

An illustration of the Pioneer 10 spacecraft in deep space. The spacecraft is a complex of various instruments, antennas, and solar panels, with a prominent long antenna extending towards the top left. It is set against a backdrop of a dark, star-filled sky and a large, glowing orange and yellow celestial body, likely Jupiter, in the upper right corner.

Today in History

March 2, 1972

▲ **The U.S. spacecraft Pioneer 10 was launched. It passed close by Jupiter and Neptune before leaving the solar system. It is now over six billion miles from Earth**

1983: Compact discs (CDs) for digital audio recordings were made available for the first time outside Japan

1997: Albania declared a state of emergency following the collapse of pyramid investment schemes

2017: The superheavy elements Moscovium, Tennessine and Oganesson were added to the periodic table

2020: The death toll from Covid-19 reached 3,000, mostly in China, with 90,000 cases worldwide