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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Times of Recent "Green-flare" Leonid Meteors

From: **Bob Soetebier - bikebob** <bikebob@mo.net>
Date: Wed, 18 Nov 1998 22:15:37 -0600 (CST)
Fwd Date: Thu, 19 Nov 1998 10:39:40 -0500
Subject: Times of Recent "Green-flare" Leonid Meteors

Just in case any of you might be keeping track of sightings of those (normally, relatively rare) recent, fast-moving, "green-flare" Leonids' meteors -- NOT to be confused with many reports slow-moving, "low-flying" green "fireballs"! -- here's the times, etc., for the three we saw:

(1) Tues., Nov. 16, 1998 - 12:45am : While looking n.n.w.; at about 45-degree elevation, meteor streak -- with long-lasting, remnant smoke trail -- travelled westward from n.n.e. to n.n.w. --- This sighting occurred at Pilot Knob, in Iron County, (s.s.e.) Missouri, while upon the grounds of Fort Davidson State Park.

(2) Tues., Nov. 16, 1998 - 2:18am : While looking n.w.; at about 30-degree elevation, meteor streak -- with long-lasting, remnant smoke trail -- travelled w.s.w. from north to west. --- This sighting occurred from the trailhead parking lot of the Mina Sauk/Ozark Trail atop Taum Sauk Mountain (over 1770 ft. altitude) State Park, in Reynolds County, (s.s.e.) Missouri. (Taum Sauk Mtn. is about a dozen miles s.w. of Pilot Knob, MO.)

(3) Tues., Nov. 16, 1998 - 2:25am : While looking s.w.; at about a 40-degree elevation, meteor streak -- with long-lasting, remnant smoke trail -- travelled s.w. from n.e. to s.w. --- (Same location as #2 sighting, above.)

The smoke trails from these (above) green-flare meteor sightings lasted from a minimum of 10 minutes, to a maximum to almost 20 minutes. There was a pretty good wind blowing all night. However, the smoke trails did not break apart during their remnant display, but rather eventually dissipated, after slowly contorting in shape from straight-line to curved/convoluted.

These three were the only "green-flare" Leonid meteors (out of dozens of meteors we sighted that night at both of the above locations) that we happened to catch. A friend of mine -- who was camped out on the western flank of Taum Sauk Mtn. -- noted to me today that he also saw these same three "green-flare" meteors, along with at least three more. (He stayed awake until 4:30am to do so, though. Whereas, we "called it quits" before 3:30am.)

Bob Soetebier

St. Louis County, Missouri, USA

Tailwinds to you...

See you ON the road!

/// BICYCLE BOB ///

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