



Today in History

February 5, 2011

▲ **Jean Paul Getty III died aged 54. Kidnapped in Italy at age 16, his ear was cut off before his oil tycoon grandfather reluctantly paid \$3m in ransom to free him**

1914: William Burroughs, U.S. novelist, was born. Many of his books, including *The Naked Lunch*, were based on his own experiences as a drug addict

1924: The BBC “pips”, time signals from Greenwich Observatory, were heard for the first time

1974: Teen Mats Wermelin, 13, scored all 272 points in a basketball game

1994: American James Miller landed on the roof of Buckingham Palace in a paraglider before being arrested