

A close-up portrait of Sergio Vieira de Mello, a middle-aged man with short, graying hair, smiling slightly. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt. The background is dark and out of focus, with a white emblem partially visible on the left.

Today in History

August 19, 2003

▲ **Sergio Vieira de Mello, the UN special representative in Iraq, was killed when a huge suicide truck bomb ripped through the UN headquarters in Baghdad**

1883: Gabrielle “Coco” Chanel, who ruled over Parisian haute couture for almost 60 years, was born

1953: Iranian premier Mohammad Mossadeq was overthrown in a coup engineered by British and U.S. intelligence agencies

1973: George Papadopoulos was sworn in as president of Greece after the monarchy was abolished

1989: Poland became the first country in eastern Europe to end one-party rule