

Nestor

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COMMUNICATIONS

Note from the Editors

Nestor readers may be interested to learn that an article in a recent issue of *The European* (Krushelnicky, Askold (Moscow), "Soviets cling to art treasures," weekend March 29-31, 1991:2) reports that Schliemann's Trojan treasures were among the "vast stores of artefacts looted by the Red Army" at the end of World War II and are now secreted in the Soviet Union. Two art historians, Constantin Akinsha and Gregorii Kozlov, admit they have not seen the treasures themselves but "have spoken to people who have and whom we trust. We know they are in the Soviet Union." By making the results of their studies public they hope "to start a discussion which will finally return these treasures to the places where they belong." We thank Daniel Pullen for sending the clipping to *Nestor* and urge other readers to follow his example.

Past Conferences

A conference on Mycenaean Crete, "Table Ronde: La Crète Mycénienne" was held at the French School of Archaeology in Athens, March 26-28, 1991. Jan Driessen, co-organizer of the conference, reports that discussions were animated, especially concerning the date of the Knossos tablets and the recent discoveries of Linear B tablets at Khania. The most important points highlighted were:

1. The LM IIIB1 date of the Khania tablets, their contents and hand very much resembling Knossian documents, and the problems they pose for historical interpretation.
2. The high degree of Knossian influence during the LM II-III A1 period in the other regions of Crete, and which drops during LM III A2-B.
3. The LM III A2-B period on Crete, characterized by a high degree of regionalism, sees the establishment of major centres such as Hagia Triada, Malia, Khania, Kommos and Palaikastro, whereas uncertainty reigns as to the interpretation of the feeble evidence at Knossos outside the palace.
4. The Mycenaean influence on the island is very difficult to identify archaeologically even in LM IIIB. The process of acculturation is a very gradual one and only in certain examples was the Mycenaean influence explicit. Crete stayed largely Minoan.
5. The discussion about the date of the Knossos tablets remains alive. An additional difficulty is caused by the proposition that the unity of the Knossos archives should no longer be accepted.

The participants and the topics addressed were: E.B. French, "The Ephyrean Pottery at Knossos: The Chicken or the Egg;" N. Momigliano, "A LMII Deposit from the 1987 Excavations at Knossos;" E. Hallager & M. Vlasakis, "New Linear B Tablets from Khania;" H. and M. van Effenterre, "A propos d'un excellent ouvrage sur la Crète mycénienne;" O. Pelon, "Le palais post-palatial à Malia;" A. Farnoux, "Le Quartier NU à Malia;" S. Markoulaki and K. Baksevani, "YM III Θαλαμωτός τάφος στο Παγκαλοχώρι Πεθύμνης;" W.D.E. Coulson, "The Late Minoan IIIC Period on the Kastro at Kavousi;" L. Preston Day, "The Late Minoan IIIC Period at

Vronda, Kavousi;" G. Rethemiotakis, "A chest-shaped vessel and LM IIIC pottery from Kastelli Pediada;" M. Tsiropoulou, "Χαμαίζι Φάτση: μια ταφική ομάδα του τέλους της εποχής του χαλκού και της πρώιμης εποχής του σιδήρου στη Σητεία, Ανατολική Κρήτη;" C.F. MacDonald, "The Prelude to Mycenaean Crete;" K.A. Wardle, "The Warriors at Home: Mycenae in the LH IIB and IIIA1 Periods;" K. Demakopoulou, "Crete and the Argolid in the LMII/LHIIB to IIIA1 Periods. Evidence from Kokla;" V. Sturmer, "Culture minoenne versus pouvoir mycénien;" H.W. Haskell, "Mycenaeans on Crete: Patterns in the Evidence;" L.V. Watrous and H. Blitzer, "Central Crete in LMII-III B1: the Archaeological Background of the Knossos Tablets" (texte distribué); A. Kanta, "The Late Bronze Age Tholos Tombs. Missing Links in their Origin and Evolution;" E. Hallager, "Architecture of the LM II/III Settlement in Khania;" M. Andreadaki-Vlasaki, "To YM III Νεκροταφείο της πόλης των Χανίων;" B. Hallager-Pallson, "Knossos in LM III Khania;" J.W. and M.C. Shaw, " 'Mycenaean' Kommos;" V. La Rosa, "Haghia Triada à l'époque mycénienne: l'utopie d'une ville capitale;" N. Cucuzza, "Edifici del Settore Nord dell'abitato di Haghia Triada;" B. Hayden, "The 'Megalithic Farmstead' of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age Crete: The Nature of the Evidence;" A.L. D'Agata, "The Shrine on the 'Piazzale dei Sacelli' at Haghia Triada. The LM IIIC and SM Material: A Summary;" M.R. Popham, "The Final Destruction of the Palace at Knossos: Seals, Sealings and Pottery: A Reconsideration;" J. Driessen, "Le Palais de Cnossos au MR II-III: Combien de destructions?" E. Andrikou, "Thoughts and Considerations on the Mycenaeanisation of Crete, motivated by Pottery from Arkhanes;" H. Kallitsaki, "The Mycenaean Burial Enclosure at Phourni, Arkhanes;" J.A. MacGillivray, "The Re-occupation of Eastern Crete in the Late Minoan II-III A Period;" L. Platon, "Χαρακτήρας, Μορφολογικά χαρακτηριστικά και χρονολόγηση του Μετανακτορικού οικισμού στο Κεφάλι Χόνδρου Βιαννου;" E. Banou and G. Rethemiotakis, "Center and Periphery: New Evidence for the relations between Knossos and the Area of Viannos in the LM II-III A Period;" J.-Cl. Poursat, "La fin des arts "palatiaux" dans la Crète;" I. Tournavitu, "Arts and Crafts: The Case of Ivories. Contrasts and Comparisons between Neopalatial and "Mycenaean" Crete;" W.-D. Niemeier, "Cretan Glyptic Arts in LM II and III, Continuity and Changes;" R. Hagg, "Religious Syncretism at Knossos and in Post-Palatial Crete?" J. Sakellarakis and Th. Iliopoulos, "The Idaean Cave as a Focal Point of Religious Syncretism in Mycenaean Crete;" C. Boulotis, "Divinités mycéniennes en Crète. Le problème du syncrétisme religieux;" N. Marinatos, "Minoan and Mycenaean painted Larnakes: A comparison;" S. Hiller, "Cretan Sanctuaries and Mycenaean Palatial Administration at Knossos;" J.T. Killen, "References to West Crete on the Knossos Tablets;" L. Godart - I. Tzedakis, "Le Royaume mycénien de La Canée;" J.-P. Olivier, "La collection et la circulation de l'information économique dans la Crète mycénienne;" J. Weingarten, "The Sealing Bureaucracy of Mycenaean Knossos and its Further Development on Mainland Greece."

Future Conferences

A congress on Cypriot Archaeology, organised by the University of Gothenburg, will be held from August 22nd to 24th with the following main themes: Life and death in ancient Cyprus; Regionalism versus island-wide development in Cypriot prehistory and history; The role of women in ancient Cyprus; The effects of immigrations; Presentation of new material or work in progress.

For further information please contact Professor Paul Åström, William Gibsons väg 11, S-433 76 Partille, Suède.

Lectures

On Wednesday, April 10, 1991, Dr. Paul Rehak of Loyola University of Chicago presented a lecture entitled "Aegean Bull Sports: Ritual Competition and Sacrifice," at the Second Annual Symposium on Ancient Sport, Texas Tech. University, Lubbock, Texas.

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The New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium met at the Institute of Fine Arts , One East 78th Street, on Wednesday, May 1, 1991. Dr. Elizabeth Barber spoke on "The Aegean Textile Industry and Its Trade Relations.

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