

Today in History, June 4

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Nikita Demidov

308 years ago today, on June 4, 1705, Peter I granted permission for the industrialist, Nikita Demidov, to build the first of many metallurgical plants in the Urals. Over the next 40 years the Demidov dynasty expanded significantly and allowed Russia to overtake England as the world's main producer of iron.

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