

**FORT WORTH FREIGHT BUREAU
FORT WORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

PHONE 3-2825

115 EAST NINTH STREET

FORT WORTH 2, TEXAS

Sept 20th.1945.

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AND
FREIGHT TRAFFIC
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ASST. TRAFFIC MANAGER**

Mr Oscar Monnig.

**Knowing your interest
in Meteors I am enclosing herewith
a clipping from the Daily Oklahoman
of Sept.19th.**

Oscar V Morris.

20-Pound Meteor Fragment Hurtles Into Farm at Atoka

A fragment believed to have come from a meteor exploding high in the sky over southeastern Oklahoma early Monday night was recovered Tuesday on the Kye Holden farm, three miles northwest of Atoka.

The meteorite, said to weigh about 20 pounds, fell only a few feet away from Frank Morris, Atoka farmer, who marked the spot and then returned Tuesday morning to dig it from the ground.

Morris told State Highway Patrol Lieut. C. T. Raley of McAlester, and Sheriff Arthur Johnson of Atoka county that he was returning from a hunting trip near his home when he heard the screaming approach of the meteor.

It burst with an explosion like thunder high in the sky, he said, and as he watched, the fragment hurtled down and buried itself in the ground only a few feet from where he was standing.

Morris said the explosion came with a blinding flash and sparks flew in all directions like Roman candles. A long cloud of smoke remained stationary in the sky for a considerable time following the explosion, the Atoka farmer said, but finally evaporated.

He then marked the spot and returned Tuesday morning. Morris

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said the meteorite was buried about 20 inches in the ground and had left an 18-inch crater.

Raley said a small fragment of the meteorite was broken off and given to the Antlers highschool and that the remainder was being sent here to Oklahoma City University. The fragment was black outside with a silver color inside, the patrolman said.

Officers over a wide area were alerted Monday night when scores of citizens from Miami, Okla., to as far westward as Clinton, and in many cities in southeastern Oklahoma reported the mysterious flash of light.

At least two highway troopers, Andy Birdwell and Howard Hill, spent most of the night conducting a hunt in the Atoka area in the belief an airplane had exploded in the sky.

One of the best eye-witness accounts of the exploding meteor was furnished by C. R. Galloway, manager of an airport at McAlester. Galloway said he was flying at 7 p. m. at a point north of McAlester when he said the blinding flash of the explosion, followed by a sound like thunder.

Persons at Antlers, 34 miles east of Atoka, reported windows were rattled by the blast.

Watchers in McAlester reported the meteor flashed through the sky like a rocket, speeding toward the western horizon. A small streak of smoke trailed the object. A minor explosion like a magnesium powder flash occurred, leaving a heavier, misty smoke in place of the thin streak. Then it burst apart like a Roman candle and only the spiral of smoke remained visible in the sky.