

1964, February 18

Mr. Sam Bishop,
2305 West Shandon,
Midland, Texas.

Dear Mr. Bishop:

I have not heard any more from the U. S. Geological Survey men about the proposed trip to Sierra Madera but will alert you if and when I do.

Many thanks for your letter of January 13 from El Paso. I had to be in New York for about 10 days at the time, at a wholesale dry goods convention, and took advantage of the occasion to visit Washington and see Dr. Henderson at the U. S. National Museum (in charge of their meteorites). I visited also Dr. Brian Mason at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. I always manage to get a little news on the topic in that way.

I find that N.A.S.A. out of Houston is actively on the prowl for meteorites in Texas, so I have fresh competition! They have retrieved two old stony meteorites from Nolan County. I suppose I can have no quarrel with them for their space interests, but I regret a little that I am taxed for it!

This makes me doubly anxious to get out there and see Mr. Schultz about his object, which sounds like a possible pallasite to me. This is an intermediate type of meteorite consisting of the usual nickel-iron but heavily interspersed with blobs or broken fragments of olivine. I judge you have never seen the Schultz specimen. I fear he will be most difficult if not impossible to deal with, probably wanting hundreds if not thousands of dollars for his specimen. I may try to fly out some day and if so will give you a call, in advance if I can.

The picture of the Colorado City formation is much appreciated and is very good. It still puzzles me greatly, but I fear there is just not enough sign of meteoritic impact to ascribe it to that cause--there ought to be more broken and jumbled rock and more sign of upheaval. Could a hidden salt dome have done this, and are there any salt domes known in that region or formation?--I never heard of any.

I hope the Christmas baby is doing fine.