



# Today in History

*February 23, 1874*

▲ Major Walter Winfield patented an outdoor game he called “sphairistike”, Greek for “playing ball”, but which soon became known as lawn tennis

**1744:** Meyer Amschel Rothschild, German founder of the banking dynasty, was born in a Jewish ghetto

**1944:** Soviet dictator Josef Stalin forcibly deported one million Chechens from their homeland

**1999:** The Levi Strauss company closed half its U.S. factories due to falling demand for traditional jeans

**2004:** The WHO launched a major immunisation campaign to stem a polio outbreak in sub-Saharan Africa