



## Today in History

*March 12, 2011*

▲ **Syria's brutal civil war began as a protest after the arrest of some boys for writing anti-government graffiti in Deraa. Unrest spread after the army fired on protesters**

**1996:** China began new war games in the Taiwan Strait in a show of force to warn Taiwan not to seek independence

**2001:** Afghanistan's Taliban rulers confirmed they had blown up two giant 2,000-year-old statues of Buddha

**2001:** Britain's outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease was traced to a PanAsia strain from northern India

**2001:** A review of double-punched ballots in Florida found Al Gore would have won the state, and the presidency