

**Thursday, December 9**

# *ON THIS DAY*



**▲ 2002: The world's largest game reserve, straddling the borders of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, was inaugurated**

**1621: The Fortune, the first theatre built in London, was destroyed by fire**

**1931: A Republican constitution was proclaimed in Spain, with Alasara Zamora the first elected president**

**1990: Former Solidarity trade union leader Lech Walesa won a landslide victory in Poland's presidential election**

**2008: Rod Blagojevich, governor of Illinois, was charged with trying to sell the U.S. Senate seat vacated by President-elect Barack Obama**