

THE METEORITICAL BULLETIN

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ON THE FALL OF THE METEORITE ON THE SOVIET SHIP "IZMAIL".

(See the Meteoritical Bulletin No 1)

On the arrival of the Soviet ship "Izmail" in the port of Odessa, USSR, in April 1957, the scientific secretary of the Committee on Meteorites of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, E.L. Krinov, and a scientific worker of the Astronomical Observatory of the Odessa State University, R.L. Dreisin, cleared up the question of the fall of the meteorite on the ship on January 29, 1957. A preliminary report on the fall was given in the Meteoritical Bulletin No 1.

The following was ascertained.

1). The specimen, weighing 17.5 grams, found on the deck of the ship and given to the scientific secretary of the Committee on Meteorites, E.L. Krinov, by the captain of the ship "Izmail", Moshinsky, is not a meteorite. The petrographer of the Committee on Meteorites, O.A. Aleshkova, found that it is a piece of coal with an admixture of sandstone-carbonate matter.

2). No phenomena, characteristic of a meteoritic fall, were observed by the seamen on watch or anyone else. The seamen on watch noted: loud crackles and sparks and a muffled sound as of something hard hitting the mast and then the deck. These phenomena were taken by the seamen to be the result of a fall of a meteorite on the ship. Therefore the next morning a search was made on the deck. A small piece of coal was found which was taken to be the fallen meteorite. In reality the above phenomena were evidently caused by some defects in the elec-

tric circuit of the ship.

E. L. Krinov,

Vice-President of the Permanent
Commission on Meteorites of the
International Geological Congress.

Committee on Meteorites of the Academy of Sciences,
Osipenko 52, Moscow 127, USSR.