

In an earlier issue of Topside, we informed our readers that, as a result of a plea for UFO hardware for laboratory tests as put forward by Dr. J. Allen Hynek in his article "White Paper on UFOs" (Christian Science Monitor, May 23, 1967), the Ottawa New Sciences Club had written to Dr. Edward Condon, heading the group of University of Colorado scientists commissioned by the USAF to investigate the UFO problem, enclosing a copy of the article "The Mysterious Chunk of Hardware at Ottawa (Topside, Spring, 1966) together with photographs of the metal, etc., and suggesting that his group might consider it worthy of further analysis in view of the somewhat mysterious circumstances surrounding the finding of the metal and subsequent tests on it. This letter was sent on June 21, 1967 and during the 3-month period of silence that followed, it was ascertained that a good many others who had written to Colorado had received the same "silence" treatment - not even an acknowledgement of their letters. On Sept. 11/67, our Club Secretary wrote again to Dr. Condon, this time by registered mail, requesting a reply to the offer made by the Club. On Sept. 22/67, a reply was received from Dr. Condon's secretary, apologizing for the delay and stating that the matter had now been placed in the hands of a Dr. Roy Craig. On Sept. 29, a letter was received from Dr. Craig, the first paragraph of which reads: "Your letter to Dr. Condon written on June 21, 1967, recently came to my attention. The piece of metallic material you mentioned, since it cannot be related directly to an unidentified flying object, would not seem of sufficient value to our study to warrant further analysis by us." This cursory brush-off was not entirely unexpected, as by this time we had gained the distinct impression from colleagues in the U.S. and elsewhere, that the Colorado project was not an all-out effort to solve the UFO mystery and was likely to be over-shadowed by USAF policy.

What followed in Dr. Craig's letter, however, was decidedly intriguing, as it consisted of a request to supply him with copies of official reports on the Canadian "Project Magnet", as he had failed to obtain them from another "source". One can only wonder at the manner in which the Colorado project was being conducted, as surely the obvious thing would have been to request this material from the Canadian Government Department concerned - or could it be that the Canadian Government was not "playing ball" in this regard? This, in turn, would seem to raise the question of exactly how much co-operation there exists between Canada and the U.S.A. in their respective governmental UFO research programs?