

**Sighting likely a meteor, geologist says**  
SPARKER  
U.S. ATCO DAY 1/21/03

DENVER — A bright green fireball seen by several people probably was a meteor that burned up in the atmosphere, a geologist said Thursday. The object traveled from north to south and was spotted by three pilots. Jack Murphy, curator of the Department of Geology at the Museum of Natural History in Denver, investigated the reported sightings. He concluded the meteor probably burned up over eastern Colorado or western Kansas.

**Remains of fireball reported**  
SPARKER

**in Britain to get scientific study**  
Houston Chronicle 1/15/93

READING, England (AP) — Charred remains of a mysterious fireball that witnesses said fell from the sky have been sent to the Home Office to be examined by scientists, Reading police reported.

Witnesses reported the object, about one foot in diameter, fell to the ground outside Reading, 35 miles west of London, and set a clump of grassland ablaze.

Police and firemen found a burned, cylindrical object with a wire attached.

A police spokesman, Sgt. Peter Feltham, said there was "not believed to be any connection whatsoever" with a crippled Soviet satellite expected to re-enter Earth's atmosphere.

The Soviet Union said that the uranium fuel core of the satellite, Cosmos-1402, was expected to fall into Earth's upper atmosphere in mid-February and burn up, with no hazard from the radioactive debris.

**Flaming object seen in California skies**  
HOUSTON CHRONICLE 3/83

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Authorities said that they couldn't pin down the origin of a flaming white object that streaked across Southern California skies, sparking dozens of calls to law enforcement agencies in at least five counties. The object is presumed to have been a meteorite or space debris. SPARKER

**Follow that meteor!**

Some reported sightings of meteorites have contained gross exaggerations, according to Florida meteor watcher Stephen L. Morgan. He says many such reports note the duration of the fireball in a casual manner. Some, he writes in *Meteor News*, are exaggerated by a factor of two or three. Morgan advises observers to be extremely conservative in estimating meteor duration, which is usually less than 3 seconds.

FORUM MECHANICS  
APRIL 83

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**Meteor showers strike New Mexico**  
HCHRON 1/14/83 SPARKER

GALLUP, N.M. (UPI) — A shower of meteors apparently struck northwest New Mexico in a "big green fall of fire," setting off six booming sounds heard 120 miles away and leaving a 25-foot crater. Authorities who investigated the incident said it did not appear to involve aircraft and a scientist said the evidence seemed to indicate meteors.

**Plane parts smash into restaurant roof**  
YES

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — A cylinder and piston from an airplane engine fell from the sky and smashed into the rooftop exhaust system of a fast-food restaurant, filling it with smoke. There were no injuries at the Burger King restaurant, but the falling parts caused \$2,000 in damage. SPARKER