

HISTORY TRIVIA QUESTIONS VIII



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- 1> What secretary of state, born in Prague, discovered a Jewish heritage late in life, including the fact that three grandparents died in the Holocaust?
- 2> On July 14, 1789, Louis XVI wrote in his diary a single word, "Nothing". But "something" did happen. What?
- 3> King Stanislaw II Augustus literally slept his way to the throne, thanks to a dalliance with Russia's Catherine the Great. But he was also his country's last monarch. Which country is this?
- 4> Princess Stephanie of what country married her bodyguard and then a Portuguese circus acrobat?
- 5> In the wake of a 1968 police riot, what city's mayor, Richard Daley, said, "The police are not here to create disorder, they're here to preserve disorder"?
- 6> While in bed, Peter III preferred to play with toy soldiers rather than women. Sadly, for Pete, his wife was playing in bed with a soldier herself. She then had Peter deposed and poisoned so that she could be in charge all by herself. Who was Peter's better half?
- 7> In 1959, what former First Lady appeared in TV commercials for Good Luck margarine?
- 8> Alexander the Great saw the breadth of his domains and wept, for there were no more lands to conquer. But there were! What was the furthest east he got?
- 9> Ashoka was so repelled by his own conquest of Kalinga in the 260s BCE that he stopped advancing and turned to what religion?
- 10> Despite having been married three times--to Cornelia, Pompeia and Calpurnia--I produced no legitimate surviving male heirs. Who am I?

Answers:

- 1> Madeleine Albright - The Washington Post broke the story in 1997.
- 2> The storming of the Bastille - The king was referring to an unsuccessful hunting trip.
- 3> Poland - Stanislaw imagined that he was leading Poland toward the Age of Enlightenment. Instead, it was eaten up in three partitions by Russia, Austria and Prussia and he was his country's last king.
- 4> Monaco - She was a passenger in the car ride that killed her mother, Grace Kelly. Stephanie has released CDs and recorded a song with Michael Jackson.
- 5> Chicago - The police attacked protesters at the Democratic National Convention. The chaos helped elect Nixon.
- 6> Catherine the Great - Peter III ruled a mere six months before he conveniently died of a haemorrhoidal colic. But 35 years later, his corpse was exhumed and crowned.
- 7> Eleanor Roosevelt - She got \$35,000 in 1959 to do the ads.
- 8> India - His empire would extend up as far as Central Asia.
- 9> Buddhism - He was one of the Maurya Dynasty and left behind noble messages on pillars across India.
- 10> Julius Caesar - He was, though, the likely father of Cleopatra's son Caesarion.

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