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THE WEST AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

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University of Ibadan, Nigeria

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Editorial

This first issue of the West African Archaeological Newsletter represents a venture designed to assist the progress of archaeological research in the whole of West Africa and to be of interest and service to all those engaged in it. The aim is quite simple and unpretentious - the exchange of information; particularly information concerning the work in progress which it is useful to know about, but which has not reached the stage of formal publication. That is why, for the time being at any rate, the Newsletter is for private circulation only, and nothing from it may be quoted for written publication without the permission of the original authors.

A copy of the circular which brought the Newsletter into being is printed at the end of this issue. Out of 53 copies of this circular sent out 25 replies were received favouring the idea and asking for inclusion in the distribution list. A list of those to whom the first issue is being sent is printed at the end of the Newsletter. If any reader knows of anyone active in the field of West African Archaeology who would like to receive the Newsletter and who is not on the list, he is asked to submit the name and address of the person concerned to the Editor.

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Perhaps it is worth mentioning two other contemporary contributions to the exchange of archaeological information, both of which we welcome wholeheartedly. The first is the publication of Inventaria Archaeologica Africana. This project, designed to follow the lines of Inventaria Archaeologica, arose out of the Vth Panafrican Congress on Prehistory and Quaternary Studies in September 1963. It is under the editorship of Dr. Jacques Nenquin and is made possible by the generosity of the Patrimoine du Musée Royal de l'Afrique centrale at Tervuren. The price of each card is 1s sterling, 0,7 N. F., 15 cents U. S. The first set of 23 cards (of protohistoric material from Sanga, Congo Leopoldville) is obtainable from the Patrimoine du Musée Royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium, C. C. P. 90, 37, 23., where orders may also be placed for the future sets of cards which will appear at irregular intervals.

The second contribution to the exchange of information is the formation of the Senegalese Association for Quaternary Research at Dakar. The first meeting was held at Dakar on 29th January 1964, and the first Bulletin published in February. The annual subscription is 500 F.

C. F. A., and the Secretary is M. Pereira-Barreto, Association Sénégalaise pour l'Étude du Quaternaire de l'Ouest Africain, Laboratoire de Géologie, Faculté des Sciences, Dakar-Fann, Sénégal.

We wish both projects every success.

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### Resumé

#### Editorial

Le West African Archeological Newsletter a pour but de permettre l'échange de documentation, particulièrement sur les travaux en cours qui n'ont pas encore atteint le stade de la publication définitive, mais qu'il peut être utile de connaître. Pour l'instant, le Bulletin n'est donc destiné qu'à la circulation privée. Aucune citation ne doit en être tirée pour une publication écrite sans l'autorisation préalable de l'auteur.

Les lecteurs qui connaissent des chercheurs travaillant actuellement dans le domaine de l'archéologie de l'Ouest Africain et désireux de recevoir le Bulletin, sont priés de communiquer le nom et l'adresse des intéressés.

Nous avons également le plaisir d'aviser MM. les chercheurs de l'existence de deux autres moyens d'échange de documentation:

- 1) Inventaria Archeologica Africana, disponible au Patrimoine du Musée Royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgique, C. C. P. 90-87-28
- 2) Association sénégalaise pour l'Étude du Quaternaire de l'Ouest Africain. Secrétaire: M. Pereira-Barreto, Laboratoire de Géologie, Faculté des Sciences, Dakar-Fann, Sénégal.

Etat des recherches préhistoriques dans l'Afrique de l'Ouest  
1964-1965

by  
Henri J. Hugot

La Préhistoire de l'Ouest Africain en général, et du Sénégal en particulier, apparait, au bout d'une deuxième année d'expérience, comme étant à réviser entièrement. Des baptêmes hatifs, des erreurs d'interprétation stratigraphique et, surtout, l'absence d'études typologiques systématiques ont abouti à présenter des hypothèses mal étayées et qui résistent rarement à une analyse critique objective.

On peut cependant, dès à présent, sur la base des réalités observées et des faits qui en sont déduits présenter un tableau sommaire de nos connaissances:

La Mauritanie offre, au moins jusqu'à l'Adrar en venant du Nord et de l'Est, une série de terrasses fluviatiles et probablement aussi lacustres, dans lesquelles s'inscrit, semble-t-il, la succession chronologique classique du Sahara:

- a. -Pebble-culture possible;
- b. -Divers niveaux acheuléens se terminant par un envahissement plus ou moins marqué par la technique Levallois;
- c. -Atérien précédé peut-être par une vague moustéroïde;
- d. -Néolithique, rarement de tradition capsienne.

Partant de l'Adrar vers l'Est, cet état de choses ne semble pas beaucoup se modifier. La seule chose notable est la substitution fréquente de pointes doubles foliacées, de technique bifaciale, aux objets pédonculés typiques de l'Atérien avec lesquels ils coexistent cependant quelquefois.

Au Sud de l'Adrar, et jusqu'à vérification de faits qui nous ont été signalés, on se gardera d'interpréter le vide apparent de la vaste région qui s'étend de part et d'autre du fleuve Sénégal et, au Sud, jusqu'à hauteur de la presqu'île du Cap Vert.

Parvenu en ce point, de nouvelles données apparaissent révélant des faits nouveaux et importants.

- (a) Il n'est pas impossible qu'une industrie de sphéroïdes à facettes existe au Cap Manuel;

- (b) L'Acheuléen évolué est en place en plusieurs points qu'il importe de redéfinir stratigraphiquement, en particulier à Fann;
- (c) Le site connu comme celui du Néolithique du Cap Manuel et qui est d'une grande richesse est lié au niveau rouge surmontant la coiffure latéritique des basaltes. L'industrie est formée de gros nucleus des types "Perdehoff" et "henbeak", d'une quantité impressionnante d'éclats de débitage, de "pics", de "gouges", de racloirs plus rares, etc. Mais il n'y a rien dans cet ensemble homogène qui laisse place à une quelconque influence néolithique. Que ce soit dans la couche rouge qui surmonte le plateau basaltique à plusieurs dizaines de mètres au dessus de la plage actuelle, sur les éboulis de pente ou au niveau de la plage flandrienne, il n'y a ni pierre polie, ni céramique, ni armatures, ni microlithes, ni aucun des éléments qui permettraient de définir un Néolithique. L'hypothèse d'un "Toumbien" est beaucoup plus sérieuse nonobstant le rejet de ce terme qui ne correspond pas à un niveau en place au site éponyme. A notre avis l'industrie du Cap Manuel est dérivée d'un "Sangoen" qui à du, pour parvenir jusqu'à là, suivre un cheminement longeant, au nord, la bande de la forêt dense. Bien qu'il soit encore trop tôt pour affirmer quoique ce soit c'est vers un "Lupembien I" (selon la dernière définition de G. Mortelmans) que nous recherchons des points de comparaison. C'est, de toute façon, une industrie forestière ayant une origine orientale.

Il existe un facies évolué et, techniquement, opposé au précédent ou apparaît avec beaucoup de précision une technique moustérienne assez pure liée à un beau débitage Levallois. C'est ce qu'on observe par exemple au "Ravin des voleurs". On y retrouve, sans mélange, la même industrie qui, à Tiemassas coexiste avec un Néolithique très archaïque par suite du décapage simultané de deux niveaux qui n'ont pu encore être isolés. Mais il va sans dire que l'on ne saurait baptiser la plus anciennes de ces deux industries "Paléolithique supérieur" sans pouvoir en fonder l'exactitude. Enfin il existe un facies proche à Bargny, Diourbel, Bakel, etc.

Une autre industrie, anciennement connue est celle qui "vient au dessus de la coulée doléritique des Mamelles, mais dont on ignore les relations avec la basanite supra-doléritique". On la retrouve en maints endroits, dans des positions différentes difficiles à expliquer. Il s'agit cependant d'un facies préneolithique.

Quant au Néolithique proprement dit, il faut répudier définitivement des termes aussi ambigus que "Néoibéromaurusien" ou "Néolithique de

tradition capsienne". Pour le moment il n'existe rien qui puisse fonder de telles influences. Le microlithisme particulier du Néolithique sénégalais, pour ne parler que de celui là, est à base de segments de cercle dans la proportion de 30 % ! Il n'a pas une origine septentrionale ni par sa céramique, ni par ses éléments de parure. On a d'ailleurs découvert à Dahr Mohammed Fadel (Mauritanie) un prodigieux ensemble qui sans être, bien entendu, "Campignien" n'en fait pas moins penser au Maroughetien nord africain de Reygasse et que nous avons baptisé, faute d'un terme pour l'identifier, le "Fadélien". Il s'agit d'une industrie néolithique répartie sur plusieurs kilomètres carrés et rééditant la spécialisation déjà observée aux ateliers de la région de Grein (Niger). Sur l'un des sites abondaient les haches, sur un autre des outils de mineur : "pics" à section triangulaire et terminés en pointe, erminettes, ciseaux, gouges; sur un troisième une micro-industrie à grattoirs unguiformes dominants, etc., etc.. Si l'on ajoute à cela des "kwés", une céramique rare mais du type "dotted wavy line" et les inévitables segments de cercle, ce n'est certainement pas non plus vers le nord que nous irons chercher les origines des "Fadéliens." D'autant plus que les abris sous roche de la région conservent de magnifiques peintures murales attribuables à des pasteurs gardeurs de boeufs. Des charbons permettent de penser que nous aurons très prochainement l'âge de ce très remarquable ensemble.

On ignore encore les relations que le Fadélien peut avoir avec le faciès litoral des Néolithiques consommateurs de patelles. Là encore existent des segments de cercle mais ce n'est pas le fond de l'industrie qui est surchargée de tessons de céramique. Nous avons récolté des charbons et des dates par C 14 permettront de régler l'irritante question de la chronologie du Néolithique de l'Ouest africain. Le dernier faciès qui s'y rapporte et qui risque bien d'être le plus ancien est celui évoqué plus haut de Tiemassas. Là pas de charbon, du moins provisoirement. Mais il n'est pas impossible d'envisager la solution du problème posé par les relations stratigraphiques de l'industrie d'allure moustérienne avec le Néolithique.

Summary

The State of Research in the Prehistory of West Africa

The prehistory of West Africa in general is in need of revision. Mauretania shows in a series of terraces the classical Saharan succession of a possible Pebble-culture, Acheulean, Aterian and Neolithic. At Cap Manuel there may be an industry of faceted spheroids, but the so-called "Cap Manuel Neolithic" seems to belong to a Sangoan tradition, with closest analogues in Mortelmans' Lupemban I. Details of the industries are given, but the northern connections implied in the terms "Neo-Iberomaurusian" and "Neolithic of Capsian Tradition" for Neolithic facies are rejected. Notice is given of a new Neolithic industry termed the "Fadelian", for which it is hoped to obtain radio-carbon dates.

EXCAVATION AT LADOKU: Preliminary Report

by

Paul Ozanne

The site of Ladoku, seventeenth century capital of the La-bi (Adangbe) was identified in January 1964, four miles north of Prampram (5°46' N 0° 05'E). In March, small scale excavations were conducted with the following objectives:-

- (1) to test the validity of the tobacco-pipe sequence and dating suggested in previous papers;
- (2) to attempt to estimate the date of the town's desertion;
- (3) to try to discover the time of its foundation;
- (4) to see if the site would be a good one on which to train future students.

Four trenches, covering a joint area of 200 square feet, were excavated into two neighbouring middens. Much of the dusty soil of the middens had apparently been blown away - the site is a very windy and dry one - whilst they were accumulating. The total depth of deposit found was only thirty inches.

This shallow deposit, however, provided ample evidence to satisfy our first two objectives. Over a hundred pipe fragments were found (and nearly another 100 collected from the surface) and were stratified in the order, 1A, 2A, 2B, and 3. Type 1B, well known in Shai, was not identified.

The top layer especially produced a large number of imports: one neck fragment of blue Rhenish stone-ware, many European clay pipes - several of which are well-enough preserved to be dated accurately - and many fragments (base, wall and neck) of spirits bottles. Many more such pieces were collected from the surface, including not only Rhenish stone-ware, but also a handle perhaps of Ely manufacture, and a lead or salt-glazed piece.

These imports tend to confirm the hypothesis that local pipe design changed from Type 1 to Type 3 within the seventeenth century; the datable fragments all seem to belong to circa 1650-1700. Our knowledge of the expansion of Akwamu makes 1702 a likely date for the desertion of Ladoku, a date in harmony with the finds. The fact that, in both excavations and in surface collections, only 2% of the pipes were of Type 3, agrees well with the suggestion that this type was introduced between 1690 and 1700. We may therefore regard the chronology of the period 1640 to 1720 in the Accra area as secure, and estimate dates with a likely error of less than 10 years. It should be noted, however, that no evidence was found at



Ladoku to confirm or deny the suggested date of 1640 for the introduction of local pipe-making. Pipes, but not imports (apart from beads, and in the lowest levels the beads were mainly of stone), were found from top to bottom of the deposits examined.

The attempt to date the foundation of the town was unsuccessful. Trenches were dug into a dew-pond and its surrounding bank, in an area covered by micaceous pottery, which is believed to be older than 1600. Since the bank was full of such pottery, it was clear that the dew-pond was not built at the beginning of settlement. Consequently - and also because of the absence of carbonic remains which might have given a C 14 date - the trench into the dew-pond was abandoned at the shallow depth of 3 or 4 feet.

The site would be suitable for the training of students, but since I believe the necessary training to include demonstration of how one approaches the unknown, I believe that it would be wrong in principle to decapitate training, and to decrease the development of our knowledge, by sending students to a site which has already given nearly as much information as, in our present state of knowledge, we can use profitably. A site in a near-virgin area would serve the requirements of research and of teaching far more.

Several other interesting pieces of information emerged from work at Ladoku. From the top layer was excavated a pipe of a strange design to Ghana, but very like indeed to some from the Middle Niger illustrated by Daget and Ligers in Bull. d'IFAN 1962; I think it was probably made in that area. Although most house-foundations had been destroyed by ploughing, two were found which are very like those of Adwuku, in Shai: circular, about 12 feet in diameter, marked out in stone, with a brick floor. Disturbed fragments of brick floors were widespread; and since they have the same multiple mortice-and-tenon edges, fitting together, as at Adwuku, I am nearly convinced that they were deliberately made individually before being set in position - an idea which has been opposed by several people. Shaw has suggested the best way to test this thesis: by comparing the magnetic orientation of the individual pieces of brick. When we have the equipment to do this, we will be able to solve the problem.

Other features are: two lengths, near to each other, of wall foundations, each consisting of a double-line of large stones (like the foundations of three houses at Adwuku, believed to be of 16th century date); a possible mosque, which may however be just a praying-circle with mithrab made by cattle-herders within the present century; and a straight line of six big baobabs, which is the only obvious indication of town plan.

Resumé  
Fouilles à Ladoku: Rapport préliminaire

En mars 1964, des fouilles sur une petite échelle ont été faites sur l'emplacement de Ladoku, capitale au 17<sup>e</sup> siècle du Labi (Adangbé), à 4 milles au nord de Prampram (5°46'N 0°05'E). Les résultats tendent à confirmer les hypothèses suivantes:

- 1) La forme des pipes est passée du type 1 au type 3 au cours du 17<sup>e</sup> siècle.
- 2) 1702 paraît être une date probable de l'abandon de Ladoku. Résultat négatif de l'essai de datation de la fondation de Ladoku.

News from Nigeria

by

Thurstan Shaw

There has been a good deal of change in the personnel of those engaged in archaeology in Nigeria over the past year or so. We have lost our most distinguished archaeologist in the person of Mr. Bernard Fagg, formerly Director of the Department of Antiquities, and well known for his publications of the Nok terra-cottas and associated material, his discovery of rock-gongs, and other work. It is good to know that he anticipates that his new post as Curator of the Pitt Rivers Museum at Oxford will allow him to visit Nigeria and continue his work on the Nok material, which is in such urgent need of full and detailed publication. Mr. Kenneth Murray is now the Director of the Department of Antiquities.

Mr. Ekpo Eyo returned to the Department of Antiquities after training in England in August 1963, and early this year, in conjunction with Mr. Robert Soper, conducted an excavation outside the rock-shelter at Rop partially dug by Bernard Fagg in 1944.

Mr. Frank Willett left the Department in June 1963 and is now a Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford, where he is intending to write up for publication much of the material he collected while he was working at Ife. Thanks to Leverhulme Research grant he was able to spend two months in the summer working on the material at Ife.

Mr. Robert Soper has just left the Department to take up a post in the East African Institute of Archaeology and Historical Research; his work in surveying Stone Age material in Northern Nigeria is being continued by Mr. J. A. Priddy, who joined the Department in the middle of 1964.

Mr. K. M. Oyenuga has just returned to the Department after completing his training in England.

Mr. Graham Connah is this month taking up a post as a Research Fellow in the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, to work in Bornu in connection with the Northern Historical Research Scheme which is being conducted jointly by the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and the University of Ibadan, with Professor Charles Smith as Director and Professor Thurstan Shaw as Archaeological Consultant.

Early in the year excavations were carried out by Mr. Oliver Myers, of the University of Ife, at Obamire's Grove at Ife, and by Prof. Thurstan Shew at Igbo-Ukwu in Eastern Nigeria. Dr. Donald Hartle of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, has carried out an excavation at a site on

the Agricultural Farm, and is carrying out a survey of archaeological sites in the Eastern Region.

Resumé  
Nouvelles du Nigeria

Quelques mutations ont eu lieu dans le personnel d'archéologie du Nigéria depuis environ un an.

M. Bernard Fagg, Directeur du Département des Antiquités, a assumé les fonctions de Curateur du Musée Pitt Rivers à Oxford. M. Kenneth Murray le remplace à la direction du Département des Antiquités.

Des fouilles ont été opérées au début de l'année par M. Oliver Myers, de l'Université d'Ifé, au Bois d'Obamire à Ifé, et par le professeur Thurstan Shaw à Igbo-Ukwu, dans la Région Est du Nigéria. Le Dr. Donald Hartle, de l'Université de Nsukka, a exécuté des fouilles sur un emplacement de la Ferme de l'Université et prépare un relevé des emplacements archéologiques de l'Est du Nigéria.

STONE AXES

by

Paul Ozanne

Professor McCallien and Dr. van Landewijk, of the Department of Geology of the University of Ghana, have kindly shown interest in the petrological analysis of Stone Axes, and van Landewijk has started with two axes from a site in Legon, guessed to date from about 900  $\pm$  300 A. D., and a dozen or so from the 16th and 17th (perhaps earlier as well) site of Adwuku in Shai. Even from this small sample, tentative ideas may be derived which should be compared with the ideas of Shaw in PPS 1944, and Wild before.

The very, very tentative conclusions of the analysis so far are:-

(1) In early times, relatively soft rocks (such as can be cut with a knife) were used for axes, but later harder ones were used. In petrological terms, in early times coarse grained rocks (whether they be varieties of greenstone or of other rocks) especially those with no pronounced crystalline orientation, were used, whereas later much finer-grained rocks were exploited.

(2) The grain and crystalline orientation of the rock may control the final shape of the axe. Coarse-grained, non-orientated rocks, with no pronounced cleavage, can be made into conical axes; fine grained orientated rocks can only be made, with ease, into cylindrical or cuboid forms.

With these points in mind, it is interesting to note Dr. Davies' suggestion that "triangular" axes are, on the whole, more ancient than parallel-sided ones.

Resumé  
Haches de pierre

Conclusions très provisoires de l'analyse pétrologique de haches de pierre par le professeur McCallien et le Dr. van Lan Landewijk:

- 1) Dans les périodes reculées, emploi de roches à gros grains, surtout sans orientation cristalline prononcée. Plus récemment, exploitation de roches à grains plus fins.
- 2) Les roches à gros grains, sans orientation ni clivage prononcé, peuvent faire des haches coniques. Les roches orientées, à grains fins, ne donnent avec facilité que des formes cylindriques ou cuboïdes.

Excavations at Igbo-Ukwu 1964

by

Thurstan Shaw

Excavations were carried out at Igbo-Ukwu during February, March and April 1964 under the auspices of the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan.

The site was chosen and agreement concluded with its owners only after some five preliminary visits to Igbo-Ukwu. It lies about thirty yards east of the sites I excavated in 1959/60 under the auspices of the Federal Department of Antiquities in the compound of Isaiah Anozie, and which revealed a store-house or shrine where sacred vessels and regalia were kept. The new site is on the other side of Isaiah Anozie's house, in the compound of Jonah Anozie, and it was therefore named for reference 'Igbo Jonah'. It was chosen for excavation because it had been reported that some years before, in digging clay for walls, one or more objects of bronze had been found there. It was said that this was in 1922 and that the objects had either been thrown away or lost, sold to traders, or sold to John Field when he bought the objects discovered in Isaiah Anozie's compound in 1939 and which are now in the Nigerian Museum in Lagos.

Most of the area available for digging was excavated, in seven rectangular cuttings, covering a total area of more than 1730 square feet. The pit dug out for obtaining clay was identified, and it was found that this had sliced off the top four feet or so of an older pit, and it is virtually certain that it was from this that the bronze objects discovered originated. The pit was fairly exactly circular with a diameter of about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  ft., vertical sides and an uneven floor, the lowest point of which was at a depth of 9 ft. 7 ins below the present surface. The profile of this pit was quite unlike that of abandoned water-cisterns, common in the area, which have a diameter of three to three and a half feet for a depth of eight to twelve feet before swelling out to a diameter of six feet or more, to make flask-shaped cisterns, the bottom of which may be from 15 to 25 feet below the surface. Such an old cistern was discovered and sectioned at the northern edge of the site and found to be filled up with characteristic brown rubble and rubbish.

The infill of the other pit was quite different, consisting of sloping layers of dark grey carbonaceous material roughly alternating with layers of reddish sand. There was much broken pottery, especially in the carbonaceous layers, and some pots which, although broken by subsequent earth pressure and settlement, appear to have been complete or nearly so.

One magnificent pot was recovered intact, found lying three-quarters upside down against the side of the pit at the bottom of one of the sloping layers. It consists of a wide-mouthed water-pot, some fifteen inches high and eighteen inches in diameter. The lower portion of the globular body is plain, but the upper portion and the neck is highly decorated with a characteristic pattern of deeply-grooved lines, often arranged in concentric circles surrounding a projecting boss. From this area five strap handles join the shoulder and the rim, decorated with a kind of basket- or wicker-work pattern. Between them and surmounting the other decoration five panels represent a coiled snake, a ram's head, a (?) tortoise, another snake and what appears to be a pangolin or chameleon.

There were fairly extensive traces of bone, always in a very bad state of preservation and often little more than a yellowish stain on the soil. There were also a number of slender bracelets of copper or bronze, and other small objects in this material, usually in a rather friable and poor state of preservation. Only one bead was found.

Nothing was recovered which immediately gives any clue to the date, although charcoal samples have been taken for radiocarbon analysis. There were cowrie shells and a piece of a native-made clay smoking pipe in the superficial layers on the site, but none in the pit.

What this pit and its contents represent it is difficult to say until there has been further study of the finds.

Resumé  
Fouilles à Igbo-Ukwu (1964)

L'emplacement, à 30m. à l'est de l'une des fouilles de 1959-60, fut choisi parce qu'il avait été signalé que des objets de bronze y avaient été trouvés en 1922, lors d'un enlèvement d'argile.

Les fouilles ont révélé de nombreux petits objets de bronze ou de cuivre, en état de conservation médiocre, des restes d'ossements, et un magnifique pot à eau, à embouchure large, de 33 cm. de haut et 46 cm. de diamètre. Une certaine quantité d'échantillons de charbon de bois a été prélevée à fin d'analyse au C 14.

La signification des résultats de ces fouilles reste à déterminer par une étude plus approfondie des trouvailles.

Copy of Original Circular

Proposed West African Archaeological Newsletter

At the Ninth Annual Congress of the Historical Society of Nigeria, at which were present three representatives of the Ghana Historical Association, the following resolution was passed:

(a) That a committee be set up to facilitate the co-ordination and development of archaeological research throughout West Africa, by organizing the interchange of ideas and information between research workers, by whatever means seem most practicable, and by keeping historians in touch with current work by presenting accounts to appropriate institutions.

(b) That Professor Shaw be asked to implement the main resolution with the assistance of his colleagues.

In response to this resolution I undertook to do what I could towards organizing the interchange of archaeological ideas and information. Probably the best way to do this will be in the form of a West African Archaeological Newsletter. The intention of this is essentially that it is for private circulation only, so that contributors can feel able to give up-to-date reports and impressions of work in hand without being committed to interpretations or expressions of opinion in the same way as happens with published material. It will thus be a forum for the exchange of news and ideas, for 'thinking aloud', for appealing for information. It must be clearly understood that nothing from it may be quoted without the author's written permission.

With regard to the Committee mentioned in the resolution, that is best left on an 'ad hoc' basis to meet when it happens that there are a sufficient number of the persons concerned gathered together, e. g. at joint meetings of the Ghana and Nigeria Historical Association, at meetings of the Panafrican Congress on Archaeology, etc. There are no resources available to pay for the travelling which would be involved in special meetings of such a committee, and I do not intend to try to run a committee by post!

I am therefore now writing to you to know if you would be interested in these proposals, in particular whether you would favour the attempt to run the kind of private archaeological newsletter described and would support it. I also enclose a list of those to whom this circular letter is being sent so that you may suggest the names of any others not on the list who you



think would be interested.

The Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, is prepared to undertake the cost initially. It is not proposed to undertake to issue the newsletter at any fixed interval; the frequency of issues would depend upon the amount of material sent in.

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List of recipients of the first Newsletter

Adams, R. H.	c/o Northern Bank, Ltd Oldcastle Co. Meath, Ireland.
Balout, Prof. Lionel	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle Institut de Paléontologie Humaine 1, rue René-Panhard, Paris (XIII <sup>o</sup> )
Bascom, Prof. William	Department of Anthropology University of California Berkeley, California, U. S. A.
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