



Today in History

October 10, 2005

▲ **Angela Merkel, leader of the conservative Christian Democrats, became Germany's first ever woman Chancellor, and the first from the former East Germany**

1935: George Gershwin's folk opera Porgy and Bess opened on Broadway to immense acclaim

1995: Israel began its West Bank pullback and freed hundreds of Palestinian prisoners

1995: A one-day strike by five million public sector workers in France brought the country to a standstill

2008: Stock markets crashed across Europe and Asia after a month of the worst turmoil since 1987