

A photograph of Queen Elizabeth II, wearing a purple coat and hat, standing between two men in suits. The man on the left is older with glasses, and the man on the right is younger. They are all smiling and looking towards the right. The background is a stone wall.

Today in History

July 1, 1999

▲ Scotland's first parliament in almost 300 years was opened by Queen Elizabeth II. Later this year Scotland will vote in a referendum on independence from the UK

1916: Coca-Cola launched its distinctively shaped bottle

1944: The Bretton Woods Conference to formulate post-war international monetary policy began

1994: Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO, set foot on Palestinian territory for the first time in 27 years

2010: The Shanghai-Nanjing High-Speed Railway opened, the journey taking 73 minutes with a top-speed of 350km/h (217mph)