

UNIVERSITÉ DE BORDEAUX I

LABORATOIRE DE GÉOLOGIE
DU
QUATERNAIRE ET PRÉHISTOIRE

BATIMENT DE GÉOLOGIE
33405 TALENCE

TÉL. 80.68.00

POSTE 334

TALENCE, LE Dec. 19th, 1974

Dear Don and Evelyn,

I have received your letter and card ~~fix~~ of Dec. 12. I had had news of you by Tixier, who phoned me as soon as he was back. I have seen him yesterday too.

First, all our best wishes for 1975 and a Merry Xmas! I hope that Evelyn is now completely all right. And you too, you Old Idaho Beaver!

Not much new to say. I have to write a book for a french publisher, ~~xx~~ called "~~Hunterxxx~~" "Prehistoric Hunters" (the book, not the publisher!) and I have, until now, written only 7 pages! So I will spend the Xmas vacations at my typewriter.

Last summer, the excavations were interesting. Imagine that at Pech IV I have the most exquisite Levallois flakes and cores, about one inch large! Yes. What in hell could they do with it, and why take all the care to prepare a core for such tiny flakes? And in the same layer, where all the tools and flakes are small (not many over 3 inches) I have also diminutive Kombewa Flakes. I suppose you know what it is. If not, take a big flake, a huge one. Inverse the old striking platform by making a new one from the bulbar side, keeping carefully the bulb. Then, from this platform, strike a flake that will take the bulb away. You will get a biconvex flake. That is the Kombewa technique of Africa. Well, I have it at Pech IV, but for flakes about one inch again!

I did not find the time to break flint before Aug. 15th, at the end of the excavations, and was obliged to stop by Aug 25, when I began to travel. So I did not do much, except some laurel leaves. One of them I like. It is 20 cm long, 9 wide, and on one face there is no more than 9 flakes (not counting the very small ones).

I suppose I wrote to you about my experiences in Australia. If not, say so and I will tell you about it.

I shall not be in the States before next fall, where I plan to spend probably 2 months there, mainly in Tucson. Maybe I can visit Idaho once more, or you can come to Arizona?

Bien amicalement à vous deux,

F. Bordes

CC.21.128