

GN35621 On this day in history Week32 - August 6-12



Today in History

August 6, 1660

▲ Influential Spanish painter Diego Velazquez died. A key figure in 17th century art, he was noted for his realism in works such as Las Meninas (above)

1538: Bogotá, now capital of Colombia, was founded by Spanish conquistador Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada

1945: The first atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, killing around 40,000 people

2007: NASA's Cassini spacecraft discovered another ring around Saturn

2015: Egypt's Suez Canal Authority announced doubling the canal's capacity

Picture: Newscom



Today in History

August 7, 1947

▲ Thor Heyerdahl's raft Kon-Tiki reached Polynesia 101 days after leaving Peru, indicating pre-Incan people could have colonised the area by drifting on ocean currents

1819: Simón Bolívar triumphed over Spain at the Battle of Boyacá

1944: IBM dedicated the first electronic controlled calculator, the



Today in History

August 8, 1937

▲ U.S. stage and screen actor Dustin Hoffman, Oscar-winning star of The Graduate (above) and Rain Man, was born. He celebrates his 80th birthday today

1854: Smith and Wesson patented their self-contained metal bullet

1967: The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) was



Today in History

August 9, 1945

▲ Three days after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, a second U.S. bomb destroyed the Japanese city of Nagasaki. An estimated 74,000 people were killed

48BC: Julius Caesar defeated Pompey at the Battle of Pharsalus to become absolute ruler of Rome

1919: Chinese inventor Ma J.

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Today in History

August 10, 1932

▲ Canine superstar Rin Tin Tin, one of the few silent movie stars to make a successful transition to sound, died in Hollywood. He appeared in 27 films

1787: Mozart completed his popular Eine Kleine Nachtmusik

1792 King Louis XVI of France was arrested after a mob stormed the Tuileries in Paris

1896: The screw bottle top was patented at the Hope Glass Works in Yorkshire, England

2002: Thousands of white farmers in Zimbabwe ignored a deadline to leave their properties despite threats by the Mugabe regime

Picture: Newscom

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Today in History

August 11, 1952

▲ King Hussein succeeded to the throne of Jordan. His 46-year reign proved to be one of the main forces for stability in a turbulent Middle East

1903: The first U.S. patent for instant coffee was issued to Satori Kato, of Chicago, Illinois

2002: U.S. Airways, America's sixth biggest airline, filed for bankruptcy

2014: U.S. actor and comedian Robin Williams, star of Good Morning Vietnam and Mrs Doubtfire, died

2016: A new study revealed that Greenland sharks can live at least 400 years, making it the world's longest-lived vertebrate

Picture: Newscom

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Today in History

August 12, 1977

▲ The space shuttle made its first test flight, landing safely at Edwards Air Force Base in California after gliding off the back of a modified Boeing 747

1990: The Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton "Sue", at 12.3m (40ft) long the largest ever found, was discovered

1992: The U.S., Canada and Mexico agreed to create the world's largest free-trade zone

2000: The Russian nuclear submarine Kursk sank in the Barents Sea

2007: Denmark sent scientists to the Arctic to establish that its territorial waters around Greenland included substantial oil reserves

Picture: Newscom

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