien Phu as a volunteer nurse. Among the 11,000 soldiers and medical staff, she was the only woman on the base. Even after the French troops at Dien Bien Phu surrendered in May 1954, Galard stayed to care for the wounded until she was forcibly evacuated back to Hanoi three weeks later. In total, Galard served 41 days under siege and 17 as a prisoner in Indochina. Her service and sacrifice earned Galard the Knight's Cross of the Légion d'Honneur, the Croix de Guerre, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, awarded to her during her July visit to the U.S. by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

119. August 2, 1954. Syngman Rhee, President of South Korea

Syngman Rhee, the President of South Korea, received a ticker-tape parade during his visit to New York in 1954, attended by crowds estimated at 150,000 people, a year after the end of the Korean War. As he was awarded the City's Medal of Honor at his City Hall ceremony, Rhee

repeatedly used the visit to push his anti-communist agenda and warn the American people of "an inevitable clash between communist and democratic nations." It would take bullets, not peace talks, he argued, to secure democracy. During an interview, Rhee attempted to rally U.S. support for military action, contending that, "We know full well that no free Korea, no free China, or any other nation can survive unless the United States leads all freedom-loving nations against communism."

President Rhee's long political career began in 1896, when he helped form the Independence Club in order to help Korea gain independence from Japan. After the club was destroyed and Rhee was temporarily imprisoned (until 1904), he relocated to the United States, where he became one of the first Korean men to earn his doctorate from Princeton University. The year he returned home, 1910, Japan annexed Korea and Rhee continued to work as an active spokesperson for Korean independence. By 1919, Rhee was elected in absentia to serve as president of the Korean Provisional Government, a position he held until the outbreak of World War II. Rhee eventually won the South Korean elections in 1948 and became the first president of the Republic of South Korea.

As president, Rhee outlawed Progressive Party opposition, executed oppositional leadership, and even defied the United Nations during the Korean War, when he hindered negotiations between communist and anti-communist forces in the hopes the U.N. would continue to fight against North Korea. As revealed by Seoul's Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the early 2000s, during the Korean War, Rhee's rule was often ruthless and brutal, including multiple massacres such as on Cheju Island, where his army suppressed a leftist revolt by gunning down a reported 30,000 people. His regime also imprisoned tens of thousands of suspected Communists and hundreds of thousands were forced into "re-education" through the Bodo League.

Despite being re-elected twice during and after the Korean War, in 1952 and 1956, Rhee's claims of an overwhelming popular vote victory in the March 1960 elections made many suspect the election had been rigged. Faced with a student uprising and growing unrest, Rhee was forced to resign and fled to the United States, where he lived out the rest of his days in Hawaii.

120. September 27, 1954. New York Giants, National League champions

In celebration of their winning the National League pennant, the New York Giants received the first ticker-tape parade for a baseball team on September 27, 1954. The procession, led by manager Leo Durocher, included all 34 players, including the Associated Press's Athlete of the Year, Willie Mays—the "Say Hey Kid." Nineteen-fifty-four marked Mays's first year back after a two-year hiatus to serve in the Army and in that season he hit .345 with 41 home runs, and was named the NL's Most Valuable Player. The New York Giants finished the regular season with a record of 97-57. In the World Series, the Giants swept the Cleveland Indians in four games, even though Indians had a better regular season record. Three years later, after the 1957 season, the Giants moved to San Francisco at the same time the Brooklyn Dodgers left for Los Angeles.

121. October 28, 1954. William V. S. Tubman, President of Liberia

William Vacanarat Shadrach Tubman, the 19th President of Liberia, received a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival in New York City in October 1954. The president used the occasion to encourage American and international businessmen to invest in the West African republic. As a result of Tubman's efforts, Liberia received over a billion dollars in U.S. investments over the course of his presidency. Known as the "father of modern Liberia," Tubman further promoted a National Unification Policy in Liberia, under which he sought to bring together Americo-Liberians and Liberia's indigenous population. His commitment to extending constitutional rights to indigenous Liberians and women and unifying his people earned him a Medal of Honor at his City Hall ceremony following the procession up Broadway.

The son of the former Speaker of the Liberian House of Representatives, Tubman received his law degree in 1917 and entered politics as a Senator in 1923. He was appointed to the Liberian Supreme Court in 1937 and in 1944 he swept the Presidential election, beginning his career as Liberia's longest-serving president, as he changed the constitution to allow himself to serve seven consecutive terms, up to his death in 1971.

In the years following his visit to New York, Tubman's administration garnered massive economic and military aid from the United States, which saw Liberia as an important base for combating Soviet influence in Africa. An assassination attempt by political rivals the year after his New York parade spurred increasingly authoritarian policies, including police surveillance and suppression of opponents. In addition to attracting foreign investments and his authoritarianism, President Tubman is remembered for a revenue program that allowed the republic to eliminate its budget deficits and refocus attention on a modernization program that rebuilt the nation's infrastructure and university system as well as his alliance with the United States during the Cold War.

122. November 19, 1954. Lt. Gen. Withers A. Burress, retiring Commander of the First Army

Fifty thousand New Yorkers gathered on November 19, 1954, to watch Lieutenant General Withers A. Burress, Commander of the United States' First Army, receive a ticker-tape parade down Broadway. The 1,000-man military procession was in celebration of the General's retirement from a 38-year-long career in the U.S. military. In addition to receiving New York City's Medal of Honor, Burress's accolades included a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, the Distinguished Service Medal, and a Legion of Merit for his service.

Prior to taking command of the First Army on Governors Island in 1952, Buress served in both world wars. During World War I, he served with the 23rd Infantry, 2nd Division of the American Expeditionary Force in France, returning with the permanent rank of Captain. By World War II, Burress had ascended the ranks to serve as Commanding General of the 100th Infantry Division, leading campaigns across France, and in 1945, as Commanding General of the VI Corps. At the end of his career, Burress served as Commander of the First Army for the two years prior to his

retirement. His final posting was as a commander at Fort Jay on Governors Island, just minutes off shore from the site of the ticker-tape parades. He was succeeded by Major General Thomas W. Herren.

123. January 31, 1955. Paul Eugene Magloire, President of Haiti.

President of Haiti Paul Eugene Magloire received a ticker-tape parade during his visit to New York City in 1955. Despite chilling temperatures, 35,000 spectators gathered to watch Magloire's open-car motorcade, 500 marchers and three bands make their way up Broadway. The President used the visit as an opportunity to recruit foreign investors and financiers to contribute to Haiti's industrial development, which he argued could only be remedied with the help of foreign capital. According to President Magloire, Haiti's $40 million, five-year economic development program implemented in 1951 was in jeopardy due to falling crop prices, failure of the coffee crop, and damages incurred from the devastating Hurricane Hazel the season prior. It was vital, he asserted, for Haiti to obtain advanced capital to improve its industry, infrastructure, and education system.

Nicknamed "Bon Papa", President Magloire had begun his career in the military, ascending to the rank of general in the Haitian army by the late 1940s. By 1950, Magloire helped organize the military coup that deposed President Dumarsais Estime and subsequently took his place. As President, Magloire helped develop Haiti's tourism industry, utilizing anti-communist positions to help foster a favorable relationship with the United States. The revenue Magloire received from foreign investors like the U.S. helped him rebuild Haiti's infrastructure, modernize the country, and even institute women's suffrage. Just months before his ticker-tape parade, however, rumors of corruption scandals and economic troubles in the wake of the hurricane diminished President Magloire's popularity. The following year, the military ruler was removed from power, stripped of his Haitian citizenship, and replaced by the notorious François "Papa Doc" Duvalier. Magloire spent his time in exile in New York, until he returned to Haiti in 1986 and became an adviser to Haiti's new ruler, Henri Namphy.

124. March 1, 1955. New York Chapter of the American Red Cross, kicking off its 1955 fundraising campaign

In March 1955 the New York Chapter of the American Red Cross celebrated the kickoff of its 1955 fundraising campaign with a ticker-tape parade up Broadway. Aiming to help meet the local chapter's $5.73 million goal, the tribute to over 200,000 Red Cross staff members and volunteers included a procession of military bands and servicemen up Broadway to City Hall. According to Mayor Robert Walker, speaking at a gathering after the rainy procesion, the Red Cross symbolized "the democratic way of life" and united hundreds of thousands of volunteers in every section of our nation in a common cause—to serve all regardless of race or creed."

The American Red Cross was established in 1881 under the leadership of Clara Barton and has since played an instrumental role in assisting American soldiers, veterans, and civilians over the course of World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. Today, the New York Chapter of the

Red Cross serves more than 13 million people, providing shelter, support, food and clothing to those affected by emergencies and natural disasters.

125. April 15, 1955. Three thousand New York City firefighters in observance of Firemen's Day

Nearly 3,000 firemen and officers were honored with a ticker-tape parade in April 1955 in observance of Firemen's Day in New York City. The procession, led for the second time by Fire Commissioner Edward Cavanaugh Jr., included a display of antique fire parts and hoses on floats, like a steam pumper from a truck from 1892. Shortly after the parade, onlookers gathered to watch a demonstration atop an 85-foot high aerial ladder, after which Mayor Robert Wagner applauded the city's firefighters for their service and sacrifice. At the close of his remarks, Wagner recognized the decline in fires between 1954 and 1955, which he attributed to fire prevention programs undertaken by the Fire Department.

126. August 11, 1955. Order of the Knights of Pythias

The Order of the Knights of Pythias received a ticker-tape parade in August 1955. The international fraternal order was established in 1864 in Washington D.C. by Justus H. Rathbone, an early example of charitable membership clubs that flourished in the second half of the 19th century. Nearly 2,000 marchers and thousands more spectators from across the country gathered to celebrate the organization, including male and female members of the Dramatic Order of the Knights of Khorasan and the Nomads of Avrudaka. Wearing pantaloons and short jackets and various other renditions of colonial and regional garb, the marchers proceeded up Broadway to City Hall, led by grand marshal Abe Stark, president of the New York City Council and longtime Knights of Pythias member.

By the time of their ticker-tape parade, the New York lodge was renting part of their spectacular temple on West 70th St. to Decca Records, which built a studio where some of the era's most famous rock 'n' roll, blues, and jazz records were recorded. Today, the Order has over 2,000 lodges in the United States and around the world, with a total membership of over 50,000 people.

127. November 4, 1955. Carlos Castillo Armas, President of Guatemala

While visiting the United States on a personal invitation from President Dwight Eisenhower, President of Guatemala Carlos Castillo Armas received a ticker-tape parade in New York City. The president's visit followed his overthrow of the left-wing government of Jacobo Arbenz Guzman in June 1954. City officials and spectators celebrated Armas's victory, labeling him a hero "who rid his country of the menace of communism." Armas accepted New York's welcome with the message that he and his people felt closer to the American people than ever.

The events that had led up to Armas's coup began in 1944, when the Guatemalan revolution overthrew the dictatorship of Jorge Ubico and established a democracy for the first time in the nation's history. By 1950, the Guatemalan government, under the leadership of elected

President Jacobo Arbenz, launched a land reform movement that took away some of the land controlled by United Fruit Company, an American-owned company. The leaders of the company used inside influence to pressure the U.S. government to take action, arguing that the appropriation of the land was a sign that Guatemala was allying with Communists in the Cold War. The ties between United Fruit and the Eisenhower administration were extraordinary. United States Secretary of State John Foster Dulles's former law firm, Sullivan and Cromwell, had represented United Fruit and his brother Allen Dulles was the director of the CIA and a board member of United Fruit. The result was the creation of a covert CIA operation to remove Arbenz from power. The operation included disseminating propaganda, bombing with unmarked planes throughout Guatemala, and organizing an army of Guatemalan refugees and mercenaries, led by Castillo Armas.

The culmination was a coup d'etat that established a ruling military junta with Armas as president. The regime executed suspected communists and restored the land to the United Fruit Company. Less than two years after his visit to New York, President Armas was assassinated by a palace guard, ushering a period of turmoil that culminated in the Guatemalan Civil War (1960-1996).

128. December 9, 1955. Luis Batlle Berres, President of Uruguay

In December 1955, President of Uruguay Luis Batlle Berres received a ticker-tape parade in New York City as part of his diplomatic visit to the United States, in a celebration that was so extravagant that Battle was reportedly admitted to the hospital in Chicago a few days after the reception for exhaustion. While New Yorkers and Mayor Robert Wagner praised the president for defeating communism in Uruguay, Batlle criticized the United States for supporting "strongman" governments in Latin America that served as "breeding grounds" for Communism. Batlle further encouraged President Eisenhower to practice fair trade and remove trade obstacles on Uruguay, including the newly instated tariff barrier against Uruguayan wool. If Eisenhower refused to lift the tariff, Battle asserted, his nation would stop buying American products.

President Batlle Berres was an advocate for democracy and civil liberties over the course of his political career. A member of a political dynasty, he had entered the Uruguayan Congress in 1923 as a member of the Chamber of Deputies and eventually served as its president from 1943 to 1945. In 1946, Batlle was elected Vice President, and he succeeded the President, Tomas Berreta, after Berreta died in office in 1947. Batlle remained President until 1951, when Uruguay adopted a new government system with a nine-man executive branch council; Batlle was one of the members and served as President on a rotating basis.

During his political career, Batlle, also a prominent journalist, founded the newspaper *Accion* (1948) and the radio station *Ariel*, which he used to voice his political opinions and support of democracy. His simultaneous outspoken criticism of the United States and championing of

economic development and democracy made him both celebrated and criticized at the time of his death. His son Jorge Batlle Ibanez went on to become president of Uruguay in 2000.

129. March 12, 1956. Giovanni Gronchi, President of Italy

Giovanni Gronchi became the first Italian president to receive a ticker-tape parade when he visited New York City during his official trip to the United States in 1956. His four-day stop in New York marked the final leg of his goodwill tour before returning to Rome. Nearly 140,000 spectators gathered to watch the procession make its way up Broadway to City Hall, where Mayor Robert Wagner awarded Gronchi the City's Medal of Honor. According to *The New York Times*, Gronchi's tribute was symbolic of Italy's recent admission to the United Nations and the maintenance of friendly ties between the United States and Italy in the aftermath of World War II. For Gronchi, however, the trip was meant to encourage the U.S. to take a more active role in the Italian economy through loans and investments in Italian goods.

President Gronchi's political career began in the aftermath of World War I, when he helped found the Popular Party, a Catholic political party, and was elected a deputy. Gronchi served in the Parliament in 1919 and 1921 and as the Undersecretary of Industry and Commerce under Benito Mussolini in 1923. In 1924 Gronchi became the leader of the Popular Party, joined the Aventine Secession—a boycott of Parliament by the anti-fascist opposition to Mussolini—and removed himself from politics. After World War II he returned to politics, again serving as a deputy and minister of commerce and industry. By 1946 he was elected to the Constitutional Assembly, he was the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies by 1948, and in 1955 he was elected President of Italy, a position he held until 1962.

Gronchi's presidency was marked by controversy. He failed in his efforts to bring left-wing parties back into the national government and he made a controversial trip to the Soviet Union in 1960, which alienated anti-Communists at home and abroad.

130. May 23, 1956. Sukarno, President of Indonesia

Ahmed Sukarno (born Kusno Sosrodihardjo), the first President of Indonesia, received a ticker-tape parade in New York in 1956 as a part of his 19-day state visit to the United States. Widely considered the leader of the Indonesian independence movement, Sukarno expressed his opposition to Dutch colonialism as early as 1929, when he spent two years in jail for challenging Dutch control. Sukarno spent the next ten years in exile until 1942, when he welcomed Japanese invasion in the archipelago in the hopes they would help liberate the Indonesian people. When Japanese defeat seemed imminent, however, Sukarno declared Indonesian independence and finally succeeded in transferring sovereignty to the Indonesian people from the Dutch in December 1949.

As President, Sukarno lived a lavish lifestyle and ultimately dismantled parliamentary democracy and free enterprise in Indonesia in favor of what he called "Guided Democracy" and "Guided Economy," effectively establishing himself as dictator. Endemic corruption scandals

and controversial economic policies brought on numerous assassination attempts and rampant inflation. Sukarno increasingly aligned himself with the PKI, Indonesia's powerful Communist Party, and by 1965 he had broken ties with the United States and withdrew from the United Nations, despite the U.S. having lent nearly a trillion dollars to Indonesia's economy. The tensions culminated in a British- and American-backed military coup in 1965 that brought mass executions of at least half a million Indonesians and eventually replaced Sukarno with General Suharto.

131. August 30, 1956. Three thousand volunteer firefighters attending the 84th annual convention of the New York State Firemen's Association

In August 1956 nearly 125,000 spectators gathered to watch 3,000 volunteer firefighters and their wives make their way up Broadway in a ticker-tape parade honoring the 84th annual convention of the New York State Firemen's Association. The volunteer firemen—or "vamps," as they were called—got their name from the bright-colored socks the volunteer firefighters used to wear in the bucket-passing days. They hailed from 40 towns and villages across New York State. Each volunteer unit walked with their associated fire truck and car, all followed by the New York City Fire and Police Departments.

Originally founded in 1872, the New York Firemen's Association was established in an effort to support, train and educate volunteer firemen. Today, the Association is headquartered in Albany and includes over 40,000 members.

132. May 2, 1957. Sixty-two U.S. Navy and Marine veterans of World War II and the Korean War

A group of 62 U.S. Navy and Marine veterans of World War II and the Korean War received a hero's welcome and ticker-tape parade upon their arrival in New York City in May 1957. The tribute to the military veterans attracted more than 500,000 spectators. The navy and marine heroes included 51 admirals and Marine Corps generals and 10 Medal of Honor recipients. Among those honored were Admiral William F. Halsey, retired navy commander of the Third Fleet during World War II who had been previously honored with a ticker-tape parade in 1946, and Sergeant Albert Ireland of Cold Spring, New York, an enlisted marine and recipient of nine Purple Hearts, two bronze stars, and eight battle stars. Following the procession up Broadway, Mayor Robert Wagner awarded the veterans citations at a City Hall ceremony. In addition to witnessing the ticker-tape parade, the public was also encouraged to visit the 17 warships and aircraft carriers arriving into New York Harbor, like the 35,000 ton *Valley Forge* stationed at Pier 68.

133. May 13, 1957. Ngo Dinh Diem, President of South Vietnam

The President of South Vietnam Ngo Dinh Diem received a ticker-tape parade while visiting New York City in 1957. Hundreds of thousands gathered to watch Diem make his way up Broadway to City Hall, where Mayor Robert Wagner awarded him with the first Richard E. Byrd

Memorial Award for "inspired leadership." President Diem used the visit to express his gratitude for the United States' continued aid to South Vietnam in the fight against Communism.

Diem's political career had begun in 1933, when he took a position as emperor Bay Dai's Minister of the Interior, although he resigned the same year and withdrew from politics for the next 12 years. In 1945, Diem returned to politics briefly. Upon his return, Communist leader Ho Chi Minh invited him to join his Democratic Republic of (North) Vietnam. Diem refused to join and traveled abroad to the United States in self-imposed exile. Ten years later, after the Geneva Accords partitioned Vietnam into North and South, Diem returned once again to politics, this time to serve as the prime minister of the Republic of (South) Vietnam. Backed by the United States, Diem ousted the emperor and proclaimed himself president of South Vietnam one year later.

Despite utilizing U.S. aid to resettle North Vietnam refugees in South Vietnam, Diem's autocratic regime soon suffered from political dissension, especially among the Buddhist majority and alleged Communist insurgents. President Diem's alienation of the South Vietnamese Buddhist populace weakened support for his government and led to an uprising. The strikes and protests against Diem caused the United States to withdraw support for the President, and in 1963 Diem's generals assassinated him and his brother in a military coup d'état.

134. July 2, 1957. Capt. Alan J. Villiers and the crew of the replica ship *Mayflower II*

On July 2, 1957, Australian Captain Alan J. Villiers and his 21-man crew received a ticker-tape parade after docking *Mayflower II* in New York Harbor. The replica of the 17th-century *Mayflower*—the ship that brought the Pilgrims to what became Massachusetts—was built in Devon, England two years prior. The project was a collaboration of the Plimoth Plantation museum in Massachusetts and English journalist Warwick Charlton. After the ship was completed, Captain Villiers sailed *Mayflower II* from Devon to Plymouth and then on to New York City to recreate the original *Mayflower*'s voyage across the Atlantic. Setting sail on April 20, the ship arrived in New York City two months and eleven days later, on July 1, 1957. For the English and American people, the *Mayflower II* symbolized the ongoing alliance and collaboration between the United Kingdom and the United States.

After arriving at Pier 81, *Mayflower II* docked and opened the replica's doors for public viewing. Captain Villiers and crew—donning historical Pilgrim garb and tall black hats—made their way from the Battery to City Hall in a procession led by military bands and city officials. Today, the ship is being restored at the Henry B. du Pont Preservation Shipyard in Mystic, Connecticut, set to return permanently to Plymouth for the 400th anniversary of the pilgrims' arrival in 2020.

135. July 11, 1957. Althea Gibson, Wimbledon women's champion

In July 1957, tennis champion Althea Gibson became the second African American (after track-star Jesse Owens) and the first black woman to receive a ticker-tape parade in New York

City for her victory at Wimbledon, England's women's tennis championship. Nearly 100,000 New Yorkers gathered to watch the Harlem native make her way from the Battery to City Hall, where Mayor Robert Wagner lauded her athletic accomplishments.

Gibson's tennis career began in 1941, when she began playing at the Harlem River Tennis Courts. After winning a few local tournaments sponsored by the American Tennis Association, she attended college on a sports scholarship and graduated in 1953. Despite her success, Gibson was barred from competing in the world's best tournaments because of her race. It was not until former tennis star Alice Mable wrote an article in 1951 exposing the sport for denying Gibson entry to compete that Wimbledon extended an invitation to Gibson. By 1953, she was ranked seventh in the United States; in 1956, she won the French Open; and in 1957 and 1958 she won Wimbledon and the U.S. Open, respectively. Those same years, Gibson became the first African American to be voted "Female Athlete of the Year" by the Associated Press and in 1971 she was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame. Today, Gibson is remembered not only as a trailblazer and first great African-American women's tennis player, but also as an international symbol of black achievement in a time of systematic racial segregation.

136. October 21, 1957. Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

Queen Elizabeth II ended her 1957 state visit to the United States in New York City, where she received a ticker-tape parade and 15-hour celebration. More than a million spectators gathered to watch the Queen's procession make its way from the Battery to City Hall, where she was honored with two 21-gun salutes. Before making a formal address at the United Nations, the Queen took in the sights, including the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State Building, and the replica of the *Mayflower*. The visit marked Elizabeth's first visit to New York.

The Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland took the throne after her father's death, on February 6, 1952; she was not the presumptive heir, however, until her uncle, Edward VIII, abdicated the throne to Elizabeth's father, King George VI, in 1936. Ten years later, in 1947, Elizabeth married her distant cousin Philip Mountbatten, and the following year she gave birth to their first son, Prince Charles of Wales, at Buckingham Palace. After her official coronation in June 1953, Queen Elizabeth conducted a series of state visits across the United States, Europe, Canada, and India, and in 1968 she became the first reigning British monarch to visit South America. Despite eroding popular support for the royal family in the 1990s after a sequence of separations and deaths, Queen Elizabeth and the royal family's role in the public imagination rebounded in the early 2000s with the marriages of Prince William to Catherine Middleton (2011) and Prince Harry to Meghan Markle (2018). In 2012, Queen Elizabeth celebrated her "Diamond Jubilee," marking 60 years on the throne and making her the longest-reigning monarch—and one of the richest women—in British history.

137. May 20, 1958. Van Cliburn, first winner of Moscow's International Tchaikovsky Piano Competition

Harvey Lavan "Van" Cliburn Jr. became the first musician to earn a ticker-tape parade in 1958 when he returned home victorious from Moscow's International Tchaikovsky Piano Competition. The 23-year-old Texan's 1,200-marcher procession was attended by some 100,000 New Yorkers eager to celebrate Cliburn for his symbolic victory over the Soviet competition in the midst of the Cold War. The media labeled the concert pianist "the Texan who conquered Russia," making him an overnight celebrity. Despite Clibrun's best efforts to share his credit with Soviet conductor and mentor Kirill P. Kondrashin, Mayor Robert Wagner applauded Cliburn for single handedly helping to "eliminate barriers that sometimes arise between people of different cultures." The mayor particularly noted Cliburn's mastery of his signature piece, Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, which the musician also played the evening before, at his post-competition concert at Carnegie Hall.

Cliburn's musical career began at a young age, but it was not until the pianist received the Leventritt Foundation Award in 1954 that he rose to stardom, debuting with multiple orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic. At the age of 17 Cliburn accepted a scholarship from Juilliard and moved to New York. In 1957 he entered the first Tchaikovsky competition with the help of a $1,000 grant from the Martha Baird Rockefeller Aid to Music program. Following his victory, Cliburn signed a contract with RCA Victor, recorded his solo, and toured the United States. In 1961, he helped found the First Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. By the late 1960s, however, Cliburn performed less and less, and he officially retired from the concert stage in 1978. Cliburn died in 2013.

138. June 20, 1958. Theodor Heuss, President of the Federal Republic of Germany

Theodor Heuss received a ticker-tape parade in New York City during his state visit to the United States in 1958. In a severe rainstorm, some 60,000 people gathered to watch the President's motorcade procession make its way up Broadway to City Hall, where the foreign dignitary was awarded the city's Medal of Honor. As the first president of West Germany, Heuss thanked New Yorkers for allowing their city to serve as a safe haven for the many Germans who escaped Nazi Germany. In fact, Heuss used the visit as an opportunity to discuss reparations to Jewish victims of Hitler's regime with President Eisenhower. His requests were addressed, in part, when the Ford Foundation awarded Heuss a million dollar grant for the Free University of Berlin.

Prior to entering politics, Heuss earned a degree in political science and worked as a newspaper editor in Berlin. During the Weimar period, he served in Germany's federal lower house, the Reichstag, holding his position from 1924 to 1928 and again from 1930 to 1933. Despite voting to grant Hitler emergency power, he left government when Hitler came to power, and although he did not become an active member of the German resistance, he was targeted as an opponent of the regime: Hitler had his writing burned as a part of the Nazi book-burning campaign.

At the close of World War II, Heuss returned to public life as the leader and founder of the Free Democratic Party (FDP), serving as a parliamentary council member and the party's leader until 1949. It was at this time that Heuss helped draft postwar West Germany's new constitution. On

September 12, 1949, Heuss was elected West Germany's first president and he was re-elected with little opposition in 1954. President Heuss retired in 1959 and died four years later.

139. June 23, 1958. Carlos P. Garcia, President of the Philippines

In 1958, New Yorkers celebrated the arrival of Philippines President Carlos P. Garcia with a ticker-tape parade. Although known as an ardent nationalist, President Garcia sought to capitalize on his working relationship with the United States during his visit, urging the American people to invest their capital into the Philippines' development of natural resources. Just two months later, he introduced his Filipino First policy, meant to combat American power by giving priority to Filipinos in economic and industrial development over foreign investors.

Garcia first entered politics in 1925, serving three terms in the Philippines House of Representatives and three terms as the Governor of the province of Bohol, beginning in 1933. In 1941, he was elected to the Senate, but the outbreak of World War II and Japanese occupation of the Philippines prevented him from serving. Instead, Garcia became a guerrilla leader, narrowly escaping capture on numerous occasions. After America granted the Philippines independence in 1946, Garcia returned to the Senate as minority floor leader, and in 1953 he was elected Vice President on the Nationalist Party ticket. When President Ramon Magsayay's plane crashed in 1957 Garcia succeeded him, becoming the eight president of the Philippines. President Garcia was re-elected in 1958 for a four-year term, during which time his administration was accused of corruption and graft. The president lost his bid for re-election in 1961 to his vice president and opposition party candidate Diosdado Macapagal, and he withdrew from politics.

140. August 27, 1958. Rear Adm. Hyman G. Rickover, Cmdr. William R. Anderson, and the crew of the *Nautilus*, the first nuclear submarine

A quarter-of-a-million New Yorkers gathered on August 27, 1958 to honor the crew of the first nuclear submarine, *Nautilus*, with a ticker-tape parade. The crew, led by the submarine's developer, Rear Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, and *Nautilus* captain, Commodore William R. Anderson, stopped periodically on their way up Broadway to offer rides to some of the women lining the parade route. Once they arrived at City Hall, Mayor Robert Wagner awarded Rickover and Anderson gold Medals of Honor and the crew scrolls for distinguished service.

In July 1951 Congress authorized the construction of the world's first nuclear-powered submarine. *Nautilus*'s keel was laid by President Harry S. Truman in 1952, launched nearly eighteen months later in January 1954, and on September 30, 1954, *Nautilus* became the United States Navy's first nuclear powered ship. The submarine made one of its most important top secret missions, "Operation Sunshine," in July 1958 when it became the first ship to cross the North Pole, the feat that earned the 116-man crew a ticker-tape parade. Following that mission, *Nautilus* underwent a variety of missions, voyages, and testing programs, and in 1979 made its

final voyage. Today, the nuclear submarine is on display at the Submarine Force Museum in Groton, Connecticut.

The completion of *Nautilus* would not have been possible without Rear Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, otherwise known as the "Father of the Nuclear Navy." One of the U.S. Navy's premier naval officers and engineers, Rickover was known for his work on the Manhattan Project, as well as the Atomic Energy Commission. Despite earning a controversial reputation for his abrasiveness and his outspokenness late in life against nuclear power, Rickover's leading role in the U.S. Navy allowed him to stay on active duty beyond the normal retirement age.

141. January 29, 1959. Dr. Arturo Frondizi, President of Argentina

Dr. Arturo Frondizi became the first Argentinian president to visit New York and receive a ticker-tape parade during his state visit in 1959. Three hundred thousand spectators gathered to watch Frondizi and his wife make their way in a motorcade procession from the Battery to City Hall. The President's trip occurred just one year after winning Argentina's 1958 presidential election on his own Intransigent Radical Civic Union party ticket.

Frondizi's political career began in the 1920s while he was attending law school at the University of Buenos Aires. As one of the more vocal opponents of Argentinian dictator Juan Perón, Frondizi participated in countless demonstrations against the Perón regime. In 1946, Frondizi helped draft the progressive Declaration of Avellaneda for the Radical Civic Union, which facilitated his election to the Chamber of Deputies in the 1946 elections. Five years later, Frondizi ran as Vice President on a ticket with fellow Radical Civic Union party member Ricardo Balbin, but the pair were defeated by President Perón. It was at this time Frondizi split from Balbin and his party to form a New Leftist faction, the Intransigent Radical Civic Union. Following the military coup d'etat that overturned Perón's government in 1955, Argentina elected Frondizi president in the 1958 elections, making him the first civilian head of state in 20 years.

As President, Frondizi passed austerity measures that, while unpopular, helped trigger Argentina's economic resurgence. His downfall, however, occurred when he secretly met with Cuban dictator Fidel Castro and Che Guevara in 1961 to help mediate Cuba's dispute with the United States. The meeting, and the President's implicit recognition of Communism, prompted the military to withdraw their support from Frondizi's administration, leading to his forced resignation in 1962. Years later, Frondizi claimed that American military strategists were behind his being deposed.

142. February 10, 1959. Willy Brandt, Mayor of West Berlin

The Mayor of West Berlin, Willy Brandt, received a ticker-tape parade in New York City during his visit to the United States in February 1959. Despite the pouring rain, thousands attended Brandt's parade hoping to applaud the leader for withstanding Communism threats in Berlin. Brandt first entered politics as a teenager, when he joined the Socialist Party of Germany in

1930. Just three years later, however, Brandt changed his birth name (Herbert Ernst Frahm) and fled Germany to escape the Nazi regime, first to Norway, and then to Sweden, where he lived until 1945. Brandt returned to Germany after World War II and once again entered politics, this time holding various offices within the Social Democratic Party and the German parliament (1949). In 1957, Brandt was elected Mayor of West Berlin. He led the city during the Berlin Crisis of 1961, which culminated in the construction of the Berlin Wall. He held the position until 1966. During his tenure, Brandt ran twice, unsuccessfully, for Chancellor (1961 and 1965).

Brandt is today also remembered for his later accomplishments, having served as West Germany's vice chancellor and foreign minister in 1966 and chancellor in 1969. As chancellor, Brandt implemented a policy of "Ostpolitik" (New Eastern Policy) under which he worked to improve West Germany's relations with the Eastern bloc countries. While Ostpolitik was considered controversial in West Germany, Brandt's diplomacy earned him the title of "peace chancellor" and in 1971, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. In fact, Brandt was one of the few German politicians who vocalized his support for the reunification of Germany. His leadership came to an end in 1974, however, when he resigned after discovering one of his personal assistants was an East German spy. The chancellor died in 1992, just three years after the collapse of the Berlin Wall.

143. March 13, 1959. José María Lemus, President of El Salvador

One hundred and fifty thousand New Yorkers braved the cold to watch El Salvador's President José María Lemus receive a ticker-tape parade during his visit to New York City in 1959. The trip accompanied Lemus's tour of the United States, during which time he visited with President Eisenhower to discuss United States--El Salvador relations. President Lemus used the visit as an opportunity to appeal for foreign investment to develop industries in El Salvador's agriculture-driven economy. The program of international cooperation, he argued, would help to unite the two countries in their effort to uphold democracy and combat Communism.

Declining commodity prices led to popular and political opposition, and Lemus's politics became increasingly repressive. In 1960, a year and a half after Lemus's visit to the United States, anti-Lemus demonstrations led by members of the General Association of University Students triggered calls to remove the president from power; that October he was ousted by a military coup. The bloodless overthrow replaced Lemus with a six-man Junta consisting of three army officers and three civilian professionals. Citing Lemus's failure to uphold El Salvador's 1950 constitution and additional repressive measures, the Junta defended their participation in the insurrection and promised the restoration of democracy to El Salvador, including the recognition of all political parties. Lemus fled to Costa Rica, where he lived with his family until his death in 1993. But the Junta that overthrew him was accused of Communist leanings and in the end ruled the country for just three months, when it was overthrown by a U.S.-backed military coup.

144. March 20, 1959. Sean T. O'Kelly, President of Ireland

Sean T. O'Kelly became the first Irish President to visit the United States while in office—and the first to receive a ticker-tape parade—when he came for a two-week tour of the nation in 1959. An estimated 400,000 people lined the streets of Broadway to watch O'Kelly's procession make its way to City Hall, where Mayor Robert Wagner awarded the President with the City's Medal of Honor for being a "patriot and soldier of the Irish Revolution." Some historians argue that the visit was symbolic of the United States' recognition of the Irish Republic and its forgiveness of Ireland for staying neutral during World War II. O'Kelly's visit would be one of the last he would make as president before retiring from public life just months later.

Ireland's second president—and the first to be elected by popular ballot—O'Kelly came into politics at a young age, when in 1905 he was one of the founding members of Sinn Fein, a political party dedicated to Irish independence. In 1906, he took his first position in government as an alderman of the Dublin Company, and by 1916 he had become an officer in the Irish volunteer army that fought against Britain in the Easter Week Rebellion. After serving a one-year prison sentence for his participation, O'Kelly was elected to the British Parliament to represent Dublin. But the revolutionary and 72 others refused to be recognized as anything less than an Irish Parliament, and in 1920, O'Kelly became speaker of the First Dail Eireann, an outlawed Irish Assembly that, as its first order of business, opposed the 1921 Irish-British Treaty that established Ireland as the "Irish Free State."

In the aftermath of the Irish Civil War (1922-23), O'Kelly and fellow agitators split from Sinn Fein and joined Eamon de Valera's Fianna Fail in 1926. The party won control of the Irish government in 1932, facilitating O'Kelly's rise from various ministerial positions in the 1930s to President in 1945. It was O'Kelly who helped Ireland sever its last formal link with the British Commonwealth when Ireland achieved Republic status in 1949, and in 1952 he was re-elected to a second term without opposition.

145. May 29, 1959. Baudouin I, King of the Belgians

A relatively small crowd of 25,000 New Yorkers gathered on May 29, 1959 to welcome Baudouin, the Belgian King, with a ticker-tape parade. The notoriously shy King visited New York as a part of his three-week tour of the United States, marking his first state visit outside of Belgium since ascending the throne in 1951. Son of King Leopold III and Queen Astrid, Baudouin came to power when his father abdicated the throne in 1950. King Leopold's abdication followed criticism of his decision to surrender Belgium to the Nazis when they invaded in 1940. The King faced additional controversy for remarrying a Belgian commoner whose family were known Nazi sympathizers. When Leopold stepped down in 1950, Baudouin acted as head of state until July 17, 1951, when he became the Fifth King of Belgium, a hereditary position governed by the nation's constitution.

The 20-year-old Baudouin inherited a divided country, torn between the French-speaking Walloons and the Dutch-speaking Flemish. As King, he helped to unify his people as well as

restore confidence in the Belgian monarchy, but most notably, Baudouin declared the Congo's independence from Belgium in June 1960. The King lived the majority of his life out of public eye, with the exception of making headlines in 1990 when he suspended being King for a day after he refused, on religious grounds, to sign into law an act permitting abortion. The Belgian cabinet subsequently assumed his power, enacted the law, and signed him back into power. Three years later, Baudouin died of heart failure and, without an heir, was succeeded by his brother, Prince Albert.

146. September 11, 1959. Beatrix, Princess of the Netherlands

Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands received a ticker-tape parade in New York during her visit to the United States in 1959. The 21-year-old heiress's stop in New York was made, in part, to celebrate Dutch explorer Henry Hudson's landing in America 350 years earlier. As a part of the celebration, Beatrix arrived in New York Harbor aboard the Holland--American liner *Rotterdam*, as a part of its maiden voyage. Nearly 200,000 spectators gathered to watch the Princess's procession, accompanied by Dutch and American servicemen, make its way from the Battery to City Hall.

The eldest of four daughters, Beatrix was born to Queen Juliana and Bernhard of Lippe-Biesterfeld in 1938. She and her family were exiled to Canada during World War II when the Germans invaded the Netherlands, and she remained there throughout the war years. In 1948, when Beatrix's mother Juliana became Queen, Beatrix became the presumptive heir to the Netherlands throne under the nation's constitutional monarchy system. Her betrothal to German diplomat Claus George Willem Otto Frederik Geert von Amsberg in 1965 concerned many in the nation, as Amsberg had previously served as a member of the Hitler Youth and German army. The diplomat had been cleared by an Allied court, however, and the two were married in 1966 amid rioting in Amsterdam. In the ensuing years Beatrix's production of three male heirs overshadowed much of this hostility, and she gained a reputation as a popular and respected monarch. It was not until 1980 that Queen Juliana abdicated the throne to Beatrix, who served as Queen of the Netherlands from 1980 to 2013, when she in turn abdicated in favor of her son, Willem-Alexander. On January 30, 2018, Queen Beatrix celebrated her 80th birthday.

147. October 14, 1959. Adolfo Lopez Mateos, President of Mexico

The President of Mexico, Adolfo Lopez Mateos, was welcomed to New York with a ticker-tape parade during his visit in 1959. The theme of his visit, the President asserted, was Mexican-American friendship. After Mateos's motorcade procession made its way up Broadway to City Hall, Mayor Robert Wagner awarded the president the City's Medal of Honor and applauded his efforts to work with the United States. In return, President Mateos emphasized that Mexico was not looking for gifts, but rather an increase in the U.S.'s import of Latin American raw materials.

Over the course of his presidency (1958-64), Mateos presided over an economic boom. He encouraged private enterprise, helped Mexico become self-sufficient in oil and steel, built up the

middle class, and expanded the economy through U.S. foreign investments. President Mateo also sided with the United States during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, despite maintaining "independent" diplomatic relations with Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

In his early career Mateos earned graduate and law degrees, which eventually led to him taking a job as a secretary for the federal district in Mexico City and joining the National Revolutionary Party. By 1946, he was elected a state senator and in 1951 he helped write the Mexican-U.S. Treaty on migrant labor. By the time of the 1958 presidential elections, Mateos was a clear front runner, receiving over 85 percent of the vote. After retiring from the presidency after one term, as mandated by Mexican law, Mateos went on to head the Olympic Organizational Committee. He died in 1969, the year after the Mexico City Olympics.

148. November 4, 1959. Sékou Touré, President of Guinea

In November 1959 the President of Guinea, Sékou Touré, took a 16-day trip to the United States, and was greeted in New York with a ticker-tape parade attended by over 200,000 people. While many speculated the reason for his visit was to seek financial assistance from the United States, Touré assured that his people called for "unity, not charity," and asked only for the hope that the American people would understand Africa's ongoing struggle against colonialism.

Just one year prior, in October 1958, Guinea had declared itself independent from France. It became the first and only French colony in Africa to choose complete independence and refuse to join a new federal community of French colonies proposed by French President Charles de Gaulle in 1958. Touré, who organized the referendum that led to this move, declared that "Guinea prefers poverty in freedom to riches in slavery." Shortly after, Guinea elected Touré as the Republic's first president, a position he held in tandem with the position of Prime Minister until 1972. After Guinea severed ties with the French, France withdrew its financial support, threatening economic breakdown in the already poverty-ridden republic. Touré responded to the backlash by accepting aid from Communist and Western nations alike, including the Soviet Union and the United States.

His long presidency was marked by oppression, tyranny, and torture, triggering over one million Guineans to flee to neighboring countries and leading Amnesty International to charge Touré's government with violating human rights. Touré's harsh domestic policies and staunch African nationalism earned him the title of "Elephant." By the late 1970s, he had reversed his diplomatic course, facilitating the end of hostility between Guinea and France, and reaching out for American private investment.

149. March 9, 1960. Carol Heiss, women's Olympic figure-skating champion

Carol Heiss, 1960 world and Olympic figure-skating champion, was welcomed home from the Squaw Valley Olympics with a ticker-tape parade in New York City to celebrate her victory. Two hundred and fifty thousand spectators gathered to congratulate the Olympian as her motorcade procession made its way from Broadway to City Hall, where Mayor Robert Wagner applauded

Heiss for inspiring New York's youth and dubbed the day of her return "Olympic Day" in New York City. The 20-year-old New York University sophomore and New York City native enjoyed the festivities with her brother and sister, both figure skaters.

Heiss's 1960 Olympic victory followed her first Olympic win at the 1956 Cortina d'Ampezzo Olympics in Italy, when she took home a silver medal, second to fellow American Tenley Albright. Four years later, Heiss became the first woman to land a double axel in competition. Just weeks after the competition she married fellow American figure skater and 1956 Olympic gold medal winner Hayes Alan Jenkins, retired from professional skating, and returned to school. In her later years, Heiss returned to the rink as a distinguished skating coach.

150. April 11, 1960. Dr. Alberto Lleras Camargo, President of Colombia

An estimated 150,000 New Yorkers gathered along Broadway to celebrate the arrival of Colombian President Dr. Alberto Lleras Camargo to New York with a ticker-tape parade in 1960. The president's trip to New York was part of a 13-day state visit to the United States, during which time Lleras, the former Secretary General of the Organization of American States, urged the nation to reappraise its policy on Latin America and help his country develop its economy. The statesman and his family received a rare 21-gun salute upon their arrival to City Hall, the first such salute since Queen Elizabeth's visit in 1957.

Lleras's political career began in 1929, when he was elected to the Bogotá City Council as a deputy assemblyman. He went on to hold numerous other governmental positions, including Secretary of the Colombian Liberal Party, congressman in the Colombian Chamber of Representatives in 1931, and Cabinet Secretary, Minister of Government, and Minister of Foreign Relations under President Alfonso López Pumarejo. Lleras further represented Colombia at the 1945 United Nations Conference in San Francisco, which formally established the organization, and when President López Pumarejo resigned that same year, Lleras served briefly as Colombia's acting president. It was not until 1958, however, that Lleras was elected the 20th President of Colombia, a position he held until 1962. As President, Lleras established the Latin American Free Trade Association in 1961 and the National Front, a pact dedicated to ending the partisan conflict known as La Violencia.

151. April 26, 1960. Charles de Gaulle, President of France

Charles de Gaulle received his second ticker-tape parade in New York during his visit to the United States in 1960, this time as the President of France. In 1945 de Gaulle had become president of France's provisional government, only to resign and briefly withdraw from politics in 1953. By January 1959, de Gaulle had entered political life once again as the founder and president of France's Fifth Republic, working to distance the nation from world superpowers like the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union.

Despite his efforts to keep Europe unified, de Gaulle went so far as to block Britain from the European Economic Community (now the European Union) because of its ties to the United

States, and in 1966 he pulled France out of NATO to distance his nation from the U.S. De Gaulle's foreign policies and staunch nationalism triggered multiple student and worker uprisings in May 1968, leading to his eventual resignation in April 1969. Though some critiqued (or celebrated) de Gaulle for being anti-American, he is predominately remembered today for his resistance to Nazi Germany, his establishment of France's Fifth Republic, and his ending of the Algerian War (by granting Algerian independence) in 1962.

152. May 2, 1960. Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev and Ratna Rajya Lakshmi Devi Shah, King and Queen of Nepal

Crowds estimated at 300,000 gathered in New York City on May 2, 1960, to greet the King and Queen of Nepal, Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev and Ratna Rajya Lakshmi Devi Shah, with a ticker-tape parade. The parade was the second held that week (the first being for French President Charles de Gaulle). The King and Queen's visit marked their first trip to the United States since Mahendra ascended Nepal's throne following the death of his father, King Tribhuvan, in 1955. And while Nepal became a constitutional monarchy under Mahendra, holding its first elections in 1959, the new King staged a coup in which he dismissed Parliament, dissolved the National Assembly, suspended Nepal's constitution, and imprisoned the ruling Prime Minister Bishweshwar Prasad Koirala in December 1960. In their place, he instituted a pyramid-style hierarchical form of government called the Panchayat System, which imposed direct rule, prohibited political parties, and ushered in a series of social, economic, and political reforms.

During his rule, Mahendra established arts, culture, and education centers, laid down the foundation of the East-West Highway (Mahendra Highway) that connected Nepal to neighboring countries, and created the New Civil Code, Muluki, in 1963, which protected the rights of women, children and the elderly. He was also responsible for Nepal's joining the United Nations in 1955, and for the nation's foreign policy of non-alignment and neutrality between China and India. Mahendra, the ninth Shah Dynasty emperor of Nepal, died in 1972, passing the throne to his son Birendra.

153. July 5, 1960. Bhumibol Adulyadej and Sirikit, King and Queen of Thailand

King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit of Thailand received a warm welcome and ticker-tape parade during their visit to New York City in July 1960. The pair were greeted by an estimated 750,000 people lined up along Broadway. King Bhumibol had become the ninth king of the Chakri dynasty in 1950, after his older brother, King Anana Mahidol, was found murdered in his bed. Months before his coronation, Bhumibol married Sirikit, and on May 5, 1950, he was officially crowned. While King Bhumibol wielded little direct political power (Thailand having abolished absolute monarchy in 1932), the majority of his people revered him and considered him the head of state and commander of the armed forces. King Bhumibol was responsible for negotiating the stop of multiple insurrections throughout his reign, including the 1973 protests

against dictator Generals Thanom Kittikachorn and Praphas Charusathien and 1992 protests against Prime Minister Suchinda Krapravoon. King Bhumibol passed away in 2016.

The Thai people shared equal respect for Queen Sirikit, who even served as queen regent for a brief time in 1956 when King Bhumibol entered a Buddhist monastery. Sirikit's advocacy for tolerance of Muslims, her work for Thailand's Red Cross, and her commitment to charitable work continue to be honored by the Thai people, so much so that Queen Sirikit's birthday is also celebrated as Mother's Day in Thailand. In 2006, King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit celebrated the 60th anniversary of the King's accession to the Thai throne. To this day, King Bhumibol and his consort remain Thailand's longest serving monarchs, holding the throne from 1950 up to his death in 2016. For his service and leadership of Thailand, the United Nations awarded King Bhumibol the UN's first Human Development Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006.

154. October 14, 1960. Frederick IX and Ingrid, King and Queen of Denmark

During their two-week visit to the United States, King Frederick IX and Queen Ingrid of Denmark stopped in New York City, where they were greeted by 250,000 New Yorkers and a ticker-tape parade. The King and Queen used the procession and City Hall ceremony as an opportunity to express Denmark's gratitude to the United States for the support provided through the Marshall Plan following World War II. Frederick noted that the funds helped Denmark rebuild its economy and begin transitioning from an agricultural economy to a more industrial one, opening investment opportunities to Western investors.

Both King Frederick and Queen Ingrid were popular monarchs in Europe. Frederick, who became Crown Prince in 1912, garnered public support when he and his father, Christian X, encouraged the Danish resistance movement against Nazi Germany. After marrying Princess Ingrid of Sweden in 1935, Frederick became acting regent for his father in 1942, a position he held until formally taking the throne upon his father's death in April 1947. With no male heirs, King Frederick, in order to secure his daughter's right to ascend the throne, signed a new constitution in June 1953 allowing female succession. Frederick and Ingrid further developed Denmark's economy, allowing women to enter the labor market and modernizing the nation. King Frederick's daughter Margrethe succeeded him upon his death in January 1972, while Queen Dowager Ingrid outlived her husband another 28 years, dying in November of 2000.

155. October 19, 1960. Senator John F. Kennedy, Democratic presidential nominee

The Democratic Party's presidential candidate, Senator John F. Kennedy, received a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival to New York City in October 1960. The Senator and his opponent, Vice President Richard Nixon, were visiting New York to participate in a presidential debate. Nixon did not receive a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival, a fact that both the Republican Party and Nixon protested as unequal treatment.

Indeed, Republican leaders in New York attempted to cancel Kennedy's ticker-tape parade. They failed, and the Senator's procession drew crowds estimated at well over one million people, some of whom broke through the police tape to shake the candidate's hand and storm his car. Mayor Robert Wagner referred to the event as "the greatest reception anybody has received in this section of the city in its history," and the Police Commissioner noted that it rivaled the crowds greeting aviator Charles Lindbergh's parade in 1927.

Before entering politics, Kennedy grew up in a large family outside of Boston. He attended Harvard and, with the outbreak of World War II, joined the navy. Kennedy served as a lieutenant in the South Pacific before returning home and winning a seat in Congress in Massachusetts's eleventh congressional district in 1946. He served three terms in the House of Representatives, and in 1952 he was elected to the United States Senate. Just weeks after his ticker-tape parade in 1960, Kennedy became the first Catholic—and the youngest man—ever elected President of the United States.

While the 35th President gained great popularity among the American people, undertaking noteworthy initiatives including the Peace Corps and space program, his administration faced threats both foreign and domestic. Antagonism with Communism, for example, came to a dangerous head in 1962 when Kennedy worked to resolve the Cuban Missile Crisis. The President's tenure was also notable for the steps taken to address racial discrimination—in particular when Kennedy first proposed a major civil rights bill to Congress in 1963. On November 21, 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald shot and killed President John F. Kennedy in Dallas.

156. November 2 1960. Dwight Eisenhower, President of the United States and Vice President Richard M. Nixon, Republican nominee for President

Vice President and Republican Presidential nominee Richard Nixon, alongside President Dwight D. Eisenhower, received a ticker-tape parade of their own a month after Democratic Presidential nominee John F. Kennedy's parade. The procession occurred after Republican Party members voiced their disappointment that Senator Kennedy had been recognized with a parade and Vice President Nixon had not. In support of his Vice President and his party's nominee, President Eisenhower accompanied Nixon on the campaign trail in New York, helping the candidate garner support despite the city's Democratic majority. While Nixon and Eisenhower's procession drew smaller crowds than did Kennedy's, Nixon took the opportunity to stress his political platform, placing foreign relations and democracy at the forefront of his campaign speech. Still, some spectators criticized Nixon for using President Eisenhower's celebrity to gain media attention. Even Mayor Robert Wagner remained in his office as the ticker-tape procession made its way to City Hall.

One week after Nixon's ticker-tape parade, John F. Kennedy defeated his opponent and was elected the 35th President of the United States. But Nixon's political career was far from over. Rather, the World War II veteran, U.S. Senator, and Vice President won the Republican nomination again in 1968, this time going on to defeat Vice President Hubert Humphrey. Among

his many accomplishments, the 37th President ended the Vietnam War and the draft, facilitated the first moon landing in 1969, established OSHA and the EPA, and became the first U.S. President to visit Communist China. Controversies also swirled around the administration, including the secret bombing of Cambodia and the suppression of political dissent, and shortly after his 1972 re-election Nixon's administration became mired in the Watergate scandal, which led to his eventual resignation under threat of impeachment in 1974.

157. May 11, 1961. Habib Bourguiba, President of Tunisia

The President of Tunisia, Habib Bourguiba, received a ticker-tape parade in 1961 during his state visit to the United States. The President's open-car procession attracted crowds estimated at over 200,000 people. Bourguiba used the celebration as an opportunity to stress the importance of friendly relations between the United States and Tunisia. Maintaining an alliance with America was important to Bourguiba, who had helped lead Tunisia to independence from France five years prior. The nationalist leader first became involved in Tunisia's fight for independence in 1927 and founded the Neo-Destour Party of Tunisia in 1934.

Although Bourguiba was repeatedly imprisoned throughout the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s for his political beliefs, his actions helped secure Tunisia's independence in 1956, when France signed a treaty abolishing the Tunisian monarchy and withdrew its forces from the country. Bourguiba was first elected prime minister in 1956, chosen president in 1957, and confirmed in general elections in 1959.

As president, Bourguiba championed political tolerance and women's rights; he outlawed polygamy and established a minimum age of consent for marriage. Just three years into office, however, Bourguiba entered Tunisia into a conflict with France over the French presence at a military base at Bizerte. The country also suffered from economic problems, including unemployment and inflation. Many criticized the pro-Western President, who responded with crackdowns on dissenters, including Islamic militants, and by the 1970s anti-government and anti-Bourguiba rioting intensified. Although he declared himself president for life in 1975, many considered Bourguiba to be no longer fit to govern Tunisia, and in 1987 he was deposed in a bloodless coup. One year after Bourguiba was deposed, Tunisia held its first free elections in the nation's history.

158. July 14, 1961. Mohammad Ayub Khan, President of Pakistan

Mohammad Ayub Khan, President of Pakistan, was honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York during his state visit in 1961. The purpose of Ayub's visit was to meet with President John F. Kennedy regarding Pakistan's ongoing border dispute with India over Kashmir. However, just days before his parade, Kennedy asserted that the United States had no intention of changing its military or economic policies regarding the border issue and urged Ayub to arrange a formal meeting with India.

The controversy dated back to 1947, when British India was partitioned into India and Pakistan. The 1947 partition ushered in nearly a decade of political turmoil in Pakistan, which eventually led to Pakistani President Iskander Mirza's exile in 1958, at which time Ayub, then chief martial law administrator, declared himself president. His reign was variously characterized as despotic and paternalistic; it included suppression of freedom of the press, price controls, and land reforms. Although in 1962 he replaced his own military dictatorship with an ostensibly liberalizing constitution, nevertheless power remained concentrated in his own hands. His policies in East Pakistan fueled the separatist movement that eventually led to war and independence for Bangladesh.

In the aftermath of Ayub's American visit, the United States began to rearm neighboring India, specifically after Communist China's invasion of northern India in 1962. Despite Ayub's warning to the American people that without foreign investment Pakistan would be overtaken by Communism, he subsequently fostered close relations with the Chinese, receiving substantial military aid from Communist forces. In 1965, Pakistan and India's dispute over Kashmir culminated in the outbreak of war. Although a U.N. ceasefire ended the fighting, the conflict led to discontent with Ayub's administration, and he resigned in March 1969.

159. September 22, 1961. Manuel Prado Ugarteche, President of Peru

Peruvian President Manuel Prado Ugarteche received a ticker-tape parade in New York during his 1961 visit to the United States. Arriving in the city to give a speech at the United Nations, the president used the occasion as an opportunity to express Peru's commitment to standing with the United States in its battle against Communism. A seasoned politician and banker, Prado came from a line of Peruvian politicians, including his father, who served as President in the late 19th century. Prado served a total of two terms as Peru's President, the first from 1939 to 1945 and the second from 1956 to 1962. Despite being supported by conservative and centrist groups, his re-election in 1956 came after promising to legalize APRA, an anti-Communist left-wing party that had been outlawed by the previous administration.

While Prado faced debilitating economic problems in his second term, he did move Peru towards a more inclusive democracy and was responsible for severing the nation's relations with the Fascist Axis powers during World War II. Yet just ten days before Prado's second term was up in 1962, a military junta deposed Prado's government in reaction to his refusal to invalidate a razor-thin election for his replacement, and had him arrested. He died of a heart attack five years later.

160. October 13, 1961. Gen. Ibrahim Abboud, Sudanese leader

As a part of his 11-day state visit, Sudanese leader General Ibrahim Abboud visited New York City, where he received a ticker-tape parade. During his visit, Abboud spoke to the United Nations General Assembly, where he urged the United States and Soviet Union to suspend

nuclear testing and negotiate disarmament. He further appealed to the U.N. to admit Communist China, asserting it was undemocratic to exclude them.

Abboud had come to power in the Sudan following a period of political and economic turmoil. Having served as Deputy Commander of the Sudanese Army in 1954, Commander-in-Chief of the Army in 1956, and General in 1957, Abboud led a bloodless military coup in November 1958 in which he ousted leader Abdullah Khalil and assumed control of the Sudanese government, suspending the constitution, eliminating political parties, and launching a program of economic development and pursuing a contentious program of Arabization and Islamization.

Abboud and his army had initially vowed to turn over their power to a civilian government as soon as order had been restored, prompting President John F. Kennedy's invitation to the United States in 1961. But they failed to deliver on that promise. Conflict escalated between the Arab Muslim north of the country and the south, where Christianity and tribal religions dominated, and by 1963 the country was on the verge of civil war. Increased public demonstrations and labor strikes forced Abboud to relinquish his power in October 1964, and he resigned a month later, ending military rule in the Sudan.

161. October 27, 1961. Capt. Thomas J. Walker, crew and builders of the USS *Constellation*, the world's largest aircraft carrier

On Navy Day, nearly one year after a historic fire that damaged the U.S.S. *Constellation* while under construction and took the lives of 50 workers, the world's largest aircraft carrier was recommissioned in New York City Harbor. The occasion was celebrated with a ticker-tape parade, during which tens of thousands gathered to watch Captain Thomas J. Walker and 1,500 members of the 4,100-man crew be honored for their service. Thousands more visited the carrier itself, celebrating *Constellation* as an "instrument of peace" and a new weapon in the Cold War. Outfitted with mobile fighting power and a four-acre floating airfield, the carrier was capable of launching 100 nuclear planes at a target over 1,200 miles away. Its 25 stories were the equivalent of five city blocks. It was the largest vessel in the Navy fleet until December 1961, when the Navy introduced the nuclear-powered U.S.S. *Enterprise*.

The first *Constellation* was commissioned in 1797 and sailed until 1853, while the second—a sloop designed by John Lenthall—was commissioned in 1855 and retired in 1955. Neither compared, however, to the third U.S.S. *Constellation*, affectionately known by its crew as "Connie." *Constellation* was built at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and first commissioned by the Navy on the day of its ticker-tape parade in 1961. Over the next decade, *Constellation* served in North Vietnam, South China, and the Western Pacific. The carrier's contributions earned it the Presidential Unit Citation, awarded by President Richard Nixon in 1972. Nearly ten years later, in 1981, President Ronald Reagan awarded the fleet the Presidential Flag and proclaimed it "America's Flagship." The *Constellation* underwent a total of 21 deployments to the Western Pacific by the time it was retired in 2003.

162. March 1, 1962. Lt. Col. John H. Glenn Jr., first American to orbit the earth

Astronaut and Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn Jr. was honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York when he became the first American to orbit the earth in 1962. An estimated four million spectators gathered to watch motorcades carrying Glenn and six fellow astronauts and their families make their way up Broadway to City Hall, reportedly in a sea of ticker tape so thick "that only specks of buildings could be seen through it." At City Hall, Mayor Robert Wagner awarded Glenn and the director of Project Mercury, Robert Gilruth, with the City's Medal of Honor and scrolls for distinguished service.

After serving as a Naval Aviator and Marine during World War II and the Korean War, John Glenn Jr. was selected as a Mercury astronaut and was assigned to the NASA Space Task Group in 1959. As one of the seven original Mercury astronauts, Glenn's NASA voyage on *Friendship 7* on February 20, 1962 not only made him an instant celebrity and national hero, but also solidified the United States' position in the space race with the Soviet Union, who had sent astronaut Yuri Gagarin into space to orbit the Earth in April 1961. Two years after his accomplishment, Glenn resigned from NASA and a decade later, in 1974, he won a seat in the U.S. Senate to represent Ohio, a position he held for four consecutive terms. John Glenn made history once again in 1998, when he returned to space aboard the space shuttle *Discovery*. His trip made him the oldest man in space and earned him his second ticker-tape parade in New York. The senator and astronaut died in 2016.

163. March 16, 1962. Ahmadou Ahidjo, President of Cameroon

The first President of Cameroon, Ahmadou Ahidjo, received a ticker-tape parade in New York during his five-day state visit to the United States, one of a string of heads of state of newly independent African nations to be so honored, a reflection of the postwar decolonization of Africa and the Cold War competition for their loyalty. Known as one of the founders of independent Africa, Ahidjo had served as President of Cameroon since it won its independence from France in 1960. First elected to Cameroon's First Assembly in 1947, Ahidjo served under the French government and won re-election in 1952 and 1956. He later went on to become Deputy Prime Minister in 1957 and Prime Minister in 1958 as leader of his own party, the Cameroonian Union. When Ahidjo secured Cameroon's independence in 1960, he became the new republic's President, a position he held for five consecutive terms,

During his tenure, President Ahidjo worked to build the Cameroonian economy and maintain peace between the nation's southern English-speaking and northern French speaking populations. His efforts were relatively successful until 1982, when he resigned, ending his 22-year rule and relinquishing control to Prime Minister Paul Biya. One year later, Biya accused Ahidjo of plotting against the new government and a Cameroon Court sentenced him to death in absentia. Ahidjo's sentence was eventually commuted and he lived out his remaining years in Senegal and southern France before passing away in 1998.

164. March 21, 1962. Sylvanus Olympio, President of Togo

Sylvanus Olympio, President of Togo, received a ticker-tape parade in New York while on an aid-seeking mission to the United States in March 1962 as part of his state visit to the United States. The visit occurred just two years after Togo achieved its independence from France in 1960 and one year after Olympio was elected President in 1961, and symbolized the United States' strategic interest in aligning the newly independent African nations with the West in the Cold War. Olympio, known to the Togolese people as "Mr. Togoland," had previously served as the West African coastal state's elected president of the first territorial assembly in 1946 and 1947, and as Prime Minister in 1958.

After leading Togo to independence, the statesman inherited mounting tension between Togo and Ghana. While Ghana president Kwame Nkrumah and Olympio once worked together to achieve African independence, the division of the Ewe people between French and British Togoland (which became independent Ghana in 1957) turned the leaders against each other, each accusing the other of harboring refugees conspiring against their respective regimes.

President Olympio's opposition to Nkrumah's policy of Pan-Africanism led him to denounce the President of Ghana as a "black imperialist" and prompted assassination attempts on the lives of both leaders. The increasing tension over these dynamics and Olympio's authoritarian governing style culminated in January 1963 when military insurgents shot and killed Olympio outside of the United States Embassy in Lome, Togo. The assassination and accompanying lightning coup were the first of a wave of military coups to occur in Africa in the 1960s.

165. April 5, 1962. João Goulart, President of Brazil

The Labor Party leader and President of Brazil João Goulart made a two-day visit to New York, where he was welcomed with a ticker-tape parade, as part of his trip to the United States to see President John F. Kennedy in April 1962. The left-wing populist served as president from 1961 to 1964, when he was deposed in a military coup.

Goulart's political career began in 1946, when he was elected to the Rio Grande do Sul state legislature. He soon became the disciple of Getulio Vargas, Brazilian President (1930-1945 and 1950-1954, when he committed suicide). Goulart served as Vargas's Minister of Labor, Industry, and Commerce, helping him gain national prominence and facilitating his own election as Vice President under President Juscelino Kubitschek in 1956 and again in 1961 under President Janio Quadros. In 1961, when Quadros resigned, Goulart became President despite strong opposition from the Brazilian military.

During Goulart's time as President, he struggled to contain inflation and usher in reforms in an increasingly factionalized nation. Contemporary historians argue that his actions convinced the armed forces that a military regime was needed in Brazil, and he is often characterized as a weak political leader. United States policymakers expressed their discontent with Goulart, most notably because of his suspected Communist ties. In the months before Goulart was deposed, the

U.S. dropped its aid to Goulart's government and cut back on its loans, and when the military government took over in April 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson conveyed his immediate and resounding approval. Goulart spent his remaining years in exile in Uruguay and Argentina before passing away in 1976.

166. April 12, 1962. New York Mets, new National League baseball team

An estimated 40,000 spectators gathered along lower Broadway to celebrate the return of National League baseball to New York City with a ticker-tape parade in April 1962. The founding of the New York Mets came five years after the departure of the New York Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers to California. Despite having lost their first game to the St. Louis Cardinals that season, the team joined the 1954 Giants as a local baseball team to enjoy being honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York. The Yankees, with the exception of the squad accompanying retiring Philadelphia Athletics' coach Connie Mack at his 1949 parade, would have to wait until 1977 to get their first dedicated parade . The 28 Met players, six coaches, and Mets manager Casey Stengel threw tens of thousands of plastic baseballs into the crowd as they made their way to City Hall. Although the Mets ended their first season with a 40-120 record—the most losses in a season since 1899—the team came won the World Series in 1969, just their eighth season in the league..

167. April 16, 1962. Mohammed Reza Pahlevi, Shah of Iran, and Empress Farah

The second ticker-tape parade for Mohammed Reza Pahlevi, the Shah of Iran, and his wife, Empress Farah, occurred during the couple's state visit to the United States in 1962. The Shah met with President John F. Kennedy in the days before the procession to discuss America's military aid to Iran and U.S. efforts to inoculate the nation from Soviet influence. Mohammed Reza further took the opportunity to promote economic development in Iran and encourage the United States to help transform Iran into a modern industrial society.

Earlier, in the 1950s, Shah Mohammed Reza's reign was threatened by the rise of Mohammad Mosaddeq, an Iranian nationalist whose popularity forced Mohammed to appoint him premier in 1951. It was not until 1953 that the Shah regained power, with the backing of the United States and the United Kingdom. By the 1960s and 1970s, however, discontent—both secular and religious—with the Shah's exercise of autocratic power, suppression of political opposition, and pro-Western foreign policy grew among Iranians. Rioting increased and in 1979, Shah Mohammed Reza fled the country. On April 1, 1979, Iran declared itself an Islamic republic. That same year Mohammed Reza came to the United States to be treated for cancer and soon after sought refuge in Cairo, where President Anwar el-Sadat granted him asylum until his death in 1980.

168. May 25, 1962. Félix Houphouet-Boigny, President of the Ivory Coast

President of the Ivory Coast Félix Houphouet-Boigny received a ticker-tape parade upon his arrival in New York in 1962. The President's visit was his first since taking office in 1960, when

the Ivory Coast won its independence from France. Houphouet-Boigny began his political career in the 1940s as a co-founder of the African Agricultural Syndicate, an organization of African planters trying to protect their interests as European settlement in Ivory Coast increased. In 1945 he converted the organization into the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast, or PDCI, and the same year he was elected a deputy to the French National Assembly. After formally breaking with the Communist Party in the 1950s in an effort to secure the support of the French, Houphouet-Boigny divided his time as a member of the National Assembly in France and PDIC party leader and President and Mayor of Abidjan in the Ivory Coast. When French President Charles de Gaulle offered the Ivory Coast independence in 1958, Houphouet-Boigny led the Ivory Coast's movement for independence, and in 1960 he became its first President.

As President, Houphouet-Boigny helped the Ivory Coast become one of the most prosperous nations in Africa south of the Sahara. He encouraged a liberal, free-enterprise government and adopted a cash-crop agricultural system making the Coast a major exporter of goods like cocoa, coffee, palm oil, and pineapples. He ran unopposed for five presidential elections in Côte d'Ivoire, from 1960 to 1985, and remained in office until his death in 1993. In 1979, however, President Houphouet-Boigny received international criticism when he granted asylum to exiled Central African Republic leader Jean-Bedel Bokassa, who had been accused of massacring hundreds of his own people. Despite ordering Bokassa's expulsion in 1983, Houphouet-Boigny experienced increased civil unrest into the 1980s. Although he won the Ivory Coast's first contested presidential election in 1990, his failing health rendered him unable to lead by the time of his death in 1993.

169. June 8, 1962. Archbishop Makarios III, President of Cyprus

President of Cyprus Archbishop Makarios II became the first cleric to be honored with a ticker-tape parade when he visited New York during a five-day visit to the United States in 1962. Makarios became President of Cyprus in 1959, after accepting a compromise that resulted in Cyprus's independence from Britain. As President and Head of the Orthodox Church in Cyprus, Makarios remained one of the few political figures tolerated by both Cyprus's Greek majority and Turkish minority. He remained in office until his death in 1977.

Prior to taking office as President, Makarios had led the struggle for union (*enosis*) with Greece during Britain's postwar occupation of the island of Cyprus. After he became Archbishop in 1950, he continued to fight for union between the Turkish and Greek people. But Britain suspected Makarios of being involved in an armed nationalist movement and arrested him for sedition in 1956. He was exiled to the Seychelles. After his release, he helped to negotiate Cyprus's 1960 independence.

While he was President, Makarios's administration experienced frequent fighting between its Greek and Turkish populations and struggled unsuccessfully to integrate the two communities.

He also fell under suspicion from Western allies for seeking cooperation with Moscow and with Cypriot Communists. After his re-elections in 1968 and 1973, the Cypriot National Guard attempted to remove him from office in a military coup in 1974. Makarios fled to London, only to return to Cyprus the following December after the Greek military junta fell. He remained in office until his death in 1977.

170. June 14, 1962. Roberto F. Chiari, President of Panama

Though President of Panama Roberto F. Chiari had visited New York City many times in his career, June 14, 1962 marked his first ticker-tape parade welcome. The Panamanian President's New York visit occurred after a two-day visit with President John F. Kennedy at the White House, where the two met to discuss the Panama Canal Treaty of 1903, last revised in 1955. While President Kennedy agreed to fly Panama's flag alongside the U.S. flag in the Canal Zone, tensions over control of the Zone remained high under Chiari"s administration.

These grievances came to a head on January 9, 1964, a day known as "Martyrs' Day," when Panamanians participated in a series of anti-American riots. "Zonians," or Americans residing within the Canal Zone, were forced to evacuate and four Americans and 22 Panamanians were killed. The uprising prompted President Chiari to break ties with the United States and led to the eventual renegotiation of the Panama Canal Treaty in 1977 under the Torrijos–Carter Treaties, which relinquished control of the Canal Zone to Panama as of December 31, 1999.

Roberto Chiari's early political career began in the 1940s with his election to the National Assembly in 1940. He later served as Minister of Health and Public Works and briefly as acting President (1949). Although he lost the presidential race in 1952, Chiari led the Liberal Party for eight years and in 1960 he was elected President of Panama, a position he held until 1964, when he retired from politics.

171. April 1, 1963. Hassan II, King of Morocco

Hassan II, King of Morocco, received a ticker-tape parade in New York during his 1963 visit to the United States, with whom he maintained a close working relationship throughout his reign as King. When Hassan took the throne in February 1961, following the death of his father, Muhammad V, he inherited a newly independent Morocco, which had gained its sovereignty in 1956 after a period of guerrilla warfare. As King, Hassan authored Morocco's first Constitution, establishing freedom of the press, religion, and an elected legislature. By 1965, however, Hassan had disbanded Parliament and declared absolute power, leading to increased criticism of corruption and autocracy. Despite restoring a limited parliamentary government in 1970 and passing a number of land and employment reforms in Morocco, King Hassan remained a controversial figure. He survived three assassination attempts, in 1971, 1972, and 1973. His 35-year rule ended with his death in 1999, and he was succeeded by his son.

Although Morocco declared neutrality during the Cold War—and accepted aid from both the United States and the Soviet Union—the United States considered King Hassan to be a Western-oriented Arab leader and a valuable mediator in the Middle East, particularly in his openness to Israel and support for the Middle East peace process.

172. May 22, 1963. Maj. Lt. Gordon Cooper Jr., Mercury astronaut who orbited the earth 22 times

One of the seven astronauts of the Mercury space program, Major Gordon Cooper was honored with a ticker-tape parade in May 1963 after returning home from his record-setting orbit around the Earth. Five of the other six astronauts accompanied Cooper as an estimated 4.5 million spectators gathered to cheer on his motorcade procession from Lower Broadway to City Hall. The paper blizzard was so thick that the City's Sanitation Department reported picking up over 2,950 tons of debris in the aftermath of the parade.

Air Force Major Lieutenant Gordon Cooper's career as an astronaut began in 1959, when he became the youngest man ever selected to serve in the astronaut corps. His first spaceflight in May 1963 served as the last and longest of the Mercury space missions, completing 22 orbits around the Earth. The 600,000 mile trip, from May 15 to May 16, took 34 hours and 20 minutes, making him the first American man reported to have slept in space. Two years later, Cooper made his second and final trip to space when he set out on *Gemini 5*, a two-man spacecraft that stayed in space long enough to prove that a trip to the moon was possible. The eight-day mission set a space endurance record of 191 hours and made the command pilot the world record-holder for time in space, clocking in at just over 225 hours. Cooper retired from NASA and the Air Force in 1970.

173. June 10, 1963. Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, President of India

India's President Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was welcomed to the city with a ticker-tape parade in June 1963, after President John F. Kennedy extended a personal invitation to the statesman and philosopher. Radhakrishnan, who has been chosen by Indian Prime Minister Nehru the year prior to serve in the ceremonial job of President, used the visit as an opportunity to warn against the arms race and nuclear testing and encourage an end to international policies of racial discrimination.

Before entering politics, Radhakrishnan worked as an author and scholar, dedicating his life to interpreting Hinduism and Indian thought for Westerners. Many considered the Nobel Prize winner a cultural bridge between East and West, committed to the belief that all religions share a basic unity. In 1946, Radhakrishnan headed India's delegation at the United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, becoming its chairman in 1949. That same year, Prime Minister Nehru appointed Radhakrishnan ambassador to the Soviet Union, a position he held in Moscow until returning to India in 1952, when he was elected India's Vice President. Ten years later, in 1962, Radhakrishnan was elected President, succeeding Rajendra Prasad, the first President of independent India. Radhakrishnan held the office for one five-year term and

retired in 1967. An esteemed figure at home, since 1962 his birthday, September 5th, has been celebrated in India as Teachers' Day.

174. September 10, 1963. Mohammed Zahir Shah and Homaira, King and Queen of Afghanistan

On September 10, 1963, King Mohammed Zahir Shah and Queen Homaira of Afghanistan were welcomed to New York City with a ticker-tape parade. The King and Queen broke with convention during the procession, stepping off of their motorcade and shaking hands with the people. Their informality during the parade was augmented by the fact that neither Zahir nor Homaira wore a crown during their visit, and both took time during their trip to connect with the American people.

Often referred to as the "father of the nation," King Zahir was only 19 years old when his father was killed and he ascended to the Afghan throne. In the years that followed, he kept Afghanistan neutral during World War II and instituted a politically tolerant constitutional monarchy. In 1964, he instituted free elections, universal suffrage, and increased rights for women. Like her husband, Queen Homaira, who married Zahir in 1931, was known for being progressive. Not only did she encourage the advancement of Afghan women, but in 1946 she established the first women's institute in Afghanistan—the Women's Society—and in 1959, Homaira became one of the first public figures to remove her veil after the passage of the 1959 Afghani law permitting their removal.

Despite Zahir's peaceful reign, the King was overthrown in 1973 when his cousin and Prime Minister, Sardar Mohammad Daou Khan, led a bloodless coup that forced Zahir and Homaira into exile. Zahir abdicated the throne and spent his remaining years in Italy.

175. October 4, 1963. Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia

Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, was welcomed to New York with a second ticker-tape parade during his October 1963 visit. Selassie, who had assumed the title of King in 1928 and was officially crowned Emperor in 1930, met with the United Nations on the day of his parade to call for equality and an end to racial discrimination. His pleas for safeguarding unchecked aggression and violations of human rights occurred in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States, just days before Freedom Day in Selma and a month before President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

In his first years as Emperor, Selassie had sought to modernize the Ethiopian government by limiting the powers of Parliament and increasing the authority of the central government. His political progressivism led to Ethiopia's entrance into the League of Nations in the 1920s and eventually into the United Nations. Selassie further led the resistance against Italy after that nation invaded Ethiopia in 1935, which briefly forced him into exile; the invasion fueled the rise of the Rastafarian movement in Jamaica, which regarded Selassie (whose precoronation name was Ras Tafari Makonnen) as an African messiah. In 1963 Selassie made the

Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa the home of the Organization of African Unity (today known as the African Union). As his rule in Ethiopia continued, however, famine and unemployment worsened, leading to increased opposition and mutiny, as well as accusations of human rights violations. In 1974 Selassie was deposed by a military coup and placed under house arrest, where he lived out the remaining year of his life.

176. July 16, 1964. Crews of sailing vessels participating in Operation Sail

Two thousand five hundred crew members of the ships participating in Operation Sail received a ticker-tape parade in New York City upon their arrival in July 1964. The officers, cadets, and crewmen hailed from 13 countries, representing the 23 sailing ships. Operation Sail, a non-profit organization was established in the early 1960's to foster global goodwill amid growing Cold War tensions. Mayor Robert Wagner proclaimed "Operation Sail Week" in the City, in honor of the visit, which aligned with the 1964 World's Fair on July 18.

Following the parade of ships up the Hudson River and the crew members' ticker-tape reception, most of the ships docked and opened to visitors. In the years after the inaugural 1964 Operation Sail, OpSail ships returned to New York Harbor to celebrate the nation's many landmark events, including the United States Bicentennial in 1976, the Statue of Liberty Bicentennial in 1986, and the War of 1812 and Star Spangled Banner Bicentennial in 2012. Today, the organization is commended for its "advancement of brotherhood among nations" and ongoing organization of tall ships across the world.

177. September 3, 1964. Staten Island's Mid-Island All-Stars, Little League World Series champions

In 1964 the Staten Island Mid-Island All-Stars became the first Little League team to receive a ticker-tape parade up Broadway. In celebration of their victory at the 1964 Little League World Series, the 16 team members, aged 11 to 12, were showered with ticker tape as they made their way up from the Battery. At City Hall, Mayor Robert Wagner proclaimed August 29 through September 3 "Little League championship time." Leading the procession was the team's no-hit pitcher Daniel Yaccarino, Manager William Rogers, and Coach Robert Klee.

The Mid-Island All-Stars' perfect 13-0 record and defeat of the 8 teams in the final playoffs made them the first New York City team to reach the national or international playoffs. The Staten Island Mid-Island All-Stars went on to become one of the most dominant Little League teams in the nation, sweeping six New York titles.

178. October 8, 1964. Diosdado Macapagal, President of the Philippines

Diosdado Macapagal received a ticker-tape parade during his official two-day visit to New York in October 1964. Like the King and Queen of Afghanistan the year prior, the President of the Philippines broke with tradition when he jumped out of his motorcade procession up Broadway to shake the hands of New Yorkers along the parade route. The sentiment reflected Macapagal's populist political position in the Philippines, most notably his efforts to introduce land reform

and protect the rights of landless peasants. Most of Macapagal's reforms, however, were blocked by a House of Representatives and Senate dominated by the opposition Nacionalistas , and he was defeated in the 1965 elections by Ferdinand E. Marcos whose subsequent rule would be marked by authoritarianism.

A practiced lawyer and PhD, Macapagal first entered politics when he served as second secretary to the Philippine Embassy in Washington D.C. in 1948. The following year he won his first election to the House of Representatives, and he served as a three-time representative to the United Nations General Assembly. In 1957, Macapagal was elected Vice President under President Carlos P. Garcia. He went on to defeat Garcia in the 1961 presidential elections, becoming the fifth president of the Philippines. As President, Macapagal sought to end political corruption and stimulate the economy, but his efforts ultimately fell short and he lost his re-election bid in 1965.

Macapagal went on to organize the National Union for Liberation, an opposition party to Ferdinand Marcos, in 1979. The former President is perhaps best remembered today, however, as the father of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who became Vice President of the Philippines in 1998 and served as the Philippines' 14th President from 2001 to 2010. Today, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is the speaker of the Philippines House of Representatives.

179. March 29, 1965. Maj. Virgil I. Grissom and Lt. Cmdr. John W. Young, Gemini 3 astronauts

Astronauts Major Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom and Lieutenant Commander John W. Young of the NASA space program were welcomed to New York with a ticker-tape parade in March 1965 in celebration of their landmark Gemini 3 space mission. In pouring wind and rain, several thousand New Yorkers gathered to watch the two astronauts make their way up Broadway, showering them with an estimated 5,000 pounds of paper. Command Pilot Grissom and Young, both Korean War veterans of the Air Force, became the first pair of American astronauts to successfully orbit the earth when Gemini 3, launched on March 23, 1965, safely landed in the Atlantic Ocean.

Prior to the 1965 Gemini 3 mission, Major Grissom became the third man and second American to enter space when, in 1961, he participated in a suborbital journey aboard *Liberty Bell 7*. After Gemini 3, Grissom took command of what was planned to be the first three-man space mission, along with Edward White and Roger B. Chaffee. But just one month before Apollo 1's planned launch, in January 1967, Grissom and his crew were trapped and asphyxiated during a simulation launch when a flash fire swept their capsule, making the three men the first casualties of the United States space program.

Commander John Young also went on to participate in the Apollo program, and in May 1969 Young and the two other crew members of Apollo 10 orbited the Moon. The mission was the last

before the Moon landing of Apollo 11 on July 20, 1969. Young remained in the space program, eventually becoming chief of the astronaut office. He retired from NASA in 2004.

180. May 19, 1965. Park Chung Hee, President of South Korea

The President of South Korea, Park Chung Hee, was welcomed to New York with a ticker-tape parade during his ten-day tour of the United States in May 1965. The four-star general was celebrated as an ally in the fight against Communism and applauded for his "resistance to absolutism." Before becoming chief of state in 1963, Park was a military leader and was primarily responsible for leading the 1961 military coup that overthrew the Second Republic in Korea; he won his first term as president of the Third Republic in 1963.

Over the course of his 18-year rule, President Park centralized federal power while suppressing opposition and democratic freedoms, like freedom of the press. He established agencies like the Ministries of Trade and Industry and Finance, as well as organizing the Korean Central Intelligence Agency. While Park's measures fostered economic development and expansion, his authoritarian regime, which he justified as being necessary to fight Communism, became increasingly repressive. Park's implementation of martial law in 1972 and his dismissal of opposition leader Kim Young Sam of the National Assembly in 1979 led to violent demonstrations and rioting among the Korean people. His rule came to an end in 1979 when he was assassinated by the head of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, Kim Jae Kyu.

181. June 1, 1965. Four-thousand five-hundred firefighters celebrate the 100th anniversary of New York City's first professional fire department

On June 1, 1965, a parade of 4,500 off-duty firemen marched up lower Broadway, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the New York City Fire Department. The firefighters, accompanied by new firetrucks and pieces of equipment, were led by the First Army and Police Department Emerald Society Bands. At City Hall, Mayor Robert Wagner praised the firefighters for their bravery, paying special tribute to the 609 firemen who had lost their lives in the line of duty. As initially conceived, the parade intended to include regular and volunteer fire units from across the state, but authorities rejected the idea after learning that such a parade would take eleven hours to complete.

Known today as the Fire Department of New York City (FDNY), the Metropolitan Fire Department officially formed in 1865. One hundred years later, the FDNY consisted of 13,186 men and 282 firehouses across the city. The first women were hired as firefighters in 1982, after a lawsuit brought by Brenda Berkman. In 2016, the FDNY had 11,051 uniformed firefighters (17,389 total employees) and 255 fire stations across the five boroughs; as of 2018, 87 were female and 30% identified as non-white.

182. January 10, 1969. Lt. Col. Frank Borman, Lt. Col. William A. Anders, and Capt. James A. Lovell Jr., Apollo 8 astronauts, the first men to see the far side of the moon

The three crew members of Apollo 8, Lieutenant Colonel Frank Borman, Lieutenant Colonel William A. Anders, and Captain James A. Lovell Jr., received a ticker-tape parade in January 1969 celebrating their accomplishment of becoming the first men to see the far side of the Moon. The Apollo 8 mission was an international spectacle, proving for the first time that it would be possible to land men on the Moon and making the astronauts on board the first people to orbit another celestial body. Astronaut Anders's "earthrise" photograph from the dark side of the Moon further became one of the most iconic images in the nation's history.

Apollo 8 launched on December 21, 1968 from Cape Kennedy, Florida. Nearly three hours into the flight, the crew performed a translunar injection and headed to orbit the Moon, where they spent Christmas Eve, watching the "earthrise" from their Saturn V rocket. While spacecraft Commander Frank Borman and command module pilot James Lovell were also crewmembers on the Gemini 7 mission, the Apollo 8 mission marked lunar module pilot William Anders's first trip to space and the second manned mission of the Apollo program. Despite worries that Commander Borman, who had fallen ill during the mission, would be unable to fly, the three astronauts completed their seven-day flight, landing safely on December 28, 1968.

183. August 13, 1969. Neil A. Armstrong, Col. Buzz Aldrin, and Lt. Col. Michael Collins, Apollo 11 Astronauts, for the first manned moon landing

On July 20, 1969, astronauts Neil Armstrong, Colonel Buzz Aldrin, and Lieutenant Colonel Michael Collins made history when two of the Apollo 11 astronauts -- Armstrong and Aldrin -- became the first men to land on the Moon. Their achievement earned them a rapturous ticker-tape parade up Lower Broadway the following August, attended by an estimated four million people. During the City Hall ceremony, Mayor John Lindsay awarded the astronauts the City's Gold Medal. Most Americans considered the Apollo 11 mission to be a victorious conclusion to the Soviet-American space race of the 1960s, and by 1972—the year of the last Apollo mission—NASA had confirmed its place as the world's leading space program, with a total of 12 American astronauts having walked on the Moon.

The Apollo 11 mission took place just seven months after NASA sent the first manned flight, Apollo 8, to the Moon. On July 16, the three astronauts launched from the Kennedy Space Center and landed four days later. Apollo 11's commander, Neil Armstrong, who also served as the backup commander for Apollo 8, was the first man to walk on the Moon, followed by Buzz Aldrin. More than half a billion people watched on television as Armstrong took the first steps, declaring "That's one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind." Armstrong and Aldrin explored the surface for two and a half hours, collecting samples, taking photographs, and

leaving behind an American flag reading “we came in peace for all mankind.” Neil Armstrong called the mission “a beginning of a new age.”

184. October 20, 1969. New York Mets, World Series champions

The New York Mets received a ticker-tape parade in 1969 for their first World Series championship. Hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers gathered to watch the team and their open-car motorcades, led by second-year manager Gil Hodges, make their way up Broadway. The Mets joined the National League in 1962 as an expansion team, five years after New York’s two previous National League teams, the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants, both left New York for California. While the team’s first seven seasons proved mediocre, the 1969 season earned them the title of the “Miracle Mets” for their impressive rise to excellence, boasting a regular season record of 100 wins.

After clinching the 1969 National League pennant, the Mets went on to challenge the Baltimore Orioles, representing the American League, in the World Series. The team’s core trio of starting pitchers, Tom Seaver, Jerry Koosman, and Gary Gentry, helped lead the Mets to a 4-3 series victory over the Orioles. The Mets did not win another World Series until 1986, when they defeated the Boston Red Sox in seven games. Davey Johnson, the 1969 team’s second baseman, managed the 1986 Mets to their World Series victory.

185. July 6, 1976. Crews of sailing vessels participating in Operation Sail for the United States Bicentennial

New York City witnessed its first ticker-tape parade in eight years when the crews of Operation Sail vessels received a ticker-tape parade up Broadway in celebration of the United States’ Bicentennial. The parade marked the second for Operation Sail crew members, who were also celebrated with a parade during the inaugural Opsail “Parade of Ships” in 1964.

The Bicentennial event, honoring the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, consisted of 16 ships, including vessels from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, and even one ship from the Soviet Union. The Operation Sail Bicentennial event additionally partnered with the United States Navy to hold an International Naval Review in New York Harbor, attended by President Gerald Ford. One captain recalled of the event, “The hospitality of New Yorkers in 1976 has never been matched.” According to Mayor Abe Beame, the Bicentennial celebration also helped to revive the spirits of the city, which had suffered from “a gloomy year of financial tribulations.”

186 and 187. October 19, 1977. New York Yankees, World Series champions; October 19, 1978. New York Yankees, World Series champions

New Yorkers celebrated the New York Yankees' World Series championships with ticker-tape parades in back-to-back years in 1977 and 1978. In both years the Yankees defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers in six games.

The 1977 World Series championship marked the Yankees' 21st franchise World Series win—their first in 15 years—and the team's first ticker-tape parade. Despite reports that the 1977 team suffered from internal feuding, namely among manager Billy Martin, owner George Steinnbrenner, and star right fielder Reggie Jackson, the team went on to defeat the Dodgers. Jackson was critical to the Series win, making playoff history by hitting three home runs on three pitches in a single Series game.

The following year, the Yankees again defeated the Dodgers, making it their first back-to-back championships since 1961 and 1962. The franchise team's 22nd World Series win came after rallying from a two-game deficit to win the title in six games. While Reggie Jackson shone once again, he was no longer at odds with team manager Billy Martin, who had resigned from the team in July 1978 and was replaced by Bob Lemon. The Yankees' 1978 victory fell on the franchise's 75th anniversary year.

188. October 3, 1979. Pope John Paul II

New York City honored Pope John Paul II with one of the four ticker-tape parades of the 1970s during his official visit to the United States in 1979. While most New Yorkers embraced the Pope's visit, others were critical of his decision to use the trip to express disagreement with aspects of American capitalism; still others decried some aspects of Catholic teaching or castigated the City for spending money on the Pope's visit in the midst of a budget crisis. Over the course of the day, the Pope's schedule was delayed twice due to an unfounded bomb threat and false report of a gun sighting.

Born Karol Józef Wojtyła, Pope John Paul II grew up in Poland, just 15 minutes outside of what would later become the Auschwitz Nazi concentration camp. When the Nazis invaded in 1939, Wojtyła worked as a laborer, and it was during the war that he decided to enter the priesthood. One year after the Soviets replaced the Nazi occupation of Poland in 1945, Wojtyła was ordained into the Catholic priesthood. In 1958, he was appointed an auxiliary bishop, named archbishop in 1963, and became a cardinal in 1967. When Pope John Paul I died just 33 days into his papacy in 1978, the College of Cardinals elected Wojtyła Pope, making him the first non-Italian pope in 455 years and the first from a Slavic country.

During his 26-year-long papacy, Pope John Paul II encouraged nonviolent political activism, human rights campaigns, and messages of religious freedom. While his centralized style and Polish nationalism were unpopular with some, the Pope was also responsible for offering apologies to groups historically wronged by Catholics, like Jews and Muslims, and contributing to the peaceful dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. He was criticized during his papacy and after for his inaction in the face of reports of sex abuse by clerics and for resisting calls for changes in the Church's position on women's roles, birth control, homosexuality, and the AIDS

crisis. Having survived two assassination attempts (1981 and 2000), the bishop of Rome and head of the Roman Catholic Church died of natural causes in 2005 and was succeeded by Pope Benedict XVI.

189. January 30, 1981. U.S. hostages released from Iran after 444 days in captivity

New York welcomed 21 of the 52 Americans who had been held in Iran with a ticker-tape parade in January 1981. The hostages had been released 11 days earlier after 444 days in captivity. A complex series of events led to what became known as the Iranian Hostage Crisis, beginning with President Jimmy Carter's decision to allow deposed Shah of Iran, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, to receive cancer treatment in the United States. Many Iranians criticized the Shah's anti-Communist and pro-Western, autocratic government, which received millions of dollars in U.S. foreign aid in exchange for access to Iranian oil for the U.S. and Britain. After forcing the Shah into exile in 1979, Iranians ultimately turned to revolution leader and anti-American cleric Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The Iranian hostage crisis began in November 1979, when a group of anti-American Iranian students stormed the United States embassy in Tehran and took over 60 American diplomats and embassy employees hostage. Though none of the hostages were seriously injured, during more than a year in captivity they were subjected to harsh punishment and demeaning treatment. While President Carter attempted a rescue mission, Operation Eagle Claw, an unexpected sandstorm derailed the plan. The failed rescue mission contributed to Carter's loss in the 1980 presidential election and Ronald Reagan's landslide victory. Just hours after President Reagan took office, on January 21, 1981, the Iranian students released the hostages.

190. August 15, 1984. U.S. Olympic medal winners from the Los Angeles games

One day after the Olympic parade in Washington D.C., U.S. Olympic medal winners from the 1984 Los Angeles summer games received a ticker-tape parade in New York. The Los Angeles Games marked the 20th modern Olympic Games, and the second to take place in Los Angeles. It took place without full international participation: in response to the United States' decision to boycott the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow, a group of Communist countries, including East Germany and Cuba and led by the Soviet Union, boycotted the 1984 Games. In the absence of Eastern Bloc competition, the United States swept the Games: U.S. athletes took home 83 gold medals, a new Olympic record. Victories included swimmers Mary T. Meagher and Tracy Caulkins's three gold medals each for swimming, diver Greg Louganis's sweep of diving events, and gymnast Mary Lou Retton's gold medal in combined exercises. Track-and-field star Carl Lewis's gold medals (in 100m, 200m, 4x100m relay, and long jump) matched Jesse Owens's legendary 1936 achievement.

In total, a record-breaking 140 counties and 6,800 athletes took part in the 1984 Games, including China, which participated in the Summer Games for the first time since 1952. Additional records were broken and barriers taken down—for instance, Archer Neroli Fairhall of

New Zealand became the first paraplegic athlete to participate in the Olympics. The Games also introduced new categories for women in gymnastics, synchronized swimming, and cycling.

191. May 7, 1985. Vietnam War veterans

A ticker-tape parade for Vietnam War veterans was held on May 7, 1985, more than ten years after the return of the last American forces from the Vietnam conflict. An estimated crowd of one million gathered to watch 25,000 veterans march from Brooklyn to the Battery and from there to the City Hall, where they finally received the city's—and the nation's—recognition for their service. The event, orchestrated by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Commission, brought together veterans, friends, family members, and New Yorkers, who expressed a range of emotions, including gratefulness, bitterness, sadness, and anger during what many considered to be a long-overdue event. Many of the interviewed veterans spoke out about their lives and experiences after the war, including their ostracization from society and struggles with PTSD, disabilities, and difficulties finding work.

At the centerpiece of the "parade they never had" was the unveiling of a long glass-block wall memorial etched with excerpts from 83 letters written by or to American service members during the conflict. Mayor Ed Koch, who helped establish the Vietnam Memorial Commission in 1982 and appointed Donald Trump co-chairman, voiced his support for the parade and the monument. But for many veterans, the procession was also a reminder of the nation's long-standing neglect of Vietnam veterans and "America's most unpopular war."

192. October 28, 1986. New York Mets, World Series champions

The Mets earned a ticker-tape parade in October 1986 celebrating their second World Series win in franchise history, just three days after their Game 7 victory. The 4-3 triumph against the Boston Red Sox came after the Mets overcame a two game deficit, taking Game 6 in what *Newsday* called "one of the most improbable rallies in baseball history." The miraculous turnaround marked the Mets' first (and to date only) World Series win since 1969.

Over two million New Yorkers gathered that day to celebrate as the team, including MVP third baseman Ray Knight and catcher Gary Carter, made their way up Broadway to City Hall, where they were each awarded a key to the city. Among the coaches and players honored was third base coach Bud Harrelson, who had played on the 1969 "Miracle Mets" the previous time the Mets won the World Series. The Mets' 1986 series victory remains one of Major League Baseball's most legendary comeback stories.

193. June 20, 1990. Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress

The city's first ticker-tape parade in four years took place on June 20, 1990, to welcome anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela as he launched his first visit to the United States. Mandela's trip followed his release just five months earlier from a 27-year prison term for resisting racial apartheid in South Africa. As the deputy president of the African National

Congress, Mandela came to New York on a national tour in seek of financial support for economic sanctions against the white regime in South Africa.

Mandela's parade came at a time fraught with racial tension that threatened to divide city residents. Additional controversy surrounded two million dollars spent on his visit: the ticker-tape parade saw some of the tightest security in the city since Pope John Paul II's visit in 1979, including a 40-car motorcade, 12,000 police officers, a three-day traffic alert, four bomb trucks, and 6,000 wooden barricades. In the center of the chaos was Mandela's bulletproof "Mandela Mobile." But spirits that day were high: the ticker-tape parade attracted over 400,000 onlookers, some waiting over five hours to catch a glimpse of the man who embodied the global fight against racism.

When Mandela's car arrived at City Hall, he was greeted by New York's first black Mayor, David N. Dinkins. In his speech, Mandela proclaimed, "Apartheid is doomed. South Africa will be free. The struggle continues." His prediction quickly came to pass: over the next three years, apartheid was dismantled, and four years after his visit to New York, Nelson Mandela became President of South Africa, serving from 1994 to 1999.

194. June 10, 1991. Persian Gulf War veterans

Three months after the Persian Gulf War (aka the First Gulf War) ended, its veterans were honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York. An estimated 4.7 million spectators gathered to watch 24,000 veterans from 17 allied nations who fought in the Gulf parade up Broadway. Leading the procession in convertible motorcades were Secretary of State Dick Cheney, Gulf commander General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, and General Colin Powell, who all received keys to the city at the City Hall ceremony.

The Persian Gulf War began in 1991, after Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein invaded neighboring Kuwait. In January 1991, when Hussein defied United Nations Security Council demands to withdraw from Kuwait, NATO and the United States came to the aid of Middle Eastern countries Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Syria, who opposed Iraqi aggression. President George H. W. Bush implemented an air offensive and 100-hour land war, known as Operation Desert Storm. The international coalition's 42-day attack resulted in a cease-fire in February 1991 and the removal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. The success of the mission also came with controversy over whether the U.S. should have pushed on to Baghdad and removed Saddam Hussein from power. By October 1991, four months after the Gulf War Veterans' ticker-tape parade, then Secretary of State James Baker's "shuttle diplomacy" facilitated the first face-to-face talks between Israel and all of its Arab neighbors, however conflict with Iraq erupted once again in 2003 with the Iraq War (or the Second Gulf War).

195. June 25, 1991. Korean War veterans

Four decades after the close of the Korean War and just 15 days after a ticker-tape parade honoring Persian Gulf War veterans, New Yorkers celebrated Korean War veterans with a

ticker-tape parade of their own. Although the Korean War had officially ended in 1953, the parade marked one of the first commemorations for those who fought in the conflict. The parade's crowd of 250,000 paled in comparison, however, to the Persian Gulf veterans' parade, which had attracted well over four million spectators. The 9,000 marching veterans distinguished this parade from the welcome received by General Douglas MacArthur whose 1951 parade upon his return from Korea focused largely on the larger than life figure of the General and not the countless others who had served. After a long campaign to have their service in America's "forgotten war" recognized, veterans expressed their gratitude for the parade, but some complained that they did not receive the same recognition that Persian Gulf veterans received just three months after their return from the Gulf.

The Korean War began in June 1950, when North Korean forces invaded South Korea, crossing the 38th parallel (the boundary set at the end of World War II to divide the Soviet-aligned north of the peninsula from the Allied-occupied south). American troops came to the aid of South Korea that July, making the conflict one of the first military actions of the Cold War. After two years of ongoing fighting, the adversaries signed an armistice in July 1953. The estimated 50,000 American casualties made the Korean War an unpopular one among the American people, a factor that contributed to the lack of domestic recognition of Korean War veterans.

196. June 17 1994. New York Rangers, Stanley Cup champions

The New York Rangers broke a 54-year Cupless streak in June 1994 when they beat the Vancouver Canucks in the seventh game of the Stanley Cup championship. Their achievement earned them a ticker-tape parade in New York City, in which Mayor Rudy Giuliani and 1.5 million people celebrated the hockey team's victory.

The Eastern Conference champions had not won a Stanley Cup since 1940, though they had made ten appearances in the Finals. Prior to 1940, the Rangers had won two other Cups, one in 1928 and one in 1933, making their 1994 win the fourth in the franchise's history. The team was led by Coach Mike Keenan and star player Mark Messier, who scored the game-winning goal. The Rangers' 4-3 victory over the Canucks officially broke what fans considered a curse: "the Ghost of 1940." Since then, the Rangers have appeared in the Stanley Cup Finals only once, losing in 2014. Game 7 of the 1994 Stanley Cup Final remains one of the highest-rated hockey games on cable television.

197. October 29, 1996. New York Yankees, World Series champions

A crowd of 3.5 million New Yorkers gathered in October 1996 to celebrate the New York Yankees' victory in the World Series with a ticker-tape parade. The team's four games to two-2 win over the Atlanta Braves earned the franchise its 23rd Series title, the most of any team in baseball history. It also ended the Yankees' 18-year Series drought, having won their last title in 1978 (which also earned them a ticker-tape parade). The 1996 Yankees roster included short-stop and American League Rookie of the Year Derek Jeter, Hall-of-Famer Wade Boggs,

pitcher Mariano Rivera, and team manager and Brooklyn native Joe Torre, all of whom received keys to the city at their City Hall ceremony.

The Yankees' 1996 victory kicked off the team's four World Series titles that stretched between 1996 to 2000, as the team were World Series champs in 1998, 1999 and 2000. Their comeback from a six-run deficit in the Game 6 of the 1996 Series became the second largest comeback in Series history. The New York Yankees have won more World Series titles than any other baseball franchise, with a total of 27, dating back to their first win in 1923.

198. October 17, 1998. Sammy Sosa, Chicago Cubs baseball player, who tied the single-season home-run record

Chicago Cubs baseball player Sammy Sosa received a ticker-tape parade in October 1998 for tying the single-season home-run record previously held by Roger Maris. The Dominican native was praised in New York for his rise from humble beginnings to what Mayor Giuliani referred to as "A Dominican Hero, an American hero, and a hero around the world." During his visit, the Cub became the first recipient of the Jackie Robinson Empire State Medal of Freedom.

Sosa's home run total of 66 made him one of two front-runners in the 1998 "great home run race." The other, St. Louis Cardinals' Mark McGwire, beat both Sosa and Maris' 37-year-old record when he finished the 1998 season with 70 home runs. However, within a short time, both men's reputations came under scrutiny for alleged use of performance-enhancing drugs. McGwire later admitted to steroid use, but Sosa emphatically denied the allegations. His 13-year tenure with the Cubs ended bitterly in 2004 after being caught using a corked bat in 2003.

Sosa played his last MLB game in 2007. While Sosa and McGwire's single season home run totals were surpassed in 2001 when current record holder Barry Bonds hit 73 home runs. Sosa remains the ninth all-time hitter in Major League history, with 609 home runs.

Sammy Sosa entered the Major Leagues in 1989, playing for the Texas Rangers before joining the Chicago Cubs in 1992.

199. October 23, 1998. New York Yankees, World Series champions

After losing in the first round of the 1997 playoffs, the Yankees won the World Series in 1998 with a four-game sweep of the San Diego Padres. The achievement earned the team its second ticker-tape parade in three years and its 24th Series title. Some three and a half million New Yorkers gathered to celebrate.. Under the guidance of Joe Torre (who brought the Yankees to the playoffs for 12 consecutive years from 1996 to 2007) the 1998 team earned 125 wins over the regular season and playoffs, which remains a single season baseball record.

200. November 16, 1998. Senator John Glenn and fellow crew members of the U.S. space shuttle *Discovery*

The final of three ticker-tape parades in 1998 took place on November 16, honoring Astronaut and United States Senator John Glenn and the crew members of U.S. space shuttle *Discovery*. A relatively modest crowd of 500,000 gathered to watch Senator John Glenn and the six-member crew, including shuttle commander Lieutenant Colonel Curtis L. Brown, pilot Lieutenant Colonel Steven W. Lindsay, mission specialist Stephen K. Robinson, mission specialist and shuttle doctor Scott E. Parzynski, mission specialist Pedro Duque, and payload specialist Chiaki Mukai, make their way up Broadway to City Hall, where they were each awarded keys to the city.

The celebration marked Senator John Glenn's second ticker-tape parade in New York City. His first, in March 1962, honored him for being the second American in space and the first American to orbit the Earth aboard *Friendship 7*. The Mercury mission, initially conceived as NASA's response to the Soviet Union's ground-breaking manned orbit mission in April 1961, secured the United States a place in the space race. Glenn left NASA in 1964 and went on to serve as a United States Senator, representing Ohio from 1974 to 1999. His nine-day trip on *Discovery* in 1998 made him the oldest man, at 77 years old, to fly in space. The senator and astronaut died in December 2016.

201. October 29, 1999. New York Yankees, World Series champions

The Yankees celebrated their third World Series win in four years with a ticker-tape parade in October 1999. The last ticker-tape parade of the millennium boasted a crowd of over 3.5 million New Yorkers to celebrate the Yankees' 25th World Championship. The Yankees four game sweep of the Atlanta Braves made their opponents the first team to lose four World Series in one decade and marked the team's second Series loss to the Yankees (the first in 1996). Even when it looked as though the Braves might come back in Game 3, Yankee Chad Curtis hit a game-winning walk-off home run in the 10th inning. It was the first game-winning homer in the World Series since 1993.

202. October 30, 2000. New York Yankees, World Series champions

The New York Yankees became the first team in 26 years to win three straight titles when they defeated the New York Mets in the 2000 World Series championship. The "Subway Series" victory earned the Yankees their fifth ticker-tape parade in New York and their fourth World Series title in five years. The Series further marked the first all-New York World Series since 1956. Although the New York Mets were not present (they declined the city's offer for the team to participate in the parade), millions of New Yorkers gathered to watch the Yankees make their way up Broadway to City Hall, where they each received their traditional key to the city. Team members, including Series MVP Derek Jeter, were celebrated for their five-game series win over

the Mets. The Yankees' back-to-back-to-back Series win solidified their position as the leading team in Major League Baseball.

203. February 5, 2008. New York Giants, Super Bowl XLII champions

The New York Giants received their first ticker-tape parade in New York on February 5, 2008, for their victory over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLII. The Giants' triumph by a winning score of 17 to 14 is widely considered one of the biggest upsets in football history, as their win interrupted what would have otherwise been a perfect season for the New England Patriots and their coach, Bill Belichick.

The XLII Super Bowl marked the Giants' third Super Bowl win, the first being in 1987 and the second in 1991. Neither previous win, however, earned them a ticker-tape parade; in 1987 Mayor Ed Koch denied the Giants a parade due to the fact that their stadium was located outside of New York, in New Jersey. In 1991, while Mayor David Dinkins did offer the Giants a celebratory parade, the team and their co-owner John Mara declined, out of respect for the recently started Gulf War. The 2008 parade was the first to honor a football team, the first since the millennium, and the first to be hosted by Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Among the Giants present were John Mara, Coach Tom Coughlin, General Manager Jerry Reese, Quarterback and MVP Eli Manning, and Defensive End Michael Strahan, who retired after the 2008 season.

204. November 6, 2009. New York Yankees, World Series champions

The New York Yankees received their sixth ticker-tape parade in New York for their 2009 World Series victory over the Philadelphia Phillies six games. The victory marked the team's 27th World Series championship, an especially important landmark after experiencing an eight-year Series drought. Joining team members Hideki Matsui, Derek Jeter, Jorge Posada, Mariano Rivera, and Alex Rodriguez in the procession was Joe Girardi, who took over for Joe Torre as the Yankees' manager in 2008. The team's 2009 victory would be Girardi's first and only Series win over the course of his tenure as manager, which ended in 2017. The Series also marked MVP Hideki Matsui's final game with the Yankees, and pitcher Mariano Rivera's final World Series appearance.

The Yankees' 2009 season record of 103 game wins put them in the lead of the American League and helped them achieve their postseason slogan, "Win it for The Boss," in reference to 79-year-old owner George Steinbrenner. It would be the controversial, divisive and flamboyant Steinbrenner's last postseason: he suffered a fatal heart attack in July 2010.

205. February 7, 2012. New York Giants, Super Bowl XLVI champions

The New York Giants received their second ticker-tape parade when they won their second championship, besting the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLVI in 2012. The parade marking the Giants' 21 to 17 victory over the Patriots was the fourth parade since 2000 to honor a sports team. The event was controversial, as many argued that veterans of the Iraq War, who had yet to receive a ticker-tape parade, deserved a celebration of their own. According to Mayor

Michael Bloomberg, however, he and representatives from the government in Washington agreed that holding a parade for veterans when there were still soldiers fighting overseas was inappropriate. Despite the controversy, millions gathered along Broadway on February 7, including 20,000 students absent from school, to watch the Giants team members make their way to City Hall, where they each received a key to the city.

206. July 10, 2015. U.S. Women's National Team, Women's World Cup champions

In 2015, the United States Women's National Soccer Team became the first team of female athletes to be honored with a ticker-tape parade, for their FIFA Women's World Cup championship, a trophy they hadn't won since 1999. Just five days after the team's 5-2 victory over Japan in Vancouver, British Columbia, teammates Megan Rapinoe and New Jersey native and team captain Carli Lloyd, and Coach Jill Ellis led the U.S. Women's National Team to City Hall, where all players received keys to the city. Despite some New Yorkers' reluctance to host a $1.5 million parade for a team based outside the New York metropolitan area—the first of its kind to be honored since the 1984 Olympic Medal winners—the women's soccer team attracted millions of New Yorkers.

207. July 10, 2019. U.S. Women's National Team, Women's World Cup champions

For the second time in history, a team of female athletes received a triumphant ticker-tape parade along Broadway in Lower Manhattan. After scoring a 2-0 victory against the Netherlands in the FIFA Women's World Cup Final just outside Lyon, France, the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team arrived in New York City to be showered with confetti from skyscraper windows all the way from The Battery to City Hall.

As the team rode their float up the thorofare, thousands of fans tried to catch glimpses of the World Cup champions, including Tobin Heath, Ali Krieger Rose Lavelle, Carli Lloyd, and Alex Morgan. For Allie Long, one of two players on the team hailing from New York, the ticker-tape homecoming was especially meaningful. "NEW YORK: To be back home to celebrate with you all will be an honor," Long wrote on Twitter before the celebration.

At City Hall, Mayor Bill de Blasio met the team and honored them with symbolic keys to the city. "On and off the field, this team represents what's best about New York City and our Nation," Mayor de Blasio said in a statement. "The confidence, grit, and perseverance of the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team serve as an inspiration to all who watch them." First Lady Chirlane McCray added: "We applaud the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team's athletic prowess, their advocacy in fighting for equal pay, and their use of their international platform to speak out against injustice."

In 2015, after defeating Japan in the FIFA Women's World Cup Final, the U.S. Women's National Team had become the first team of female athletes to be celebrated with a ticker-tape parade. The 2019 ticker-tape celebration coincided with New York Governor Andrew Cuomo signing a law expanding equal pay for equal work — another big win for women.

208. July 7, 2021. New York City's essential workers during the Covid-19 pandemic

Legions of frontline workers, including nurses, bus drivers, train operators, restaurant workers, sanitation workers among others faced unprecedented circumstances at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Thanks to their sacrifice, the city continued to operate amid stay-at-home orders intended to curb the spread of the virus in its earliest days.

To honor these workers, in 2021, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the city would hold a "Hometown Heroes" ticker-tape parade. "We can never thank our essential workers enough for all they've done for this city," Mayor de Blasio said in an official statement announcing the parade. "But we can celebrate their heroism in our streets — and put on a safe, dynamic, unforgettable parade to show our appreciation." The first major city-sponsored event post-Covid, essential workers from fields including healthcare, retail, utilities, transportation, delivery, sanitation, education, child care and more traveled up Broadway on more than a dozen floats and platforms.

The event was witnessed by thousands of New Yorkers who lined the streets to show their support as confetti rained down along the thoroughfare. As is customary, the procession ended at City Hall, where Mayor de Blasio gave the group symbolic keys to the city.

209. October 24, 2024. New York Liberty, WNBA champions

On October 24, 2024, New York City celebrated a historic moment with its first-ever ticker-tape parade honoring a New York women's sports team — the New York Liberty. The team made history as the 2024 Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) champions, marking New York City's first basketball championship in over fifty years.

On parade day, thousands of fans and 2,000 pounds of confetti descended upon Lower Manhattan's Broadway as the players rode on floats from Battery Park to City Hall. The procession featured not only current team members like Breanna Stewart, Sabrina Ionescu and Jonquel Jones as well as the beloved mascot Ellie the Elephant but also prominent local figures such as Mayor Eric Adams, U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer and state Attorney General Letitia James. The parade included various city agencies, including the New York police, fire and

sanitation departments. Veteran Liberty players like Teresa Weatherspoon and Crystal Robinson were also in attendance. The parade concluded with a ceremony at City Hall.

“At a time when the rest of the country is finally recognizing the extraordinary talent within our WNBA, we are proud to have New York City bring home the trophy,” said Mayor Adams in a press release. “To our WNBA champions, thank you for being role models for our city and for exemplifying the values of grit, determination and hard work.”

The Liberty clinched the title with a decisive 17-point performance from 2024 WNBA Finals MVP Jones, defeating the Minnesota Lynx in game 5 of the championship series. The 2024 championship marks the Liberty’s first WNBA title in its 28-year history.

210. June 18, 2026. New York Knicks, NBA champions

On June 18, 2026, history was made in Lower Manhattan at the New York Knicks’ first-ever ticker-tape parade celebrating the team’s 2026 NBA Championship win over the San Antonio Spurs. An estimated two million New Yorkers filled the streets to attend the parade, with some attendees camping out the night before to secure a coveted viewing spot along the route. The designated viewing pens hit capacity just after 7 a.m. for the 10 a.m. parade.

On parade day, tons of confetti and a dozen parade floats hit Broadway from Bowling Green to City Hall. Millions of fans vied for a glimpse of Knicks team members parading through Lower Manhattan, including 2026 NBA Finals MVP Jalen Brunson, Tyler Kolek and Karl-Anthony Towns, as well as past players like Patrick Ewing and Walt “Clyde” Frazier. Celebrity Knicks fans like Mariska Hargitay, Tracy Morgan, Timothée Chalamet, Spike Lee and Ben Stiller also celebrated the win on top of floats in the parade.

The parade concluded with a ceremony at City Hall, complete with a performance by Alicia Keys of “Empire State of Mind” and Billy Joel’s “New York State of Mind.” Mayor Zohran Mamdani commemorated the Knicks’ historic championship win — the team’s first since 1973 — with a speech name-checking Knicks players through the decades and highlighting how jubilant moments can unite New Yorkers in powerful ways.

“New York City has just had two of the most magical months in as long as any of us can remember,” Mayor Mamdani said. “Over these past weeks, as the Knicks kept winning, our city has come together as one.”

The Knicks clinched the 2026 NBA Finals championship title on June 13 during game five of a 4–1 series victory against the San Antonio Spurs. During the final game, Jalen Brunson scored 45 points in total, with 15 points in the fourth quarter alone. The Knicks came back to win it all

after trailing by as many as 16 points in the first half of game five. The 2026 championship marks the Knicks' first NBA title in 53 years.