

**Wednesday, 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

**2009: Texan billionaire and cricket promoter Sir Allen Stanford was charged over an \$8bn investment fraud**