

YEAR 1968 IN THE WORLD

**February 1, Saigon, Vietnam:
Chief Brigadeer General Nguyen Ngoc Loan,
of the South Vietnamese national police, executes a Vietcong officer with
a single pistol shot in the head during the tet Offensive**



January 23: Some 15 years after the Korean war , North Korea captured the Navy intelligence US Vessel USS PUEBLO and its crew. U.S. authorities claimed the ship had been in international waters in the Tsushima Strait, but North Korea disagreed, and held the 83 crew members in a POW camp before the two countries could negotiate their release.



March 16: After repeatedly denying he would challenge Johnson for the Democratic nomination, Senator [Robert F. Kennedy](#) announced he would enter the presidential race. On the same day (though it would not be revealed until the following year), U.S. ground troops killed more than 500 Vietnamese civilians in the [My Lai massacre](#) in South Vietnam.



March 28, Memphis, Tennessee, USA:

A police officer uses his nightstick on a youth reportedly involved in the looting that followed the break-up of a march led by Dr Martin Luther King Jr

Photograph: Jack Thornell/AP



April, Memphis, Tennessee:

The American civil rights leader Dr Martin Luther King Jr lying in state as his colleagues pay their respects to him. From right to left, the mourners were Andrew Young, Bernard Lee and Reverend Ralph Abernathy



May, Paris, France:

A young woman challenges riot police near the Mabillon intersection, Boulevard Saint Germain



**June 5, Los Angeles, USA:
Senator Robert Kennedy lies
sprawled semi-conscious in his
own blood after being shot in the
head and neck, while Juan
Romero, a busboy at the
Ambassador hotel, tries to comfort
him**



July 24, Nigeria:

A starving Biafran child huddles on a pavement



**August, Prague, Czechoslovakia:
Emotional scenes as crowds gather after the Russian invasion**



**October 16, Mexico City, Mexico:
Extending gloved hands skyward in
racial protest, the US athletes
Tommie Smith, centre, and John
Carlos stare downwards as the Star
Spangled Banner plays after Smith
won the gold medal and Carlos the
bronze in the 200-metre sprint at
the Olympic games**



November 5: Nixon wins the White House



December 24: Apollo 8 orbits the moon for the first time in history

