

EDITORIAL

THIS IS MY FINAL EDITORIAL for *Asian Perspectives*. I wrote my first in the spring of 1957 for Volume I, number 1–2. That volume I ran off on a mimeograph machine in the office of the Tucson (Arizona) Municipal Airport—with permission of the Manager—after finishing my cleaning chores on the night shift from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. It took several months to make 600 copies, if I recall correctly. I was a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology of the University of Arizona, studying for my Ph.D. at the time.

AP was conceived under the auspices of the American Branch of the Far-Eastern Prehistory Association (FEPA), but soon after the first issue was “off the press,” it was adopted as the official Bulletin of the international FEPA. Bernard P. Groslier, president of the Association at the time, proposed the idea at an informal meeting of the FEPA during the 9th Pacific Science Congress in Bangkok (18 November to 9 December 1957). It was approved; there were no written constitution and by-laws for the FEPA at the time so things were done quickly and easily.

I'd like to quote here two paragraphs from an article of mine in the first issue (p. 10) that give a bit of context for the beginning of *Asian Perspectives*. I am narrating the history of the FEPA in the paragraphs.

The organizational meeting of the American Branch of the Far-Eastern Prehistory Association was held in Philadelphia on September 4, 1956. Those present were Fred Eggan, Robert Heine-Geldern, Carl Schuster, Lauriston Ward, George P. Murdock, Schuyler Camman, Felix Keesing, Harold C. Conklin, and W. G. Solheim II. Professor E. W. Gifford was elected as Honorary President and W. G. Solheim as Secretary.

The first formal meeting was held at Santa Monica, Calif. on December 29, 1956, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association. At this meeting those present were informed that Professor Gifford had felt it necessary to decline the Honorary Presidency on his doctor's recommendation. The members present voted unanimously to ask him to reconsider. It was moved, seconded and passed that annual dues be \$1.00 to cover mailing expenses of the secretary who was to organize a Bulletin containing news of prehistoric research and fieldwork in the Far East.

All but two of the founders mentioned in the first paragraph are dead. Fred Eggan died only about two weeks before I wrote this and this editorial is dedicated to him, a fine man who was of much help to me in my early years when starting up as an archaeologist. The person making the motion for the \$1.00 dues was Alexander Spoehr.

And, from my first Editorial—in the same issue (p. 1):

The major purpose of this Bulletin, and that of the organization behind it, is to improve communications between scholars working within the field of Far Eastern prehistory. We can not at present confine ourselves to the “field” of Far Eastern prehistory as it has not been established as a “field”. Only three workers have concerned themselves with the prehistory of the whole area: Stein Callenfels, Beyer, and Heine-Geldern, and they are primarily identified with Southeast Asia. It is our hope that through the Far-Eastern

Prehistory Association, and this Bulletin, we may create a field of endeavor which will compare favorably with the Middle Eastern, European, and American areas of prehistoric research.

The last sentence above expresses my primary goal at the time and through my career. I believe that to some extent it has been realized: in my work with the Far-Eastern Prehistory Association and later the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association, through my editorship of *Asian Perspectives*, and through my archaeology work in Southeast Asia.

I'm pleased to report that last year (1990) three new journals concerned in part or in whole with Southeast Asian archaeology or the archaeology of China, Japan, and Korea were started.

National Museum Papers, published by The Concerned Citizens for the National Museum, Inc., Manila, Philippines. The *Papers* is primarily for exchange but is also available for individual subscription: P50 per issue plus mailing and handling. Write to National Museum Papers, National Museum, Executive House, P. Burgos St., 1000 Ermita, Manila, Philippines.

Jurnal Arkeologi Malaysia, published by the Ikatan Ahli Arkeologi Malaysia (Association of Malaysian Archaeologists). Each issue is US \$7 for institutions and US \$5 for individuals including handling and postage. Write to Hon. Secretary, Association of Malaysian Archaeologists, History Department, National University of Malaysia, 43600 Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia.

East Asian Archaeology Network is more in the style of a newsletter but is substantial. Write to Dr. Gina L. Barnes, Senior Researcher, St. John's College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 1TP England.

I would also like to call attention to a beautiful art book that was sent to me well over a year ago. It is titled *Hornbill and Dragon/Naga dan Burung Enggang-Kalimantan Sarawak, Sabah, Brunei*, and is written by Bernard Sellato, with text both in English and Indonesian-Malay. It covers art of all of Borneo. As it was published in Indonesia it is, as yet, not well known outside of the country. The price at time of publication was US \$47 plus mailing. It can be ordered from Bernard Sellato, c/o Elf Aquitaine Indonesie, Bumi Daya Plaza, 20th Floor, 61 Jalan Imam Bonjol, 10310 Jakarta, Indonesia. My review of this book will appear in the next issue of the *Borneo Research Bulletin*.

Michael Graves, University of Hawaii Department of Anthropology, will officially be the new Editor of *AP* with Volume 31. Although I am credited as the editor of Volume 30, it is Michael who has done the major share of the work on the two issues of this volume. I feel that you can see from looking at these issues that the journal is in good hands. I have enjoyed and profited from editing and producing *AP* since 1957. I hope that readers of *AP* have also enjoyed and found profit in reading.

WILHELM G. SOLHEIM II