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Across

- 1 Woolly garment worn at night (3, 5)
 8 Title denoting a messianic Muslim leader expected to effect the forcible conversion of mankind to Islam (associated historically with Sudanese military leader Mohammed Ahmed ibn-el-Sayed (known as The Mad ...) who defeated and killed "Chinese" Gordon at Khartoum in 1885 (played by Laurence Olivier in movie)
 11 Light evening meal such as tomato soup and toast in front of TV
 12 19th Century Austrian author (*The Jewish State*) regarded as the father of political Zionism who argued that the Jews must have a homeland of their own though not necessarily Palestine; offered Uganda (sic) by British to this end and anathematized thereby for heresy and "pronounced dead" by orthodox eastern rabbis
 14 Ernst Röhm *or* Ethel Rosenberg (initials)
 15 Big bird on rock
 16 Iraqi nightmare (initials)
 17 Exotic cuisine involving lemon grass, galangal, fish sauce and basil
 19 Oxford English dictionary (initials)
 20 Racial vilification *or* Reg Varney (initials)
 21 Popular TV show with Rachel, Ross, Monica, Chandler, Joey and Phoebe
 23 Darlene Love *or* Don Lane (initials)
 24 Julius Oppenheimer *or* Jack Osbourne (initials)
 25 Dreary last movie of James Dean (with Elizabeth Taylor and Rock Hudson)
 26 Initials shared by brilliant Oxford don with distinctive speaking voice (*A Brief History of Time*), Iraqi leader stockpiling weapons of mass destruction and greatly loved American comedian in timeless trio with brothers Moses and Jerome (and friend Larry Fine)
 27 Liver, kidneys, stomach, spleen, heart etc.
 30 Catholic encyclopedia *or* cholera epidemic (initials)
 31 Sinister proposal conceived by Soviet agent Harry Dexter White and the then US Secretary of the Treasury for the decimation of post-war Germany involving redrawing of borders, crippling reparations, starvation of the German people, deportation for slave labor, dismantling of heavy industry and the conversion of the Fatherland into a powerless agrarian state (not implemented) (10, 4)
 33 Italian shoes *or* Iraqi stockpile (initials)

1.4

Across (contd.)

- 34 Incline, gradient, slant
 35 11/7 (initials)
 36 Refreshing drink traditionally enjoyed with a *Bex* and a lie down
 38 Dorian Gray *or* *Der Golem* (initials)
 39 Someone who lends money at exorbitant rates of interest (after famous character in Shakespearean play)
 43 Absorb, occupy, rivet, transfix
 46 Racist invective (initials)
 47 Alluring lady's undergarment
 48 Influenza epidemic (initials)
 50 Idiot, cretin, dolt ("God save the Queen, the fascist regime, married to a ..., a potential H-Bomb" *Sex Pistols*)
 52 Macabre term for a kind of lever, pedal or switch on a machine, such as a train, which only operates, for reasons of safety, when depressed by human hand (4, 4, 6)
 55 Orange roughie (initials)
 56 Agent Orange (initials)
 57 The wicked practice of lending money at exorbitant rates of interest abominated by the Prophet (He of Blessed Memory) (though OK with Jehovah and Commonwealth Bank)
 58 The participant in a military conflict responsible for the instigation of hostilities (Germany 1939, America 2002, Israel 1948, 1949, 1956, 1967, 1973, 2000, 2001, 2002 etc., etc.)
 59 Bellicose superpower presently invoking moral right of first strike in bid to rule world
 9 Ancient Essene texts discovered at Qumran in 1947 (4, 3, 7)
 10 What is Bono (also The Edge)?
 13 Wife of late Harold Holt
 15 The cruel slur (albeit spelt wrongly) cast upon Oscar Wilde by the Marquess of Queensberry which led to the famous libel trial and the conviction and imprisonment of Wilde (because demonstrably true) (correct spelling please)
 17 Pivotal military offensive staged by North Vietnamese army on New Years Day (31st Jan) 1968 which marked turning point of war
 18 Horatio (or Harriett) Nelson (initials)
 20 Charming Brazilian football superstar
 21 What, with loaves, did Jesus and the five thousand have for dinner?
 22 Damage, hurt or harm suffered
 24 Posh English cars
 28 Troubled American actor who played first TV Superman (initials)
 29 Kisses with lewd abandon
 30 Popular magazine for young ladies ("Shakira. Watch out J-Lo!" "Spunk of the week: Blair" etc., etc.)
 32 Tight pants (initials)
 37 City in Northern India with famous Mogul mausoleum
 40 American literary character with depressed father Willy and jock brother Biff (initials)
 41 Unkind term for a person suffering from nervous illness
 42 Unusual word for cows or cattle
 44 A method for detecting the position or velocity of a distant object such as an aircraft or U-Boat
 45 Anatomical term for a bodily cavity or hollow space
 49 Oil giant founded by John D. Rockefeller
 50 Damage, spoil, impair
 51 Racial discrimination (initials)
 52 Acronym for getting to the hospital too late
 53 Highly strung American comedian in timeless trio with brothers Jerome and Samuel (and family friend Larry)
 54 Memorable Charlton Heston role (not Moses or Michelangelo or John the Baptist or Col. George Taylor or "Chinese" Gordon)

Down

- 2 American cold war spy executed for treason at Sing Sing 19th June 1953 (5, 9)
 3 ... *head* Devoted fan of legendary US rock band with large cult following and no hits
 4 Droop, slump, hang down
 5 Makeshift knife made by prisoners in gaol
 6 Name shared by celebrated artists Noland and Done
 7 What did Mr. Clinton not have with Monica Lewinsky? (initials)
 8 Bubbly White House intern with whom Mr. Clinton did not have "sexual relations" (initials)