

Tuesday, May 18

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2009: Sri Lanka's government declared an end to its 26-year civil war with the Tamil Tigers**

1291: The Sultan of Egypt captured Acre, the last Christian stronghold in the Holy Land

1974: India successfully detonated its first nuclear bomb in the Rajasthan desert

1980: Mount St Helens volcano erupted in Washington state, creating a cloud of ash 2,500 miles long

2009: Anger in Britain over the stream of revelations over MPs' expenses claims wrecked careers and ruined reputations