

CLIPPINGS

Eleftheros Kosmos, 28 October 1972, Miltis Paraskevaidis. Mycenaean remains at Aigheira, Achaia. Excavations of the Austrian Archaeological Institute.

To Vima, 28 October 1972, I. Garedakis. Excavations at Khania, a new Minoan palace, with the discovery of Linear A tablets.

NYTimes, 30 October 1972, Andrew Freund. The Rosetta Stone on view, on loan, at the Louvre.

To Vima, 5 November 1972, John Chadwick. Daily life in Mycenaean Greece.

Eleftheros Kosmos, 18 November 1972, Miltis Paraskevaidis. Twentieth anniversary of Ventris' decipherment of Linear B.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Dissertations: Otmar Weber, "Ausgewählte Wörter des mykenischen Griechisch der Linear B - Tafeln und im homerischen Epos in semantischer und onomasiologischer Sicht [Selected words of Mycenaean Greek in Linear B and in the Homeric epic in relation to semantics and onomasiology]" (University of Salzburg, 1971). Ethel Hirsch, "Painted floors in Minoan and Mycenaean architecture" (State University of New York at Binghamton). Zbigniew Jarkiewicz, "Some possible affinities between Minoan and Egyptian architecture, with special reference to the Temple Tomb at Knossos" (University of Toronto).

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor: - In connection with Professor L. R. Palmer's letter (Nestor 1 March 1972, 771-3), I should like to say the following.

To what extent his view of the "Last Palace" agrees with that of Mr. M. S. F. Hood, as Professor Palmer believes, one can judge from the fact that according to Hood the "Last Palace" was "a rather botchy and ramshackle affair" (Minutes of the Columbia Seminar, 1971), while according to Palmer "the age of the imagined squatters was in fact a period of high artistic production" (New Guide p. 37). It is however difficult to be persuaded of his theory if one considers contemporary events in the other Cretan centres. Luckily Professor Palmer quite clearly dates "the Lotus Lamp, the Spiral Cornice, the Miniature Frescoes, the Saffron Gatherer, and the Bull Relief" not to the "Penultimate Palace," but to the "Palace built over the burnt ruins of the Penultimate Palace" (New Guide p. 78 f.). So that there should be no doubt, he dates these objects in absolute terms "at the earliest to the thirteenth century" (ibid. p. 79). In doing this he does not realise that he is changing the chronology of the whole of Late Minoan Crete, since similar objects come from other sites (Pseira, Zakros, Tylissos, etc.) which were destroyed in LM IB.

The same holds for the "Re-occupation," or more correctly "Partial Habitation," of the Minoan centres in LM IIIB times. It is not easy to support the view

that "Re-occupation" is a myth at Knossos, when it can be confirmed for instance at Gournia (cf. Gournia, plan opp. p. 26) and when excavators in recent years have talked about "Re-occupation" at Zakros and Mallia (Platon, PAAH, 1963, p. 163; Pelon, Mallia, Maisons III, 1970, p. 135). A sense of history forces one to examine the data of Minoan Crete as a whole.

As this is the last time I shall take up the columns of Nestor with Professor Palmer's ideas of chronology, I should like to express the hope that it will be understood that my review was chiefly concerned with his "panMycenaean" views. I think it would certainly help his (and the late Professor Blegen's) theory of the date of the tablets, if he omitted such exaggerations.

Heraklion

Yours, &c.

25 October 1972

S. Alexiou

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