



Today in History

September 15, 2007

▲ **Melting sea ice in the Arctic Ocean opened up the Northwest Passage, clearing a long-sought but historically impassable route between Europe and Asia**

1952: The European Parliament, based in Strasbourg, came into being

1982: Despite Israeli opposition, Pope John Paul II granted Yasser Arafat a private audience

1997: The ailing Mir space station came dangerously close to colliding with a U.S. military satellite

2015: Malcolm Turnbull became Australia's fifth prime minister in eight years after the ruling Liberal Party ousted Tony Abbott as leader