THE METEORITICAL BULLETIN

THE PERMANENT COMMISSION ON METEORITES OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

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FALL OF NADIABONDI METEORITE

Name: NADIABONDI

The place of fall or discovery:
5 km west of village of Nadiabondi, Diapaga Province, French East Sudan: φ = 12° N; λ = 1°E of Greenwich.

Date of fall or discovery:
fall, July 27, 1956, at approximately 19 h 30 m (L.T.)

Class and type: stony; chondrite

The Number of individual specimens:
1; tetrahedral shape.

Total weight: 3665 gr, including fragments kept for study.

The circumstances of fall or discovery:
a bolide was observed which lit up the area for 5-6 seconds, over a radius of 25-40 km. The direction of the bolide's flight was from northeast to west (relative to Diapaga). Three blows were heard, and then a noise similar to that of an aircraft and, finally the blow of the meteorite as it struck the ground. The meteorite was found on November 20, 5 km west of the village of Nadiabondi. It entered the soil to a depth of 25 cm.

The meteorite has been placed in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History in Paris.

Source:
Bulletin des Meteorites Laboratoire de Minéralogie du Muséum National d'Histoire naturelle, Paris.

BRIGHT BOLIDE OVER KAZAKHSTAN AND KIRGHIZIA, USSR

Two bolides were observed over the territory of Southern Kazakhstan and Northern Kirghizia, the USSR, one on November 29 and the other on December 25, 1957.

The bolide of November 29 was observed at about 7 h (Alma-Ata L.T. plus one hour). It flew from west to east and scattered in the vicinity of the town of Przhevalsk.

The bolide of December 25 was observed at 8 h 10 m (Alma-Ata L.T. plus one hour). It was shaped like a fire ball with a tapered tail of blue-green colour and flew from northwest to southeast over the area between the town of Djambul and Lugovaya station and disappeared at a point north of the town of Kon-Yangak. It may be supposed that a meteorite shower fell in the alpine areas of Dialalabad Region.

At present an expedition of the Meteorites Commission of the Kazakh Academy of Sciences, in collaboration with the Kirghiz Academy of Sciences, is collecting descriptions of the bolides and establishing the precise region of the fall of the meteorites.

Source: Newspaper reports, letter of Jan. 3, 1958, No. 13-35 from Meteorites Commission of Kazakh Academy of Sciences (V.S.Matyagin), and telegram from Presidium of Kirghiz Academy of Sciences, January 10, 1958.

BRIGHT BOLIDE OVER GERMANY

A bolide was observed on December 6, 1957, over the forests of Thuringia, and was seen by a large number of eyewitnesses. Crushing took place at a height equal to 30-35 km. The bolide had a tail and left a white smoke train that could be seen in the sky for some time. Blows were heard for a distance of over 30-40 km from the supposed area of the meteorite fall, which is most likely Oberhof in the Thuringian forest: φ = 50°42' N; λ = 10°44' E. In view of the fact that the area of the fall is covered by a forests, and the snowfalls after the meteorite fall, an immediate search was impossible. However, the Mineralogy Institute of Jena University intends to search for it as soon as the snow thaws.

Source: Letter from Professor F.Heide, (GDR, Jena, Mineralogy Institute of Friedrich Schiller University) of December 23, 1957 to E.L.Krinov.

D I S C O V E R Y O F S E C O N D S P E C I M E N O F

M A N Y C H S T O N Y M E T E O R I T E

The Manyoh stony meteorite (chondrite) weighing 1860 gr fell on October 20, 1951, at 15 h 30 m in the northern part of Arzgir District, Stavropol Territory (CM-0446, 458) and was at the time described in literature (V.G.Gnilovskoi : Papers on Stavropol Territory, Issue 4, 1952. Priroda, No.8, 1952. L.G.Kvasha Meteoritica, Issue XI, 1954), and included in meteorite catalogues (E.L.Krinov, Principles of Meteoritics, 1955).

It has now become known that in the above district another specimen of the Manyoh meteorite weighing 1695 gr was found. This specimen was discovered in 1952, but only in 1957 it was turned over to the Stavropol Local History Museum by K.N.Schvedova, a secondary school geography teacher.

The meteorite was found in a pasture approximately 8 km to the west of Iki-Burul settlement. It is shaped like a tetrahedral truncated pyramid and is covered by a fusion crust on all sides. The dimensions of the sides of the rhomboid base of the pyramid are 12.5 - 11 cm and 8 cm., sides (upper) of surface section, 7 cm and 2 cm; height of pyramid - 9 cm.

S o u r c e : V.G. Gnilovskoi's telegram and report of results of the work of the expedition sent out to search for fragments of the Manyoh meteorite, and received by the USSR Academy of Sciences Committee on Meteorites in January 1958.

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