



A. *The New 3b Fragment from Pylos*



B. *Joined to PY Eb 950 at right*



C. *Joined to Eb 903 at left*

A NEW FRAGMENT OF LINEAR B TABLET FROM PYLOS*

On Friday 22th November 2002, I went to the National Archaeological Museum of Athens to collect my cameras for subsequent work at the Museum of Iraklion. Whilst there, I used the occasion to see the Pylos tablets and check a number of points in my current work on the edition of the Corpus (*PofN* IV). I was then kindly informed by Dr Lena Papazoglou¹ that the fragment from the back of a tablet² which I had asked for during my last visit had arrived from the Museum of Chora, along with a new fragment of Linear B tablet, recently found in the earth east of the Wine Magazine. The new fragment was most probably from the fill which Blegen used to cover the unroofed parts of the Palace.

Fortunately, the new fragment was a well-preserved part of an Eb tablet in Hand 41 (PLATE XVIII A) and therefore it was easy to look for possible joins: It was immediately joined to the extant Eb 950, since the upright of the GRA logogram was the position of the line of the break, leaving the left part on the newly found fragment, and the right one on the Eb 950 tablet end (PLATE XVIII B). Looking for the left match of the fragment took a few minutes, since it involved resolving an incorrect quasi-join. It is now clear that the new fragment bridges Eb 903 with 950 (PLATE XVIII C), and I re-established the separateness of Eb 1082, which had been wrongly associated with the main piece by the direction of the straw only³.

The correct pieces are now transcribed below by using the *PofN* IV conventions:

Eb 903 (H 41)
.A wa-na-]ka-te-ro , e-ke-qe , o-na-to
.B ke-]ke-me-na , ko[-to-na pa-ro] , da-mo to-so-de , pe-mo GRA 2 [
.A wa-na-]ka-te-ro: cf. Eo 211.1, En 609.5; if parallel to Ep 301.5, restore:
a-tu-ko e-te-do-mo wa-na-]ka-te-ro

903 *dextra* [+] 963 *sinistra* Dimensions: 2.7, {(17.7)} [903 (7.4); 950 (1.6); 963 (2.7)], 1.4 cm. Condition: surface only (963) Format: string; palimpsest; (EbA) Correspondence: Ep 301.5 (as to 950, without any extant correspondence *Res Mycenaee*, p. 44 [E. L. Bennett])

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² Although a tentative attempt was made to join the fragment, it was unfruitful. The fragment bears the Chora Museum no. 4090. Clay texture and appearance suggest that it may be part of Jn 927.

³ Cf. *Minos* 31-32, p. 164. Although the physical contact is almost non-existent at present, **Eb 963** and **Eb 903** are most probably parts of the same tablet and the gap is filled using plasticine in PLATE XVIII C.

The component '39/468.1 comes from the Archive Room (8.3361), two other components are from the Chasm ('52S3/443.f from x.2532; '52S3/445.f from x.2543), another from the Entrance Hall ('52S3/408.f from 2.2732); a fifth component perhaps comes from the Archives Annex ('52S3/221 from 7.7412/4).

If the entry on Eb 903 is paralleled by the entry on Ep 301.5, then an allowance of GRA 2 is indicated for the 'Regius Armourer' *Atukhos* in Ep 301.5.

Eb 1082

(H 41)

]GRA 6]

Only the lower row of 3 units preserved. Remains of logogram in the break

If the grain allowance is correct, the Primary Text to which this quantity belongs is not preserved within the Tertiary Ep Series (this lack of correspondence is shared with Eb 156.2, 472, 871, 934, and 1347). The possible candidates are Ep 539.1.4.5, and 613.20, which are entries where the quantities are missing.

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