

A photograph showing three Chinese pilots in dark blue uniforms with gold epaulettes and pilot caps. They are smiling and holding bouquets of flowers. The pilot on the left is shaking hands with a man in a dark suit. In the background, the tail of a blue and white airplane is visible.

Today in History

January 29, 2005

▲ **China and Taiwan resumed the first direct commercial flights since 1949, when Mao Zedong took control of China and Chiang Kai-shek retreated to Taiwan**

1949: Britain officially recognised the state of Israel, established by Israel's declaration of independence in 1948

1999: Serb forces carried out another massacre of civilians in Kosovo

2004: A woman in Gujarat, India, gave birth to her own twin grandchildren, acting as a surrogate for her daughter

2009: Unemployment in Germany rose to 3.27 million (7.8 percent) as the global financial crisis worsened