

NEWLY DISCOVERED ANDA-TYPE INDOCHINITES FROM THAILAND AND CHINA.

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A prominent area where the Philippinite tektites are found is the Pangasinan Province (Long. 119° 55' E. and Lat. 16° 16' N.) The Anda-type tektites are regarded as a subdivision of the Pangasinan tektites. These tektites have peculiar surface features that resemble imprints of sea-shells or even rodent teeth marks. Until recently, 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 – 1.8 mm.

More recently, similar Anda-type tektites have been found on the Khorat Plateau between Khon Kaen and Nakhon Ratchathani in NE Thailand. One specimen weighed 74.4 g.

In February 2006, this researcher was made aware of a large, banana shaped Anda-type tektite from Guangdong Province, China (Long. 110° 54' E., Lat. 29° 34' N.). It weighed approximately 67.0 gms and had dimensions of 77 X 27 X 23 mm. It was heavily water worn but still contained 29 areas of deep Anda-type etchings.

This led me to examine bags of unsorted tektites from Yunnan Province, China (Long. 100° 06' E., Lat. 25° 45' N.). In this there were found 10 water worn, but excellent specimens. Most of these were in the 10-20 gm range and of different shapes. The distance between these sites was more than 2400 km.

The scientific importance of these findings is that the Anda-type surface features are not unique to the Island of Anda. Most of these tektites seem to have been in a marine environment which may have been a factor in the unique surface features.

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