

77 Reasons Why Investors Avoided the Stock Market...

- 1926 Joseph Stalin ruled as dictator of the USSR
- 1927 German economy collapsed
- 1928 "Roaring 20s" pushed stock market to new highs
- 1929 "Black Tuesday" stock market crashed
- 1930 Hawley-Smoot tariff Act
- 1931 Unemployment rate soared; US banks collapsed
- 1932 Dow hit depression-era low
- 1933 Hitler named German Chancellor - Nazi terror began
- 1934 Depression continued
- 1935 Labor union strikes
- 1936 Spanish Civil War
- 1937 Recession
- 1938 Hitler Annexed Austria
- 1939 World War II began
- 1940 Fall of France
- 1941 Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor
- 1942 Price controls initiated - shortage of consumer goods
- 1943 Detroit race riots
- 1944 D-Day - allied forces invade Normandy
- 1945 Post-war recession predicted
- 1946 Cold War began
- 1947 "Red Scare" revisited
- 1948 Berlin blockade
- 1949 USSR detonated atomic bomb
- 1950 Korean War began
- 1951 Excess Income and Profits tax
- 1952 Steel labor dispute - US seized mills
- 1953 USSR detonated hydrogen bomb
- 1954 Stock market reached new highs
- 1955 President Eisenhower suffered heart attack
- 1956 Suez Canal crisis
- 1957 USSR launched Sputnik satellite
- 1958 Recession
- 1959 Castro became dictator of Cuba
- 1960 USSR shot down U-2 spy plane
- 1961 Berlin Wall built
- 1962 Cuban missile crisis
- 1963 President Kennedy Assassination
- 1964 Gulf of Tonkin resolution
- 1965 Civil rights demonstrations
- 1966 Vietnam War escalated
- 1967 Six-Day War in Middle East
- 1968 Martin Luther King Jr. Assassination
- 1969 Money tightened - stock market declined
- 1970 US invaded Cambodia
- 1971 Wage-price freeze
- 1972 Watergate scandal began
- 1973 Arab oil embargo - oil prices tripled
- 1974 President Nixon resigned from office
- 1975 Fall of Saigon
- 1976 Economy still struggled
- 1977 Stock market slumped
- 1978 Interest rates rose
- 1979 Iran hostage crisis - oil prices skyrocketed
- 1980 Hunt brothers silver market crisis
- 1981 Interest rates remained elevated
- 1982 Worst recession in 40 years
- 1983 US invaded Grenada
- 1984 AIDS virus identified
- 1985 Economic growth slowed
- 1986 US bombed Libya; Iran-Contra affair broke
- 1987 "Black Monday" - stock market crashed
- 1988 US Savings and loan crisis peaked
- 1989 US invaded Panama
- 1990 Persian Gulf War
- 1991 Global recession
- 1992 ERM U.K. currency crisis
- 1993 Great Midwest Floods in US
- 1994 Mexican Peso collapsed
- 1995 Oklahoma City bombing
- 1996 Fed Chairman Greenspan warned of "irrational exuberance"
- 1997 Asian financial crisis
- 1998 Russian default/LTCM crisis; Whitehouse sex scandal
- 1999 Y2K fears; Dow reached 11,000 for the first time
- 2000 Money tightened - Dot-com bubble burst
- 2001 World Trade Center/Pentagon terrorist attacks
- 2002 Corporate accounting issues

Meanwhile, the S&P 500 Index had an annual compounded total return of 10.2% (through 12/31/2002). A hypothetical investment of \$10,000 made on 1/1/1926 would have been worth \$19,451,567 on 12/31/2002.

Year after year people think of reasons why they should not invest in the stock market. And over time, the stock market outperforms virtually all other investment opportunities.