

A large, silver, elongated balloon with a ribbed texture is suspended in the air. The words "BREITLING ORBITER 3" are printed in red on its side. Below the balloon, a small basket is visible. The background consists of a vast, snow-covered mountain range under a clear blue sky.

# Today in History

*March 20, 1999*

▲ **Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones completed the first non-stop circumnavigation of the world by balloon, in their craft Breitling Orbiter 3**

**1792:** Revolutionary France adopted the guillotine as the official means of execution

**1987:** The HIV/AIDS treatment drug, AZT, was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

**1995:** Tokyo's underground network was paralysed when terrorists released deadly nerve gas, killing 12 people

**2016:** Barack Obama became the first sitting U.S. president to visit Cuba since 1928