

## TERRO-HUMAN FUTURE HISTORY CHRONOLOGY\*

(1942)1 A.E. Year One of the Atomic Era, which begins when the first atomic pile goes into operation under the direction of Enrico Fermi at the University of Chicago.

- 29 The first unmanned rocket, the Kilroy, is launched.
- 32 The first Lunar base is completed.
- 32 The Thirty Days War; the First Terran Federation is formed.
- 54 The First Mars Expedition.
- 92 Contragravity is developed.
- 108 The Mars Colony is established.
- 116 The first colony on Venus is started.
- 144 The first interstellar expedition.
- 174 Venus secedes from the Terran Federation.

(\*The following dates are approximations suggested by data in H. Beam Piper's short stories and novels.)

- 183 The First Terran Federation is dissolved and the Second Terran Federation is established.
- 377 The Uller Uprising, a revolt against the Federation by the natives of Uller.
- 390 The Chartered Fenris Company goes bust.
- 603 The Gartner Trisystem is settled.
- 629 Zarathustra is found and colonized.
- 782 Foxx Travis is born.
- 809 Native revolt on Kwann.
- 812 Aditya is discovered.
- 842—854 The System States War, starts when the System States Alliance tries to break away from Federation control.
- 854 Ten thousand refugees from Abigor flee with the remnants of the System States Navy to found a new civilization. They colonize Excalibur, the first Sword-World.
- 894 Merlin, the great Federation battle computer is located on Poictesme.
- 1000—1399 The Interstellar Wars, a series of revolts and wars that lead to the collapse of the Terran Federation.
- 1359 Aditya is occupied by Morglay.
- 1473 Skathi is deserted by the Space Vikings.

- 1503 Six Space Viking ships from Haulteclere raid Aton; four of their ships are destroyed and two others limp home. After this failure the Space Vikings no longer raid civilized worlds.
- 1548 During a war between Aton and Baldur, the Planetary Nationalist Party on Aton takes power and forms a dictatorship.
- 1604 The *Nemesis* spaceship is built and Lucas Trask leaves Gram for Tanith in the Old Federation.
- 1611 The Battle of Audhumla
- 1613 Omfray of Glaspyth, with a fleet of eight Space Viking ships, lands on Gram.
- 1613 The Battle of Marduk.
- 1848 King Steven IV becomes the first Galactic Emperor.
- 1904 The Sword-Worlds are added to the Empire.
- 1936 Emperor Paul II begins building the Imperial palace on Odin.
- 2162 Rodrik VI completes the consolidation of the First Galactic Empire.
- 2936 Paul XXII tries to move the Empire out of its complacent rut.

## INTRODUCTION

**John F. Carr**

EX-BEATLE JOHN LENNON IS SHOT TO DEATH IN NEW YORK reads the headline of the Los Angeles *Times* as I write this article. Hundreds of distraught fans are already gathering at the famed Dakota Building where John Lennon lived and died. Thousands of flowers drape the fence. Tower Records of Hollywood announces they've sold over a thousand copies of Lennon's new, last, record, "Double Fantasy," in less than ten hours. Radio stations across the dial are playing Lennon's songs and Beatle retrospectives.

I think of James Dean, Jim Morrison, Dylan Thomas, Stanley G. Weinbaum, Marilyn Monroe, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Cordwainer Smith, Brian Jones—H. Beam Piper.

There's very little other than death that gives these people anything in common; a premature death that robbed them of future success and us of the special talents that might have enriched us all. What they all left us was a terrible sense of loss—within the science fiction community, the rock music