

Route 1, Box 39  
Kimberly, Idaho  
March 10, 1969

Dr. Junius Bird  
American Museum of Natural History  
Central Park West at 79th Street  
New York, New York  
10024

Dear Junius:

Pardon the delay in writing but have just returned from thirty days in Arizona where I spent quite a bit of time in the desert hunting hard wood for the stone flaking experiment and also getting the hands in shape. We collected some of the slow growing desert hardwoods for the experiment - ironwood, manzanita, mahogany and mesquite. It was good to get away from telephones and responsibilities and have a chance to do some flintknapping. Had a nice visit with the people at Tucson but missed seeing Marie at Tempe as she was in Washington D.C. at the INQUA meeting.

I was about to give up on the wooden flaker experiment until this week which has been most encouraging. I have now successfully replicated the flake scars of the specimens you sent. I made some attempt to duplicate their form but was more interested in the technique. I will be sending you a package soon containing your artifacts, my duplications, and the wooden flakes used in the manufacture.

I became so interested in this project that I decided to write a brief paper on the experiment which I will send to you very soon. This is for your personal use to explain the experiment or you may want to add to the paper and put it in publishable form if you think it worth while.

Will go to Idaho State University tomorrow and want to take the Palliaike artifacts up to show to Dr. Swanson and then, when I return, will mail the package to you.

I am looking forward to Tixier's visit on the 9th of April when we can do some experiments together. I am sure he will want to try the wooden flaker technique. Am also hoping that we get to see the First American on March 21st - but one never knows here as we have only one station and have to take what they give. Will be really disappointed though not to see the part about the early people in Southern Chile as well as the Alaska sequence.

Thank you so very much for the publication by Professor Elkin - he is a keen observer and his article will be of great help.

Your friend,

Don E. Crabtree

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