



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025

On This Date

1959 – Fidel Castro was sworn in as prime minister of Cuba, marking the beginning of his decades-long rule over the island nation.

1984 – Speed skater Gaétan Boucher won the gold medal in the 1,500-meter event at the Sarajevo Olympics. The superstar finished the Games that year with two gold medals and a bronze.

2005 – The Kyoto Protocol, an international treaty aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions to combat climate change, officially came into force, marking a major step in global environmental policy.

Daily Trivia

In 2022, the playful “Whisky War” over ownership of Hans Island was settled between Canada and which nation?

- A. Ireland
- B. Denmark
- C. United States

ANSWER: B. Denmark

Quote of the Day

“I have come to the personal conclusion that while all artists are not chess players, all chess players are artists.”

~ *Marcel Duchamp*

Happy Birthday!

Vera Menchik (1906–1944) was the first women’s chess world champion, a title she held from 1927 until 1944 when, tragically, she, her sister, and her mother were all killed in a V-1 bombing attack on their South London home. The chess master, who grew up in Moscow, first learned to play at age nine. Menchik



excelled at the game in her youth, but her prowess really took off under the tutelage of the Hastings Chess Club, which she joined after moving to England in 1921. By 1925, she was the best female player in the country, besting many top male chess champions as well.