



October 24, 1945

▲ **The United Nations officially came into existence as its charter, adopted in June, took effect. There were initially 51 members, a figure that has since almost quadrupled**

1795: Poland was partitioned between Russia, Prussia and Austria

1945: Vidkun Quisling, prime minister of Norway during the German occupation, was executed by firing squad after being convicted of high treason

1980: Paul McCartney entered the Guinness Book of Records as the world's all-time bestselling songwriter

1995: A total eclipse of the sun was witnessed from India to Vietnam