



An unidentified modern-day clansman wipes his face during a tribute to the forefathers who fell at the Battle of Culloden 250 years ago on Drummossie Moor, Scotland. More than 4,000 Scottish clansmen from around the world stood silently on the bleak Moor to mark the anniversary of the bloody battle that quelled a royal rebellion and dispersed Scots around the world.

Scots mark black day at Culloden

CULLODEN, Scotland (AP) — With bagpipes wailing, 4,000 Scottish clansmen from Canada and other parts of the world gathered on a bleak moor Tuesday to remember a battle 250 years ago that led their ancestors to leave their land.

The Scottish Highlanders, because of their geographic isolation in the northern and central hills of Scotland, long maintained their cultural identity.

The process culminated in the 17th and 18th century Jacobite uprisings when the followers of the Stuarts tried to restore them to the English throne. The Jacobites were crushed by the English at the Battle of Culloden Moor on April 16, 1746.

A six-metre stone cairn marks the site of the battle, where Bonnie Prince Charlie's 5,000 ill-equipped soldiers were overcome by 9,000 English troops. In one hour, 2,000 Jacobite rebels died.

"Culloden is a very powerful event in our history and one that we will never forget," Donald McLaren, chief of the McLaren clan, told reporters as he trudged across the heather-covered battlefield today.

The defeat cut the power of the Highland chiefs and scattered clansmen all over the world in search of a better life. They returned Tuesday from Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, France and Germany, as well as Scotland.

Some appeared close to tears as they laid bouquets of flowers. Most wore traditional kilts and carried the flags and banners of their clans.

Later, they buried a box of current newspapers, books and memorabilia, a testament for future generations.

Big wheel on way

LONDON (Reuter) — Financial backing has been found for a giant ferris wheel to be built on the banks of the river Thames in central London to mark the millennium, sources close to the project said Tuesday.

Much of the \$19.3 million Cdn cost of the project will be carried by British Airways.

The 165-metre wheel is to be located opposite the Houses of Parliament and will dwarf their famous Big Ben clock tower. It will be 57 metres higher.

Women in few top stories

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Although women make up 52 per cent of the U.S. population, they are in only 15 per cent of front-page newspaper stories, says the eighth annual survey of news coverage.

Men's voices, activities and images accounted for 85 per cent of the references on newspapers' front pages, and also dominated the local and business pages, the report said.

The figure for women in last year's survey was 19 per cent. Twenty U.S. newspapers were surveyed in February for female references, bylines and photos.

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