



Today in History

December 5, 1952

▲ Around 4,000 people died when London was enveloped in the Great Smog. The toxic mix of fog and smoke led to a parliamentary act that cut smoke emissions

1484: Pope Innocent VIII issued a papal bull giving the Inquisition explicit authority to prosecute witchcraft

1872: The American brigantine Mary Celeste was found abandoned and drifting in the Atlantic Ocean

1977: Bophuthatswana, the Tswana tribal homeland, gained nominal independence within South Africa

2013: Nelson Mandela, the first black president of South Africa and an anti-apartheid icon, died at age 95