

A close-up portrait of Vladimir Putin, looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He has short, light-colored hair and blue eyes. The background is dark and out of focus.

Today in History

March 27, 2000

▲ **Vladimir Putin continued his stunning rise to prominence by securing a full term as Russia's head of state, winning a decisive presidential election victory**

1770: Giovanni Battista Tiepolo, last of the great Venetian painters, died

1914: The first successful non-direct blood transfusion, using stored blood rather than transfusing directly from donor to receiver, was performed

1933: Japan withdrew from the League of Nations after being found guilty of aggression in Manchuria

1945: The last German V2 rocket landed in Britain