

A photograph showing several Taliban fighters in Afghanistan. In the foreground, a man wearing a blue military jacket and a white and black checkered shawl (pashmina) is smiling and holding a green rocket-propelled grenade (RPG). Behind him, other fighters are visible, some wearing blue uniforms and head coverings. The background shows a street scene with utility poles and a clear sky.

Today in History

August 15, 2021

▲ **The Taliban completed a stunningly swift takeover of Afghanistan as Kabul fell to the militant group 20 years after it was ousted by U.S. and allied forces**

1537: Juan de Salazar founded Nuestra Senora Santa Maria de la Asuncion, now the capital of Paraguay

1843: The Tivoli Pleasure Gardens, one of the world's oldest amusement parks, opened in Copenhagen

1848: The dental chair, which rose up and down as well as reclined, was patented in Syracuse, New York

1947: India gained independence from Britain, partitioned into the separate states of India and Pakistan