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Mr. Kim Akerman
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Dear Kim;

Thanks for your most exciting letter, you have so much factual information. Yours is the first first hand accounts of actual heat treatment. I tried to get this accepted in 1940 and even had treated and untreated materials examined by the use of one of the first electron microscopes, the only one person convinced of the change was Andy Pace the man using the microscope. There has been much ridicule and laughter until the symposium with Francois Bordes in France who by the way has found heat treatment going back in time to the Solutrean times. Bill Longacre may have found evidence at the Grasshopper site in Arizona of them using ovens and thin layers of sandstone to help disseminate the heat. much of the silicious material from that area was modified by heat alteration. In the meantime I have found that heating certain stones prior to pressure flaking was used world wide and it was used in India, North Africa, Japan, Philippines, Arctic, North and South America and even Australia as informed by Bordes who will be excavating in West Australia at Devils Lair, His son in Law is Paul Ossa who I believe is in Adelaide and you may know. I only wish it possible that you will have the opportunity to meet Francois Bordes.

It is unfortunate that I was unable to see specimens of actual abo work, I only had a very brief glimpse of the action in a movie possibly taken by Norman Tindale showing the single technique of using the wooden pressure tool. There is no way that one can use wood for the detachment of narrow flakes or serrating. I am sorry that I had no more information at that time. The series of raw material to the finished product is excellent. Preforming can be represented by several final stages, it is roughly the form of the finished product. I hope that your paper gets a lot of exposure. With kindest regards Don

Cell 12.46