

Route 1, Box 39
Kimberly, Idaho 83341

March 22, 1972

Mr. James H. Barr
3065 Bolligen
Huhnerbuhlstrasse 15
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Barr:

Please excuse the tardy reply to your letter of Feb. 13th. I have been away in Nevada and California and just returned to a backlog of correspondence.

Your letter sounds like you have made some interesting observations. I only wish I was there to actually examine some of the specimens you mention. Without seeing the material it is difficult to make conclusions, however the experimental approach does give one a basis for certain theories. In my experiments I much prefer antler to bone for the percussion techniques since bone is excessively brittle. It would appear that your description of the shatter marks on the mandibles is the result of function and they could have been used as a percussion instrument. In regards to the cores, one never gets battering marks from tool manufacture and so it would appear that the batter marks are the result of function, but this can only be implied even after experiment. I will be interested to hear of the results of your experiments.

You have two very fine men in the near vicinity who can help you a great deal and I would like to suggest that you contact them and know you will enjoy the relationship. They are. Hans Muller-Beck, Institut Fur Urgeschichte, Der Universitat Tubingen, 7400 Tubingen, Schloss. He has written much on the subject and is in the process of setting up an experimental laboratory to study function and lithic technology. The other man is Mr. George F. Will, Felsenhofstr 7, Adliswil, Switzerland. He has done much work in this field and will confer again with Francois Bordes this summer. I am sure you will enjoy him.

These people are much more familiar with the archaeology of your area than I and I know you will have mutual interests. I am sorry that I can not be of more help.

Sincerely yours,

Don E. Crabtree