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Dear Tom:

Thanks for your informative letter of April 23rd. Just returned from Idaho State University and Dr. Carl Swanson informs me that the typing of the bibliography is almost finished. He said you had only about 50% of our entries and that when the list is completed he will contact you. I included a number of publications of Dick Gould, but you may have more. Any publications by actual observers is really important. I do not have any from Tasmania.

Glad you received a copy of the U.S.U. lithic letter. Hopefully, it will be a communication media for those interested in lithics. To date, I haven't been able to replicate the cone severing technique by using heat differential. We conducted some brief experiments at the field school last summer and got some of the characteristic hackling on the perimeters of the platform but, unfortunately, we were not able to get a clean fracture without getting unintentional heat checks. Possibly the change was too rapid. Through Irwin Rovner, University of Wisconsin, I have seen another cone which appears to have been severed by using heat. It is from the Carnegie collection from Merida. I told Irwin to get in touch with you as he has found many interesting techniques and some cones less than an inch long. I have been getting some interesting results in repairing cone tops by experimenting with severing some elongated starch fractures from Glass Butte Oregon. I use the anvil technique - place hammerstone on the artifact and then deliver them both in a straight line blow on the anvil. However more experiment is necessary before any final conclusions can be determined.

I, too, am interested in the micro blade technology of the Santa Cruz Island. I first saw these blades in 1942 and then again some years later examined some found by Charles Ro-air but he had no cones. I made a series of triangular (single ridge blades) from a burinated flake - first removing the corners and then the middle from a parallel-sided flake. By the way, I don't know if the raw material occurs on the island, but a variety of chalcedony much the same as the blades from the Island does occur just south of Redondo Beach on the beach cliffs of Palo Verde Hills. I will look forward to your paper on these specialized micro-blades.

Hoped I could go to Miami, but lack of funds stopped that. Maybe another time we can get together.

With best wishes

Don

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