

 **Will T. Scott** ★ **AIRPLANES AND COMPONENTS**

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Dear Mr. Monnig:

I just got back from a month of "rock-hunting" down in the Colorado Desert near Yuma, and found your letter here when I returned. I got some good dumortierite and a lot of palm fiber and some root. (rare stuff). Also, picked up quite a lot of a sort of a carnelian agate which has been causing a bit of argument among rock people here, as some claim that it is agatized maguey, and some just plain vein agate. Since it is found in the vast alluvial gravels from one of the old Colorado river channels, it is always so water worn that the origin, vein or petrification, has been hard to determine. But this time, I was slabbig some of the stuff and found not one but two small worms which I think are Yucca moth larvae. It least, the worms definately prove that the origin of the agate is vegetable.

Again about the Mitchell Co. "crater". I have never insisted that this was meteoric, but have thought that it is not simple sink, due to the quartzite and marble which I dug out of the central hill. The marble was a dirty gray, as was the quartzite. The marble gave bubbles in weak acid, the quartzite did not. I remember the slanting slabs or red sandstone which comprise the two rings which surround the central hill. And as you noted, one of them is concentric with the other, and is located quite a way outside of the inner ring. This to me is also evidence that the "crater" is not a simple sink. My best guess, not that the experts at U of T have definately said that the thing is not meteoric, is that it is some sort of gas blow out. There is gas in several places near.

I used to "commute" from California to Texas by plane, as until a few years ago my brother ran the ranch, and I owned part of it. I had three or four landing spots near our old ranch house, near what was for years the settlement and post-office at Hyman. (my mother was Mrs Hyman). I naturally flew over all of that country often, and always kept my eyes open for another "crater" similar to the one on the Spade ranch. Never did see any thing at all like it. It is a rather easy to spot feature.

Dr. LaPaz did write to me, thanking me for the information as to the "crater", and for the samples of metamorphic rocks which I sent him. He never did follow up, tho, and so I suppose he did not visit the crater.

You really ought to see the crater at Duckwater, Nev. As your interest seems to be craters, I will guarantee that you will not be disappointed in this one. I may get back there myself some time next summer, as I found a bed of petrified wood in the area which has never been picked over, and which appears to be very good.

Cordially- *Will T Scott*

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