

## Today in History, Jan. 20

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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A map showing the location of the Sakhalin island

Eighty-nine years ago today, on Jan. 20, 1925, Moscow and Tokyo signed the Soviet–Japanese Basic Convention, leading to Japan withdrawing its troops from the northern territory of the Sakhalin island in return for other concessions. The territory then passed into the Soviet Union, which seized South Sakhalin from the Japanese at the end of World War II.

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