



Today in History

December 22, 640

▲ The Saracen caliph Omar is reputed to have ordered the destruction of the famous Library of Alexandria following the Muslim conquest of Egypt

1801: Weaver Joseph Marie Jacquard patented a loom that used punch cards to produce intricate patterns

1885: Prince Ito Hirobumi, a samurai, became Japan's first Prime Minister

1994: The first private cars to travel through the Channel Tunnel between England and France boarded Le Shuttle for the train's 35-minute trip

2010: President Obama signed a law allowing gays in the U.S. military to be open about their sexuality