



Today in History

October 21, 2013

▲ **Smog with record levels of harmful particulates grounded aircraft and closed schools and roadways in Harbin, China, a city of more than 10 million people**

1923: The world's first planetarium, showing how stars move across the sky, was opened in Munich, Germany

1983: A metre was redefined as the distance that light travels in a vacuum in $\frac{1}{299,792,458}$ of a second

2003: Pope John Paul II created 30 new cardinals, bringing the total eligible to elect his successor to 135

2003: The UN demanded Israel cease building a wall cutting into occupied Palestinian territory in the West Bank