

A photograph of the Solar Impulse 2, a solar-powered aircraft, flying over San Francisco at dusk. The aircraft is illuminated by its own lights, and the Golden Gate Bridge is visible in the background.

# Today in History

*July 26, 2016*

▲ The solar-powered aircraft Solar Impulse 2, pictured over San Francisco, landed in Abu Dhabi after completing the first fuel-free circumnavigation of the Earth

**1847:** Liberia became the first independent republic in Africa

**1882:** Wagner's opera *Parsifal* was first performed at Bayreuth in Germany

**2005:** The space shuttle Discovery blasted off from Cape Canaveral, the first shuttle flight since the Columbia disaster in 2003

**2006:** Fragments of an early Irish Christian prayer book from around AD800, were discovered in a bog