

A color photograph of General Francisco Franco and Prince Juan Carlos in military uniforms. Franco, on the left, is wearing sunglasses and a dark uniform with a peaked cap. Prince Juan Carlos, on the right, is wearing a dark uniform with a peaked cap and a red sash. They are both looking towards the right.

Today in History

July 17, 1969

▲ **General Francisco Franco, the dictator of Spain since the Spanish Civil War, named Prince Juan Carlos as his successor as head of state**

1917: Britain's Royal Family changed its name from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha to Windsor during World War I

1979: Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega replaced Anastasio Somoza as President of Nicaragua

1996: All 230 people on board TWA flight 800 were killed when the plane exploded over the Atlantic Ocean

1999: Designer Paco Rabanne fled Paris, fearing it was about to be destroyed by a falling space station