



Today in History

August 13, 1521

▲ Spanish conquistador Hernando Cortez captured the Aztec capital Tenochtitlan, the present-day Mexico City, following a three month siege

1876: Wagner's Ring cycle, an epic opera in four parts, was first performed in its entirety in Bayreuth, Germany

1961: The border between East and West Berlin was closed ahead of construction of the Berlin Wall

1996: Data sent back by the Galileo space probe indicated there could be water on one of Jupiter's moons

2001: NASA's giant solar-powered "flying wing", Helios, set a new altitude record for non-rocket aircraft