

TAUNG 60. TAUNG DIAMOND JUBILEE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

On the 27 January—4th February 1985 Prof. P. V. Tobias with a large organizing panel organized the international symposium to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the discovery and announcement of the Taung skull. The sessions were held mainly at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg with additional sessions at the University of Bophuthatswana, Mmabatho, near the site of Taung.

The patron-in-Chief of the Symposium was Prof. emeritus R. A. Dart.

The main aim of the symposium was to appraise the palaeoanthropological progress since 1925 to evaluate the palaeoanthropology of today and to examine prospects for the future of hominid evolutionary studies.

During the sessions of the Congress there were excursions to the Australopithecus sites of Sterkfontein, Swartkrans and Kromdraai with the visit of the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria the repository of early hominids mainly from the above mentioned sites.

Following the sessions at the University of Bophuthatswana there was an excursion to the Taung site where the plaque commemorating the 1924 find was unveiled.

After the Congress a special excursion to Makapansgat in the northern Transvaal was organized.

The scientific programme consisted of principal invited lectures organized mainly geographically covering South Africa, East Africa, Asia and Australasia, Europe, North Africa and Middle East.

On 28th evening the 22nd Raymond Dart Lecture in the Great Hall of the University was held, preceeded by special Honorary Degree Ceremony of the University. On 31st followed the lecture "New Methods and Strategies in Hominid Evolution: Where do we go from here?" On 2nd February: "Africa as the Cradle of Man — Continental Wrap-up" and in the afternoon "Hominid Evolution and the Road ahead".

The closing ceremony in the evening on February 4 was followed by a Birthday Party for Prof. R. A. Dart. The proceedings of the Symposium will be published in book form before the end of 1985.

There is no doubt that this Taung diamond jubilee symposium was an important event of the 1985 year. It is a pity that the South Africa Apartheid policy opposed by no-relation attitude by many states and international organisations made impossible the participation of many scientists.

Jan Jelinek

TABLE RONDE SUR L'INDUSTRIE OSSEUSE PEU ÉLABORÉE

Dr. Emiliano Aguirre en collaboration avec Marylène Patou ont organisé la réunion du groupe de travail „L'industrie osseuse peu élaborée“ les 22, 23 et 24 février 1984 à l'Institut de Paléontologie Humaine à Paris. Pendant trois jours les problèmes des gisements et ensembles, méthodes de définition, organisation des activités futures et édi-

COLLOQUE INTERNATIONAL D'ART PARIÉTAL PALEOLITHIQUE

RECHERCHE ET CONSERVATION

The International Colloque was organized by the Centre National des Préhistoire in Périgueux and Le Thot and took place between November 19—22, 1984.

During the Colloque an exhibition "Discovery of the Cave and Rock art" was inaugurated.

During 4 days 34 communications were presented. The working sessions were concluded by round table discussions on the following five topics:

1. Problems of the protection and conservation in the time of the discovery. Presided by J. Jelinek and M. Clottes.
2. Techniques and Methods of the research and documentation. Presided by F. Jorda Cerda and M. Lorblanchet.
3. Origin of damage of cave art. Presided by I. Barandiaran, J. Ph. Rigaud and P. Ucko.
4. Interests of the research: Documentation and conservation. Presided by E. Ripoll and J. Ph. Rigaud.
5. Visitors and rock art: Copies, cinema, audiovisual means. Presided by G. Bosinski and J. Ph. Rigaud.

One afternoon was dedicated to excursions to some of the most important caves in Périgord.

The summaries of the communications were published and distributed at the opening of the Colloque.

Mr. J. Ph. Rigaud and his collaborators should be congratulated for this successful meeting. It focused our attention not only to the new important discoveries in France and Spain but also to new methods of modern documentation, protection and conservation of the earliest cave art.

Jan Jelinek

A REPORT ON THE RESEARCH INTO BAROVÁ CAVE (MORAVIAN KARST)

The Anthropos Institute of the Moravian Museum in Brno has undertaken an extensive research into the Pleistocene settlement and environmental changes of the Moravian Karst. The research programme has been launched many years ago and it concentrates on the cave entrance areas, often used as habitats.

An excavation of the debris and sediments of the entrance of Barová Cave was started in 1982 in co-operation with the Archaeological Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The locality is situated in the central part of the Moravian Karst, some 150 m from Býčí skála cave. The Barová cave was discovered already in 1947 by Dr. A. Sobol. The following excavations realized by a group of amateur speleologists near the northern side of the cave's ante-nave discovered numerous pottery fragments and bone tools of the peoples of the Jevišovice and linear (Danubian) Cultures, and in the lower layers rare finds of ornamented pebbles, broken reindeer antlers and bone tools.

Further control trench and the subsequent research concentrated on explaining the chronology of the occupation of the site in the Holocene. This particular layer is formed by stony, almost non-corroded waste and its maxi-