

**Monday, May 8**

# ON THIS DAY



▲ **1945:** Celebrations took place across Europe and the U.S. to mark the defeat of Nazi forces

**1794:** Antoine-Laurent Lavoisier, the French chemist who identified oxygen, was guillotined in Paris by the Revolutionary Convention

**1924:** Afrikaans became the official language of South Africa

**1984:** The Thames Barrier in London, constructed to stem the flow of the tidal river and prevent flooding, was opened

**2003:** At least 33 elderly German tourists died when an express train ploughed into their bus on a rail crossing in central Hungary