



Today in History

February 1, 2003

▲ **All seven astronauts died when the space shuttle Columbia disintegrated on re-entry to the atmosphere; debris had damaged the shuttle's wing at launch**

1920: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the "Mounties", was formed

1931: *City Lights*, Charlie Chaplin's tragic tale of the Tramp in the big city, opened

1963: Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda was sworn in as the first prime minister of Nyasaland, now Malawi

2021: Myanmar's military seized power in a coup after detaining civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi and other senior figures