



## Today in History

*July 17, 1959*

▲ **Billie Holiday**, one of the world's most influential jazz singers, died after years of drug abuse. Her best known songs include **God Bless the Child** and **Strange Fruit**

**1969:** Spanish dictator General Franco named Prince Juan Carlos as his eventual successor as head of state

**1979:** Sandinista leader **Daniel Ortega** replaced **Anastasio Somoza** as **President of Nicaragua**

**1998:** The remains of Russia's last Tsar **Nicholas II**, murdered by Bolsheviks in 1918, were reinterred in **St Petersburg**

**2014:** **Malaysian Airlines flight MH17** was shot down over **Ukraine** by a **Russian surface-to-air missile**