

Rt. 1, Box 39
Zip: 83341

Feb. 10, 1969

Mr. Ed Barry
Gen Center, U.S.A.
4100 Alameda Avenue
El Paso, Texas
79905

Dear Ed:

We did not get started on our trip as planned due to a bout with a bad tooth, but are preparing this afternoon to leave in the morning. Since we are late in leaving and have commitments here, we probably will not have time to get to Guadalajara and look for the obsidian mine. I am really disappointed, as I wanted to see if this was an aboriginal workshop and study the techniques of the tools found there. We plan to go to Organ Pipe National Monument which is just over the border from Sonita and camp for a few days and dry out the old lungs and do some flintknapping in the sunshine. Will probably go to some of the Mexican beaches, but will not have time for an extended trip. Then have to go to the University at Tucson. Bordes is due to arrive there the 1st of March and would like to visit with him a few days and then come back home.

The Hickoryite sounds real good and would love to have a sample of it and see how it works. If it is good, then will have the American Museum order a supply of that and Peacock obsidian for the forthcoming exhibit they plan there. Am still hunting good flint and if you hear of any of the Texas stone, please let me know, for would like to order some of that also. The University of Arizona wrote and asked me where they could get good material for Bordes and Tixier to work up when they are there and I sent them the price lists you had sent me and recommended the obsidian. Will also tell them about the Hickoryite when I visit there. They will want quite a lot. But, as a result of this, I now have none of your price lists, so would very much appreciate your send^{ing} any new price lists you have on hand, for my University, as well as Pullman, wants to order some material.

We should be back here about the 5th of March and I would very much like to have a look at the three spear-head artifacts you mention in your letter. Generally, it is quite easy for me to tell a fake, for the ordinary flintknapper does not try to make an exact duplicate - rather an imitation - and, therefore, he misses the little technological traits which are so much a part of good toolmaking. I will be happy to look them over and give you my opinion for what it is worth.

When I return, I will make the polyhedral core and knife for you and when Bordes and Tixier are here will see what I can do to have them make you some of the paleolithic tools which they are so famous for. Their replicas are really at a premium now, for the three of us are the last of a dyeing breed I think. What other fool would be making stone tools in this day and age. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that in addition to

Cel. 3.54

being a professor of anthropology at the University of Bordeaux, the world authority on Old world stone tool replication and an author of text books on archaeology, Bordes is also a science fiction writer of great reputation in Europe. Writes under the pen name of Francis Carsac - you may have some of his books in English or Spanish on the border towns. Incidentally, he may be interviewed on NBC national television on about the 1st of March - so look for him. You will enjoy it. Also, if you are interested in this sort of thing - and it looks like you are - get the Life Nature Series book on Early Man. There you will see full coverage of Bordes making his stone tools as well as many other interesting things about this exciting hobby of tracing our ancestors.

If I failed to mention it before - look for the NBC Special the 1st American to be on the air in March. There you may see old Crabtree sitting in the Marmes Rock shelter making his stone tools, as well as a full tracing of Man in the new world from Siberia to the tip of South America.

Thanks again for your letter and will look forward to seeing the tools you bought.

Sincerely

Don E. Crabtree