



Today in History

October 15, 1997

▲ The British jet car ThrustSSC broke the sound barrier on land for the first time, averaging 763mph over two runs in Nevada's Black Rock Desert

1492: Christopher Columbus noted that Caribbean islanders smoked dry leaves, the first recorded reference to tobacco

1542: Akbar the Great, Mughal emperor whose lands included most of north and central India, was born

1582: The Papal States, Spain and Portugal became the first countries to implement the Gregorian Calendar

1997: The collision of two tankers off Singapore caused the worst oil spill in the country's history