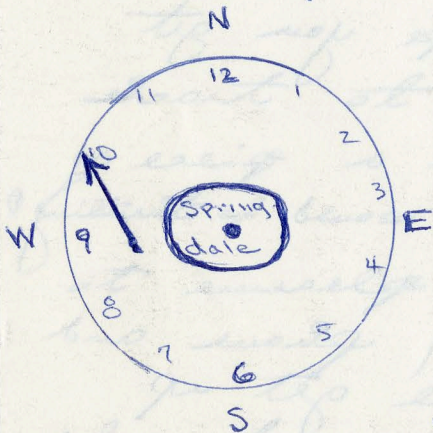


Sunday - Jan 4

Dear Oscar,

only one person called me to report his first-hand observation of a meteor. This man said he was looking West from Springdale and saw the tail of the meteor at 8:23 Pm Saturday 1/3/70 and that it lasted for a period of about two seconds.



He described its course by saying that if one pictures North as 12 noon on a clock, the meteor appeared at 9 o'clock (or directly West) and disappeared at about 10 o'clock after a lapse of approximately two seconds.

That would make its direction about as diagramed; or, approx.  $300^\circ$  (?). He did not know the arc of the meteor.

The only other information I have is a United Press release over radio that pieces of the meteor  
(over)

fell near Ganton and another  
near Talsa -- 5 miles north of  
Talsa according to the observer's  
report printed in Talsa newspaper.

If I get any additional  
information I'll let you know.

I'm enclosing the article  
on front page of Talsa  
newspaper. I hope you get  
enough information to track  
it down and find a piece of  
the matter? I'd be willing

to make a new  
visit with you by plane and  
we hope you will get up  
this way and can drop by  
for a visit soon! If you  
come up to Talsa or  
you might as well come here  
too! With kindest regards  
and Best wishes for the New  
Year.

Sincerely,  
Tom

# A SUNDAY WORLD

RELIABILITY  
CHARACTER  
ENTERPRISE

TULSA, OKLAHOMA, SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 1970

SINGLE COPY—20c

120 PAGES — 10 PARTS

## Meteor Flies, Bursts Over East Oklahoma

An apparent meteor thundered across eastern Oklahoma Saturday night, lighting up skies briefly and rocking furniture in Tulsa, Tahlequah and McAlester homes.

Highway Patrol officials were calling the incident a meteor explosion in preliminary explanations.

There were no reports of a plane crash to the Highway Pa-

trol or the Federal Aviation Agency tower in Tulsa.

**THE INCIDENT OCCURRED** at 8:30 p.m. when a flash lighted up the Tulsa International Airport, an FAA official said, "just like a falling star."

Tahlequah Police Chief Gene Bowding said several telephone calls to his office reported a flash and explosion about three miles west of Tahlequah about the same time.

After investigating west of Tahlequah and finding no damage, one trooper concluded the explosion and flash was caused by a meteor.

Police reported a "light of some sort" about five miles west of Stilwell, which is east of **Tahlequah.**

One trooper reported an explosion directly overhead his car west of Tahlequah, followed by a "sputtering noise."

In Tulsa, an OHP spokesman said the light was seen as far west as Oklahoma City, east into Arkansas, south to McAlester and north to Vinita.

**"OUR FIRST DETERMINATION** is that it was a meteor or comet which exploded and just split apart," the OHP spokesman said.

Residents in east Tulsa on E. 21st Street reported furni-

ture moving from "some great tremor." Doors and windows shook in McAlester.

Several pilots reported seeing meteors in the air.

A motorist stopped at the Tulsa gate to the Will Rogers Turnpike and reported seeing something fall into a field about five miles north of the gate.

All reports were being investigated by law enforcement agencies.

# Meteorite Finding Could Be Valuable

WASHINGTON (Reuters) American scientists today proudly displayed a meteorite that they said could prove as scientifically valuable as moon samples brought back

by Apollo astronauts.

The 22-pound lump of gray rock was found on a snowy cart track in Oklahoma last week after automatic cameras picked up its fiery trail through the earth's atmosphere.

It is the first meteorite, the name given to a fallen meteor, whose orbit is accurately known and which has been recovered promptly after it crashed to earth, scientists said.

\* \* \*

WITH THE aid of 16 unmanned tracking stations scattered across the Midwestern states, American scientists have been trying for five years to pinpoint a meteorite's landing so that the object can be recovered and examined before becoming contaminated by earth molecules. Until this month, all efforts failed.

The meteorite, about the size of a volley ball, came down Jan. 3. Within a few days, it was calculated that impact occurred in an area near a mine across near the tiny community of Lost City, Okla.

The man who recovered the rock Jan. 9 was Gunner Schwartz, project field manager, who had gone to Lost City to gather information from anyone who saw the falling star.

\* \* \*

SCHWARTZ TOLD a press conference, "I was driving along a dirt track when I suddenly saw it in the road. I was hysterical. I couldn't believe my luck."

Scientists now have begun preliminary examination of the meteorite which came from beyond Mars.

Meteorites have been examined sooner after falling to earth — for instance, after crashing into a building. But Dr. Richard McCrosky, scientist in charge of the project, said, "What is unique about this is we know its orbit. There is only one other case where this was so, and that meteorite was not analyzed early."