



Today in History

October 15, 2003

▲ **Chinese astronaut Yang Liwei orbited the Earth 14 times in his Shenzhou 5 spacecraft as China became the third country to launch a man into space**

1492: Christopher Columbus made the first recorded reference to tobacco – leaves smoked by Caribbean islanders

1970: Anwar Sadat succeeded Gamel Abdel Nasser as president of Egypt

2010: The Gotthard Base Tunnel in the Swiss Alps became the world's longest railway tunnel

2012: Norodom Sihanouk, former king of Cambodia who played a key role in its politics over a tumultuous half-century, died aged 89