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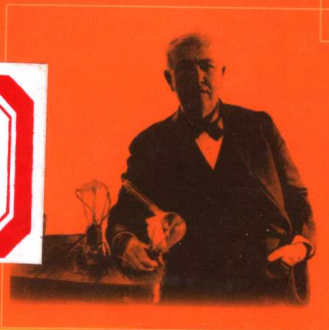
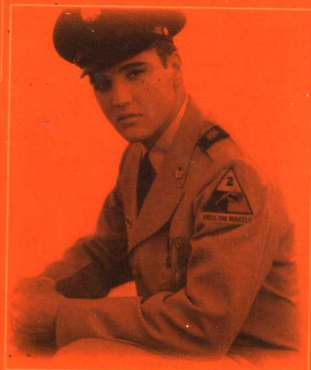
美国之音 新闻英语 原声录音 **MP3**  
英汉对照



# 美国

# 历史上的今天

## Today in History



中国对外翻译出版公司

英汉对照

美国之音

# 美国历史上的今天

(上)

刘榜离 刘丹青 魏荣华 译  
刘榜离 校

中国对外翻译出版公司

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Congratulations on your publishing of the Voice of America's radio series *Today in History*. The Voice of America is happy to cooperate with Henan Radio and China Translation and Publishing Corporation to release in two volumes these popular English-language programs. I hope these books and the accompanying audio materials will help Chinese students to understand America and to advance communication between our peoples.

David Jackson

Director of VOA

November 18, 2004

## 出版说明

本书系根据“美国之音”英语广播系列节目“历史上的今天”编纂而成,辑为上下两册,英汉对照,另配 MP3 光盘一张。中国对外翻译出版公司经“美国之音”授权出版。

本书英文稿短小精悍,各自独立成篇,内容丰富,可使读者加深对美国历史和传统文化的了解,配上原汁原味的美语播音,更使人有身临其境之感。

由于技术上的原因,个别英文原文与播音稿略有不同,为保持文章的完整和内容的联贯,编辑过程中对没有录音的部分依然保留原文,以方括号标示,以便读者阅读。

“美国之音”台长戴维·杰克逊先生来信祝贺此书的出版。特将来信摘要附上,以示感谢。“美国之音”中文部的陈光先生对此书的出版给予了大力的支持,在此一并致谢。

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## 译者的话

《历史上的今天》是“美国之音”系列专题节目,介绍美国历史上具有重大意义的事件及有影响的人物。该节目播放时间虽不足两分钟,内容却十分丰富;既包括政治、经济、历史、宗教、法律,又涵盖文学、艺术、音乐、建筑以及自然科学诸方面。文稿长则五七百字,短则三二百言,可谓简明扼要,短小精悍。

本书的英语原文由“美国之音”提供。读之既可学到纯正地道的美国英语,又可扩大知识面,加深对美国社会、文化、历史等诸方面的了解。本书亦配有实况播音录音,听之既能欣赏流畅标准的现代美语,又能训练听力、改进语音语调、增强语感。为便于我国读者自学,我们将全书译为中文,并在必要处加以注释,以补充相关背景知识,深化读者的理解。相信本书一定会对我国广大学生及中等水平以上的英语爱好者有所帮助。

在注释的过程中,我们参考了一些工具书和互联网上的相关资料,尤其是上海译文出版社出版的《英汉大词典》以及《美国传统词典》。在此谨向词典的编纂者和资料提供者表示感谢。

在翻译过程中,我们得到河南人民广播电台的李金鸣、陈晓宇以及郑州大学外语学院的研究生黄鹂、赵霞、张鲁艳等同志的支持和帮助;美国之音中文部的罗大任先生校阅了部分译文。在此谨向他们致以诚挚的谢意。

刘榜离 谨识

2004年12月于郑州大学

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## January—1 月

### January First

On January First, 1862, a federal law went into effect that changed the face of the American West. The Homestead Act offered a plot of sixty-five hectares to anyone willing to settle and farm the land. Individuals could gain free ownership of a parcel after living on it and farming it for five years. Or they could purchase the property for 240 dollars after six months. Historians say the Homestead Act — and modifications passed by subsequent Congresses — contributed to the growing strength of the United States by opening the West and encouraging land ownership. However, it also attracted thousands of settlers unprepared for the rigors of the largely arid West. As a result some farmers and their families lost their life savings, and others suffered severe hardship and even starvation.

\* \* \* \* \*

On January First, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, one of the most significant documents in American history. The Proclamation called for the freedom of all slaves within the states that were then in re-



bellion against the Union. Perhaps the most important effect of the Emancipation Proclamation was to expand the purpose of the American Civil War. The document made it clear that the war was fought not just to restore the old Union, but also to destroy the institution of slavery. According to one interpretation, the Emancipation Proclamation meant that the Union Army became an army of liberation when it successfully invaded the South and destroyed Confederate military power.

1月1日

1862年1月1日,一部改变美国西部面貌的联邦法律开始生效。根据这部《宅地法案》任何愿意在一块土地上定居并耕作的人都可得到65公顷的土地。在一块土地上居住并耕作满五年以上者,可以免费获得这块土地的所有权,也可以在居住六个月以后,以240美元的价格买下土地的所有权。历史学家说,这部《宅地法案》,以及以后国会通过的修正案,通过向人们开放西部地区,并鼓励人们拥有土地所有权,为美国的日益强大做出了贡献。然而,这部法案也吸引了成千上万对西部地区大体上干旱贫瘠的严酷状况准备不足的移民者。结果,一些农民和他们的家人耗尽了毕生的积蓄,还有一些人历经了极大的艰难困苦,甚至经受了饥饿的磨难。

\* \* \* \* \*

1863年1月1日,亚伯拉罕·林肯总统发布了美国历史上最重要的文献之一——《解放宣言》。该宣言要求当时仍在反抗联邦政府的各州给予州内所有奴隶以自由。《解放宣言》最重要的作用也许是它详细阐述了美国南北战争的目的。该文献清楚地指出,

战争不仅仅是要恢复原来的联邦政府,而且要摧毁奴隶制度。按照一种解释,《解放宣言》意味着,当联邦政府的军队成功地进入南方,并且摧毁南方邦联的军事力量时,它就成为了一支解放军。

## January Second

On January Second, 1960, Massachusetts Senator John F. Kennedy announced his candidacy for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in the 1960 election. The candidate said the next president would have to make critical decisions including how to end the nuclear arms race, how to maintain freedom and order in newly emerging nations, and how to improve American science and education. Kennedy then addressed criticism that at age forty-two he was too young and inexperienced for the presidency:

"In the last twenty years I have traveled to nearly every country and every continent — from Leningrad to Saigon — from Bucharest to Lima. From all of this I have developed an image of America as fulfilling a noble and historic role as the defender of freedom in a time of maximum peril . . . and of the American people as confident, courageous and persevering. It is with this image that I begin this campaign."

\* \* \* \* \*

On January Second, 1788, the former British colony of Georgia, in the American South, voted to ratify the U-S Constitution, becoming the fourth state in the United States. Georgia was named after England's King George the Second. The

first Europeans to settle in Georgia arrived in 1733. That was when a group of British debtors led by English philanthropist James Oglethorpe traveled up the Savannah River and established Georgia's first permanent settlement — the town of Savannah. The state capital and largest city in Georgia is Atlanta, which today is an important economic center of what is sometimes called the “New South.”

1月2日

1960年1月2日，马萨诸塞州参议员约翰·F. 肯尼迪宣布，他将以民主党提名的总统候选人的候选资格，参加1960年总统大选。这位候选人说，下一届总统必须做出至关重要的决定，其中包括如何结束核军备竞赛，如何在新出现的国家内维护自由与秩序，如何改善美国的科学和教育等。有批评说42岁的他做总统还太年轻，而且历练不够。针对这种批评，肯尼迪随后进行了评说：

“在过去20年中，我几乎走遍了所有国家和每一块大陆，从列宁格勒到西贡，从布达佩斯到利马，都留下了我的足迹。在所有这些经历中，我已经为美国塑造了一个自由捍卫者的形象，她在最危险的时刻，正在履行其高尚的历史使命……我也为美国人民塑造了一个充满自信、英勇果敢、坚忍不拔的形象。我正是以这样一种形象，开始这次竞选活动的。”

\* \* \* \* \*

1788年1月2日，美国南部的前英国殖民地佐治亚投票承认美国宪法，从而成为美国第四个州。佐治亚是以英国国王乔治二世的名字命名的。1733年，第一批欧洲人来到佐治亚定居。当时

有一群英国的债务人,在英国慈善家詹姆斯·奥格尔索普<sup>①</sup>的带领下,沿萨凡纳河而上,建立了佐治亚的第一个永久定居地——萨凡纳镇。佐治亚州的首府和州内最大的城市是亚特兰大,今日该城是有时被称为“新南方”的重要的经济中心。

## January Third

On January Third, 1961, the United States severed diplomatic relations with Cuba. The Cuban government of Fidel Castro had been directing charges and insults at the United States for about a year. U-S embassy employees in Havana had been systematically harassed. Fidel Castro frequently accused the United States of secretly subverting his Communist government. The event that finally ruptured relations came on January Third, 1961, when Castro demanded that the U-S embassy staff in Havana be reduced to eleven persons within forty-eight hours.

President Dwight Eisenhower responded to the Cuban demand by saying, "There is a limit to what the United States, in self-respect, can endure. That limit has now been reached."

\* \* \* \* \*

On January Third, 1959, the Territory of Alaska became the forty-ninth state of the United States. President Dwight

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<sup>①</sup> 奥格尔索普,詹姆斯·爱德华(Oglethorpe, James Edward, 1696 - 1785),英国将军、下院议员,博爱主义者和殖民者。1733年创建北美佐治亚殖民地,并任首任总督;1742年,击退西班牙军对佐治亚的进攻。——译注

Eisenhower signed the statehood proclamation as well as an executive order setting a new design of forty-nine stars for the American flag. Alaska had been known as "Russian America" until it was purchased from Russia by the United States in 1867. Containing more than one-and-one-half-million square kilometers, Alaska is one-fifth the size of the continental United States. Vast amounts of oil and natural gas have already been mined from underground lakes in Alaska, and still greater reserves are believed to be under land set aside as wilderness. Alaska also holds mineral wealth beyond imagination. But federal environmental regulations and wilderness preservation laws limit oil and mineral extraction. They are also designed to preserve wilderness and wildlife for future generations.

1月3日

1961年1月3日,美国断绝了与古巴的外交关系。菲德尔·卡斯特罗的古巴政府,近一年来一直对美国进行指责和侮辱。美国驻哈瓦那大使馆的职员一直遭到有组织的骚扰。菲德尔·卡斯特罗经常指责美国在暗地里颠覆他的共产主义政权。1961年1月3日,卡斯特罗要求美国驻哈瓦那大使馆,在48小时之内将其工作人员减少到11人。这一事件最终导致两国关系破裂。

德怀特·艾森豪威尔总统针对古巴的要求做出反应说,“美国在自尊方面的忍耐是有限度的。现在已经达到了这种限度。”

\* \* \* \* \*

1959年1月3日,阿拉斯加地区成为美国第49个州。德怀特·艾森豪威尔总统签署建州公告和一道行政命令,确立了美国国

旗上 49 颗星的新图案。在 1867 年美国从俄罗斯手中买下阿拉斯加以前,阿拉斯加一直叫做“俄罗斯的美洲”。阿拉斯加面积有 150 多万平方公里,是美国大陆部分的五分之一,从阿拉斯加的地下湖已经开采出大量石油和天然气,据信,在被划为荒地的地下还有更加丰富的蕴藏量。阿拉斯加还拥有人们难以想象的矿物宝藏。但是,联邦环境保护法规和荒地保护法则限制石油和矿产的开采。人们还计划要为后代保留这些荒地和野生生物。

## January Fourth

On January Fourth, 1789, machinist Samuel Slater slipped out of England, bound for the United States. This date would prove to be pivotal for the American textile industry. At the time, it was illegal for mechanics trained to work in English textile mills to leave the country, because Britain wanted to keep the designs of its mechanized mills secret. But Slater broke the law and managed to get out of England. In one of the first recorded examples of industrial espionage, after he arrived in the United States he drew on his memory and re-created the complex machinery of the cotton mill where he had worked. Eleven months later, Slater opened the first cotton cording and spindle mill in the United States at Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Thus, the man who broke English law is credited with establishing the modern textile industry in the United States.

\* \* \* \* \*

On January Fourth, 1821, Sister Elizabeth Seton died. More than one-hundred-fifty years later, she became the first

native-born North American to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church. Born into an Episcopalian family in 1774, Ms. Seton converted to Catholicism in 1805 after the death of her husband. Her first call as a Roman Catholic was to help establish schools for girls in Baltimore, Maryland. Her efforts set the pattern for parochial schools throughout the United States. In 1808, she moved to Emmitsburg, Maryland, to help establish a congregation of nuns as a branch of the Daughters of Charity. Mother Seton and her followers devoted themselves to the care of the sick and the poor. In 1975, Pope Paul the Sixth declared Mother Seton a saint. At a service at Saint Peter's Square in Vatican City, the pope praised her "personal and extraordinary contribution as a woman, a wife, a mother and a religious leader."

## 1月4日

1789年1月4日,机械师塞缪尔·斯莱特<sup>①</sup>悄悄离开英国前往美国。日后这一天被证明是美国纺织业的重要日子。当时,对于经过培训并在英国纺织厂工作的机械师来说,离开英国是违法的,因为英国想保守住机械化纺织厂的设计秘密。但是,斯莱特却违反了法律,并且设法离开了英国。在首批工业间谍事例的记载中说道,他抵达美国后,凭借记忆重新创造出他原来工作过的纺织厂的复杂机械。11个月后,斯莱特在罗得岛的波特基特创办了美国

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<sup>①</sup> 斯莱特,塞缪尔(Slater, Samuel, 1768-1835),英国裔美国纺织业先驱。在英国对纺织技术输出的禁令下,他凭记忆运用在英国学得的生产棉纺织品知识在美国复制了纺纱机,并在罗得岛建立了美国第一家成功的水力棉花加工厂。——译注

第一家棉纺厂。于是,这位违反英国法律者被被誉为美国现代纺织工业的奠基人。

\* \* \* \* \*

1821年1月4日,修女伊丽莎白·塞顿逝世。150多年后,她成为第一个被罗马天主教会追封为“圣徒”的北美本土出生的人。塞顿夫人1774年出生在一个新教圣公会教徒家庭,1805年丈夫去世后,皈依天主教。作为天主教信徒,她做的第一件事,就是在马里兰州的巴尔的摩帮助建立女子学校。她的成就为全美国的教区附属学校树立了典范。1808年,她迁居到马里兰州的埃米茨堡,帮助建立一个修女教区,作为“遣使会”的分部。塞顿嬷嬷和她的信徒致力于关爱贫病之人的事业。1975年,罗马教皇保罗六世宣布塞顿嬷嬷为圣徒。在梵蒂冈的圣彼得广场举行的宗教仪式上,教皇对她“作为一名妇女、妻子、母亲和宗教领袖所做出的个人杰出贡献”大加称赞。

## January Fifth

On January Fifth, 1914, the Ford Motor Company announced an unprecedented step: It more than doubled the wages of many of its workers. Those Ford workers who were deemed worthy of a raise went from earning two dollars and twenty cents a day to five dollars a day. The step was viewed by some as clear evidence of the cost advantages of Henry Ford's assembly-line method of making automobiles. The system produced more cars, faster and at less cost than previous methods. The pay raise put more money into the pockets of Ford employees and enabled them to purchase the very cars they had built —



Ford's inexpensive Model "T". Some cynical observers suggested that the pay raise also was an attempt to create a more docile work force that would be unlikely to resist work speedups or join labor unions.

\* \* \* \* \*

On January Fifth, 1925, Nellie Tayloe Ross was sworn in as the governor of the State of Wyoming, thus becoming the first woman governor in the United States. Ms. Ross was the widow of Governor William Ross, who had died in office. She was elected to fill his unexpired term. Ms. Ross was still wearing mourning clothes when she took the oath of office in the Senate chamber of the state capitol in Cheyenne. It was fitting that Wyoming should have the first woman governor, and it was fitting that the oath was administered by state Chief Justice C-N Potter. Wyoming was the first territory and then the first state to permanently grant women the right to vote and hold office. And it was Chief Justice Potter who, thirty-five years earlier, had drafted the state constitutional clause that gave women equal political rights.

1月5日

1914年1月5日,福特汽车公司宣布了一项史无前例的措施:公司将许多工人的工资翻了一番还多。那些被认为应该加薪的工人,其收入由原来的每天2.2美元提高到了五美元。一些人认为,这清晰地证明了亨利·福特以装配线方法制造汽车的成本优势。与过去的生产方式相比,这个系统生产的汽车更多、更快,而