



# Today in History

*January 2, 1959*

▲ The Soviet Union launched the unmanned Luna I, the first lunar space shot, which passed within 5,900km of the moon before moving on to orbit the sun

**1492:** Catholic monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella recaptured Granada, the last Muslim-controlled city in Spain

**1989:** It was reported that cattle ranchers in Brazil had cut down an area of rainforest as big as Belgium

**1994:** Astronomers discovered a new galaxy at the edge of the universe, around 13 billion light years away

**2008:** Crude oil prices briefly surged past \$100 a barrel for the first time in trading in New York