

DATES TO REMEMBER



JULY 2, 1937

During her 29,000-mile around-the-world flight, Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, fail to establish two-way radio communication with U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Itasca* on the leg between Lea, New Guinea, and Howland Island. As a result, researchers believe Earhart ran out of fuel and she and Noonan perished at sea.



AUGUST 25, 1944

Accompanied by French soldiers, the U.S. Army's 4th Infantry Division marches into Paris, liberating the city after four years of German occupation.



SEPTEMBER 9, 1942

A Japanese floatplane drops an incendiary bomb on a forest in Oregon. This is the first and only air attack on the U.S. mainland during World War II.

Candy's dandy

By Sally Benford

Who knew that the famous slogan, "Melts in your mouth, not in your hand," found its roots on the field of battle?



During the 1930s, when confectioner Forrest Mars Sr. saw Spanish Civil War soldiers popping hard sugar-shell candies into their mouths, an icon was born. Those hard sugar shells kept the chocolate inside from melting, giving Mars an idea. He soon brought that idea back to the U.S., applied for a patent and, in 1941, began manufacturing the sugar-coated chocolate candies with his partner Bruce Murrie from the Hershey Company. Mars had anticipated a chocolate shortage during the impending war years, hence the partnership with Murrie. They called the candies M&Ms, based on their last names. Their largest customer? The U.S. Military.

Throughout World War II, M&Ms were included in military C-rations. In fact, until the war ended in 1945, M&Ms were 100%

at war, according to their billboard slogan. And M&Ms weren't the only candy to satisfy the military's sweet tooth during the war. Heath bars became a favorite of military service members. The milk chocolate-covered toffee bars had a stable shelf life, so in 1942, the U.S. Army placed a \$175,000 order for the candy—today that figure would be almost \$2.5 million—that's a lot of chocolate!



Tootsie Rolls have boosted troop morale since World War I, and during the Korean War, this humble candy became famous with the troops. The story goes that during the Chosin Reservoir Campaign in November and December 1950, Tootsie Rolls saved the

day. Trapped by North Korean troops, U.S. soldiers and marines radioed that they were running low on 60mm ammunition, referring to the ammunition by its code name, "Tootsie Rolls." The person on the other end didn't recognize the code and sent the real thing—a mistake that turned into a miracle. Due to below-zero temperatures, rations were frozen and Tootsie Rolls were the only food the troops could eat for a few days, giving them the energy they needed to continue fighting. Chosin veterans consider Tootsie Rolls such an important part of their Korean War experience that they serve handfuls of them at their reunions. ★

Words to remember

"There are no atheists in foxholes."
—Rev. William T. Cummings, who served at Bataan during World War II

"Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves."
—Abraham Lincoln

"My decision to register women confirms what is already obvious throughout our society—that women are now providing all types of skills in every profession. The military should be no exception."
—Jimmy Carter



Did you know?



Because he had terrible vision, Harry Truman memorized the letters on the eye chart in order to qualify for the Missouri National Guard in 1905.



In 1933, Nazis throughout Germany burned thousands of books considered "un-German." The banned authors included American writers such as Ernest Hemingway, Sinclair Lewis, Jack London and Helen Keller.



The first American female POW was Union Army contract surgeon Dr. Mary E. Walker, who was captured on April 10, 1864. Walker was held at a military prison in Richmond, Virginia for four months. She is currently the only woman to receive the Medal of Honor.