



Today in History

April 12, 1961

▲ **Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space, making a single orbit of the Earth in the spacecraft Vostok I. The flight lasted 108 minutes**

1945: U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died as WW2 neared its end

1994: Two lawyers posted the first example of commercial mass spam, offering their services to at least 5,500 Usenet discussion groups

2002: Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez was toppled in a military coup but returned to power two days later

2010: The deepest ever undersea volcanic vents, or “black smokers”, were discovered in the Caribbean