



Today in History

September 2, 1973

▲ British writer J.R.R. Tolkien, author of the classic fantasy works *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* (2012 film pictured above), died aged 81

1923: The first elections following independence from Britain were held in the Irish Free State

1945: Ho Chi-Minh was proclaimed President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam

2006: The UN reported that production of opium poppies in Afghanistan had risen by 50 percent in the previous year

2013: The eastern span replacement of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge opened with 10 traffic lanes