

Government Cover - up Exposed

by Arthur Bray

Those who have read my book "Science, the Public and the UFO" (1) may recall comments on the "official" attitude toward UFOs in Canada, and the lack of action by the Canadian Government. In my subsequent brief to the Senate Committee on Science Policy (2) I summarized the history of official investigations in Canada, and the general attitude of the Government toward the matter. This paper is intended to bring the record up to date as I have been able to determine it.

INSTITUTE FOR AEORSPACE STUDIES

The Institute for Aerospace Studies, University of Toronto, commenced a study into UFOs late in 1967. In October 1968, the press reported that this study was on the verge of collapse "owing to a lack of something to investigate" (3). It seemed impossible to obtain any information from the Institute during the study. I tried, but failed.

The study was concluded in 1970 and it is still not possible to obtain any information from the Institute. No report will be forthcoming from the scientists of the IAS despite the fact that it is normal practice for scientists to publish a report of their work so that others, both scientists and the public alike, may become aware of what was accomplished, if anything, and so that others may proceed from that point. The U. of T. scientists were kept in the picture by memos from the Project Director (4), but we the public will be told nothing. Does Dr. Gordon Patterson, the Institute's director, know something that he doesn't want us to know, or was he simply embarrassed because he and his fellow scientists have wasted their time?

SCIENCE COUNCIL OF CANADA

The Science Council of Canada appears to be either completely disinterested in this vital scientific problem, or it is unwilling to communicate with the public on the matter. My letter to the Council in September 1968 went unanswered and I am still awaiting a reply despite repeated hasteners. Further, the subject was conspicuous by its absence from the report of the Science Council titled "A Space Program for Canada" (5). Still nothing has emanated from this august body by the time of this writing.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Even our Members of Parliament are unable to obtain satisfactory answers to their questions in the House of Commons. Questions have been asked frequently over the years, as recorded in the Debates of the House of Commons (Hansard). Often, the questioner is ridiculed. In at least one case, an incomplete file was tabled with the claim that it was in fact "a complete file from which a few pages have simply been removed" (6). The MPs who have raised questions have been able to achieve exactly nothing. They now seem to have stopped asking.

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

The National Research Council (NRC), the official government agency for UFO investigation in Canada is still doing no more than in the past, or so it appears, and that is next to nothing. Very occasionally, they would investigate a sighting but they admit to no interest unless there is some form of physical evidence remaining. This 'project' had been under the direction of Dr. Peter M. Millman, Head, Upper Atmosphere Research, Division of Astrophysics, until his retirement in July 1971. His successor as Canada's official UFO researcher is Dr. Allen G. McNamara. If any change can be noted in NRC's attitude since the change in command, I would say that things have gone from bad to worse.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINES & RESOURCES

In August 1969, I delivered a sample of Ottawa's famous "chunk of metal" (see Canadian UFO Report, vol. 1, no. 8, p. 14) to Dr. Millman for scientific analysis. He immediately sent it to Dr. Eric Smith of the Dept. of Energy, Mines & Resources for the necessary laboratory work. Certain analyses were conducted in fairly short order but two years passed before the tests were completed. The results were released in November 1971. The conclusion was "that the piece was most probably produced in a foundry by dumping excess metal from ladles into a hollow in sand, a process known as 'pigging'" (7). This report left a great many questions unanswered. Meanwhile, we are expected to accept it on faith alone. Lacking answers to specific questions asked, we have to rely entirely on Ottawa's scientists who expect us to accept their conclusions without providing us with all the facts to support them. The metal may very well be as claimed by Dr. Smith but insufficient evidence was presented to be convincing, a fault of which UFO researchers are accused by scientists.