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2 October, 1987

To - Mr. Grant Cameron
649 Silverstone Ave.
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Dear Mr. Cameron:-

With reference to your letter of 3 September, 1987, I have not neglected it but absence from my office during much of September has made it impossible to reply until now. It is unfortunate that you gave me no telephone number by which I could reach you. As I have no secretary in my present position I rely a great deal on personal contacts by the telephone. Bell could not help me in your case.

Let me summarise a few general points. You credit me with having discussed the question of UFOs on many occasions when the subject never came up. Certainly I knew personally many of the names you mention. For example, C.J. Mackenzie, Tuso Wilson, James Wait, Paul Kelly, Bill Petrie, Bob Aldwinckle and George Garland, but I have no recollection of any conversation with any of the above where UFOs were even mentioned. Omund Solandt, Dick Rottle and Wilbert Smith are exceptions. In setting up the Second Storey Committee, Omund explained to me that the chief interest of the Canadian Government was whether or not the UFOs posed a threat to national security. Dick Rottle asked me if I thought the United Nations should be heavily involved in UFO research and my opinion was "no". Wilbert was a good friend of mine and we often discussed many things. However, I did not agree with his statement on page 12 of Project Magnet Report, nor did any other members of the Second Storey Committee, as far as I am aware. Please note that the terms of reference for Project Magnet were entirely in the field of certain esoteric studies of the electro-magnetic forces in and around the earth (see Appendix D, pages 1-5 of your letter). When this Project developed into an effort to explain UFOs it became "a spare-time activity" as stated in my note of 9 May, 1968 (see Appendix A of your letter), a quote directly from my conversations with the senior officials in DND. Smith's primary value on the Second Storey Committee was his assistance in drawing up instructions for those interviewing observers of strange events. We were trying to get the real objective facts of these observations and to remove, as far as possible, the subjective opinions and enthusiasms of each individual observer. Our committee was not asked to carry out any general study of all the previously reported incidents.

I would like to make one further general observation. Smith's report on his Washington visit in 1950 over-emphasized the importance of the UFO problem. Since I spent the last three years of my active service in the RCAF (1943-1946) working full-time as a liaison officer in operational research at both our headquarters in London England and in Ottawa, I was very

- 2 -

familiar with the handling of large masses of top-secret material. There was, in the post-war period just before 1950, a tendency to over-emphasize the search for new sources of energy and new, secret weapons. For many years I have fought against the military classification of the facts of basic science. When I agreed to take over the UFO file from DND in 1968 at the request of our Minister, the Hon. C.M. Drury, it was on the understanding that I would not be required to handle classified material. Government classification of reports in this field has only created misunderstanding and the idea that various countries are hiding some strange secret about UFOs. In my estimation this belief is completely incorrect and without foundation. What senior officials of all governments want to hide is how little any of them really know about the so-called UFOs. I have kept a watching brief on the sky for over 60 years as a professional astronomer, and I should just love to be able to say that I had found definite scientific evidence of the existence in the universe of an alien intelligence apart from that on earth. My name would go down in history. I am enclosing two of my published statements on this subject from 1975 and 1980, and since then I have seen no reason to alter what I said on those occasions.

Now, let me deal with your specific questions as far as I can:-

- (1) a. I have no recollection of ever seeing either the original memo from W.B. Smith, dated 21 Nov. 1950, nor a copy of the letter from R.S. Rottle to W.H. Barton, dated 30 June 1967, until I received your letter in September, 1987 (copies of the two documents noted above were appendices "D" and "B" to your letter). As a purely personal footnote I would never use the word "nonsense" when describing a subject which has puzzled and worried numbers of people living in various countries over the world. See also my comments in the introductory paragraphs above re your appendices "A" and "D".
- (1) b. See answer to (1) a.
- (1) c. I had never seen the code word "Coldcode" until I received your letter.
- (1) d. Naturally, I have no idea.
- (2) a. If you can explain every statement made by officials in any department of the Government, you are a better man than I am. Also, see above my opinion on classification.
- (2) b. The only studies relating to Project Magnet which I have seen or know about are those submitted by W. B. Smith to the Second Storey Committee and made available to the public when I was head of Upper Atmosphere Research Section at NRCC.
- (2) c. I have no knowledge of the answers to any parts of this question. As the Chairman of the Second Storey Committee I hold a signed copy of the report Smith made to the Committee, referred to in (2) b.
- (3) a. Solandt did not consult me concerning the make-up of the Second Storey except that we agreed it should be completely inter-departmental as far as possible. Garland did not attend a single meeting of the Committee, nor do I remember discussing UFOs with him. As I have already noted I made continued efforts to have all material in this field declassified.

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