

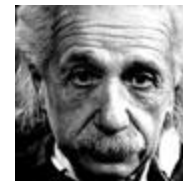
This Week In History

A publication of: peacebuttons.info

This Week in History is a collection designed to help us appreciate the fact that we are part of a rich history advocating peace and social justice. While the entries often focus on large and dramatic events there are so many smaller things done everyday to promote peace and justice.

To the real peace advocates - YOU!

Publisher, [Carl Bunin](#) • Editor, [Al Frank](#)
 Detroit, Michigan



This week at a glance.

<p>Monday May 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •COs report for duty •Jackson State erupts 	<p>Tuesday May 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Mother's Day •Workers' rights under law •Britain's 1st H-bomb •Washington picketing •Deaths at Jackson State •COs get their day 	<p>Wednesday May 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •No slavery in Denmark •Sedition Act •Self-immolation 	<p>Thursday May 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Separate but equal •Brown v. Board •Catonsville 9 •Marriages in Massachusetts 	<p>Friday May 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Happy birthday, Sir Russell •Gray Panthers •Indian A-bomb •Silkwood v. Kerr-McGee 	<p>Saturday May 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •'30s anti-war march •Hellman won't name names •Tragedy in Colombia 	<p>Sunday May 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Freedom riders •Vietnam COs •Art for reconciliation
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May 14, 1941

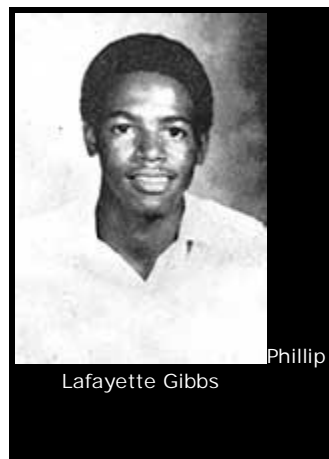
The first groups of WWII conscientious objectors (COs) were ordered to report to camp at Patapsco, Maryland.

World War II COs



May 14, 1970

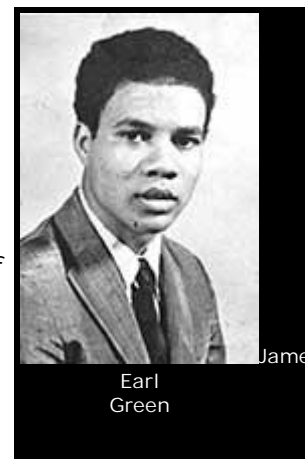
Two African-American students were shot to death and 30 others wounded by local Jackson police and state troopers and national guardsmen at primarily black Jackson State University in Mississippi.



Phillip

Lafayette Gibbs

The two were watching demonstrators protesting the invasion of Cambodia and racial discrimination from a nearby dormitory tower. This happened shortly after the shooting of at students at Kent State University in Ohio. Two days of riots ensued in Jackson resulting in curfews and sealing off of the city.



James

Earl Green

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May 15, 1870

Julia Ward Howe, suffragist, abolitionist and author of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," proposed Mother's Day as a peace holiday.



She had seen firsthand some of the worst effects of war during the American Civil War—the death and disease which killed and maimed, and the widows and orphans left behind on both sides of the Civil War—and realized that the effects of the war go beyond the killing of soldiers in battle. Mother's Day did not become a national holiday until declared by Pres. Woodrow Wilson in 1914.

"Disarm! Disarm!
The sword of murder is not the balance of justice."
Blood does not wipe our dishonor,
Nor violence indicate possession.
As men have often forsaken the plough and the anvil
At the summons of war,
Let women now leave all that may be left of home
For a great and earnest day of counsel."



read her Mother's Day Proclamation

May 15, 1935



The National Labor Relations Act was passed, recognizing workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively with their employers.



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May 15, 1957

Britain tested its first hydrogen bomb over Christmas Island in the south Pacific, after just two years of development.

Mushroom cloud over Christmas Island.



May 15, 1966

The American Friends Service Committee, SANE (The Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy), and Women March for Peace, along with four other organizations, sponsored a 10,000+ person anti-war picket at the White House and a 60,000+ rally at the Washington Monument to oppose the Vietnam War.

May 15 (since the 1980's)

International Conscientious Objectors Day, established to honor those who leave or refuse to enter their country's armed forces for reasons of principle.



Are you a CO? For more info visit PEACE-OUT

Read the stories of 4 Conscientious Objectors



May 16, 1792

Denmark becomes the first country to outlaw the slave trade.

May 16, 1918

The U.S. Congress passed the Sedition Act, legislation designed to protect America's participation in World War I. Along with the Espionage Act of the previous year, the Sedition Act was orchestrated largely by A. Mitchell Palmer, the United States attorney general under President Woodrow Wilson. The Espionage Act, passed shortly after the U.S. entrance into the war in early April 1917, made it a crime for any person to convey information intended to interfere with the U.S. armed forces' prosecution of the war effort or to promote the success of the country's enemies.

Aimed at socialists, pacifists and other anti-war activists, the Sedition Act imposed harsh penalties on anyone found guilty of making false statements that interfered with the prosecution of the war; insulting or abusing the U.S. government, conscription, the flag, the Constitution or the military; agitating against the production of necessary war materials; or advocating, teaching or

defending any of these acts.

May 16, 1967

Nhat Chi Mai immolated herself in Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, to protest the war.

50,000 Vietnamese marched in her funeral procession.

"I offer my body as a torch / to dissipate the dark / to waken love among men / to give peace to Vietnam."

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May 17, 1896

Supreme Court endorsed "separate but equal" racial segregation with its Plessy vs Ferguson decision, a ruling that was overturned 58 years later.

May 17, 1954

In a major civil rights victory, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a unanimous decision in Brown v. Board of Education, ruling "separate but equal" public education to be unconstitutional under the 14th Amendment which guaranteed equal treatment under the law. The historic decision, bringing an end to federal tolerance of racial segregation, specifically dealt with Linda Brown, a young African American girl denied admission to her local elementary school in Topeka, Kansas, because of the color of her skin.



Above: Nettie Hunt and her daughter Nickie on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court, 1954.



George E. C. Hayes, Thurgood Marshall and James M. Nabrit (left to right), the successful legal team, celebrate the Brown decision

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May 17, 1968

A group of anti-war activists who came to be known as the "Catonsville Nine," including Philip and Daniel Berrigan, broke into the Catonsville, Maryland, draft board center and burned over 600 draft files.

The Catonsville Nine in a picture taken in the police station minutes after the action.

From left to right (standing) George Mische, Philip Berrigan, Daniel Berrigan, Tom Lewis. From left to right (seated) David Darst, Mary Moylan, John Hogan, Marjorie Melville, Tom Melville. photo Jean Walsh



read more about the Catonsville Nine



May 17, 2004



Marcia Kadish, 56, and Tanya McCloskey, 52, of Malden, Massachusetts, were married at Cambridge City Hall in Massachusetts, becoming the first legally married same-sex partners in the United States. Over the course of the day, 77 other same-sex couples tied the knot across the state, and hundreds more applied for marriage licenses. The day was characterized by much celebration and only a few of the expected protests materialized.

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May 18, 1872

Birthday of Sir Bertrand Russell, British philosopher, logician, essayist, and social critic, a leading figure in his country's anti-nuclear movement. In 1954 he delivered his famous "Man's Peril" broadcast on the BBC, condemning the Bikini H-bomb tests, and warning of the threat to humanity from the development of nuclear weapons. A year later, together with Albert Einstein, he released the Russell-Einstein Manifesto calling for the curtailment of nuclear weapons. He became the founding president of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in 1958. He resigned, however, in 1960 and formed the more militant Committee of 100 with



Bertrand Russell

the overt aim of inciting mass civil disobedience, and he himself with Lady Russell led mass sit-ins in 1961 that brought them a two-month prison sentence.

May 18, 1972

Margaret (Maggie) Kuhn founded the Gray Panthers (originally called the Consultation of Older and Younger Adults for Social Change) to consider the common problems faced by retirees — loss of income, loss of contact with associates and loss of one of our society's most distinguishing social roles, one's job.

They also discovered a new kind of freedom in their retirement — the freedom to speak personally and passionately about what they believed in, such as their collective opposition to the Vietnam War.





Maggie Kuhn

Gray Panther history



May 18, 1974

In the Rajasthan Desert in the state of Pokhran, India successfully detonated its first nuclear weapon, a fission bomb similar in explosive power to the U.S. atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

The test fell on the traditional anniversary of the Buddha's enlightenment, and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi received the message "Buddha has smiled" from the exuberant test-site scientists after the detonation. The test, which made India the world's sixth nuclear power, broke the nuclear monopoly of the five members of the U.N. Security Council—the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, China, and France.

May 19, 1934

10,000 participated in a "No More War" march in New York City.

May 19, 1952

Author and activist Lillian Hellman advised the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) that she refused to testify against friends and associates, saying: "I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions."



[read more about Lillian Hellman](#)



May 19, 1997

Two international human rights workers, Mario Calderon and Elsa Alvarado, as well as Alvarado's parents, were shot dead in Bogota, Colombia, by paramilitaries.



[Read "The Right to Heresy" by Mario Calderon](#)



Mario Calderon and Elsa Alvarado

May 20, 1961

A white mob attacked "Freedom Riders" in Montgomery, Alabama, prompting the federal government to declare martial law and send in United States Marshals to restore order.



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Freedom Riders challenged racial segregation at Montgomery bus depot.

May 20, 1968

Arlington Street Unitarian-Universalist Church in Boston offered sanctuary to Robert Talmanson and William Chase, both wanted for acts of disobedience for refusing military duty at the height of the Vietnam War.

Draft resister Robert Talmanson dragged by authorities from Arlington Street Church.



May 20, 1971

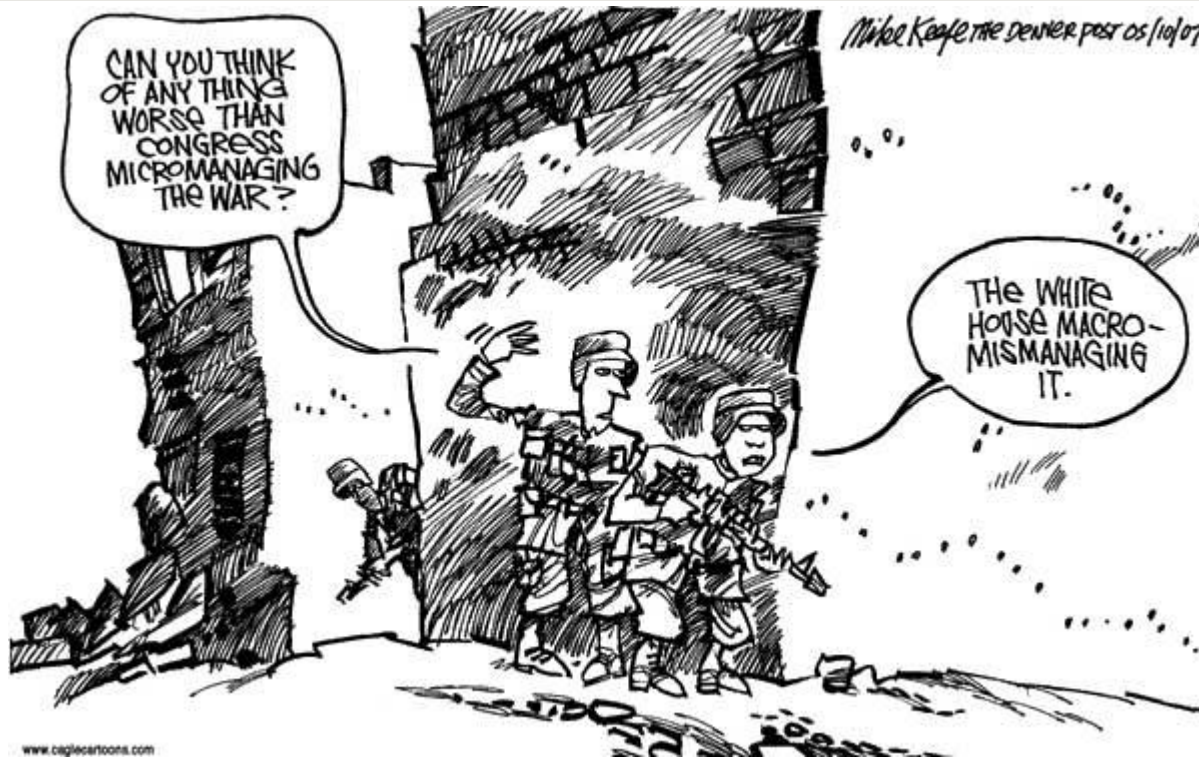
A delegation of U.S. pacifists traveled to Cuba to exchange children's art.

"This is one of the few pieces to which I look forward to receiving. Thank you."

Jacqueline Steingold, Detroit

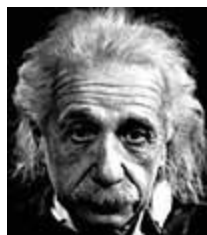
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Cartoon gallery



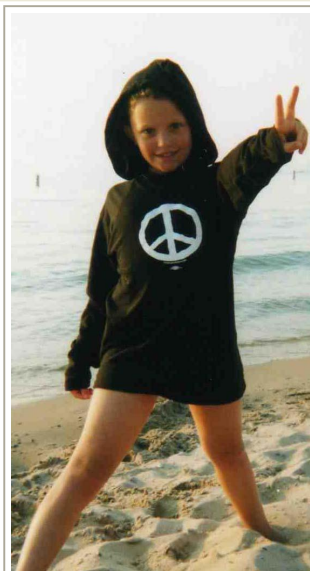
Mike Keefe

Peace quote...



"(War)...This disgrace to civilization should be done away with at once. Heroism at command, senseless brutality, deplorable love-of-country stance, how violently I hate all this, how despicable an ignorable war is; I would rather be torn to shreds than be a part of so base an action! It is my conviction that killing under the cloak of war is nothing but an act of murder.
-Albert Einstein

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