

**Saturday, July 4**

# *ON THIS DAY*



▲ **2007: BBC correspondent Alan Johnston was released by his kidnappers in the Gaza Strip after 114 days in captivity**

**1631: The world's first employment agency opened in Paris**

**1946: The Philippine Islands were granted independence by the U.S.**

**1991: Colombian president Cesar Gaviria Trujillo lifted the state of siege that had been in place since 1984**

**2008: Former U.S. Republican Senator Jesse Helms, a leading conservative who served five terms in the Senate representing North Carolina, died aged 86**