

**Sunday, May 8**

# ON THIS DAY



▲ **2009:** The official who authorized a flyover by an Air Force One plane of the Statue of Liberty that terrified thousands of New Yorkers, reviving memories of 9/11, resigned his post

**1794:** Antoine-Laurent Lavoisier, French chemist who identified oxygen, was guillotined in Paris

**1921:** Sweden abolished the death penalty

**1996:** South Africa's Constitutional Assembly adopted a permanent post-apartheid constitution

**2010:** An explosion at a mine in Siberia killed at least 66 people, with 99 injured and 24 unaccounted for