

On This Date

October 21, 1969

Twenty-four-year-old Fillmore, Illinois, native **Ray Richmond** makes his major league debut for the American League's St. Louis Browns on September 25, 1920.

The first of 16 eventual major league players out of Eastern Illinois University, the right-handed pitcher hurls a complete game victory in his debut over the visiting Detroit Tigers. He allows seven hits, walks five and strikes out two in the 7-5 decision.

Six-foot-one and tipping the scale at 180 pounds and "all solid bone and muscle," Richmond opens 1920 being acquired by the Tulsa Oilers from the St. Louis Browns on April 15 as part of a trade for Jimmy Bayne. Exhibiting a solid fast ball and an overhand "hook," Richmond is attempting to return to organized baseball following a three-year stint in military aviation.

Following three seasons (1914-16) with the Bloomington Bloomers of the Three-I League, Richmond enters the Army in 1917 and serves three years in the Army, seeing action in France. Discharged in June 1919, and pitching semipro ball in Indiana, he signs with the St. Louis Browns in February, 1920, but is sent to the Oilers two months later. After winning 20 games in the Western (A) League, his contract is re-purchased by the Browns in mid-September.

In eight major league appearances with St. Louis in 1920 and 1921, Richmond is 2-1 with one complete game and a 8.62 ERA. Raymond Sinclair Richmond Dies on **October 21, 1969**, in De Soto, Missouri at the age of 73.

