

Edward M. Kennedy (Chappaquiddick)

See transcript of discussion of Chappaquiddick between  
Nixon and Dean, 13 Mar 73.

WXPost 3 May 74, p. 20, col. 1

Edward M. Kennedy

- 3 Jan 69 - Wins post as Senate Democratic whip, after week of campaigning, by "surprising" 31-26 vote in view of opposition from "the entrenched Southern conservatives," unseating Sen. Russell B. Long of Louisiana.
- 18 Jan - Receives threat on his life; police establish patrol around his house.
- 22 Jan - "[Drops] broad hints" he may run for presidency in 1972.
- 24 Jan - Urges U.S. to take initiative in drafting and supporting a resolution to admit Communist China to U.N., along with Taiwan, and thus "contribute to a new beginning in our Asia policy."
- 13 Feb - Rank-and-file Democrats and independent voters, in nationwide poll, choose Kennedy as the one they would most like to see take over direction of Democratic party during next four years.
- 21 Mar - Calls for overhaul of U.S. policy toward China, including pulling U.S. troops out of Formosa and giving China a seat on U.N. Security Council.
- 18 Apr - Introduces bill, with 11 other senators, to amend Sugar Act of 1968. American Committee on Africa describes this and similar bill by Rep. Jonathan Bingham the "first legislative stages for a program of U.S. disengagement from South Africa." In introducing bill, EMK says "the United States should not now be conferring a direct economic benefit on a nation whose basic policies are at war with the fundamental values of mankind."
- 13 May - Votes against recommendation by Senate Judiciary Committee for confirmation of nomination of Otto F. Otepka to Subversive Activities Control Board, one of three to do so; vote 11 to 3.
- 19 May - "With the Apollo 10 spacecraft racing toward the moon, Senator .. Kennedy called today for a slowdown in the space program so that funds could be diverted to such 'pressing problems' as poverty, hunger, pollution and housing here on earth."
- 20 May - Attacks military tactics in Vietnam, charging that battles such as that for Apbia Mountain (Hamburger Hill) are "senseless and irresponsible." At the Pentagon, military officers "bristle" at this criticism.
- "The same day [20 May] he took on the American oil industry - no modest antagonist - and demanded to know why oil imports couldn't be relaxed a bit, since oil import controls had cost American consumers between \$4 billion and \$7 billion a year." Quote is from Reston, 21 May, in column on EMK's challenges to Nixon. In same column, Reston says EMK has also opposed the antiballistic missile system, attacked the "[brazen] corruption of the Saigon Government, attacked racial discrimination in employment, demanded wage and price restraint, insisted on tax reform. "This is about as far as a man can go in the first four months of a new Administration... Edward Kennedy has changed. The paralysis of last year is over. He is moving. He has taken up a position, and in the process, he is dominating the Democratic opposition."
- 24 Jun - Votes against Senate confirmation of Otto F. Otepka's appointment to Subversive Activities Control Board.
- 18-19 Jul - EMK's car plunges off bridge, Chappaquiddick Island; Mary Jo Kopechne killed. Did not report the accident until 8 or 9 hours later.

John Kennedy Had started campaigning for second term.  
Shot, 22 Nov 63.

Robert Kennedy Campaigning for Presidency, had won Democratic primary in  
California 5 Jun 68.  
Shot, 5 Jun 68.

Edward Kennedy Was campaigning for full Senate term in 1964 (had been elected  
in 1962 to fill out last two years of John Kennedy's term in  
Senate).  
Plane crash 19 Jun 64.  
Senate term expires in 1970. Following appointment as  
Democratic Whip 3 Jan 69, generally considered to be front runner  
for Democratic Presidential nomination in 1972.  
Accident involving Mary Jo Kopechne and his car, 18 Jul 69.

- 13 Jul 69 - FBI announces arrest of Robert De Pugh and Walter Peyson the previous day. Both had been in hiding since 4 Mar 68, when grand jury indictments were made public, charging them with conspiracy to rob Seattle banks.
- 15 Jul - Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals scheduled to rule today whether it should consider an appeal by Ray for a new trial. Nothing in file to show whether ruling was made.
- 18-19 - Edward Kennedy's car goes off bridge, Chappaquiddick.
- 20 - Lunar module lands; astronauts walk on moon. Walk had been scheduled for 21 Jul.
- 21 - Rev. A.D. King found dead in swimming pool, Atlanta.
- 23 - Rev. Clyde Johnson shot and killed, Greensburg, La.

Robert Kennedy assassination (King assassination, attached)

Sirhan, 2 Aug 68, pleads not guilty to charge of first-degree murder.

13 Jan 69 - Jury selection begins.

Shaw trial

- 6 Feb 69 - Garrison makes opening statement, omitting one of the six overt acts Alcock had said 21 Jan the state would try to prove: Shaw and Oswald meeting with Ruby in Baton Rouge.
- 7 Feb - Spiesel testifies; Dymond begins cross-examination.
- 8 Feb - Cross-examination continues.
- 9 Feb - (Sunday)
- 10 Feb - Russo testifies.
- 11 Feb - Cross-examination by Dymond.
- 11 Feb - DA Evelle Younger, "who has been considered a likely candidate for some post in the Nixon Administration, visited Washington last week. This led to speculation that he was conferring with officials there about the Sirhan case." Denied by Younger. (NYTimes 12 Feb.)
- "Selection of a jury .. was completed today amid informed speculation that the prosecution and defense might reach an agreement to avoid a full-scale trial... Mr. Compton said [the DA's office] would give 'very serious consideration' to any defense offer of a plea to the first-degree murder charge in return for a guarantee that a life sentence would be imposed rather than death in the gas chamber." Parsons says 13 Feb he has discussed the possibility of a guilty plea with the prosecution "right from the beginning." (AP A208LA.)
- 12 Feb - "Sirhan met today with his lawyers .. and apparently decided to retain his plea of not guilty... It was learned late today that [he] wanted to go ahead with a full-scale trial." (NYTimes 13 Feb.)
- 20 Feb - In Shaw trial, state rests case.
- 28 Feb - Defense begins presentation of its case. As first witness in afternoon session is questioned, Sirhan interrupts proceedings and asks that he be allowed to change his plea to guilty; wants to dismiss his lawyers and conduct his own defense. All requests denied by Judge Walker.