



Today in History

December 09, 1884

▲ **Ball-bearing roller skates were patented in Chicago. This latest innovation reduced friction, allowing skaters to increase speed with minimum effort**

1979: The WHO certified that the smallpox virus had been eradicated

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

2008: Astronomers confirmed the presence of a giant black hole in our galaxy, 27,000 light years from Earth

2011: Joseph Kabila was re-elected President of the DR Congo, gaining roughly 49% of the vote