



- 1863 6 Lincoln delivers his Gettysburg Address.
- 1904 1 The U.S. Army War College opens its doors.
- 1918 11 World War I formally ends with the signing of the Armistice.
- 1941 3 The Combined Japanese Fleet receives the order to strike U.S. targets in the Pacific.
- 1945 20 The Nuremberg Trials begin.
- 1951 27 A *Nike* missile shoots down a QB-17, the first successful test of a SAM.
- 1960 15 The first American ballistic missile submarine departs Charleston Harbor.
- 1972 23 The first B-52 falls victim to enemy SAMs.
- 1988 22 The Northrop B-2 stealth bomber is revealed in Palmdale, California.
- 2004 1 The Second Battle of Fallujah begins.

TRIVIA

- 1 What was the name of the first aircraft carrier that was commissioned for the U.S. Navy?
- 2 After the advent of the airplane, what part of the Army handled aircraft prior to World War I?
- 3 In relation to a long-running weapons program for the U.S. Army, what does the acronym "SPIW" stand for?

ANSWERS FOR OCTOBER 2021 QUESTIONS

- 1 Which candy was handed out to Soldiers during the Korean War?
» Tootsie Rolls
- 2 What major air campaign ended on Halloween in 1968 that used almost 1 million tons of ordnance?
» ROLLING THUNDER
- 3 How many United States presidents have served in one of the military branches in uniform?
» 30



Danny

2020 was invented by historians to sell more history

6:43 AM · 25 Aug 20 · Twitter for Android

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As we start the new fiscal year, we can safely say that both 2020 and 2021 were very historic years. You might say that will one day sell more history. However, don't let the conspiracy theorists fool you, did you know that all of the years prior to 2020 were also historic?

Stay tuned for history: 2022 edition!



Trivia answers, digital newsletters, and more history is available on the ASC History website:

<https://aschq.army.mil/About-Us/History>

With a 2006 population of around 280,000, the city of Ramadi was a rapidly growing metropolitan area in Iraq. Situated about halfway between Tharthar Lake and Habbaniyah Lake, the city is located about 60 miles west of Baghdad on the Euphrates River. Ramadi is also a converging point for transit, especially for points west such as Syria. Its strategic location has made it the focal point for many conflicts throughout history. During Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), this was no exception to the rule.

Insurgency had been rampant for years in Ramadi by April 2006. The outbreak of terrorist and urban warfare activities was traced to the fall of Fallujah two years earlier. American forces had set up observation points and security checkpoints to attempt to curb ongoing insurgent activities in the city, but exchanges of small arms fire and occasional improvised explosive devices (IEDs) continued.¹ The curtain rose on the Second Battle of Ramadi finally on 17 April 2006, with insurgents striking at multiple checkpoints and the city center.

The strikes were eventually repelled by elements of the 3d Bn, 8th Marines at the checkpoints and the city center, but not before multiple IEDs detonated around the city. The Marines suffered minor losses, while killing dozens of insurgents. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and the Mujahideen Shura Council were

discovered to be the planners and orchestrators of the attacks by the end of April.

Subsequent clashes erupted in the following months and attacks on the General Hospital, and the formation of the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI). Al-Qaeda elements defined Ramadi as the capital for the ISI, complete with a defacto caliphate. Ground fighting consisting of Marines, and Soldiers along with air strikes were the regular in Ramadi through mid-November, when fighting peaked in the city center.

By 15 November, attacks had dropped a significant amount according to U.S. forces, and the precision strikes by insurgents had greatly waned. This was despite criticisms drawn by media outlets reporting of a 14 November airstrike that had disputed accounts of civilian casualties.²

Ramadi continued to be a hotbed for insurgent activity of a smaller scale in the months that followed. By 2013, war erupts again in Ramadi spurred by the Islamic State (IS). Conflict continued into 2016 with the bulk of conflict resolution against IS being handled by the new Iraqi Armed Forces. Support was periodically provided by allied coalition forces from Britain, France, the United States, and Australia. The continued conflict has resulted in major destruction of the city, as much as 90 percent, however it has not stopped population growth since its liberation.

Atomic Artillery

Atomic artillery was a staple in the United States deterrence doctrine since the early 1950s. Guns and howitzers of various calibers and carriages were developed with the added mission of delivering atomic payloads throughout the Cold War. These ranged from the 155 mm W33 shell in the M110 and M115 howitzers to the 406 mm W23 shell on the *Iowa* class of Battleships. All of these shells were produced and in use at one time or another between 1953 and 1992.

The first of these weapons was conceived during and shortly after World War II. The American T1 240 mm Gun, sometimes referred to as the *Black Dragon*, was the large artillery system in the Allied inventory that was pitted against the German Krupp K5 240 mm gun in the Italian theater. The notoriety of the *Leopold* gun was so renowned in the Anzio theater that the gun was called *Anzio Annie* by the Allies.³ It was discovered after capture that one of the things that made the system so effective was its carriage.

The Americans subsequently reverse-engineered this carriage and affixed it to a 240 mm tube. The original T72 carriage married to the T1 gun resulted in what was temporarily referred to as the M1 gun. Shortly thereafter the T131 280 mm tube was added, and the development of the W9 & W19 atomic shells

made the system even more deadly. Thus *Atomic Annie* had been born through the marriage of both the T72 and the T131 (plus the M249 and M250 prime movers).

Subsequent developments on the carriage lead to the T76E1 Triple Threat Weapons carriage which replaced the original T72 and T131 with smaller 240, 203, and 175 mm guns (the 175 mm gun temporarily used the T145 carriage).⁴ Today, only seven M65's remain, including the one gun at Rock Island Arsenal. The only complete M65 is in Petersburg, Virginia—with the *Grable* shot Annie (the only one to fire an atomic shell) at Fort Sill.

Atomic artillery was also produced for the M109, M110, M114, M115, and M198 howitzers. All of these shells had a maximum yield of around 25 KT, or approximately 1.2 times the power of the *Fat Man* bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki. These weapons were to be used not only as deterrence, but as countermeasures to prevent or block passage of an enemy into a DMZ or green zone. The idea was that radiation would keep the enemy at bay. The main concentration of these weapons was in Europe and Korea, with the last atomic shell taken out of activity in 1992 after the fall of the Soviet Union.

1. Rubin, Andrew. "Ramadi from the Caliphate to Capitalism." *Proceedings*. U.S. Naval Institute, Annapolis, Maryland. 12 October 2008.
2. Moore, Solomon. "Marines Deny Airstrikes Used Against Insurgents in Ramadi." *Los Angeles Times*. Los Angeles, California. 5 September 2008.
3. Bull, G.V.; Murphy, C.H. *Paris Kanonen—the Paris Guns (Wilhelmgeschutze) and Project HARP*. E. S. Mittler & Sohn, Hamburg, Germany. 1991.
4. Bacevich, A.J. *The Pentomic Era: The U.S. Army Between Korea and Vietnam*. National Defense University Press, Washington, D.C. 1986.

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