



## Today in History

*February 5, 1919*

▲ **Movie stars Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford and Charlie Chaplin (above), and D.W. Griffith founded their own studio, United Artists, to control their commercial interests**

**1909:** The first synthetic plastic, Bakelite, was reported by Belgian chemist Leo Baekeland

**1924:** The BBC “pips”, or time signals from Greenwich Observatory, were heard for the first time

**2004:** An uprising began in Haiti against the government of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide

**2009:** Somali pirates released the Ukrainian ship MV Faina following payment of a \$3.2 million ransom