

## FDR TO JFK – KEY EVENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY, 1932 to 1960

1932 – MacArthur and the army attack and disperse Bonus Army marchers (July); Franklin Roosevelt, governor of New York scores massive victory over Hoover (472 to 59)

1933 – 20th Amendment (moving up Presidential Inauguration date from March 4 to January 20) and 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment (repeal of 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment)

1935 – Social Security created

1936 – Roosevelt scores huge win over Kansas Governor Alf Landon (523 to 8!!); Hitler marches into the Rhineland

1938 – Munich agreement; Hitler takes the Sudetenland

1939 – Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact (Aug. 24); one week later, Germany invades Poland; World War II begins

1940 – Roosevelt wins third term, defeating Wendell Wilkie (449 to 82)

1941 – US enacts Lend Lease to assist Great Britain; Germany invades the Soviet Union; Japan attacks Pearl Harbor; US enters World War II

1942 – Japanese Americans in Hawaii and the West coast interned

1944 – D-Day (June 6); fourth term for Roosevelt, who defeats New York Governor Tom Dewey (432 to 99)

1945 – Roosevelt dies (April), succeeded by VP Harry Truman; Germany surrenders, war in Europe ends (May); Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan surrenders (August); creation of the United Nations

1947 – Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe

1948 – Berlin Airlift begins; Truman's surprise election victory over Dewey (303 to 189); 39 electoral votes for Strom Thurmond and States' Rights party

1949 – Communists take control of China; Soviet Union detonates atomic bomb; NATO created

1950s – Red scare; McCarthyism

1950 – Beginning of Korean War

1951 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment limiting the President to two terms (consecutive or non-consecutive)

1952 – Eisenhower defeats Adlai Stevenson (442 to 89)

1953 – Korean armistice

1954 – Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education decision

1956 – Eisenhower beats Stevenson by a bigger margin (457 to 73) than in 1952

1957 – Soviet launching of Sputnik

1960 – Soviets shoot down U-2 spy plane; Kennedy defeats Nixon 319 to 232 in Electoral College; popular vote: Kennedy 49.7%, Nixon 49.6% difference of 113,000 out of 90 million votes cast