

A photograph of the Space Shuttle Columbia on the launchpad at night. The shuttle is illuminated by bright lights, and the launchpad structure is visible in the background. The shuttle is white with black and orange stripes on the nose cone and solid rocket boosters. The word "USA" is visible on the side of the orbiter. The launchpad is a complex of metal structures with many lights and scaffolding.

# Today in History

*April 14, 1981*

▲ The space shuttle Columbia, seen here on the launchpad, made a perfect landing following its maiden flight. Columbia blew up on re-entry in February 2003

**1927:** Clarence Birdseye patented a method for quick freezing fish that preserved its texture

**1986:** The world's heaviest authenticated hailstone, weighing one kilogram, fell in Bangladesh

**2009:** The world's first cloned camel was born in Dubai

**2020:** President Donald Trump said the U.S. would withhold funding to the WHO, alleging it had mishandled the coronavirus pandemic