



Top News Stories from 1965

[Previous Year](#) | [Next Year](#)[World](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Economics](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Science](#)[Year by Year: 1900-2014](#)[View a 1965 calendar](#)

World Events

- The first US combat troops arrive in [Vietnam](#). By the end of the year, 190,000 American soldiers are in Vietnam. Background: [Vietnam War](#)
- [France](#) withdraws its Atlantic fleet from [NATO](#).
- [Rhodesia](#) unilaterally declares its independence from [Britain](#) (Nov. 11).
- US Marines land in the [Dominican Republic](#) as fighting persists between rebels and Dominican army (April 28).

World Statistics

Population: 4.378 billion

[population by decade](#)Nobel Peace Prize: [UNICEF \(United Nations Children's Fund\)](#)[More World Statistics...](#)

U.S. Events

- Rev. Dr. [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#), and more than 2,600 others arrested in Selma, Ala., during demonstrations against voter-registration rules (Feb. 1). Background: [Civil Rights](#)
- [Malcolm X](#), black-nationalist leader, shot to death at Harlem rally (Feb. 21).
- Blacks riot for six days in [Watts](#) section of Los Angeles: 34 dead, over 1,000 injured, nearly 4,000 arrested (Aug. 11-16).

U.S. Statistics

President: [Lyndon B. Johnson](#)Vice President: [Hubert H. Humphrey](#)

Population: 194,302,963

Life expectancy: 70.2 years

Violent Crime Rate (per 1,000): 24.5

Property Crime Rate (per 1,000) 22.5

Homicide Rate (per 100,000): 5.5

[More U.S. Statistics...](#)

Economics

US GDP (1998 dollars): \$719.1 billion

Federal spending: \$118.23 billion

Federal debt \$322.3 billion

Consumer Price Index: \$31.5

Unemployment: 5.2%

Cost of a first-class stamp: \$0.05

[More Economics...](#)

Sports

World Series

LA Dodgers d. Minnesota

NBA Championship

Boston d. LA Lakers

Stanley Cup

Montreal d. Chicago

Wimbledon

Women: Margaret Smith d. M. Bueno (6-4 7-5)

Men: Roy Emerson d. F. Stolle (6-2 6-4 6-4)

Kentucky Derby Champion

Lucky Debonair

NCAA Basketball Championship

UCLA d. Michigan

NCAA Football Champions

Alabama (AP, FW-tie) (9-1-1) & Michigan St. (UPI, NFF, FW-tie) (10-1-0)

Entertainment

Events

- *The Sound of Music* premieres. An instant hit, the film was one of the top-grossing films of 1965 and remains one of film's most popular musicals.
- ABC pays an unprecedented \$32 million for a four-year contract with the NCAA to broadcast football games on Saturday afternoons.
- Bill Cosby, starring in *I Spy*, becomes the first African American to headline a television

Sports Links

[Pro Football Summary](#)

[Pro Basketball Summary](#)

[Pro Baseball Summary](#)

Entertainment Awards

Pulitzer Prizes

Fiction:

The Keepers of the House, Shirley Ann Grau

Drama: *The Subject Was Roses*, Frank D. Gilroy

Academy Award, Best Picture: *My Fair Lady*, Jack L. Warner, producer (Warner Bros.)

show.

Movies

- *Dr. Zhivago, The Sound of Music, A Thousand Clowns, Darling*

Books

- [James Baldwin](#), *Going to Meet the Man*
- [Amiri Baraka](#), *The Dead Lecturer*
- [Heinrich Böll](#), *The Clown*
- [Peter Matthiessen](#), *At Play in the Fields of the Lord*
- [Ralph Nader](#), *Unsafe at Any Speed*
- [Sylvia Plath](#), *Ariel, The Uncollected Poems*
- [Eudora Welty](#), *Thirteen Stories*
- [Alex Haley](#), *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*

Science

- Arno A. Penzias and Robert W. Wilson's (US) discovery of cosmic background radiation confirms the "Big Bang" theory. Background: [Astronomy](#)
- [Early Bird](#), the first commercial communications satellite, is launched.
- Wally Schirra and Thomas Stafford aboard *Gemini VI* perform the first rendezvous with another spacecraft, *Gemini VII*, with Frank Borman and James Lovell. Background: [US Staffed Space Flights](#)
- Soviet [cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov](#) performs the first spacewalk (Mar. 18). Edward White II becomes the first American to walk in space (June 3). Background: [Space Exploration](#)

Death

- [Winston Churchill](#)
- [Nat King Cole](#)

Nobel Prize for Literature: Mikhail Sholokhov (USSR)

Record of the Year: "The Girl From Ipanema," Stan Getz and Astrud Gilberto

Album of the Year: *Getz/Gilberto*, Stan Getz and Joao Gilberto (Verve)

Song of the Year: "Hello, Dolly!," Jerry Herman, songwriter

Miss America: Vonda Kay Van Dyke (AZ)

[More Entertainment Awards...](#)

Nobel Prizes in Science

Chemistry: Robert B. Woodward (US), for work in synthesizing complicated organic compounds

Physics: Richard P. Feynman, Julian S. Schwinger (both US), and Shinichiro Tomonaga (Japan), for research in quantum electrodynamics

Physiology or Medicine: François Jacob, André Lwoff, and Jacques Monod (all France), for study of regulatory activities in body cells

[More Nobel Prizes in 1998...](#)

- [T.S. Eliot](#)
- [Adlai Stevenson](#)

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[Year by Year: 1900-2014](#)

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