



Today in History

April 17, 1492

▲ **Christopher Columbus received a commission from the Spanish monarchs, Ferdinand and Isabella, to explore the western ocean in search of a passage to Asia**

1895: China and Japan recognised the independence of Korea

1957: Archbishop Makarios of Cyprus was allowed to leave his exile in the Seychelles after EOKA offered a ceasefire to the British

2009: Botswana halved its diamond output due to the world economic crisis

2014: NASA's space observatory Kepler confirmed the discovery of the first Earth-size planet located in the habitable zone of another star