



Today in History

February 11, 1990

▲ **Nelson Mandela, South Africa's black nationalist leader, was freed after 27 years in jail for charges related to the ANC's armed campaign against apartheid**

1889: A new constitution, creating a western-style two-house parliament, was promulgated in Japan

1914: A French pilot became the first man to fly over Mont Blanc in the Alps, reaching a height of 16,000ft

1994: The first joint U.S.-Russian space shuttle mission returned to Earth aboard the shuttle Discovery

2001: The first complete map of the human genome was published, containing around 30,000 genes