

Big Meteor Shatters, Rains on Southwest

A meteor, which broadcast its presence over four states with sky-tingling flames, fell to earth in pieces Tuesday night, causing alarming explosions over East Texas.

The fiery ball was seen as far east as Tennessee and west to at least Brownwood in west-central Texas. Dallas residents made dozens of telephone calls to the police, weather bureau and radio stations when the

fireball was seen about 10:30 p.m.

Several points in East Texas and southeastern Oklahoma reported pieces of the meteor had fallen to earth. Two chunks hit the farm of J. J. Craver of Harleton, 15 miles northwest of Marshall in Harrison County. The largest, according to the sheriff's office here, was about eight inches in diameter and weighed more than 20 pounds.

The meteorite dug a hole two

feet deep where it hit, near Craver's house. He and a neighbor dug it up.

Other sizable pieces were reported to have hit at Milano in East Texas, and near Hallsville in Oklahoma; the latter was described to the Department of Public Safety as being "the size of a washtub."

E. M. Brewer, well known amateur astronomer of Dallas, said pieces of such size were "quite unusual."

East Texans over a wide section reported seeing long flames trailing an object over the sky. A Tyler man said bright yellow flames were preceding the object and orange flames "were in the back" as it fell through the sky.

The man, Johnny R. Peavy, said it was visible in Tyler for only a few seconds, "then two or three minutes later I heard a blast."

Ned Aber, at the Tyler airport control tower, said he saw it too and out in Brownwood, several hundred miles west, Martin Barnes and his son said they watched the flaming meteor from their home. All reported what

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group to be organized in support of an affirmative tax program."

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they saw as being to the east of them.

Other viewers in Longview, Sulphur Springs, Marshall and even Nashville, Tenn. and Arkansas reported "something flaming in the sky," according to the Associated Press.

Astronomers said the original meteor may have been "as big as a house" when it began its long flight through space. Usually a meteor burns up on reaching the earth's atmosphere and falls to earth in ash or pebble-sized bits.

The World Almanac notes for this week: "During these nights, an above-average number of meteors may be seen, seeming to radiate from a point near Antares, the brightest star in Scorpius."

Girls State-Delegate