BULLETIN

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American School of Prehistoric Research

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Edited by George Grant MacCurdy, Director

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REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR ON FIELD WORK AND THE ELEVENTH SUMMER SESSION

To the Board of Trustees of the American School of Prehistoric Research:

For three years our School has carried on excavations in Palestine jointly with the British School of Archaeology at Jerusalem: the first two seasons in the Wady al-Mughara, near Athlit, and during the season of 1931 in the three caves of the Wady al-Mughara (Mugharet el-Wad, Mugharet et-Tabūn, and Mugharet es-Sukhūl), and at one cave (Mugharet el-Kebara) 16 km. south of the Wady al-Mughara near the Colony of Zichron Jacob.

An account of the first two seasons of joint excavation was published in Bulletin Number 7 of the School. That last season's excavations were successful even beyond our expectations will be seen in the accompanying paper by Miss Dorothy A. E. Garrod, in charge of the field work. The discovery of the practically complete skeleton of a Neandertal child by Theodore D. McCown, one of our School's representatives, was an event of the first importance. During the season of 1932 Mr. McCown will complete the excavation of the cave (Mugharet es-Sukhūl) where the skeleton was found. Other discoveries of prime importance were made at Mugharet el-Kebara: beautifully carved bone haftings slit longitudinally for the insertion of microliths. These are of Mesolithic age and are the first of their kind to have been found anywhere in the world. The hand hold is terminated by the figure of an animal head in the round. The largest of these haftings is about 30 cm. long. The excavation of the four caves will be completed in 1932. It is proposed to publish the results in two fully illustrated volumes, one on the cultural remains and one on the skeletal remains.

The eleventh annual summer session of the School opened in London on July 2. For eight years Director MacCurdy had conducted the summer term in person. His wish to be relieved was happily fulfilled by securing as a substitute Professor Charlotte D. Gower of the University of Wisconsin, a former student of the School. The student body consisted of: Edwin C. Broome, Jr., University of Pennsylvania; Frances E. Felin, Scripps College; Eugene A. Golomshtok, University Museum, Philadelphia; Josephine G. Graton, Bryn Mawr College; Elizabeth B. Jackson, Bryn Mawr College; Hallam L. Movius, Jr., Harvard University; and

Laurene P. Walker, University of Denver. The School's two fellowships were held by Golomshtok and Movius.

The itinerary included London, Cambridge, Ipswich and environs, Paris, Brittany, Poitiers, Périgueux, Les Eyzies and the Vézère Valley, Cabrerets (Lot), Montauban, and Toulouse; the Pyrenees with its caves of Gargas, Marsoulas, Tuc d'Audoubert, Trois-Frères, Mas d'Azil and Niaux; Lyon, Neuchâtel, Bienne, Zurich, St. Gallen, Munich, Nürnberg; Prague, with digging near Stehelčeves; Brno and Vienna, where the term closed on August 11. The students, however, remained for further experience in digging—some at two sites near Stehelčeves (Homolka and Budeč) under the direction of Dr. Fewkes, Director of the Harvard-Pennsylvania Expedition, and some in the cave of Marsoulas (Ariège), under the direction of J. Townsend Russell, U. S. National Museum.

In addition to informal conferences by Professor Gower, the students had the opportunity of listening to talks by noted specialists including: Sir Arthur Keith, G. Elliot Smith, A. T. Hopwood, O. Hawkes, Sir Flinders Petrie, M. C. Burkitt, Louis Clarke, and J. Reid Moir, in England; Mr. and Mrs. Harper Kelley, Z. LeRouzic, M. Billy, Count Begouen, and J. Townsend Russell, in France; Paul Vouga, Emil Focht, Abbé Sulzberger, and Emil Baechler, in Switzerland; Professor Birkner and Dr. K. Hörmann, in Germany; Dr. Josef Schranil, Robert W. Ehrich, V. J. Fewkes, and Josef Skutil, in Czechoslovakia; and V. Lebzelter, in Austria. Studies were made in museums and private collections to the number of 36 and 45 important prehistoric sites were visited.

The Director and Mrs. MacCurdy, in company with Mrs. Julius H. Haass (a Trustee of the School) and her daughter, Constance Haass, joined on August 20 the five students, who had remained to dig with Dr. Fewkes near Stehelčeves. Later two of the students, Mr. Movius and Miss Graton, joined Dr. MacCurdy's party on a reconnaissance trip through Yugoslavia, which lasted from August 25 to September 8. They made a special study of the important museum collections in Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb, Dubrovnik and Vrsać. They also visited important prehistoric sites with a view to possible future concessions to excavate—such, for example, as Vinća and Starćevo and Pančevo (Neolithic and Bronze Age). There are many Iron Age tumuli near Sarajevo, as well as Neolithic sites in southern Jugoslavia, including Lipowatz (Neolithic) and Lyulyatzi (Bronze Age), which are likewise available. Everywhere both in Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia, Dr. MacCurdy's party was received with the utmost cordiality and spirit of coöperation.

An archeological expedition, sponsored by Harvard University (Peabody Museum and Fogg Art Museum) and the American School of Prehistoric Research, will leave for Yugoslavia in April, 1932. Dr. V. J. Fewkes will be in charge. Associated with him will be Dr. Hetty Goldman of the Fogg Art Museum and Robert W. Ehrich of Harvard University. The first part of the summer will be devoted to reconnaissance. During July and August, Dr. Fewkes will conduct the annual summer term of the American School of Prehistoric Research, which will take part in the excavations to be carried on at Starćevo, near Belgrade, by the joint expedition.

In April, 1931, there was published Bulletin Number 7 of the School containing, in addition to the Director's Report, papers by Miss Dorothy A. E. Garrod on Excavations in the caves of the Wady al-Mughara; by the Director on The Abri des Merveilles at Castel-Merle, near Sergeac (Dordogne); and Don Jesus Carballo on the School's Visit to the Cavern of El Pendo, Spain.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY.

EXCAVATIONS IN THE WADY AL-MUGHARA, 1931

In the Bulletin of the American School of Prehistoric Research, for April 1931, I have already described the work of two seasons at the Wady al-Mughara (Valley of the Caves), which lies at the foot of the western slope of Mount Carmel, 12 miles south of Haifa. Work during those seasons was practically confined to the largest cave of the group, the Mugharet el-Wad (Cave of the Valley), which yielded the most complete prehistoric sequence so far known in Palestine, the layers from above downwards being as follows:—

A. Bronze Age to recent.
B. Mesolithic.
C. Aurignacian with Capsian affinities.
D. Middle Aurignacian.
E. Lower Middle Aurignacian (Krems level).
F. A bed of rolled flints containing both Aurignacian and Mousterian forms.
G. Mousterian.

Excavation was also begun on the terrace of the Mugharet el-Wad, where the Mousterian and Upper Palaeolithic levels were absent, and the Mesolithic layer rested immediately on the bed-rock. This excavation resulted in the discovery of an artificially levelled rock-platform 10 m. from the mouth of the cave, in which four basins had been cut, the largest of which, 35 cm. in diameter, had a wide rim in bas-relief. At the edge of the platform a number of slabs of tabular limestone had been carefully fitted together to form a kind of curb.

This year, our third season at the site, excavation at the Mugharet el-Wad was confined to the terrace, and at the same time work was carried on in two neighbouring caves, the Mugharet et-Tabūn (Cave of the Oven), which lies close to the Mugharet el-Wad at a higher level, and the Mugharet es-Sukhūl (Cave of the Kids), a little higher up the valley. As in former years, work was made possible by the generosity of Mr. Robert Mond, while we once more welcomed the collaboration of the American School of Prehistoric Research. I was fortunate in having an excellent team of helpers. Mr. Theodore McCown of the University of California was in sole charge of the Mugharet es-Sukhūl, while Dr. van Hoerden and Miss Heseltine supervised the work on the terrace of the Mugharet el-Wad, and thanks to this division of labour we were able to accomplish more than usual in the season.

Mugharet el-Wad

The terrace of the Mugharet el-Wad before excavation was a more or less level platform, roughly 7 m. x 10 m., lying immediately outside the mouth of the cave. From the edge of the terrace the ground sloped fairly steeply down to the level of the coastal plain. The sequence of deposits was as follows:—

A. Bronze Age to recent, with a maximum thickness of 2 m., thinning out to 50 cm. further down the slope;

B. Mesolithic; the greatest thickness of this layer was at the point where excavation ceased, on the slope of the terrace, corresponding to the minimum thickness of A.

In the mouth of the cave where A was thickest, B was reduced to a few centimetres. The average thickness of the two layers was therefore about 2.50 m., and it will be clear from this that the slope of the surface before excavation corresponded very closely to the slope of the underlying rock.

Layer A consisted of stony grey-brown earth and showed no trace of stratification, pottery of all ages being found at all levels. Layer B was made up of reddish brown earth, somewhat less stony than A, and growing redder and more compact towards the base. Traces of hearths were abundant all through the layer. From the stratigraphical point of view the chief work of the season has been the sub-division of B into two levels corresponding to a well-marked change in industry. In both levels the microlithic lunate was the most typical and most abundant implement, but in B^1 (the upper level) these were small, and in the great majority of cases had the back trimmed vertically, in the *dos rabattu* manner, whereas in B^2 they were larger, and the characteristic trimming encroached on to both surfaces of the blade, giving the back a ridged section. In B^1 micro-burins were abundant, in B^2 very rare, in B^1 sickle-blades were rare, in B^2 abundant. Bone implements were rare in B^1, and confined to a few fragments of points, whereas in B^2 were found bone pendants, fragments of harpoons and sickle-blade hafts. It is interesting to note that only B^2 was present inside the cave, and that it was from this level that we obtained the two carvings which I described in 1929 and 1930. On the other hand I am convinced that the mesolithic industry which I found in collaboration with Mr. and Mrs. George Woodbury in the cave of Shukba in 1928 corresponds to the B^1 level just described and I am therefore obliged to revise my original opinion that it represented an older phase than the industry of the Mugharet el-Wad.

It is important to note that the rock-cut platform and basins were covered by a compact undisturbed B^2 layer, 1 m. in thickness, and therefore belong to the older phase.

This mesolithic industry has so many original features that all prehistorians with whom I have discussed the matter agree on the necessity of giving it a name of its own, and I have therefore decided to call it Natufian, since the cave of Shukba, in which it was first discovered, lies in the Wady en-Natuf. (I may say that this name has already been adopted for working purposes by French prehistorians in Palestine.) Layer B of Shukba, and B^1 of the Mugharet el-Wad would thus belong to the Upper Natufian, and B^2 of the Mugharet el-Wad to the Lower Natufian.

Our 1930 trench, roughly 14 x 7 m., lay immediately in front of the mouth of the cave, and our work this season consisted in extending this excavation on both sides and lower down the slope. We found, as we had already suspected in 1930, that the levelled platform containing the basins, lay at the edge of the relatively gentle rock-slope which constituted the terrace of the cave; beyond this point the rock sloped down very sharply, to correspond with the break in the slope of the surface soil before excavation. Banked against this rock-cliff was a bed of compact red earth, 2.50 m. in thickness. This contained the Lower Natufian industry to a depth of 1.50 m., below which it was sterile down to the rock.

An interesting series of discoveries enabled us to reconstruct with certainty the original slope of the ground at the time when the rock-basins were made. Five metres from the edge of the platform, part of a rough pavement was uncovered at a depth of 1.50 m. from the surface (Fig. 1). This was made up of slabs of tabular limestone, not shaped in any way by man, but carefully chosen and fitted together. This kind of crazy pavement continued into the east extension of the trench, although here it was much less perfect. A sufficient number of slabs was found, however, to enable us to trace it up the slope until it came to an end against a rough wall, made up of a single course of limestone blocks resting on bed-rock. This wall curved outward from the levelled area of rock found in 1930, and thus formed a kind of enclosure for the basins. It was clear that basins, wall and pavement formed a single scheme, though its purpose still remains obscure.

Both the Upper and Lower Natufian layers contained a number of burials. These generally lay on one side (right or left indifferently) in the flexed position (Figs. 2 and 3), but one skeleton, discovered in 1930, lay on its face with the legs drawn up. In three cases at least, the body must have been bound before rigor mortis set in, as the knees are closely

drawn up to the chin. No attempt had been made to orientate the bodies in a particular direction; they faced all points of the compass. Seventeen well-defined burials of individuals were identified, but in addition to these we obtained a large number of fragmentary ill-preserved remains, so closely huddled together that it was impossible to separate individual bodies. Three of the well-preserved burials are of special interest. They lay near together in the lower end of the trench, half way between the pavement and the rock-basins, and slightly below the level of the former. The first skeleton is that of a young child buried at the edge of a common grave containing five or six individuals. On the skull is a kind of cap, composed of bone beads or pendants made from the bones of gazelle or goat. One and a half metres to the N. E. was an adult skeleton much crushed and badly preserved, lying on its face, with knees drawn up to the chin. The back of the head was covered with dentalia, evidently forming part of a cap, and when the skull was removed two fan-shaped ornaments of dentalia were found on the frontal bone. A band of eight rows of dentalia surrounded one tibia. The lower jaw and thorax were filled with bone pendants, evidently the remains of a necklace. One metre to the N. E. again lay a second, well-preserved adult skeleton. It rested on the left side with the knees drawn up to the chin, and on the head was a circlet, perfectly in place, made up of seven rows of dentalia (Figs. 4 and 5).

This represents the sum of our finds on the terrace of the Mugharet el-Wad, but before considering the other two sites excavated I must mention in passing that this season's work bore out my findings of previous years that no contemporary pottery is associated with the Natufian. At the same time it should be noted that sherds were fairly common in B^1, though decreasing in number towards the base of the level. The great majority of these sherds were, however, Byzantine, and all except a very few historic. The small remainder were almost certainly Bronze Age. In B^2, which was more compact than B^1, there had been no penetration, and sherds were absent.

Mugharet et-Tabūn.

The Mugharet et-Tabūn lies in the same bay of cliff as the Mugharet el-Wad, but at a higher level. It consists of an inner and outer chamber, roughly equal in size (about 7 m. in diameter) the inner chamber being a well which runs up to the top of the cliff with an opening 4.50 m. in diameter. Before excavation this well was filled to a line 1.50 m. above the archway communicating with the outer chamber, and could only be reached through two narrow shafts opened by the slipping down of earth and stones into the outer chamber, where the deposit at its highest point was 1.50 m.

below the archway. A sounding was made in the outer chamber in 1929, and a certain number of Mousterian implements were found. Work was then abandoned, owing to the overhang of the deposits in the well or chimney. This year, excavation was begun in the chimney, and the red earth which filled it was lowered by 4.50 m., so that communication between the two chambers is now easy.

Apart from a thin covering of humus, which contained very sparse archaeological remains, the red earth of the chimney appears to be a Pleistocene deposit from the very top. Mousterian implements occurred in the first few centimetres, and continued throughout the depth excavated, without any admixture of later forms. This suggests that the hill-top was already completely denuded by the end of Middle Palaeolithic times. That the implements are really in situ, and have not been washed in from the hill-top is shown by their perfect condition, their remarkably even distribution through the deposit, and by their association with a large number of animal bones broken for food. Mousterian man evidently continued to crawl into the chimney (possibly for safety) long after it had become very difficult of access.

The implements found belong to a Mousterian identical with that of Shukba and the Mugharet el-Wad. It is in the Levalloisian tradition, with abundant triangular flakes. At the same time, as at Shukba, well-made burins are not rare. A single, very rough hand-axe was found. During the last days of the dig, at a depth of 4.50 m., I obtained eight human teeth from an upper jaw, but unfortunately the skull had completely disappeared.

A sounding was made at the mouth of the outer cave, in the bottom of the 1929 trench. This passed through a hearth with abundant Mousterian implements at a depth of 80 cm., and reached a second Mousterian hearth at 1.30 m. Work was then suspended, at a total depth of 10.50 m. from the highest point of the deposit in the chimney.

The great interest of the Tabūn cave lies in the association of an abundant fauna with the Mousterian, a thing so far unknown in this region, and also in its promise of great depth, with the possibility of obtaining a still older industry than that already found. It was to the excavation of this site that I myself gave the greater part of my time this year, and I hope next year to do the same.

Mugharet es-Sukhūl.

The Mugharet es-Sukhūl, as I have said, was excavated by Mr. Theodore McCown. The site is really a rock shelter with a small cave opening in the back wall, facing N. across the valley (Fig. 6). It contained a single

FIGURE 5. Skull from the skeleton reproduced in figure 4.

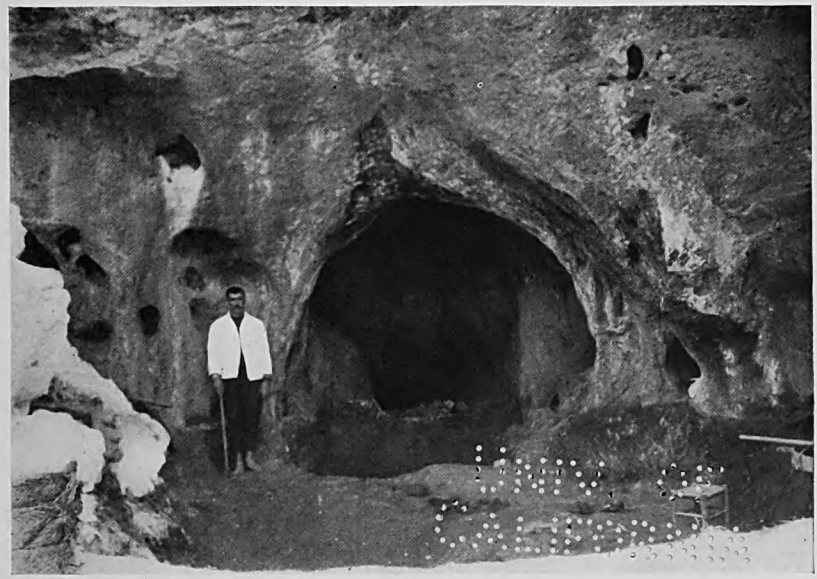
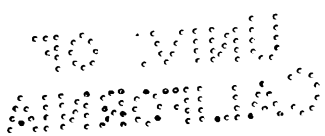


FIGURE 6. Mugharet es-Suhkūl, where Skeleton of Neandertal child was found.



archaeological deposit, a tough reddish earth, in places hardened to a breccia, with a maximum thickness of 2.50 m., resting immediately on bedrock. This yielded a Mousterian industry identical with that of the Tabūn, and a fair number of animal bones. On the 26th of May excavation in front of the cave had reached a depth of 1.75 m., the material being tough breccia, when Mr. McCown discovered a human lower jaw, evidently belonging to a young child. A few minutes later he exposed part of a parietal bone. This was removed in a cube of breccia measuring 50 cm. in all directions and carried down to the camp. In chipping at the block to reduce its weight Mr. McCown uncovered, on one face, the lower end of a humerus, on the other, part of the pelvis and some ribs. The block has now been excavated in the Royal College of Surgeons, in London, and the skeleton has been found to be practically complete. It is lying in a closely contracted position, in one corner of the cube of breccia. Sir Arthur Keith pronounces the remains to be those of a child of 2½ years, of marked Neandertal type.

Mugharet el-Kebara.

In conclusion I must mention very briefly that Mr. Turville-Petre and Mrs. Baynes were associated with us this year as excavators of a cave 10 miles to the south of the Wady al-Mughara, near the colony of Zichron Jacob. Mr. McCown and I made a sounding in this cave last year, and as it appeared promising the British School asked Mr. Turville-Petre to explore it. Up to the present five layers have been excavated:—

A. Recent.
B. Lower Natufian, corresponding to the B^2 of Mugharet el-Wad.
C. A new microlithic industry, marked by the presence of long triangles.
D. Middle Aurignacian, corresponding to D^2 of Mugharet el-Wad.
E. Lower Middle Aurignacian, corresponding to E of Mugharet el-Wad.

The underlying deposit, still unexcavated, appears to be Mousterian.

The most interesting layer is B, which yielded an extraordinary abundance of bone implements, including very delicate harpoons with a single row of barbs, and a remarkable series of four carvings of animal heads. Two of these are on the end of sickle-blade hafts, and the other two, although now broken short, must originally have had the same purpose. They recall the carvings discovered in 1928 and 1930 in the Mugharet el-Wad.

Dorothy A. E. Garrod,
Newnham College.

A NOTE ON THE EXCAVATION AND THE HUMAN REMAINS FROM THE MUGHARET ES-SUKHŪL (CAVE OF THE KIDS), SEASON OF 1931

The Mugharet es-Sukhūl (Cave of the Kids) is the most easterly of the Wady-Mughara group of caves. This group lies at the mouth of one of the valleys which cut into the sides of Mount Carmel and about three miles southeast of the Castle and village of Athlit on the Mediterranean. The elevation is roughly forty feet above sea level.

The Mugharet es-Sukhūl is situated on the south side of the valley, half-way up the side of the ridge which terminates in the steep cliffs containing the Mugharet el-Wad and the Mugharet et-Tabūn. The long axis of the cave is due north-south, the length from mouth to rear wall is about six meters and lying in front of the cave is a small terrace five metres long and twelve meters wide. Before work was initiated, the cave floor was level. The terrace dipped slightly towards the north and west, then dropped sharply to the valley floor. On either side of the cave and flanking the terrace the rock wall overhangs the deposits, giving a characteristic rock-shelter profile.

A sounding was made during the season of 1929 by Miss Mary Kitson-Clark. A trench three by one meters was sunk just inside the mouth of the cave and carried to a depth of 80 centimeters. The industry was adjudged "Mousterian" and the state of preservation of the bone was found to be excellent. This sounding confirmed scanty surface indications but no further work was possible then or during 1930.

The first step in the excavations of 1931 was to make a clearance in front of the cave and across the mouth to determine the total depth of the deposit and any possible stratification. This area was four and a half by three and a half meters and was carried to a depth of over a meter and a half. Bed-rock was not reached and there was no clear stratification observable.

The interior of the cave was then cleared as far as possible, extremely hard grey breccia preventing excavation to the rock. The rear third of this area was cleared downwards for fifty centimeters below the surface and was left at that depth due to difficulty with the material and the cramped quarters for work. The front portion was levelled down to meet the floor of the initial clearance.

The work was extended to the unexcavated portions of the terrace lying under the overhanging walls. This was alternately slow and rapid,

depending on the hardness of the earth. Some weeks of work reduced these flanking areas to the same level as that immediately in front of the cave. The technique employed throughout was that of horizontal stripping in arbitrary levels of ten centimeters.

A second deepening following the lines of the original trench across the cave mouth was begun. During the course of this the skull and jaw of a young child was discovered and removed in a large block of breccia-matrix. The top of the skull lay at a depth of two meters from the original surface and slightly to one side and in front of the mouth of the cave.

Bed-rock was reached in a small area and with great difficulty. The greatest depth reached was three meters and the suggested profile of the rock floor would be steep.

An analysis of the artefacts on the basis of their vertical position indicates at least two main divisions, possibly a third. The upper fifty to seventy centimeters contained a mixture of Mousterian, Upper Paleolithic and more recent material. In addition, this superficial layer was moderately easy to dig and the fauna was not heavily encrusted with lime deposit. The pottery is mainly hard "clinky" ware with some unmistakable Byzantine fragments. The amount and nature of the Upper Paleolithic material clearly indicates an Aurignacian horizon but the site can have been inhabited only occasionally after Mousterian times.

At fifty centimeters below the surface the industry is completely Mousterian. Two facies seem present. The upper one has well made side scrapers and points, discoids, etc. Gravers are well represented though not numerous. The best examples are characteristic angle gravers of the transverse-concave variety. Other forms are represented but are not so typical. Levallois flakes are extremely abundant and quite frequently form the "blanks" on which the scrapers are made. The thick flakes with a median keel, forming a common type in some French sites, are rather rare. Narrow flakes or "blades" are fairly numerous but the usual flakes are of the Levallois type, struck off from tortoise cores and representing a development of Levalloisian.

The lower horizon (50 centimeters in thickness) contains the same types of implements. There are a very much smaller number of Levallois flakes and the scrapers are retouched finely on small and thin flakes. These flints come mainly from a soft grey-brown to black hearth lying just above the rock and in front of the cave. One beautifully made amygdaloid coup-de-poing with unflaked butt was found in this level. This is of significance as this form of implement does not occur in the preceding layer.

This lowest stratum occurs at present in a limited area just beyond the cave mouth. The skeleton of the child lay immediately above it and a little to one side of the area where this phase is best represented. Further excavation will be necessary to confirm the amount and extent of this industry. It is not sharply differentiated as regards type of artefacts but the difference in the nature of the soil and its color plus a slight but perceptible decrease in the number of implements in the ten centimeters lying above it are enough, I feel, to warrant a provisional separation. Certainly there is not the sharp difference between these two layers that exists between all the implements from this site and those from Zutieyeh, near Galilee. In contrast to this is the marked resemblance of the Sukhūl flints to those from layer G of the Mugharet el-Wad and the Mugharet et-Tabūn.

The fauna is abundant and hard to salvage from the breccia. The flints break free for the most part but the bone is well cemented by lime into the matrix. A tooth of Merck's rhinocerous is of interest, bear and several Cervidae are represented and *Bos (primigenius?)* is common. At least one species of Equidae is present and possibly hyena and wolf. The further determination of the fauna should prove quite interesting.

The block containing the child's skull was shipped to London to Sir Arthur Keith at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The laborious task of clearing it was begun last September. The writer is at present assisting in this work.

The chipping out of the skull brought to light a number of loose teeth from the maxilla and eventually revealed the greater portion of the skeleton. This has now been completely exposed and there is every indication that we are dealing with a definite interment. There is, admittedly, evidence of some disturbance subsequent to burial. The skull lay twisted to one side and the frontal was broken away, lying with the concave side uppermost. But the limbs are tightly flexed and the original position must have been a squatting one with chin on knees and arms crossed. The suggestion is a simple burial with body tied or wrapped up and placed in a small hole. There is no evidence of any attempt to protect the body by rocks placed about it and undoubtedly the soil was not too hard when burial took place. Only unworked flakes were found associated with the remains.

The brain case is largely complete but the face is lacking. There is enough of the mandible to make a satisfactory reconstruction and the remainder of the skeleton is gratifyingly well preserved considering the age of the subject. A complete set of milk teeth with first permanent

molars formed but unerupted suggests an age of two and a half to three years.* Sir Arthur Keith's preliminary investigation confirms the fact that we are dealing with *Homo neandertalensis,* a matter that was suggested by the nature of the deposit.

The season of 1932 should see the completion of the excavation of this small but interesting grotto and of the studies on the human remains.

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*Sir Arthur Keith and the author will present the results of their study of this skeleton at the International Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences, to be held in London, August 1-7, 1932.