

BENITO MUSSOLINI'S ITALIAN (AND AMERICAN) FASCISM



Political science describes a number of modalities by which an authoritarian state may allow social, religious, economic, or popular organizations to take actual power away from its electorate –the governed public which still supposes that it itself is doing its own governance when in simple fact it is not– by subtly dominating the activities of governance. One of these modalities is that known as corporatism, an extreme form of regulatory capture. The Italian Fascism of Benito Mussolini was most prominently marked not by trains-on-time efficiency, or by Neapolitano fecklessness, or by Siciliano brutality, but by its corporatism (*corporativismo*) – its practice of allowing political power to be wielded by economic cartels.

Thus my deployment of the term "Fascist," as a derogative synonym for "corporatist." Here is that deployment in its classic (1932) version:

...[The state] is not simply a mechanism which limits the sphere of the supposed liberties of the individual.... Neither has the Fascist conception of authority anything in common with that of a police ridden State.... Far from crushing the individual, the Fascist State multiplies his energies, just as in a regiment a soldier is not diminished but multiplied by the number of his fellow soldiers....

The power that American business currently is wielding, to control federal and state legislation through lobbying and campaign donations and other avenues of influence over elected officials, does not need to be part of any "military/industrial complex" for it to be detrimental to our republic.

In Benito Mussolini's "Fascist Italy," corporatism was direct and open. The boards of directors of Italian corporations were assigned blocks of votes and they decided how these votes were to be cast for particular candidates in particular elections. They openly delivered their certificates of entitlement to the voting places, casting for instance a block of 10,000 corporate Vespa votes for Candidate E. In America's current corporatism, by way of contrast, the process is mediated and nontransparent. Our popular elections are now being decided primarily by which



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candidate can afford the most overwhelming barrage of TV spots just as the polls open. This in turn is determined primarily by which candidate has been able to attract the most campaign donations from corporations and special-interest lobbying groups. While we have preserved a form in which the citizens themselves seem to be casting individual one-man-one-vote ballots, in actuality in America now it is not people who vote. It is money that votes. It is no longer one citizen one vote. It has become one million dollars one vote. Campaign donations determine the outcomes of our elections and therefore, only those who have money to invest in this process actually participate in the decision-making, whether it is at the local level, or at the state level, or at the federal level of government. We keep making gestures at "campaign reform" (gestures defeated by decisions of our Supreme Court, which is currently operating on the principle that the Bill of Rights grants rights and liberties only to money), but such gestures are being made by the beneficiaries of the current system and therefore never amount to anything more than mere popular distractions. Mussolini indeed did lose the battle, in consequence of World War II, and lose his life with it, hanging upside down in a filling station – but since then the principle which he had endorses, the principle of corporatism, has triumphed. In a very real sense what he had been sponsoring has in the generations since his death become the rule by which governance is implemented. Only the names have been changed to protect the guilty.

The comment was once made (made by a person of no great repute), that when fascism comes to America, it will come wrapped in the American flag. That comment reflect reality and has been confirmed in the US Supreme Court's [Citizens United](#) decision. Mussolini's corporatism has won. In America henceforward, only money will have any rights. The test will be quantity: if you want to know how many rights you have, you only need glance in your billfold.

The next time there's an election, try keeping your eyes open will you? Which of the candidates would ever consent to be in the same room with you unless you have your fists full of money?

**“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY**



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1883

July 29, Sunday: [Benito Mussolini](#) was born as Benito Amilcare Andrea Mussolini (named in honor of Benito Juárez, Mexican revolutionary) in Dova di Predappio near Forlì in Romagna, [Italy](#), to the teacher Rosa Maltoni and the blacksmith Alessandro Mussolini.

NOBODY COULD GUESS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT





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1891

May 15, Friday: Pope Leo XIII issued an encyclical, *RERUM NOVARUM* (OF NEW THINGS), in which he attempted to describe the proper relationship between government, business, labor, and the church. This letter to his bishops is now generally accepted as the foundational document of the movement that is known as Christian Democracy.

The great mistake made in regard to the matter now under consideration is to take up with the notion that class is naturally hostile to class, and that the wealthy and the working men are intended by nature to live in mutual conflict. So irrational and so false is this view that the direct contrary is the truth. Just as the symmetry of the human frame is the result of the suitable arrangement of the different parts of the body, so in a State is it ordained by nature that these two classes should dwell in harmony and agreement, so as to maintain the balance of the body politic. Each needs the other: capital cannot do without labor, nor labor without capital. Mutual agreement results in the beauty of good order, while perpetual conflict necessarily produces confusion and savage barbarity. Now, in preventing such strife as this, and in uprooting it, the efficacy of Christian institutions is marvellous and manifold. First of all, there is no intermediary more powerful than religion (whereof the Church is the interpreter and guardian) in drawing the rich and the working class together, by reminding each of its duties to the other, and especially of the obligations of justice.

Of these duties, the following bind the proletarian and the worker: fully and faithfully to perform the work which has been freely and equitably agreed upon; never to injure the property, nor to outrage the person, of an employer; never to resort to violence in defending their own cause, nor to engage in riot or disorder; and to have nothing to do with men of evil principles, who work upon the people with artful promises of great results, and excite foolish hopes which usually end in useless regrets and grievous loss. The following duties bind the wealthy owner and the employer: not to look upon their work people as their bondsmen, but to respect in every man his dignity as a person ennobled by Christian character. They are reminded that, according to natural reason and Christian philosophy, working for gain is creditable, not shameful, to a man, since it enables him to earn an honorable livelihood; but to misuse men as though they were things in the pursuit of gain, or to value them solely for their physical powers – that is truly shameful and inhuman. Again justice demands that, in dealing with the working man, religion and the good of his soul must be kept in mind. Hence, the employer is bound to see that the worker has time for his religious duties; that he be not exposed to corrupting influences and dangerous occasions; and that he be not led away



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to neglect his home and family, or to squander his earnings. Furthermore, the employer must never tax his work people beyond their strength, or employ them in work unsuited to their sex and age. His great and principal duty is to give every one what is just. Doubtless, before deciding whether wages are fair, many things have to be considered; but wealthy owners and all masters of labor should be mindful of this - that to exercise pressure upon the indigent and the destitute for the sake of gain, and to gather one's profit out of the need of another, is condemned by all laws, human and divine. To defraud any one of wages that are his due is a great crime which cries to the avenging anger of Heaven. "Behold, the hire of the laborers ... which by fraud has been kept back by you, crieth; and the cry of them hath entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth." Lastly, the rich must religiously refrain from cutting down the workmen's earnings, whether by force, by fraud, or by usurious dealing; and with all the greater reason because the laboring man is, as a rule, weak and unprotected, and because his slender means should in proportion to their scantiness be accounted sacred. Were these precepts carefully obeyed and followed out, would they not be sufficient of themselves to keep under all strife and all its causes?



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1901

Benito Mussolini qualified as an elementary schoolmaster.

NO-ONE'S LIFE IS EVER NOT DRIVEN PRIMARILY BY HAPPENSTANCE





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1902

[Benito Mussolini](#) emigrated to [Switzerland](#) but was unable to find a lasting job and was expelled back to [Italy](#), where he enlisted in the military.

[Harry S Truman](#) worked for a couple of weeks in the mailing room of the [Kansas City Star](#) and then took a job as a timekeeper for L.J. Smith on the Santa Fe Railroad construction project.

**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?
— NO, THAT’S GIVING TOO MUCH TO THE HISTORIAN’S STORIES.
LIFE ISN’T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**



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1903

September 7, Monday: A pastor named Tagliatella was speaking of God. A young man in the audience rose to declare that he spit on God and cursed God. He paused and, when nothing happened to him, commented: “As you can clearly see, God does not exist.” This literal-minded young man’s name was [Benito Mussolini](#). Rather than placing his trust in God this young man would place his trust, he would say, in the pen in his hand and the pistol in his pocket. Wow, what an interesting attitude!

THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT



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1908

[Benito Mussolini](#) joined the staff of a newspaper in the Austrian town of Trento. At the time he was writing a novel, which has now appeared in English as *THE CARDINAL'S MISTRESS*.

Karl Friedrich May visited America. This [German](#) author had been writing best-sellers about the Indians of the American West since the 1890s, from the point of view of the heroic comrades "Winnetou" the Apache, and "Old Shatterhand" (a German author type whose first name happened to be Karl).



A set of playing cards would be based on Karl May's fantasies, as above. The noble Winnetou combined the highest aspects of otherwise "decadent" Indian cultures with the natural adoption of the romantic and Christian traits of May's own vision of German civilization. As he lay dying, the Apache Winnetou asked some whites to sing an Ave Maria for him, and his death was sanctified by a quiet conversion to Christianity. [Adolf Hitler](#) would be much taken by these fictions.¹

1. Hitler's favorite reading, according to Frau Pauline Kohler who worked at Berchtesgaden and observed his habits over a number of years, was in German history, a topic in regard to which he was insatiable. She reports that he also took great interest in the history of the building of the British Empire — in particular men like Sir Francis Drake (1545-1596), Lord Robert Clive of India (1725-1774), and General James Wolfe of Canada (1727-1759). However HITLER'S TABLE TALK reports that he told Martin Bormann that he used to read Karl May's novels "by candle-light, or by moonlight with the help of a huge magnifying glass," and Albert Speer's SPANDAU: THE SECRET DIARIES reports that "during [Hitler's] reading hours at night, May's stories gave him courage like works of philosophy or the BIBLE for others."



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1914

October: With [Italy](#) about to enter [World War I](#), the Socialist Party opposed interventionism and some revolutionary syndicalists broke away into a splinter group they called *Fasci d'azione rivoluzionaria internazionalista*. [Benito Mussolini](#) joined the Milan fascio, plumping for Italy to abandon the Triple Alliance, and its relations with Imperial Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire, in order to enter the world war on the side of Britain and France (this is what, in the following year, would indeed happen).

[Ezra Pound](#) sent T.S. Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" to [Poetry](#) (this would appear in the issue for June 1915). He began to incorporate Ernest Fenollosa's translations of [Chinese](#) poetry and [Japanese](#) Noh plays into poems of his own (such as "The River Merchant's Wife").

A refortified [St. Helena](#) was reinforced with 87 further British soldiers and Governor Major Sir Harry Edward Spiller Cordeaux imposed martial law (which would be continuous, in this "outpost of empire," until 1918).

November: With the support of a mistress, Margherita Sarfatti, [Benito Mussolini](#) founded a new newspaper, *Il Popolo d'Italia* (The [Italian](#) People) and the prewar group *Fasci d'Azione Rivoluzionaria*.

THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT





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1917

When [Italy](#) called him up for military service, [Benito Mussolini](#) promptly got wounded during grenade practice (what luck) and was thus able to return to edit his newspaper *Il Popolo d'Italia* (*The Italian People*). And [Adolf Hitler](#) had enlisted in 1914, and would be gassed by the British in 1918. Thus it is possible for us to say that both the European leaders of [World War II](#) in Europe, [Mussolini](#) as well as [Hitler](#), had themselves been casualties during [World War I](#) — in the very same sense in which it is possible for us to say that both of our Commanders in Chief in the war on Iraq, the [Bush](#) father and son, had previously themselves served in the US military! Imagine that.



"Our prayer is: Lord God, let us never hesitate, let us never play the coward, let us never forget the duty which we have taken upon us."

— [Adolf Hitler](#), March 1933



PROTO-NAZISM
WORLD WAR I

WORLD WAR II
GERMANY

WHAT I'M WRITING IS TRUE BUT NEVER MIND
YOU CAN ALWAYS LIE TO YOURSELF



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FASCISM

1919

February 23, Sunday: In [Italy](#), [Benito Mussolini](#) founded the *Fasci italiani di Combattimento*.



PROTO-NAZISM

In Ahmadabad, [Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi](#) appealed for [civil disobedience](#) against the proposed Rowlatt Acts (these regulations allowed, in political cases, trial without jury and internment without trial; it was his initial public action against British rule in India).

CHANGE IS ETERNITY, STASIS A FIGMENT

March 23, Sunday: At a meeting in a small room in Milan, [Italy](#), [Benito Mussolini](#)'s Fascism became an organized political movement (it would fail in the 1919 elections).

PROTO-NAZISM

This initial meeting of the Fascio Milanese di Combattimento consisted of an eclectic group of veterans, workers, and revolutionaries and Mussolini was at the time an elementary schoolteacher. They signed a manifesto which included expansionism in the Adriatic, support for veterans, opposition to any politician advocating neutrality, and universal suffrage.



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1920

September 8, Wednesday: Gabriele D'Annunzio proclaimed the *Carta del Carnaro* as the constitution of the Italian Regency of Carnaro in Fiume (Rijeka), [Italy](#). Although this government would not last out the year, its charter, largely created by Alceste De Ambris, a scheme which combined anarchist, proto-fascist, and democratic republican ideals, would have legs in the ideals and techniques of Italian fascism. This is the charter that famously designated “music” as the fundamental principle of government (were we to substitute the term “money” for the term “music,” we would have an accurate description of the reality of our own American political life).

Do I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION? GOOD.

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1921

July 29, Friday: In [Germany](#), [Adolf Hitler](#) became *Der Führer* of the *Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei* (National Socialist German Workers' Party, or NSDAP), the "Nazi" Party.

**WORLD WAR II**

During this year, [Franklin Delano Roosevelt](#) was being stricken with polio at Campobello. For the remainder of his life he would be unable to walk unaided.

During this year, [Benito Mussolini](#) was entering the [Italian](#) parliament as a right-winger.



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1922

July 31, Monday: Kammermusik no.1 and Die junge Magd, a song cycle for alto, flute, clarinet and string quartet op.23/2, both by Paul Hindemith, were performed for the first time, in Donaueschingen.

[Italian](#) socialists initiated a nationwide general strike in opposition to [Benito Mussolini](#). Across the nation, fascists began to make pugnacious physical assaults upon known socialists.

Julian Ignacy Novak replaced Wojciech Korfanty as prime minister of Poland.

October 26, Thursday: Trio for violin, cello and piano by Otto Luening was performed for the first time, in Chicago (reviews were mixed).

Directed from Perugia, Fascists begin to mobilize in Pisa and other [Italian](#) cities. They cut telephone lines and began leaving in small groups for Rome.

October 27, Friday: As the fascists began their *Marcia su Roma* (March on [Rome](#)), [Italian](#) Prime Minister Facta handed the resignations of his government to King Vittorio Emanuele. They would stay on in a caretaker capacity. Thus [Benito Mussolini](#) established his Fascist dictatorship.

PROTO-NAZISM

October 28, Saturday: At about midnight, fearful of the arrival of pugnacious fascist street fighters and assassins in the city for their planned *Marcia su Roma* (March on [Rome](#)), Minister of the Interior Paolino Taddei persuaded General Emanuele Pugliese to assume military control in Rome (the general had insisted on having this as a direct order, requiring that the order be both written and signed).

At dawn, the [Italian](#) cabinet agreed on the strong repressive measures that were to be used against the fascists. Written orders were sent out, and martial law declared.

At 9AM, Prime Minister Facta asked King Vittorio Emanuele III to declare a state of siege and in direct violation of the constitution, the monarch refused to comply.

The swordsman [Benito Mussolini](#) would be invited by the monarch to form a new government.

Skilled Swordsmen

[Saint Ignatius Loyola](#)

[President Harry S Truman](#)

[Michel Angelo](#)

[General George Patton](#)

[Sir Walter Raleigh](#)

[Heinrich Himmler](#)



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| Skilled Swordsmen | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| René Descartes | Hermann Göring |
| John Milton | Juan Péron |
| George Frederick Handel | Francisco Franco |
| Johann Wolfgang von Goethe | Benito Mussolini |
| Karl Marx | Oswald Mosley |
| Sir Richard Burton | Reinhard Heydrich |
| Aleksandr Pushkin | |

October 29, Sunday: When the King's refusal to oppose fascism became widely known, local authorities began abandoning the constitutional government in favor of the fascists. King Vittorio Emanuele sent a telegram to Milan inviting [Benito Mussolini](#) to form a government.

October 31, Tuesday: [Benito Mussolini](#) became the youngest Premier in the history of [Italy](#), the youngest in the history of the country, replacing Luigi Facta.



[Giuseppe Garibaldi](#)'s government had allowed people to view the pornographic images excavated at [Pompeii](#), but when power passed to the Savoy kings, the images had been suppressed. Mussolini's government would also largely suppress these embarrassing ancient [Roman](#) images. (Even in the late 1940s, anyone wishing to see this special collection would need an official document attesting to serious purpose signed by a government official — and in the inevitable derivative Neapolitan cultural oscillation, there would of course arise a considerable market in counterfeit attestations. Although a special pornography room would open in the 1970s, it would then soon close “for renovations.”)



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1923

August 29, Wednesday: [Benito Mussolini](#) demanded the execution of the assassins of General Tellini, and in addition 50,000,000 lire.



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FASCISM

1924

December 3, Wednesday: At the cathedral in Milan, [Italy](#), last rites in the Roman Catholic Church were performed for the remains of Giacomo Puccini, as the La Scala orchestra played his music from Edgar conducted by Arturo Toscanini. The body was then placed temporarily in the Toscanini family tomb in the Cimitero Monumentale. The funeral oration was given by Prime Minister [Benito Mussolini](#).



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1925

January 3, Saturday: Prime Minister [Benito Mussolini](#) accepted full responsibility for every action of his party — even including the party’s murder of Giacomo Matteotti, and even were it to be declared to be a “criminal conspiracy.” It was the very nature of the fascist ideology, to be totalitarian. Within two days, any pretence to there being a parliamentary democracy in [Italy](#) would be swept away. All non-fascists were simply ousted, everywhere in the nation, from any position of responsibility.



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1926

April 7, Wednesday: Irish woman Violet Gibson fired three times at *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) as he sat in a car, in [Rome](#). She hit him once, across the nose. He survived and, with a bandage on his nose, continued his daily schedule. Gibson was almost torn apart by a mob but was rescued by police. She would never indicate why she had attacked Mussolini but was presumed to be deranged.

April 19, Monday: Gian Francesco Malipiero wrote to *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) lauding [Italian](#) fascism, and offering his services to bring music into line. You and me, big guy, we could make the sweetest music together.

Maria (Mimi) Kwast Pfitzner, wife of Hans Pfitzner, died at the age of 46. “With the death of my wife Mimi, I had the feeling that my true life had ended.”

Incidental music to d’Annunzio’s (translated by Doderet) play *Phaedre* by Arthur Honegger was performed for the first time, at the Teatro Costanzi, Rome, the composer conducting.

Pitcairn Aviation was founded. Eventually it would become Eastern Airlines.

April 25, Sunday: *Turandot*, a *dramma lirico* by Giacomo Puccini to words of Adami and Simoni, after Gozzi and Schiller, and finished by Franco Alfano, was performed for the first time, at the Teatro alla Scala, Milan. During the performance, after the death of Liù, the conductor, Arturo Toscanini, stopped the orchestra, turned to the audience, and announced “at this point, the master put down his pen.” There was a long silence. Then, from the balcony came the shout “Viva Puccini!”, followed by a long ovation (the “completed” version by Franco Alfano would be heard at the second performance, on April 27th). *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) was not present because Toscanini has refused to include the Fascist anthem *La Giovinezza*.

Several songs for voice and piano by Samuel Barber were performed for the first time, in front of about a hundred guests at the composer’s home in West Chester, Pennsylvania: Sometime, Seven Nursery Songs, October Weather, Dere Two Fella Joe, My Fairyland, Two Poems of the Wind, A Slumber Song of the Madonna, Fantasy in Purple, Lady When I Behold the Roses, La nuit, I never thought that Youth would Go, Invocation to Youth, Au clair de la lune, Man, Music When Soft Voices Die, Thy Love, and Watchers.



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1927

April 4, Monday: At Rome, Count István Bethlen de Bethlen and *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) signed a treaty between their respective countries, Hungary and [Italy](#) (they pledged to live at peace with each other, submitting any disagreements to arbitration).



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1928

Duce [Benito Mussolini](#)'s life story up to this point was offered to the English-reading public as MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY, in a translation by former US Ambassador to [Italy](#) Richard Washburn Child. In this writing he comes across as a sterling character of impeccable patriotism.

[Franklin Delano Roosevelt](#) was elected to be Governor of the State of [New York](#).

In California during this decade, William Dudley Pelley, a scriptwriter, son of a Protestant minister of Lynn, Massachusetts, had “experienced death” for seven minutes and made contact with an oracle. His oracle would guide him to become “the Chief” of a secret Silver Shirts Legion in California, the Pacific northwest, and the deep south, fifteen thousand to fifty thousand strong. The gazette version of this American Nazi movement would be termed the Liberation.



JEMIMAH WILKINSON

Führer [Adolf Hitler](#) was hard at work on a 2d-volume sequel to *MEIN KAMPF*.



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"It is not by chance that the American union is in the state in which by far the greatest number of bold, sometimes unbelievably so, inventions are currently taking place. The achievements of a thousand racially questionable Europeans cannot equate with the capabilities of a thousand racially first-rate Americans."



– [Adolf Hitler](#), 1928



April 2, Monday: In [Milan](#), Prime Minister István, Count Bethlen of Hungary met a 2d time with *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#). They entered into an informal agreement to support fascist and anti-Yugoslav causes.

Ode à la France for solo voices, chorus and orchestra by Claude Debussy to words of Laloy, and finished by Marius François Gaillard, was performed for the first time, in the Salle Pleyel, Paris along with the premiere of Debussy's Printemps for female chorus and orchestra to words of the comte de Ségur, and Invocation for male chorus and orchestra (both composed in 1882).

May 12, Saturday: The [Italian](#) government of *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) severely restricted suffrage, eliminating not only women but also any man who was paying less than 100 lire in syndicate taxes. One hundred liri, one vote, two hundred liri, two votes ... is this so impossible to understand?

Three works for female chorus by Zoltán Kodály were performed for the first time, in Budapest: God's Blacksmith, The Deaf Boatman and Gypsy Lament.



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1930

June 5, Thursday: In [Rome](#), Gian Francesco Malipiero had his initial audience with *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#). He brought scores of 47 of his compositions, four of his books, 10 volumes of the Monteverdi edition he has been overseeing, and five of his arrangements of early music.



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1931

May 14, Thursday: During the afternoon, when Arturo Toscanini was informed that he would be required to lead his orchestra in the [fascist](#) hymn Giovinezza at a concert scheduled for that evening in Bologna in commemoration of the composer Martucci, he responded that no anthem became obligatory simply because of the presence of a member of the government. As he arrived at the theater his car was surrounded by fascist youths and he was slapped in the face, so he returned to his hotel. Black shirts were stationed at the doors to the theater. On being made aware of these events, Ottorino Respighi left his box and attended Toscanini at his hotel. A fascist demonstration began, beneath the window of Toscanini's hotel room. Local fascists entered the hotel and were confronted by Respighi, who elicited from them a promise that Toscanini would have safe passage out of Bologna that night.

Manuel de Falla and other supporters of the republic in Granada sent a telegraph to Prime Minister Niceto Alcalá Zamora expressing deep concern over recent torchings of convents.

May 15, Friday: In Bologna, Arturo Toscanini sent a telegram to [Benito Mussolini](#), recounting the events of the previous day "so that the deed be remembered." *Il Duce* would not reply.

Torneo notturno, an opera by Gian Francesco Malipiero to his own words, was performed for the first time, in the Nationaltheater, München.

To mark the 40th anniversary of Pope Leo III's *RERUM NOVARUM* (OF NEW THINGS), Pope Pius XI issued an encyclical entitled *QUADRAGESIMO ANNO* (40TH YEAR). This was the church's response to the social disorder being created by the Great Depression. The Pope called for the establishment of a new social order that was to be based on a principle of subsidiarity.

[reference](#)



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1932

The *ENCICLOPEDIA ITALIANA* contained an article “The Doctrine of Fascism” that it attributed to *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) (in all probability this had been ghostwritten for him by Giovanni Gentile). In 1935 this would be published separately by Vallecchi Editore of Firenze, but then during April 1940, after some hindsight had accumulated, Mussolini would attempt to suppress the piece in its entirety). It is an expression of a corporative system, a system of *corporazioni*, in which the divergent interests of various individuals are coordinated and harmonized in the unity of the Nation. It is a form of defining oneself in opposition, and of the most virulent anticommunism, that will seem incredibly familiar to the US “cold warriors” who have spent their lifetimes opposing the USSR:

Fascism [is] the precise negation of that doctrine which formed the basis of the so-called Scientific or Marxian Socialism.

However, this [Italian](#) Fascism was also at its core totally antidemocratic — antidemocratic in the same sense in which the US’s present political system, fueled as it is primarily by campaign donations offered by industry lobbies, donations that pay for the last-minute TV spots that alone influence the outcomes of our elections, is also at its core totally antidemocratic (because actually it is the dollar bills that are casting the ballots, the innocent duped voters being merely biological devices that carry pieces of paper from place to place during the final stage of this stuffing of the ballot boxes):

Fascism attacks the whole complex of democratic ideologies and rejects them both in their theoretical premises and in their applications or practical manifestations. Fascism denies that the majority, through the mere fact of being a majority, can rule human societies; it denies that this majority can govern by means of a periodical consultation; it affirms the irremediable, fruitful and beneficent inequality of men, who cannot be levelled by such a mechanical and extrinsic fact as universal suffrage.

February 11, Thursday: On the 3d anniversary of the Lateran Treaty, *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) and Pope Pius XI met in Rome. The split between [Italian](#) fascists and the [Catholic Church](#) had been healed.



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1933

[Ezra Pound](#) was granted an audience with the [Italian](#) swordsman [Benito Mussolini](#) and presented him with his digest of economic reforms and a draft of his CANTOS.



Il Duce (acting impressed)

In ABC OF ECONOMICS, Pound presented all cultural history as a struggle between producers and usurers, presenting a pantheon of heroes in which Mussolini stood, fiscally, alongside [Thomas Jefferson](#).



In a related development, the Lone Ranger and Tonto began heigh-ho'ing Silver, in radio broadcasts from Detroit's WXYZ-AM.

October 28, Saturday: *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) and King Victor Emmanuel III led a parade, down the new Via dei Trionfi, that began at [Rome](#)'s [Colosseum](#).



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1934

June 14, Thursday: *Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#) landed in Venice for his initial meeting with *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#). Although officially friendly and cordial, these two most powerful fascist dictators failed to “hit it off.”

WORLD WAR II

June 23, Saturday: The Corporation of Entertainment was established by order of *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#), to oversee the performing arts.

July 25, Wednesday: Austrian Nazis begin a putsch against the government of Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss. 150 men stormed the chancellery and shot Dollfuss in the neck, leaving him to slowly bleed to death. *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) was particularly distressed by the move as at that moment, by coincidence, Frau Dollfuss and her children were his houseguests. It fell to Il Duce to take the bad news to them. The Austrian chancellor finally died at 6:00PM, but the putsch had failed.

GERMANY

WORLD WAR II

October 28, Sunday: An opening-day parade of 15,000 athletes was led by *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) on horseback (I don't know whether this [Roman](#) parade originated at the [Colosseum](#) or wound up there).



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

1935

[Jusef Stalin](#) decreed that anyone above age 12 who got caught stealing food would be punished as an adult: 5 years in a labor camp for cucumbers, 8 for corn or potatoes.

In the US, people began playing the Monopoly board game, a frank celebration of the capitalist ethos. The Social Security Act was signed into law. During a test-marketing done in Richmond, Virginia, the Kroeger Beer Company of Newark, New Jersey introduced canned beer.

In [JEFFERSON](#) AND/OR [MUSSOLINI](#), [Ezra Pound](#) attempted to demonstrate that from a fiscal point of view these two leaders had a great deal in common. His conceit was that what [Italian Fascism](#) amounted to was a completion of the American Revolution.



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

To complete the American Revolution in Africa, the [Italian](#) army invaded Ethiopia.



"War, stress or conflict is to the man what maternity is to the woman. I do not believe in perpetual peace; not only do I not believe in it but I find it depressing and a negation of all the fundamental virtues of man."

— [Benito Mussolini](#)



January 7, Monday: The Long Marchers of the Red Army seized Tsunyi and its valuable stores and supplies.

[CHINA](#)

After meetings between French Foreign Minister Pierre Laval and *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#), France ceded part of its East African possessions to [Italy](#) and gave Italy a free hand in Ethiopia — supposedly in return for help from Italy to contain *Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#).

[WORLD WAR II](#)



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

February 23, Saturday: *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) began sending large numbers of [Italian](#) troops and quantities of war materials to his East African colonies.

Stefan Zweig, the librettist of *Die schwiegsame Frau*, wrote to Richard Strauss from Vienna, declining Strauss' request for a collaboration on another libretto. Zweig, who was Jewish, was viewing political consequences ahead.

[WORLD WAR II](#)

The Plays of Mary, an opera by Bohuslav Martinu to words of Nezval, Závada and the composer after various sources, was performed for the first time, in Brno.

Prelude and Fugue op.46 for piano by Albert Roussel was performed for the first time, in Salle Chopin, Paris.

December 28, Saturday: The earthly remains of Alban Berg were laid to rest in Hietzing Cemetery, in a grave donated by the City of Vienna. Speaking on behalf of the ISCM was Ernst Krenek.

Duce [Benito Mussolini](#) renounced the Stresa and Rome agreements with Great Britain and France due to the failure of those two nations to support [Italy](#) in Ethiopia.

[WORLD WAR II](#)



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

1936

May 5, Tuesday: As Italian forces march into Addis Ababa, *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) declared the end of the Ethiopian war and announced Italy's annexation of Ethiopia.



Didn't have the sense God gave a goose

WORLD WAR II

In Moscow, "Chatterbox," the first of the Three Children's Songs op.68 for voice and piano by Sergei Prokofiev, was performed for the initial time.

The [Prohibition](#) Party met in Niagara Falls.

May 9, Saturday: *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#)'s [Italian](#) forces mopped up in Ethiopia.

WORLD WAR II

Skilled Swordsmen

| | |
|--|--|
| Saint Ignatius Loyola | President Harry S Truman |
| Michel Angelo | General George Patton |
| Sir Walter Raleigh | Heinrich Himmler |
| René Descartes | Hermann Göring |
| John Milton | Juan Péron |
| George Frederick Handel | Francisco Franco |
| Johann Wolfgang von Goethe | Benito Mussolini |
| Karl Marx | Oswald Mosley |



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

| Skilled Swordsmen | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sir Richard Burton | Reinhard Heydrich |
| Aleksandr Pushkin | |

November 1, Sunday: *Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#) of [Nazi Germany](#) and *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) of Fascist [Italy](#) agreed to form a military alliance, the “Rome-Berlin” axis.

WORLD WAR II



Didn't have the sense God gave a goose

Incidental music to *The Agamemnon* of Aeschylus (translated by MacNeice) by Benjamin Britten was performed for the first time, in the Westminster Theater, London.



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

1937

April 28, Wednesday: Spanish fascists took Durango and Guernica from the Basques.

WORLD WAR II

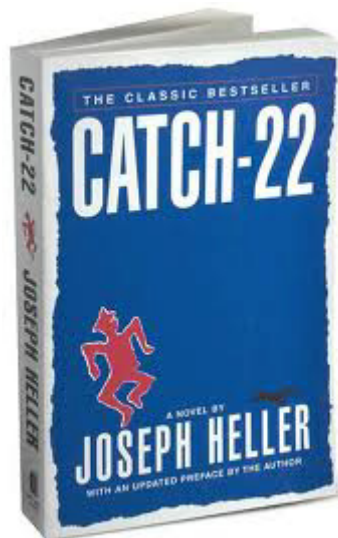
Cinecittà Studios was opened in [Rome](#) by Duce [Benito Mussolini](#). This would become the largest film studio in Europe.

Poèmes pour Mi, a song cycle for voice and piano by Olivier Messiaen to his own words, was performed for the first time, in the Salle des Concerts de la Schola Cantorum in Paris, with the composer at the piano.

June 11, Friday: At Buckingham Palace, Arnold Bax was knighted by King George VI.

[Pravda](#) announced the arrest of Marshal Mikhail Nikolayevich Tukachevsky and other high ranking officers of the Red Army (these arrests, actually, had occurred in May). Soviet leader [Josef Vissarionovich Dzugashvili](#), known as "[Stalin](#)" (Steel), had begun a purge of Red Army generals. Read Joseph Heller's CATCH-22, guys: your superior officer is trying to kill you.

WORLD WAR II



The bodies of [Italian](#) Socialist leaders Carlo Rosselli and Nello Rosselli were found in a field near Bagnoles sur l'Orne, France. The duo had been instrumental in recruiting Italian leftists to fight for the constitutional government of Spain, in opposition to the policies of Duce [Benito Mussolini](#).



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

October 16, Saturday: Hungarian fascists formed their own National Socialist Party.

At the instigation of *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#), the baritone Titta Ruffo was arrested at his home in Rome (he had made himself the sole important [Italian](#) singer to offer no concession to fascism). He would be held for only three days, but upon release he would find that he no longer held a passport.

Incidental music to Bloch's play *Naissance d'une cité* by Darius Milhaud was performed for the first time, in the Palais des Sports, Paris.

Two Songs for Alto and Piano from the *Song of Songs* by Stefan Wolpe were performed for the first time, in Jerusalem.



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

1938

May 3, Tuesday: *Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#) arrived by train in Rome for a week-long state visit. He was greeted by King Vittorio Emanuele and *Italian Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#).

WORLD WAR II

September 29, Thursday: After three weeks fighting up the Yangtze and ten days assaulting the fortress of T'ien-chia-chen, the [Japanese](#) Army finally fought its way into the city of Hankow (Wuhan) itself. Every one of the surviving [Chinese](#) defenders was killed, with observers reported that the Japanese were forcing the prisoners into the river and then shooting them as their heads bobbed above the surface. There were reports of “special smoke,” which is to suggest, poison gas.

Leaders of the four powers, *German Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#), British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, French Prime Minister Edouard Daladier, and *Italian Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#), met in München to discuss the Czechoslovakia question. They would agree to cede to Germany all of the Sudeten German territory.

READ THE FULL TEXT

Having abandoned their Berlin residence, Paul Hindemith and his wife relocated to Bluche, Switzerland.

WORLD WAR II



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

1939

January 11, Wednesday: Spanish rebels captured Montblanch.

British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and Foreign Minister Lord Halifax made a visit to [Rome](#) to try to persuade [Italian](#) Duce [Benito Mussolini](#) to help in pacifying [Führer Adolf Hitler](#). The visit would have little effect.

WORLD WAR II

April 14, Friday: John Steinbeck's THE GRAPES OF WRATH was published by Viking Press.

[President Franklin Delano Roosevelt](#) communicated to Chancellor [Adolf Hitler](#) and to the [Italian](#) swordsman and Premier [Benito Mussolini](#) a plea for a 10-year guaranty of peace.

WORLD WAR II

GERMANY



Skilled Swordsmen

| | |
|--|--|
| Saint Ignatius Loyola | President Harry S Truman |
| Michel Angelo | General George Patton |
| Sir Walter Raleigh | Heinrich Himmler |
| René Descartes | Hermann Göring |
| John Milton | Juan Péron |
| George Frederick Handel | Francisco Franco |
| Johann Wolfgang von Goethe | Benito Mussolini |
| Karl Marx | Oswald Mosley |



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

| Skilled Swordsmen | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sir Richard Burton | Reinhard Heydrich |
| Aleksandr Pushkin | |



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

1940

June 10, Monday: [German](#) troops crossed the Seine River to the west of Paris. The French retreated in disorder.

Duce [Benito Mussolini](#)'s fascist [Italy](#) declared war on France and Great Britain, effective at 1:00AM on June 11th. Canada declared war on [Italy](#).

Norway capitulated to the [Germans](#).

WORLD WAR II

June 11, Tuesday: Great Britain and France declared war on *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#)'s fascist [Italy](#).

[German](#) forces captured Reims and reached the Marne River at Château-Thierry, 75 kilometers northeast of Paris. The French government evacuated Paris for Tours, 200 kilometers to the southwest.

WORLD WAR II

British troops from [Egypt](#) attacked Italian border units in Libya.

British planes bombed Genoa, Turin, and Eritrea.

Italian planes bombed Aden and Malta.

Béla Bartók's Divertimento for Strings was performed for the first time, in Basel.

Symphonic Piece for string orchestra by Ernst Krenek was performed for the first time, in the Neuer Casino-Saal, Basel.

A funeral in memory of Frederick Shepherd Converse was held in St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Dedham, Massachusetts. His remains would be cremated at Forest Hills and interred in Westwood Cemetery.



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

June 18, Tuesday: *Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#) and *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) met in München, [Germany](#).



The Soviets began their occupation of the Baltic States.

The French corvette *Vauquois* was sunk while evacuating troops to England. Just prior to the fall of the French port of Brest, the *Vauquois* had put to sea carrying 115 soldiers, some coastal defense men, and its crew. Soon after leaving harbor, while opposite the Vinotiere light at the entrance to the Chanel de Foire, the vessel hit a submerged aerial mine. The explosion cut the ship in half, the bow section sinking immediately and the stern section staying afloat for but a few minutes. 135 died and 29 would survive.

[German](#) troops occupied Cherbourg, Vannes, Rennes, Briare, Le Mans, Nevers, and Colmar.

The Royal Air Force bombed Hamburg and Bremen.

At 6PM, as the first bombs fell on London, General Charles de Gaulle went on the airwaves to France. Announced Gallic defiance, he urged French soldiers to find a way to join him in England.

WORLD WAR II

July 2, Tuesday: *Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#) ordered the [German](#) high command to prepare for an invasion of the British Isles.

WORLD WAR II

An Export Control Act was passed. According to this act, [President Franklin Delano Roosevelt](#) would be able, whenever he considered this “necessary in the interest of national defense,” to prohibit or limit the exportation of military equipment, munitions, tools, materials, etc.

The 15,501-ton *Arandora Star* (Blue Star Line) was one of 4 ships placed at the disposal of the British War Office for the transportation of enemy aliens to Canada. It had sailed from Liverpool without escort toward St. John's, Newfoundland, carrying 473 German civilians who had been interned in England when war had broken out in 1939 and 717 Italian civilians who had been likewise interned after *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) had declared war on June 10, 1940. There was a crew of 176 and a military guard of some 200. Also on board



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

were some Italian internees from camps on the Isle of Man, many of whom had been selected for deportation in error. At 7:05AM, off the coast of [Ireland](#), the *Arandora Star* was torpedoed by U-boat U47 (Korvkpt. Günther Prien). An internal explosion, apparently a boiler blowing up, broke the ship in two, and she went under at 7:40AM. At about 2:30PM the Canadian destroyer HMCS *St. Laurent* found lifeboats and started to take survivors on board. They would reach Greenock in Scotland on Wednesday, July 3rd at 8:45AM and the sick and injured would be taken by a fleet of ambulances to Mearns Kirk Hospital. Survivors would later be put on another ship, the *Dunera*, and transported to Australia. A total of 743 were lost: 146 Germans, 453 Italians, and 144 crew and soldiers. (In Bardi, a village in northern Italy, there is now a chapel to commemorate the victims. This disaster would change British internment policy — from this point internees would be interned in British camps only. The last report to be received from U-boat U47 would be transmitted on March 7, 1941.)

[WORLD WAR II](#)

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

1941

[Concord](#)'s "Great Elm," or "Whipping Post Elm," or "Town House Elm," or as it had been known by [Henry Thoreau](#), "Jones Elm," ravaged by insects and damaged as it had been by the hurricane of 1938, was cut back to a standing trunk (which itself would be turned into kindling during the following spring).

Swami Govinda Tirtha's THE NECTAR OF GRACE: [OMAR KHAYYAM](#)'S LIFE AND WORKS (Kitabistan, Allahabad).

THE NECTAR OF GRACE

During the early 1940s we know that, in Europe, the poet [Ezra Pound](#), despite his virulent antisemitism,² despite his affection for [Hitler](#) and [Mussolini](#), despite his growing respect for [Nazism](#) and [Fascism](#), in fact had been rereading [Thoreau](#) with enthusiasm!



Maybe he was being influenced? –Maybe enough contact might have brought this man back from his delusions? –Tugged him back from the rabid brink? Maybe, but we'll never know — for this didn't have a chance to happen. In this year, when Pound applied for permission to return to the USA, he got rebuffed by the federal government. "Get lost," he was told in effect, "for we don't need you." Until 1943 therefore the poet would be broadcasting pro-fascist propaganda in English on [Rome](#) radio.

Was this man unredeemable? Was the Jones Elm a goner? Did we chop them up unnecessarily? –Does this Pound thingie amount to one of the great missed opportunities in our history? Was the publication of that

2. "... my worst mistake was the stupid suburban anti-Semitic prejudice, all along that spoiled everything ... I found after seventy years that I was not a lunatic but a moron ... I should have been able to do better"



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

volume on Khayyam's poetry by Swami Tirtha the sole event of lasting significance during this eventful year?

WORLD WAR II



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

1943

January 11, Monday: New Spalicek, a cycle for voice and piano by Bohuslav Martinu was performed for the initial time, in New York.

New York City mobster Carmine Galante, under contract to Vito Genovese, who was a friend of *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#), killed Carlo Tresca, editor of the anti-Communist newspaper *Il Martello*.

The Allies intercepted and successfully decoded an internal [German](#) communication to the effect that by the end of 1942, under "Operation Reinhard," whatever that was, a total of 1,274,166 Jews had been killed, and that this killing had been going on at four distinct sites.

Soviet troops captured Pyatigorsk, Georgivesk and Mineralnye Vody, north of the Caucasus.

The United States of America and the United Kingdom formally relinquished all territorial claims in [China](#).

Motor torpedo boats were attacked by [Japanese](#) destroyers off Cape Esperance of the island of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands; two of these destroyers were damaged. Two United States patrol torpedo boats were lost:

- PT-112, sunk by naval gunfire, Solomon Islands area, 9 degrees 15 minutes South, 159 degrees 42 minutes East
- PT-43, damaged by naval gunfire, Solomon Islands area, 9 degrees 15 minutes South, 159 degrees 42 minutes East; beached and abandoned

WORLD WAR II

July 25, Sunday: In [Italy](#), the Gran Consiglio del Fascismo withdrew its support of Prime Minister [Benito Mussolini](#). King Vittorio Emanuele III dismissed him and he was placed under arrest and power passed to the Maresciallo d'Italia, General Pietro Badoglio. The Fascist party was dissolved. After a broadcast concert by the NBC Symphony Orchestra in New York, an announcement of Mussolini's fall was made in the hall and over the radio. The conductor, Arturo Toscanini, came back on stage, folded his hands, and looked upward, seemingly giving thanks to God. The audience responded with loud demonstrations of support and glee. Posters would appear on the sign boards of La Scala in Milan: "Evviva Toscanini," "Ritorni Toscanini."

Destroyers and aircraft struck [Japanese](#) positions at Munda, Solomon Islands.

WORLD WAR II

July 25/26: With the arrest of *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#), Marshal Pietro Badoglio took over the [Italian](#) government.

WORLD WAR II



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

September 12, Sunday: [Germans](#) on Capri surrendered without resistance. British troops took Crotone, Calabria while [Germans](#) counterattacked at Salerno. A band of 100 [German](#) paratrooper commandos led by S.S. Captain Otto Skorzeny forced its way into a hotel near the summit of Gran Sasso in the Apennines and rescued [Benito Mussolini](#). “Do what we want and nobody gets hurt” (they would fly him to Vienna, Austria).

Australian troops complete their conquest of Salamaua, Northeast New Guinea. United States Landing Ship – Tank LST455 was damaged by a [Japanese](#) dive bomber in the vicinity of eastern New Guinea, at 8 degrees 59 minutes South, 149 degrees 10 minutes East.

WORLD WAR II

September 23, Thursday: Duce [Benito Mussolini](#) declared a Fascist government in northern [Italy](#), to be known as the [Italian](#) Social Republic.



The Red Army occupied Poltava and Unecha, southwest of Bryansk.

French troops occupied Bonifacio, Corsica.

The 2,428-ton Italian passenger vessel MV *Donizetti*, sailing under the [German](#) flag, arrived at Rodi Island to evacuate the [Italian](#) troops there. Licensed to carry 700 passengers, it took on board 1,800. It left for Piraeus under escort of the [German](#) frigate *Taio*. While south of the island the British destroyers HMS *Fury* and HMS *Eclipse* shot it up pretty bad, until it capsized. Everybody died.³

WORLD WAR II

3. At a first order of approximation there seems to be a remarkable similarity between fighting at sea and feeding fish.





BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

1944

January 8, Saturday: Soviet troops secured Kirovgrad, 200 kilometers west of Dnepropetrovsk.

The trial of [Italian](#) fascists believed responsible for the downfall of *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) during the previous summer opened in Verona. Among these 19 defendants was his son-in-law and former foreign minister, Count Galeazzo Ciano.

Cruiser and destroyer task force (Rear Admiral W.L. Ainsworth) bombarded [Japanese](#) shore installations on Faisi, Poporang, and Shortland Islands in the Solomon Islands Group.

WORLD WAR II

January 10, Monday: 84-year-old Victor Basch, former National President of the League of Human Rights, a scholar and philosopher, was executed in Lyon, and along with him his 79-year-old wife.

18 of the 19 [Italian](#) fascists held responsible for *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#)'s downfall were sentenced to death in Verona. Chief among them was his son-in-law and former foreign minister, Count Galeazzo Ciano.

United States Motor Minesweeper YMS-127 was grounded and sank in the Aleutians.

WORLD WAR II

January 11, Tuesday: Five former fascist leaders were executed by the newly reconstituted [Italian](#) fascist republic in Verona. Among these was *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#)'s son-in-law and former foreign minister, Count Ciano.

Naval land-based aircraft (Rear Admiral J.H. Hoover) from Gilbert and Ellice Islands bombed [Japanese](#) shipping and installations at Kwajalein, Marshall Islands.

WORLD WAR II



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

1945

April 28, Saturday: Allied troops took Brescia and Bergamo. Italian Communist partisans captured *Duce* [Benito Mussolini](#) in northern [Italy](#) while he and his mistress Clara Petacci were attempting to flee, stood them up against a wall and machine-gunned them, and then hanged up the bodies by their heels at a local filling station.



Some fifteen other leading fascists were gunned down by [Italian](#) partisans as well. Among them were Alessandro Pavolini, secretary of the Fascist Party, and four cabinet ministers

As the Red Army moved to within a few kilometers of the Chancellery, *Führer* [Adolf Hitler](#) and Eva Braun were married in his Berlin bunker.

American troops took Augsburg.

Symphony for voices and orchestra by Norman Dello Joio to words of Stephen Vincent Benét was performed for the initial time, in New York.

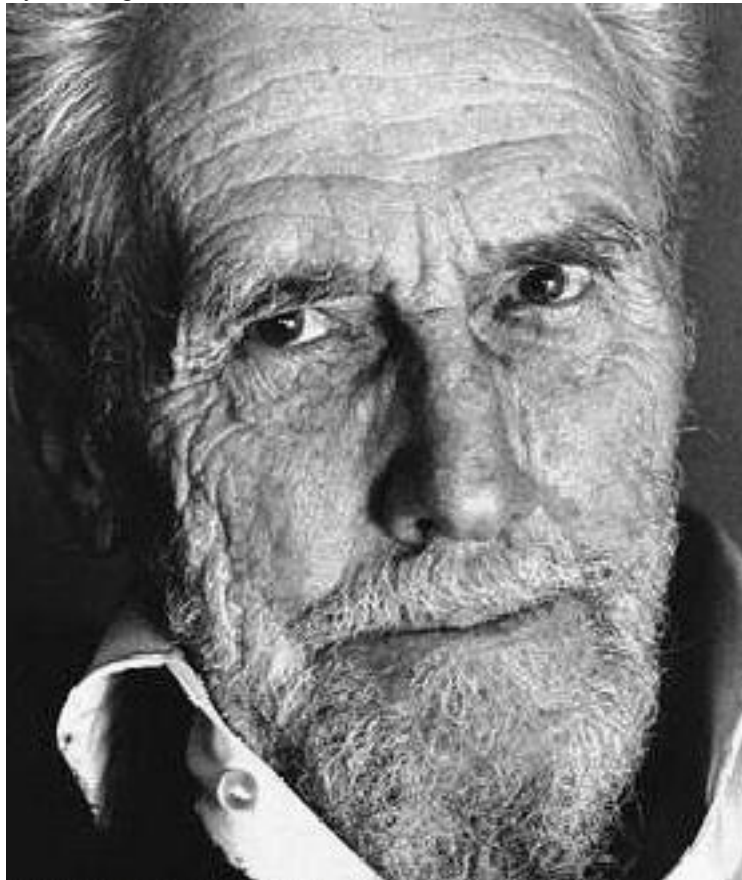


BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

The Allies took Venice, [Italy](#).

At about this same time these partizans were arresting [Ezra Pound](#) at his home in northern Italy — but they would hand this disloyal American poet over to the US Army for confinement in a steel cage in Pisa, at the Disciplinary Training Center.



WORLD WAR II

(American doctors would take brain samples from [Mussolini](#)'s corpse and test them for syphilis. The corpse would be buried in an unmarked grave outside Milan. The remains would be dug up by a neo-Fascist and hidden in the mountains in a steamer trunk. When the remains would be recovered, they would be reburied in Predappio, Italy.)

May 13, Sunday: Aircraft from fast carrier task force (Vice Admiral M.A. Mitscher) commence 2-day attack on Kyushu airfields, Japan.

United States naval vessels damaged:

- Aircraft carrier *Enterprise* (CV-6), by [Japanese](#) Kamikaze suicide plane, off Honshu, Japan, 30 degrees 23 minutes North, 132 degrees 36 minutes East



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

- Light carrier *Bataan* (CVL-29), accidentally by United States naval gunfire, off Honshu, Japan, 30 degrees 30 minutes North, 132 degrees 30 minutes East
- Destroyer *Bache* (DD-470), by Kamikaze suicide plane, Okinawa area, 26 degrees 1 minute North, 126 degrees 53 minutes East
- Destroyer escort *Bright* (DE-747), by Kamikaze suicide plane, Okinawa area, 26 degrees 21 minutes North, 127 degrees 17 minutes East

Crown Prince Olav returned to Oslo to a tumultuous reception.

Berliner Rundfunk began broadcasting in the Soviet zone of the city.

A Song of Thanksgiving for soprano, speaker, chorus, and orchestra by Ralph Vaughan Williams, recorded on November 5th, 1944, was broadcast over the airwaves of the BBC.

There was a riot outside a Catholic church in Santiago, Chile that was holding a mass in memory of [Benito Mussolini](#). Four people were arrested, and several injured.

WORLD WAR II



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

1946

April 23: The French protectorate over Laos was reestablished.

Arturo Toscanini arrived in [Italy](#) to conduct a concert celebrating the reinauguration of Teatro alla Scala, Milan. He ordered all Jewish musicians who lost their jobs at the house in 1938 reinstated. Also, any removed for opposing [fascism](#) were given their jobs back.

Piaggio & Co. SpA of Pontedera filed for a patent in Florence for a new type of motor scooter. Enrico Piaggio was terming it a Vespa because the high whine of the engine reminded him of a wasp.



FASCISM

BENITO MUSSOLINI

1951

Madison, Wisconsin's Capital Times editor John Patrick Hunter took to the streets with a clipboard and a petition (which actually was the Declaration of Independence, along with portions of the Bill of Rights) and attempted to get Americans to sign the document. Only one out of a total of 112 citizens, when confronted, was willing to do so.⁴ The balance experienced his document as altogether too subversive.



More than fifty years later, Harper's editor Lewis H. Lapham would explain this by offering that America is "blessed with a bourgeoisie that will welcome fascism as gladly as it welcomes the rain in April and the sun in June."

4. Should you have difficulty crediting this, what you need to do is, yourself, at your own local mall — replicate the experiment! Make up your own document, replete with your own cherished American principles! Today! Try to get your fellow citizens to sign it! —The scum you encounter in the mall, citizens all, are going to make a believer out of you.



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

2010

January 21, Thursday: The comment was once made (made by a person of no great repute), that when fascism comes to America, it will come wrapped in the American flag. That comment reflect reality and has been confirmed in the US Supreme Court's [Citizens United](#) decision. *Duce Mussolini*'s corporatism has won. In America henceforward, only money will have any rights. The test will be quantity: if you want to know how many rights you have, you only need glance in your billfold. We are either USers or USeds, depending entirely on the contents of our investment portfolios. You can have all the Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness you can readily afford. Get used to it.

“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FANTASIZING: HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM



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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: March 15, 2015



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

ARRGH AUTOMATED RESearch REPORT

GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.



BENITO MUSSOLINI

FASCISM

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.