

Eastern Meteorite Investigations Inc.

"Field and Laboratory Researchers in Astrogeology"

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March 8, 1969

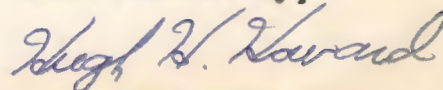
Mr. Oscar E. Monnig
29 Chelsea Drive
Fort Worth, Texas 76134

Dear Mr. Monnig,

Thank you for your very prompt and courteous reply to my letter. I too realize that exchanges do involve that delicate question of fairness. But because of the increasing difficulty in acquiring meteoritical material, we have chosen a policy of only exchanges. I wish I had started my collection back in the days when you and Nininger had better opportunities in fieldwork. Today the competition in recovering specimens is quite different. Now when a meteorite falls at least 15 scientists converge on the same area all in a matter of days and make for diminished possibilities for recovering material. I guess it's both the product of increased population and the establishment of NASA. You're right that we have expenses in our fieldwork but we can always work hard and gained back the money. But regardless of how much money we have, it's downright impossible for us to buy meteorites from anybody but farmers now. This is the reason we adopted the no sale policy of our material.

However I have deep respect for you and admiration for your fine collection. Therefore I will always keep open to you an exchange offer for any size of the new Mexican carbonaceous chondrite which you would wish if you should decide on an exchange at a later date. We have the second largest collection of specimens from this Mexican fall and I will always be able to offer you the size you would like. You know, there is one American fall I have always wanted represented in our collection and which we failed to acquire even though we made a special trip there. It's the Leedey, Oklahoma. I know you did a good job of collecting specimens from there and this would be one possibility for exchange should you decide. I would give you $1\frac{1}{2}$ the weight of this new carbonaceous chondrite for any specimen from Leedey. Again thanks for communicating with me and remember that my offer to you for exchange will always be valid and Leedey is only one possibility. I will be pleased to hear from you any time.

Most sincerely,



Hugh H. Howard

HHH:pb

