Thursday, August 20

ON THIS DAY



▲ 2008: Usain Bolt of Jamaica won the 200m gold medal at the Beijing Olympics in a new world record of 19.30 seconds. Four days earlier he won 100m gold, also in a record time

1873: Finnish-born architect Eliel Saarinen, who greatly influenced skyscraper design in the U.S., was born

1931: Stainless steel was first cast in Sheffield, England

1949: A new assembly in Hungary adopted a Soviet-style constitution

2008: A Spanish airliner swerved off the runway and caught fire at Madrid's Barajas Airport, killing 154 of the 178 people on board