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COMMUNICATIONS

An informal gathering of Aegean prehistorians was held at the 85th annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America last month in Cincinnati. Approximately 50 people attended, and topics of discussion included available channels of communication and publication and the contribution of survey projects to Aegean archaeology. The workshop provided an opportunity for colleagues to exchange information and to report field projects planned for the future. Strong support was expressed by those present for the coordination of a similar workshop at the 1984 AIA meeting, with time reserved for discussion of a substantive topic (e.g. the archaeological correlates of craft specialization). We shall keep Nestor readers advised of all developments relating to the next workshop.

The New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium met in New York on January 11 to hear a paper by J.H. Crowel, "Mycenaean Pictorial Pottery from the Citadel House at Mycenae."

The Prehistoric Society of England has announced the theme of its spring conference, "Prehistoric Settlement and Society," to be held in London on March 24-25. Further information about the program may be obtained by writing the Hon. Secretary of meetings, H.A.W. Burl at the following address: 40 St. James' Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 1JR.

A symposium, "Pylos Comes Alive: Industry and Administration in a Mycenaean Palace," will be held at Fordham University, Lincoln Center, New York City on Friday-Saturday, May 4-5, 1984. The symposium will consist of two public lectures and two formal sessions of papers. Participants and topics include: V. Aravantinos ("The Administrative Use of Sealings"), D.J.L. Bennet (respondent), E.L. Bennett, Jr. ("The Importance of Pylos in the History of Mycenaean Archaeology"), H.W. Haskell ("The Stirrup Jar Industry at Pylos"), J.T. Killen ("Textile Manufacture at Pylos"), G.S. Korres ("The Current State of Archaeological Research in the Region of Pylos"), M.L. Lang (chair), W.A. McDonald (chair), J.-P. Olivier ("Administrations at Knossos and Pylos: What Differences?"), T.G. Palaima ("Scribal Organization and Palatial Activity at Pylos"), C.W. Shelmerdine ("Perfumed Oil at Pylos"), I. Tegye ("The Northeast Workshop at Pylos"), C.G. Thomas (respondent), and J.C. Wright ("Changes in Form and Function of the Palace at Pylos"). For further information contact: Thomas W. Palaima, Dept. of Classics, Fordham University, Bronx, NY 10458 USA. Tel. (212) 579-2042.

A Special Symposium, "The Archaeology of the Olympics," will be held at the Institute of Archaeology, University of California at Los Angeles on April 4-5. A tentative program of speakers from America

and abroad has been created. Details are available from the Institute of Archaeology, Los Angeles 90024 (Tel. 213-825-4169).

The Fourth International Symposium at the Swedish Institute in Athens, "The Function of the Minoan Palaces," will take place on June 11-16. Further information is available from Dr. Robin Hägg, Mitseon 9, GR-117 42 Athens, Greece.

We have been advised of the appearance of a new scholarly journal entitled Food and Foodways: Explorations in the History and Culture of Human Nourishment. The journal will be interdisciplinary in scope and will maintain editorial offices in America and Europe. For further information, write the editors:

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS ISSUE

Mycenaean Seminar

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ADDENDUM

Readers of Nestor are reminded that, in order to insure prompt inclusion of your articles and reviews in these pages, we would very much appreciate receiving copies/offprints of all publications. Thank you very much in advance.

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FROM THE EDITORS

Beginning this month, Nestor will use the abbreviation standard of the American Journal of Archaeology as published in AJA 82:1, 1978, pp. 5-10, and updated in AJA 84:1, 1980, pp. 3-4.

COMMUNICATIONS

Professor Thomas Palaima will lecture on "Regionalism in Crete in the Light of the Linear B Tablets," and Malcolm Wiener will comment on "Knossos in LM III," before the New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium on Wednesday, 15 February 1984.

Included in this month's Nestor mailing is a sheet requesting information on readers' scholarly interests and current research. Professor Karl Petruso and Dr. Lauren Talalay intend to compile a directory of Aegean prehistorians that will be of use to scholars in the field. They ask that you take a minute to fill out the sheet and send it in as instructed. Should the directory prove popular, updates will be produced at appropriate intervals, perhaps as often as once per year. Send all forms to: Professor Karl Petruso, Boston University, Department of Archaeology, 232 Bay State Rd., Boston, MA 02215, U.S.A.

WORK IN PROGRESS

A dissertation is being undertaken at the University of Athens on the topic, "The Nature and Extent of the Oriental (Mesopotamia, Syria, Palestine, Anatolia, Egypt) Presence in the Aegean During the Bronze Age." The author is asking for assistance in compiling the catalogue of Oriental objects. Please address your correspondence to:

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS ISSUE

Thracia Praehistorica

Thracia Praehistorica. Semaines
Philippopolitaines de l'Histoire
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FROM THE EDITORS

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ERRATUM

p. 1704, §812064

Read Otto for Otoo

COMMUNICATIONS

A colloquium on the Archaeology of Arcadia, jointly sponsored by
the Canadian and Austrian Archaeological Institutes, was held February
17-18 at the Austrian Institute in Athens.

The New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium is sponsoring the following
lectures during the spring of 1984:

28 March	Dr. Elizabeth French	Deities or Votaries: The Figures from Mycenae and Phylakopi
6 April	Prof. Stefan Hiller	A Middle Helladic Shaft Grave on Aegina
11 April	Prof. Anthony Snodgrass	The Transition from Bronze to Iron in the Aegean: The Positive Side

All meetings will be held at the Institute of Fine Arts, 1 East 78th Street,
New York, at 7:45 p.m.

The Department of Art History of Temple University has announced the
program for its Ninth Temple University Aegean Symposium, entitled "The
Scope and Extent of the Mycenaean Empire," to be held in Philadelphia on
April 5, 1984. Speakers and topics include: Robert Laffineur ("Mycenaean
Artistic Koine: The Example of Jewelry"), Stefan Hiller ("Mycenaean
Relations with their Northern Neighbors"), Elizabeth K. French ("Problems
in Mycenaean Contact with the Western Mediterranean"), Barbara Hayden
("Crete in Transition: Aspects of Village Architecture in the LM IIIA-
IIIB Period"), Barbara Kling ("The Bird Motif in the Mycenaean IIIC:1b
Pottery of Cyprus"), and James C. Wright ("Umpiring the Mycenaean Empire").
Proceedings of the symposium may be ordered by sending \$7.50 to Dr. Philip P.
Betancourt, Department of Art History, Temple University/Tyler School of
Art, Philadelphia, PA 19126, U.S.A.

The American Ceramic Society has announced a forum on "History and
Prehistory of Ceramic Art, Science and Technology" to be held at the
society's Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, April 30 and May 1, 1984. Of
particular interest to Nestor readers is section (b) of the forum:
Ethnological and Archaeological Studies. Papers presented at this
forum are to be published as a volume in Advances in Ceramics.

Announcements of archaeological work in the Greek daily press include excavations at Vouni, Samothrace (Chalcolithic and Bronze Age settlement; Eleftheri Gnomi, 9 September 1983), Arkhanes (Minoan palace; Rizospastis, 10 August 1983), Lenta (Early Minoan vaulted tomb; Eleftheri Gnomi, 22 July 1983), Manika, Euboea (Early Helladic monumental burial; Kathimerini, 30 July 1983), and an article by A.G. Kalogeropoulou on Lefkandi (Kathimerini, 10 July 1983).

DISSERTATIONS

The following dissertations have been completed: Harriet B. Lewis, The manufacture of early Mycenaean pottery, 1983 (University of Minnesota); M. Séfériadès, La culture de Troie I. Matériaux pour l'étude des sociétés du Nord-Est égéen au début du Bronze Ancien, 1983 (Université de Paris I); N. Nambrard-Fernandez, Les lieux de culte en Crète, en Grèce continentale et dans les îles égéennes, du Néolithique à l'époque archaïque, 1983 (Université de Paris IV); Susan H. Langdon, Art, religion and society in Geometric Greece: bronze anthropomorphic votive figurines, 1984 (Indiana University).

The following are in preparation: V. Chryssovitsanou, Relations entre la Crète et le monde mycénien au Bronze Récent III (Université de Paris I); L.-J. Lestocart, Les salles dites lustrales dans le monde égéen (Université de Paris I); J. Renard, L'habitat en Crète du Bronze Récent à l'époque archaïque (Université de Paris I).

FORUM

To the Editors of Nestor:

Poseidon and the World of Water

1. Before the decipherment M. Nilsson had concluded that Poseidon, the chief god of the Peloponnese, was a god of the 'wetlands', closely associated with the Great Goddesses (akin to Demeter and Persephone) and Artemis.
2. The name had long ago been analysed as vocative Potei- plus dā- (which recurs in Dāmātēr) meaning 'O Lord of the Earth'. F. Schachermeyr opined a translation from a foreign source.
3. Orientalists had detected a Canaanite 'water' god Ba'al arṣ 'Lord of the Earth', where arṣ can also mean 'underworld'. Similar are the Hurrian Irbitiga and (the ultimate source) Sumerian Enki, the functional equation being clinched by his being also the god of earthquakes. Enki is closely associated with a 'Son-god', Dumuzi whose consort was Inanna/Ishtar, both of whom descend to the underworld and make their return.
4. We have here material most favourable for comparison: at opposite ends complex structures with fixed internal relationships and evident functional equations.
5. The semantic identity of Poteidās-(ōn) and Enki suggested a working

hypothesis: the religion of the Bronze Age Aegean was a provincial version of that of the Near East. Plausibility would be increased if East and West shared an iconographic 'language' - i.e. a vocabulary and syntax.

6. In the East water is often represented by undulating bundles of lines (both vertical and horizontal). In a more elaborate convention they are punctuated by spirals (= eddies, e.g. 'The Defeat of the Elamites' in R.D. Barnett, Assyrian Palace Reliefs).
7. In the West certain of the Early Cycladic "mirrors" represent the sea as spirals. Among associated motifs are ships and fish. Noteworthy is the occurrence of an eight-pointed star at the centre of a sun-disk (Zervos 225), a motif repeated in the unpublished 'Griffschale' in the Museum of the University of Missouri, for this is an ancient symbol of Inanna/Ishtar. Most striking is the appearance of the crudest expression of the goddess's sexuality - the 'vulva' (the so-called 'impaled triangle', on which more later). In this context the sun-disk will represent the underworld sun in its nightly voyage along the stream of ocean from West to East.
8. All important is our next witness - J. Sakellarakis's libation vessel with a white bull in relief studded with red rosettes (Fig. 1). Round the rim above undulating lines representing water are punctuated with eight-petalled rosettes, another ancient symbol for Ishtar. Below is a band of diagonal water symbols, important because they recur below the bull and the palm-tree in the Knossos Throne Room complex.
9. Evans in PM repeatedly illustrated water symbols and their combinations: the triple bundles (I, 697, Fig. 519 with three leafless stems; II, 400, Fig. 231 with papyrus, this being 'a traditional Egyptian rendering of water'; I, 694, Fig. 515 shows a couchant bull above a 'dado' of running spirals). Combinations with rosette are frequent (e.g. IV, 257, Fig. 191 a, 268, Fig. 198). Specially interesting is IV, 301, Fig. 235 with rosette on top of the false spout, surrounded by water which incorporates a figure-of-8 shield (see later on the Shield God Alexeus). The undulating striations appear with rosettes (horizontal in IV 300, figs. 234 a & b, vertical ibid. 309, fig. 224 a below an octopus with others on the rim). They form the sole decoration in IV 275, Figs. 208, 209 and also on the libation jug IV 309, fig. 244 b. Finally, when water-birds are introduced, they too are accompanied by rosettes (IV, 329 ff.). A late larnax (E. Vermeule Bronze Age, Pl. xxxv B) has papyrus, water-bird, man framed by streams of water, woman, border of running spirals.
10. These results permit a 'reading' of the decoration of the Treasury of Atreus. The dead king passed through a doorway with columns and lintel carved with spirals and half-rosettes. On the relieving triangle above was Bull and Tree = Wanax. Inside he was laid to rest in a chamber with walls studded with bronze rosettes (so it is believed). At Orchomenos the vault was decorated with spirals and rosettes.
11. In the Orient this complex symbolism persisted until the Iron Age. The composite late Assyrian 'Tree of Life' combines a palm-tree surmounted by a sun-disk linked by spirals to a rosette bush - an expression of the divine triad going back ultimately to Enki + Dumuzi + Inanna.

12. How to explain the 'horsiness' of Peloponnesian Poseidon and Demeter? This is an interpretatio indo-europea. The Greeks brought with them from their homeland a Stallion God who stamped water out of the ground with his hoof. This insight we owe to the work of Professor Arthur Hatto on Mongolian epic poetry (see Asiat. Forsch. 73, 1981, 179-201, especially 197-199). By the time of the Shaft Graves there was already iconographic conflation (chariot with spirals), but the tablets still distinguish Poseidaon/Posidaeia from Hikwos/Hikweia and G^wous/G^wowia. The syncretism was post-Mycenaean.

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Fig. 1

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AArchHungActa Archaeologica, Academiae
Scientiarum HungaricaeEarly MetallurgyOddy, W.A., ed., Aspects of
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FROM THE EDITORS

In answer to several recent inquiries, the editors of Nestor give notice concerning their policy on back issues of Nestor. For issues which have not been received under a regular subscription, subscribers may request sending of the missing pages until 1 March of each year. (This year the deadline is extended to 31 May 1984.) Subscribers are urged to check their copies for completeness. After the 1 March date, \$.15 (U.S.) per page must be charged plus actual postage and a minimum of \$.50 handling. The price for complete back issues is \$7.00 per year plus actual postage and a \$1.00 handling charge.

ERRATA

pp. 1712,1776, §812160	Read Pelon, O., for Peron, O., in both cases
p. 1713, §812170	Read "...von der älteren zur jüngeren Eisenzeit" for "...von den älteren zur jüngeren Steinzeit"
p. 1718, §832221	Read "(Nov.-Dec. 1982)" for ("April 1983)"

COMMUNICATIONS

The Bead Study Trust, formed in England in 1981, is now publishing a twice-yearly Newsletter inspired by Nestor for archaeologists, anthropologists, historians of jewelery and technology, and others interested in any aspect of the study of beads. The Secretary welcomes contributions of news (conferences, dissertations, lab and excavation work) and recent bibliography and will send subscription forms on request. Subscriptions are \$5.00 or £3 (£2 within U.K.) for four issues, spring and autumn of 1983 and 1984. Address: Mrs. Flora Westlake, Talland, Fullers Road, Rowledge, Farnham, Surrey GU10 4DF, G.B. For more information about the work of the Trust see Antiquity 50 (July 1981) 132-3, and the progress report to appear in Antiquity, July 1984.

The Brock University, Department of Classics, announces an Archaeological Practicum on Cyprus, to be conducted at the prehistoric site of Kalavassos-Tenta. The practicum is scheduled from 4 July through 14 August 1984. Inquiries to be sent to Prof. David Rupp, Department of Classics, Brock University, St. Catherines, Ontario L2S 3A1, Canada.

L'Union Internationale des Sciences Préhistoriques et Protohistoriques announces its XIth Congress/XI^e Congrès - Southampton & London/Londres, Britain (Grande-Bretagne) 1 - 7 September 1986. Interested parties may contact the National Secretary/Le Secrétaire national, Prof. P.J. Ucko, Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH, England.

FORUMI Athena and the Sirens

It is generally agreed that the Sirens originated in the Orient. Their special connexion with Persephone (and Hades) is consistent with this, for she is clearly an Ishtar figure. Nilsson also underlines the association of the Sirens with Athena, so close and frequent that they must be recognised as her attribute. Athena, the warrior virgin, also has certain vegetation functions in common with Persephone. At the Procharisteria, at the end of the winter, offerings were made to her on the occasion of her anodos to further the burgeoning of the sown crops. From Sophocles (fr.844) it emerges that winnowing fans were set up as votive offerings to her. Finally, like Persephone, Athena is referred to as the Maiden (kore), but this does not imply perpetual virginity. At the Plynteria her virginity was renewed when the ancient Xoanon was dipped in the sea (at Argos in the Inachos), a rite which is recorded for other divine 'virgins' including Hera.

Looking east we find it is Ishtar herself who appears in Siren form. During her descent into the Underworld she sheds a garment at each of seven gates and finds herself nude and helpless in the realm of darkness where the denizens 'are clothed like birds, with wings for garments'. Now in her absence all sexuality, animal and human, ceases. Parrot (Sumer, fig. 367, A,B,C,) gives three illustrations of the naked Ishtar. B emphasizes the pubic triangle prolonged by the leg-line. Above is a bird, symbolic of the Underworld. Relevant now is the painted terracotta relief A, for here she stands with bird's wings, feathered legs and claw-footed on her characteristic lions. She is flanked by two owls, birds of darkness, another striking feature of Athena. Much earlier (III M.) is the owl-headed idol (Parrot XVII, XVIII) of the goddess holding her breasts, nude except for the necklace.

The Aegean 'picture book' provides another illustration. The clay sealing (PM I 696, fig. 518 f.) has a central rosette surrounded by four owls. Evans comments 'probably of the small species - Carine Noctua - still so abundant in Crete - the bird of Athena'. Does this represent atanapotiniija 'The Mistress of Athana' of KN V 52, which links her with the War God Enyalios and Poseidon?

Finally, the names of the goddesses may add their suspect witness to an Oriental source. To account for the manifold variations of Persephone, L. Wächter has posited a West Semitic Para'atšaphon 'Fürstin des Saphon'. It was on the holy north mountain Saphon that the dead Ba'al was buried by his sister Anat, another 'virgin' goddess of love, blood-lust and war. Observing that Athanaia is an adjective requiring a prop-noun, O. Szemerényi would connect Pallad- with Ba'alat, feminine of Ba'al. Geographically intermediate is Hieroglyphic Luwian pahalati 'Lady-my' (cf. Adoni-lord-my).

II The Double Axe

The primary problem is why such an axe should have four cutting edges. The earlier specimens simply have a double profile. This will have been a simple convention for representing one axe behind another (like a horse with a double profile). The two divinities will have been feminine, if we accept Nilsson's finding that the D/A is always in the possession of a goddess. It is an easy step to link the axe-pair with the Linear B Wanasso, an example

of the ancient use of the dual which names a constantly associated pair after the dominant member. From this we conclude that Wanassa (equated in Cyprus with Astarte) has 'priority' over 'The Old Lady' (grawja).

This identification can be tested on the combinations of the D/A with other motifs: they must 'make sense' within the general East-West context. Prominent is the combination with the rosette. A Knossos sealing has a central rosette framed by four D/As (BSA 9, (1902) 103, fig. 61). Combinations with water symbolism recur: PM IV, 343, fig. 285 (with reeds); IV, 342, fig. 285 (D/As decorated with spirals, rosettes in the field and on the shaft, flanked by plant motifs). In an earlier example (1st Shaft Grave) the handle takes the form of vertical undulations. Compare the four D/As on the cover from Pseira, set in a field of undulating lines. Late is the askos from Volos where the D/A is flanked by spirals.

Plant motifs are also frequent. The shaft is elaborated as a tree-trunk or stem with side-shoots and a leafy head above (Gournia). On the D/A from Mochlos the 'trunk' has the imbrications of the palm-tree and above a rosette flanked by sprouting heads (cf. the example from Zakro with side-shoots on the shaft, rosette above, surmounted by a wavy band).

The intimate connexion of the D/A with the cult of the dead was stressed by Evans: in the Tomb of the Double Axes the grave had been hewn into a D/A form and there was a columnar shrine with D/As.

These insights permit important re-readings. Bucranium + D/A = Bull-God + Wanassa (or their pre-Greek Forerunners); Bucranium + rosette = Bull-God + 'Persephone', and so on. The oriental source is clear. The combination of bucranium and D/A is known from c. 3,500 B.C., when the Cilician plain and N. Syria shared a common culture. R.D. Barnett (Nimrud Ivories, 33) interprets them as symbols of a Mother-Goddess and a Storm-God. If we amend 'Goddess-pair', this brings in the much earlier Çatal Hüyük Bull-God + Goddess-pair, one of whom is shown 'calving'.

Thus we have three strands: (1) Sumerian, (2) Proto-Anatolian combination of Goddess-pair with Bull-God and (3) Interpretatio indo-europea, conflation of Bull God with Stallion God.

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FROM THE EDITORS

Our call for offprints has produced a very positive response. The editors of Nestor gratefully acknowledge this support and hope that it will continue. Your cooperation in this matter not only very much helps our data collecting efforts, but it also ensures the Nestor community of swift and more complete information. Thank you.

ERRATUM

p. 1825 §840539

Read palais for palis

COMMUNICATIONS

The Archaeologisches Institut der Universitaet Koeln, W. Germany, is holding a colloquium on July 7 and 8 entitled, "Forschungen zur Aegaeischen Vorgeschichte: das Ende der mykenischen Welt." The colloquium will include topics such as the Late Mycenaean culture on Crete and the Late Bronze Age in Cyprus as well as the relations between Mycenaean and earlier civilizations on the Greek mainland. Scholars interested either in delivering papers or in attending the colloquium should contact Dr. Eberhard Thomas, Archaeologisches Institut der Universitaet Koeln, Albertus Magnus Platz, D 5000 Koeln 41, W. Germany, or Dr. Paul Yule, Kommission fuer Allgemeine und Vergleichende Archaeologie, DAI, Endenicher Str. 41, D 5300 Bonn 1, W. Germany.

Recent lectures in Athens included: British School: J.A. MacGillivray, "Middle Minoan Knossos: The Old Palace Reviewed" (2 Dec.); American School: Yannis Tzedakis, "Archaeological Excavations in Western Crete during the Last Fifteen Years" (31 Jan.); Semni Karouzou, "The Iconography of Bellerophon" (7 Febr.); G.S. Korres, "Late Heroic Cults in the Area of the Prehistoric Cemetery at Voidokoilia in Messenia" (14 Febr.); Christos Doumas, "Gold: Sign of Barbarism?" (6 March); Swiss School: Franz Georg Maier, "Mythos. Geschichte. Archaeologie. Aphrodite in Paphos" (22 March); German Institute: Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier, "Von der minoischen 'Thalassokratie' zur mykenischen Expansion, zur Geschichte der Aegaeis zwischen dem 16. und 14. Jhd. v. Chr." (8 Febr.); Swedish Institute: Christiane Sourvinou-Inwood, "Apollo at Delphi: The God and the Oracle--Another View" (7 Oct. 1983); Nanno Marinatos, "Public Festivals on Theran Frescoes" (11 Nov. 1983); Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier, "Import or Imitation: How Can We Distinguish Between Minoan and Mycenaean Art?" (25 Nov. 1983); Kevin Clinton, "The Author of the Homeric Hymn to Demeter" (23 March 1984).

M. Schmid delivered a lecture, "Esquisse du tracé d'un ensemble architectural de l'époque minoenne: Malia, le quartier MU," on January 26, 1984, during the Colloque sur Le Dessin D'Architecture Dans Les Sociétés Antiques, held at the Université des Sciences Humaines de Strasbourg.

The proceedings from the symposium "Pylos Comes Alive: Industry and Administration in a Mycenaean Palace" have been published (see the announcement, Nestor, January 1984, p. 1783). Copies are available from the Archaeological Institute of America, P.O. Box 1901, Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215. Payment is required in advance (U.S. \$10.00 postage included).

The following papers were presented at the 6th Annual East European Archaeology Meeting (Hleb i Vino), at the University of California, Los Angeles, April 7 and 8: Barbara Voytek, "Exchange systems in the Balkan Neolithic;" Ernestine Elster, "Small Bowls - Big Roles;" Marija Gimbutas, "Reflection of Social System Through Religious Belief System;" Susan Skomal, "Chalcolithic Society in the Carpathian Basin - the Lengyel Culture in Hungary;" Ruth Tringham, "Opovo-a Neolithic Site in Yugoslavia, 1983 Field Results;" Brad Bartel, "A Personal History of Recent U.S.-Yugoslav Archaeological Cooperation;" Martin Huld, "Accentual Stratification of Ancient Greek Loans in Albanian;" Mark Stefanovich, "The Nature and Participation of the Illyrians in Late Bronze Age South-western Yugoslavia." For inquiries, write Mark Stefanovich, Institute of Archaeology, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024. A symposium entitled "Sociological Issues of the Neolithic Balkans," was also part of the Meeting. Papers read in the symposium included: T. Cullen, "Social implications of ceramic style in the Neolithic Peloponnese;" K.D. Vitelli, "Social implications of the EN pottery assemblage at Franchthi Cave;" K. Gallis, "Tsangli/Larissa phase: Some hints for discerning the movement of a particular population in Late Neolithic Thessaly;" J. Carothers and G. Schneider, "Changing ceramic production during the Thessalian Neolithic;" B. Voytek, "The (re)distribution of resources in the Balkan Neolithic: A model for exchange;" L. Talalay, "The case of the silent figurines: Interpreting human images in prehistory;" R.K. Evans, "Changing opinions-- Trends in our interpretation of prehistoric southeastern Europe;" M. Fotiadis, "Sociological issues of the Neolithic Balkans. Lasting questions, ephemeral answers." Copies of the symposium papers can be obtained from Tracey Cullen or Michael Fotiadis at the Nestor address. The participants of the Meeting decided to hold the next Meeting in Washington, D.C., in November 1985. The theme of the Meeting will be "Ethnic Views of East European Prehistory."

FORUM

To the Editors:

The Linear B texts are now in machine-readable form at the University of Minnesota. The text is in two forms: a) spacing preserved and b) compressed. The Pylos texts have been updated by Dr. E.L. Bennett, Jr., and we are hoping for some comments on the Knossos texts from Cambridge. We are not promising perfection at this point, but we have produced a useful concordance and index. If you are interested in obtaining a tape containing the Linear B files or a copy of the concordance or index, please contact me at the address below. The cost of the tape is \$100, and of the concordance or index is \$25 each, plus postage. We are seeking funds to support 'tagging' the text, so that we can provide specialized indices of places, people, etc.

We will keep you informed of our progress. For information, write to: Dr. Vicky A. Walsh, UCC - 227 Exp. Eng., 208 Union St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

To the Editors

I The Impaled Triangle



PM III, FIG. 211. HAEMATITE BEAD-SEAL, CRETE:



FIG. 212. HAEMATITE BEAD-SEAL.

The essence of the method underlying the previous worksheets is to expose hypotheses and deductions of increasing complexity to 'falsification'. The insistence on the Aegeo-Oriental koine is in this sense more 'powerful' in that it increases the opportunities for such 'falsifications'. As a bonus it offers possibilities of 'feed-back' from the Aegean to the Orient (see below).

The Cretan Seal (fig. 211) presents such a challenge for it exhibits five motives. For three of them solutions have been proposed. The shield is the emblem of the Hero God Alexeus. We are committed to G^wous and G^wowia as parents of the Young God, whose diacritic is the palm tree / branch. In such a group a strong contender for the 'impaled triangle' would be his consort Astarte, who in Cyprus is textually equated with Wanassa. The deduction is complex and precisely targeted. We expect a combination of palm tree / branch and 'impaled triangle' in connexion with Astarte. R.W. Barnett writes (Nimrud Ivories, 109): 'The grotto of Astarte at Wasta between Tyre and Sidon and that at 'Adlun [just south of Sidon] with their numerous graffiti depict both the crudest fertility symbol of Astarte, the pubic triangle and a palm tree or branch.'

Textual commentary is provided by T. Jacobsen (Treasures of Darkness, 43-47). Inanna on the bridal couch awaiting her Lord 'sings the praises of her pubic triangle with its as yet sparse growth of hairs ...' It is a 'stubble field ...' 'Who will be their ploughman?', she asks. The reply comes 'May the King, Dumuzi, plough them for you.' The same cult act, the climax of the New Year Festival, is implicit in the union of Demeter with Iasion in the fallow field (Od. 5, 125).

The script itself is witness to the antiquity of the symbolism. S.W. Kramer (Sumerians 304, fig.6, 4) traces the development of the cuneiform sign for WOMAN back to the 'impaled triangle'.

On the Aegean side the symbol appears on the Cycladic 'mirrors' in contexts which include the sun-disk and the 8-pointed star. Another Cycladic Leitmotif is the nude female idol which emphasizes the pubic triangle. Later (MM III) is the evidence from Crete. The excavations at Arkhanes / Phourni brought to light such figurines placed between rocks in a tomb. Some of them were seemingly mother-daughter pairs. Of particular interest is the small ivory idol since its pubic triangle is studded with borings intended for the insertion of representations of the pubic hairs. J. Sakellarakis opined the presence of Cycladic sculptors. At all events the Cyclades appear as a staging point in the diffusion of the symbol (and presumably the cult) from the Orient.

II

Alexeus

Why should the Shield God appear so constantly in this context of 'underworld' deities? Evans was convinced of the religious significance of the shield. His examples range downwards from Shaft Grave IV, find place of the sword blade with 8-shields flanked by running spirals - a water symbol, cf. the stirrup vase (PM IV, 301, fig. 235) where the shield within water symbolism is associated with the rosette. Evans also detected a Minoan shield carved on the forehead of the Little Palace bull-rhyton (PM IV, 302, fig. 236).

Nilsson (GGR I³ 479) also points to the presence of an armed man in the highly archaic representations in the Sanctuary of Despoina at Lykosoura. Demeter and Despoina are depicted side by side. Artemis (with a dog) flanks Demeter. Alongside Despoina is an armed man, Anytos, one of the Titans, who are gods in Tartaros. Evidently Despoina = Wanassa and Anytos = Alexeus.

Turning to the Orient we find evidence for a Shield God among the Hittites (O.R. Gurney, Aspects of Hittite Religion 13, with lit.). An armed god appears on an Akkadian seal impression (see H. Frankfort, Kingship and the Gods, fig. 50) which now (an instance of 'feed-back') invites reconsideration. The figures stand on mountains which may represent Hades (Jacobsen, op. cit. 53). Three underworld deities are immediately recognizable: (1) Enki, (2) the winged Inanna, with (3), immediately alongside, a dead bush = Dumuzi in the Underworld. In the centre, flanked r. by (1) and l. by (2 + 3) is the Sun God half plunged into the mountain - surely the Sun God of the Underworld. Extreme left, facing the central group, stands a god with bow and sword flanked by a roaring lion (a 'liberator' god instrumental in the release of the captive god?)

III

There remains the cross under the bull's belly. Evans (PM I, 513 f., figs. 370, 371) noted the symbolic crosses which often appear on bulls. When set within a circle this becomes a four-spoked wheel. He opined they were both symbols for the sun. Furumark (MP, 459 ff.) interpreted the 'Circus Pot' in this sense and Barnett voices a similar opinion for the Oriental occurrences. The long discussion has been clinched by an Old Babylonian seal (Porada Thebes No. 3). It had been reworked by a Cypriot engraver who transformed a one-time sun-disk into a circle with an inscribed cross. This sign also appears under the arm of the enthroned Syrian bull-headed Baal-Hadad who has the 'rosette' (eight-pointed star in a disk), the emblem of Astarte, between his horns (see Gray, Near Eastern Mythology, 70). For an early example of the 'cross' in a similar context see the seal from Mallia (PM II 50, fig. 23), where it appears flanked by a bull's head and a bow, the last being the symbol for the Warrior God. Our Fig. 212 illustrates further the intricate cross-connexions of the symbolism. The Minotaur + Impaled Triangle is closely matched by another with 8-pointed star (PM I, 359, fig. 260 d). This leads back to the Cycladic 'mirrors' with an 8-pointed star set within a sun-disk.

The failure of the two attempts at 'falsification' is an advance in that it saddles us with an even more complex iconographic 'vocabulary and syntax'. This is inherent in the method. In the last resort the supreme test must be faced: the highly complex 'language' evolved must enable us to read the 'picture book' clearly and consistently

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The staff and editors dedicate this issue of Nestor to the memory of Leonard R. Palmer, Professor Emeritus of Comparative Philology and Emeritus Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, who died at the age of 78 on August 26, 1984. We trust that all readers of Nestor, from whose pages Professor Palmer's name was so familiar, join us in expressing our most sincere condolences to his widow.

ERRATA

p. 1818, 840433
p. 1818, 840433

Read Benson, J.L., for Åström, P.
Read 172-174 for 172-176.

FROM THE EDITORS

We regret to report that Nestor is currently being produced at a loss, and we can not continue to work on that basis. Therefore, effective with the first issue (January) of Volume 12, 1985, it will be necessary for us to increase the subscription price. The new schedule is as follows:

- \$5.00 per year for domestic (U.S.) individuals
- \$7.00 per year for foreign individuals (surface mail)
- \$12.50 per year for foreign individuals (airmail)

The cost of institutional subscriptions will also be increased, but the institutions will be advised of that and will be billed separately. Please note the inclusion of your subscription renewal form in this mailing. Payment will be due by November 30, 1984 (U.S.) or February 1, 1985 (overseas). Overseas subscribers may pay for more than one year at a time. Make certain that all foreign payments are made by international money order in U.S. currency only. Several individuals may pay jointly with one international money order. If you choose to do that, however, please enclose an explanatory note with your payment so that we can keep your account in order. Finally, those who have already paid for Volume 12 (1985) at the current rate will not be affected by the rate change.

It is the season once again for staff changes. Therefore we are pleased to welcome Ms. Fran Huber and Mr. Brad Ault, graduate students in the Classical Archaeology Program at Indiana, to the editorial staff this year. Ms. Huber will serve as senior editorial assistant. Note, too, that this issue is the first produced on a word processor. We are very grateful to Ms. Mary Ann Perkins for her cheerful preparation of the manuscript.

COMMUNICATIONS

The first issue of the International Directory of Aegean Prehistorians (Vol. 1, 1984), edited by Karl M. Petruso and Lauren E. Talalay, appeared during the past summer. It is an attractive and useful compilation of some 85 pages, copies of which may be obtained by sending \$7.00 to Dr. Talalay at the following address:

2047 Charlton, No. 207
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
U.S.A.

The Swedish Institute in Athens hosted a fourth international symposium entitled, "The Function of the Minoan Palaces," from June 10 to June 16, 1984. Some forty or more papers were presented in the following sessions: "The Function of Frescoes in the Palaces," "Background and Methodology," "The Emergence of the Cretan Palaces," "The Relations of the Palace with Town and Territory," "News from the Field," "The Palaces as Ceremonial and Religious Centres," "The Palaces as Centres of Trade and Manufacture," and "From Minoan to Mycenaean Administration."

The Fourth International Congress of Thracology was held at the Museum Boymans-van Beuningen in Rotterdam, September 21-26, 1984. The theme of the congress was "Thracians and Mycenaeans." Two special exhibitions, "Gold of the Thracians--Archaeological Treasures from Bulgaria" and "Troy and Thrace," were to be presented at the same time. The proceedings of the congress will be published in the publication series of the Henri Frankfort Foundation. For further information, write the Secretary of the Dutch Organizing Committee, Jan G.P. Best, Henri Frankfort Centre, De Ruyschlaan 175, 1181 PE Amstelveen, The Netherlands.

The Archaeological Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Béri Balogh Ádám Komitatusmuzeum announce a conference entitled, "Die Lengyel kultur und die neolithischen Nachbarkulturen in Mittel- und Südosteuropa" to be held in Szekszárd, May 9-12, 1985. The official languages of the conference will be German and English, and further details may be procured by writing Dr. Nandor Kalicz or Dr. Ferenc Vadas in care of:

Béri Balogh Ádám Muzeum
7100 Szekszárd
Hungary

Applications for funding from the Institute for Aegean Prehistory for work in 1985 should be submitted not later than December 1, 1984. Photocopies of applications to other funding sources are acceptable; there is no required form or format. Applications should be addressed to Mrs. Adelaide Lewis, Associate Director, Institute for Aegean Prehistory, c/o The Millburn Corporation, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036.

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ANL

Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Problemi
Attuali di Scienza e di
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ERRATUM

p. 1864, [841043

Read 'phase' for 'phrase'

COMMUNICATIONS

On July 7-8, 1984 a colloquium was held at the Archäologisches Institut der Universität zu Köln under the chairmanship of Dr. Eberhard Thomas with the title "Forschungen zur Aegaeischen Vorgeschichte: Das Ende der mykenischen Welt." Among the topics discussed were architecture, topography and economic conditions (S. Deger-Jalkotzy, Das Ende der mykenischen Zeit in Achaia; P. Åström, The Acropolis of Midea c. 1200 B.C.; B. Rutkowski, Der bronzezeitliche Tempel von Karphi; K. Nowicki, The History, Topography and Economy of Karphi; H. Kroll, Zum Ackerbau gegen Ende der mykenischen Welt auf dem Festland; V. Stürmer, Das Ende der Wohnsiedlungen in Malia und Amnisos); Late Minoan ceramics production (M. Felsch-Jacob, Die Entwicklung der Keramik der Phase LH IIIc fortgeschritten und spät anhand der Schichtenfolge von Kalapodi und ihre Relation zu vergleichbaren Fundkomplexen; K.B. Gödecken, Bemerkungen zur spät- und submykenischen Keramik aus Karien; B. Otto, Zur Problematik der Dorierkeramik); research arts and craft (Chr. Vogelpohl, Minotauros und Stiermensch - Überleben kretisch-mykenischer Formen oder orientalischer Einfluss?; J. Younger, The end of Mycenaean art; Chr. Grunwald, Zur Tradierung mykenischer Bildkunst in die geometrische Kunst; E. Thomas, Kretisch-mykenische Siegel in Gräbern geometrischer und orientalisierender Zeit; R. Laffineur, Der Zusammenhang von Mykenischem und Frühgriechischem in der Goldschmiedekunst; H. Matthäus, Cyprische und griechische Stabdreifüsse - Zur Kontinuität ostmediterranen Metallhandwerks); connections between the Aegean, Egypt and the Hittite empire (G. Hölbl, Zur kulturellen Stellung der Aegyptiaca in der mykenischen und frühgriechischen Welt; A. Müller-Karpe, Einige Bemerkungen zum Untergang des hethitischen Grossreiches) and history and history of religion (G. Wickert-Micknat, Die Frage der Kontinuität. Bemerkungen zum Thema 'Mykene und Homer'; H.-V. Herrmann, Olympia und Delphi - Zum Problem des mykenischen Ursprungs griechischer Heiligtümer; B. Dietrich, A Case for Minoan-Mycenaean Religion; Th. Corsten, Zu den sogenannten schwebenden Gottheiten; W. Decker, Die mykenische Herkunft des griechischen Totenagons).

The Departments of Greek, Latin and Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology of Bryn Mawr College announce "A Symposium on the Trojan War" to be held on Friday, October 19. Speakers and their topics include: M. Korffmann, "Troy, Topography and Navigation;" H.G. Güterbock, "Troy in Hittite Texts? Wilusa, Ahhiyawa and Hittite History;" C. Watkins, "The Language(s) of the Trojans;" J.D. Muhly, Comments; M. Korffmann, "Beşiktepe in the Troad, New Evidence for the Troy VI and VII Era;" J.L. Angel, "The Physical Identity of the Trojans;" E.D.T. Vermeule, "The Greek Recollection of Troy;" S. Iakovidis, Comments.

The next meeting of the New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium will be on Wednesday, October 24, at the Institute of Fine Arts. Dr. Erik Hallager will speak on "LM III Crete and Knossos."

Dr. Hallager will also discuss "Minoan Crete in light of the New Excavations at Chania" on October 30, at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, in one of a series of lectures co-sponsored by the Department of Art and Art History, SUNY at Buffalo, and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery.

The University of Calgary Archaeological Association is running an interdisciplinary conference, at the University of Calgary campus, from 10-12 November 1984. It is entitled 'Man and the Mid-Holocene Climatic Optimum.' Those interested in attending should address their enquiries, paper titles/abstracts to: Chacmool Programme Committee, Department of Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, TN2 1N4 Canada (403)284-5227.

The Prehistoric Aegean Workshop held at last year's AIA annual meeting was an unqualified success (see Nestor 11:1). Pending approval of the Program Committee, a similar session, with opportunity for informal discussion with colleagues on a variety of topics, is envisaged for this year's meeting in Toronto. It was suggested last year that more time be allotted for the discussion of one or more substantive issues (e.g., the archaeological correlates of craft specialization). In order for the Workshop to succeed again, we need your reactions. What topics would you like to see raised for discussion? Write to Ms. Tracey Cullen c/o Nestor or Dr. Curtis Runnels, Program in Values, Technology, Science and Society, Building 370, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305. An informal agenda will be planned on the basis of your reactions and announced in the December issue of Nestor.

An international symposium, "Conceptual Issues in Environmental Archaeology," will be held at Oxford University, February 22-24, 1985. The aim is to discuss conceptual, philosophical and methodological themes, emphasizing past man-land relationships. Further details may be obtained from the organizing committee: c/o Department of Geography, University of Strathclyde, Livingstone Tower, 26 Richmond Street, Glasgow, G1 1XH, Scotland.

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LBA Cyprus

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COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Demetrius U. Schilardi will speak on the "The Acropolis of Koukounaries, Paros, in the Light of Recent Discoveries" at the next meeting of The New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 28, at the Institute of Fine Arts (7:45 p.m.).

The Istituto Gramsci Siciliano in collaboration with other organizations announces an international meeting, "Traffici micenei nel Mediterraneo: problemi storici e documentazione archeologica," to be held in Palermo on December 3-5, 1984. Contributors include G. Pugliese Carratelli, M. Liverani, C. Zaccagnini, N. Parise, G. Bockisch, O.T.P.K. Dickinson, E. French, W.D. Niemeier, G.F. Del Monte, M. Marazzi, C. Doumas, K. Kilian, and E. Lepore. For further information, write:

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Via Roma, 457 - 90139 PALERMO,
Resp. Liliana Cutino
Tel. 091/581455-586333

The informal colloquium of Aegean prehistorians, announced in last month's NESTOR, has been scheduled to take place on Saturday, 29 December at 9:00 a.m., Confederation Room 3, as part of the 86th Annual Meeting of the A.I.A. in Toronto. Two items currently on the agenda for this colloquium are 1) call for short briefings from participants on current fieldwork and research projects, and 2) a general discussion of the definition of craft specialization and the identification of its archaeological correlates. Suggested reading for item 2:

Evans, R.K., 1978, "Early craft specialization: an example from the Balkan Chalcolithic," in C. Redman et al. (eds.), Social Archeology: Beyond Subsistence and Dating, pp. 113-129.

Rice, P.M., 1981, "Evolution of specialized pottery production: a trial model," Current Anth. 22:219-240.

Torrence, R., 1981, Obsidian in the Aegean: Towards a Methodology for the Study of Prehistoric Exchange. Ph.d. diss. (Anthropology, New Mexico).

Please address inquiries and/or suggestions for additional topics of discussion to Ms. Tracey Cullen, c/o NESTOR, or Dr. Curtis Runnels, Program in Values, Technology, Science, and Society, Stanford University, Bldg. 370, Rm. 372, Stanford, CA 94305.

The Institute of Classical Studies, University of London, announces the schedule for the Mycenaean Seminar for this academic year. The speakers, their topics and dates are as follows:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 17 October | Dr. E. Schofield | Irimi in Late Cycladic II Keos |
| 14 November | Dr. Hamish Forbes | Storage and storage strategies in a modern Greek village:
anthropological and
archaeological implications |
| 16 January | Dr. Doniert Evely | (The ivory workshop at Knossos) |
| 20 February | N.H. Gale and
Zofia A. Stos-Gale | (A topic of Bronze Age metallurgy
and trade)
(preceded by the Annual General Meeting of B.A.M.S.) |
| 13 March | Dr. Joost Crowel | Mycenaean pictorial pottery from
the Citadel House at Mycenae |
| 15 May | Dr. Susan Sherratt | The development of Mycenaean IIIC |

A day-school, "MYCENAE: Royal Palace or Bureaucratic Centre?" will be held at the University of Manchester on Saturday, February 9, 1985. Speakers include Dr. J. Crowel, Dr. E. French, Prof. Sp. Iakovidis, Dr. J. Killen and Mrs. D. Wardle. A seminar by Prof. Iakovidis (Feb. 9) and a lecture by Dr. Crowel (Feb. 8) will precede the day-school. Details about these and related activities may be secured by writing:

Dr. A.J.N.W. Prag
The Manchester Museum
The University
Manchester M13 9PL
Great Britain

In celebration of the centenary of the British School of Archaeology at Athens a conference, "Problems in Greek Prehistory," is being planned for April 14-18, 1986. The conference will be held at the University of Manchester. For further information about papers and other arrangements, please write to:

Dr. E.B. French
Ashburne Hall
Old Hall Lane
Manchester M14 6HP
Great Britain

The Trustees of the Michael Ventris Memorial Fund welcome applications for the 1984 Award for Mycenaean Studies. The competition is open to postgraduate students in Mycenaean civilization or related subjects or candidates of comparable level of achievement from all countries. Typewritten applications should be sent to the Secretary, Institute of Classical Studies, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY not later than January 31, 1985.

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COMMUNICATIONS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those readers of Nestor who have sent us offprints or copies of their publications during the past year. They are much appreciated and are an important means of keeping our reporting current.

A panel discussion, "Contract Archaeology and Research Archaeology: Is There a Conflict?" was held at Boston University on December 4. The panelists included Mr. M.R. Brown, Dr. D.F. Dincauze, Dr. B. Luedtke, Mr. S. Mrozowski, and Ms. B.G. Simon.

Ms. Pamela Russell will speak on "An Unplundered 'Tomb of the Princesses' from LBA Cyprus" at the next meeting (Wednesday, January 9, 7:45 pm) of the New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium.

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