

Discovering Chicxulub April-August 1978

- A prepared mind from university(1969-1975); mapping paleomagnetic sea floor spreading anomalies as geology lab exercises in the 'New Global Tectonics'
- The power of 'The Truly Anomalous'; the symmetry of small anomalies (1-5 nanotesla) on a huge scale
- Ockham's Razor and logical economy Texas style;

"There's no other place anything like this place, anywhere near this place, so this must be the place!"

15

1. My college geologic training at The College of Wooster and Oberlin College (1969-1975) coincided with the beginning of widespread teaching of the new plate tectonics paradigm. Seafloor spreading magnetic anomalies were an important part of this new model.

2. The symmetry of the small anomalies I recognized on the analog chart records was unlike anything I had seen elsewhere in the world. I had by then geologically interpreted about 60,000 line km of magnetic data in Alaska, Iran, Eastern North America, and elsewhere in my 3 years with Aero Service (in addition to >50,000 line km of field QC in Alaska and Mexico).

3. The presence of a massive crater so close to the K/T boundary almost certainly had to be a result of the K/T impactor although the PEMEX well logs for the wells drilled in the 1950's considered the 'volcanic' rocks they encountered to be several million years earlier in age. They have failed to take into account the violent overturning and disruption of bedding associated with a colossal impact vs. a simple volcanic eruption. The 'volcanic' origin of the Yucatan igneous rocks found in those 1950's wells had just been 'enthroned' in 1979 in the massive new volume "The Geology of Mexico" by Mexico's most distinguished geologist. (Not appropriate for a 26 year old gringo junior geophysicist to disagree).