

**Wednesday, August 26**

# *ON THIS DAY*



▲ **1883:** The massive, two-day eruption of Krakatoa began: it killed some 36,000 in Java and Sumatra

**1676:** Sir Robert Walpole, England's first prime minister, was born

**1978:** Sigmund Jahn became the first German in space when he blasted off aboard Russia's Soyuz 31 craft

**1987:** A sex-crazed elephant in search for a mate flattened a Bangkok radio centre, killing two people

**2008:** Russia recognised the independence of Georgia's two breakaway regions, Abkhazia and South Ossetia, deepening tensions with the West