



Today in History

December 20, 1973

▲ **Spanish prime minister Luis Carrero Blanco, General Franco's right-hand man, was assassinated when Basque separatists blew up his car in Madrid**

1699: Peter the Great announced a reorganisation of the Russian calendar

1933: The hugely successful dance partnership of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers was born

1968: John Steinbeck, U.S. novelist, died; he achieved fame in the 1930s with powerful novels about agricultural workers, notably *The Grapes of Wrath*

1989: The United States invaded Panama to overthrow the regime of strongman Manuel Noriega