

October 12**1968**

By special order of Michigan adjutant general Clarence Schnipke, Air National Guard Sgt. Mickey Lolich was exempted from "KP duty" for the remainder of his military career due to Lolich's outstanding performance in his civilian job - as a starting pitcher for the Detroit Tigers. The order from Schnipke came in the celebration aftermath of Lolich helping the Tigers to win the 1968 World Series. During the summer of 1967, Lolich missed about two weeks of the baseball season when his unit was mobilized to help quell the riots in Detroit that summer.

October 21**1861**

A Union assault across the Potomac River north of Washington, DC, at a site named Harrison's Landing or better known to history as "Ball's Bluff" was repulsed with heavy losses. While Confederate losses were rather light, the Union forces suffered 223 men killed and more 700 captured, with several hundred more wounded. Among the dead was Colonel, and U.S. Senator from Oregon, Edward D. Baker. Born in England, he came to America as a child and spent his early life in Illinois, where he met and befriended Abraham Lincoln. While in Illinois, Baker was elected to the House of Representatives in 1844. He resigned his seat in 1846 to command the 4th Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Mexican War, commanding the Siege of Veracruz and the Battle of Cerro Gordo. After the war, he moved to California, then Oregon, taking a seat in the U.S. Senate as one of Oregon's first two new Senators. After the Civil War started in April 1861, Baker raised a regiment in New York, but soon after took a commission as the commander of the 71st Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry while still seated in the Senate. During the Battle of Ball's Bluff, Baker's regiment found itself backed up against the river by Colonel William Barksdale's Mississippi Brigade (13th, 17th, and 18th Mississippi regiments). Killed instantly by a shot in the head, he was the only seated member of Congress to die in combat during the Civil War. Several other interesting notes stem from this battle. Due to Baker's death and the high losses suffered in this operation, questions were raised in Congress about the Army's leadership. As a result, the "Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War" was established to oversee the handling of the war effort. Barksdale's Brigade would meet some of the very same units it fought at Ball's Bluff again at Antietam and Fredericksburg in 1862. These units included the 7th Michigan and the 19th and 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry regiments.

October 25**2004**

The Michigan National Guard begins a \$1.5 million overhaul and renovation of the 21,000 square foot Pontiac Readiness Center, also known as the Pontiac Armory. This is the first major alteration to the building since its original construction in 1973. The readiness center is home to the 1775th Military Police Company.

October 26**2010**

Members of the Michigan Army National Guard Funeral Honors Team provide guard detail for the casket of former Michigan Gov. Steven T. Mason at the State Capitol Building for one day of public viewing. Governor Mason was exhumed from Detroit's Capitol Park while the burial location underwent renovation. Mason lay in state at the State Capitol Building for one day and was then transported back to Capitol Park for a re-interment memorial service. In 1830, at age 19, Mason was appointed the Secretary of Michigan Territory and Superintendent of Indian Affairs by President Andrew Jackson. In 1834 he became acting Territorial Governor and in 1835, at age 24, he was elected the state's first governor though Michigan did not officially establish statehood until 1837. Mason led the state until 1840 and, according to Michigan History magazine and other sources, was the youngest state governor in American history.