

'SAUCER' STATION IS CLOSED.

OTTAWA (CP) -- The transport department has given up its efforts to prove or disprove the existence of flying saucers.

J. R. Baldwin, deputy minister of transport, announced Monday that the flying saucer sighting station at Shirley's Bay, 10 miles northwest of Ottawa has been closed.

"We have decided that nothing so far has come out of the station's operations to merit further expenditures of government time on it," he said.

The Winnipeg Tribune, Tuesday, August 31, 1954, p. 1.

SAUCER HUNT CALLED OFF

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Wilbert B. Smith, engineer in charge of the broadcast and measurement section of the Transport Department, said the station has sighted nothing since he built it last October.

The Montreal Star, Tuesday, August 31, 1954, p. 41.

CANADIAN SCIENTISTS FIRST DID THE TRIP A FLYING SAUCER?

Ottawa, Aug. 9 (CP) -- Is Canada the first country in the world to record a flying saucer with instruments?

That question is being debated here today after the Transport Department's flying saucer sighting station reported that it had detected an unexplainable object in the atmosphere over Ottawa Sunday.

Wilbert B. Smith, engineer in charge of the broadcast and measurement section of the Transport Department, said the saucer station's gravimeter was tripped at 3:01 p.m.

Mr. Smith said he is convinced that the deflection on the gravimeter was not caused by an aircraft. It was either something scientists did not know about or an instrument failure.

"We now are attempting to find out if there was a failure somewhere in the instrument," he said. If it turns out that there was no failure then I don't know what it was that passed overhead."

Mr. Smith said it is not possible for anyone to state that the gravimeter recorded the presence of a flying saucer. However, he added "it also is not possible to say it wasn't a flying saucer."

Mr. Smith, who built and operates the sighting station, said the deflection on the gravimeter was the first that could not be explained since the instrument was installed last October. The gravimeter is designed to detect and record gamma rays, magnetic fluctuations, radio noises and gravity and mass changes in the atmosphere.

Mr. Smith was on duty at the station when a set of alarm bells -- tripped by the deflection on the gravimeter -- rang.

"I dashed over to look at the instrument," he said. "The deflection in the line (drawn by an electronically operated pen) was greater

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and more pronounced than we have seen even when a large aircraft has passed overhead.

"I ran outside to see what might be in the sky. The overcast was down to 1,000 feet, so whatever was up there, whatever it was that caused the sharp variation, was concealed behind clouds. We must now ask ourselves what it could have been."

The Toronto Globe and Mail, Tuesday, August 10, 1954, p. 1.

OTTAWA HUNTING SAUCERS.

OTTAWA (CP) -- Canada has launched a highly-technical research program to learn whether the earth has had interplanetary visitors during the last few years.

A flying saucer "sighting station," the first in the world, is being built at Shirley's Bay, 10 miles northwest of Ottawa, to prove or disprove the existence of flying saucers.

Ready Soon

The laboratory, with its maze of elaborate electronic gear, is controlled by the broadcast and measurement section of the transport department, and is expected to be in operation within a few days.

It is located about 200 feet from the transport department's ionospheric observatory.

Something Tangible

W. B. Smith, engineer in charge, said the laboratory "is being built in the hope of finding out something tangible about flying saucers." "If flying saucers actually exist "the equipment in the laboratory should be able to detect them."

The equipment is designed to detect gamma rays, magnetic fluctuations, radio noises and gravity or mass changes in the atmosphere.

The Winnipeg Tribune, Thursday, November 12, 1953.

OTTAWA DENIES SAUCER RUMOR

BY IRWIN SHULMAN

The Star's Resident Correspondent

OTTAWA, Aug. 10 -- The engineer in charge of Canada's flying saucer sighting station at Shirley Bay, 10 miles west of here, today denied reports that his instruments had picked up an "object" in the atmosphere over the weekend.

Wilbert B. Smith, engineer-in-charge of the broadcast and measurement section of the telecommunications division of the Department of Transport, told The Star that the "something" that deflected the station's sensitive gravimeter could have been "101 different things."

"All we got was a wiggle on the machine," he said.

The deflection was greater than that recorded by a passing plane, but could have been due to a temporary operating defect in the instrument.

The "wiggle" on the four-inch wide, 250-foot long strip of graph paper used for recording was the first registered at the station since it became operational last October.

Mr. Smith, sensitive about what he termed a "blast of information" on the subject, declined to talk in terms of flying saucers.

The Montreal Star, Tuesday, August 10, 1954, p. 21.

CANADA PLANS 'SAUCER' STUDY

SIGHTING STATION SET UP NEAR OTTAWA

OTTAWA, Nov. 11 -- (CP) -- The world's first laboratory to prove or disprove the existence of flying saucers is being built by the Transport Department at Shirley's Bay, 10 miles northwest of Ottawa.

W. B. Smith, engineer in charge of the broadcast and measurement section of the department, said the laboratory or sighting station should be in operation in a few days.

Mr. Smith said the laboratory "is being built in the hope of finding out something tangible about flying saucers." He said if flying saucers actually exist "the equipment in the laboratory should be able to detect them."

Mr. Smith said the laboratory is 12 feet square and is located about 200 feet from the Transport Department's ionospheric observatory at Shirley's Bay.

"The building and equipment cost practically nothing," he said, "because we had most of it on hand from a previous project. All of the recording equipment is automatic and merely requires servicing by officials of the ionospheric observatory."

Mr. Smith said the equipment is designed to detect gamma rays, magnetic fluctuations, radio noises and gravity or mass changes in the atmosphere. Later, he said, "we will attempt to detect high level ionization effects in the upper atmosphere."

Mr. Smith said scientists do not believe there is any real proof that flying saucers exist or are inter-planetary. However, he said, "there is a high degree of probability that they do exist and are inter-planetary"

"If they are inter-planetary they must work on some technology

which has something in common with our own basic physics," he said. "If that is so our equipment will be able to detect them."

Mr. Smith said the experiment was a "shot in the dark." It is possible, he added, "that we will obtain some clues which will help us to determine whether saucers exist."

The Montreal Star, Wednesday, November 11, 1953, p. 21.

STATION OTTAWA AIRPORT

HOURS REGULAR OBSERVATION EST	A		AVIATION				WEATHER					REPORT		
	B		C			D					E	F	G	
	TYPE R S C	TIME GMT	SKY CONDITION Heights: 100's of feet	VISIBILITY MILES	GENERAL CONDITION OF WEATHER AND OBSTRUCTIONS TO VISION	PRES SEA LEVEL (MBS)	TEMP °F	DEW POINT °F	WIND			ALT STG (INS.)	TEND- ENCY opp	CLOUDS
(10)	(11)	(12)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	DIRECTION (9)	SPEED (10)	CHARACTER (11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
00	R	0530	☉	15+		133	54	46	↖	2		991		
SYNO		0630	62845 00000	81020		137	52		007	00		60311 60311		47952
01	R	0630	☉	15+		137	52	45		C		993		
02	R	0730	☉	15+		137	51	47	↗	6		993		
03	R	0830	☉	15		138	50	46	→	5		993		
04	R	0930	40☉	15		144	50	47	↘	5		994	406	SC1
05	R	1030	40☉250-☉	15		148	48	46	↓	4		995		SC1 C11
06	R	1130	40☉E120☉250☉	15+		153	54	47	↓↘	6		997		SC1 AC5 C1
SYNO		1230	62846 736 04	81031		156	57		556	36		693	12	85640 47
07	R	1230	E40☉120☉250☉	15+		156	57	46	↓	4		998		SC1 AC1 C1
08	R	1330	60☉120-☉250-☉	15+		156	61	45	↓	4		998		SC1 AC1 C1
09	R	1430	120☉250-☉	15+		154	64	46	→	4		997		AC1 CS2
10	R	1530	250-☉	15+		153	66	48	↓	4		997	803	CS4
11	R	1630	40☉250-☉	15+		149	68	42	↘	8		995		SC1 CS3
12	R	1730	65☉200☉	15+		144	69	48	↘	5		994		Cu1 CS7
SYNO		1830	62P42	72707		81032			144	70		116	08	69809
13	R	1830	40☉E200☉	15+		144	70	42	→	8		994		Cu1 CS8
14	R	1930	40☉E200☉	15+		142	69	44	↗	2		994		Cu1 CS8
15	R	2030	40☉E120☉200☉	15+		140	69	48	↘	5		993		Cu1 AC5 CS3
16	R	2130	150☉E180☉	15+		137	69	46	→	5		992	907	AC2 AS6
17	R	2230	E120☉	15+		139	69	47	→	4		993		AC4
18	R	2330	E140☉	15+		137	57	41	↖	4		993		AC9
SYNO		0030	62851 70905	81032		138	66		709	70		692	01	87
19	R	0030	E100☉120☉	15+		138	61	51	↖	6		992		ALLAS
20	R	0130	E100☉	15+		146	64	50	↖	6		995		AC10
21	R	0230	E90☉	15+		149	64	51	↖	6		996		AC10
22	R	0330	E90☉	15	RW--	148	63	53	↑	5		995	010	AC10
23	R	0430	M100☉	15		146	62	53	↑	5		995		AC10

N WEATHER RECORD

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FROM 00 August 1954 TO 23 August 1954

H		BASIC DATA																			OBSERVER				
		BAROMETER & PSYCHROMETER				CLOUDS AND OBSCURING PHENOMENA																			
						1st LAYER				2nd LAYER				3rd LAYER				4th LAYER							
REMARKS	STN. PRES. (mb & tenths)	CORR. DRY BULB TEMP. °F	CORR. WET BULB TEMP. °F	REL. HUM. %	TOTAL OPACITY	TOTAL AMOUNT	OPACITY	AMOUNT	COMPOSITION & DIRECTION	HEIGHT (100's of feet)	OPACITY	AMOUNT	COMPOSITION & DIRECTION	HEIGHT (100's of feet)	OPACITY	AMOUNT	COMPOSITION & DIRECTION	HEIGHT (100's of feet)	OPACITY	AMOUNT	COMPOSITION & DIRECTION	HEIGHT (100's of feet)			
(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)	(32)	(33)	(34)	(35)	(36)	(37)	(38)	(39)	(40)
	1001.0	54.4	50.3	74	0	0			C				0				0			0		0			SK
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	1001.5	50.0	48.2	86	0	0			0				0				0			0		0			SK
	1002.0	49.6	48.1	89	1	1	1	1	Sc	40			0				1		0		1		0		SK
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	1003.2	61.1	53.0	56	2	8	1	1	Sc	60	1	2	Ac	120	3	0	5	C	250	8		0			SK
	1003.0	63.8	54.6	52	3	9	1	1	Ac	120	2	8	CS	250	9					9		0			SK
	1002.9	65.4	53.7	33	4	9	4	9	CS	250		0			9					9		0			SK
	1002.5	62.5	55.1	33	4	9	1	1	Sc	40	3	8	CS	250	9					9		0			SK
	1002.0	63.8	55.0	36	8	9	1	1	Cu	65	7	8	CS	200	9					9		0			SK
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	1002.0	69.8	56.2	38	9	9	1	1	Cu	40	8	8	CS	200	9					9		0			SK
	1001.8	69.3	56.6	41	9	9	1	1	Cu	40	8	8	CS	200	9					9		0			SK
	1001.6	69.2	56.9	42	9	9	1	1	Cu	40	5	5	Ac	120	6	3	3	CS	200	9		0			SK
	1001.3	68.4	57.4	44	8	10	2	2	Ac	150	6	8	As	180	10					10		0			SK
	1001.5	68.4	57.4	45	8	8	8	8	Ac	120		0			8					8		0			SK
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	1001.4	65.9	57.6	58	9	7	6	6	Ac	100	3	3	As	120	9					9		0			SK
	1002.2	63.4	56.5	60	10	10	10	10	Ac	100					10					10					SK
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OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF STATION M. J. Jones LAC

OTTAWA OBSERVATORY TO SIGHT FLYING SAUCERS.

OTTAWA (NYHT) -- The Canadian government is building an observatory near Ottawa to watch the skies for flying saucers.

The observatory, first of its kind in the world, will be manned by government scientists headed by Wilbert B. Smith, an engineer of the Canadian department of transport.

"There's a very high degree of probability that flying saucers are real objects," Mrs. Smith said Wednesday night, "and a 60 per cent probability that they're alien vehicles."

He discounted the optical illusion explanation of the phenomenon. He said that in every one of many reports of flying saucers seen in Canadian skies, there is some factor precluding writing it off as an optical illusion. The sighting station will use specially built electronic devices to track saucers.

Co-sponsor of the observatory, with the transport department, is the Defence Research Board of Canada. Dr. O. M. Solandt, chairman of DRB, and Dr. C. J. Mackenzie, former president of the national research council, have consistently refused to ridicule flying saucer reports.

The Winnipeg Free Press, Thursday, November 12, 1953.

FLYING SAUCER STUDY PRIVATE

RESEARCH BOARD NOT INVOLVED IN PROJECT

QUEBEC, Nov. 13 -- (CP) -- Dr. O. M. Solandt, chairman of the Canadian Defence Research Board, denied today that the board is associated with an Ottawa research program on flying saucers.

In announcing at Ottawa Wednesday that a detection laboratory is being built near the capital, W. B. Smith, engineer in charge of the broadcast and measurement section of the Transport Department, said the Research Board was co-operating with the project.

Today Mr. Smith said that the project is a private one by him and his associates on government property, using available materials and having the full authority of the Transport Department.

He said Wednesday that the laboratory was being built "in the hope of finding out something tangible about flying saucers." If flying saucers actually exist, the equipment in the laboratory should be able to detect them.

Dr. Solandt said today the Defence Department is not planning immediately any research "even remotely connected" with flying saucer research.

"However, we are continuing to study new reports (of flying saucers) and are alert to the possibilities of discoveries of that nature."

The Montreal Star, Friday, November 13, 1953, p. 16.

NO VISITATIONS.

SAUCER SPOTTING STATION THE BUNK, SAYS SOLANDT.

By RALPH HYMAN.

Quebec, Nov. 12 (Staff). -- It was a good story while it lasted, but tonight truth caught up to rumor. Contrary to published reports, the Ottawa government has no intention of building a specially equipped plant at Shirley Bay, near Ottawa, to detect flying saucers.

One of Canada's top ranking scientists, Dr. O. M. Solandt, chairman of the Defense Research Board, said in an interview that there was not the slightest truth in the report that the government planned to build such a plant.

"We would be the first to know about it," Dr. Solandt said. "I can honestly say that we have found no information that we would accept as evidence of any extra-terrestrial visitations. I have said on previous occasions that I am keeping an open mind on the subject of flying saucer. This has been interpreted as meaning I have secret information pointing to the existence of flying saucers. That is not true."

Dr. Solandt said that from the beginning of the flying saucer rumors some years ago a careful check was kept by the government of all available information. Persons who claimed they had seen flying saucers were quietly interviewed and their stories checked and double checked.

"Nothing has occurred in all that investigation to create a belief in the existence of such phenomena," Dr. Solandt said. "We are not saying they don't exist, but the onus is on those who say they do exist to bring forward the evidence. After all, one could dream up anything and say that no evidence exists to the contrary."

Incidentally, that flying saucer at the Avro plant in Malton is nothing of the sort. It is simply an unconventional type of aircraft.

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