



Today in History

August 24, 1994

▲ **Thousands of Cubans took to the sea in rickety boats, desperate to reach Florida before the ending of automatic political asylum for Cuban emigrants**

79: The Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum were destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Ash fall and pyroclastic flows killed thousands

1814: President Madison fled as British forces captured Washington DC and burned the White House

1954: The Communist Party was outlawed in the United States

1991: The parliament of Ukraine declared itself independent from the Soviet Union