

Saturday, August 1

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2008: King George Tupou V of Tonga was crowned in Nuku'alofa, becoming the 23rd ruler of the South Pacific's only semi-feudal kingdom**

1291: The three cantons of Uri, Unterwalden and Schwyz formed a confederation which led to the formation of Switzerland

1873: Andrew Hallidie successfully tested a cable car he had designed for the city of San Francisco

1960: Benin, formerly known as Dahomey, proclaimed its independence

2008: Eleven climbers from an international expedition perished on K2 mountain in the Himalayas