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Sept. 22, 1973

Dr. Are Tsirk  
425 E. 79th St.,  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Are:

You can not know how grateful and indebted I am to you for the treasured book you sent. It will be the foremost volume in my lithic technology library. The book was here when we returned from a trip to Victoria, B.C. and a tour of Vancouver Island which explains my tardy reply. Our trip was just a fun trip - the first in three years. All our other trips have pertained to stone working. Vancouver island was, indeed, beautiful and we enjoyed the beaches, fresh fish and picking berries.

I haven't had time to write to Ed Wilmsen about the article on lithics but feel that your experiments and results should be included so will write him today.

I have the article on Litho-Mechanics and Archaeology by Thomsen - it is excellent. I only wish they had continued their experiments using natural abrasives and experimenting with various stages of polish. The mechanics are great but there are still so many unanswered questions regarding the finished archaeological examples.

I also want to thank you for the comments by John Whitthof on Ludwig Pfeiffer's book. The book was published the year of my birth. Had I known of it sooner it would have saved many years of groping in the dark using the hit and miss approach. I only hope that in the near future there will be an English translation. Marie Wornington called last evening and I told her of you and the superb book. She has been such a good friend over the years that I would like to do something special for her like getting a copy of this book. I am reluctant to ask such a favor but if it would be possible to make an additional copy of the Pfeiffer book - for Marie - I would be glad to send you \$50.00 which would help in part pay for the zerox and your time. I know that you have much to do and your time is precious so if this can not be done I will understand and you don't have to feel under any obligation.

I just received a letter from my friend, Dr. David Sanger of the University of Main, Orono, Main and he advises that during the second semester they will have funds to bring a lithic technologist there to instruct in some of the basics and do some experimentation with some of their local cherts and felsites. This would be after Christmas. Funds would cover travel and housing expenses and an honorarium. Since I can not accept this stint I am recommending you for the job and do hope you can arrange to spend the time there. This would give you an opportunity to work with someone familiar with the arctic cultures and do further research on the Dorset point. The Dorset people were able to detach two flutes on one face from both marings - fluting from the tip to the base. I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Dr. Sanger and hope you will contact him further in this regard.

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Junius Bird just called and is back from Panama and found four fluted points similar to those from Fells cave in Patagonia. He is the South American specialist at the American Museum. These artifacts should have a great impact on the archaeology of North and South America. A truly great find. Hope you will find time to visit Junius and see the points.

Are, again thanks for everything and best wishes to your wife who, like min, shares the inconveniences and frustrations of being married to a flintknapper.

Your friend,

Don E. Crabtree

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