

UFO Metal Studied at Ottawa

Those skeptical of the existence of UFOs often defend their position with a question. If there are such things, they argue, there must be times when they crash. Why, then, has no trace of them ever been found?

The answer is that traces have been found. A prominent witness to this fact was a Canadian, the late Wilbert B. Smith of Ottawa, B.A. Sc., M.A. Sc., P. Engineering, Superintendent Radio Regulations Engineering of the Canadian government.

When the following interview took place in November, 1961, as reported from a tape by the late Frank Edwards in his book *Flying Saucers - Serious Business*, Mr. Smith was in charge of the Canadian investigation program to study UFOs. His interviewers were C. W. Fitch of Cleveland, Ohio, and George Popovitch of Akron, Ohio, both of whom had already made major contributions in this field.

Fitch: Have you ever handled any of this hardware yourself, sir?

Smith: Yes, quite a bit of it. Our Canadian research group has recovered one mass of very strange metal . . . it was found within a few days of July 1, 1960. There is about three thousand pounds of it. We have done a tremendous amount of detective work on this metal. We have found out the things that aren't so. We have something that was not brought to this earth by plane nor by boat nor by any helicopter. We are speculating that what we have is a portion of a very large device which came into this solar system . . . we don't know when . . . but it had been in space a long time before it came to earth; we can tell that by the micrometeorites embedded in the surface. But we don't know whether it was a few years ago — or a few hundred years ago.

Fitch: You mean then that you have about a ton and a half of something metallic, of unknown origin.

Smith: That is correct. We can only speculate about it at this time — and we have done a great deal of that. We have it but we don't know what it is!

Fitch: You're a friend of Admiral Knowles, Mr. Smith?

(Rear Admiral H. B. Knowles, U.S. Navy, retired)

Smith: Oh, yes. Admiral Knowles and I have been very good friends for many years.

Fitch: I have been told by a mutual friend that in 1952 you showed Admiral Knowles a piece of flying saucer. Is that statement correct, sir?

Smith: Yes. It is correct. I visited with Admiral Knowles and I had with me a piece which had been shot from a small flying saucer near Washington in July of that year — 1952. I showed it to the Admiral. It was a piece of metal about twice the size of your thumb which had been loaned to me for a very short time by your Air Force.

Fitch: Is this the only piece you have handled which definitely had been part of a UFO, Mr. Smith?

Smith: No. I've handled several of these pieces of hardware.

Fitch: In what way, if any, do they differ from materials with which we are familiar?

Smith: As a general thing they differ only in that they are much harder than our materials.

Fitch: What about this particular piece from that UFO near Washington . . . did it differ from conventional materials? Was there anything unusual about it, sir?

Smith: Well, the story behind it is this: The pilot was chasing a glowing disc about two feet in diameter —

Fitch: Pardon me, sir. But did you say two feet . . . ?

Smith: That is correct. I was informed that the disc was glowing and was about two feet in diameter. A glowing chunk flew off and the pilot saw it glowing all the way to the ground. He radioed his report and a ground party hurried to the scene. The thing was still glowing when they found it an hour later. The entire piece weighed about a pound. The segment that was loaned to me was about one third of that. It had been sawed off.

Fitch: What did the analysis show?

Smith: There was iron rust — the thing was in reality a matrix of magnesium orthosilicate. The matrix had great numbers — thousands — of 15-micron spheres scattered through it.