

## **In history: 1940-1950**

*Friday, November 26, 1999*

**1940:** Americans elect President Franklin Roosevelt. Nazis build Auschwitz. Radar and nylon stockings arrive. In Seattle, Pio de Cano successfully challenges a 1921 Alien Land Law forbidding Filipino-Americans from owning land. Lake Washington Floating Bridge opens, while Tacoma's Narrows Bridge falls in a windstorm.

**1941:** Japan attacks Pearl Harbor. U.S enters World War II. In Seattle "sailors on horseback," ex-cow hands, stunt men and blacksmiths, saddle up and ride Washington's shores as armed beach patrols for the Coast Guard.

**1942:** Battle of Midway turns the Pacific tide. Nazis "clear" Warsaw's Jewish ghetto. U.S. and Canada send Japanese citizens to internment camps. In Seattle, a shortage of wartime steel causes residents to reuse their license plates.

**1943:** Eisenhower named Supreme Allied Commander. Italians topple Mussolini. In Seattle, moviegoers love the ancestor of TV cable news as the "Telenews" theater at Third and Pike shows only war newsreels.

**1944:** Roosevelt is elected fourth time. Allies invade Normandy. DNA is discovered. In Seattle, Colman Swimming Pool at Lincoln Park is integrated after UW African-Americans demonstrate.

**1945:** Roosevelt dies, replaced by Harry Truman. U.S. drops A-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, ending World War II. The United Nations is formed. George Orwell writes "Animal Farm." In Seattle, an earthquake shakes Puget Sound.

**1946:** Churchill warns of Communist "Iron Curtain," while the Nuremberg Trials begin. French battle Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam. Bikinis catch the nation's fancy. In Seattle, Asian- and African-American communities form Jackson Street Community Council. Former Seattleite Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini becomes the first American saint.

**1947:** The Marshall Plan announced. A radar beam is sent to the moon, and the first TV broadcast is demonstrated. Washington's Legislature passes the Un-American Activities Bill.

**1948:** Truman re-elected. Berlin airlift began. Mahatma Gandhi assassinated. In Seattle, Frederick & Nelson unveiled television for the first time.

**1949:** NATO born. Soviets detonate an atom bomb. The Chinese People's Republic created. Carbon 14 dating found. CIA begins experimenting with LSD. A 7.1 earthquake strikes Seattle, the largest since non-Indians settled here.