

TIMELINE from 1886, Joe Keller's birth year, to 1948, when the film version of ALL MY SONS was released

A selected chronology of the life and times of Arthur Miller, and the events of ALL MY SONS. Attention has been paid to historical events which would influence Miller's politics and writing.

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS

US and World History

- 1886** *The year Joe Keller, 61 in 1947, would have been born.*
- 1895** *The year Kate Keller, 52 in 1947, would have been born.*
- 1915** Arthur Asher Miller is born October 17 in New York City (NYC) to Isidore, owner of the Miltex Coat and Suit Company, and Augusta Miller. He is the second of three children, joining older brother Kermit. His family is wealthy and lives on Central Park North. They have a chauffeur, and maintain a summer bungalow for the extended family in Far Rockaway, New York (NY).
- The year Chris Keller, 32 in 1947, would have been born. George Deever is born the same year.*
- 1916**

- 1914-1918** Europe is engaged in World War I (WWI).
- 1915** The US House of Representatives rejects a proposal to give women the right to vote
D.W. Griffith's controversial film *The Birth of a Nation* is produced in the US
The first fighter plane is used by a French pilot to gun down a German observation plane
Charlie Chaplin produces and performs in the silent film *The Tramp*. His character, The Little Tramp, who would appear in several more of his films, embodied Chaplin's social commentary, while critical of the faults and excesses created by industrialization, also shows support and belief in the "American Dream".
Miller would be criticized for ALL MY SONS' denouncement of the American Dream.
Babe Ruth hits his first career home run.
- In February, Emma Goldman is arrested for violating the Comstock Act of 1873, which made it a federal offense to disseminate contraceptive

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

1916 (cont.)

devices and information through the mail across state lines.

In October, Margaret Sanger opens the country's first birth control clinic.

The Easter Uprising, an attempt by Irish citizens to secede from England, begins and ends in a week's time

1917

The US joins its allies, Britain, France, and Russia, to fight in WW I

Lenin and his Bolshevik party seize governance of Russia in the October Revolution

The first Red Scare begins in the US, following the Bolshevik Russian Revolution and strengthens during the intensely patriotic years of WWI and its aftermath

1918

WWI ends Nov. 11.

President Woodrow Wilson departs by ship to join the Paris Peace Conference Dec. 4, marking the first time a sitting US president has visited a foreign country

1919

The 18th Amendment, authorizing Prohibition, is ratified.

The League of Nations is founded at the Paris conference. They adopt Wilson's Fourteen Points, which includes a call for democracy and self-determination

Eugene V. Debs, five times the candidate of the Socialist Party of America for President of

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History****1919 (cont.)**

the US (POTUS), begins to serve a ten year sentence for speaking against the draft during WWI. His fifth bid for the presidency is done from his jail cell.

President Wilson suffers a serious stroke, rendering him an invalid.

Unemployment in the US rises and prices double what they were in 1916. Strikes erupt, sponsored by the American Federation of Labor but described as Bolshevik in origin. Force is used to break up meetings, unions gatherings, and demonstrations in affected areas. Thousands of suspected anarchists, Communists and labor activists are jailed on flimsy charges.

Senators, both right and left, vote not to ratify the Paris Peace Treaty

Emma Goldman is deported with 248 other so-called anarchists on a ship to Russia She had been in prison for encouraging people to resist the draft. A US citizen, she was born in Lithuania when it was part of the Russian Empire.

1920-1928

Miller attends P.S. 24 in Harlem, which was then an upper-middle-class Jewish neighborhood. His mother attended the same school. The family lives in an apartment overlooking Central Park on the top floor of a six-story building at 45th and 110th Street, between Lenox and Fifth Avenues. He takes piano lessons, goes to Hebrew school, ice skates in Central Park. His maternal grandparents live nearby, on West 118th Street.

1920 US Senators vote against joining the League of Nations.

Ireland proclaims independence from Britain. The Irish Republican Army (IRA) begins Ireland's War of Independence.

Palestinian Arabs carry out organized attacks against Jewish residents of Jerusalem pre-dating the 1946 establishment of the State of

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

1920*The year Larry Keller, 27 in 1947, would have been born.*

Israel.

In the spring, Henry Ford's newspaper, *The Dearborn Independent*, chronicled the "Jewish menace" for 91 issues, each of which headlined a major story that exposed a Jewish evil. The most popular and aggressive stories were reprinted in the four-volume book, *The International Jew*.

The First game of Negro National League Baseball is played in Indianapolis.

19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution grants women the right to vote.

Warren G. Harding is elected POTUS.

President Wilson is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts at the Paris Peace Conference that resulted in the Treaty of Versailles.

After a year of violence, Britain passes the Government of Ireland Act, partitioning Ireland into Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland with separate parliaments to grant a measure of home rule.

1921*The year Ann Deever, if 26 in 1947, would have been born.*

Warren G. Harding is inaugurated as the 29th POTUS.

In Palestine, the Jaffa Riot occurs. 47 Jews and 48 Arabs die. In the wake of the riot, Tel Aviv becomes a separate city, the first all-Jewish municipality.

The Irish War of Independence ends with a truce signed by the British Government and

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONSUS and World History

1921 (cont.)

Irish forces.

Adolf Hitler becomes chairman of the National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazis).

The US Supreme Court rules labor injunctions and picketing unconstitutional.

In Italy, the National Fascist Party (Partito Nazionale Fascist), a paramilitary group led by Benito Mussolini, declares itself a political party.

President Harding commutes Eugene Debs' ten-year prison sentence. Harding disturbs some anti-Communists by inviting Debs to the White House, where he shakes Debs' hand and says that he had always wanted to meet him.

1922

Miller's sister Joan is born June 1. She later becomes a stage actress under the name Joan Copeland

Mohandas Gandhi is arrested in Bombay for sedition because of two articles he has written in his paper, "Young India," promoting boycotts and civil disobedience. He is given a six-year sentence.

Per Lenin's recommendation, Joseph Stalin is chosen as General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union's Communist Party.

Henry Ford's *The International Jew* is translated into German and was cited by Baldur von Schirach, one of the Nazis' leaders, as making Anti-Semites out of him and his friends.

Inflation increasing devalues the German mark throughout the year.

Started as an attempt to pay for the

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

1922 (cont.)

nation's war effort, British and French economists claim that Germany is destroying its economy in order to avoid reparations.

Hostility toward Jews has been on the rise in the US. The Sharon, Connecticut, Chamber of Commerce urges property owners not to sell to Jews. Earlier in the year, A.L. Lowell, Harvard University's President, advocated restricting Jewish applicants to the university.

After months of conflict in Ireland, including the murder of Michael Thomas, the hero of Ireland's War of Independence, the treaty creating the Irish Free State, is signed in London.

1923

Miller sees his first play, a melodrama at the Shubert Theater on Lenox Avenue. He contrasts the immediate, visceral experience of theatre with that of the movies in his autobiography, *Timebends*: "unlike the stage, [it] left the mind's grasp of reality intact".

In Rosewood, Florida, a white woman fearful of being caught in an affair, falsely claims that she was raped and beaten by an African-American man. The local Ku Klux Klan (KKK) takes action and attacks the town's 120 African-American residents. At least eight people are killed, and Rosewood is burned to the ground and abandoned.

The Senate bars the US from inclusion in the International Court of Justice.

Vladimir Lenin has a third stroke and is retired from his position as Chairman of the Soviet government.

Louis Armstrong makes his first recording, "Chimes Blues," with King Oliver's Creole Jazz Band.

Warren Harding dies of a heart attack.

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

1923 (cont.)

Vice President Calvin Coolidge becomes POTUS.

A US Senate Subcommittee reveals what will become known as the Teapot Dome scandal, which concerns corruption regarding oil reserves.

By year's end, German inflation has peaked to astronomical levels.

1924

Vladimir Lenin dies

Woodrow Wilson dies

Mohandas Gandhi is released from prison early after complications from an appendectomy.

President Coolidge signs the Immigration Act of 1924 into law. It includes the Asian Exclusion Act which bars immigration from Japan, China, the Philippines, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Singapore, Burma, Malaya, India and elsewhere in Asia. Anti-American sentiment explodes in Japan, with some newspapers denouncing the law as an "insult" or "a slap in the face." Japan lodges a formal protest through its embassy in Washington and declares May 26, the effective date of the legislation, a day of national humiliation.

President Coolidge, a Republican, who became president when Harding died in office, wins the presidency in his own right. The Democratic Party had split between a conservative, John Davies, and Robert LaFollete, who ran as a progressive. Coolidge, who didn't leave the White House to campaign, won in a

1924 (cont.)

landslide, due in part for his having been credited for the country's booming economy. Davis, whose platform was very similar to Coolidge's, lost votes because of his denunciation of the Ku Klux Klan and his defense of African-American voting rights when he was Solicitor General in the Woodrow Wilson administration.

Hitler is released from prison after serving eight and a half months of a five-year sentence for the Munich Putsch, a failed coup attempt by the Nazi Party to seize power in Munich, Bavaria, in November 1923. During his prison stay, he writes *Mein Kampf*. In the first edition of the book, Hitler praises Henry Ford as "a single great man" resisting Jewish control in the US.

1925

Benito Mussolini dissolves parliament and becomes a dictator.

Scopes Trial in Tennessee focuses attention on the debate over teaching the theory of evolution in public schools. John T. Scopes is convicted of violating state law for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution. He is fined \$100, the equivalent of \$1,397.28 in 2017. Later in the year, the Texas School Board forbids teaching of evolution, and more states followed suit.

1926

An attempt to remove Stalin as Party General Secretary is debated and fails.

1926 (cont.)

Nationalist sentiments are on the rise in India, causing increasing rioting.

Satchel Paige begins as a pitcher in the Negro Southern League.

In South Africa, Prime Minister Herzog has introduced a Mines and Works Amendment Act, which excludes blacks and people of Indian heritage from all skilled and some semi-skilled mining jobs. After months of debate the act finally passes, by a majority of 16 votes.

The sudden death of popular Hollywood actor and sex symbol Rudolph Valentino at the age of only 31 years creates mass grief and hysteria.

Japan's Emperor Taisho dies of a heart attack. His son, Hirohito, 25, who will succeed him the next day, favors peace and cooperation with foreign powers. The Democratic (Minseito) Party, currently in power, agrees.

1927

The US Supreme Court rules as unconstitutional a Texas law that bans African- Americans from voting.

Actress Mae West is released after ten days in jail. She and the entire cast and producers of her Broadway comedy-drama, *SEX*, had been imprisoned after 375 performances.

Hitler holds his first Nazi meeting in Berlin. The Jazz Age has spread to Germany. Hitler is a provincial who dislikes Berlin and the new hedonism.

1927 (cont.)

On a summer day In Nice, France, Isadora Duncan, American dance pioneer and bisexual leftist, is killed in a freak accident as a passenger in a convertible when her long scarf, billowing behind her, gets caught in the car's rear wheel spokes and axle.

Charles Lindbergh makes the first non-stop solo transatlantic flight from the US to France.

The era of talking pictures begins with the opening of "The Jazz Singer," starring Al Jolson singing and dancing in black-face. The movie features both silent and sound-synchronized scenes.

Leon Trotsky is expelled from the Communist Party.

Unarmed coal miners on strike at the Columbine Mine in northern Colorado are fired upon with machine guns. Six miners are killed.

1928

Miller's father's successful manufacturing business in the garment district, which has 800 employees, begins to see hard times as it faces the impending Depression. The family moves from Manhattan to rural Brooklyn, where they live at 1350 East 3rd Street, near Avenue M. Miller plants a pear tree in the backyard. He becomes Bar-Mitzvah at the Avenue M Temple

During the first week of the year, President Coolidge says he is not worried about a recent rise in the use of borrowed money, known as broker's loans, in buying stocks. Coolidge has been pursuing a hands-off policy regarding regulation of the financial industry.

An article in the Jesuit newspaper *Catholic Civilization* (*La Civiltà Cattolica*), which publishes an article only after Vatican approval, writes that the Church will continue to protect "even its most relentless enemies and persecutors, who are the Jews," and that it will also labor to

1928 (cont.)

procure for them "the greatest possible good, individual conversion and eternal salvation." The article goes on to describe a decisive role of Jews in the triumph of Bolshevism in Russia and Jewish control over international banking, finance, and politics.

Republican Herbert Hoover wins the presidency with 58.2% of the popular vote. Democrat Alfred E. Smith gets 40.8 p%. The Socialist Party candidate, Norman Thomas, gets 0.7 %, and the Communist Party candidate wins 0.1 %. Hoover's platform was based on equality of opportunity and keeping government out of "certain national problems – that is prohibition, farm relief, and electrical power." He insisted, "We are nearer today to the ideal of the abolition of poverty and fear from the lives of men and women than ever before in any land." Within a year, The Great Depression (TGD) would plunge the country, and then with world, into severe economic deprivation.

The US Congress approves the construction of Boulder Dam, to be renamed later as Hoover Dam.

Louis Armstrong makes a 78-rpm recording of "West End Blues". The "West End" refers to the westernmost point of Lake Pontchartrain in Orleans Parish, Louisiana.

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

- 1929** Miller attends James Madison High School in Brooklyn, from which Bernie Sanders would later graduate. He plays football, sustaining a serious injury to his left kneecap that later keeps him from active military service in WWII. His academic record is unimpressive, and he fails Geometry twice.
- 1930** Miller is reassigned to the newly built Abraham Lincoln High School on Ocean Parkway in Brooklyn, where he earns a reputation for being more interested in athletics than academics.

Much happened in 1929--penicillin is discovered, the St. Valentine's Massacre occurs, the first Academy Awards are given out, and the Arab-Jewish conflict in Palestine escalates--but the most important is crash of the US stock market on October 29, 1929, known as Black Tuesday, which marks the beginning of the Great Depression. Unemployment and drought plagued urban and rural US, and soon, the rest of the world. It was the longest, deepest, and most widespread depression in history.

Frank Whittle of Britain becomes the first to register a patent on a gas turbine for jet propulsion.

Mohandas Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru organize a Declaration of Independence, or *Purna Swaraj*, by the people of India. Later that year Gandhi leads a 24-day, 200-mile march to sea has ended, an act of nonviolent civil disobedience, purposely breaking a British law that prohibits people in India from making salt from seawater--a common practice until British rule imposed a tax on salt and deemed their sea-salt reclamation activities illegal. Gandhi is arrested and thrown into prison. Soon, more than 2,500 Indians are clubbed by police at Dharasana salt works, a salt production facility controlled by the British. They offer no resistance. Skulls are fractured, many lose consciousness, and several die.

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONSUS and World History**1930 (cont.)**

The world's economic crisis grows. President Hoover goes before the US Congress to ask for a \$150 million public works program to help create jobs and to stimulate the economy.

Grant Wood paints *American Gothic*.

1931

Miller works as a delivery boy for a local bakery each morning before school, but has to quit when his bike is stolen. He works summers for his father.

The US stock market continues to plummet as interest rates rise, buying and selling seriously curtails, and farmers have to reduce their prices in order to sell their crops, even though people are starving.

The Hoover administration has added 245 agents to rid the country of foreign-born citizens, including Mexicans, agrarian protesters and so-called subversives and communists. Hoover's aim was to improve his popularity and provide one remedy for TGD. Police operations round up law-abiding and hardworking Mexican men and women, who have made their homes in the US for years, and deport them and their children to Mexico.

The trial begins in Alabama for the Scottsboro Boys, nine African-Americans accused of raping two white women while riding on the freight train.

**1932-
1933**

Miller graduates from Abraham Lincoln High School. Refused admittance to the University of Michigan, Miller registers for night school at City College, but leaves after two weeks. He is unable to stay awake after working all day and taking hours of public transportation to get

1932 In Dearborn, Michigan, four people are killed when police fire upon 3,000 unemployed autoworkers marching outside the Ford automobile factory.

The first of approximately 15,000

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS

1932- there. He works at various jobs: singer at a local radio station, truck driver, and clerk in an automobile parts warehouse, Chadwick-Delamater. The site of the warehouse is located in a run-down section of Manhattan that will later house the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. He is the only Jewish employee, and for the first time, experiences virulent anti-Semitism. He later recounts his time at the warehouse in a one-act play, *A MEMORY OF TWO MONDAYS* (1955). He also writes about working at his father's garment business in a memoir entitled "In Memoriam"

US and World History

unemployed veterans arrive in Washington, DC, demanding full payment of the bonus promised them for serving in WWI. The "Bonus Army" camps in a park near the capitol. Attorney General Mitchell orders the Washington police to evacuate them. They resist and the police fire upon them, killing two. President Hoover then orders the army to carry out the rest of the evacuation.

Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt wins the US presidential election with 57.4% of the vote, defeating incumbent Herbert Hoover. Socialist Norman Thomas receives 2.2%, while William Z. Foster, Communist Party candidate, receives less than 1%.

1933 Roosevelt's first order of business as president is to move against deflation by closing banks to stop heavy withdrawals of gold and currency, as well as speculative activity. He explains his actions in the first of his "Fireside Chats" with the American people. His "New Deal", consisting of extensive economic and social recovery programs, commences.

In Germany, Hitler's Nazi party wins less than 50% of the vote, forcing him to maintain a coalition with the German National People's Party. The Nazis begin a boycott of Jewish businesses throughout Germany.

Heinrich Himmler, Hitler's SS paramilitary leader, opens the first Nazi concentration camp, at Dachau.

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History****1934-
1935**

Miller writes to the Dean of the University of Michigan (UofM) to appeal his second rejection and is admitted. He decides to major in journalism because he asserts that the UofM is the only college that takes writing seriously. He travels by bus to Ann Arbor, and takes up residence in a rooming house on South Division Street. He becomes a reporter and night editor for the student newspaper, *The Michigan Daily*. He takes a non-speaking part in a student production of Shakespeare's KING HENRY VIII, and works part-time in an off-campus laboratory feeding hundreds of mice. He moves into an attic room. Miller meets Mary Grace Slattery at the UofM. She will become his first wife in 1940.

1936

Miller writes his first play, NO VILLAIN, in six days during spring vacation. It tells the story of a garment industry strike that sets a son against his factory proprietor father. It draws very directly on his family life, opening in the parlor of a six-room house where the Simons, an immigrant family, anxiously await the return of their son from University. Once successful, they have fallen on hard times. In the play, the young playwright explores the Marxist theory that would see him hauled before the House Un-American Activities Committee years later. Miller's debut play gives us a glimpse of his early life, the seeding of his political values, and the beginning of his extraordinary career. NO VILLAIN wins UofM's Hopwood Award in Drama, complete with a \$250 prize (worth \$4,374 in 2017). Miller changes his major from journalism to English.

Dust storms begin their destructive path through the US, ravaging farmlands on the Great Plains.

When Germany's President Hindenburg dies, Adolf Hitler becomes head of state as well as chancellor. He insists on the title Führer, which means "Leader".

Amelia Earhart flies solo from Honolulu to Oakland, California, in 17 hours and 7 minutes.

The worse of the US Western dust storms covers eastern New Mexico, Colorado and western Oklahoma, turning day into night.

President Roosevelt signs into law the Social Security Act.

The United Auto Workers begin their sit-down strike in Flint, Michigan.

Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini establish the Berlin-Rome Axis, a fascist political and military alliance.

Jesse Owens, an African-American track-and-field super-athlete, wins four gold medals. Hitler, with his Aryan superiority agenda, makes a point of shunning him by his absence on the day that Owens competes.

George Kaufman and Moss Hart collaborate on the comedy YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU.

The Spanish Civil War begins (1936-38).

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History****1937**

Miller revises NO VILLAIN for the Theatre Guild's Bureau of New Plays Contest with a new title, THEY TOO ARISE.

Now a Sophomore, Miller enrolls in a playwriting class taught by Professor Kenneth T. Rowe.

THEY TOO ARISE receives an award of \$1,250 (\$21,869 in 2017) from the Bureau of New Plays, a competition also won by Thomas Lanier, then Tennessee Williams.

THEY TOO ARISE is produced by the B'nai Brith Hillel Players in Detroit and at the Lydia Mendelsson Theater in Ann Arbor. He receives his second Hopwood Award for HONORS AT DAWN, a play which centers around a strike and contrasting views of the economy, but focuses on an individual's inability to express himself.

1938

Miller wins the Theater Guild National Award for THE GRASS STILL GROWS. Though it's a revision of THEY TOO ARISE, the essence of the play, an autobiographical family comedy with socialist overtones, remains.

Miller composes a prison play, THE GREAT DISOBEDIENCE. Miller graduates from the UofM with a BA in English Language and Literature.

Miller returns to New York, where he joins the Federal Theater Project (FTP) to write radio plays and scripts.

1939

Miller collaborates with his friend and fellow UofM alumnus, Norman Rosten, on two radio plays, LISTEN MY CHILDREN, a broad satiric farce, and YOU'RE NEXT, an anti-HUAC sketch. The opening of LISTEN MY CHILDREN is read aloud when Miller is brought before HUAC in 1956, in the committee's attempt to prove his

Amelia Earhart is lost at sea while attempting an around-the-world flight.

Japanese military capture Shanghai and Beijing.

Walt Disney produces *Snow White*, the first feature-length animated cartoon.

The United Auto Workers (UAW) begin their sit-down strike in Flint, Michigan.

German forces enter Austria. Britain and France cede the Sudetenland to Hitler per the Munich Agreement.

Roosevelt appeals to Hitler and Mussolini to settle European problems amicably.

Congress establishes a committee, later called HUAC to investigate "Un American Activities."

Antonin Artaud publishes *The Theatre and Its Double*.

Germany invades Poland; WWII begins in Europe. The Holocaust begins, and millions of Jews and other innocent people are sent to concentration camps.

Finding the U.S. military underfunded and ill-prepared for defense, Roosevelt directs the

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

1939 (cont.) incorrigible, anti-American leanings.
 The FTP is shut down by conservative forces in Congress;
 Miller goes on relief.
 A radio play that Miller wrote while with the FTP,
 WILLIAM IRELAND'S CONFESSION, is broadcast on the
 Columbia Workshop, a radio series on the CBS network.
 It tells the story of the notorious forger of Shakespearean
 manuscripts.

1940 Miller marries Mary Grace Slattery, who works as an
 editor and waitress so Miller can write.
 Rejected by the army on medical grounds, Miller
 works for a year as a fitter in the Brooklyn Navy Yard,
 at the same time writing plays for the radio.

1941

military and US industry to start preparing for
 war.

Germany invades France, Belgium, Holland,
 Luxembourg, Norway and Denmark.

Japan joins German and Italy to form the
 Axis powers.

Roosevelt appropriates funds to step up
 production of war goods for the military. He
 calls for the manufacture of equipment including
 50,000 new aircraft per year.

The US sends surplus war supplies and
 aid to the European countries allied against Axis
 aggression.

Registration for the military draft
 becomes mandatory in the U.S.

John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*
 wins the Pulitzer Prize for Literature.

After the Pearl Harbor attack Dec. 7, US declares
 war on Japan. Germany declares war on US Dec.
 11, and we respond by declaring war on them.

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

- 1942** Miller continues to write plays for the radio.
- Sometime between 1942 and the end of WWII, Chris loses the company under his command.*
- 1943** Miller completes THE HALF-BRIDGE, an over-long, florid, unwieldy play that he considered not only “significantly--morally” but also “superbly commercial ... because of its suspense [and] melodrama”. It was the last of his plays to go unproduced.
- Miller begins to study Marxism and attend Communist party writers' meetings. He would support many Communist-backed causes through the decade.
- Autumn, 1943: Joe allows Steve to supply the US Army Air Force (USAAF) with faulty cylinder heads.*
- Late autumn, 1943: Twenty-one planes crash; Joe and Steve are arrested.*
- November 25, 1943: Larry, having read in the newspapers about his father and Steve, crashes plane deliberately off the coast of China. He is reported missing in action (MIA).*
- 1944** Miller tours several U.S. army camps and collects material for the screenplay, *The Story of G.I. Joe*. He also publishes *Situation Normal*, his journal of the tour.
- THE MAN WHO HAD ALL THE LUCK runs for only four

- Industrial mobilization for war escalates in the U.S. Roosevelt calls for more military equipment including 60,000 new aircraft.
- US rations industrial materials such as steel, copper and aluminum, allocating their use for military production.
- Allied forces under General Eisenhower defeat Axis forces in North Africa.
- Allied forces invade Italy. Italy surrenders.
- Military production goals call for 125,000 new aircraft. Industrial production of war materials is at its peak and efforts will be sustained over the next two years. This was the intensely-pressured climate to produce that Joe's factory withstood.
- Rodgers and Hammerstein's OKLAHOMA! opens.
- On D-Day, Allied forces land at Normandy Beach. Under General Patton they win ground in Northern France. France is liberated.
- US forces under General MacArthur

Playwright/Events from ALL MY SONS**US and World History**

1944 (cont.) performances on Broadway but receives the Theatre Guild's National Award.

Mary Grace Miller gives birth to a daughter, Jane.

Joe appeals his conviction successfully; Steve remains in prison.

1945 Miller's first novel, *Focus*, a denunciation of anti-Semitism in America, is published. Miller first hears the story of a young woman from the Midwest who turned her father in for manufacturing and selling defective aircraft parts to the US Army. He begins writing ALL MY SONS.

Chris starts to write to Ann.

1947 ALL MY SONS opens January 29 on Broadway. The play, directed by Elia Kazan and starring Ed Begley, Beth Miller, Arthur Kennedy and Karl Malden, wins the NY Drama Critics Circle Award, the Donaldson Award and professional recognition for Miller. Miller's name appears in an ad in the *Daily Worker*, protesting the treatment of German antifascist refugees like Gerhard Eisler. He auctions the manuscript of ALL MY SONS on behalf of the Progressive Citizens of America. Plans to stage ALL MY SONS abroad meet with opposition over its potentially negative depiction of US culture. The Civil Affairs Division of the American Military refuses to issue a license for production of ALL MY SONS in

retake the Philippines.

Jean Paul Sartre's NO EXIT opens in Paris.

Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin attend the Yalta Conference. Roosevelt dies soon after and is succeeded by Harry Truman.

Germany surrenders in May.

Japan surrenders in August after US drops atomic bombs. WWII ends.

1947 (cont.) occupied Europe.
Mary Grace Miller gives birth to a son, Robert.

Saturday, August ?, 1947: Ann leaves NY by train to visit Chris in Ohio.

4:00AM on Sunday, the next day: The apple tree planted by the Keller family in their backyard in honor of son, Larry, who has been MIA for three years, is blown down in a windstorm.

Later that morning, the play opens with Joe in his backyard, reading the Sunday newspaper with his neighbor, Dr. Jim Bayliss. Ann has arrived early that morning and is still asleep in Larry's old bedroom.

The same day, George, unbeknownst to Ann, is visiting their father, Steve Deever, in prison.

1948 The film version of ALL MY SONS, directed by Irving Reis, is released. It stars Edward G. Robinson, Burt Lancaster, Mandy Patinkin and Louisa Horton.