Dunfield Awaits Analysis

OAK ISLAND, N.S. (CP)— About 1,000 pounds of material brought to the surface from four six-inch holes drilled 140 feet deep by treasure hunter Robert Durfield could be concrete or natural carbonate, he said Thursday.

Dunfield said he had sent samples of the material to the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and "I'm just sitting by the telephone now. I could get a reply anytime today."

He said an estimate of the age of the material was practically impossible without a spectrographic microscrope, which the university was expected to employ. A chemical analysis also would be done on the material.

The scientific searching is aimed at location of a treasure horde which local legends say is buried far beneath the surface of the tiny island off the southwest coast of Nova Scotia.

Flood tunnels believed by Dunfield to be man-made have foiled attempts by him and many other fortune seekers in the last 170 years to dig through to the area believed to hold the treasure. Dunfiled took up the drilling after five months of digging.

CAVITY ROOF

Earlier Thursday, Dunfield said he had located a large cavity at the 140-foot level. "That was the roof of the cavity. Then the drill broke through." He said it was about 40 feet deep but other dimensions were uncertain.

The concrete-like material was found at the same level as the cavity over an area of nine square feet. Also brought up was a piece of metal sent to Montreal for examination. He was not sure who was carrying out the analysis for a personal friend of his in Montreal.

Dunfield, a 39-year-old petroleum geologist from California, said he expected it would be two or three days, at least, before he received a reply on the analysis of the metal.

The cavity he claims to have found is believed to be the same one located in 1955 by George J. Greene, a Texas oil driller, who filled it with more than 100,000 gallons of water in an attempt to determine the nature of the cavity. The water all ran away.

Dunfield penetrated deeply in the area believed to be directly over the treasure before sliding earth forced him to abandon and fill in the excavation in the "money pit." He expects to return after reports on the latest yield from the drill holes are received.