

**Friday, May 7**

# *ON THIS DAY*



▲ **2008: Irish President Mary McAleese presented the Seal of Office of Taoiseach to newly-elected Prime Minister Brian Cowen**

**1832: Greece was declared an independent republic**

**1960: Leonid Brezhnev became president of the Soviet Union**

**1979: In Iran, Ayatollah Khomeini lowered the age of marriage for girls to 13 and for boys to 15**

**2009: General Motors reported a \$6bn loss for the first fiscal quarter of the year, with sales battered by the global economic slump and fears of looming bankruptcy**