



Today in History

April 17, 1961

▲ Some 1,500 U.S.-backed Cuban exiles opposed to Fidel Castro launched an invasion at the Bay of Pigs but were soon overwhelmed by Castro's troops (pictured)

1421: An estimated 100,000 people were drowned when the sea broke through dykes in the Netherlands

1946: Syria gained independence from France

1981: Polish farmers won the legal right to form a trade union, as part of the growing Solidarity movement

2001: Mississippi voted to retain the Confederate emblem on its state flag despite it being seen by many as a symbol of racism and slavery