

A Look Back at 1969

Political Events

Richard Nixon sworn in as 37th President	January
People's Democracy marches from Belfast to Derry City, Northern Ireland	January
Ian Paisley is jailed in NIR for illegal assembly	January
In Egypt, Yasser Arafat is elected leader of PLO	February
Supreme Court rules that 1st amendment applies to public schools in Tinker vs. Des Moines Public School District	February
Golda Meir is elected as first female Prime Minister in Israel	March
Dwight D. Eisenhower dies	March
North Korea shoots down EC-121 over Sea of Japan -- kills 31	April
British troops arrive in NIR to reinforce Royal Ulster Police	April
Berkeley community members seize People's Park	April
Charles De Gaulle steps down as President of France	April
Race Riots in Malaysia	May
National Guard sprays skin stinger powder on anti-war protesters in California	May
Civil Rights Riots in Curacao	May
Franco closes Gibraltar-Spain border until 1982	June
Georges Pompidou is elected President of France	June
National Convention of SDS is taken over by the Weatherman	June
The Cuyahoga Fire spurs the Clean Water Act and EPA	June
Rhodesia secedes from United Kingdom	June
Warren E. Burger is sworn in as Chief Justice of U.S. by Earl Warren	June
Tom Myoba, Kenyan Minister of Dev. Is assassinated	July
French becomes equal to English throughout Canada	July
First troop withdrawals are made from Vietnam	
Senator Edward Kennedy drives car off bridge on Chappaquiddick Island and Mary Jo Kopechne dies in the car	July
President Nixon makes unscheduled visit to South Vietnam	July
Pope Paul VI visits Entebbe, Uganda, marking first visit to Africa by a Pope	
Secret peace talks begin in apartment in Paris. Henry Kissinger and Xuan Thuy cannot agree to anything and the talks fail.	
Spanish dictator Francisco Franco appoints Juan Carlos as his successor	July
Violence in NIR after the Apprentice Boys of Derry march in Derry	August
Border clashes between the Soviet Union and China	August
British troops deployed to NIR to quell violence after the Battle of Bogside (Derry March).	August
King Idris is overthrown by Muamar Gaddafi in Libya	September
Ho Chi Minh, President of North Vietnam, dies at 79	September
China carries out underground nuclear test	September
Chicago 8 trial begins in Chicago	September
250,000-500,00 people protest in March Against Death in DC	November



Cuyahoga River fire



Ted Kennedy and Mary Jo Kopechne



Ho Chi Minh

A Look Back at 1969 (continued)

Political Events (continued)

Color television broadcasts begin in BBC1 and ITV in UK	November
Nuclear weapon control talks (SALT) between US and USSR begin in Helsinki	November
Soviet Sub K-19 collides with USS Gato in Barents Sea	November
Richard Nixon agrees to return Okinawa to the Japanese	November
The US Senate votes down Supreme Court nominee Clement Haynsworth — first Senate rejection since 1930	November



Clement Haynsworth before Senate Judiciary

Space and Science

Soviet Union launches Venera 5 toward Venus	January
Soviet Union launches Soyuz 4	January
The Boeing 747 is flown for the first time	February
Aquanaut Berry Cannon dies attempting to repair the Sealab off Catalina Island	February
The Mariner 6 Mars probe is launched in U.S.	February
Concorde test flight leaves Toulouse, France for the U.S.	March
Apollo 9 launched to test lunar module	March
Dr. Denton Cooley implants the first artificial heart	April
A teenager named Robert R. dies of mysterious disease in St. Louis which is later identified as first case of AIDS	April
Soviet spacecraft Venera 5 lands on Venus	April
Apollo 10 launches as test rehearsal but stops 15 kilometers short of landing on the moon	April
Apollo 11 lifts off towards first landing on the Moon	July
Apollo 11 returns after successful lunar landing	July
Mariner 7 flies by Mars	July
Willard Boyle and George Smith invent CCD at Bell Labs, a technology used in digital cameras 30 years later	October
The first message is sent over ARPANET, forerunner of the internet	October
Apollo 12 mission is launched as second moon landing flight	November
Apollo 12 astronauts Charles Conrad and Alan Bean walk on the moon at Oceanus Procellarum	November
The first ARPANET link is established	November
Apollo 12 splashes down safely	November
First Boeing 747 passenger flight takes 191 people from Seattle to New York City	December
UNIX invented under the name Unics	
First strain of AIDS virus migrates to U.S. via Haiti	
Women are allowed membership in National FFA Org	



Soyuz 4 in orbit



Apollo 11 at liftoff

A Look Back at 1969 (continued)

Music and Entertainment

First Led Zeppelin album released in the U.S.	January
Elvis records Long Black Limousine Album	
Beatles give their last public performance	January
Midnight Cowboy is released with an X-rating	May
John Lennon Records "Give Peace a Chance" while in a bed with Yoko Ono	May
Blind Faith plays first gig in London with a crowd of 100,000	June
Judy Garland dies in London of an overdose	June
Brian Jones, founder of The Rolling Stones, drowns in UK	July
The Beatles have Lain McMillan take their picture crossing Abbey Road on a zebra	July
At a meeting of the Beatles minus George Harrison, Lennon announces he is quitting the group	September
Final theatrical Warner Bros. cartoon is released — Injun Troubles	September
The Beatles release Abbey Road album to mixed reviews	September
Brady Bunch broadcast for the first time	September
Monty Python's Flying Circus first airs on BBC	October
DAYS of RAGE: Illinois Nation Guard is called in to control demonstrations by the Weathermen during the Chicago 8 trial	October
Led Zeppelin releases Led Zeppelin II to great acclaim	October
Pink Floyd releases their Ummagrumma album	November
Sesame Street airs first episode on network television	November
Rolling Stones release Let It Bleed album	December
Frosty the Snowman premieres on CBS	December



Judy Garland



The characters of Sesame Street

Top 10 Television shows

1. Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In NBC
2. Gunsmoke CBS
3. Bonanza NBC
4. Mayberry R.F.D. CBS
5. Family Affair CBS
6. Here's Lucy CBS
7. The Red Skelton Hour CBS
8. Marcus Welby, M.D. ABC
9. The Wonderful World of Disney NBC



Evolution and crossing Abbey Road

A Look Back at 1969 (continued)

Sports

Ohio State beats USC in the Rose Bowl	January
NY Jets beat Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III	
UCLA beats Purdue for third straight NCAA Champ.	March
Montreal Expos debut as first MLB team outside the U.S.	April
Montreal Canadiens beat St Louis Blues in Stanley Cup	May
Boris Spassky defeats Tigran Petrosian to be World Chess Champion	
John Fairfax becomes the first person to row across an ocean in a 25-foot rowboat, Britannia, and lands in Florida	July
San Francisco Giants Willie Mays becomes first MLB player to hit 600 home runs since Babe Ruth	September
New York Mets beat the Baltimore Orioles in greatest upset in World Series history	October
University of Wyoming kicks fourteen blacks off the football team for wearing black armbands into the coach's office	October
Pele Scores his 1,000th goal	November
Michigan ends Ohio State's 22 game winning streak	November
University of Texas rallies from 14-point deficit to beat Arkansas and win the national football championship	December
Eddy Merckx wins first of five Tour de France titles	
Rod Laver wins all four tennis Grand Slam Titles	
Margaret Court wins three tennis Grand Slams	
Rocky Marciano dies in plane crash	
George Archer wins the Masters	
US Open won by Orville Moody	
British Open won by Tony Jacklin	



Boris Spassky intimidates



Pele rules the sport of soccer

Popular Culture

Santa Barbara oil spill of 100,00 gallons	January
Motivation for first Earth Day in 1970	
After 147 years, the last issue of The Saturday Evening Post is published	February
Front de Liberation du Quebec bombs Montreal Stock Exchange	February
U.S. Navy establishes Navy Fighter Weapons School (aka Top Gun) at Naval Air Station at Mirimar, Florida	March
Florida issues arrest warrants for Jim Morrison for indecent exposure	March
John Lennon and Yoko Ono are married and go to bed in Amsterdam	March



Oil spill spurs environmental movement

A Look Back at 1969 (continued)

Popular Culture (continued)

Pope Paul VI increases the number of Cardinals by 33% from 101 to 134	March
SDS closes down Harvard Admin building	April
Robin Knox-Johnson sails non-stop around the world	April
HMS Melbourne rams USS Frank Evans in S. China Sea during SEATO maneuvers -- 74 killed	June
Stonewall riots in New York City mark the start of the gay rights movement	June
After El Salvador beats Honduras in soccer rioting breaks out in Honduras. Tens of thousands of Salvadorans are expelled, prompting El Salvador to invade Honduras	July
Manson Family murders Sharon Tate and four others	August
Manson Family Kills Leo and Rosemary LaBianca	August
Disneyland opens The Haunted Mansion	August
Captain D's is founded in Tennessee	August
Woodstock is held near White Lake, NY	August
Long John Silver's opens in Kentucky	
First Gap store opens in San Francisco	
Australian Denis Michael Rohan sets Ai-Aqsa Mosque on fire	August
The first ATM is installed at Rockefeller Centre, New York City	September
Lt. William Calley is charged with murder of Vietnamese	September
Scooby-Doo airs first episode on CBS	September
September 14 was first birth date in the Lottery	September
Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid has limited release	September
1.2 megaton thermonuclear device is tested in Alaska. Calibration used to determine future, larger detonations.	October
Wal-Mart incorporates as Wal-Mart Stores Inc.	October
Richard Oakes leads a group of Indians to seize Alcatraz Island and offers to purchase for \$24	November
Dave Thomas opens first Wendy's in downtown Columbus, Ohio.	November
My Lai Massacre story is broken by Seymour Hersh	November
The S.S. United States, last active US Lines passenger ship, is taken out of service	November
Richard Oakes returns with 90 followers and begins 19-month occupation of Alcatraz	November
First Vietnam Draft Lottery and September 14 is #1	December
Black Panther Party members Fred Hampton and Mark Clark are shot dead during police raid in Chicago	December
Rolling Stones host Altamont Free Concert in Northern California, hiring violent Hells Angels for security	December
Piazza Fontana bombing in Milan kills 17 and injures 88	December
Charles Manson is allowed to defend himself in the Tate-LaBianca trial	December
Phillips Petroleum discover first oil in Norwegian Sea	December



Robin Knox-Johnston at sea on his adventure



The Manson Family stun the nation



The S.S. United States at dock