

Saturday, January 17

ON THIS DAY



▲ **1929:** Popeye first appeared as a minor character in an American newspaper cartoon strip

1706: U.S. statesman and scientist Benjamin Franklin was born

1944: The Metropolitan Opera House in New York staged its first jazz concert

1991: Richard Branson and Per Lindstrand completed the first crossing of the Pacific by hot-air balloon

2008: A British Airways Boeing 777 crash-landed short of the runway at London's Heathrow airport; all 136 passengers and 16 crew escaped via emergency chutes