



Moments in time

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MOMENTS IN TIME

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• On **July 27, 1981**, 6-year-old Adam Walsh was abducted from a shopping mall in Hollywood, Florida, and later found murdered. Afterward, his father, John Walsh, became an impassioned victims' rights activist and host of the television show "America's Most Wanted." In 2008, the Hollywood police announced that the case against confessed killer Ottis Elwood Toole was strong enough to close the investigation into Adam's death. Toole had died 12 years earlier.

• On **July 28, 1942**, Soviet Union premier Josef Stalin issued Order No. 227, aka the "Not one step backward" order, following German advances into Russian territory. The order stipulated that "panic makers and cowards must be liquidated on the spot. Not one step backward without orders from higher headquarters! Commanders ... who abandon a position without an order from higher headquarters are traitors to the Motherland."

• On **July 29, 1862**, Marie Isabella "Belle" Boyd was arrested for the first time by Union troops and held at the Old Capitol Prison in Washington, D.C. A skilled though teenage spy who provided vital information to the Confederate army during the Civil War, she eventually parlayed her experiences into a book and acting career.

• On **July 30, 1956**, two years after urging insertion of the phrase "under God" into the Pledge of Allegiance, President Dwight Eisenhower signed a law officially declaring "In God We Trust" to be America's official motto.

• On **July 31, 1964**, the unmanned U.S. lunar probe Ranger 7 took 4,308 close-up images of the moon before impacting with its surface northwest of the Sea of Clouds. The pictures were 1,000 times as clear as anything previously viewed through telescopes on Earth.

• On **Aug. 1, 1782**, Caroline Herschel discovered a comet after viewing it through a telescope — the first such discovery credited to a woman. Her brother, astronomer William Herschel, had discovered Uranus the year before. The first professional female astronomer, she would go on to discover seven more comets in 11 years.

• On **Aug. 2, 1992**, Jackie Joyner-Kersey became the first woman ever to win two consecutive Olympic gold medals in the heptathlon.