

CORNELIUS RADIO SERVICE

208 WEST FIRST STREET

TELEPHONE 28

CAMERON, TEXAS

Radio Sales and Repairs

1/17/47

Dear Oscar,

I have been studying the 10/1/17 fireball. The closest I can figure is that the meteorites should be within a radius of 20 miles of Menard, in any direction.

Here are the conclusions I arrived at, based on present information

Sub initial point; within a 40 mile radius of Nixon, Texas
Sub final point ; within a 10 mile radius from a point 15 miles N 25 W of London, Texas
Length of projected path; 180 miles
Direction of path N 42 to 55 W
Slant of path 15 to 30 deg (probably near 20 deg)
Speed of meteor ; probably over 26 miles per sec.
End height; minimum 3 miles, max 8 miles
Meteorites; I see no reason why not!

Of course, the above figures are only very approx, but I dont think the case is hopeless. An observation from Menard would be of tremendous help.

Did Dr. Uddens paper give any measurements of any of the observations at any place near Menard ?

Even though it was 20 years later when you made your investigation of that area, it is surprising how accurate some peoples memory is. I think that, when they see a meteor near the ground they naturally think it fell behind a barn or a tree, and that will remain in their memories for many years.

I used to live in Brady for a while in 1941 and have a friend there who usually has about the same interests I have. I have been trying to get him interested in astronomy, or at least the meteoritics branch of it. There is not much an amateur can do in astronomy that has not already been done with elaborate observatory. But there is plenty an amatuer can do in regard to watching for, and chasing meteors. I spent quite a bit of my spare time using my telescope, until a detonating daylight meteor came in my general direction. Nothing like a good fireball to arouse ones interest! The friend in Brady by the way, is Milton Howard Sparks P.O Box 44 Brady, Texas.

I am sending you the information on the 10/1/17 meteor you loaned me and which I appreciated very much. I think I can find a few old timers around Cameron who saw it, and measure their angles.

I was certainly glad to see you Tuesday, The next time you stop by this way, the dinner is on me next time.

Gene