



Today in History

January 17, 1995

▲ A 6.8-magnitude earthquake in Japan devastated the city of Kobe, killing 6,434 people and leaving 300,000 homeless. Damage was put at 10 trillion yen (\$100bn)

1995: Jacques Delors stepped down as president of the European Commission

2000: The merger of Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham created one of the world's largest drug firms

2005: Zhao Ziyang, ousted as China's Communist Party leader in 1989 for opposing the use of force against the Tiananmen Square protesters, died

2007: The Doomsday clock moved two minutes forward due to fears of climate change and nuclear threat