

Saturday, December 12

ON THIS DAY



▲ **1955: British engineer Christopher Cockerell patented the first prototype of the hovercraft**

1792: Franz Joseph Haydn gave a first lesson in music composition to Ludwig van Beethoven, aged 22

1901: Italian scientist Guglielmo Marconi successfully transmitted the first transatlantic radio signal

1936: Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek declared war on Japan

2007: The IOC stripped disgraced U.S. sprinter Marion Jones of the five medals she won at the 2000 Sydney Olympics after she admitted having taken banned substances