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40 years! 1955-1995



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The Earl of Clancarty

On May 18, 1995, at the age of 83, my old friend and colleague, the Earl of Clancarty, departed from this life.

Exactly 40 years ago, in the spring of 1955, and known then of course as the Honourable Brinsley le Poer Trench, he recruited me as one of the very first subscribers to the new journal, *Flying Saucer Review*, which, according to British press reports, he and some associates were about to launch. It was a bi-monthly in those days and the first eight issues were edited by a former RAF pilot, Derek Dempster, who is still around and, interestingly enough, only made contact with us again recently.

Thereafter, Brinsley ran the journal for the next 20 issues (from 2/4 in 1956 to 5/5 in 1959), when he handed over to the third of our Editors, Waveney Girvan. (My own material, including translations from Chinese, Arabic, Russian, German, Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Croatian, had begun to appear in FSR from issue No. 3 onwards).

There would be no point in attempting to deny that, despite his great zeal and energy for our "cause", Brinsley went on to espouse a number of wild and absurd ideas (such as the "Hollow Earth and the Holes at the Poles", and the exploits of the ridiculous bogus "Tibetan lama" Lobsang Rampa) which certainly did us no good, and played straight into the hands of the "Mendacious Brigade". But *de mortuis nihil nisi bonum*, and trivial matters such as these are for discussion on another occasion.

In their obituaries on Earl Clancarty the *Times* and the *Daily Telegraph* naturally had their little bit of fun, and took a poke at us by mentioning that he had edited *Flying Saucer Review*, but needless to say, both papers were careful enough not to tell their readers that today, forty years on, this ridiculous journal still exists, and is still going strong. (We deal of course with something that "does not exist". But in those forty years plenty of journals dealing with "respectable" things that *do exist* have gone out of business!)

One evening, when Brinsley knew he was about to become the eighth Earl, he 'phoned me and said he planned to talk "of our subject" in his maiden speech in the House of Lords. I told him that if he did so he would be a b.f. However, he did so, and in 1979 he introduced FSR into the libraries of both the House of Lords and the House of Commons and he set up the so-called House of Lords UFO Study Group, whose members I was myself invited to meet and address on two separate occasions. Whatever one may think about some of his particular theories, it remains a fact that the Earl of Clancarty was a brave man who throughout the years stuck to the highly unpopular opinion that we Earthlings are not alone ■

THE "ROSWELL" FILM FOOTAGE

© By GEORGE WINGFIELD, FSR DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANT

On May 5th 1995 London businessman Ray Santilli organised the showing in London, of some of the film footage he acquired last year which supposedly shows remains of a crashed flying saucer near Roswell in June 1947 and autopsies of its alien occupants. Among about a hundred people present were press, TV and radio journalists and some ufologists. The screening was subsequently reported in radio bulletins but was almost entirely ignored by the British press which has been largely sceptical of the UFO subject for years.

Santilli and a German colleague Volker Spielberg purchased the film footage last November from an unnamed 82-year-old American, who worked as a cine cameraman for the USAF in the 1940s. He was ordered to fly to New Mexico from Washington D.C. in June 1947 to film the retrieval of a crashed flying saucer. The cameraman's name is rumoured to be "Jack Barnett". Ap-

parently he was willing to sell this footage a year or two ago in order to raise funds "to pay for his grand-daughter's (possibly niece's) wedding and to buy her a house". Santilli reportedly paid him \$100,000 for about 90 minutes of footage; of this 30 minutes is of adequate quality and 60 minutes is poor to unusable.

It should be pointed out that the cameraman's version of the so-called Roswell crash, differs radically from what has been suggested until now. He says the crash occurred just outside an Indian reservation at least three weeks before July 2nd, 1947, which was the date previously accepted. This can only be the Mescalero Apache reservation 60 miles WSW of Roswell. This is at least 50 miles from the debris field which ranch manager William Brazel discovered on July 3. We are told the military had already cleared up wreckage in June and recovered four alien bodies (one of which may have survived the crash) when the other debris at Brazel's