

March 16, 1965

Dr. J. Desmond Clark
University of California
Department of Anthropology
Berkeley, 4, California

Dear Dr. Clark:

Thank you for your letter of March 10th inviting me to attend a meeting with Dr. Bordes in Berkeley for purposes of making a film. I also have received a letter from Bordes with this same request and will reply, in the affirmative, to him today. I would be delighted to meet again with Bordes and to participate in the making of this film, and certainly appreciate your considering me for this coverage. I enjoyed very much working with Francois in Les Eyzies and will look forward to another meeting with him the last week in April or in May. I have much to learn from this man and would hope that I can help him a little with the pressure work.

At present, I can just about fit my time to whatever is convenient with you and Bordes. The last week in April will be a good time for me to make this trip and I will plan on this unless I hear from you of a change or unless N.S.F. does not approve the grant. I think a film of this nature will have much value to the profession and will certainly do my part to make it a success.

As regards material - I do not have any flint or chert on hand and do not know where I could secure a quantity of this type of material. I am not familiar with the Farmington chert and do not know if it compares with the French material. Bordes is used to having quantities of good silix and, therefore, I am wondering if it would not be well for him to bring along some of his material, for it is hard for a knapper to change from one type of material to another and, at the same time, do his best work. For the percussion work, we should have large blocks of stone and, if you do not have obsidian in large pieces, let me know and I can come to Berkeley via Glass Butte and gather some large pieces there. If you plan to include in the film the making of the Polyhedral cores and Valley of Mexico flake blades, I will need large pieces of obsidian for this work.

I cannot suggest a source of flint in the U.S.A. that compares with the French material other than the Harrison County Indiana flint. H. Holmes Ellis and I secured a nice supply for H.C. Shetrone (deceased) at the Ohio State Museum at Columbus - which is now under the directorship of Dr. Baby - and they may still have this material as well as a supply of French flint Dr. Shetrone had shipped there. It may be possible for you to get this material if you are in need of it.

For the meeting in France, I took along a quantity of preforms, but do not have any made up at the present time. Would you like to have me bring along some preforms. If so, I will get busy with what material I have on hand and hope it is in large enough pieces - or I could leave a couple of days early and spend some time at Glass Butte preforming.

I am so glad you have done some flint work so that we may compare notes on the many different techniques. I will be delighted to meet you and learn of the African styles of stone fracture. I think we just missed meeting at the Mannix site, for Simpson said you had been there before my visit.

Again, thank you for the invitation for a visit to Berkeley will be like coming home again. in 1939 I worked there for Stirton and Camp in the Museum of Paleo and will also enjoy, again, a visit with Stirton and Heiser.

Please call on me for any help I can be in setting-up this meeting with Bordes.

Yours very truly,

Don E. Crabtree

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