Route 1, Box 210 Kimberly, Idaho 83341

Jan. 21, 1976

Dr. Norman Hammond

University of Cambridge Center of Latin American Studies History Faculty Building West Road Cambridge, England CB3 9EF

Dear Norman:

Thank you for your letters inviting me to the conference in Beliz and please excuse the tardy reply to same. I was hospitalized during July and August for four major surgeries and was unable to answer and waiting to reply until I was sure I could make the trip. Am recovering nicely and expect to leave for Mexico before Feb. 1st. Doctor has okayed the trip to Beliz, so I can now say that I will attend. It is, indeed, an honor to be invited.

I retired from Idaho State University on July 1st, 1975 due to the death of Earl Swanson and his lack of leadership. Therefore, I am not now connected with any university and will, therefore, have to bear the expenses of this trip for myself and my wife, Evelyn. If you funds will allow any expenses for hotels and meals it will be greatly appreciated.

We will make every effort to come routed through New Orleans on flight TA 111 and arrive in Beliz on Friday, April 16th. If it is impossible to connect with this flight we will take another but will, in any event, arrive at the Beliz airport on the 16th. We advise you later as to our direct flight, airline and time of arrival.

If you like, I will bring along a film made by Idaho State University on pressure blademaking. It is 16mm sound. I will be glad to confer informally with any of the participants on problems of technology, potential of lithic technology and its relation to all of archaeology and such things as blademaking - both pressure and percussion, flaking industries, forming raw material, lapidary arts, etc. Meso America is unique because it encompasses a wide range and diversity of techniques not found in other parts of the world.

Congratulations on your organization of this long overdue meeting which should apark continued interest in relating technology to typeology.

Hope to see you in Beliz and all good wishes for the success of the meeting.

Sincerely yours,