- 1 Dag Hammarskjöld was born in Sweden and became the second Secretary General of the United Nations in 1953. He was re-elected to the post, but was killed in a plane crash on this day in 1961. He was trying to resolve problems in the African Republic of the Congo. 3 months later he was posthumously awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his struggles to promote peace.
- 2 A reflective and prayerful man, he said:

"We die on the day when our lives cease to be illumined by the steady radiance - renewed daily of a wonder, the source of which is beyond reason."

3 Let us pray:

Lord God,
may the sight of your creation
- from the vastness
of mighty stars and planets
to the lowliness
of the smallest living creature
that I can see
- inspire me to grow
in wonder and awe,
in reverence for life,
and in appreciation
of the people I meet
and of all that is around me.
Amen.

This is an excerpt from the page of this date in 'Praying Each Day of the Year', a 3-volume book by Nicholas Hutchinson, FSC.

For details:

http://www.matthew-james.co.uk/

Could make use of a search engine to research this topic further.

This material is part of the prayer and education website of the De La Salle Brothers in Great Britain: www.prayingeachday.org