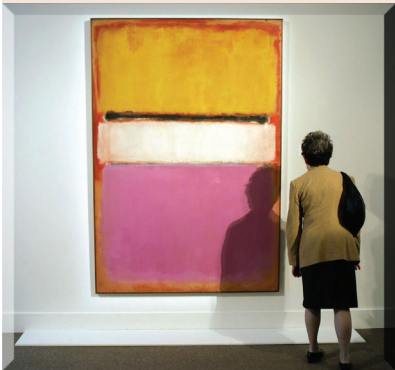


Friday, May 15

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2007:** Mark Rothko's *White center* (yellow, pink and lavender on rose), fetched over \$72.8 million, making it the most expensive contemporary art work ever sold at auction

1918: The world's first airmail postal service began in the United States

1928: Australia's Flying Doctor service was launched in Queensland

1988: The Soviet Union withdrew the first of its estimated 115,000 forces from Afghanistan

1998: The death toll in two days of rioting in Jakarta, Indonesia, reached 500 as calls grew for President Suharto to resign