



## Today in History

*December 8, 1949*

▲ **Chinese Nationalist forces under Chiang Kai-Shek fled to Formosa, now known as Taiwan, after defeat by the Communists in China's Civil War**

**1949:** The stage musical *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* opened in New York

**1989:** East Germany opened corruption investigations against former Communist Party chief Erich Honecker

**1989:** The European Community in Strasbourg adopted the European Social Charter on workers' rights, but Britain dissented from the agreement

**2009:** *SpaceShipTwo*, the world's first commercial spacecraft, was officially unveiled in the Mojave Desert