

NEWLY DISCOVERED ANDA-TYPE AND STRETCHED INDOCHINITES FROM THAILAND

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A prominent area where Philippinites tektites are found is the Pangasinan Province. The Anda-type tektites are regarded as a subdivision of the Pangasinan tektites. These tektites have peculiar surface features which resemble imprints of seashells or even rodent teeth marks. To this date, this is the only area where these tektites have been found.

Recently, Clyde Barnhart closely examined approximately 800 kg of Thailand indochinites. Among other findings, one spectacular and several other less profound Anda-type tektites were found. This specimen is a splash form dumbbell with a weight of 67.9 gm and dimensions of 77 X 26 X 24 mm. The depth of the Anda-type surface features vary from 0.3 to 1.8 mm. The scientific importance of this finding shows that the Anda-type surface features are not unique to the Island of Anda.

In 1967, H. Nininger published an article of two stretched plastic tektites from Viet Nam. These showed molten interiors after the exterior surface hardened. They suffered some trauma which caused them to break open exposing their plastic interiors. These specimens have been very controversial and remained unique for many years. In 2001, Michaela Blood announced another specimen of a stretched indochinite. In 2003, Clyde Barnhart found one spectacular specimen and a number of others with less prominent stretch features. This scientific value of this is that with the additional specimens, it may help establish the impacting conditions. Pictures of these specimens will be made available to any serious student of tektites.

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