



Today in History

August 20, 1980

▲ **The first successful solo ascent of Mount Everest was achieved by Reinhold Messner, the feat all the more remarkable as it was made without supplementary oxygen**

1741: Danish explorer Vitus Bering discovered Alaska

1910: Eero Saarinen, Finnish-U.S. architect and designer, responsible for the Gateway Arch in St. Louis and the “Tulip” chair, was born

1953: The Soviet Union publicly acknowledged it had conducted a test detonation of a hydrogen bomb

1953: French forces forced the Sultan of Morocco, Sidi Mohammed ben Youssef, from his throne