



## Today in History

*August 18, 1960*

▲ **The first oral contraceptive went on sale in the United States. The pill is now the most popular form of birth control, used by over 100 million women worldwide**

**1825:** Scotsman Alexander Gordon Laing became the first European to reach Timbuktu, now in Mali

**1998:** A republican splinter group, the Real IRA, claimed responsibility for the Omagh bombing in Northern Ireland that killed 29 people

**2005:** A massive power outage on the Indonesian island of Java affected almost 100 million people

**2010:** The last U.S. combat brigade withdrew from Iraq