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January 31, 1977.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek,
Director,
Center for UFO Studies,
924 Chicago Avenue,
Evanston, Ill. 60202,
U. S. A.

Dear Allen:

I am writing at this time regarding the so-called "Les Ecuriels Iron Mass", sometimes referred to as "Ottawa's Chunk of Metal". This is the large piece of metal found on the shore of the St. Lawrence River in Quebec in 1960, and acquired by Wilbert B. Smith. Reference was made to this case in the "Condon Report, pages 91-92, (E.P. Dutton edition).

A number of laboratory analyses have been carried out on this metal over the years and no firm agreement exists in the lab reports. The Canadian government claims it is foundry slag. I have been personally involved with the case for a number of years and am not yet satisfied that the metal is foundry slag, partly because of the strange circumstances under which it was discovered and partly because the Canadian government failed to conduct some of the tests I had requested.

As this case is still open in my file, I am anxious to settle the matter one way or the other. What is now needed is a thorough and complete laboratory analysis including X-ray diffraction, spectrographic and neutron activation analyses. What concerns me particularly is not so much what the metal contains but what it doesn't contain.

If it is man-made it must contain certain trace elements. If these are absent, we have a good case for extra-terrestrial material.

I have no access to any further laboratories in Canada and therefore am seeking the assistance of the Center for UFO Studies in arranging for an American laboratory to conduct the necessary analyses (at no charge, of course).