

# GN40917 On this day Week03 - January 17-23



## Today in History

January 17, 1991

▲ The U.S. and allies launched Operation Desert Storm to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation. The aerial and naval bombardment continued for five weeks

1871: A U.S. patent was issued for an "endless wire rope way", later used for the world's first public cable car

1991: Richard Branson and Per Lindstrand climbed the Pacific

1996: In Norway, a man was sentenced for stealing a painting, The Scream

2011: In the UK, a man set himself on fire in parliament

Picture: Newscom



## Today in History

January 18, 1671

▲ Swashbuckling British pirate Henry Morgan defeated the Spanish at Panama and proceeded to sack the city, leaving with 175 mule-loads of booty

1991: An Iraqi Scud missile attack tried to drag Israel into the Gulf War

1996: Lisa Marie Presley filed for divorce from Michael Jackson after



## Today in History

January 19, 1966

▲ Indira Gandhi was elected as India's first woman prime minister. She succeeded Lal Shastri, who had in turn succeeded Gandhi's father, Jawaharlal Nehru

1825: A U.S. patent was granted for storing food in tin cans. Food canning began in France and England from 1810

1903: The introduction of the Tour de



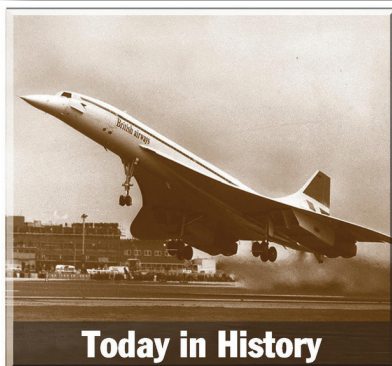
## Today in History

January 20, 1961

▲ At his inauguration as the 35th U.S. President, John F. Kennedy declared, "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country"

1981: Iran freed all 52 hostages held captive in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran after 444 days

1991: More than 100,000 people



## Today in History

January 21, 1976

▲ Supersonic passenger travel began as the first scheduled flights on Concorde took off simultaneously from Paris to Rio de Janeiro and London to Bahrain

1911: A motor racing tradition was born as the first Monte Carlo Rally began

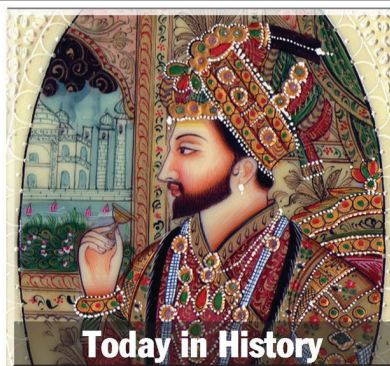
2011: The first official figures on the independence referendum in South Sudan showed almost 99 percent of voters chose to split from the north

2011: South Korean special forces freed a hijacked freighter from Somali pirates in the Indian Ocean

2016: Women in Brazil were warned to avoid pregnancy for fear of birth defects caused by the Zika virus

Picture: Newscom

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## Today in History

January 22, 1666

▲ Shah Jehan, the Mogul Emperor of India who built the Taj Mahal as a tomb for his beloved wife, died in Agra Fort where his son had imprisoned him for eight years

1966: President Nkrumah of Ghana inaugurated the Volta River hydro-electric scheme

1983: Swedish tennis star Bjorn Borg retired from the sport at the age of 26

1986: Three Sikhs were sentenced to death in India for the murder of prime minister Indira Gandhi

2006: Evo Morales was sworn in as President of Bolivia, becoming its first indigenous head of state

Picture: Newscom

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## Today in History

January 23, 2020

▲ Wuhan and other Chinese cities were placed under quarantine as a new strain of coronavirus spread widely. More than 80 people had died as infections soared

971: In China, Song dynasty troops armed with crossbows defeated the war elephant corps of the Southern Han

1978: Sweden became the first nation to ban the use of aerosol spray cans using fluorocarbon gases

2001: Ecuador declared a state of emergency as an oil spill threatened the Galapagos Islands

2003: Some 40 librettos of operas by Haydn, believed lost, were found in a second-hand bookshop in Budapest

Picture: Getty Images

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