



## Today in History

*April 17, 1790*

▲ **U.S. statesman Benjamin Franklin died. He helped draft the Declaration of Independence, and also invented bifocals and carried out experiments into electricity**

**1725:** Englishman John Rudge left 20 shillings a year in his will for someone to keep parishioners awake during church services

**1895: China and Japan recognised the independence of Korea**

**1990:** Moscow imposed a blockade on Lithuania in a bid to stem demands for independence

**2019: Alan Garcia, former president of Peru, shot and killed himself as police arrived to arrest him**