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CANADA COUNCIL AWARD TO STUDY REPORTS OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Question No. 1,756—Mr. Halliday:

1. Did the Canada Council award \$6,000 to study Canadian reports of Unidentified Flying Objects and, if so, was the Council aware that the United States Government spent over half a million dollars between 1966 and 1968 to have competent scientists conduct an intensive study of such reports, including Canadian reports, and that their conclusion was that there was no evidence to warrant any further scientific investigation (the Condon Report)?

2. Did the Council consult with officers of the National Research Council about the advisability of funding such study?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canada Council as follows: 1. Yes. Under the Council's Explorations program, Mr. John B. Musgrave has been awarded \$6,000 to catalogue old sightings of strange aerial phenomena as reported in Canadian newspapers, journals and local histories, and to interview people who have witnessed such phenomena, especially prior to 1947. The Council's decision was based on an independent appraisal by four scientifically qualified people who were undoubtedly aware of the Condon Report: the Chairman of the Department of Astronomy in an American university, the director of the Mutual U.F.O. Network in the United States, a biologist, and the editor of the Canadian U.F.O. Report.

2. No. This was not felt necessary for the following reasons: (a) the candidate has a solid background in the history of science and particularly of astronomy, having studied these subjects at two major United States universities, and is now involved in scientific work while teaching at Athabasca University, Edmonton; (b) the focus of his project is historical rather than scientific.