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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

ranch came to light.

The film segment shown on May 5th lasted about 22 minutes and was a videotaped copy of a number of the original spools. It was in black and white, with no soundtrack, and it showed the autopsy of what is claimed to be a dead alien. It apparently took place in a military hospital in Dallas between July 1 and July 3, 1947. Although the cameraman says that President Truman and several top officials were present at the time, there is no sign of him in the sequence which was screened.

Initially one sees the naked body of a dead alien lying face up on an operating table. This is an operating theatre where the only other visible fixtures are a clock and a telephone. At one side is a tray of surgical instruments. A surgeon and his assistant stand beside the corpse clad in what appear to be white anti-contamination suits with attached hoods all in one piece. The hoods have rectangular visors.

The corpse is about 5ft tall. The head is proportionately large but not unduly so; perhaps 25% larger than one would expect a human head to be. The eyes are large, but are not that large, or all black as has been described as a distinctive feature of "greys". They are round, slightly oval, and have pupils. The neck appears normal and not unduly long or thin. Ears are minimal but seem to be positioned lower on the head. The mouth is a small inverted crescent giving the corpse, unsurprisingly, a rather sad look. The nose is small.

The head and body are completely hairless. No external genitalia are visible and one assumes the corpse is female or neuter. The chest is flat. The whiteness of the skin is the same shade as Caucasian human skin filmed in monochrome.

The body is bulbous and the abdomen appears swollen. The arms and legs are not spindly as one might expect of an alien grey. The thighs in particular are quite thick, tapering towards the knees which are not much in evidence. The musculature of the limbs is certainly human-like and not what one might expect to find in an entirely alien species. However, the feet quite distinctly have six toes but with toenails like human ones. Some of the audience confirmed there were six digits on the alien's hands too (useful, maybe, for duodecimal arithmetic!).

Although the camera pans in on various parts of the body as the autopsy proceeds, close-up detail is often obscured due to poor focus and the camerawork is amateurish to say the least.

The only visible injury is a long gash on the inside of the right leg extending from mid-thigh to almost mid-calf. Where the wound was gouged out the flesh appears black though this might be dark red were it to be shown on colour film. Likewise all incisions opened up by the surgeon merely reveal a blackness which renders it impossible to identify internal organs.

The surgeon performs the autopsy, decisively cutting into the body with a scalpel along carefully chosen lines and opening up the body cavities. The initial cuts along the centreline of the body result in slight trickles of blood, or at any rate a dark fluid. The stomach and

chest areas are opened up and organs in the dark interior are not easily discerned, nor the dark shapeless matter which is taken out. There is no apparent sign of any ribcage. The surgeon removes various internal organs placing them in glass dishes held by his assistant. It is impossible to say what these organs are.

At some stage the surgeon uses tweezers to pull dark membranes from each eye which he places in a dish. This apparently leaves behind just the white eyeballs. All this is done swiftly as if it were standard procedure.

From time to time the surgeon's assistant writes on an autopsy report document. Santilli says that by freeze-framing the film and close viewing of the appropriate frames, the name "DR. BRONK" can be seen written at the top of this document. Also visible is the name "DR. WILLIAMS". Undoubtedly the former refers to Dr. Detlev Bronk, the only medical expert member of "MJ-12" and an internationally known physiologist and biophysicist. If we are to believe the controversial *MJ-12 Papers*, it was Dr. Bronk who was assigned to do just such an analysis of the Roswell craft's four dead occupants.

Therefore, if this claim by Mr. Santilli is correct, it EITHER validates the film footage as the Roswell crash — OR — it points to a very elaborate and insidious hoax by people with a detailed knowledge of the Roswell case and the content of the *MJ-12 Papers* (which in fact came to light in late 1984 although they are dated 1952).

The final stage of the autopsy is the cutting away of the top part of the skull to give access to the brain. The surgeon works away with a bone-saw for several minutes. We do not see the skull opened but we are shown the removal of matter from within the skull. This is placed in a dish. This matter appears dark and jelly-like and unlike light grey human brain matter.

Although the creature in the operating theatre is supposedly an alien, it is not really that dissimilar to a deformed human. One cannot definitely say that this is a completely different species. If we suppose that an alien species had evolved under entirely separate conditions to human beings, one might expect that their physiology would be completely dissimilar. There is therefore a possibility that this body is that of a freak or genetically deformed human female. This needs to be thoroughly checked by medical experts in order to rule out the possibility of such a fraud, and indeed the British Home Office Pathologist, Dr. Christopher Milroy, was present at the screening and will submit a report.

Other descriptions of alien bodies at Roswell in 1947 certainly do not tally with the corpse shown in this film sequence. Nevertheless it does appear that this is a real autopsy procedure carried out on a corpse of some kind, and NOT a cleverly made dummy. Nor does this seem to be an early sci-fi "B" movie, as has been suggested. So, if this footage is not what it purports to be, what is it really, and what was the intention in making it?

These are questions that critics must answer, and the key to whether it is the genuine article or not must

RUSSIA PLANS A FLYING SAUCER

Nobody who has studied the world's principal newspapers and other media over the past fifty years can fail to have noticed the very real alarm and shock produced by the sudden "public" arrival of the "flying saucer" in 1947 and the dogged refusal of the darned thing, ever since, to depart to its proper domain.

One of the instinctive protective devices that *Homo Sapiens* (as he has chosen to call himself) is quick to adopt when he is scared is of course *ridicule*. And so it is that we have now had to put up with half a century of corny UFO jokes from the Media Clowns.

And another little trick has also been available to them - and that is to *find an explanation*.

For example - who, I wonder, now remembers the banner headlines in some of the British national newspapers when it was announced that not only the Russians, but we and some of the other Terrestrials were planning to put up probes and "sputniks" into space? The British sputniks were to be "our very own 'Flying Saucers'". I think it was the *Daily Mail* which told us jubilantly:

"BRITAIN IS TO HAVE ITS OWN FLYING SAUCERS".

(CLEARLY THE HOPE WAS THAT THIS NEWS WOULD SERVE TO EXPLAIN ALL THE CURIOUS THINGS THAT WE HAD BEEN SEEING SINCE 1947).

A few years later, the AVRO Company had a much trumpeted scheme to build a "British Flying Saucer" in Canada. The name of the constructor, if my memory is not at fault, was John Frost. There was plenty of guff about it in the British press, and in the American press too. But, unfortunately, a couple of years

SUNDAY TIMES,
London, April 24,
1994

If the prototype below is successful an 82-metre long Ekip is planned, compared here to a Boeing 747

UNMANNED
EKIP PROTOTYPE
Width: 15m
Length: 11m
Speed: 490mph
Weight: 6 tons
Carrying capacity:
2 tons

THE NEXT PROTOTYPE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

HOW IT WORKS
Jet exhausts are used to inflate the air cushion for take-off and landing. Some exhausts are used to inflate the air cushion for take-off and landing.

Official: Russia has flying saucer

or so later an announcement from the Canadian Minister of Defence informed us that it had turned out to be a total flop and had never even taken off. (There was of course a minority view that maybe it *had* taken off and had proved very successful! Anyway, it was obvious that plenty of folk had hoped the British AVRO UFO would stop all the talk and explain all the UFO sightings of past years. Truly, an *explanation* is a glorious thing.)

And so of course today no doubt plenty of hopes will be pinned on the Russian "Flying Saucer" if it ever gets built, but we have heard no more about it since.

(I wonder who will be the first person to write in to me and explain, in page after page of invariably illegible scrawl, that this new "Russian Saucer" announced in April

1994 was the thing that the two Italian girls saw plopping down suddenly beside a road in Sardinia at 5.30 am on Sunday, December 12, 1993? (See *Giovanna's Report from My Sister In Sardinia*, on page 1 of FSR 39/1 (Summer 1994).

And of course, what about the big triangles over Belgium and Japan and Derbyshire (still being seen in May 1995) and Lord knows where else besides?

(The press report about this Russian project for a "Flying Saucer" dates from April 1994. We are sorry that we could not mention it sooner. FSR has only a few pages and appears only four times yearly. If there were a large body of British readers who wished to see a *thicker* FSR, or to see it appear *more frequently*, no doubt it would do so, G.C.) ■