

A close-up portrait of Vladimir Putin, looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. He has short, light brown hair and is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue shirt.

Today in History

August 9, 1999

▲ **Former KGB officer Vladimir Putin was named acting prime minister of Russia after President Boris Yeltsin sacked his fourth premier in 17 months**

1969: Pregnant actress Sharon Tate and four others were brutally murdered by followers of Charles Manson

1974: Gerald Ford was sworn in as the 38th U.S. president following the resignation of Richard Nixon

1979: Britain's first nudist beach opened in Brighton

2004: The world's deepest vertical drop, measuring about 516m, was discovered in a cave in the Velebit mountains in Croatia