

**Friday, June 19**

# *ON THIS DAY*



▲ **2007:** An environmental study indicated that China's greenhouse gas emissions had overtaken those of the U.S. for the first time, and now exceeded all other countries

**1790:** Hereditary nobility was abolished in France

**1910:** The first zeppelin airship was launched in Germany

**1983:** Li Xiannian was chosen as China's first President since 1969

**2008:** Scientists reported that Arctic sea ice shrank to the smallest extent ever recorded in the summer of 2007, down to 4.2 million square kilometres from 7.8m sq km in 1980