

**Thursday, December 17**

# ON THIS DAY



▲ **1843:** Charles Dickens' popular seasonal tale, *A Christmas Carol*, was published

**1819:** The newly-formed Republic of Colombia joined with Venezuela and Ecuador to form Simon Bolivar's "Greater Colombia"

**1937:** Australian media magnate Kerry Packer, who sprang to global fame with his plan for World Series cricket, was born

**1971:** Zulfikar Ali Bhutto became prime minister of Pakistan

**2008:** The 12-member OPEC group agreed a record cut in oil production of two million barrels per day