



## Today in History

*October 26, 1990*

▲ The Soviet republic of Kirghizia was officially renamed the Socialist Republic of Kyrgyzstan, a title recalling the ancient Turkic origins of many of its people

**1825:** The Erie Canal, a 363-mile (584-km) waterway connecting Lake Erie with the Hudson River, was opened

**1905:** Norway gained independence from Sweden following a plebiscite

**1955:** South Vietnam was proclaimed a republic by Ngo Dinh Diem, who declared himself president

**1965:** The Beatles received their MBE medals at Buckingham Palace. John Lennon returned his in 1969 as a protest against the Vietnam War