

1963, Dec. 14.

Mrs. Ruby Webb,  
412 West Duncan,  
Comanche, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Webb:

Thanks to your information, I was able to go out to see the Easley family and inspected the rock you told me about.

You are right that it was even heavier than the stony meteorites I had, but I regret to say it was not a meteorite. This greater density is characteristic of a natural earthy iron oxide mineral, mostly "hematite", which, according to its purity, has a density of 4.5 to 5.5 (that is, it weighs that many times as much as it would if it were water or ice). Most of the stony meteorites are about 3.6.

You did well to suspect it as something unusual, but these varying grades of hematite, sometimes more or less mixed with other iron oxides such as "limonite" and "goethite" and often associated with more or less sand, are found often in many regions of Texas, including the Comanche area.

I surely thank you and Mr. Webb for your courtesies and help, and wish both of you a fine Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Dear Mr. Powers: I thought you might like to know how this turned out. The pears were real good; thanks again. Merry Christmas to you and Mrs. Powers. I thought of you the week after I was down there, and hope you got your peanuts all out.