

1964, April 6.

Dear Dr. Harrington:

I have your air mail letter of April 1 and am highly pleased to find some one with such enthusiasm. I get quite intrigued with these things, but have great difficulty in finding any friends who can sustain an interest. This is particularly true with an amateur-novice like me who soon gets to the end of his rope!

Herrin has not yet answered me, but if he doesn't I'll just descend on him nevertheless. I have no judgment nor right to a judgment on the Solitario, but I am curious to see it briefly with my own eyes and to hear or read what Herrin has to say about it. There is always this matter of an impact-triggered extrusion. I am also wondering whether Herrin looked for shatter-cones. I have gathered a few of these at Sierra Madera and also at the Wells Creek basin, and they do impress me.

I'm sorry your Kodachromes were not too pleasing to you. I seem to have poor results at gauging the absorption of plane windows and the atmosphere on such occasions but I have some fair shots taken on one occasion and Sam Bishop of Midland sent me two prints from the air and from the ground. What worries me is that if this is a fossil crater, the rim, etc., should have been worn away and you have a hump. You may feel you do, in the form of the central hill, but the hump or anticline in the the craters we know, like Arizona and Odessa, must be fairly deep. Once you get down to it my feeling is the rim of the original crater is all gone--yet here it stands, at Colorado City, in very good shape.

I am delighted at your feelings about salt and gypsum. When I first read the hypothesis of "gypsiferous shales" on the Wilbarger structure I felt it was one of the weakest hypotheses I had ever encountered. The situation is worse at Hico, and you are dead right about the Colorado City deal just not being logically explicable by salt or gypsum.

I am perhaps not in too good standing with NASA as I am opposed to them politically and have said so. I resent the estate and income taxes that have been levied on my family and many others like us the last two decades/ and the way in which tax money is being spent, not only in foreign aid and by the military but also on science. One of the NASA boys wrote last year wanting to borrow or buy meteorites to show the astronauts, but I politely referred him to the U. S. National Collection or the Ninninger collection that has been bought for scientific purposes and is at Tempe. But if Clanto or any