

P.O.Box 1208  
Spartanburg, S.C.  
18 March '64

Dear Oscar,

I am glad to know that this feature has not escaped notice. It is so obvious from the air that I thought it might have come to your attention.

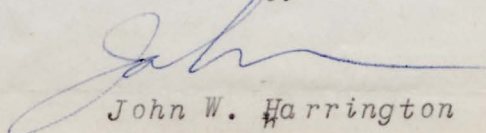
The dips into the center seemed to be just as you describe them but I had hardly hoped that they would be this extreme. I think that there is little chance they are due to solution. You will note in my other letter that I suggested this might be a crater of considerable age exposed by erosion. Since you see no brecciation and find no meteorite fragments lying about I suspect that it is a feature formed well below the point of impact. This could have occurred at any time from the deposition of the Cretaceous beds to the present but probably when there were a few hundred feet of material over the present level. The change from Permian to Triassic had escaped me, but the gray color of the Cretaceous in the center seems fairly obvious from the air. I do not know whether a feature of this type is known in the geologic literature or not. Perhaps, coesite could be found in the Dokum even though there is no brecciation.

I shall write Gene Herrin, geophysicist at S.M.U. about it in the hope that he can find a way to have it verified. It might make an excellent problem for an M.S. thesis. Gene studied the Solitario structure for his Ph.D. thesis. We had thought that it might be an impact crater when he tackled it.

Now on the question of the specimens you loaned S.M.U. I must claim ignorance. I had a heart attack shortly after our joint venture. Teaching was too arduous and I gave it up in '56. Since that time I have had little contact with the school and I have lost track of them. Dr. Arthur Richards is the chap who may know about them. We did have a few polished sections that I used in the elementary course. The blebs of iron in the stony meteorites would show up beautifully under the bright light of an opaque projection device. We used them when making a model of the Earth's interior. I certainly wish I had such things to use here at Wofford.

When I get some more dope I'll let you know. The base of a fossil crater is a rather nice thing to have.

Sincerely,

  
John W. Harrington