1966, Feb. 6
1966, Feb. 3.

Mr. George M. Feild, Jr.,
2720 Diamond Blvd.,
Fort Worth, Texas 76110
Mr. Bill Feild,
Rockhound Museum,
Weatherford, Texas.

Dear Mr. Feild:

Dear Bill: answering your questionnaire tho actually I do not recall having ever joined the Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club. Help, help! Have I told you of my predicament about got a big piece of hematite I got from a lady at Comanche? I learn how to don't have an exact record of the date, but think it was the the summer or fall of 1964 when I was down that way working on a fireball of the year before.

I have At any rate, she had fished this heavy dark reddish-brown had rock out from under an old house and thought it was a meteorite, I never but it very definitely was not. any I showed her it was not at all attracted by an Alnico but did offer to bring it up here and get it cut to show here there was no interior metal content.

I ramrodded some astronomical societies here and saw the operation of Not having any saw, I carried it in the back of my car Based a month or more but finally took it out one day at the Ft. Worth I Children's Museum. I remember being in one of the halls there port with several people, and one of them volunteered to cut it for me look but I don't remember who. hands to run things, and while a lot of open discussion is democratic it is also often boresome. If a governi At a later date when she reminded me of it (I plead help. guilty to negligence) I asked both Rigney and Casstevens about it, but they don't remember it. the I have asked at the museum and strolled such thru the storeroom with Miss Erie's guidance, but no dice. Maybe things are better now in this respect than I realize, but I can' How to get to the point: do you know of any place where this might be or can you suggest who might have it? It's of no real The value but it is irregularly shaped hunk of some 17 pounds as of I recall - maybe less. Is there any place where the lapidary workers out at the Museum thru their junk, or discarded rocks? I even appealed are to the assembled for Fort Worth Mineral Club one night for a clue but for the got no reaction. they Unfortunately, the lady is still rightly importuning me for her rock!

I believe there is also an organized group at General Dynamics, The I tried to phone Schorting when I was in Fort Worth two weeks you considered merging with them? ago but got no answer and on my return found a long letter from him from Sioux City.

Forgive these brash ideas of one who Sincerely, been active in your group! If you could read the enclosed announcement at your next meeting I would be grateful.

except for one long band that went across the little section. I blandly classifed it to myself as a very fine octahedrite. I didn't give it much publicity except to warn my fellow collectors off it; the owner wants enough to put his son thru college (!!!!!) and I'm having a hard time to buy the two large pieces of 214 and 360 pounds--all found in the same hole.

Well, in October I finally relented and let Henderson see the little piece on his way back to Washington; he promptly begged to borrow it for examination and shortly wrote it was a most unusual ataxite. He drooled for a section of one of the large irons, a nd while I was still wondering what to do further, he suddenly phoned one day and called all bets off--his experts had about decided it was not a meteorite!

It turned out to have about 30% nickel, but ataxites of this group all have phosphide bodies and this piede showed none. The metallurgists said the figures were purely martensitic and could be reproduced artificially. An attempted count for Al_{26} was indeterminately low.

I countered with the argument that if I had learned anything in 30 years of field endeavor these big pieces were meteorites; they looked like it and I sent colored slides to demonstrate. The little pieces were disarmingly flat and junky looking, but the finders insisted they were dug out of the same hole. Furthermore, I said that nearly 600 pounds of literally invar steel was not going to be made artificially and buried in the granitic soil of a God-forsaken pasture near an old Indian capital in Oklahoma!

Well, then they wanted the 6 pound piece for work, and to come to the point, it went to Brookhaven for two weeks and they found all the proper gases and got a He_3 count so now it is a meteorite! Moral, as I think I told you at our last meeting: A meteorite is one which the authorities will accept as such--Monnig, not Webster (would Leonard howl !)

With the electron probe, they found the mass was quite homogeneous and showed no phase separation across the little lines--no separation into kamacite and taenite. Henderson now shrugs this off with the conclusion that the entire piece he worked with was fundamentally one big area of plessite. BenFrankling once said you could prove anything by logic.

OEM