**1 January 1958** Japan converts to the metric system.

Treaties creating the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community go into effect.

Great Britain creates Christmas Island a crown colony.

Thanom Kittikachorn replaces Pote Sarasin as Prime Minister of Thailand.

**2 January 1958** West Berlin authorities report 129,579 people sought asylum in 1957.

Maria Callas walks out of a performance of Vincenzo Bellini’s (†122) *Norma* in Rome, claiming horseness. The house superintendant says that Ms. Callas was celebrating the new year “until a late hour.” The audience, which includes President Giovanni Gronchi, is moved to near riot.

Leonard Bernstein (39) gives his first concert as co-Music Director of the New York Philharmonic.

**3 January 1958** West German authorities report the registration of 264,500 refugees in 1957.

Most British dependencies in the Caribbean are united in the Federation of the West Indies, including Antigua, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

**5 January 1958** France sends troops to the Cameroons to put down an uprising. Reportedly, 60 villages have been destroyed.

**6 January 1958** The Soviet Union announces that it will reduce its armed forces by 300,000 during 1958.

*Vergilii Aeneis*, a sinfonia eroica by Gian Francesco Malipiero (75) to his own words after Virgil (tr. Caro), is staged for the first time, in Teatro La Fenice, Venice. See 21 June 1946.

**7 January 1958** Petru Groza, Head of State of Romania, dies, reportedly of stomach cancer, in Bucharest and is replaced ad interim by Mihai Sadoveanu and Anton Moisescu.

Incidental music to Williams’ play *Suddenly Last Summer* by Ned Rorem (34) is performed for the first time, in York Playhouse, New York.

**10 January 1958** Msgr. Albert Egon Turcsanyi is sentenced to life imprisonment in a Budapest court for activities during the 1956 revolt.

**11 January 1958** Ion Gheorghe Maurer replaces Petru Groza as Chairman of the Presidium of the Grand National Assembly of Romania (head of state).

**12 January 1958** Spanish Sahara is made an overseas province of Spain.

*Die Jakobsleiter*, an oratorio by Arnold Schoenberg (†6), is performed for the first time, in Hamburg 36 years after it was originally composed.

**13 January 1958** A petition signed by 9,235 scientists from 43 countries, including 36 Nobel Prize winners, urging an immediate halt to nuclear weapons testing, is presented to UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld.

*The Daily Worker*, the periodical of the Communist Party of the United States, ceases publication.

*Improvisation sur Mallarmé I* for soprano and seven instruments and *Improvisation sur Mallarmé II* for soprano and nine instruments by Pierre Boulez (32) are performed for the first time, in Hamburg. Also premiered is *La terra e la compagna* for soprano, tenor, chorus, and chamber orchestra by Luigi Nono (33) to words of Pavese. See 20 October 1962.

**14 January 1958** Cuban rebels raid Manzanillo in the southeast of the country.

**15 January 1958** *The Chase*, a film with music by Toshiro Mayuzumi (28), is released in Japan.

Concerto for viola and orchestra op.86 by Alois Hába (64) is performed for the first time, in the Rudolfinum, Prague.

*Vanessa*, an opera by Samuel Barber (47) to words of Menotti (46), is performed for the first time, in the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. It is a thunderous success and will win Barber the Pulitzer Prize.

Symphony no.2 “Pastorale” by Colin McPhee (57) is performed for the first time, in Louisville.

**18 January 1958** Leonard Bernstein (39) and the New York Philharmonic give the first of 53 Young People’s Concerts over the airwaves of CBS television. This one is entitled *What does Music Mean?*

**19 January 1958** *Triptych* for violin, viola, and percussion by Charles Wuorinen (19) is performed for the first time, in Kaufmann Concert Hall, 92nd St. Y, New York.

**20 January 1958** Treaties signed in Jakarta end the state of war between Japan and Indonesia, provide for Japanese reparations, and investment in Indonesia.

A federal court in San Francisco orders the release of eleven communists convicted in 1953 of advocating the overthrow of the government.

**23 January 1958** General Marcos Evangelista Pérez Jiménez, the dictator of Venezuela, is overthrown by a two-day revolt in Caracas and other major cities. He is replaced by a 7-man junta led by Rear Admiral Wolfgang Enrique Larrazábal Ugueto. Former Argentine President Juan Perón, who has been living in Caracas, moves to the Dominican embassy as a “visitor.”

*Mosaics* by Howard Hanson (61), commissioned to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Cleveland Orchestra, is performed for the first time, in Cleveland.

**24 January 1958** Two works are performed for the first time, in Basel: Ernst Krenek’s (57) orchestral work *Kette, Kreis und Spiegel*, and Bohuslav Martinu’s (67) cantata *The Epic of Gilgamesh* to ancient Babylonian words.

**26 January 1958** Three days of rioting begins by Turkish Cypriots desirous of a partition of the island along ethnic lines. Eight people are killed.

*Be Merry All that be Present* for chorus and organ by Charles Wuorinen (19) to anonymous words is performed for the first time, in the Church of the Transfiguration, New York.

**27 January 1958**  The United States and the USSR sign an agreement in Washington to expand cultural, educational, and scientific exchanges.

US President Eisenhower urges Congress to enact an “emergency” program to improve education, in particular science and engineering.

About 200 rebels, mostly students from Havana University, attack Cuban military posts between Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus.

*Lear: A Study* for orchestra by Marc Blitzstein (52) is performed for the first time, in Carnegie Hall, New York. The critics are mixed. The work is based on his music for two different productions of *King Lear*. See 25 December 1950 and 12 January 1956.

Harp Sonata by Ernst Krenek (57) is performed for the first time, in Town Hall, New York.

**28 January 1958** The lower house of the Italian Parliament approves a measure to end legal prostitution and close 560 officially sanctioned brothels.

Ferenc Münnich replaces János Kádár as Prime Minister of Hungary.

Nonet by Roberto Gerhard (61) is performed for the first time, in London.

An agreement on cultural, technical, and educational exchanges between the US and USSR is signed.

**30 January 1958** A magistrate in Johannesburg orders 95 South Africans to be tried for treason. The alleged offense of the 58 blacks, 18 south Asians, 17 whites, and two of mixed ancestry is of advocating racial equality and opposing the country’s apartheid laws.

William Walton’s (55) Partita for Orchestra is performed for the first time, in Severence Hall, Cleveland. The work, which was commissioned by the Cleveland Orchestra to celebrate its 40th anniversary, is well received.

**31 January 1958** *Explorer I*, the first American artificial Earth satellite, is launched from Cape Canaveral.

**1 February 1958** Egypt and Syria join to form the United Arab Republic.

Aaron Copland (57) conducts on television for the first time, sharing a program with Leonard Bernstein (39) and the New York Philharmonic.

**2 February 1958** Sonata for cello solo no.2 composed in Two Dayturnes by Otto Luening (57) is performed for the first time, in Kaufmann Concert Hall, New York.

**3 February 1958** At a ceremony in The Hague, the foreign ministers of Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands sign a treaty creating the Benelux economic union.

**5 February 1958** The Egyptian Parliament and Syrian President Shukri al-Kuwatly to be the first president of the new United Arab Republic.

Symphony no.2 by Michael Tippett (53) is performed for the first time, in Royal Festival Hall, London.

**6 February 1958** Hans-Bode Gorgasz is freed from prison. He was sentenced to death in 1947 for the gas chamber murders of 1,000 people at Hadamar Sanatorium.

Arne Mattsson’s film *Primavera de la vida*, with music by Alberto Ginastera (41), is released in Argentina.

**8 February 1958** French planes strike the village of Sakiet Sidi Youssef, Tunisia. 70 people are killed, 130 injured. The French claim they were fired on by Algerian rebels near the town. Homes and public buildings are hit, as well as two trucks belonging to the Red Cross. Tunisian President Bourguiba tells his country that this is the “opening of hostilities” with France. He demands that all French troops be removed from Tunisia and the naval base at Bizerte.

**9 February 1958** Tunisian army units surround all French military installations in the country.

*Out of the Depths* for chorus and organ by Leslie Bassett (35) to words of the Psalms, is performed for the first time, in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**10 February 1958** *Mythical Beasts* for soprano and 16 instruments by Henry Brant (44) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**11 February 1958** After talks in Cairo, Yemen announces it will join the United Arab Republic.

Wind Quintet no.2 by Charles Wuorinen (19) is performed for the first time, in Barnard Parlor, Barnard College, New York.

**12 February 1958** The French National Assembly votes support for the raid on Sakiet Sidi Youssef.

*Pietà* for english horn and strings by Ulysses Kay (41) is performed for the first time, in Town Hall, New York.

The Symphony no.2 by Samuel Adler (29) is performed for the first time, in Dallas.

**13 February 1958** *La rose des vents*, a ballet by Darius Milhaud (65) to a story by Vidalie and Petit, is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**14 February 1958** The Arab Union is created by the federation of Iraq and Jordan. Each country maintains a high degree of independence.

Waltz Serenade for orchestra by George Rochberg (39) is performed for the first time, in Cincinnati.

**15 February 1958** With covert support from the United States, a rival Indonesian government is founded in Bukittingi to challenge President Sukarno. It is headed by Sjafruddim Prawiranegara, a former governor of the Bank of Indonesia.

David Diamond’s (42) symphonic suite *The World of Paul Klee* is performed for the first time, in Portland, Oregon.

**16 February 1958** *A Ballad of the Seven Lively Arts* for piano and orchestra by Norman Dello Joio (45) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of CBS television the composer at the piano.

**17 February 1958** France and Tunisia accept the US and UK as mediators in their current dispute.

Élégie for horn and piano by Francis Poulenc (59) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of the BBC, the composer at the piano.

**18 February 1958** *Sinfonia Concertante* for two orchestras by Bohuslav Martinu (67) is performed for the first time, in Basel, 26 years after it was composed.

**20 February 1958** Tunisian officials close seven French consulates.

**21 February 1958** The Indonesian Air Force bombs rebels in Padang, Bukittingi, and Manado.

A plebiscite in Egypt and Syria confirms the union of the two countries as the United Arab Republic.

**22 February 1958** The US and UK sign an agreement in Washington to provide Britain with US intermediate range ballistic missiles.

In the first free elections in Argentina since 1928, Arturo Frondizi, supported by Perónists, wins a strong victory.

**23 February 1958** *Música para un jardin* for orchestra by Joaquín Rodrigo (56) is performed for the first time, in Teatro Ruzafa, Valencia.

**27 February 1958** Indonesian federal troops land on Sulawesi, 200 km from the rebel stronghold of Menado.

Several works by Henryk Górecki (24) are performed for the first time, in Katowice: *Songs of Joy and Rhythm* op.7 for two pianos and chamber orchestra, Concerto for five instruments and string quartet op.11, Toccata op.2 for two pianos, Variations for violin and piano op.4, Sonata for two violins op.10 and the Quartettino op.5 for two flutes, oboe, and violin. This is the first concert devoted entirely to the works of Górecki and will bring him a commission from conductor Andrezej Markowski.

*Lear: A Study* for orchestra by Marc Blitzstein (52) is performed for the first time, in Carnegie Hall, New York. The critics are mixed.

Concerto for piano and orchestra by Peter Mennin (34) is performed for the first time, in Cleveland.

*St. Joan* for piano by Ben Johnston (31) is performed for the first time.

**1 March 1958** The Turkish ferry *SS Üsküdar* capsizes and sinks in a storm off Izmit. 272 people are lost. 39 survive.

**2 March 1958** A party of British and New Zealanders, led by Vivian Fuchs, reaches Scott Base on McMurdo Sound. They thus become the first humans to complete a land crossing of Antarctica. Having set out from Shackelton Station on the Wedell Sea on 24 November, they traveled some 3,400 km. The British government announces that Fuchs will be knighted.

**3 March 1958** Konstantinos Georgiou Georgakopoulos replaces Konstantinos Georgiou Karamanlis as Prime Minister of Greece.

The second orchestral suite from Hans Werner Henze’s (31) ballet *Undine* is performed for the first time, in Mannheim. See 27 October 1958 and 10 January 1959.

George Rochberg’s (39) piano work Sonata-Fantasia is performed for the first time, at the Juilliard School, New York.

**4 March 1958** A court in Ankara sentences Halim Buyukbulut to 26 months in prison and a $7,735 fine for drawing cartoons critical of the Turkish government. His newspaper, *Ulus*, is suspended for two months.

**5 March 1958** China creates the Kwangsi Chuang (Guangxi Zhuang) Autonomous Region.

On the fifth anniversary of the death of Sergey Prokofiev, memorial plaques are ceremonially unveiled on all the addresses where he lived in Moscow.

The French government issues 13 decrees on Algeria, dividing the country into five regions and appointing French administrators for each until elections can be held.

The launch of a second artificial satellite by the United States fails to achieve orbit, probably because the last stage does not fire.

Orchestral Variations by Aaron Copland (57), a transcription of his Piano Variations, is performed for the first time, in Louisville. Expressions of displeasure are heard at the end.

*Fantasía para un gentilhombre* for guitar and orchestra by Joaquín Rodrigo (56) is performed for the first time, in the War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco.

**6 March 1958** President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic names four vice-presidents (two Egyptian, two Syrian) and a cabinet. Most of the important ministries go to Egyptians.

**7 March 1958** Indonesian federal troops land at Bengkalis off Sumatra, 500 km from the rebel centers of Padang and Bukit Tinggi.

The French National Assembly votes confidence in the Algeria policy of Prime Minister Gaillard.

Symphony no.1 by Charles Wuorinen (19) is performed for the first time, in the Great Hall, Cooper Union, New York.

Concerto for viola and orchestra by Walter Piston (64) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Boston.

**8 March 1958** In a ceremony in Damascus, Yemen is attached to the United Arab Republic in the United Arab States. Imam Ahmed of Yemen retains his absolute monarchy, but joint armed forces and foreign policy are set up.

*Nature* magazine publishes a paper by six scientists at Cambridge University and the Royal Institution entitled, “A three-dimensional model of the myoglobin molecule obtained by X-ray analysis.” It is the first 3-D model of a protein and marks the beginning of structural biology.

*Ad Majorem Gloriam, Universitatis Illinorum*, a tone poem for band by Roy Harris (60) is performed for the first time, in University Auditorium, Urbana.

**9 March 1958** Sestina for solo voice and chamber ensemble by Ernst Krenek (57) to his own words, is performed for the first time, in the New School for Social Research, New York, the composer conducting.

**11 March 1958** A US Air Force plane accidentally drops an unarmed nuclear bomb which lands near a house near Florence, South Carolina. The triggering device explodes causing injuries to six people living in the house. The Air Force claims a “mechanical malfunction” caused the bomb to drop.

The *Memnon Overture* (Vorspiel zu einer grossen Oper) by Franz Schreker (†23) is performed for the first time, in Baden-Baden.

**12 March 1958** Indonesian federal troops take Pakanbaru, Sumatra.

President Fulgencio Batista suspends civil liberties in Cuba after the courts attempt to arrest and try national military and police figures for using murder and torture against political prisoners.

A Philadelphia court sentences Billie Holiday to a year’s probation for possession of narcotics.

*Rondo* for two pianos, four hands by Helmut Lachenmann (22) is performed for the first time, in the Musikhochschule, Stuttgart by Gunilde Cramer and the composer.

Incidental music to Kerr’s (after Aristophanes) play *The Birds* by Lejaren Hiller (34) is performed for the first time, at the University of Illinois, Urbana.

**13 March 1958** Nathan Leopold is released on parole from prison in Joliet, Illinois.

**14 March 1958** The Iranian court announces that Reza Shah Pahlevi has divorced Queen Soraya because she has not produced a male heir.

**15 March 1958** China begins to withdraw six divisions (c.100,000 men) from Korea. The move will be completed on 30 April.

Two works are performed for the first time, in the music building of the Women’s College of the University of North Carolina in Greensboro: *Variations I* for any number of players by John Cage (45), and *Intermission 6* for one or two pianos by Morton Feldman (32), performed by John Cage and David Tudor.

**16 March 1958** Indonesian rebels take Medan, Sumatra.

Doubles for orchestra by Pierre Boulez (32) is performed for the first time, in Paris, conducted by the composer. See 10 January 1964.

**17 March 1958** The International Maritime Organization is established.

After three months of failures, the United States launches a second satellite, *Vanguard I*.

President Fulgencio Batista of Cuba receives a petition to resign from a broad spectrum of 42 organizations and signed by thousands of people. At the same time, Fidel Castro distributes a declaration of “total war” against the government to begin 1 April.

**18 March 1958** A French court convicts and condemns to death 36 Algerians for the murders of 20 Europeans in the Philippeville area.

Surrounded by over 8,000 security guards for protection, the French National Assembly votes confidence in Prime Minister Gaillard’s government.

**19 March 1958** 142 representatives of six countries meet in Strasbourg for the opening session of the European Parliamentary Assembly created to govern the European Coal and Steel Community. Robert Schuman of France is chosen as its first president.

*Windsong*, a film with music by Harry Partch (56), is shown for the first time, over the airwaves of WTTW-TV, Chicago.

**20 March 1958** Elections in Cuba scheduled for 1 June are postponed until 3 November at the insistence of followers of President Batista.

Three members of the Ku Klux Klan are convicted in Charlotte, North Carolina of conspiracy to blow up, and attempting to blow up, a predominantly black school. They receive sentences ranging from two to ten years. Two others are acquitted.

**21 March 1958** Sonata per Archi for chamber orchestra by Hans Werner Henze (31) is performed for the first time, in Zürich.

**22 March 1958** Indonesian rebel leader Prawiranegare Sjafruddin appeals to the world for economic and military aid against the federal government.

**23 March 1958** Indonesian federal troops take Lirik, thus completing the recapture of the central Sumatra oil fields.

**24 March 1958** Israel and Syria begin a week of battles along their common border.

Popular music entertainer Elvis Presley is inducted into the army in Memphis.

*Gruppen* no.6 for three orchestras by Karlheinz Stockhausen (29) is performed for the first time, in Cologne, conducted by Pierre Boulez (32), Bruno Maderna (37), and the composer. Cornelius Cardew (21) plays glockenspiel. Despite the open hostility of the musicians and the great difficulty of coordinating three orchestras with three conductors, the evening is a smashing success.

**25 March 1958** *Artikulation* for four-track tape by György Ligeti (34) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of WDR, Cologne. Also premiered is Bruno Maderna’s (37) tape work, *Continuo.*

**26 March 1958** Indonesian federal troops take Taluk in central Sumatra but fierce fighting continues in the area.

Police in Paris detain 6,000 Moslems, arresting about 280 of them as terror suspects.

The United States launches a third satellite, *Explorer III*.

*Musique Funèbre* by Witold Lutoslawski (45) is performed for the first time, in Katowice. It is dedicated to the Poles who resisted the Nazi occupation.

Incidental music to Shaw’s play *Back to Methuselah* by Otto Luening (57) and Vladimir Ussachevsky (46) is performed for the first time, in New York.

Duo for viola and piano by Ralph Shapey (37) is performed for the first time, at the Third Street Music School Settlement, New York.

Henry Cowell’s (61) orchestral work *Ongaku* is performed for the first time, in Columbia Auditorium, Louisville.

**27 March 1958** General Secretary Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchev appoints himself Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR replacing Nikolay Alyeksandrovich Bulganin.

A federal district court finds 34 of 35 defendants guilty of conspiracy in running guns to the Cuban revolution.

**28 March 1958** At the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York, Dr. Peter Goldmark of CBS Laboratories announces the development of a stereophonic record that can be played on existing monaural equipment.

Symphony no.1 by George Rochberg (39) is performed for the first time, in Philadelphia.

**29 March 1958** String Quartet no.2 by Leon Kirchner (39) is performed for the first time, in Detroit.

**30 March 1959** Five Appalachian Ballads for voice and guitar by Lejaren Hiller (35) is performed for the first time, at the University of Illinois, Urbana.

**31 March 1958** The USSR declares a unilateral halt to atomic testing and calls on the US and UK to do the same.

The Mixed Armistice Commission enforces a cease-fire along the Israel-Syria border after a week of fighting.

Pierre Frieden replaces Joseph Bech as Prime Minister of Luxembourg.

President Batista of Cuba is granted “extraordinary powers” by the Congress.

The Progressive Conservative Party of Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker wins an enormous victory in parliamentary elections, capturing 208 of 265 seats.

*Pentagramm* for woodwind quintet by Ernst Krenek (57) is performed for the first time, in Schoenberg Hall at the University of California at Los Angeles.

**1 April 1958** Six people are wounded, 200 arrested in Tyre in demonstrations following the conviction of three men for abusing the Lebanese flag.

Spain returns Tarfaya to Morocco.

About a million workers in the transport and public utility fields strike in France for 24 hours to support wage demands.

A new offensive by rebels in Cuba cuts of Santiago from the rest of the country.

The Radiophonic Workshop opens at the Maida Vale Studios of the BBC in London. It is created to electronically produce sound for radio dramas, science programs, and other radio and television programs.

**2 April 1958** Police fire on anti-government demonstrators in Tyre, Lebanon, killing five and injuring ten.

In the third concert of *Sannin-no-kai* (the group of three) in Tokyo, Toshiro Mayuzumi’s (29) *Nirvana Symphony* (Nehan kokyokyoku) is performed for the first time, in Tokyo.

Symphony no.9 by Ralph Vaughan Williams (85) is performed for the first time, in Royal Festival Hall, London.

**6 April 1958** The Indonesian government announces plans to buy warplanes and other armaments from Warsaw Pact countries and Yugoslavia.

*Mutations I* for piano by Ralph Shapey (37) is performed for the first time, in Nonagon Gallery, New York. Also premiered is Shapey’s Sonata Variations for piano.

**7 April 1958** Indonesian federal troops take Lubukdjambi in central Sumatra.

**8 April 1958** West Germany and the USSR reach agreement in Moscow on trade and other issues including the voluntary repatriation of persons now in the Soviet Union who held German citizenship before 22 June 1941.

**9 April 1958** The Ceylon House of Representatives votes to nationalize all tea, rubber, and coconut plantations.

Scattered street fighting breaks out in Havana between rebels and government troops.

**10 April 1958** Five days of unrest begins in Lebanon by groups opposed to President Camille Chamoun’s pro-western policies.

*Spectrum* for solo violin, brass quintet, and piano by Charles Wuorinen (19) is performed for the first time, in the Barkley Hotel, Philadelphia.

An orchestral suite from Aaron Copland’s (57) opera *The Tender Land* is performed for the first time, in Orchestra Hall, Chicago.

**11 April 1958** Japanese police arrest three government officials and charge them with being members of the Communist Party and giving government information to the party.

Van Cliburn plays the Third Piano Concerto of Sergey Rakhmaninov at the Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition at Tchaikovsky Conservatory, Moscow. His performance meets with uproarious applause. Through the competition he has become the idol of the city.

The South African government bans all meetings of more than ten blacks.

**12 April 1958** France agrees to resume negotiations with Tunisia with US and UK mediators.

A Violin Sonata in B by Frederick Delius (†23) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of the BBC, 66 years after he composed it.

**13 April 1958** The sixteen jurors of the Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow vote to give the first prize to Van Cliburn of Kilgore, Texas.

Studies in Sound for tape by Vladimir Ussachevsky (46) is performed for the first time, in New York.

An episode of the CBS television program *The Twentieth Century* entitled “FDR: From third term to Pearl Harbor” with music by Ulysses Kay (41) is shown for the first time, over the airwaves of the network.

**14 April 1958** The French National Assembly votes against confidence in the government’s handling of negotiations with Tunisia over border incursions into Algeria.

First Secretary of the Polish Communist Party Wladislaw Gomulka orders that all factory workers’ councils created during the revolt of 1956 will be brought under Party control. He also orders a ban on industrial strikes.

Van Cliburn plays at a reception at the Kremlin attended by General Secretary Nikita Khrushchev, President Kliment Voroshilov, First Deputy Prime Minister Anastas Mikoyan and a visitor, Dowager Queen Elizabeth of Belgium. At the concert hall, certificates are passed out to Cliburn and the other winners of the Tchaikovsky competition by Dmitri Shostakovich (51).

Cornelius Cardew (21) marries Ruth Aaronberg, a fellow student at the Royal Academy of Music, at the British Consulate in Düsseldorf. One of the witnesses is Gottfried Michael Koenig (31).

*The Robbers*, a melodrama by Ned Rorem (34) to his own words, revised by Marc Blitzstein (53) after Chaucer, is performed for the first time, at the Kaufman Auditorium of the YMHA, New York.

*Invención* for piano by Carlos Chávez (58) is performed officially for the first time, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**15 April 1958** Prime Minister Félix Gaillard of France and his cabinet resign after the votes taken yesterday.

Piano Quintet no.2 by Ernest Bloch (77) is performed for the first time, at the University of California, Berkeley.

Leonard Bernstein (39) wins an Emmy Award for Best Musical Contribution to Television for his explanation of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach (†207) on *Omnibus*.

**16 April 1958** Parliamentary elections in South Africa result in an increased majority for the National Party.

Marc Blitzstein (53) receives a summons to appear before an executive session of the House Un-American Activities Committee in New York.

**17 April 1958** About 6,000 Indonesian federal troops land on the west coast of Sumatra and capture the rebel stronghold of Padang.

King Baudouin officially opens the Brussels Worlds Fair.

President Batista of Cuba declares all public employees to be members of the armed forces subject to “military jurisdiction.”

*The Rock* for orchestra by Bohuslav Martinu (67) is performed for the first time, in Cleveland.

**18 April 1958** Van Cliburn plays a recital at Moscow Conservatory to an overflow crowd. They require seven encores.

A United States federal court decides that since Ezra Pound is incurably, permanently insane, he can no longer be held under indictment for treason and must be set free.

Symphony no.1 by Easley Blackwood (24) is performed for the first time, in Boston.

**19 April 1958** String Quartet no.2 op.26 by Alberto Ginastera (42) is performed for the first time, in Coolidge Auditorium, Washington. Also premiered is String Quartet no.15 by Heitor Villa-Lobos (71).

Elegy and Dance for orchestra by Roy Harris (60) is performed for the first time, in Public Auditorium, Portland, Oregon the composer conducting.

**20 April 1958** Symphony no.12 by Heitor Villa-Lobos (71) is performed for the first time, in Lisner Auditorium, Washington.

**21 April 1958** The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union announces a reduction of the work day for industrial workers from eight to seven hours and for miners, seven to six hours.

The League of Red Cross Societies reports that a smallpox epidemic in East Pakistan (Bangladesh) has caused 15,000 deaths.

**22 April 1958** Dmitri Shostakovich (51) is awarded the Lenin Prize for his Symphony no.11.

The Philips Pavilion at the Brussels World’s Fair is officially inaugurated. It is immediately closed for further adjustments to the sound and light systems.

Princess Margaret opens the Parliament of the West Indies Federation in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

Symphony no.8 “Rhodanienne” by Darius Milhaud (65) is performed for the first time, in San Francisco. On the same program is the premiere of the Violin Concerto no.1 by Andrew Imbrie (37).

**23 April 1958** Orson Welles’ film *Touch of Evil* is shown for the first time, in Los Angeles.

A string quartet by Thea Musgrave (29) is performed for the first time, at the University of Glasgow.

Six Elizabethan Songs, a cycle for high voice and piano by Dominick Argento (30) to words of various authors, is performed for the first time, at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York. See 8 March 1963.

**24 April 1958** Speaking in Jakarta, President Sukarno of Indonesia predicts that the “fall of capitalism and imperialism” is “an historical certainty.”

The Epidemic Control Commission in Dacca, East Pakistan reports that 50,000 people have died of smallpox and the epidemic is “out of control” in eight districts.

**26 April 1958** Reino Iisakki Kuuskoski replaces Berndt Rainer von Feiandt as Prime Minister of Finland.

*Crossing Brooklyn Ferry* for chorus and piano by Virgil Thomson (61), to words of Whitman, is performed for the first time, in Brooklyn.

**28 April 1958** Citizens of Malta stage a general strike, attack buses and barricade streets to protest the takeover of the civil administration of the territory by British Governor Robert Laycock. Laycock bans public meetings for three months.

A second *Vanguard* satellite sent aloft by the United States fails to achieve orbit.

*The Birthday Party* by Harold Pinter is first performed, in Cambridge.

**29 April 1958** Representatives of the United Arab Republic and the Universal Suez Canal Company sign a preliminary agreement on compensation for the nationalization of the canal in 1956.

*Dialogues* for clarinet and piano by George Rochberg (39) is performed for the first time, in Carl Fischer Concert Hall, New York.

Incidental music to Fry’s play *The Firstborn* by Leonard Bernstein (39) is performed for the first time, in Coronet Theatre, New York.

**30 April 1958** British Governor Robert Laycock declares a state of emergency on Malta due to recent strikes and anti-government agitation.

**1 May 1958** Legislation goes into effect closing all brothels in India.

The discovery of the Van Allen radiation belts is published in the *Washington* *Evening Star*. This comes after the announcement to the National Academy of Sciences and the American Physical Society by James Van Allen in Washington.

The US Treasury Department releases assets of Egypt and the Universal Suez Canal Company frozen since 1956.

The United States Coast Guard seizes the *Golden Rule* and its crew of four at Honolulu as it attempts to sail to Eniwetok (Enewetak) to protest atomic testing.

Arturo Frondizi Ercoli replaces Pedro Eugenio Aramburu Cilveti as President of Argentina.

**2 May 1958** *Poéme électronique* for three-track tape by Edgar Varèse (74) is performed for the first time, in the Philips Pavilion at the Brussels Exposition. The music plays continuously as visitors ambulate through the pavilion, designed by Le Courboursier.

**3 May 1958** The US invites eleven nations to a conference to ensure that Antarctica be used only for peaceful purposes.

**4 May 1958** Indonesian federal troops capture the rebel capital of Bukit Tinggi, Sumatra.

*Serenata d’estate* for harp, flute, guitar, violin, viola and cello by George Rochberg (39) is performed for the first time, in the 92nd Street Y, New York.

Largo Risoluto nos.1 and 2 for string quartet and piano by Charles Ives (†3) are performed for the first time, in the National Gallery of Art, Washington.

**5 May 1958** Samuel Barber (48) wins the Pulitzer Prize in Music for his opera *Vanessa.*

**7 May 1958** The Indonesian Army charges that recently defeated rebels received arms and ammunition from the US with US government approval.

Serenade for orchestra by William Grant Still (62) is performed for the first time, in the high school of Great Falls, Montana.

**8 May 1958** Nassib Metni, editor of the leftist Beirut newpaper *Telegraphe*, is murdered.

Marc Blitzstein (53) appears before an executive session of the House Un-American Activities Committee in the court house in Foley Square, New York. He is one of 20 witnesses from the entertainment industry. He states openly that he was a member of the Communist Party until 1949, and that he, at various times, supported certain organizations, but he does not inform on others.

During a speech by US Vice-President Richard Nixon at San Marcos University in Lima, Peru, a riot breaks out. Demonstrators begin showering the platform with produce and geological specimens. After calling the students “cowards” he abandons his speech. Nixon then moves on to Catholic University where the only things thrown at him are angry questions.

Two trains collide head on in a suburb of Rio de Janeiro. 128 people are killed.

Popular music promoter Alan Freed is indicted in Boston for inciting a riot during a show in the city on 3 May. Fifteen people were injured by teenaged fans.

Incidental music to Shakespeare’s play *King Lear* by Aram Khachaturian (54) is performed for the first time, in Moscow.

String Quartet no.1 “Métamorphoses nocturnes” by György Ligeti (34) is performed for the first time, in Vienna.

**9 May 1958** Anti-government violence breaks out in Lebanon during a general strike to protest the murder yesterday of newspaper editor Nassib Metni.

The last four Nazi war criminals held by the US are paroled. Three of them were originally sentenced to death in 1948.

Alfred Hitchcock’s film *Vertigo* is shown for the first time, in Los Angeles.

**10 May 1958** Violence in Tripoli, Lebanon by armed mobs yesterday and today cause the deaths of 21 people. 128 are injured. The library of the United States Information Service is burned.

**11 May 1958** Fighting continues between rebels and Indonesian troops in the Moluccas.

Khosrov Ruzbeh, leader of the Communist Party of Iran, is executed by firing squad in a Teheran prison.

A reproduction of Waclaw Szymanowksi’s monument to Chopin (†108) is unveiled in Warsaw. The original was destroyed by the Germans in World War II.

Police in Bogota, Colombia, break up several anti-US demonstrations during a visit by US Vice-President Richard Nixon.

**12 May 1958** Mobs in Beirut battle police. The United States Information Service library in the city is burned as are the homes of three government leaders. The pipeline of the Iraq Petroleum Company is blown up near the Syrian border.

The Arab Federal State, the union of Jordan and Iraq, comes into effect as the Iraqi Parliament and King ratify the constitution.

US President Eisenhower tell African-Americans to have “patience and forbearance” in the fight for equal rights. “We must make sure that enforcement will not in itself create injustice.”

**13 May 1958** A coalition of fascist and other right-wing groups, in conspiracy with the local French army command led by brigadier General Jacques Massu, seize control in Algeria. They set up a Committee of Public Safety and demand the return to power of Charles de Gaulle. They oppose reports that Prime Minister-designate Pierre Pflimlin plans to negotiate with Algerian rebels.

Foreign Minister Malik of Lebanon accuses Egypt of “massive interference” in the current unrest in the country.

As US Vice-President Richard Nixon drives through Caracas, Venezuela to a wreath-laying ceremony at the National Pantheon, his motorcade is set upon by mobs wielding sticks and rocks. Rioters attempt to drag Nixon from the car. Venezuelan Foreign Minister Oscar Garcia Lutin is injured as are some of Nixon’s bodyguards. Two US diplomats waiting at the ceremony site for Nixon are set upon by mobs and are rescued by Venezuelan troops. Nixon’s motorcade manages to make it to the US embassy. US President Eisenhower moves troops to Puerto Rico and Guantanamo Bay as a “precautionary measure.”

**14 May 1958** Pierre Pflimlin of the Popular Republican Movement (center-right) replaces Félix Gaillard as Prime Minister of France. He orders General Raoul Salan to take political control in Algeria. Salan is currently the commander of French forces in the country.

The United States sends arms to the pro-Western government of Lebanon. Eleven ships and 3,600 Marines are sent from Gibraltar to the eastern Mediterranean.

US Vice-President Richard Nixon is driven from the US embassy to the airport in Caracas and flies away. The route he travels is closed to all traffic and lined with troops.

Quintet with Voice for baritone, clarinet, horn, cello, harp, and piano by Stefan Wolpe (55) to words of his third wife, Hilda Morey, is performed for the first time.

**15 May 1958**  General Charles de Gaulle offers to resume power to calm the Algerian rebellion.

US President Eisenhower greets Vice-President Nixon as he returns from a tumultuous tour of Latin America, at Washington National Airport.

A 25-year retrospective of the work of John Cage (45) takes place in Town Hall, New York organized by artists Robert Rauschenberg and Jasper Johns, accompanied by an exhibition of scores by Cage, along with a Rauschenberg show on another floor. The Exhibition receives critical praise. As part of the proceedings, Cage’s *Concert for Piano and Orchestra* is performed for the first time, conducted by the dancer, Merce Cunningham. Some audience members shout insults during the performance and attempt to halt it. At the end, voiced opinions are widely divergent, ranging from cheers and applause to laughter, boos and abuse. Also premiered is the revised version of Cage’s Six Short Inventions for alto flute, clarinet, trumpet, violin, two violas, and cello. In the audience is a very interested Japanese composer named Toshi Ichiyanagi (25).

**16 May 1958** Head of the Algiers Committee of Public Safety General Jacques Massu telegrams President Coty and demands that he accept Charles de Gaulle.

The French National Assembly declares a state of emergency and votes special powers to Prime Minister Pflimlin to deal with the Algeria revolt and Gaullist unrest in France. The Ministry of Defense cancels all leaves. Public meetings and demonstrations are banned. Partial press censorship begins.

General Paul Ely, Chief of Staff of the French armed forces, resigns after two of his aides are sacked for anti-government activity.

**17 May 1958** French troops in France are ordered to their barracks and ordered to remain on alert.

Fighting resumes in Tripoli, Lebanon as rebels attack loyal troops.

Konstantinos Georgiou Karamanlis replaces Konstantinos Georgiou Georgakopoulos as Prime Minister of Greece.

*Allelujah II* for five orchestral groups by Luciano Berio (32), a reworking of *Allelujah I*, is performed for the first time, in a broadcast originating in Rome.

**18 May 1958** Indonesian troops shoot down a plane carrying US pilot Alan Pope over Ambon while he is flying missions for anti-Sukarno rebels.

Most of the national gendarmerie in France are mobilized.

French troops attack out of their base at Remada, Tunisia and take two Tunisian positions.

*Cheltenham Concerto* for small orchestra by George Rochberg (39) is performed for the first time, in Philadelphia.

**19 May 1958**  In a Paris news conference, General Charles de Gaulle repeats his offer to resume power to calm the Algerian rebellion. During his talk, the General Confederation of Labor carries out a strike as a warning against a Gaullist coup. The government places restrictions of travel by French citizens. Minister of the Interior Jules Moch makes a nationwide address appealing to citizens to remain loyal to the republic.

The President of the Juilliard School of Music, William Schuman (47), sends a telegram to its most famous former student, Van Cliburn, “The day your triumph was announced the atmosphere at Juilliard was unmistakably akin to that of a college campus following victory in the big game of the year.”

**20 May 1958** The Indonesian government announces that it has captured the air base on Morotai Island and taken Gerontalo, a rebel stronghold on northern Sulawesi.

For the first and only time, New York stages a ticker tape parade for a musician, as Van Cliburn rides from lower Broadway to City Hall. 100,000 people line the route and 1,200 march in the parade. Before 5,000 people at city hall, Mayor Wagner gives him the traditional gifts on such occasions, a scroll and medal.

The Henry Hadley Medal is awarded to Samuel Barber (48) by the National Association for American Composers and Conductors at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York.

**21 May 1958** General Raoul Salan, commander of French forces in Algeria, declares for the conservative revolt, saying “We shall all march up the Champs-Elysées together and be covered with flowers.”

The wife and children of Astor Piazzolla (37) arrive to live with him in New York. Since his arrival in February he has been investigating his possibilities there.

**22 May 1958** In its first general election as a unified party, the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan wins 287 of 467 seats in the House of Representatives.

French planes land at Gafsa, Tunisia and then go on to bomb Tunisian troops.

The Argentine Congress grants amnesty and restores civil liberties to about 41,000 Perónistas. They leave the question of return of exiles to the courts.

**23 May 1959** A film of Modest Musorgsky’s (†78) opera *Khovanshchina*, with music reorchestrated by Dmitri Shostakovich (52), is shown for the first time, in Leningrad.

Rioting flares up again in Ceylon between Sinhalese and Tamil citizens.

A 71-person Committee of Public Safety is set up in Algeria and is recognized by General Raoul Salan, the commander of French forces in the country.

**24 May 1958** The Algerian Committee of Public Safety forms a junta made up of General Jacques Massu, Mohammed Sidi Cara and the Gaullist leader Jacques Soustelle.

Conservatives on Corsica form a Committee of Public Safety and, with the aid of French troops, seize important buildings in Ajaccio. The French government declares the island in a “state of insurrection.”

The government of Lebanon appeals to the United Nations to act to halt “the intervention of the United Arab Republic in the internal affairs of Lebanon.”

**25 May 1958** Lebanese army troops retake Halba and Baalbek from rebels.

National elections in Italy leave the state of the parties in the Chamber of Deputies virtually unchanged. Christian Democrats are still the largest party and will form a coalition.

Solo for Voice I by John Cage (45) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**26 May 1958** George Flint of Canada, chairman of the Israeli-Jordanian Mixed Armistice Commission, is killed when he tries to reach an Israeli policeman wounded by Jordanian gunners on Mt. Scopus. Four Israeli policemen are killed when the Jordanians open fire. Two are wounded.

Some units of the French navy put in to Algerian ports to support the insurrection.

Charles de Gaulle confers secretly with Prime Minister Pflimlin and Defense Minister Pierre de Chévigné.

**27 May 1958** The government of Indonesia announces that it shot down a US-built B-26 bomber piloted by Allan Lawrence Pope of Miami. Pope told them that he has been flying for the rebels since 21 April at $10,000 per month.

Governor General Oliver Goonetilleke declares a state of emergency in Ceylon following renewed ethnic violence. Twenty people have been killed. A nighttime curfew is imposed throughout the country.

Charles de Gaulle announces that events have been set in motion to create a government of national defense.

The first parliament of the Arab Federal State opens in Amman.

For the fourth time in five tries, a *Vanguard* satellite launched from the United States fails to achieve orbit.

**28 May 1958** Schools are closed and censorship imposed because of ethnic violence in Ceylon.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union amends its declaration of 10 February 1948 with a decree entitled “On the Correction of Errors in the Evaluation of *The Great Friendship, Bogdan Khmelnitsky* and *From All My Heart*”. It lifts criticism of Sergey Prokofiev (†5), Aram Khatchaturian (54), Dmitri Shostakovich (51), and others.

The East German government announces an end to food rationing cards.

Prime Minister Pierre Pflimlin of France resigns. He remains as a caretaker. President René Coty asks the speakers of the National Assembly and Council of the Republic to communicate with Charles de Gaulle “on the conditions under which the government of the Republic might be constituted.” About 125,000 mostly leftists, led by former prime ministers and cabinet members, march in Paris against a takeover by General de Gaulle.

18 tanks arrive in Beirut from the US for use by the Lebanese army.

The Tunisian government orders a strengthening of the rings around French forces in that country.

The last National Guardsmen leave Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

*Vertigo*, a film produced and directed by Alfred Hitchcock, is released in the US.

**29 May 1958** President René Coty of France tells the National Assembly that he will resign and leave the country to civil war unless they approve Charles de Gaulle as Prime Minister. After speaking with President Coty, de Gaulle agrees to take power if 1. emergency powers are granted to the government to deal with the situation, 2. the government is given a mandate to submit constitutional changes to a referendum, 3. these changes deal with the separation of powers and the relationship between France and the colonies.

Fighting resumes in Remada, Tunisia as the French attack out of their base again to push back the Tunisians surrounding them.

**30 May 1958** Supporters and opponents of Charles de Gaulle battle in the Champs Elysées district of Paris.

A federal judge in Buenos Aires rules that former President Juan Perón is not eligible for amnesty under a new law because he is guilty of treason. The judge did grant amnesty to former Vice-President Alberto Teisaire and cleared other Perónist leaders of treason charges.

Violin Concerto “no.1” by Béla Bartók (†12) is performed for the first time, in Basel, 50 years after it was composed.

**31 May 1958** Fighting between Lebanese troops and rebels resumes in Tripoli.

**1 June 1958** In an attempt to stem the tide of rightist insurrection and afraid of an imminent parachute attack on Paris from Corsica, the French National Assembly votes 329-224 to make Charles de Gaulle prime minister, replacing Pierre Pflimlin. Anti-de Gaulle riots break out in working class areas of Paris. Smaller demonstrations happen in other French cities. The new cabinet includes three former prime ministers, representatives of seven political parties and five technocrats. No one from the Algeria insurrection is named.

Lebanon brings charges against the United Arab Republic in the Arab League, claiming it is behind the recent violence there.

National elections in Belgium result in a gain for the Christian Peoples Party over the ruling Socialists.

General elections in Sweden return the Social Democratic Party of Prime Minister Tage Erlander to power.

Fantasy in two movements for violin by Ross Lee Finney (51) is performed for the first time, in Brussels.

**2 June 1958** The French National Assembly votes Charles de Gaulle decree powers for six months and the power to draft a new constitution. Powers extend only to taxation and economic matters, military reorganization and North African affairs.

**3 June 1958** Indonesian federal troops capture Jailolo on Halmahera Island, the last rebel holding outside of Sulawesi.

Nikita Khruschev calls the leaders of Yugoslavia “revisionists” and states that the 1948 denunciation of the Yugoslav leadership was “basically correct.”

*Stradivario*, a ballet by Gian Francesco Malipiero (76) to his own story, is staged for the first time, in a Dortmund. See 20 June 1949.

**4 June 1958** Charles de Gaulle flies to Algeria where he is enthusiastically received. He is able to wrest control of the situation from the rightists while still maintaining their support. He calls for reconciliation with Moslem rebels.

**5 June 1958** The ruling committee of the Algerian National Liberation Front in Cairo rejects the call by Prime Minister de Gaulle for an end to the rebellion.

Incidental music to Meredith’s play *Ulysses in Nighttown* for electronic sound generators by Otto Luening (57) and Vladimir Ussachevsky (46) is performed for the first time, in the Rooftop Theatre, New York.

**6 June 1958** While still in Algeria, Prime Minister de Gaulle orders the Committee of Public Safety to remove itself from politics and confirms the rule of General Salan in the country.

Lebanese rebels, reportedly led by Syrians, launch an attack in the Tripoli area.

**7 June 1958** Moslem rebels resume their attacks throughout Algeria.

Attempts by Lebanese rebels to attack Beirut are pushed back by government troops.

Nine US soldiers are captured when their helicopter lands near Zwickau, East Germany.

*Façade Suite* for harmonica and orchestra by William Walton (56) is performed for the first time, in London.

**9 June 1958** Incidental music to Zavalía’s play *El limite* by Alberto Ginastera (42) is performed for the first time, in Théâtre des Nations (Théâtre de la Ville), Paris.

*McCord’s Menagerie* for male chorus by Irving Fine (43), to words of McCord, is performed for the first time (officially), in Sanders Theatre of Harvard University.

**10 June 1958** In a message to Prime Minister de Gaulle, supported by General Salan, the All-Algeria Committee demands that de Gaulle end the party system in France and form a “real government of public safety.”

**11 June 1958** Prime Minister de Gaulle refuses to support the insurrectionists goal of postponing Algerian elections and he denounces their message of yesterday.

The UN Security Council votes to send observers to Lebanon to watch for infiltration from the United Arab Republic.

A second version of *Musica su Due Dimensioni* for flute and tape by Bruno Maderna (38) is performed for the first time, in Naples.

**12 June 1958** 3,000 more British troops are sent to Cyprus after continued fighting between Greeks and Turks.

Edgardo Togni’s film *Hay que bañar al nene*, with music by Alberto Ginastera (42), is released in Argentina.

**13 June 1958** Prime Minister Charles de Gaulle makes his first nationwide radio and television address and announces that the system of the Fourth Republic is ended. He tells the country he plans to reorganize the federal and colonial system, pacify Algeria and reestablish good relations with former colonies. Algerian coup leaders respond by pledging support to de Gaulle.

The Yugoslav government confirms that it has arrested about 100 pro-Moscow leaders.

**14 June 1958** Lebanese rebels advance on Beirut and heavy fighting ensues over the next three days.

**15 June 1958** Greece cuts all links to Turkey under NATO command. All Greek military personnel are removed from NATO headquarters in Izmir. The action follows fighting between Greeks and Turks on Cyprus.

Symphony no.2 by Florent Schmitt (87) is performed for the first time, in Strasbourg.

**16 June 1958** Indonesian federal troops land on Sulawesi at Kema and drive west towards the rebel capital of Menado. They meet fierce resistance.

Imre Nagy and three other leaders of the 1956 Hungarian uprising are executed.

In a 5-4 decision, the United States Supreme Court holds that the State Department may not deny passports to citizens simply because of their political beliefs. Dozens of passports will be issued, including one to Paul Robeson.

**17 June 1958** Fighting subsides in Beirut but increases in Tripoli. The Lebanese cabinet authorizes President Chamoun to request intervention by foreign troops to put down the uprising.

The Hungarian government announces the execution of former Prime Minister Imre Nagy, Major General Pal Maleter, and journalists Miklos Gimes and Jozsef Szilagyi. Other leaders of the 1956 revolt received prison sentences ranging from five years to life.

France and Tunisia agree that all French troops in Tunisia will be withdrawn to the French base at Bizerte.

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe is published by Heinemann in London.

*Songs from the Chinese* op.58, a cycle for voice and guitar by Benjamin Britten (44) to various Chinese poets (tr. Waley), is performed for the first time, at Great Glenham House, Aldeburgh.

**18 June 1958** Speaking to crowds in Algiers, General Salan calls on French occupation of Tunisia and the assumption of power by General Massu.

Marc Blitzstein (53) appears for a second time to be questioned by the House Un-American Activities Committee in New York. He is once again among many other well-known members of the entertainment industry. Although he appears today and tomorrow, he is not called again to testify.

Benjamin Britten’s (44) children’s opera *Noye’s Fludde* op.59, to an anonymous text, is performed for the first time, in Orford Church.

**20 June 1958** Incidental music to Shakespeare’s play *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* by Marc Blitzstein (53) is performed for the first time, in Stratford, Connecticut. It is a great success.

**21 June 1958** UN observers attempting to patrol the border in the Bekaa Valley are fired upon by Lebanese rebels and forced to withdraw.

**22 June 1958** *The Abbot of Drimock*, a chamber opera by Thea Musgrave (30) to words of Lindsay after Wilson, is performed for the first time, in Park Lane House, London.

**24 June 1958** Impromptu for orchestra by Bernd Alois Zimmermann (40) is performed for the first time, in Cologne, directed by the composer.

*The Goddess*, a film with music by Virgil Thomson (61), is shown for the first time, in New York.

**25 June 1958** Algerian rebels establish a government-in-exile, opposed to the French administration.

Francis Poulenc (59) is awarded an honorary doctorate by Oxford University.

**26 June 1958** Indonesian federal troops occupy the last rebel stronghold, Menado on Sulawesi.

Hanns Eisler (59) marries his third wife, Stephanie Peschl Zucker-Schilling.

The sixth attempt by the United States to put a *Vanguard* satellite in orbit fails. Only one of the six has succeeded.

Cuban rebels attack Moa and kidnap 12 US civilian engineers.

Gaston Eyskens of the Christian Peoples Party replaces Socialist Achille van Acker as Prime Minister of Belgium.

*Prairie Overture* for band by Robert Ward (40) is performed for the first time, in Prospect Park, Brooklyn.

**27 June 1958** Soviet fighters force down a US transport plane near Yerivan. The plane entered Soviet territory on a flight from Ankara to Teheran. All nine crewmen survive.

Magnus Lindberg is born in Helsinki.

**28 June 1958** Lebanese rebels begin a major offensive against Beirut and Tripoli.

Cuban rebels kidnap 29 US military personnel in a bus returning to Guantanamo.

**29 June 1958** Brazil defeats Sweden 5-2 in Stockholm to win the sixth FIFA World Cup™.

Fantasia em trés movimentos for orchestra by Heitor Villa-Lobos (70) is performed for the first time, in Pittsburgh.

**1 July 1958** After three days of fighting, Lebanese army units defeat and push back rebels attacking Beirut and Tripoli.

Nuclear scientists from eight nations on both sides of the iron curtain meet in Geneva for a “conference of experts to study the possibility of detecting violations of a possible agreement on suspension of nuclear weapons tests.”

Prime Minister de Gaulle visits Constantine and other Moslem areas of Algeria in an attempt to gain Moslem support for his plans.

Amintore Fanfani replaces Adone Zoli as Prime Minister of Italy.

**3 July 1958** Lebanese government troops make headway against Druze threatening Beirut airport.

Martin Sommer is sentenced to life in prison by a court in Bayreuth for the murder by lethal injection of 25 inmates at Buchenwald.

**4 July 1958** Nikita Khrushchev tells workers in a Leningrad factory that the government will step up its campaign against public drunkenness and alcoholism. One worker shouts that vodka should be cheaper.

**6 July 1958** Four Songs from the British Isles for chorus by Michael Tippett (53) are performed for the first time, in Abbaye de Royaumont, Seine-et-Oise, France.

Concertante II for violin, piano and strings by Charles Wuorinen (20) is performed for the first time, in Middlebury, Vermont.

**7 July 1958** The five US airmen captured 27 June are released by the Soviet Union at Astara, Iran on the Soviet border, after the US expresses “regret” for the incident.

US President Eisenhower signs a bill which will make Alaska a state.

**8 July 1958** After two days of voting for the Finnish Parliament, the Communists win the most seats. But they will not be included in the new government.

**10 July 1958** Fighting between Greek and Turkish Cypriots begins again.

**11 July 1958** China begins to withdraw a further six divisions (c.100,000 men) from Korea. The move will be completed on 14 August.

**12 July 1958** *The Young Beast*, a film with music by Toshiro Mayuzumi (29), is released in Japan.

**14 July 1958** A group of pro-Nasser army officers led by Abdul Karim el-Kassem kill King Feisal of Iraq, his uncle, crown prince Abdul Illah, and prime minister Nuri as-Said. The Arab Union with Jordan is dissolved and the Republic of Iraq is instituted. Rioters destroy the British embassy in Baghdad. One Briton is killed. Martial law is declared throughout the country.

Woodwind Quintet by David Diamond (43) is performed for the first time, at Tanglewood, Lenox, Massachusetts.

**15 July 1958** About 3,500 US Marines land in Lebanon south of Beirut at the request of President Camille Chamoun. They are there to stabilize the pro-western government in the face of rebel attacks and the coup in Iraq.

**16 July 1958** Woodwind Quintet by Leslie Bassett (35) is performed for the first time, in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**17 July 1958**  Fearful of the destabilization of his government, at the request of King Hussein, 2,000 British paratroopers land at Amman airport. They will stay until the end of October.

**18 July 1958**  French Minister of Information Jacques Soustelle, a leading figure of the Algerian coup, is given direct control over all television, radio and press services in the country. He announces the formation of the conservative Union for French Renewal to work for the “moral reconstruction” of France headed by Prime Minister de Gaulle.

Cuban rebels free all remaining US and Canadian hostages.

**19 July 1958** 500 Royal Marines land in Libya to support its pro-western government. Simultaneously, the British government reinforces its colonial troops in Aden and Kuwait.

East German authorities free nine US soldiers captured when their helicopter landed in East Germany on 7 June. The US pays $1,748 for their support during custody.

**20 July 1958** *Achorripsis* for 21 instruments by Iannis Xenakis (36) is performed for the first time, in Teatro Colón, Buenos Aires.

Incidental music to Shakespeare’s play *The Winter’s Tale* by Marc Blitzstein (53) is performed for the first time, in Stratford, Connecticut.

**21 July 1958** After ten days of fighting, Indonesian government troops capture Tondano on northern Sulawesi.

British authorities on Cyprus begin a two-day roundup of terrorism suspects which nets 1,450 Greeks and 44 Turks.

**22 July 1958** By today, the US has landed 10,200 men in Lebanon.

British authorities on Cyprus suspend all overseas communications and most internal communications for 48 hours. They rearrest those recently released under an amnesty program, and allow for the detention of suspects without trial.

**25 July 1958** Lebanon requests armed intervention from the UN to seal its borders and thus stop the flow of arms to rebels.

*Tableau Noir* for narrator and chamber orchestra by Toru Takemitsu (27) to words of Akiyama is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of NHK radio.

*Crown of the Year*, a cantata for female chorus and small ensemble by Michael Tippett (53) to words of Fry, is performed for the first time, at Badminton School, Bristol the composer conducting.

**26 July 1958** Nine-year-old Prince Charles is named Prince of Wales by his mother, Queen Elizabeth.

**28 July 1958** Incidental music to Duncan’s play *Some New Moon* by Peter Sculthorpe (29) is performed for the first time, in Hobart, Tasmania.

*Canto di speranza*, a cantata for cello and chamber orchestra by Bernd Alois Zimmermann (40) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of Südwestfunk, Baden-Baden. See 15 December 1953 and 12 September 1958.

**29 July 1958** A draft constitution for the Fifth Republic of France is presented to a consultative committee by Prime Minister Charles de Gaulle.

US President Eisenhower signs an act creating the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Five Pieces for string quartet by Leslie Bassett (35) is performed for the first time, in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**31 July 1958** The Lebanese Parliament successfully elects a new President, Fuad Chehab.

**2 August 1958** King Hussein of Jordan formally ends the union of his country with Iraq.

**3 August 1958** The *USS Nautilus,* the first nuclear powered submarine, passes the North Pole under the ice pack. It is the first ship to do so.

Symphony no.4 by Robert Ward (40) is performed for the first time, in La Jolla High School, California.

**4 August 1958** Greek Cypriot underground leader George Grivas declares a unilateral truce in battle with British and Turkish Cypriots.

The 1956 conviction of six Communist Party leaders for advocating the overthrow of the government is unanimously overturned by a US Court of Appeals in New York. The court dismisses the indictment against them.

*Southern School News* reports in Nashville that since the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, eleven southern states have enacted 196 laws designed to continue racial segregation in schools.

**5 August 1958** Peter Sculthorpe (29) sails from Melbourne aboard the Italian ship *Neptunia*, making for Europe. It will take him a month to get there.

Underground Turkish Cypriots agree to the truce declared yesterday.

The *USS Nautilus* surfaces between Svalbard and Greenland after making the first transit of the North Pole underwater, from Point Barrow, Alaska.

**6 August 1958** Col. Marcel Bigeard, the only French paratroops commander to criticize the conservative revolt in Algeria, is relieved of his command and returned to France.

**7 August 1958** The contempt of Congress conviction of playwright Arthur Miller is reversed by a unanimous decision of a nine-judge appeals panel in Washington.

**8 August 1958** Owing to the cancellation by Pierre Boulez (33) and the refusal of Karlheinz Stockhausen (29) to help out, John Cage (45) is asked to lecture at Darmstadt.

**9 August 1958** Américo de Deus Rodrigues Tomás replaces Francisco Higino Craveiro Lopes as President of Portugal.

Three Pieces for string quartet by Charles Wuorinen (20) is performed for the first time, in Bennington, Vermont.

**10 August 1958** The UN Scientific Commission on the Effects of Atomic Radiation unanimously concludes that nuclear test fallout is an immediate danger to health.

**11 August 1958** George Perle (43) marries his second wife, Barbara Phillips.

**12 August 1958** Removal of 1,700 US troops begins in Lebanon.

Fidel Castro is quoted as claiming the liberation of the Sierra Mastre area of Oriente Province.

**14 August 1958** A western embargo on trade with communist countries is greatly reduced. The United States goes along except that it maintains full embargos on China, North Korea, and North Vietnam.

**15 August 1958** John Cage (45) accepts the invitation to lecture at Darmstadt.

**16 August 1958** An earthquake centered near Nahavand, Iran kills about 200 people.

**17 August 1958** Florent Schmitt dies of cancer in the American hospital at Neuilly-sur-Seine, Paris, aged 87 years, ten months, and 20 days.

*Ixion* for three flutes, clarinet, horn, trumpet, trombone, piano, 3-7 cellos, and 2-4 double basses by Morton Feldman (32) is performed for the first time, at Connecticut College, New London.

**18 August 1958** All private medical practice is banned in Czechoslovakia effective 1 January.

*Lolita* by Vladimir Nabokov is published in the United States.

**19 August 1958** *Conglagration*, a film with music by Toshiro Mayuzumi (29), is released in Japan.

Scientists from both sides of the Iron Curtain meeting in Geneva announce an agreement on a detection system which could be used to monitor an atomic test ban treaty.

Young black people sit down at “whites only” lunch counters and soda fountains in Oklahoma City and vow not to leave until they are served.

**20 August 1958** The French cabinet approves the proposed constitution for the Fifth Republic. Prime Minister de Gaulle leaves on a tour of the colonies to sell the document.

*Maria Golovin*, an opera by Gian-Carlo Menotti (47) to his own words, is performed for the first time, in the United States Pavilion at the Brussels World’s Fair.

**21 August 1958** *Le Son Calligraphie I* for four violins, two violas, and two cellos by Toru Takemitsu (27) is performed for the first time in Karuizawa.

**22 August 1958** An agreement is signed in Zürich by representatives of France and the United Arab Republic. It ends the belligerency between the two countries in place since 1956 and provides for normal relations. France agrees to pay $57,400,000 compensation and the UAR gives up its holding of French property in Egypt.

The Rector of the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, East Germany, Josef Haemel, flees to West Berlin with his family.

**23 August 1958** China begins six days of almost daily bombardment of Quemoy (Jinmen) Island and Little Quemoy Island.

**24 August 1958** Prime Minister Johannes Gerhardus Strijdom of South Africa dies in Capetown of heart disease. Charles Robberts Swart (who has been acting Prime Minister during Strijdom’s illness) is officially named to the post.

Rioting takes place between English residents and recently arrived West Indian immigrants in Notting Hill, London.

Two rural schools in Deep Creek, North Carolina are destroyed by fire. They were scheduled for racial desegregation in the Autumn.

**25 August 1958** Algerian Moslem rebels strike in seven places in France, killing seven people and injuring at least 21 others.

**26 August 1958** Ralph Vaughan Williams dies at his home in London, aged 85 years, ten months, and 14 days.

Statehood for Alaska is approved by the territory’s voters by a 5-1 margin.

**27 August 1958** The US announces it is moving naval forces from the Mediterranean to the Taiwan Strait in response to the threat to Quemoy (Jinmen).

A state of siege, in place for nine years, is lifted in Colombia. Constitutional rights are resumed in eleven of 16 provinces.

US naval vessels secretly explode a nuclear device above the south Atlantic Ocean.

**28 October 1958** *Hadaka no taisho*, a film with music by Toshiro Mayuzumi (29), is released in Japan.

**29 August 1958** Peking Radio announces that “a landing on Quemoy (Jinmen) is imminent.” Chinese batteries shell the Tan Islands to the west of Quemoy.

Karl August Fagerholm replaces Reino Iisakki Kuuskoski as Prime Minister of Finland.

Ten former SS officers are sentenced in Ulm to from three to 15 years in prison for the 1941 murders of 5,202 Lithuanian Jews.

Ernest Bloch (78) undergoes cancer surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital, Portland, Oregon.

**30 August 1958** US naval vessels secretly explode a second nuclear device above the south Atlantic Ocean.

**1 September 1958** The United States Seventh Fleet in the Taiwan Straits is reinforced by seven ships including two carriers and a missile cruiser.

**2 September 1958** Governor J. Lindsay Almond of Virginia threatens to close any school which is forced to integrate.

**3 September 1958** Hendrik Frensch Verwoerd replaces Charles Robberts Swart as Prime Minister of South Africa.

Connected to his lectures at Darmstadt, John Cage (45) and David Tudor perform the European premieres of several works by Cage, Morton Feldman (32), Earle Brown (31), and the world premiere of Duo for Pianists II by Christian Wolff (24). The audience is in an uproar, mostly consisting of laughter. During these days in Darmstadt, Cage first meets Nam June Paik (26).

Sexteto de cuerdas by Mauricio Kagel (26) is performed for the first time, in Darmstadt.

**4 September 1958** China extends its territorial waters to twelve nautical miles, simultaneously claiming Quemoy (Jinmen) and Matsu (Mazu).

A four-month general strike in Lebanon is ended.

French Prime Minister Charles de Gaulle makes public the proposed constitution for the Fifth Republic. A ratification vote will take place 28 September.

US Secretary of State John Foster Dulles announces that his country will intervene militarily if a Chinese attack on Quemoy (Jinmen) or any other offshore island threatens Taiwan.

The execution of Jimmy Wilson by the State of Alabama is stayed indefinitely by the state Supreme Court. Wilson was convicted of stealing $1.95 in 1957 and was given the mandatory sentence of death. The State Department reveals that US embassies have been inundated with letters protesting the sentence.

In its first action under the 1957 Civil Rights Act, the US Justice Department sues in federal court in Columbus, Georgia to force Terrell County, Georgia to allow blacks to register and vote.

**5 September 1958** Rebel and loyalist radio stations in Beirut cease broadcasting.

An English translation of *Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak is published in the United States.

**6 September 1958** US naval vessels secretly explode a third nuclear device above the south Atlantic Ocean.

John Cage (46) gives the first of three lectures at Darmstadt. This one is called “Changes.”

Incidental music to Giraudoux’s play *The Madwoman of Chaillot* by Witold Lutoslawski (45) is performed for the first time, in Teatr Polski, Warsaw.

**7 September 1958** Over a month after leaving Melbourne, Peter Sculthorpe (29) arrives in London.

*Hexahedron* for chamber ensemble by Ernst Krenek (58) is performed for the first time, in the Darmstadt Landestheater. Also premiered is *Cori di Didone* for chorus and percussion by Luigi Nono (34) to words of Ungaretti, conducted by Bruno Maderna (38).

**8 September 1958** A federal judge in New Orleans orders Louisiana State University to cease racial discrimination.

*Aku-Aku* by Thor Heyerdahl is published in the United States.

John Cage (46) gives the second of three lectures at Darmstadt. This one is called “Indeterminacy.”

**9 September 1958** John Cage (46) gives the third of three lectures at Darmstadt. This one is called “Communication.” Unlike his first two lectures, Communication appears to attack the Darmstadt school, Pierre Boulez (33), and serial composition in general, especially since the German translation of his remarks make it seem much more direct and personal. Cage will be savaged in the German press.

A revised version of *Le soleil des eaux* for soprano, tenor, bass chorus, and orchestra by Pierre Boulez (33) to words of Char, is performed for the first time, in Darmstadt.

**10 September 1958** US authorities arrest 31 Cuban rebels when their boat runs aground at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

**11 September 1958** India and Pakistan announce that their prime ministers have worked out almost all border disputes between the two countries. Those remaining will be given further study.

**12 September 1958** The US Supreme Court orders that desegregation continue at Central High School in Little Rock. Governor Orval Faubus responds by closing all four of Little Rock’s high schools. He announces a referendum in Little Rock on school integration to be held on 27 September. He signs 15 new laws strengthening his powers to prevent integration.

Governor J. Lindsay Almond of Virginia orders the Warren County High School in Front Royal closed to prevent the carrying out of a desegregation order.

Pursuant to the court order of 8 September, 69 African-Americans enroll in Louisiana State University without incident.

Jack Kilby demonstrates his new invention, the integrated circuit, to his employers at Texas Instruments in Dallas. It works.

Fünf Sätze for orchestra by Peter Westergaard (27) is performed for the first time, in Darmstadt.

*Canto di speranza*, a cantata for cello and chamber orchestra by Bernd Alois Zimmermann (40) is performed before a live audience for the first time, in Darmstadt. See 28 July 1958.

**13 September 1958** Olivier Messiaen (49) lectures at the Philips Pavilion in Brussels.

String Quartet no.16 by Heitor Villa-Lobos (71) is performed for the first time, in Rio de Janeiro.

**15 September 1958** Nine white men are sentenced to four years in prison each for attacks on blacks in Notting Hill, London on 24 August.

Three Algerians fire on French Information Minister Jacques Soustelle near the Arc de Triomphe, Paris. They narrowly miss. All three will be arrested.

**17 September 1958** *Orphée*, a ballet version of *Orphée53* by Pierre Henry (30) to a choreography by Béjart, is performed for the first time, at the Opéra de Liège.

**18 September 1958** Opposing Chinese air and naval forces engage in the Taiwan Straits with conflicting claims of casualties.

Governor J. Lindsay Almond of Virginia orders the closing of a white elementary school and a white high school in Charlottesville to prevent them being racially integrated.

The film of Tennessee Williams’ play *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* is released in the United States.

**19 September 1958** A provisional government for the Algerian Republic is formed in Cairo led by Ferhat Abbas.

Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev sends a note to US President Eisenhower warning that US naval forces must be withdrawn from the Taiwan Strait and US troops must leave Taiwan. If they do not, China will have no choice but to respond militarily.

Today marks the first meeting in a cultural exchange between composers in the United States and the USSR. The meeting takes place in the Hall of Composers at the Moscow Composers’ Union. American visitors include Roger Sessions (61), Roy Harris (60), Ulysses Kay (41), and Peter Mennin (35).

The ashes of the earthly remains of Ralph Vaughan Williams are interred in the north choir aisle of Westminster Abbey near the remains of Henry Purcell (†262) and Charles Villiers Stanford (†32), before a large assembly.

Concert for Piano and Orchestra by John Cage (46) is performed twice in Cologne, once in a closed hall for recording and once before a live audience. Both readings are disrupted by the unprofessional behavior of the orchestral musicians, in the second instance urged on by the audience. Afterwards, the composer responds to these events by getting drunk.

**20 September 1958** 04:00 Harry Partch (57) arrives by bus in New York, without any prospects or shelter. After walking the streets looking for a cheap room, he phones acquaintances who agree to put him up.

Martin Luther King is stabbed by a demented black woman as he autographs copies of his book *Stride Toward Freedom* in Harlem. He will recover.

**21 September 1958** Taiwanese naval forces sink one Chinese gunboat off Matsu (Mazu).

In an unusually strong diplomatic gesture, the US chargé d’affaires in Moscow returns the Khrushchev note of 19 September to the Kremlin.

A 24-hour curfew goes into effect in Beirut to curtail factional fighting.

**23 September 1958** Fuad Chehab replaces Camille Chamoun as President of Lebanon.

*Threni* for soprano, alto, two tenors, two basses, chorus, and orchestra, a cantata by Igor Stravinsky (76) to words from the Bible, is performed for the first time, at the Sala dell’Albergo of the Scuola Grande di San Rocco, Venice, conducted by the composer. It is the first music of Stravinsky based entirely on a twelve-tone row. The audience is polite.

Octet for winds and strings by Paul Hindemith (62) is performed for the first time, in Berlin, the composer performing one of the viola parts. Also premiered is Hindemith’s Suite französischer Tänze for orchestra.

**24 September 1958** President Fuad Chehab of Lebanon appoints a new cabinet headed by Prime Minister Rashid Karami. Fighting between rival factions kills 30 people.

**26 September 1958** Reports reach Vienna of the arrest of four Jewish leaders in Czechoslovakia charged with Zionism.

For the seventh time, a Vanguard rocket is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida. For the sixth time, it fails to achieve orbit.

**27 September 1958** The first nuclear reactor in China goes into operation in Peking.

Governor J. Lindsay Almond of Virginia closes six white high schools and junior high schools in Norfolk to avoid racial integration.

**28 September 1958** 80% of the French electorate approve the constitution of the Fifth Republic and the return to power of Charles de Gaulle. Algeria and all French colonies approve the constitution, except Guinea where it is rejected by a wide margin.

**29 September 1958** The French government announces its intention to grant independence to Guinea as it promised to do for any colony rejecting the constitution.

The US Supreme Court issues a 5,000 word ruling, signed by all nine members, that states may not employ “evasive schemes” to avoid racial desegregation.

A plan to close Little Rock schools and open them as private institutions is forbidden by a federal appeals court in Omaha.

**30 September 1958** The USSR resumes atomic weapons testing suspended 31 March.

**1 October 1958** Great Britain transfers sovereignty of Christmas Island to Australia.

**2 October 1958** The Republic of Guinea is declared independent of France under President Ahmed Sékou Touré.

Leonard Bernstein (40) gives his first performance as sole Music Director of the New York Philharmonic.

**3 October 1958** Speaking in Constantine, Prime Minister Charles de Gaulle lays out a five-year plan for Algeria which leaves it associated with France but distinct from it.

*Epitafium* op.12 for chorus and ensemble by Henryk Górecki (24) to words of Tuwim is performed for the first time, in Warsaw.

*Fiesta*, an opera by Darius Milhaud (66) to words of Vian, is performed for the first time, at the Berlin Staatsoper.

**4 October 1958** The first transatlantic airline passenger service begins. BOAC flies two jets between London and New York in opposite directions.

**5 October 1958** With the publication of the new constitution, the Fifth French Republic formally comes into existence.

Three bombs destroy an integrated high school in Clinton, Tennessee. No one is injured in the early morning blasts.

*Lamentatio Jeremiae prophetae* for chorus by Ernst Krenek (58) is performed completely for the first time, in St. Martin Kirche, Kassel. See 4 April 1943.

Two Last Poems for flute and orchestra by Ernest Bloch (78) is performed for the first time, in Naples.

On the tenth anniversary of his first Concert de bruit, Pierre Schaeffer’s (48) *Étude aux allures* and *Étude aux sons animés* for tape are performed for the first time, at the Brussels International Exposition. Also premiered is *Diamorphoses* for two-track tape by Iannis Xenakis (36).

**6 October 1958** China suspends its bombardment and blockade of Nationalist-held islands for seven days calling for peace talks. The Nationalist government rejects the offer.

**7 October 1958** President Iskander Mirza of Pakistan declares martial law throughout the country. He sacks the government of Malik Firoz Khan Noon, dissolves Parliament, all provincial parliaments and political parties. Mirza appoints General Mohammed Ayub Khan as martial law administrator.

A commission is sent to Benjamin Britten (44) asking him to compose a work for the consecration of the newly rebuilt Coventry Cathedral.

The film of Hemingway’s *The Old Man and the Sea* is released in the United States.

**8 October 1958** Prime Minister Hans Christian Hansen of Denmark undergoes an operation. He is temporarily replaced by Viggo Kampmann.

The US government announces its intention to withdraw from Lebanon by the end of the month.

A federal judge in Harrisonburg, Virginia rules that public money may not be used to create “private” schools unless those schools are racially integrated.

*Ten Blake Songs* for solo voice and oboe by Ralph Vaughan Williams (†0) are performed for the first time, over the airwaves of the BBC. The music was composed to accompany the film *The Vision of William Blake* which is first shown publicly on 10 October 1958 in the Academy Cinema, London.

Three Vocalises for soprano and clarinet by Ralph Vaughan Williams (†0) are performed for the first time, in Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

**9 October 1958** Eugenio Maria Giuseppe Giovanni Pacelli, Pope Pius XII, dies at Castel Gandolfo after two strokes.

Dmitri Shostakovich (52) is awarded the Sibelius Prize by the Wihuri Foundation.

Charles Spaens, the head of Philips Corporation in Belgium, writes to Stanislas Jasinski, President of the Belgian Society of Architects to tell him that the Philips Pavilion in Brussels will be destroyed. Jasinski has been trying to preserve Le Corbusier’s masterpiece.

**10 October 1958** The French government announces that over 100 deputies in the new National Assembly will be assigned to areas outside of metropolitan France.

The US government drops its case against five Missouri communists. The five were convicted in 1954 of advocating the overthrow of the government but those convictions were overturned.

Mass in four partsop.138 for chorus and organ by Florent Schmitt (†0) is performed for the first time, in Église St-Pierre de Chaillot, Paris.

**11 October 1958** The United States makes a second attempt to send a space probe towards the Moon.

**12 October 1958** A military court in Jerusalem convicts eight border policemen of killing 43 Arab civilians near Kafr Kassim in 1956. They are given sentences ranging from seven to 17 years in prison.

A bomb blast causes serious damage to a Jewish temple in Atlanta.

*Ennanga* for harp and orchestra by William Grant Still (63) is performed for the first time, in West Side Jewish Community Center, Los Angeles. For this performance, a piano reduction is played by Verna Arvey Still.

**13 October 1958** China extends its cease-fire of 6 October.

**14 October 1958** The French colony of Madagascar becomes autonomous as the Malagasy Republic.

Pursuant to orders of Prime Minister de Gaulle, twelve French army officers, including Jacques Massu, resign from the Algerian Committee of Public Safety.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami of Lebanon forms a compromise cabinet which calms most of the political violence.

Two employees of RCA, Harry F. Olsen and Herbert Belar, receive a patent for an electronic music synthesizer. See 31 January 1956.

A bomb goes off at a Jewish temple in Peoria, Illinois causing minor damage.

*Music Walk* for one or more pianists playing one piano, radio and/or recordings by John Cage (46) is performed for the first time, in Galerie 22, Düsseldorf. The performers are David Tudor, Cornelius Cardew (22), and the composer.

**15 October 1958** Tunisia breaks diplomatic relations with the United Arab Republic charging meddling in internal Tunisian affairs.

The high point of a cultural exchange between Soviet and American composers in Moscow takes place in a concert by the Moscow State Radio Orchestra in Tchaikovsky Hall. Works performed include Peter Mennin’s (35) Symphony no.6, the Symphony no.5 by Roy Harris (60), Roger Sessions’ (61) *Suite from The Black Maskers*,and *Of New Horizons* by Ulysses Kay (41).

*The Dharma Bums* by Jack Kerouac is published by the Viking Press in New York.

*Das Vokaltuch der Kammersängerin Rosa Silber*, a ballet by Hans Werner Henze (32), is staged for the first time, in Cologne. See 30 December 1951.

**16 October 1958** Nocturne op.60 for voice, seven obbligato instruments, and strings by Benjamin Britten (44), to words of various authors, is performed for the first time, in Leeds Town Hall. The work is dedicated to Alma Mahler.

**18 October 1958** An Intrada for four violins by Leos Janácek (†30) is performed for the first time, in Brno.

Twelve Madrigals for chorus by Paul Hindemith (62), to words of Weinheber, are performed for the first time, in Vienna, conducted by the composer.

Duke Ellington (59) and his Orchestra play two concerts in Leeds. Later, Ellington is presented to Queen Elizabeth II. Ellington tells her that she makes him feel “tremendously inspired.”

**19 October 1958** The Brussels World’s Fair officially closes. An estimated 42,000,000 people have visited it.

*Poésie pour pouvoir* for five-track tape and orchestra by Pierre Boulez (33) to words of Michaux, is performed for the first time, in Donaueschingen, conducted by Hans Rosbaud and the composer.

*Wondrous Love* for organ by Samuel Barber (48) is performed for the first time, in Christ Episcopal Church, Grosse Pointe, Michigan.

**20 October 1958** China resumes shelling offshore Nationalist-held islands, suspended 6 October.

Sarit Thanarat replaces Thanom Kittikachorn as Prime Minister of Thailand in a bloodless coup. He declares martial law and suspends the constitution.

British troops begin to withdraw from Jordan.

13 Blacks are arrested in Birmingham, Alabama for sitting in the front of a public bus.

**21 October 1958** The Algerian Committee of Public Safety is dissolved after military officers are withdrawn.

Baroness Swanborough, the Dowager Marchioness of Reading and Mrs. Wooton Wright, Baroness Wooton of Abinger are introduced as the first women members of the British House of Lords.

**23 October 1958** Boris Pasternak wins the Nobel Prize for literature.

Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev announces that his country has agreed to lend the United Arab Republic 400,000,000 rubles for the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

**24 October 1958** Two works for organ by Leos Janácek (†30) are performed for the first time, in Brno: Overture and Lyre for Full Organ.

*Symphony of Chorales* for orchestra by Lukas Foss (36) is performed for the first time, in Pittsburgh, the composer conducting.

**25 October 1958** China announces that henceforth it will bombard Quemoy (Jinmen) Island only on odd numbered days.

China creates the Ningsia Hui (Ningxia Hui) Autonomous Region.

US troops complete their withdrawal from Lebanon.

The British government announces that it will grant independence to Nigeria on 1 October 1960.

A seriously revised version of Leos Janácek’s (†30) opera *Fate: Destiny*, to words of Bartosova and the composer, is staged for the first time, at the National Theatre, Brno. See 18 September 1934.

**26 October 1958** The People’s Republic of China completes the withdrawal of its troops from Korea.

Signals from *Sputnik I*, launched on 4 October, cease.

*The Romance of the Dandelions,* a cantata for soprano and chorus by Bohuslav Martinu (67) to words of Bures, is performed for the first time, in Prague.

**27 October 1958** Iskandar Ali Mirza resigns as President of Pakistan and hands over all power to General Mohammad Ayub Khan.

*Undine*, a ballet by Hans Werner Henze (32) to a scenario by Ashton after de la Motte-Fouqué, is performed for the first time, at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. The composer conducts in the presence of Queen Elizabeth. See 3 March 1958 and 10 January 1959.

**28 October 1958** The Soviet Writers Union expels Boris Pasternak.

Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli becomes Pope John XXIII.

*Breakfast at Tiffany’s* by Truman Capote is published in the United States.

**29 October 1958** Boris Leonidovich Pasternak, under intense pressure from the Soviet government, wires the Swedish Royal Academy his “voluntary refusal” of the Nobel Prize for Literature. An anti-Pasternak rally takes place in Moscow, attended by Nikita Khrushchev.

British troops complete their withdrawal from Jordan.

**30 October 1958** Mayor Norris Poulson of Los Angeles protests to the US Atomic Energy Commission about a planned atomic test in Nevada today. He says the fallout measured in the city is 1,200 micro-microcuries per c.c. of air, above the accepted level. The AEC claims that there is no health risk to citizens.

**31 October 1958** Representatives of the USSR, UK, and US meet in Geneva for talks on discontinuing atomic weapons testing.

Arabs begin two days of rioting in Aden against the British arrest of two journalists who charged the colonial administration with corruption.

Trio Concertante for oboe, violin, and piano by Charles Wuorinen (20) is performed for the first time, in Sloan Hall at the Emma Willard School, Troy, New York.

**2 November 1958** China ends its shelling of offshore nationalist-held islands.

*Solitude Sonore* for orchestra by Toru Takemitsu (28) is performed for the first time, in a radio broadcast from NHK Symphony Hall, Tokyo.

Voluntaries for organ by Leslie Bassett (35) is performed for the first time, in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**3 November 1958** Soviet scientists observe a volcanic eruption on the moon.

*Bendita sabedoria* for chorus by Heitor Villa-Lobos (71) to words of the Bible is performed for the first time, at the opening of the new UNESCO building in Paris.

**4 November 1958** Congressional elections in the United States result in a gain of 16 seats in the Senate and 49 seats in the House of Representatives for the opposition Democratic Party, increasing their majorities.

*Emily Dickinson Songs* op.77 by Vincent Persichetti (43) are performed for the first time, in Town Hall, New York.

**5 November 1958** *Huit poèmes de Jorge Guillen* op.371 for chorus by Darius Milhaud (66) is performed for the first time, in Berlin.

**6 November 1958** The British Lord Chamberlain, the Earl of Scarborough, ends the ban on plays which discuss homosexuality in British theatres.

Metropolitan Opera General Manager Rudolf Bing drops Maria Callas from her contract when she refuses to sing two performances of *La Traviata* in between two performances of *Macbeth*.

**7 November 1958** 27 members of the Seinen Ongakuka Gikai (Young Musicians Assembly), including Toru Takemitsu (28) and Toshiro Mayuzumi (29), sign a letter protesting the Police Bill of Japanese Prime Minister Nobosuke Kishi. The signers are concerned that the bill, which creates new police powers to interrogate, search, and arrest citizens in public, will return Japan to the militarism of the 1930s. The bill will be withdrawn.

Bohuslav Martinu (67) undergoes an operation in Pratteln, Switzerland which reveals the presence of incurable stomach cancer.

**8 November 1958** The British head of anti-terrorism on Cyprus orders weapons distributed to all British citizens on the island following the murder of two British bank officials.

The United States launches a third attempt to send a probe towards the Moon from Cape Canaveral. For a third time, it fails.

*Magnificat alleluia* for solo voice and orchestra by Heitor Villa-Lobos (71) is performed for the first time, in the Teatro Municipal, Rio de Janeiro.

**9 November 1958** A Vienna court acquits ex-SS officer Otto Skorzeny of murder and robbery in Czechoslovakia during World War II.

The third of the Five Fantasies for organ by Ross Lee Finney (51) is performed for the first time, in Hill Auditorium of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

**10 November 1958** In a radio broadcast, King Hussein of Jordan claims that UAR fighters attacked his plane as it flew over Syrian airspace on his way to Switzerland. The King’s British pilot manages to bring the plane back to Amman unharmed.

Greek Cypriots are forbidden on British military installations after the bombing of a canteen at Nicosia airport. A curfew is reimposed for all Cypriots under 26.

43 opposition leaders in Ghana are arrested, charged with plotting to overthrow the government.

A combined elementary and junior high school in Osage, West Virginia is destroyed by two bombs. No one is injured. The school has been peacefully integrated already.

A federal appeals court in St. Louis orders Little Rock officials to take steps to implement racial desegregation in the schools.

*Le Son Calligraphie II* for four violins, two violas, and two cellos by Toru Takemitsu (28) is performed for the first time, in Yamaha Hall, Tokyo.

**11 November 1958** The City Council of Charleston, South Carolina votes to sell the city’s golf course rather than open it to all races.

President Frondizi of Argentina calls a 30-day state of siege due to labor unrest.

**12 November 1958** An arbitrator orders television producer Joseph Papp reinstated to his job at CBS. Papp was sacked last 19 June after he invoked the Fifth Amendment while testifying before the House Un-American Activities Committee.

**14 November 1958** Mobs armed with clubs attack the offices of Vice-President Alejandro Gomez of Argentina, charging him with fomenting rebellion among the armed forces.

*Sechs Hölderlin-Fragmente* op.61, a cycle for voice and piano by Benjamin Britten (44), is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of the BBC Third Programme by Peter Pears and the composer.

**17 November 1958** The government of Sudan is overthrown by army commander General Ibrahim Abboud. He suspends Parliament, the constitution, and all political parties.

Three Miniatures for clarinet and piano by Krzysztof Penderecki (24) is performed for the first time, in Kraków.

**18 November 1958** *Endless Desire*, a film with music by Toshiro Mayuzumi (29), is released in Japan.

Vice-President Alejandro Gomez of Argentina resigns after attempting to seize power from President Frondizi.

**19 November 1958** The Sogetsu Arts Center opens in Tokyo. It becomes a center for artistic development in the 1960s including film, video, electronic music, and theatre.

**20 November 1958** Construction begins at Latina, near Rome, on Italy’s first nuclear power plant.

Music for the documentary *Péron and Evita* by Darius Milhaud (66) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of CBS television, originating in New York.

**22 November 1958** Emma Sandor Kodály dies in Budapest after 49 years of marriage.

Parliamentary elections in Australia result in an almost unchanged Parliament, leaving the Liberal/Country coalition of Prime Minister Robert Menzies in power.

*Lenin*, a requiem for solo voices, chorus, and orchestra by Hanns Eisler (60) is performed for the first time, in Berlin.

**23 November 1958** *Prophecy* for unison chorus and piano by Peter Sculthorpe (29) to words of the Bible, is performed for the first time, in Birmingham, Great Britain.

The UN Observation Group in Lebanon begins to withdraw after Lebanon withdraws complaints about infiltration from the United Arab Republic.

The first round of voting takes place in France for the first National Assembly of the Fifth Republic. Conservatives and supporters of Charles de Gaulle do very well.

**24 November 1958** The Territorial Assembly of French Sudan (Mali) in Bamako votes to accept the offer of autonomy with close association to France.

British Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ian Harvey resigns after being arrested for committing a homosexual act in a London park.

**25 November 1958** The Territorial Assembly of Senegal in St. Louis votes to accept the offer of autonomy with close association to France.

**26 November 1958** *Kammermusik* for tenor and nine players by Hans Werner Henze (32) to words of Hölderlin, is performed for the first time, in Hamburg.

**27 November 1958** Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev proposes that Berlin be made a “free city” independent of either east or west.

Georgy Kulishev Gugov replaces Georgy Purvanov Damyanov as Chairman of the Presidium of the National Assembly of Bulgaria.

Three new works are performed for the first time, over the airwaves of Westdeutscher Rundfunk, Cologne: Concerto for viola and orchestra no.2 op.340 by Darius Milhaud (66), *Omnia tempus habent*, a cantata for soprano and 17 instruments by Bernd Alois Zimmermann (40) to words of the Vulgate Bible, and *Drei Dithyramben* for chamber orchestra by Hans Werner Henze (32).

**28 November 1958**  The Territorial Assemblies of Chad, Gabon, Mauritania, and Middle Congo vote to accept the offer of autonomy with close association to France. Mauritania and Middle Congo rename themselves the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Congo.

A federal court in New Orleans holds that a Louisiana law barring athletic contests between whites and blacks is unconstitutional.

**30 November 1958** *Akujo no kisetsu*, a film with music by Toshiro Mayuzumi (29), is released in Japan.

The second round of elections to the first National Assembly of the Fifth French Republic returns a large majority for Gaullists and Conservatives. Socialists and Communists are reduced to a total of 50 seats out of 546.

Dimitur Ganev Vurbanov replaces Georgi Kulishev Gugov as Chairman of the Presidium of the National Assembly of Bulgaria.

The Cuban government announces that six army officers are under arrest for refusing to take part in the war against the rebels.

The television series *Lincoln Presents Leonard Bernstein (40) and the New York Philharmonic* begins with a performance of the Ninth Symphony of Beethoven (†187).

*Rote Rosen*, a song for voice and piano by Richard Strauss (†9) to words of Stieler, is performed for the first time, in Carnegie Hall, New York 75 years after it was composed.

Adagio for flute and string trio by Gunther Schuller (33) is performed for the first time, in Carl Fischer Hall, New York.

**1 December 1958** The Territorial Assembly of Ubangi-Shari votes to accept the offer of autonomy with close association to France, and renames itself the Central African Republic.

Martial law and curfews are lifted in Jordan.

Adolfo López Mateos replaces Adolfo Ruiz Cortines as President of Mexico.

Arnold Schoenberg’s (†7) unfinished oratorio *Jacob’s Ladder* to his own words, for solo voices, chorus, and orchestra, is performed for the first time, in Hamburg.

**2 December 1958** Three Piano Moods by William Schuman (48) is performed for the first time, in Athens.

A Satz für Klavier by Anton Webern (†13) is performed for the first time, in Vienna, 52 years after it was composed, and on the eve of the 75th anniversary of Webern’s birth.

**3 December 1958** The Indonesian Parliament votes to nationalize $1,500,000,000 of Dutch assets seized over the last two years.

When Syrian troops shoot and kill an Israeli shepherd across the border, small arms fire begins between the two sides. Syria then sends hundreds of artillery shells into Hulata and seven other Israeli villages. UN truce observers blame the Syrians for the fighting.

Nocturne for chamber orchestra by Colin McPhee (58) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**4 December 1958** The Territorial Assemblies of Dahomey and Côte d’Ivoire, meeting in Porto-Novo and Abidjan, vote to accept the offer of autonomy with close association to France.

**5 December 1958** Samuel Barber (48) is elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters in New York.

Quintet for strings by Leslie Bassett (35) is performed for the first time, in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**6 December 1958** The United States launches a fourth attempt to send a space probe towards the Moon. For the fourth time, it fails.

*Walking Upright*, a cycle for female voice and violin by Ralph Shapey (37) to words of his wife Vera Klement, is performed for the first time, at the Third Street Music School Settlement, New York.

**7 December 1958** Voters in Basel approve the first referendum allowing women to vote in Switzerland.

The Hungarian government announces coercive measures against farmers who refuse collectivization.

Elections in West Berlin return a majority for the Social Democrats. Communists win less than 2% of the vote.

**8 December 1958** The US Civil Rights Commission opens its public investigation in Montgomery, Alabama. Six county registrars refuse to provide their voter registration records. Others refuse to be sworn to testify.

**9 December 1958**  Robert Welch founds the John Birch Society in Indianapolis for the purpose of rooting out communists in American society.

**10 December 1958** *Homage to Iran* for violin and piano by Henry Cowell (61) is performed for the first time, in Lisner Auditorium, Washington.

**11 December 1958** Prime Minister Sarit Thanarat of Thailand announces that opium smoking is outlawed as of next July. 900 licensed opium smoking houses will be closed.

The Territorial Assembly of Haute-Volta (Burkina Faso) votes to accept the offer of autonomy with close association to France.

*Exaltation* by Carl Ruggles (82) is performed for the first time, at Cornell University. It is a wordless hymn in honor of his late wife.

**12 December 1958** French Prime Minister Charles de Gaulle appoints a civil administrator in Algeria to replace the military regime in power since May.

The Republic of Guinea is admitted to the United Nations.

The Territorial Assembly of French Somaliland votes 27-4 to retain its status as a French Overseas Territory.

The Cuban Congress continues the state of emergency for 45 days and grants President Fulgencio Batista power to rule by decree.

**13 December 1958** *Izaht*, an opera by Heitor Villa-Lobos (71) to words of Azevedo, Júnior, and Villalba Filho (pseud. Villa-Lobos), is performed completely for the first time, at the Teatro Municipal, Rio de Janeiro, 44 years after it was composed. See 15 August 1918 and 16 November 1921.

**14 December 1958** Great Britain, France, and the United States formally reject a Soviet demand for the ending of the four-power occupation of Berlin.

**15 December 1958** As US Assistant Secretary of State William Rountree arrives for a meeting in Baghdad with leaders of the July coup he is met with a shower of rocks and produce from an angry Iraqi mob. No one is injured.

**16 December 1958** The territorial assemblies of French Polynesia and St. Pierre and Miquelon vote to retain their status as French Overseas Territories.

*A Song for Christmas* for voice and piano by Thea Musgrave (30) to a text attributed to Dunbar is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of BBC Scotland.

Sonata for piano by Charles Wuorinen (20) is performed for the first time, in Salon de Musique of the Barbizon Hotel, New York.

**18 December 1958** The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party orders a slow down in the communization of Chinese agriculture. It also postpones introducing the commune concept into Chinese cities.

East-West talks in Geneva on the prevention of surprise attacks collapse over failure to set an agenda.

The United States manages to send a satellite into orbit. It broadcasts a message from President Eisenhower to the world.

Paul Van Dalsen, chairman of an investigating committee of the Arkansas legislature, states that his committee has “definitely proved that there was Communist influence” in the integration of Little Rock schools.

**19 December 1958** The French colony of Niger is granted autonomy.

*The First Nowell* for solo voices, chorus, and small orchestra by Ralph Vaughan Williams (†0), completed by Douglas, to words of Pakenham, is performed for the first time, at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London.

**20 December 1958** Renewed fighting begins between government troops and Indonesian rebels in central Sumatra.

The Territorial Assembly of the Comoros Islands votes 25-4 to retain its status as a French Overseas Territory.

Columbia University’s Alice M. Ditson Fund Advisory Committee, which includes Otto Luening (58), allocates $10,000 for two performances of Harry Partch’s (57) *The Bewitched* next April.

Organ Suite no.1 by Ulysses Kay (41) is performed for the first time, in St. Paul’s Chapel, Trinity Parish, New York.

**21 December 1958** Prime Minister Charles de Gaulle is elected first president of the Fifth French Republic. He wins 78.5% of the vote.

Hans Werner Henze’s (32) ballet blanc Ballet-Variationen is staged for the first time, in Wuppertal. See 3 October 1949.

**22 December 1958** Louis Joseph Maria Beel replaces Willem Drees as Prime Minister of the Netherlands.

**24 December 1958** Emil Jonsson replaces Hermann Jonasson as Prime Minister of Iceland.

**25 December 1958** The government of the UAR announces the arrest of every communist leader in Syria and the closing down of the communist daily *Al Nour*.

**26 December 1958** Erich Engel’s film *Geschwader Fledermaus*, with music by Hanns Eisler (60), is released in East Germany.

**27 December 1958** Ten western European countries announce plans to introduce full external convertability of their currencies for the first time since World War II. Prime Minister de Gaulle of France announces an 18% devaluation of the franc and its free convertability.

**28 December 1958** The second five of the ten *Brigand Songs* for male chorus by Bohuslav Martinu (66) to Slovak folk texts are performed for the first time, in Prague.

**31 December 1958** The International Geophysical Year ends.

Cuban rebels capture Santa Clara as increasing numbers of government troops go over to the rebel side.

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