



Today in History

December 24, 1871

▲ Giuseppe Verdi's *Aida*, set in Egypt, was first performed in Cairo in an opera house built by the Khedive to mark the opening of the Suez Canal

1865: The Ku Klux Klan was formed in the U.S. by former Confederate officers seeking to restore white supremacy

1914: Britain suffered its first ever air raid when a German monoplane dropped a single bomb on Dover

1968: The three astronauts on board Apollo 8 became the first humans to orbit the moon

1995: Palestinian Christians celebrated Christmas in Bethlehem for the first time in 28 years