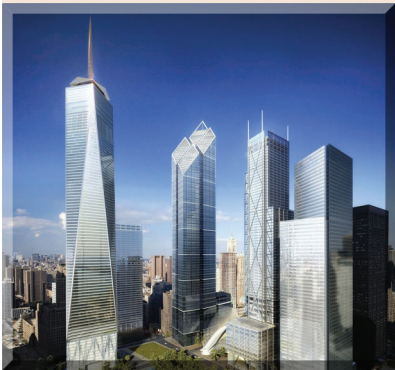


Sunday, July 4

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2004:** The cornerstone of the 1,776ft-tall Freedom Tower (*left*), designed to replace the twin towers of the destroyed World Trade Center, was ceremonially laid in New York

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

2009: North Korea test-fired seven more missiles into the Sea of Japan, further escalating tensions on the Korean Peninsula