

Saturday, December 20

ON THIS DAY



▲ **1991: The Folies Bergere, a popular Paris nightspot since 1869, was closed down**

1860: South Carolina seceded from the United States, leading to the Civil War

1983: PLO leader Yasser Arafat was evacuated from Lebanon, together with 4,000 of his supporters

1987: Over 4,000 people died when the Philippine ferry *Dona Paz* collided with a tanker in the world's worst ever peacetime maritime disaster

2007: Queen Elizabeth II, aged 81 years, 241 days, became Britain's oldest ever reigning monarch, passing the record of Queen Victoria