

1964, June 5.

Dr. Jack Eggleston,
Assistant Chief, Space Environment,
N. A. S. A.
Ellington Air Force Base, Houston, Texas.

Dear Sir:

I met you briefly at the recent neighborhood meeting of astronomers at the University of Texas, to which Dr. Harlan Smith was kind enough to invite me.

I have been negotiating with a man in Southwest Africa for the purchase of two iron meteorites, presumably from the Gibson shower (for which there are a number of synonyms). These were supposed to weigh about 400 and 800 pounds respectively and were billed to me at a total of 1370 pounds net.

They are supposed to be shipped ocean freight in an iron drum but there is some discrepancy because the shipping papers I received indicate a gross weight of 964 pounds. I am writing the shipper about this; it may be he is sending the other meteorite separately and later.

Now my reason for writing you is that your Dr. Elbert A. King, Jr., wrote me perhaps a year ago asking whether we might have any meteorites for sale or loan to show the astronauts. He may not be very happy with me personally because at that time I referred him to the U. S. National Museum or the collection at Tempe, Ariz. But I did write and offer him the loan of one of the irons I am buying, on April 9th and again on May 12, and have had no response.

If you have any interest I do need to hear promptly as the shipment is supposed to come into the Port of Houston June 13th. My offer to lend one of these is not contingent on any payment, tho I would hope, if you were interested, you would be willing and able to pay the handling charges as far as Houston (freight, C.O.D. charges, pier and brokerage charges, etc.) which amount to \$142.94.

Yours sincerely,