



## Today in History

*March 8, 2008*

▲ **Vietnam banned ownership of pet hamsters, for fear of disease. Guilty owners faced fines of up to 30m dong (\$1,900), almost twice the average annual wage**

**1618:** Johannes Kepler discovered the third of his scientific laws describing the motion of planets around the sun

**1946:** The Bell Model 47 helicopter was awarded the first commercial helicopter license for civilian use

**1963:** A group of officers overthrew the Syrian government and established a National Council of Revolution

**1993:** Radical leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar accepted the post of prime minister of Afghanistan