

A photograph of two men playing saxophones. The man on the left is an older Black man wearing a tuxedo and a bow tie, playing a tenor saxophone. The man on the right is a younger white man wearing a dark suit jacket over a red shirt, playing a soprano saxophone. They are both looking down at their instruments. The background is dark and out of focus.

Today in History

June 23, 1846

▲ Belgian instrument maker Adolphe Sax patented the saxophone, designed to have the projection of a brass instrument and the agility of a woodwind

1683: English Quaker William Penn signed a peace treaty with the native Leni Lenape tribe in Pennsylvania

1978: Renato Curcio, leader of Italy's Red Brigade urban guerrillas, was sentenced to 15 years in jail

1980: Indian premier Indira Gandhi's eldest son, Sanjay, died in an air crash

1993: A guest lecturer at Cambridge presented the solution to Fermat's Last Theorem, which had puzzled mathematicians for 350 years