

1. Errett Francois expressed it well when he started working obsidian, He said " Gut Dim it cuts". I think most of us have experienced a certain amount of blood letting and have made our contributions to the blood bank.

The quick healing and little or no scars have become apparent, I used to get uncut up chicken fryers to practice on, the obsidian blades certainly are better than the parring knife, it literally falls apart when one learns where # of the knuckle to cut the tendons. Once I cut the top off the middle finger of my left hand and it was hanging by a piece of dead cuticle and I stuck it back on with a bandade, splinted it with a broken farmer match and another bandade and in three days it had healed except that the end of my finger was numb but by the end of the week the feeling was back and its as good as new.

Next I must tell you about some electron microphotographstaken by my friend Dr. Andrew Pace an industrial research scientestthat I met in 1940 while working with H. Holmes Ellis and Dr. Clyde Shetrone at the Ohio State Museum. Holms took me to Batelle institute where they had ## one of the first electron microcopes to examine some heated silicious materials, there I met Andy Pace who did the testing with interesting results. I must add a sidelight, after more than thirty years N. B. C. made an hour special called The First American which I was able to take a small part, Andy saw this show and through it got together again when he and his came to SunValley for a ski vacation. It was at that time that he offered to take electron micropothographs of the edges of obsidian blades and compare them to the edge of a platinum plus razor blade which is by the way much sharper than a surgeons scaple., the platinum plus bladehad a rounded edge at 750 diameters while the stone blade was still sharp and at 10,000 diameters the platinum plus looked like an arial view of West Kansas and the obsidian blade edge could have been magnified many thousands times more and would have still been sharp. These photos were then used to convince the surgeon, I might say that little convincing was nessary as he was a former professor of thorasic surgery. The blades were designed much the same as Tixier,s micro burins from North Africa with the basal margins ground to prevent injury to the user. They were used on both chest and abdomen

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