

A close-up portrait of Mikhail Khodorkovsky, a man with short, graying hair and thin-rimmed glasses. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He is wearing a brown jacket over a dark shirt. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with a window and some furniture.

Today in History

October 25, 2003

▲ **Mikhail Khodorkovsky, head of Russia's Yukos oil company, was charged with tax evasion and fraud; he was later convicted and sentenced to nine years in jail**

1854: The Charge of the Light Brigade, a frontal attack by sabre-armed British cavalry on a Russian artillery battery, killed 272 out of 673 soldiers

1938: Benito Mussolini formally declared Libya to be a part of the Italian Empire

1955: The first domestic microwave oven went on sale for US\$1,300

1976: Transkei became the first of South Africa's black homelands to be granted its independence