Friday, April 21

ON THIS DAY



▲ 2004: Israeli nuclear whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu was released from jail after serving an 18-year sentence for treason

1926: Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom since 1952, was born. She marks her 80th birthday today

1960: Brasilia was inaugurated as the new capital of Brazil

1997: The ashes of 1960s drug guru Dr Timothy Leary, Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry and 22 others blasted off aboard a Pegasus rocket in the world's first "space funeral"

2000: Russia ratified the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty