



Today in History

December 24, 1871

▲ Giuseppe Verdi's *Aida*, set in Egypt, was first performed in Cairo, in an opera house built by the Khedive to mark the opening of the Suez Canal

1942: German research scientists based at Peenemunde successfully tested a new weapon system known as the V1 Flying Bomb, or Doodlebug

2002: A new Metro railway system in Delhi, India, was swamped by over a million people on its first day

2009: The U.S. Senate passed a historic \$871bn health care reform bill

2009: Greece approved emergency government spending cuts in an attempt to reduce its €300bn debt