



Today in History

December 19, 2011

▲ Car maker Saab filed for bankruptcy, former owner General Motors not wishing technology licenses to go to Chinese manufacturers

1741: Danish explorer Vitus Bering died of scurvy

1851: Joseph Mallord William Turner, one of the greatest landscape painters, died

1871: Samuel Clemens, better known as the author Mark Twain, received a patent for suspenders for "vests, pantaloons, or other garments"

1932: The BBC launched its Empire shortwave service so news could reach every corner of the British Empire