

A sepia-toned portrait of Christopher Columbus. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark, high-collared garment with a white ruffled shirt underneath. He has a large, dark, rounded hat. His right hand is raised, with fingers slightly spread, as if gesturing or speaking. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Today in History

October 11, 1492

▲ **Explorer Christopher Columbus set eyes on the New World for the first time. He gave the name San Salvador to the island, located in what is now the Bahamas**

1899: The second Boer War began in South Africa between forces of the British Empire and the Boer republics

1939: Scientists including Albert Einstein warned in a letter to President Roosevelt that Germany could develop an atomic bomb

1987: Operation Deepscan, a £1 million search for the Loch Ness monster, ended, somewhat inevitably, in failure

1999: America's famous gunmaker Colt stopped producing handguns