



Today in History

August 13, 2009

▲ **Les Paul**, who pioneered the shift from acoustic to electric guitar and invented multi-track recording, died aged 94. He is pictured with his wife, **Mary Ford**

1521: Spanish conquistador Hernando Cortez captured present-day Mexico City from the Aztecs after a long siege

1814: The Netherlands ceded the Cape of Good Hope to Britain

1914: France declared war on Austria-Hungary, as Europe was sucked deeper into World War One

1969: The **Apollo 11** astronauts, isolated for three weeks in case they were carrying unknown diseases from the moon, left quarantine