

**Saturday, May 15**

# ON THIS DAY



▲ **2009: Nicaragua's Central Bank began issuing new polymer cordoba banknotes in place of paper ones**

**1862:** The first sports ground designed exclusively to stage baseball opened in Brooklyn, New York

**1928: Australia's Flying Doctor service was launched in Queensland**

**1988:** The Soviet Union withdrew the first of its estimated 115,000 forces from Afghanistan

**2009: Pakistan's armed forces deployed 15,000 troops to fight up to 5,000 well-armed militants in Swat after Islamabad ordered a battle to "eliminate" insurgents**