

Thursday, December 23

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2009:** Michael Schumacher, the most successful driver in F1 history, emerged from retirement to join Ross Brawn's newly-rebranded Mercedes F1 team

1861: The Danubian Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia were formally united as Romania

1888: Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh famously cut off part of his left ear

1972: A massive earthquake struck Nicaragua, killing up to 7,000 people

2009: The governor of the Colombian province of Caqueta was found dead a day after he was kidnapped by suspected FARC rebels