



## Today in History

*September 22, 1869*

▲ **Das Rheingold**, the first of four operas in Richard Wagner's cycle *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, was first performed. The picture shows a production in Bayreuth in 2009

**1914:** German U-boats sank the British cruisers *Aboukir*, *Hogue* and *Cressy* in the North Sea, killing over 1,400 men

**1924:** The League of Nations received a draft protocol aimed at outlawing war

**1980:** Iraq invaded Iran in an attempt to control the Shatt al-Arab waterway

**1994:** Fossils of the oldest known human ancestor, an apelike creature living some 4.4 million years ago, were discovered in Ethiopia