



Today in History

October 5, 1969

▲ **Monty Python's Flying Circus**, a TV show that achieved cult status worldwide, premiered in Britain. Spin-off films included **Monty Python and the Holy Grail** (above)

1964: Fifty-seven East German refugees escaped to the West by tunnelling under the Berlin Wall

1989: The Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

1999: Vladimir Putin claimed Russian forces were in control of one third of the breakaway republic of Chechnya

2009: Greece's faltering economy led to a landslide election victory for the opposition socialist PASOK party