

## Today in History, Oct. 25

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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The city of Engels in the Saratov region is one of the major centers of Volga German culture.

251 years ago today, on Oct. 25, 1762, Catherine II invited Europeans to settle in the sparsely populated regions of Russia. Soon after the public invitation, the first German settlement appeared in the Volga region. The influx of German settlers was so great that in 1766 the authorities had to temporarily suspend the acceptance of new settlers.

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