



Today in History

September 22, 1869

▲ **Das Rheingold**, the first of four operas in Richard Wagner's cycle *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, was first staged. The first complete Ring cycle was performed in 1876

1949: An atomic explosion was detected in the Soviet Union, the first test of a Soviet atomic weapon

1972: Ugandan dictator Idi Amin ordered all 8,000 resident Asians to leave the country within 48 hours

1980: Conflict between Iran and Iraq over control of the Shatt al-Arab waterway flared into a full-scale war

1982: UK prime minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in Beijing to begin talks on the future of Hong Kong