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Today in History, July 1

By The Moscow Times

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The statue of Fyodor Dostoevsky outside the Russian State Library in Moscow **Sergei Pyatakov**

Moscow's first free public library, the Rumyantsev Library, was founded 151 years ago today, on July 1, 1862. Now known as the Russian State Library, the institution houses more than 42 million items making it one of the largest libraries in the world today.

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