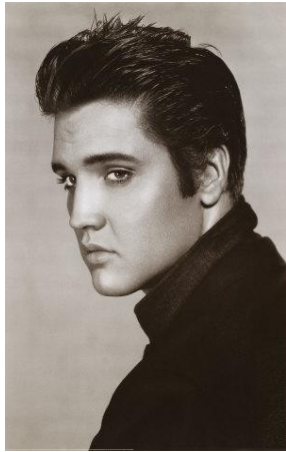


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A CONTEXTUAL TIMELINE

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Elvis Presley releases his first commercial recording, "That's All Right" and "Blue Moon of Kentucky," on Sun Records.

The Supreme Court, in a historic decision, unanimously overrules states rights and declares in *Brown V. Board of Education of Topeka*, that "in the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place. Separated educational facilities are inherently unequal."



Mass inoculation against polio begins when schoolchildren in Pittsburgh receive the vaccine developed by Jonas E. Salk.

The mambo, an African-Cuban dance with a sensual and exuberant beat, takes the country by storm, leading to hit records by artists like Perry Como and Perez Prado.

The Army-McCarthy hearings begin in Washington on April 22. They are broadcast on TV and run until June 17th.

Former Yankee center fielder Joe DiMaggio and movie star Marilyn Monroe marry; nine months later she files for divorce.

A report issued by the Tobacco Industry Research Committee states there is "no proof...that cigarette smoking is a cause of lung cancer."





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Ray A. Kroc opens his first McDonald's restaurant in Des Plaines, Illinois.

Using Ann Landers as her pen name, Esther Pauline Friedman Lederer launches her advice column in the *Chicago Sun-Times*.

Walt Disney Incorporated opens Disneyland, its \$17 million amusement and entertainment park, in Anaheim, California.



Disk jockey Alan Freed hosts the first Rock 'n' Roll Party in New York City, featuring Fats Domino, The Drifters, Joe Turner, and the Moonglows.

President Eisenhower suffers a mild heart attack. After a seven-week recuperation, he is back on the job.



Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat in the whites-only section of a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, touch off a yearlong boycott of the city's buses by blacks.

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The Federal Aid Highway Act is passed by Congress, authorizing the construction of 41,000 miles of interstate highways.

Dwight D. Eisenhower is re-elected president of the United States of America.

Elvis Presley releases the smash hit "Heartbreak Hotel."



Movie star Grace Kelly abandons her career to wed Prince Rainier III of Monaco.



"In God We Trust" becomes the motto of the United States and is added to new coins and currency.

Segregation in public transportation is declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

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ABC television launches the national version of a Philadelphia program called "American Bandstand" hosted by Dick Clark.

Mobster Albert "The Executioner" Anastasia, whose Murder Inc. mob killed more than 60 rival racketeers in the 1930s, is gunned down by two assassins while having his hair cut in a Manhattan barbershop.



Evangelist Billy Graham holds a five-month-long revival at Madison Square Garden in New York that attracts more than 500,000 people.

President Eisenhower sends federal troops to Little Rock, Arkansas, to protect nine black students seeking to attend all-white Central High School.

The Soviets launch the first man-made satellite, Sputnik I, into orbit around earth.



Martin Luther King Jr. helps organize the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and becomes its first president.

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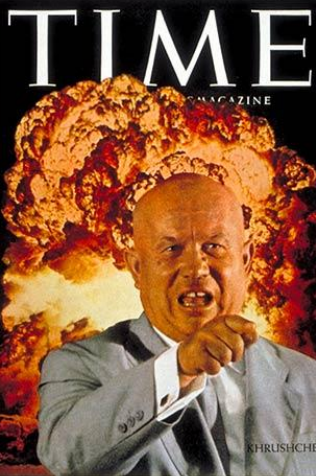
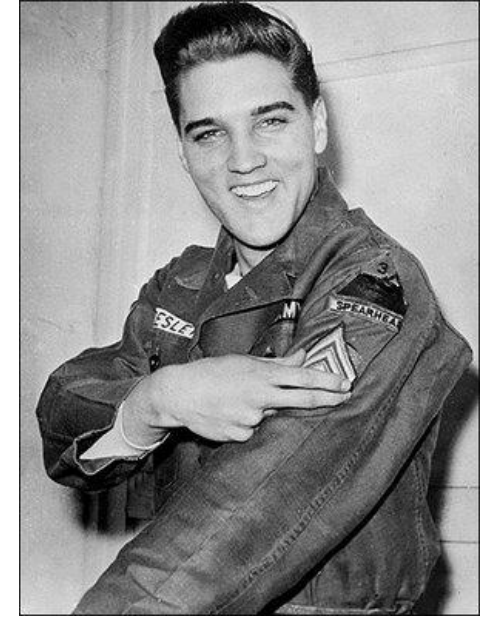
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Pope Pius XII dies at the age of 82. Nineteen days later, a new pontiff, Pope John XXIII, is elected.

The U.S. launches its first satellite, Explorer I, into orbit around earth.

Elvis Presley is inducted into the Army in March for a two-year hitch overseas.



Nikita Khrushchev ousts Nikolai Bulganin and assumes leadership of the Communist Party and the government in the Soviet Union.

National Airlines inaugurates the first regular domestic jet service with flights between New York City and Miami.