

1980, August, 27

Dr. Virgil E. Barnes,
University Station Box X
Austin, TX

Dear Virgil:

I am intrigued. Why all the interest in the Llano sheet? I did recently lease my ranch near Crawford, McLennan County, for oil and gas; there has been a great wave of interest in a broad band running thru there. I do not know why the oil enterprisers should be so gung-ho about it, tho I suppose much of the interest is due to gas prospects. I am inclined to feel that money is getting worth so little, thanks to our inflationary government that insists on spending more than it takes in, that the oil companies think their money is worth more in leases than in cash!

I now wish to worry you for an explanation of a circular structure I've long puzzled over about 15 miles SW of Colorado City, Mitchell County, Texas, just east of State Highway 163, between the drainages of Horse Creek and Beal's Creek and nearer the latter. It is just on the eastern edge of the Human NE quadrangle, Texas-Mitchell Co., 7.5 minute Series (Topographic)

Human
The longitude is close to $101^{\circ} 01'$ and the latitude $32^{\circ} 13' N$. It probably shows on your maps and possible you are quite familiar with it. I can send you some detailed air photo's and some snap shots we took from the edge of the High Plains just to the north.

I do not think it was made by a meteorite tho it is locally known as "Meteor Mountain" Indeed the topo map shows "Meteor Tank" just SW of it. I have understood from a geologist that there is a similar but less complete formation off to the west but I never visited it. Your comments and explanation would be much appreciated.

My very close friend and companion on many meteorite hunting trips, a Mr. H. H. Morse in the real estate business here, died at nearly age 91 and his parture will be a great loss to me. He went with one or more of us on many interesting expeditions and was always a good sport.. He was fond of characterizing some people as "proflig" and in view of your descendants I am tempted to apply the term to you!

Answer, if at all, at your entire leisure as I shall go to La Jolla Sunday. You are probably tempted to send me a bill as my consulting geologist! We shall miss you and Milla at La Jolla.

Sincerely,