

**Thursday, March 19**

# ON THIS DAY



▲ **2008: British science fiction writer Sir Arthur C. Clarke died in his adopted home of Sri Lanka, aged 90**

**1953: The Academy Awards ceremony was televised for the first time**

**1964: The Great St Bernard Tunnel under the Alps between Switzerland and Italy was opened to traffic**

**1996: Sarajevo became a united city again after four years when Bosnian and Croat authorities took control of the last district held by Serbs**

**2003: *Operation Iraqi Freedom*, the U.S.-led offensive to oust Saddam Hussein, began with a night raid by 40 Tomahawk missiles on Baghdad**