

over

July 24, 1969

Mr. Charles C. Di Peso
Amerind Foundation
Dragoon, Arizona 85609

Dear Di Peso:

As I recall, you did a thorough job of investigating that Julsrud collection in Mexico some years ago and concluded the whole thing was faked for sale to Julsrud -- that seemed to me a very sensible conclusion after I saw a whole lot of the stuff here at the University Museum.

Now we are really in trouble with this stuff again. The head of a foundation here asked us to process two of those figurines with our newly developed thermoluminescence technique for dating pottery. To my horror, I find the two pieces date 2,664 B.C. \pm 283 and 2,744 B.C. \pm 380. Since this is a new technique only done here and at Oxford I naturally had the lab go into these dates in a very exhaustive way looking for all possible errors. They assure me there are no errors. As you may know over a period of three years we have done a lot of pottery of various ages and our correlations are excellent -- so something is very wrong here.

I enclose drawings of the two pieces. The complete figure looks absolutely fake -- particularly the clay surface, -- and yet the thermoluminescence dates are firm! At this stage the natural reaction is that thermoluminescence is in error -- but both the lab here and in Oxford are now certain of the method.

What do you think? Have you more of this material that we can analyse and have you any reservations about your original opinion? Certainly we do not want to release such dates at this point and I think that you are the person most familiar with this thing and in the best position to make some suggestions. It is difficult for us to drop a problem which is unresolved and we really should try to resolve it in some way. But I am sure I do not know how - would you let me have your opinion?

All the best,

Froelich Rainey
Director

FR/ek
Enclosures

THE AMERIND FOUNDATION, INC.
DRAGON, ARIZONA 85609

September 4, 1969

TELEPHONE
602 / 586-3003

Dr. Froelich Rainey
The University Museum
Thirty-Third and Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19104

Dear Fro:

Under separate cover I am sending five items which may assist you in solving the dating dilemma of the Julsrud complex. These items include three sherds:

- P-T-234 - 1: Acambaro R/Br Bowl sherd
2: Acambaro R/Br Jar sherd
3: Acambaro Red Rim Bowl sherd
P-T-235 - 4: Plainware spread legged monster sherd

All of these were found on the surface of the "Hill of the Goat" in 1952. The fifth item (Cat. No. 1619) is a monster from Julsrud private collection.

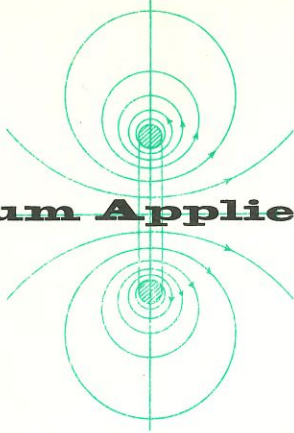
Please be as conservative and discrete as possible in fulfilling your "clay" needs for dating as we would like to have all of these items returned. I would have your specialist check and see if the monster sherd and No. 1619 have ground sherd temper. Would this affect your dating? Good luck!

Sincerely,



Charles C. Di Peso
Director

D/s
Encl. (s.c.)



Museum Applied Science Center for Archaeology

Froelich Rainey, Director

Elizabeth K. Ralph, Associate Director

THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM • UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
33rd & SPRUCE STREETS • PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19104
594-7400 (Area Code 215) Cable Address "Antique"

Both, please reply to the P no

June 2nd, 1970

To: Dr. F. Rainey

From: Mark Han

Re.: Two TL results on Julsrud collection, received on Sept. 1969.

Both were found on the surface of the "Hill of the Goat" in 1952.

P-T-234 Sample 1: Acambaro R/Br Bowl sherd 847 BC \pm 276yr

P-T-235 Sample 4: Plainware spread legged monster sherd 2408 BC \pm 372yr

P-T-210 2664 BC \pm 283yr

P-T-211 2744 BC \pm 380yr

Above two samples were dated by TL during Summer 1969, they are also from the Julsrud collection, information on 210 and 211 are attached here with.

June 4, 1970

Dr. Charles C. DiPeso
The Amerid Foundation, Inc.
Dragoon, Arizona 85609

Dear Dr. Di Peso:

Dr. Rainey has just left for Europe and has asked me to send you the results of our thermoluminescence tests of objects from the Julsrud Collection in Mexico. The previous and the new results are as follows:

Figurines

P-T-210	2660 \pm 280 B.C.	—
P-T-211	2740 \pm 380 B.C.	—
P-T-235	2410 \pm 370 B.C.	(Sample 4)

if on each -

Sherd

P-T-234 850 \pm 280 B.C. (Sample 1)

(Copies of the descriptions are enclosed to clarify the association of our laboratory numbers with the objects).

Normally, the TL "dates" should represent the time of last firing of the pottery above 500°C. For the three figurines, we are tempted to think that they may not have been fired to a sufficiently high temperature. However, there is a strong objection to this argument. This is the fact that all three have roughly the same "age". If they had been fired incompletely, one would expect to find the TL "dates" to be extremely variable.

The TL result for the sherd should be more reliable.

We shall be glad to receive your comments about these results.

Sincerely yours,

Hopford

September 3rd, 1970

Packing List:

1. Acambaro R/Br sherd (1) boxl *
2. " " " jar
3. " Red Rim sherd (1) boxl
4. Plainware spread legged monster sherd *
5. Monster (Cat. No. 1619)

* Portions of material removed for test.

Above objects are being returned to:

Mr. Charles C. Di Peso
The Amerind Foundation, Inc.
Dragoon, Arizona 85609

November 6, 1970

Dear Jose:

You will remember I was supposed to write you a note as to when I am expected to arrive in Mexico for the experiments with the instruments in Jalisco. Returning to the office, I discovered that Beth Ralph and Bruce Bevan, of our Applied Science Center, had already arranged to leave for Guadalajara on January 7 so I will join them for the first 2-3 days, at least to get them started and then I will continue on to Guatemala or lower California. My plans are not quite clear on that for the moment.

They tell me we can either go through San Antonio to Guadalajara or through Mexico City but in any case, I will look you up in Mexico City sometime during the second week of January and I certainly hope that you will be there. I look forward to this experience and certainly hope the instruments prove useful.

All the best,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Dr. Jose Luis Lorenzo
Instituto Nacional de Antropologia
e Historia
Cordoba Numero 34
Mexico, D. F.

ASCA

September 13, 1972

Dear Arthur:

I am enclosing the data on the Thermoluminescence dating of the objects from the Julsrud Collection and from the archaeological site on the Hill of the Goat sent to us by Charles Di Peso. As you know, there is something unusually interesting about these particular analyses. All three of the typical "monster" figurines or fragments, that is the two from the Julsrud Collection which we received from you and the one from Di Peso returned dates in the range of 2400 - 2700 B.C. Moreover, the fragment of the "monster" sent in by Di Peso was picked up on the surface of the Hill of the Goat and is not from the Julsrud private collection. This raises the curious point that a fragment from an ordinary pot sherd, that is an Acambaro bowl also picked up on the surface of the Hill of the Goat, gives us a date of only 847 B.C.

When we made the analysis of the first two Julsrud figurines in 1969, we were just then perfecting the Thermoluminescence method of dating pottery and I was very cautious about reporting these dates because at that time there were all sorts of possible "bugs" in the Thermoluminescence system. As you know, Di Peso's study of the Julsrud Collection and that area convinced him that these were all fakes and in view of the uncertainty of the TL method in 1969, I didn't want to put these particular dates on the line publicly.

Now, after we have had years of experimentation both here and at the lab at Oxford, we have no doubt at all about the dependability of the Thermoluminescence method. We may have errors of up to 5-10% in absolute dating but we are no longer concerned about unexpected "bugs" that might put the whole system in doubt.

I should also point out that we were so concerned about the extraordinarily ancient date of these figurines that Mark Han in our lab made an average

Mr. Young
Page 2

of 18 runs on each one of the four samples. Hence this is a very substantial bit of research on these particular pieces. Also our lab comments that to give accurate Thermoluminescence dates, the pottery would have to be fired above 500 degrees centigrade. The three figurines analysed might not have been fired to that degree of heat which could explain an error, except that all three figurines give roughly the same age. If they had been fired incompletely, I would expect the TL dates to be extremely variable. All in all, the lab stands on these dates for the Julsrud material, whatever this means in terms of archaeological dating in Mexico, or in terms of fakes versus authentic pieces. I still think DiPeso is the one to follow up in this matter since he is the one who has done most of the work in the area and I am sending him a copy of this letter. At the same time, I fully agree that you should release these dates to Professor Hapgood for publication or whatever use he wants to make of them. There may be some explanation for what is to me a very surprising result but if so, we don't see it in the analysis of the material.

All best wishes,

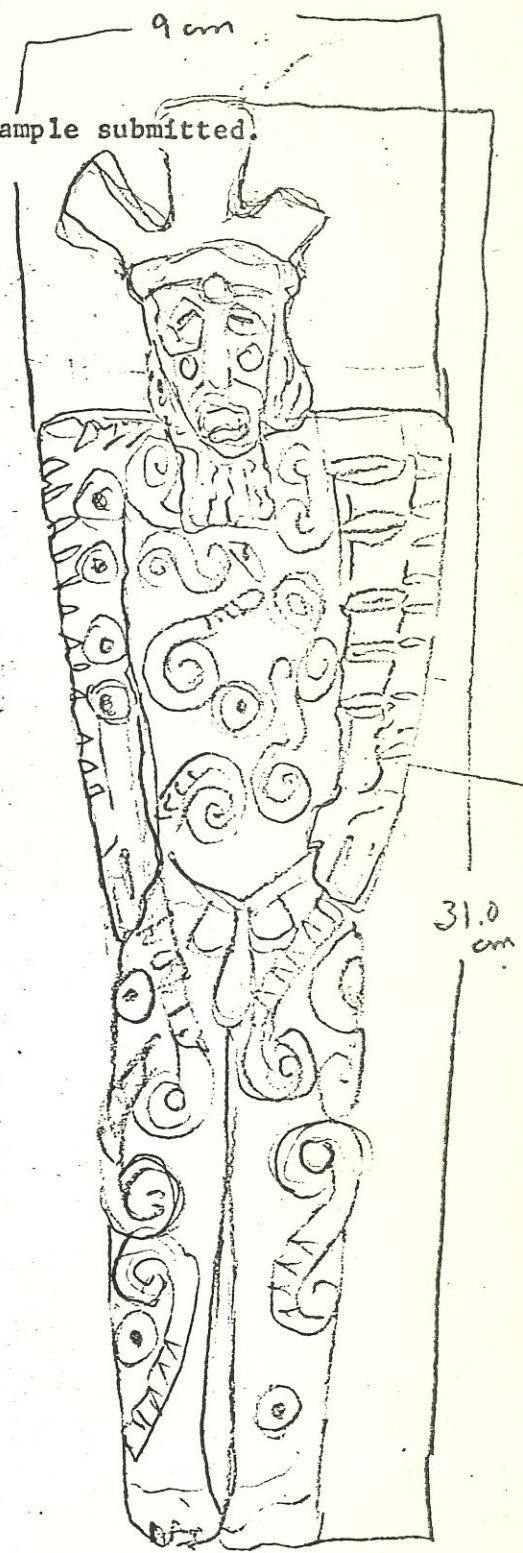
Froelich Rainey
Director

Mr. Arthur M. Young
Foundation for the Study of Consciousness
1810 Delancey Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

MASCA Laboratory, University Museum
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

The information requested below must accompany each sample submitted.

1. Descriptive name of site and sample, and brief explanation of significance of each.
Julsrud Complex
2. Sample material.
3. Precise geographic location, including latitude & longitude to nearest degree.
*Julsrud Collection
in Mexico.*
4. Occurrence and stratigraphic position within site; cultural and/or geologic associations; and stratigraphic and chronological position of this sample relative to others from this site. Include sketch if necessary.
5. Factors affecting validity of date, such as subsequent exposure to heat above ambient temperatures.
6. Any further explanation felt necessary.
7. Name of collector and date of collection.
8. Name and institutional affiliation of submitter.
via. F. Rainey.
9. Reference to relevant publications. Include complete title, publication, pagination, etc.
10. Comment by submitter and/or collector, comparing sample with other dates and sites, etc. Sample numbers and references must be complete.



2660 ± 250 BC

MASCA Laboratory, University Museum
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

The information requested below must accompany each sample submitted.

- 1. Descriptive name of site and sample, and brief explanation of significance of each.

Julsrud complex.

- 2. Sample material.

- 3. Precise geographic location, including latitude & longitude to nearest degree.

Julsrud collection in Mexico.

- 4. Occurrence and stratigraphic position within site: cultural and/or geologic associations; and stratigraphic and chronological position of this sample relative to others from this site. Include sketch if necessary.

- 5. Factors affecting validity of date, such as subsequent exposure to heat above ambient temperatures.

- 6. Any further explanation felt necessary.

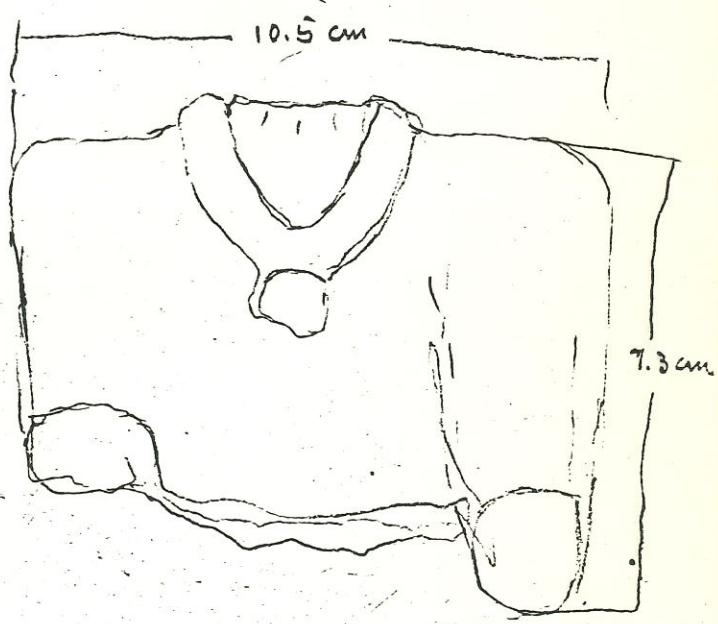
- 7. Name of collector and date of collection.

- 8. Name and institutional affiliation of submitter.

via F. Rainey.

- 9. Reference to relevant publications. Include complete title, publication, pagination, etc.

- 10. Comment by submitter and/or collector, comparing sample with other dates and sites, etc. Sample numbers and references must be complete.



2740 ± 380 B C

September 27, 1972

Dear Mr. Hapgood:

Of course, I would be pleased to have you publish the last three paragraphs of my letter to Arthur Young of September 13. At this point, I would be pleased to see the whole Julsrud question brought up again and some resolution made on what seems to be some very conflicting evidence. Do let me know what happens as a result of your publication.

All best wishes,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Mr. Charles H. Hapgood
R. F. D. #3
Winchester, New Hampshire 03470

CHARLES H. HAPGOOD

R. F. D. 3

WINCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03470

Sept. 22, 1972

Dr. Froelich Rainey, Director
The Pennsylvania Museum,
Thirty-third and Spruce Streets,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Rainey,

Thank you very much for your permission, transmitted to me by Arthur Young, to use the thermoluminescent dates found for the Julsrud material. As you know by now, Mr. Young has authorized me to proceed to have printed a pamphlet that will summarize my own work on the collection. From 50 to 100 photographs of figurines, representative of the collection as a whole, will be included. It was our plan to present copies of the pamphlet to a number of museums and interested archeologists in the hope of increasing interest in the collection. The addition of the thermoluminescent dates will enormously increase the credibility of the booklet, and may ultimately lead to a fully equipped scientific expedition to Acambaro.

In the booklet itself I want to make very sure that I represent your views accurately, and therefore I would like now to ask your permission to quote the last three paragraphs of your letter to Arthur of September 13th.

I am sure you can imagine what these dates mean to those of us who have spent years - actually more than twenty years - in efforts to vindicate Mr. Julsrud and his great collection. The dates mean that an entirely new chapter has been opened in Americanist studies.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles Hapgood
Charles H. Hapgood

Post Office Box 435
Wallingford, Conn. 06492
October 4, 1972

ASC A

Dr. Froelich Rainey
The University Museum
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear Dr. Rainey:

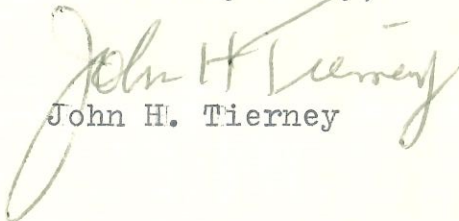
I have heard that you have released a report on the results of your thermoluminescent dating tests of figurines from Acambaro, Gto., Mexico owned by Waldemar Julsrud.

If this is so please tell me where and at what cost I can obtain a copy of your report.

If a formal report has not been issued I would appreciate hearing simply the basic details - i.e. the particular sources of the figurines, by whom submitted, number of items tested, ages obtained, etc.

Thank you very much for your assistance. A stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

Yours very truly,


John H. Tierney

October 12, 1972

Dear Mr. Tierney:

We have not producedd any report on the material at Acambaro, but here is the data released to Professor Hapgood.

I am enclosing the data on the Thermoluminescence dating of the objects from the Julsrud Collection and from the archaeological site on the Hill of the Goat sent to us by Charles Di Peso. As you know, there is something unusually interesting about these particular analyses. All three of the typical "monster" figurines or fragments, that is the two from the Julsrud Collection which we received from you and the one from Di Peso returned dates in the range of 2400 - 2700 B. C. Moreover, the fragment of the "monster" sent in by Di Peso was picked up on the surface of the Hill of the Goat and is not from the Julsrud private collection. This raises the curious point that a fragment from an ordinary pot sherd, that is an Acambaro bowl also picked up on the surface of the Hill of the Goat, gives us a date of only 847 B. C.

When we made the analysis of the first two Julsrud figurines in 1969, we were just then perfecting the Thermoluminescence method of dating pottery and I was very cautious about reporting these dates because at that time there were all sorts of possible "bugs" in the Thermoluminescence system. As you know, Di Peso's study of the Julsrud Collection and that area convinced him that these were all fakes and in view of the uncertainty of the TL method in 1969, I didn't want to put these particular dates on the line publicly.

Now, after we have had years of experimentation both here and at the lab at Oxford, we have no doubt at all about the dependability of the Thermoluminescence method. We may have errors of up to 5-10% in absolute dating but we are no longer concerned about unexpected "bugs" that might put the whole system in doubt.

Mr. Tierney
October 12, 1972
Page 2

This whole thing is a complete puzzle to me, but I do hope someone is going back to investigate that site.

Best wishes,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Mr. John H. Tierney
Post Office Box 435
Wallingford, Conn. 06492

Oc

October 24, 1972

Dear Cyrus:

I must admit that the thermo-luminescence dates on the "monsters" from Acambaro have me really intrigued. Since DiPiso looked into this business at some length some years ago, I have urged him to follow it up. But if he doesn't, I would definitely be interested in looking into the business myself in the summer of '73. I really do have confidence in these dates at around 2,600 B. C. and there must be some explanation.

All best wishes,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Mr. Cyrus H. Gordon
Department of Mediterranean Studies
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Brandeis University
Waltham, Massachusetts 02154

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02154

DEPARTMENT OF MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES

Dr. F. Rainey
Director
The University Museum
University of Pennsylvania
Thirty-Third & Spruce Sts.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

October 18, 1972

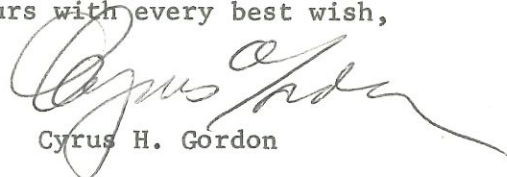
Dear Dr. Rainey:

Mr. Hapgood informs me that thermo-luminescence tests prove that pottery, including the "monster" pieces ^{from Acambaro} are authentic and ancient dating back to 2700-2400 B.C.[^] Would the University of Pennsylvania be interested in a joint mission to Acambaro in the summer of 1973?

The consensus of opinion among the archeologists I have met over the years is that the pottery from Acambaro is faked. There happens to be some archeological support for the themes of the Acambaro material that I shall be happy to discuss with you if you are interested.

All of us remember your visit to the Brandeis campus with pleasure.

Yours with every best wish,



Cyrus H. Gordon

November 3, 1972

Dear Mr. Hapgood:

I just have your note about the Julsrud Collection and after you'd heard from Dr. Gordon of Brandeis. I am anxious to try to figure out what this Julsrud business is all about but, as I told Gordon, I already urged Di Peso to continue his research at the site. He really is very open-minded about this and we have been analysing pieces which he collected at "Goat Hill" - which I presume you refer to as "Bull Mountain", whichever it is. Anyway, if Di Peso does not want to undertake this, we will certainly try to do something about it.

All best wishes,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Mr. Charles H. Hapgood
R. F. D. 3
Winchester, New Hampshire 03470

CHARLES H. HAPGOOD

R. F. D. 3

WINCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03470

October 30, 1972

Dr. Freulich Rainey, Director
The Pennsylvania Museum,
Thirty-third and Spruce Streets,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Rainey,

Dr. Gordon of Brandeis University has advised me of his letter to you suggesting a joint project of investigation of the Julsrud Collection in Acambaro, Mexico. He has asked me for my suggestions as to how this investigation might be organized, that is, what the specific objectives might be.

My suggestion is that for the immediate present the most important thing is to obtain a series of thermoluminescent datings of figurines of the different styles, clays and topic contents in the collection. We should date the objects that suggest the crude beginnings of ceramic work, as well as the most finished pieces which presumably ^{are} be much later. It would be important to date one or more of the figurines of wild horses to determine whether they are of extinct species. The Egyptian-type objects should be dated, for these, of course, have been called into serious doubt.

So far as the question of bringing these objects out of Mexico to be tested at the Museum, I think in most cases we might find that broken pieces from the crates in the Julsrud house would be quite satisfactory. As you know, Waldemar Julsrud had his digger bring him the pieces of figurines that were too badly broken to be put together, and these he stored in a large number of boxes still in the house. These boxes have never been opened. We can be very sure, indidentally, that they were really excavated on the Bull Mountain, for Mr. Julsrud did not buy fragments of figurines from anyone. Furthermore, those who through the years have attacked the collection as fraudulent have never explained why the fakers would have produced thousands of broken pieces, pieces broken beyond repair.

I should think a practical basis for cooperation between the Museum and Brandeis would be for Dr. Gordon to select the pieces for dating and for the Museum to perform the tests. There should of course be photographic studies, and for these the expedition should provide itself with floodlights.
cc:

Charles Julsrud
Dr. Cyrus Gordon
Arthur M. Young
Miss Terry Rice
Mrs. Margaret Regler

Very sincerely yours,

Charles Hapgood
Charles H. Hapgood

WJ

CHARLES H. HAPGOOD
R. F. D. 3
WINCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03470

December 1, 1972

Dr. Freulich Rainey, Director,
The Pennsylvania Museum,
33rd and Spruce Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Rainey,

Arthur Young has advised me of the complication with regard to a formal collaboration between the Museum and Brandeis, and I understand the matter. I am delighted that you are interested in going to Mexico yourself, and I feel that any project for an investigation involving Brandeis should wait until you have completed your trip. I will do nothing more in that direction for the present.

There is another complication of which you should be informed, if you are not already, and that is the extreme hostility -- even personal hostility -- that has gradually developed during the 25 year history of the Julsrud Case, between those of us who have been concerned with an unbiased study of it, and official archeologists, specifically Charles Di Peso and the staff of the Mexican museum. Unfortunately, as often happens in scientific disputes, personalities have become involved, official prestige is at stake. It will take diplomatic finesse to disarm the authorities in Mexico City, but this I know you have, and with your contacts in Mexico City I am absolutely certain that you will be successful.

There is one other matter. Recently a young woman with very good contacts has become interested in raising enough money to purchase the Julsrud house in Acamabro from Carlos Julsrud for a permanent museum to house the collection. Our idea is that the collection should stay where it is. It might be a catastrophe if the Museum authorities in Mexico City should seize it or any part of it and this must be prevented at all costs. If the money is raised the Museo Julsrud would become a local institution, with control vested in a Board of Directors that would include the Julsrud family and local authorities as well as other interested parties. Since there are 32,000 objects in the collection it is practically impossible to move and no one is qualified to select what pieces are valuable and what pieces should be discarded. The idea of having Di Peso or any of the archeologists in Mexico exercise their judgements in this matter fills me with utter horror. Only decades of unbiased study will enable archeologists to decide what is important in that collection and what is not. Di Peso spent three days there, or less, and we see what his conclusions amounted to. I hope you are right about him, but in my experience pride too often supports error to create "invincible ignorance," of which Catholic divines speak.

With best regards,
Sincerely,

Charles Hapgood

CHARLES H. HAPGOOD
R. F. D. 3
WINCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03470

We

November 12, 1972

Dr. Froelich Rainey, Director,
The Pennsylvania Museum,
33rd and Spruce Streets,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Rainey,

Professor Gordon has written expressing a very serious interest in a cooperative investigation in Mexico next summer, and asks whether it might be possible for him see photographs of the objects that were dated by thermoluminescence. Are they, by any chance, still at the Museum? If you could send photos to Dr. Gordon I would appreciate copies myself.

The thought has occurred to me that we would have a broader base, that is, a more secure justification of our project, if we could obtain a few more dates. Arthur Young has a considerable number of figurines, perhaps as many as fifty. If we could have these dated they might tell us something about the time range of the culture in question. I am sure that Arthur would be very glad to have this done if it is not too much to ask of you.

There is a strong possibility that I will be going to Mexico for a week in January, and I expect to have an opportunity to discuss the plans with Mr. Charles Julsrud.

With sincere regards,

Charles Hapgood
Charles Hapgood

cc Arthur Young
Dr. Cyrus Gordon
Miss Terry Rice
Mrs. Margaret Regler

February 28, 1973

Dear Dr. Hapgood:

This whole question of the Julsrud Collection leaves me puzzled as to how to proceed. As you know, I have thought to look into this myself in Mexico but in recent months the Mexican archaeologists have become so nationalistic that outsiders can no longer get any real cooperation there. We have even had to call off our proposed excavation of Coba in the Yucatan. So what can be done in Mexico I just don't know at this point.

We can do some analysis of figurines in this country and I will poke up Arthur to get some more. We are reorganizing the Museum to have only the Museum treasures on display permanently and all other exhibits would be temporary. So we can't possibly agree to have the Julsrud figurines on exhibition permanently but I don't mind again putting on an exhibition to point up the controversy about these things. In the mean time, my assistant, David Crownover, is now in Mexico and I have told him to alert Igaacio Bernal to the fact that these things probably are authentic and not fakes so perhaps the government itself will take some steps to preserve them. Anyway, let's see what happens.

All best wishes,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Dr. Charles H. Hapgood
R.F.D. 3
Winchester, New Hampshire 03470

CHARLES H. HAPGOOD

R. F. D. 3

WINCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03470

January 25, 1973

Dr. Froelich G. Rainey, Director,
The Pennsylvania Museum,
33rd and Spruce Streets,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Rainey,

I have just spent a week in Mexico, with Mrs. Teresa Rice, who is interested in raising money to establish a permanent museum for the Julsrud Collection. We went to Acambaro, and discussed the plans with the owner of the collection, Mr. Carlos Julsrud, who drove over from his home in Leon to meet us.

A good many more topics were raised in these discussions than could be settled, and we feel that before we undertake any plan of action we should discuss the plans with you and have the benefit of your advice. I will let you know as soon as Mrs. Rice and I can get to Philadelphia, to make an appointment.

In the meantime, I would appreciate your reaction to the following suggestion. A number of the Acambaro figurines are now in the country. Arthur Young has some, I have quite a few, and Bill Russell of Los Angeles has some. I believe it would be in the interest of science to have all these assembled on permanent display at the Museum, I would be very happy to donate the figurines I have to the Museum, only with the understanding that that they would be permanently displayed and not stored somewhere underground. I am sure Arthur would be in agreement with this.

My suggestion would be that the two figurines of Arthur's that you dated would be included with the dated attached, and that, as additional figurines were dated their dates also would be attached. Obviously if all the dates were of the order of age of the figurines you dated, the entire case of Julsrud figurines would have very special importance.

I am hoping that we shall see you before long,

Very sincerely yours,

Charles Hapgood

Charles H. Hapgood

January 35, 1973

Dear Arthur,

I have just returned from a xweek in Mexico in which Mrs. Teresa Rice, Peggy and I visited the collection and discussed with Carlos Julsrud what should or could be done with it.

In the first place we discovered that the present conditions are very bad. Hundreds of pieces have been broken by the rats. As you already know, the ceiling of one room fell in before our visit in 1968, and most of the contents destroyed. Since then falling plaster has injured many others, and the house is in such shape that other reefs could fall in at any time, I should suppose. Still more serious, perhaps, is the fact that since 1968 there have been thefts from the collection. At that time I placed a number of valuable pieces in a glass case in the room where the roof had been repaired. On this visit we found it empty. The collection of ladles and most of the musical instruments seem to have disappeared, which threw poor Peggy into the depths of despair.

The collection is, of course, still very much intact despite these losses, and I suppose we should be philosophical, asking ourselves, how much of Greek art survives? However, my original idea of turning the house into a museum I can see is impractical. Mrs. Rice pointed out that, for one thing, nobody ever comes to Acambaro, and people furnishing funds for a museum building would want it placed where it would be seen. My suggestion to her is that perhaps the best place would be in a university, where it could be studied in an organized way. One person we consulted on this said that the University of Mexico would not do, because of the narrow-minded attitudes of the authorities there, but the University of the Americas might do. We shall have to investigate various possibilities.

In view of the losses to the collection your complete photographic record of it has become invaluable for all future studies. Would you be willing to have your photographer make enlarged prints, 8" x 10", from all the negatives? Since your camera was so good, if I had a set of 8" x 10" prints I could have parts of them as needed blown up still further. I would deeply appreciate one set, and would suggest that since Rainey is now so much interested in the collection it would be ultimately be very useful if the University Museum could have another set, and it might be easier to make two sets at once. I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Mrs. Rice a proposal of action for this coming summer.

I have just seen the proofs of the booklet, which is coming along fine. With love to you and Rue,

June 13, 1973

Dear Miss Gorenstein:

A recent letter from Ignacio Bernal in Mexico City tells me that you will be doing some work at Cerro del Chivo and might be able to collect some soil samples for us.

The reasons for this involve quite a problem. We have now made a series of thermoluminescence and radio carbon analyses of the strange figurines from the Julsrud Collection at Acambaro, and both Nacho and I are somewhat shocked to learn that these strange figurines are quite certainly not fakes but rather very ancient pottery. There is a faint possibility that our analyses might be influenced by extraordinarily high radio activity in the soils at Acambaro and, since we are making every possible analysis to confirm our findings, we would like to have a pound or two of soil and particularly any pottery clay from that area. I am sure that Dr. Bernal will expedite any shipment we might make of soils. He said at the moment he has nobody to send there and, therefore, suggests yourself.

All best wishes,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Miss Shirley Gorenstein
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Department of Anthropology
New York, New York

museo nacional de antropología
CALZADA DE LA MILLA

MEXICO 5, D. F.

I. N. A. H.

S. E. P.

June 4, 1973

Dr. Froelich Rainey, Director
The University Museum
University of Pennsylvania
Thirty-Third and Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

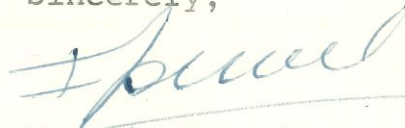
Dear Fro:

I am sorry to be so late in answering your letter of May 1st but I had been away from Mexico. I am quite disturbed by what you say in it since I cannot possibly imagine that those representations of mylodons, elephantus antiquus, etc., can possibly be genuine and that the dates obtained can be correct. I thought both Di Peso's articles in American Antiquity and Archaeology had definitely proved that the objects were fakes, and from the little I remember of them, no other conclusion could be reached, at least at that time.

Shirley Gorenstein has requested permission to work at Cerro del Chivo and perhaps you could ask her to collect the soil samples you need. I have nobody at the moment to send there. I believe you can write to her at Columbia University, Department of Anthropology.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,



Ignacio Bernal
Director

May 1, 1973

Dear Nacho:

This is just to alert you to something which is probably going to plague us both. We have done a series of thermoluminescence analyses on those figurines in the Julsrud collection at Acambaro. There now can be practically no doubt at all that those figurines are not fakes but actual ancient potteries. We have even analyzed the sherds collected by Di Peso on the site and the dates run generally from 2400 - 2600 B.C. I thought you should know this before the Julsrud collection gets dispersed as fakes.

Naturally, we are very reluctant to release these analyses until we are absolutely certain we have covered every possibility. We are now determining by analysis the temperature at which the pottery was fired in the faint possibility that a low temperature firing might have bearing upon the thermoluminescence analysis. So far it looks as if they are very well fired indeed. ~~This is~~ also one other faint possibility for error and that is that by some chance the figurines were made out of clays with incredibly high radioactive content. Just to be absolutely certain, I wonder if some of your people in the museum could collect some soil samples in that area of Acambaro or the Hill of the Goat so we can make a direct test for radioactivity. I think this is urgent because it does seem incredible that those things can be authentic.

As you probably know, the three major stations for thermoluminescence, here, Oxford and Tokyo all agree that we can't possibly miss fakes with this analysis. Because of improvements in our methods here we are also getting very well confirmed dates on early pottery from the Mediterranean and the Near East.

All the very best,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Dr. Ignacio Bernal
Instituto Nacional de Antropologia
Cordoba 45, Mexico 7, D.F.

May 1, 1973

Dear Dr. Hapgood:

I just have yours of April 30 about the Julsrud figurines and the situation is this. We have dated those you sent on and we have found more of Arthur Young's figurines here in the Museum. I don't know whether they are all here but we do have some more. The dates of the most recent group have been running 800 - 900 B. C., which puzzles us a bit. Also we are now running very careful analyses on the degree of firing - to make sure there is no error there. Second there was just a faint possibility that these figurines were made from very highly radioactive clays. Because of that faint possibility I have alerted Ignacio Bernal in Mexico about our dating and urged him to send us some soil samples from the site for a final check. Miss Ralph tells me it will be a few weeks before these final texts are made. At that time we will send you on the data with the photographs of the figurines that have already been dated. None of us here seriously thinks that these figurines are fakes any longer but we are a little puzzled about the wide range in dates and we would like to make absolutely certain about these analyses before we stir up to much debate. Anyway, I will keep in touch.

Regards,

Froelich Rainey
Director

Dr. Charles H. Hapgood
P. O. Box 38
Winchester, New Hampshire 03470

CHARLES H. HAPGOOD
P. O. BOX 39
WINCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03470

April 30, 1973

Dr. Froelich G. Rainey, Director
Pennsylvania University Museum,
33rd and Spruce Streets,
Philadelphia, Pa.

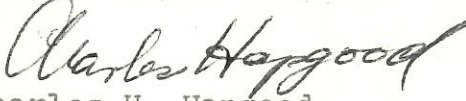
Dear Dr. Rainey,

In a recent conversation with Arthur it appeared that the Museum may have returned to him the group of Julsrud figurines he submitted for dating, and I suggested that he return the group to you so that your technician might identify the two figurines that were dated, so that they might be photographed. Arthur was going to call you but I do not know the outcome.

I have been holding the brochures here, rather than mailing them out to museums throughout the country, in the hope that we might have, not only photographs of the two figurines you dated, but also dates for the five figurines that I recently sent you, of which I of course have photographs. I feel that a slip sheet with this additional data would mean a great deal to archeologists and would help to arouse real interest, and I plan to have it printed and inserted in the brochures.

At present the most urgent matter is the identification of the figurines that were dated, and having them photographed. I would be happy, as I said, to pay for the photographs.

Very sincerely yours,


Charles H. Hapgood

c. Arthur Young.

CHARLES H. HAPGOOD
R. F. D. 3
WINCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03470

Beth Ralph -
Please reply
RHG

June 17, 1978

June 21
1978

Dr. Froelich Rainey, Director,
The Pennsylvania Museum,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Rainey,

It has been some years since I have been able to do anything about the Acambaro Collection of Julsrud, but I now have an opportunity, through the generosity of Mr. Young, to make another trip there, and I would like to be of service to the Museum in getting the specimens of ceramic for radio-carbon dating that Mr. Carriveau went down there to get in 1973. As I understand what happened was that he left the specimens with the Museo authorities in Mexico City to forward to you but they were never sent. I intend to get more and to bring them out of Mexico myself.

Fortunately this may be made easier by the fact that for dating purposes we do not need to bring out complete pieces; the Julsrud house contains many wooden boxes filled with fragments of figurines that were too badly broken for Odilon Tinajero (the digger) to put together. These would be easier to bring across the border. I am also hoping to find some pieces (perhaps of pipes) containing the original dirt that filled them at the time of burial.

Mr. Carriveau told me at that time that they had not yet worked out the ratio between the firing temperature and the TL margin of error. Perhaps this has been done since then. If so, would ^{you} please advise me, as to this, or refer me to someone who is familiar with the matter.

Would you be willing to give me a letter that I could use with Mexican officials at the border, to show them that the specimens were intended for official laboratory purposes and not for sale? This would be a great help to me.

I trust that this letter finds you in good health.

With best regards,

Charles Hapgood
Charles Hapgood

CC M. Bidolle

Rec'd.
D.O. 6/21/78

Martin Biddle,
Director.

Mr. Charles H. Hapgood,
R.F.D. 3,
Winchester, New Hampshire 03470.

21 June 1978.

Dear Mr. Hapgood,

Dr. Rainey has retired as Director of the University Museum, and I have been asked to reply to your letter of June 17th. Also, Mr. Carriveau is no longer working with us.

However, we would very much like to have some samples and also some associated dirt from the Julsrud house. For the pottery, we require 3 grams per sample, and we would like to have that much dirt if available.

I have enclosed a list of the items of information that we request for dating. I realize that you may not be able to fill this form out completely, but any items that you can supply will be helpful.

Our experiments with the measurement of the original firing temperature were inconclusive. We shall try to do better with more sherds.

I have enclosed a letter for the Mexican officials at the border, and I want to thank you for your help in securing samples from Julsrud.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth K. Ralph