



Today in History

August 20, 2009

▲ At the World Championships in Berlin, Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt smashed his 200m world record set at the 2008 Olympics, lowering it from 19.30s to 19.19s

1924: Scottish sprinter Eric Liddell refused to run in the 100m at the Paris Olympics as it was on a Sunday

1949: A new assembly in Hungary adopted a Soviet-style constitution

1980: Reinhold Messner made the first successful solo ascent of Everest without using supplementary oxygen

1989: Conservationist George Adamson, whose wife Joy wrote *Born Free* about Elsa the lioness, was murdered in Kenya