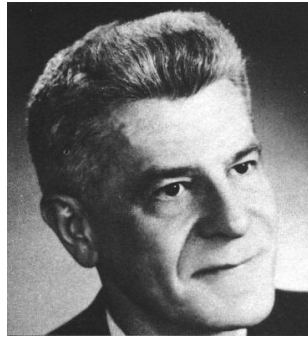


Canada : Project Magnet (1950)

This project was a study of UFOs carried out by the Department of Transport (DOT) in Canada



Wilbert B. Smith

- Il "Project Magnet", ideato dallo scienziato Wilbert B. Smith nel 1950, afferma che gli UFOs "sono probabilmente di origine extraterrestre" *"le attuali investigazioni che tentano di spiegare la questione dei dischi volanti confermano l'esistenza di una differente tecnologia...la correlazione tra la nostra teoria di base e l'informazione a disposizione sui dischi è troppo simile per essere una semplice coincidenza (Smith, Geo-Magnetics, Department of Transport, 21 novembre 1950)"*
- *"I dischi hanno un diametro di almeno cento piedi e si muovono ad una velocità di diverse migliaia di miglia all'ora. Essi possono volare ad un'altitudine molto superiore a quella già raggiunta dalle mongolfiere o aerei tradizionali, e dispongono di una forza e di una potenza ampiamente sufficienti per compiere tutte le manovre richieste. "Tenendo conto di questi fattori, è difficile conciliare queste performance a quelle ottenute grazie alla nostra tecnologia e, a meno che una nazione sulla Terra è, a nostra insaputa, più avanzata, dobbiamo concludere che questi velivoli sono probabilmente extraterrestri, nonostante i nostri pregiudizi contrari. (Smith, Project Magnet report, 1952, p. 6)*

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From a study of the sighting reports (Appendix IV), it can be deduced that the vehicles have the following significant characteristics. They are a hundred feet or more in diameter; they can travel at speeds of several thousand miles per hour; they can reach altitudes well above those which would support conventional aircraft or balloons; and ample power and force seem to be available for all required manoeuvres. Taking these factors into account, it is difficult to reconcile this performance with the capabilities of our technology, and unless the technology of some terrestrial nation is much more advanced than is generally known, we are forced to the conclusion that the vehicles are probably extra-terrestrial, in spite of our prejudices to the contrary.

It has been suggested that the sightings might be due to some sort of optical phenomenon which gives the appearance of the objects reported, and this aspect was thoroughly investigated. Charts are shown in Appendix III showing the various optical considerations. Enticing as this theory is, there are some serious objections to its actual application, in the form of some rather definite and quite immutable optical laws. These are the geometrical laws dealing with optics generally and which we have never yet found cause to doubt, plus the wide discrepancies in the order of magnitude of the light values which must be involved in any sightings so far studied. Furthermore, introducing an optical system might explain an image in terms of an object, but the object still requires explaining. A particular effort was made to find an optical explanation for the sightings listed in this report, but in no case could one be worked out. It was not possible to find so much as a partial optical explanation for even one sighting. Consequently, it was felt that optical theories generally should not be taken too seriously until such time as at least one sighting can be satisfactorily explained in such a manner.

It appears then, that we are faced with a substantial probability of the real existence of extra-terrestrial vehicles, regardless of whether or not they fit into our scheme of things. Such vehicles of necessity must use a technology considerably in advance of what we have. It is therefore submitted that the next step in this investigation should be a substantial effort towards the acquisition of as much as possible of this technology, which would without doubt be of great value to us.

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Project Magnet