



Today in History

January 31, 1929

▲ **Marxist revolutionary Leon Trotsky, founder of the Red Army, was expelled from the Soviet Union after losing a power struggle against Josef Stalin**

1908: The Count of Monte Cristo, the first movie made in California, was released

1994: German automobile firm BMW purchased the Rover group, Britain's last independent mass car-maker

1999: Scientists confirmed that the HIV virus originated in a subspecies of chimpanzee found in central Africa

2009: Moderate Islamist leader Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed was elected president of Somalia