

Route 1, Box 39
Kimberly, Idaho
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May 3, 1968

Dr. Eugene M. Gillum
522 West Arch
Portland, Indiana

Dear Doctor:

Thank you for your interest in my work and requesting reading material on the subject. Idaho State University has no reprints on these articles, therefore I am enclosing copies of the journals you requested.

Since you are in the Medical Profession, you may be interested in a forthcoming article in the magazine "American Antiquity". In the October issue there will be a paper on the manufacture and use of the Polyhedral blades of Meso America. These blades are of obsidian and have a cutting edge far superior to any steel knife. Research has shown that the aborigines used them for surgery, including skull operations. During manufacture, I have cut myself many times with obsidian, yet I bear no scars, healing has occurred in a matter of hours, and I have never had any infection from the cuts. I believe this is due to the fact that the edges are so sharp they sever the cells without bruising and, therefore healing is rapid. It occurs to me that there may be some place in the medical profession for such a knife - whether it be on a laboratory basis or something like plastic surgery. At any rate, you may be interested in reading the article when it is published.

Also, there will be forthcoming articles in Tebiwa - one soon to be published which is the joint effort of Dr. Francois Bordes and myself on the manufacture of Corbiac blades found in the Dordogne Valley in France. Also, an article will be appearing in the magazine "Kiva", a publication of the University of Arizona on the manufacture of pressure flaked tools.

Again, thank you for your interest and good luck on your research.

Yours very truly,

Don E. Crabtree

encl.

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