

1960, May 6.

Mr. Will T. Scott,
4820 Beaumont Drive,
La Mesa, Calif.

Dear Sir:

In your last letter, you told me of work you did on developing Ektachrome films. I have a proposition: could you develop some astronomical pictures I take on Ektachrome? I have a hard time getting the commercial workers here to do them, because they are circles $4\frac{1}{8}$ " in diameter, and they have no holders or machinery to run them thru like standard films.

These are taken with a fast astronomical camera (a Schmidt, f 1.2), and don't look like much when developed, as the stars show up only as so many pin points. I bought a box of 10 films to use during the recent total lunar eclipse but was clouded out here, so I have to use them up on star photos before they get too old. If you could handle them for me I could air mail them when I finish the bunch, which will probably be within a few weeks. I can take the star pictures only when there is no moon in the sky (it fogs films fast).

In connection with your aviation supplies, I am wondering if you have an altimeter that is in effect a good barometer, better than the standard ones on the market. It has always irked me that the available aneroids are so insensitive, when by the addition of a bit more leverage or a few more cells the indicating hand could be made to swing over so much more arc and show slight pressure changes more readily. At the average station pressure doesn't vary over 2 inches, yet they graduate these "store-bought" barometers over about a 5 inches range! They are over 50% ornamental instead of functional.

Let me know how you are getting along—I hope the recovery has been satisfactory. We will have the state mineral show at Arlington the next three days and I'll see some rock hounds over there.