



Today in History

May 10, 1861

▲ The joining of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific lines at Promontory, Utah, completed the Pacific Railroad, revolutionising the economy of the American West

1566: German physician and botanist Leonhard Fuchs, after whom the Fuchsia plant is named, died

1954: The silicon-based junction transistor, soon to be incorporated into the first transistor radio, went into commercial production

1994: Nelson Mandela was sworn in as South Africa's first black president

2000: Microsoft offered to allow other browsers and software to be installed with its Windows system