



Today in History

December 31, 1600

▲ **Queen Elizabeth I of England granted a charter to the “company of merchants of London trading to the East Indies”, later known simply as the East India Company**

1879: U.S. inventor Thomas Edison gave the first public demonstration of an electric incandescent lamp

1985: King Hussein of Jordan met President Hafez al-Assad of Syria for the first time in six years

1992: Czechoslovakia ceased to exist, replaced by two separate republics

1995: U.S. army engineers completed a pontoon bridge over the River Sava, allowing U.S. tanks and peacekeeping troops into Bosnia