

A close-up portrait of Meghan Markle, smiling slightly, with her dark hair pulled back. She is wearing a dark, textured top. The background is a warm, out-of-focus yellow and orange.

## Today in History

*August 4, 1981*

▲ **Meghan Markle, the Duchess of Sussex, was born. The U.S. former actress turns 40 today. She and Prince Harry live in California after stepping away from royal life**

**1854:** Japanese merchant ships were ordered to hoist the Hinomaru flag to distinguish them from foreign ships

**1870: The Red Cross Society was founded in Britain, seven years after the movement in Switzerland**

**1944:** Anne Frank and her family were discovered by the Nazis after two years hiding in an attic room in Amsterdam

**2020: Over 200 people died when 2,750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate ignited in the port area of Beirut**