

Tuesday, February 17

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2008: Despite fierce opposition from Belgrade and Moscow, Kosovo declared independence from Serbia**

1781: Physician Rene Laennec, inventor of the stethoscope, was born in Quimper, France

1934: Albert I, king of the Belgians since 1909, died in a climbing accident

1968: French skier Jean-Claude Killy won all three men's alpine gold medals at the Winter Olympics in Grenoble

2003: The congestion charge was introduced in central London in a bid to get the city's near-gridlocked traffic moving more smoothly