1770 — 1770 — Apr 12
Tea Exempted in Tax Repeal
Townshend Duties on goods such as paint, paper, and glass (but not tea) are lifted
Ripples: 1773
Linchpin
(O)

1773 — 1773 — Dec 16
Boston Tea Party
Angry colonists throw crates of tea into Boston Harbor to protest tax
Paradoxed if: 1770'
(N) Ripplepoint

1775 — 1775 — Apr 19
Shots Fired at Lexington
Hostilities begin at Lexington and Concord, after the Minutemen are called to arms by riders in the night yelling "The Redcoats are Coming!"
Ripples: 1776 1898 1904
Linchpin
(B)

1776 — 1776 — July 4
Declaration of Independence
Continental Congress signs document declaring freedom from British rule
Paradoxed if: 1775'
(O) Ripplepoint

1791 — 1791 — Mar 4
Bill of Rights Adopted
Concern that the government was granted too much power in the new Constitution leads to the addition of 10 explicit statements of the basic freedoms of American citizens
Paradoxed if: 1787'
(G) Ripplepoint

1803 — 1803 — Apr 3
Louisiana Purchase
Jefferson sends Monroe to France, offering to buy port city of New Orleans; the deal ends up including all of Louisiana
Ripples: 1804 1848 1867
Linchpin
(V)

1804 — 1804 — May 14
Lewis & Clark Expedition
The Corps of Discovery sets out from St. Louis on an epic journey to map and explore the newly-acquired Louisiana Territory
Paradoxed if: 1803'
(E) Ripplepoint

1813 — 1813 — Oct 5
Tecumseh Dies During Battle
Influential chief of Shawnee tribe is killed at Battle of the Thames
Ripples: 1876 1890
Linchpin
(J)

1845 — 1845 — Dec 29
Texas Gains Statehood
9 years after becoming a free republic, Texas joins the USA
Paradoxed if: 1836'
(T) Ripplepoint

1846 — 1846 — July 9
Section of DC Returned to VA
Congress votes to give back to Virginia all the land that state had given to the government in 1790 for creation of the District of Columbia
Paradoxed if: 1787' or 1814'
(S) Ripplepoint

1848 — 1848 — Jan 24
California Gold Rush
Gold is discovered in California after the region is conquered by America as part of the US-Mexico War
Paradoxed if: 1803' and 1836'
(M) Ripplepoint

1861 — 1861 — Apr 29
Maryland Votes Not To Secede
On eve of secession vote, Lincoln orders the arrest of 31 disloyal members of Maryland Legislature, along with many other prominent secessionists
Ripples: 1866 1867 1898 1904
Linchpin
(E)

1871 — 1871 — Oct 9
Great Chicago Fire
Fire starts in O'Leary family barn and spreads across town, killing 300 and destroying a third of the city (but not the O'Leary house)
Ripples: 1881
Linchpin
(U)

1876 — 1876 — Jun 25
Custer's Last Stand
7th Cavalry destroyed by Sioux and Cheyenne warriors at Battle of the Little Bighorn
Paradoxed if: 1813'
(W) Ripplepoint

1881 — 1881 — Sep 19
Garfield Dies
11 weeks after being shot by Charles J. Guiteau, President Garfield dies from infection of unhealed gunshot wound
Paradoxed if: 1871'
(C) Ripplepoint

1886 — 1886 — Oct 28
Statue of Liberty Opens
Statue is gift from France, inspired by French support of American Revolution
Paradoxed if: 1780'
(R) Ripplepoint

Chrononauts

1780 · 1780 · July 21
French Arrive
George Washington prevents pre-emptive attack on French at Newport by allowing British spies to "intercept" fake plans for American attack on British at New York

Ripples:
1781
1783
1886

Linchpin

H

1781 · 1781 · Oct 19
British Surrender at Yorktown
Colonists win freedom after French forces help Americans defeat British troops

Paradoxed if:
1780'

Ripplepoint

O

1783 · 1783 · Sep 3
Treaty of Paris
American and British delegations meet in Paris to sign treaty which officially ends Revolutionary War

Paradoxed if:
1780'

Ripplepoint

T

1787 · 1787 · July 16
Constitution Written
The Great Compromise is reached, allowing new charter of United States government to be completed

Ripples:
1791
1846

Linchpin

F

1814 · 1814 · Aug 24
British Burn Washington DC
After demolishing poorly-commanded defenders at the Battle of Bladensburg, British troops march into the capital and set the city on fire

Ripples:
1846
1916

Linchpin

T

1815 · 1815 · Jan 8
Battle of New Orleans
Andrew Jackson makes a name for himself in major victory over British

Ripples:
1838
1890

Linchpin

P

1836 · 1836 · Mar 6
Battle of the Alamo
"Remember the Alamo!" becomes rallying cry for the Texas War of Independence

Ripples:
1845
1848

Linchpin

D

1838 · 1838 · May-Dec
Trail of Tears
President Jackson's plan to relocate Cherokee Indians by force is carried out (in spite of Supreme Court ruling)

Paradoxed if:
1815'

Ripplepoint

Q

1862 · 1862 · Sep 13
Rebels Retreat
Discovery by Union soldiers of Special Order 191, revealing General Lee's plans for troop deployment, leads to battle of Antietam and retreat for the Confederacy

Ripples:
1864
1866

Linchpin

191

I

1864 · 1864 · Nov
Sherman's March to the Sea
General Sherman's army advances east from Atlanta, burning towns and cities as they go; meanwhile, Lincoln wins re-election with 212 of 233 electoral votes

Paradoxed if:
191
1862'

Ripplepoint

N

1866 · 1866 · ongoing
Reconstruction Begins
War-torn but still united, America begins rebuilding

Paradoxed if:
1861' and 191 1862'

Ripplepoint

A

1867 · 1867 · Mar 30
Alaska Purchase
Secretary of State Seward negotiates purchase of Alaska from Russia for $7.2 million

Paradoxed if:
1803' and 1861'

Ripplepoint

D

1890 · 1890 · Dec 28
Massacre at Wounded Knee
The 7th Cavalry ambushes Sioux encampment, killing at least 300 native Americans

Paradoxed if:
1813' and 1815'

Ripplepoint

Y

1898 · 1898 · Feb 15
Spanish-American War Begins
Battleship Maine blows up and sinks, triggering war with Spain

Paradoxed if:
1775' or 1861'

Ripplepoint

K

1904 · 1904 · Nov 11
Work Begins on Panama Canal
Digging by American steam shovels starts at the Culebra cut

Paradoxed if:
1775' or 1861'

Ripplepoint

E

1916 · 1916 · Jun 15
"Star Spangled Banner" becomes National Anthem
President Woodrow Wilson orders it played at military & naval occasions

Paradoxed if:
1814'

Ripplepoint

T