

HISTORY TRIVIA QUESTIONS V



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- 1> After defying the Soviet Union, Alexander Dubcek went from being which country's party secretary to its forestry minister?
- 2> What bachelor government official had a lifelong ... um ... "relationship" with bachelor roommate Clyde Tolson?
- 3> What two countries ended up shooting at each other in the Chaco War of the 1930s, after each of them issued stamps depicting the Chaco region as their own territory?
- 4> Which American city, the first to be run by a socialist, was ruled by socialist mayors for all but 12 years between 1910 and 1960?
- 5> Which island is Peter Minuit famous for buying for only 60 guilders, albeit from a Brooklyn tribe called the Canarsee?
- 6> King Christian X rejected anti-Jewish legislation and reputedly wore a Star of David, even though the Nazis were occupying what country of his?
- 7> In the 1760s, many British proposed trading Canada back to France in exchange for what French possession?
- 8> Acadia, Albertsland, Albionora, Borealia, Britannia, Cabotia, Colonia, Efiga, Hochelaga, Laurentia, New Britain, Norland, Superior, Transatlantia, Tuponia, Ursalia and Victorialand were among the names considered for what country?
- 9> In the early 1400s, a Muslim named Cheng Ho took a Chinese fleet of 63 ships west. How far did he get?
- 10> With France down, Hitler wanted to knock out Britain and then turn around to fight the Soviets. What was the planned invasion of Britain codenamed?
- 11> Who loved it when a plan came together, like when he massacred 50,000 Roman soldiers in a single afternoon at Cannae?

12> After seeing a bad 1934 movie with the Lady in Red, called Manhattan Melodrama, whose night got worse when he was shot dead by the FBI outside Chicago's Biograph Theatre?

13> The subject of a Boney M song, who was poisoned, shot and, for good measure, drowned, by Prince Felix Yusupov and his buddies?

14> What Green Mountain state became the independent republic of New Connecticut for a few months in 1777?

15> A tailor by trade, what minimally educated person was the only president other than Bill Clinton to be impeached?

Answers:

1> Czechoslovakia - He hoped to create a 'socialism with a human face' that combined communism and democracy. He survived long enough to be elected chair of the Federal Assembly that made Vaclav Havel president.

2> J Edgar Hoover - This led to rumors that both of them were cross-dressers, if not more. Supposedly, the Mafia had evidence of this and got him to back off.

3> Bolivia and Paraguay - In the 1930s, landlocked Bolivia tried to grab some coastal access from Paraguay. But it lost the resulting Chaco War, which killed 100,000 Bolivian soldiers and cost it even more territory.

4> Milwaukee - Democrat Henry Meier ruled for the next 28 years, during which time the city declined.

5> Manhattan - It was 60 guilders worth of beads, needles, fabric and fish hooks.

6> Denmark - He said that he was his country's first Jew. From 1918 to 1944, Christian X was also king of Iceland.

7> Guadeloupe - Many considered it more valuable, with its rich sugar and coffee crops.

8> Canada - Efigsa combined the first letters of England, France, Ireland, Scotland, Germany and Aboriginal lands. Tuponia was an acrostic for the United Provinces of North America.

9> Persian Gulf - From 1405 to 1433, Admiral Zheng He (also called Cheng Ho) went on seven voyages. The first mission alone involved 62 ships and 27,800 men.

10> Operation Sea Lion - The Nazis wanted Oswald Mosley to run things from Blenheim Palace, Winston Churchill's ancestral home, probably with Edward VIII back on the throne.

11> Hannibal - At the 216 BCE battle, Hannibal lost only 6,000 of his own men, a disaster caused in part by the chaos of the daily alternating command of Rome's two consuls.

12> John Dillinger - It was a gangster flick starring Clark Gable and William Powell.

13> Rasputin - 'Rasputin' means 'debauched one' in a Siberian language. Yusupov used his beautiful, rich wife to bait Rasputin, an event so promising the normally filthy mystic even bathed.

14> Vermont - But after Ethan Allen was overthrown, it became the first state to join the Union after the original 13.

15> Andrew Johnson - He also reputedly showed up drunk at his own inauguration.

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