



Today in History

January 21, 1519

▲ Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa, the first European to set eyes on the Pacific Ocean, was beheaded after a false accusation of treason

1908: A New York City law made it illegal for women to smoke in public

1919: Sinn Fein MPs proclaimed an Irish Republic with Eamon de Valera as president

2009: Toyota of Japan overtook General Motors to become the world's largest carmaker, ending the U.S. auto giant's 77-year reign at the top

2016: Women in Brazil were warned to avoid pregnancy for fear of birth defects caused by the Zika virus