

1963, June 23.

Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Jones,
Renderbrook Ranch,
Colorado City, Texas.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Jones:

We surely wish to thank you for your kindness in affording us access to the ranch to inspect "Meteer Mountain". We are not smart enough to say what it is or how it was formed, but it is most interesting and an intriguing problem. In a crater caused by the impact of a large meteorite, we would ordinarily expect to find a jumble of crushed and overturned rocks in the central area, and these are missing here (unless they are buried under the central hill, which seems unlikely).. The geologists who were with us, Mr. W. J. McBride of Dallas and Mr. Sam Bishop of Midland, were likewise quite puzzled and unable to come to any definite decision about this unique formation.

I have called it to the attention of the U. S. Geological Survey and asked that their field men pay special attention to this if and when they map the region. They may have already done so; I intended to ask you about this when I was there. They have issued one map called "Spade Ranch" which comes right up to the edge of the crater on the east, and maybe they have already done the preliminary field work on the area including the crater. They always get permission of the landowners before going on property to map and I'm sure you would know if they have been there. I'm writing the chief of their Astrogeology Dept. which takes a special interest in such things and sent him copies of the pictures I showed you; he is a Dr. Donald P. Elston at Menlo Park, California. Maybe we can get this thing figured out some way!

Meanwhile thanks again for the very nice Sunday morning, that good cake and coffee and the guided tour out over the ranch. We enjoyed every bit of the visit to your headquarters and especially Mr. Jones' trouble in showing us so much of the ranch and telling us many interesting things about the place and his work there.

Sincerely,