

In September of 1965 five of us from Montreal paid a visit to some of the Ottawa group. When we were shown the large mass of metal, our first impression was that it was very ragged, ruling out any possibility that it was a meteorite. Also the remains of a pipe or tube were protruding through the top of the mass. There were several pieces that were loose. In an effort to knock off those loose pieces and also to obtain a few specimens we (two of us) pounded the metal, first of all on edges as thin as 1/8 inch, then on the loose sections, using a steel bar 3/6" long by 1 1/2" thick. The bar bounced back with very little result but we did obtain a few pieces — and succeeded in bending the end of the bar.

The metal is very dense. It had obviously been through great heat, great impact and rather than an explosion, an implosion where different components were impacted to a central point, thus explaining the various differences of density.

While official interest in the metal has for some reason been almost non-existent since the death of Wilbert Smith in 1962, the situation is not completely hopeless for those who believe that a mystery may well exist. From Ottawa we learn that federal authorities concerned are still being pressed to make a full report on the matter, while at the same time at least two privately sponsored analyses are said to have been started in the east.

While conceding there is evidence that suggests the metal is of ordinary origin, we share the view of those who think it a mistake to consider the case of no further interest. The simple fact remains that some very puzzling questions have not yet been answered and two in particular are: How did the two pieces of metal get where they were (despite references to the foundry at Sorel, there is nothing within miles of the place to account for their presence)? And what is the explanation of the micrometeorites so obviously embedded in the big chunk's surface?

There are of course other riddles, such as the difference between technical reports mentioned here, but those two will serve as starters. If we cannot have the answers, let's at least have some good guesses. What we have heard so far sounds more like a protest about the whole thing being too much bother.

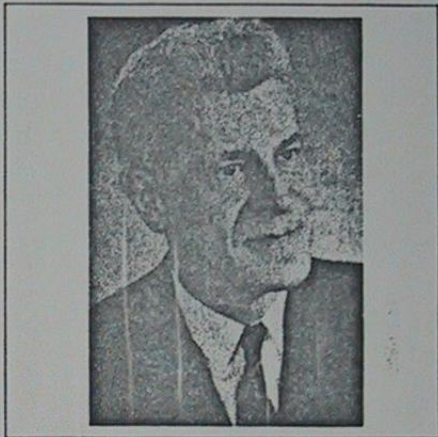


*Since Wilbert Smith figured so prominently in the early history of the chunk of metal at Ottawa, those following these accounts may be interested in knowing more about this remarkable man.*

*In issue no. 4 Brian Cannon related how Smith was*

*the driving force in trying to persuade the Canadian government to give scientific recognition to the UFO phenomenon. Although he succeeded in starting Project Magnet, the government never gave his ideas the support he hoped for and the project was eventually dropped.*

*Now let us turn to Smith's own account of the formative period of his interest in UFOs and the conclusions he reached. The following is taken from articles written by him four years before his death in December, 1962.*



WILBERT SMITH

"We looked carefully at every conventional explanation we could find, but they all fell quite short of the mark. If the whole thing were a delusion, then quite a large number of people must be suffering from the same delusion, and an externalized delusion into the bargain. If it were a hoax, then it was by far the most gigantic hoax the world had ever known, and to what end? . . .

"The inevitable conclusion was that it was all real enough, and that these people from elsewhere were probably just what they claimed to be. The science however was definitely alien and possibly forever beyond our comprehension. So another approach was tried, the philosophical, and here the answer was found in all its grandeur! I began for the first time in my life to realize the basic *oneness* of the Universe and all that is in it. Science philosophy, religion, substance and energy are all facets of the same jewel, and before any one facet of the jewel can really be appreciated the form of the jewel itself must be appreciated.

"One of the most important things I had to realize was that we are not alone. The human race in the form of *man* extends throughout the universe, and is incredibly ancient. Also, its appearance in physical form is but one of its many manifestations along the path of progress. Our civilization here on this earth is only one of many that have come and gone. This planet has been colonized many times by people from