

And that, essentially, is how the Canadian Fireball Procession behaved. During the 5-hour lapse between the first and second sections, as Mebane realized to his consternation, our Earth would have turned away from his "meteors" 75°—in terms of terrestrial geography, some 5,000 miles; offering the space-objects a view, no longer of the Great Lakes but of the Pacific Ocean.

Yet *all three* sections of the Procession threaded the needle. By duplicating the Chant Trace, chasing the Lakes, each had to travel a different course through space.

They also had to chase our planet. The Earth is not parked in the solar system but travels some 66,000 miles every hour along its orbital path. Asteroids, fireballs, and meteorites supposedly are not equipped with propulsion systems or guidance devices, yet consider the navigational challenge to the "pilot" of the second section. He not only had to locate the Great Lakes, but first intercept Earth—now 330,000 miles down the orbital road. The "navigator" of the third section had to be equally familiar with celestial mechanics.

Little possibility exists that anyone will ever solve the mystery of the Procession. All evidence, pro and con, must remain circumstantial. That is, until we receive direct confirmation by gathering space-rocks in the so-called asteroid belt, believed by many scientists to be the cradle of the meteorites that fall on Earth—but which presents some harrowing dilemmas all its own.