

Sunday, December 21

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2007: Passport checks were scrapped as nine new countries joined the 15-nation Schengen Zone, allowing people to move more freely across borders in most of Europe**

1879: Brutal Soviet dictator Josef Stalin was born

1958: Charles De Gaulle was elected President of France

1968: Apollo 8 was launched from Cape Kennedy to carry out the first manned flight around the moon

1991: Leaders of 11 former Soviet republics declared that the Soviet Union no longer existed and called on President Gorbachev to resign