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*Answered by
hand-note
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Dear Prof: de Grazia,

Many thanks for your letter, and notification about the new organization which came about as a result of the French meeting, and for the invitation to submit an article to the book.

I welcome this organization, but, I do have one reservation which I feel I must bring to your notice now. This is possible sale of sculptures into the art dealers sphere. The sale to museums or universities I am not against, but I want no part selling any of my finds into the art market, where their archeological and scientific significance will be lost, just like in the Egyptian cultures and many others, where looting and treasure hunting lost much of the scientific knowledge that could have been learnt. But I am a realist, I well understand that once the flint sculptures are 'accepted' by the general public and the establishment, then modern materialistic cultures will ensure that the art collectors must certainly join in. But if I 'join' your organization or submit any matter for its publications, I want it made known that none of my collection will be submitted for sale. For exhibition, lectures, investigation, publication etc; yes, ok, but not sale for materialistic reasons. Albeit I could certainly do with the money, at present being unemployed.

Another thing that makes me somewhat uneasy, is the inclusion of the 'plastic' flint school, ie; that sculptures exist in natural chalk, quarries etc, where no related tools or anything else exists related to ancient societies who made the sculptures. But again, one has to be 'scientific' and so we cannot censure everyone, just because we do not agree with their ideas. Nonetheless, I will never agree with the moulded flint brigade. This is in their own imaginations, and is a completely different subject to the field that we are dealing with, that of intentionally flaked, or carved, flints, into 'art' themes related to the lifeways of the ancients.

I would hope, (not being arrogant or bigheaded) that our material would show up the weaknesses of the noduled stuff which the quarry people have, and so weed out in the minds of the scholars reading the publications, that which is imagination, and that which is true intentionally made sculptures.

My criteria for even starting to accept a flint sculpture is whether it was first of all found with tools or other related material. Whether flaked by easily discerned human flaking techniques. Whether it has patinations, fragmentations, iron staining, or any thing resulting from natural conditions after it has been made. If a natural nodule, or "manuport" whether "retouched" and whether there are fashioned examples in the same theme existing with it. Then, and only then, can it be considered a flint sculpture. I would never, never accept one of the natural nodules, even if in the shape and form of a known 'art' theme, if it was found not near a stone age site, or a quarry.

But that is an argument that I leave to the onlooker or reader to any of your publications. I will submit my opinions, and material, and 'science' will judge who is correct in time.

I would accept that any money from your books should go to the upkeep of the organization. That there should be some form of combined effort from all those working in this field is certain and good. That is why poor Newton, DePerthos, Juritsky etc, etc, were buried. They were alone, when times were bad in communications anyway, they fell into the hands of the criminal 'experts' of their day, intent on protecting their images and privileges, (just like those today). So a greater number combined the better, to break down the doors of the 'club'.

We have indeed now entered a little into 'their' corridors with the world congress and Dr Roy Willis aid. Now others are joining from the 'establishment', I believe that you know of Prof Gimbutas etc,. We intend to cement these contacts, and I do not feel that I would be upsetting them if I submitted an article to your book, as long as I make my case clear, (as I believe I have done so ~~near~~).

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No doubt you will have heard that there are some who want 'nothing to do with your organization, but that is a personal thing.

Whether professors or amateurs read your publications I think that the proof of the pudding, as it were, is in the reading matter. So, as long as I put my case scientifically, taking no sides, then I can see no harm in it. The more the facts get to the public notice the better it will be, and if your books do this, then so much the better.

But as I say, I have been in poverty myself in recent years, largely due to the work of trying to notify the world of the sculptures, and so I will not be able to contribute any funds to your project. All I can do is to help with submitting articles. As long as these, if accepted, are published more or less as I submit them, ie; just typing or literature errors edited, then I will be happy.

All success and best wishes, I will put together something along the lines of your suggestion, ie; that of the horse in the Surrey 'art' 'industry' / cultures. I think that the 'masterpiece' on a Levallois flake has been sent to you?. This would in fact 'blow up' into a most convincing photo, something to consider for the cover?.

Anyway, cherio for now,

Kindest regards,

P.S. / I have sent a
copy of this letter
to J.E.M.



P.S. / Enclosed negatives, 6/7 & 8/9 is the excellent horse-head (it will 'capture' better) 10/11 is a portrait of a Middle-Pal. 'negro' type (Neanderthal?) lady, with the repetitive swept-back hairstyle (see also W. Matther photo) & 12/13 is a little elephant on a flake - all Middle-Pal.

All would 'blow-up' well, as realistic pieces, correct in anatomical details - ie - no imagination needed.

P.S.

I think that Jan Evert Musch misunderstood the request to take 12 sculptures to your meeting in Saigon. He appears to think that they were meant for sale?

I will write to him to clarify that they were only for a guide as to what each researcher had.

All this 'intrigue' upsets me.

All I wanted to do was tell the world about the existence of

that sculptures - now I am torn between one side & the other, not knowing which way to turn.

I am in two minds as to abandon the cause for some time, until 'everything' has died down.

To just live with interested people like the "Matrilineal Study Group" who are visiting this weekend.