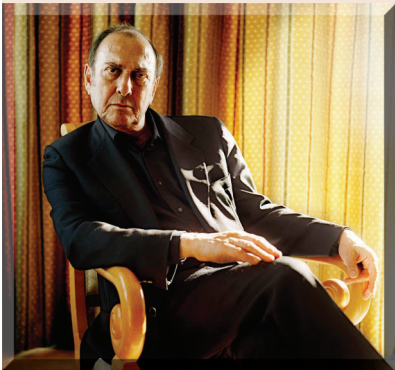


**Thursday, December 24**

# *ON THIS DAY*



▲ **2008: Nobel Prize-winning British playwright Harold Pinter died from cancer, aged 78**

**1524:** Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama, who discovered the sea route to India via the Cape, died

**1865: The Ku Klux Klan was formed in Pulaski, Tennessee**

**1942:** German research scientists successfully tested a new surface-to-surface weapon, the V1 Flying Bomb

**1999: A seven-day hostage drama began when an Indian Airlines plane was hijacked after taking off from Kathmandu, Nepal and flown to Kandahar in Afghanistan**