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Since 1991, at least six commercial meteorite dealers offered tektites for sale which were reported to have been found in Tibet. In all cases, these dealers gave me generous samples, without cost, for petrological analysis. They also provided detailed location data but only from non-documented sources. Extensive efforts to obtain referenced data to confirm these sources has been negative.

These specimens resembled typical indochinites in superficial appearance and color. These specimens were submitted to B. Glass for electron microprobe analysis and the results were essentially identical to indochinites (1). They were also sent to G. Izett for K/Ar dating and found to be approximately .76 Ma, also consistent with the Australasian strewn field (2).

It would not be unexpected for the Australasian strewn field to extend to the Tibetan plateau. The closest authenticated indochinites were found about 1800 km to the ESE of this region (3). Recently, there have been unconfirmed reports of tektites being found in Ganzu Province in northern China and specimens held in the provincial museum there.

If the Tibetan plateau is a genuine extension of the Australasian strewn field, this would be a very significant finding to our understanding of the total magnitude of this tektite event (4). If the Ganzu Province tektites are confirmed then perhaps this event covered as much as 20 percent of the Earth's surface rather than the 10 percent that is often quoted.

Can any researcher in this field provide information, positive or negative, which can help solve this problem? I will provide small samples, without cost, to any legitimate researcher who can provide data which might help solve this problem. Please submit a detailed research proposal on your Institutional letterhead describing your plan for analytical investigation.

References: (1) Glass, B.P. (1994) personal communication-unpublished data (2) Izett, G.A. (1994) personal communication-unpublished data (3) Povenmire, H. (1996) Tibetan Tektites-Authentic? *Meteoritics* Vol. 31 Supplement (Abstracts) p. A111. (4) Blood, M. (1996) The Tektites of Tibet *Meteorite May* pp. 18-19.