
The Basalt Columns of Nan Madol and the Collapse of the Supporting Pillars of Archaeology

by Dr. Heinrich Kruparz

Nan Madol (see pictures pages 263, 264) gives more proof of the size and grandeur of megalithic structures of the distant past than any other building complex. Here classical archaeology is faced with puzzles which they are not able to explain with their expert opinions! Yes, even more, they do not even realize all the problems involved, as follows:

- 41 By far the most significant ore deposit of platinum exists in the Bushveld Igneous Complex in the Transvaal in South Africa. It was discovered in 1924 by a farmer, but it was proven geologically in its entire length of hundreds of kilometers by the geologist Dr. Hans Merensky, for whom it is also named the "Merensky Reef". This was in 1930, but its economic exploitation first took place in the 1950's.

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- 1) What amount of workforce would be necessary to build this massive complex in basalt?
 - 2) Where was this gigantic number of basalt columns to be found, so that they could be used for the construction of Nan Madol?
 - 3) What type of transport would be necessary to move this unimaginably large tonnage? Rafts from local sources of wood?
 - 4) Buildings exist which today lie under water; but these were obviously built on land! Why does the orthodox science suppress this fact quietly? Because it has no explanation?
 - 5) If the classical interpretation applied – Nan Madol would have been first built a few hundred years ago – the island inhabitants of today would point proudly to the glorious achievement of their ancestors. Has anyone ever heard of that?

Now I will go into each of these questions in detail, for which I will especially count on the “classic” work on Nan Madol in the truest sense of the word (the orthodox doctrine): W. N. Morgan: 1988 – *Prehistoric Architecture in Micronesia* (Univ. Texas Press, Austin).

According to a ground plan in the book of Morgan’s archaeological team, Nan Madol has the following dimensions: Length of the outer main wall 7.5 km, its breadth 4.1 km, so that the built up area can be calculated at 30.75 square kilometers. Nan Dowas alone covers an area of about a square kilometer.

The aforementioned scientist is so impressed by the perfection of the construction of the artificial islands of Nan Madol that he writes of the superlative technical skill of the builders (Pohnpei, p. 58–85); in order not to alter the desired impression, I quote the original text literally:

- “The most sensitively proportioned example of stacked prismatic basalt masonry!”
- “The wall-stones are carefully chosen and fitted together with exceptional skill!”
- “The exceptional examples of Nan Madol’s megalithic masonry!”

And now my opinion to the expert’s view above: the Micronesians are likely the most skilled sailors in the world, but they were not the master builders of Nan Madol! The proof for this is as follows:

- 1) With reference to the amount of available workers, Morgan

expresses the opinion: The population of the island of Pohnpei (surface 19x22.5 km) did not exceed one thousand or was even lower. Even if we would take this estimate as the guideline for the time of construction, there would still only remain a few hundred of these who would be available for work at the stone complex. The others we would find obtaining the necessities of life, while a remainder would have proven incapable of such heavy duty with basalt columns.

2) With regard to the number of basalt columns used, I have already spoken of a single massive complex with a theoretical amount of 32,000 of such columns, corresponding to a minimum weight of 160,000 tons. Just in order to get this immense weight (for a portion of the complex) from the quarry over the ocean to the construction site would, in my judgment, demand significantly larger groups of workers! One gets the impression that archaeology has never bothered its head about it. Morgan as well as Dr. G. Weiss (Museum for Ethnology, Vienna) write of a weight of individual construction elements of 45 to 50 tons. How such lumps were moved, however, these experts did not disclose to us outsiders!

The question of the origin of this giant number of basalt columns, many meters in length, simply cannot be answered by archaeology, for this is the field of geology. Where are deposits which would make this amount of basalt columns available? On the island of Pohnpei there is one or the other quarry, where columnar basalt could be broken. But how many of these natural formations were needed for the construction of the city facilities of Nan Madol, where my extremely vague assumption is nearly about 100,000 as a minimum amount. This tiny island was certainly not in the position to satisfy such a great demand.

In order to follow up the above estimate, I picked up my illustrated book on the Azores, opening the section about the island of Flores. Here (p. 174–175) my photograph of the “Rocha dos Bordões” (the “rock of walking sticks”) is printed, on which more or less 150 of such columns can be seen. Even if the mountain would be completely underlain with this rare basalt formation, the operator of a quarry would certainly not calculate his available reserves at the demanded amount of at least 100,000 columns. The tiny island of Pohnpei pos-

sesses, as already noted, a size of only around 20 x 20 kilometers. Its little volcano can never have produced this enormous amount of columns! And now volcanology has something to say: Only extensive flows of flood basalt, layer upon layer of lava, can under very specific cooling conditions cause such quantities of "column basalt" intercalated between normal basalt lava, extending over vast area. Therefore I conclude geo-logically:

Here there must once have been a larger land mass, which showed rich deposits of columnar solidified basalt lava. This volcanic landscape sunk constantly over the years eons ago, while the coral reefs surrounding it grew up. We have already seen the long period of time over which this happened with respect to the innumerable sunken volcanoes of the Pacific, the Guyots. A part of Nan Madol also sank, what seems to document its great age, as will be further described below.

3) According to the accepted academic interpretation the transport of all these basaltic construction materials took place via water, in canoes or rafts. Without even discussing the ability of such wooden constructions to carry basalt columns of over five tons, I would like to point to another problem in this context: The provision of the amounts of wood that would be necessary. A small island like Pohnpei has only a very limited supply of timber. If such tropical and subtropical forests are cut down, only undergrowth grows again – as I know from my own experience in the Amazon and on Easter Island. Thus there could never have been enough logging material for the rafts to ship such an enormous amount of heavy basalt columns! For every wooden seagoing craft splits as it is used under the enormous weight of the rock. The problem of transporting the meter-long columns would be even more amplified if the quarries of Pohnpei really came into question as a location for the origin of the desired type of basalt, because they lie on the far side of the island.

4) The monograph cited, which deals with Nan Madol among other topics, provides a description of the buildings which does justice to the subject, in as far as these are more or less above the water line. But Morgan is silent about what divers have discovered under water here since generations. The dive down to the sharks certainly

has its dangers, but it is no less dangerous for archaeology to discover evidence which do not fit into their concept: Nan Madol is supposed to have been built 700 to 800 years ago by the natives!

At a depth of 20 to 30 meters under the water port facilities become visible, lined with rows of vertically standing basalt columns, showing a height of up to ten meters and a diameter of one meter. Is this a sailor's yarn? It is reported that the complex of buildings stretches much further under water...

How meaningful these underwater buildings may be for the entire complex of Nan Madol, they are plausible because of several descriptions of not just Japanese divers, so that one is urged to the conclusion: Surely all these constructions once lay above the "normal level" of the ocean. Naturally two possible explanations offer themselves.

A) The sea level has risen – but since the end of the last Ice Age around 10,000 to 12,000 years ago there has not been such a drastic change.

B) Areas which once laid above sea level have sunk – a phenomenon that we have now already often encountered! The question arises as to when this land could have sunk? If this sinking of a part of the island of Pohnpei had taken place within recorded history, the nowadays islanders would know about it through legends; but there is no talk of that!

Therefore a part of Nan Madol sank in gray prehistory, to which the previously mentioned slow building up of the coral reef also points. So we come closer to the fact: Nan Madol is ancient; it was once a royal city of Rutas Mu.

Why else is someone supposed to have constructed such an elaborate complex on such a tiny island? Why would someone have set up about 600 Maori statues on Easter Island, if a broad hinterland had not commanded it for a purpose unknown to us? This leads us to a further counterargument against the classical understanding of archaeology: These scientists investigate and describe Nan Madol, etc., but they don't put their insights into a greater context, into the framework of the immeasurable Pacific. Where is the analogy to the aforementioned Easter Island, to the Marquesas, to Pitcairn, Tinian,

etc.? Why is nothing said about the common traits of the megalithic culture of the Pacific?

5) A treasure trove of experience, up to now fully ignored by ethnology, legends of the people, those about what they experienced themselves during ages and what left an impression on their souls. With respect to the history of Nan Madol, this means that the Micronesians would have to be proud of the crowning achievement of their ancestors, who built these massive complexes in stone! Do they feel this way about Nan Madol? No, no trace of that, for they know neither who built these cyclopean buildings or when they were built, and also not what purpose they may have served. This should be cause for thought. But obviously it is nothing to think about for certain narrow-minded specialists in the field, because ignorance is a state in which one does not have to think about anything!

The locals know nothing of these megalithic buildings, to which they have no connection at all (as the first European visitor, the aforementioned Irishman O'Connell, determined). This lack of knowledge about the buildings of the epoch of the megalithic culture is true of the entire Pacific region and its border areas!

The best examples for this are: Nan Madol, the Marquesas and the two islands of Rapa Ití and Rapa Nui, Easter Island. If the ancestors of these island inhabitants were the master builders of the monuments on these islands, it is psychologically impossible for them not to have any narrations about this megalithic culture! But strewn across the entire Pacific one finds megalithic buildings and legends of the unknown originators of these cyclopean buildings, while the myths report on a race of giants as their creators.

In decoded text this means: It is not known that earlier generations created these stone monuments. But myths from the most distant past do very well report on these stone witnesses erected by a "race of giants" from a long-past prehistory. And there were no myths about Nan Madol? On the contrary, H. Rittlinger was, as mentioned, probably one of the last travelers who got to hear them from shamans, before naive tourists and ethnologists, pretending to know better, silenced such "rumors". What did these "fairy tales" say? They told of a sunken kingdom full of grandeur and the paradisiacal life

of enlightened people under the rule of wise sovereigns – as “fairy tales” do.

If we return in conclusion to the hard reality, I can only recall the facts set out and let them speak: Nan Madol therefore becomes a stumbling block of megalithic size for scientists of that stripe, for soon no stone of their castles in the air will be left standing! Prof. D. Hanlon of the University of Hawaii in Honolulu writes in his study, also published in 1988 (like Morgan’s), about the leading race of Pohnpei: These rulers constructed the artificial island complex of Nan Madol between the 12th and 17th century. – And the students are supposed to believe such nonsense!

The newest scientific work on Nan Madol available to me was written by Prof. William S. Ayres, expert for Micronesia, head of the Dpt. of Anthropology, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, USA, published in: Society for American Archaeology, Bulletin, Vol. 10, Washington D.C., Nov. 1992.

The constructed complex, erected from basalt columns, resting on the flat coral reef is outlined as follows: Area covered over 18 square km, where the ruins under sea level are obviously not included. The estimated weight of the construction material: Between 500,000 and 750,000 tons, which was brought from a variety of distances. These constructions were piled up to as much as ten meters in height and included temples, stone trenches, meeting houses, but also individual properties. Around one hundred stone structures were counted on Nan Madol alone, but about two thousand on Pohnpei. The method of organization of the buildings leads one to conclude that a hierarchically organized society has existed. What also remains unexplained is this monograph is:

1. Who were the first settlers of the islands?
2. How did the transport of basalt columns of 25 to 50 tons take place?
3. About the underwater complexes we learn only that columns standing upright were discovered at a depth of thirty meters of water. – But researching further down there could likely uncover too much incongruity, which might not fit at all into classical archaeology’s concept. – So my concluding thought about this: But maybe the sci-

entists should also consider the following: An estimated 500,000 to 750,000 tons of material transported from place to place and used for constructions (partially under water) as a way of passing the time? What for?

The anthropologists and archaeologists of the University of Oregon came forward again with the following report on the transport of the basalt columns of Nan Madol: "Experiments in Stone Transport, Pohnpei." (Dpt. Anthropology, Univ. Oregon, W. S. Ayres and Ch. J. Scheller, Eugene, USA, on 11/18/2001).

1) The material: Column-shaped basalt (with five, six and eight sides) weighing up to 50 to 60 tons, where the largest "blocks" came from the island of Temwen. On average these naturally occurring columns have a diameter of around 60 cm, a maximum length of eight meters and a weight of six to eight tons.

2) The amount: The total mass of the material used for construction is estimated at 750,000 tons.

3) The question of transport: On page 11 of this work we read: "The long-distance transport of this basic building material!"

The transport took place from the other side of the island of Nan Madol, across the lagoon/the coral reef at high tide. The distance measured 10 to 30 km, where the next island which would come into question for the provision of basalt columns is the island of Kosrae, over 400 km away.

Five tons are given as the upper limit of what could have been moved over the reef (in deep enough water). Larger basalt columns needed to be pulled. I would like to immediately note my doubts about the explanation attempts given by these archaeologists [in brackets, for instance "pulled" – over the coral reef?].

Incidentally there is the difficulty that there was only a very limited number of helpers who could pitch in on the construction site/the basalt columns! [The question is, could ropes made of plant fibers have been a great help in this?]

The archaeologists from Oregon carried out two experiments in order to determine how the ancients could have realized the construction plans in the past: For this they first used a basalt plate of around 380 kg and then a hexagonal basalt column of about a ton

in weight. In connection with the latter it is mentioned on page 9: "Could be just barely lifted!" [Not even this one-ton weight could be moved without difficulty – that makes all commentary unnecessary!]

A small column of 422 kg could be heaved onto a raft, where upon the scientists calculated the (maximum) weight that a medium-sized person could move: 31–33 kg.

The conclusion: To move 1.5 tons "over a short distance", 35 men were necessary. [If we extrapolate this to 750,000 tons, I ask myself if these South Sea islanders couldn't also have built the Cheops pyramid?]

4) Final remarks: Both authors quoted Paul Hambruch: *Results of the German South Seas Expedition 1908* (De Gruyter, Hamburg, 1932–36): There are no reports on the transport of the basalt columns, however: The natives have an oral tradition that the basalt columns "flew in through the air". This was caused by shamans. What is more believable: 500,000–750,000 tons shipped on fragile canoes/rafts and then pulled across the reef, or levitation? The answer is distinct for us!

With this we leave one of the most important sites of the Pacific megalith culture, to which I will return for the concluding considerations. But before we make the long trip to French Polynesia in the central Pacific, I want to mention still other locations, which are known for megalithic ruins. Since some of these are barely known islands, seldom mentioned in travelogues, I will follow an American writer who plowed through the Pacific as few travellers have done: D. H. Childress, *Lost Cities of Ancient Lemuria and the Pacific* (Adventures Unlimited Press, Stelle, Illin., USA, 1988).

The islands and archipelagos to be considered naturally lie scattered across the vastness of the Pacific Ocean. To bring a certain systematic aspect into the description, I will go more or less from west to east, applying the following order:

The Marianas.

The Fiji Islands and Rotuma.

The Tonga Islands.

French Polynesia with the islands "near" Tahiti:

The Tubuai Islands with Raivavaé.

The Gambier Islands and Mururoa. Malden Island.

The Marquesas Archipelago (in French Polynesia): Hivaoa, Nuku Hiva and Fatu Hiva.

The east-southeasterly island of the Austral ridge, Rapa Ití (in contrast to Rapa Nui, "Easter Island").

Easter Island, as well as its archaeologically similar island: Pitcairn. From there we will make a leap into the North Pacific to the Island Chain of Hawaii and the Necker Islands.

In conclusion we will touch down on the American mainland at Mt. Shasta. With a look back at Tiahuanaco the topic of megalithic culture will then be concluded.

First let us visit Tinian (see picture page 262), an island in the south of the Mariana Arc, extending north of Guam (the largest island) in the western Pacific. Most of the islands here show something very typical for the Marianas: Rows of columns bearing capitals, which rest upon a pedestal called "latte". Most of them are arranged in groups of six paired columns, thus forming groups of 12. There are no less than 18 such arrays scattered across the landscape of Guam.

The most impressive remains of such giant "mushrooms" are found on the tiny island of Tinian, where a double row of massive, rectangular columns of coral limestone exists, covering an area of 18x3.6 meters. At the base they have a width of 1.4 meters, thinning out to 1.2 m at the top. Approximately five meters high, they bore a semicircular capital with a diameter of up to 2.5, so that the weight of these monoliths is guessed at many tons. Here too they once formed two parallel rows of such colossi, of which many have already fallen over.

North of the Fiji Islands (once infamous for cannibalism, which was carried out with large ceremonial forks) lies the lonely island of Rotuma, where a stone slab of megalithic proportions was found.

The kingdom of Tonga shows two gigantic monuments on the main island of Nuku'alofa: The Trilithon of Ha'amonga and the cyclopean wall of Langi Tauhala. The aforementioned "triple stone" of coral limestone has two supporting pillars with a height of 4.88

meters with a cross-piece 5.80 meters long. The latter is set into the two supporting pillars and not just laid on the top. The walls of Langi Tauhala measure around 200 m in length, where the building blocks are set into each other like teeth, as is known from Peru.

French Polynesia:

The Dutch captain J. A. Moerenhout described something very interesting for the study of the history of the settlement of the Pacific in his book *Journeys to the Islands of the Great Ocean* (Paris, 1837): He encountered statues similar to the stone sculptures of Easter Island on the following Polynesian islands:

On Raivavaé, an island in the Tubuai Island Chain south of Tahiti; in the Gambier Islands east-southeast of Tahiti, where the unfortunate Mururoa Atoll⁴² can also be found. Malden Island should also be mentioned here, north of Tahiti – at 4° South and 155° West. There the remnants of many stone temples were found. From them basalt-paved streets lead in all directions into the ocean. The ruins themselves are composed of coral limestone. In connection with the aforementioned Easter Island stone statues (the Moai) the lonely island of Pitcairn must especially be discussed (page 311).

42 Mururoa is an island in the archipelago of the Tuamotus, found at the southeast end of French Polynesia, 1,300 km distant from Tahiti. From 1966 on, the French colonial power carried out atomic bomb tests first in the atmosphere, where around 40 atomic detonations were set off. Subsequently, underground tests in a shaft that was sunk into the reef between 600 and 1,000 meters deep were carried out, beginning in 1974. Here it should be stated that the coral reef limestone poses an increased risk for an already inherently deadly undertaking such as a nuclear explosion: During this process the naturally porous coral reef receives countless cracks, through which poisoned seawater and radioactive gases escape! In 1979 a nuclear explosive got stuck in the test canal; it was made to explode at a higher level, whereupon a significant portion of the reef broke off and sank into the ocean. Shortly thereafter cyclones formed, blowing an unimaginably large amount of plutonium from an interim storage site into the sea! This playing with atomic fire on Mururoa included no less than 120 nuclear weapon tests, with the result that in the giant area of the central Pacific alone an alarming increase in illnesses caused by radiation was recorded.

The Marquesas Group of Islands is probably the most romantic, craggy and wild cluster of volcanic ruins in the Central Pacific! There are eleven high islands, of which Nuku Hiva is the largest, the mountains of which reach a height of 1,185 meters. Today around 6,000 Marquesans live on the islands, which are under French administration. The rocky shores of these islands were discovered in 1595 by Mendaña, who named them after his fellow Spaniard, politician Marqués de Mendoza. The natives of the Marquesas lived in a moist, hot climate in this isolated island world in a wealth of tropical vegetable nutrition, nevertheless they knew how to make life a hell through the following habits: Battles between each other, ritual human sacrifice, and celebrations of cannibalism.

The artistic creations of the people stood in contrast to this primitive way of life, especially represented by wood carvings, stone workings to produce "tikis" (symbols of the gods), as well as depictions of very specific motifs as paintings on bast fabric and on the human body; these full-body tattoos from head to foot were documented by the German ethnologist Karl von den Steinen in 1925 in a richly illustrated treatise. But the antediluvian megalithic buildings, which can especially be met all over this archipelago, have nothing in common with the aforementioned craftsmanship. Such giant stone constructions are, for instance, described in the classic book from Herman Melville: *Typee* (1846) (not cited literally):

... a gigantic stone terrace, which rises in the form of steps and is estimated to stretch over a hundred meters, with a width of around twenty meters. The astonishing thing is the giant size of the stone blocks of which the complex is constructed: Some of these blocks measure up to five meters in length and are almost two meters wide. Their surfaces are smooth and show no traces of work with chisels; they are assembled in a regular order without cement. In the course time this complex was overgrown by the jungle. It seems to be very old! And non of the Marquesans has an explanation for who laid basalt on basalt, building block on building block here..."

The aforementioned captain Moerenhout knew this location on Nuku Hiva, where this terrace is found in the valley of Taipivai

("Typee"), and he also wondered at the seamlessly joined square stone blocks.

On the little island of Fatu Hiva two peculiarities were discovered: Stone figures at the valley's entrance to the Bay of Hanavave, as well as a street, paved with giant stone slabs which lead up the valley.

Fatu Hiva! What a reminder of "Thor Heyerdahl's Island", where he – then with his young, brave wife – won his first spurs as an adventurer and researcher! During my South Sea journey I visited the inhabited islands of the Marquesas and already then (1982–1984) I gathered information about the megalithic culture and myths of the Pacific. So I wrote in the book I published later (p. 67):

"My innkeeper, a noble representative of his Polynesian race, was able to skillfully and with astounding ease shape the Hatiheu Valley (on Nuku Hiva) to that what foreigners – dreaming of romantic ideas – imagine about a quiet bay of the ocean in the South Seas. ...And I had asked my informant to bring me to the remains of ancient temple platforms, here called pae pae, where stone tikis furrowed by weather can also be found. Thanks to his position he knew the land and people from his earliest youth, and once his father had initiated him into the secrets which were hidden in the near rainforest in the inner region of the bay above the coconut plantations. Up there we now directed our steps.

After we had climbed uphill on a clayey path for a few kilometers, he led us to a hardly noticeable steep track in the bushes. The palm grove soon made way for a thicket of ferns, tree trunks and air roots, as only a perpetually moist tropical climate can produce. I knew this kind of vegetation from other equatorial zones of the Earth, nevertheless I had my mind and eyes wide in disbelief, as we stopped in front of a fig tree whose size was far beyond all that I had ever known before.

The second surprise came to me after a closer look at countless interwoven trunks, man-sized buttress roots and the knots of air roots in this tropical variation of *ficus religiosa*. Namely, it grew on the cyclopean foundation walls of an spacious temple complex, near the ruins of which both of us not very small men seemed like dwarves.

Up until now I had not seen a sacramental building – because suchlike it must well have been – of this dimension neither in the heiau of Hawaii, nor in the marae of Tahiti (both of these apply to temple platforms). The temple building stood, as far as visible in the dusk of the rainforest, on a flight of platforms stretching to a cliff. This were these pae pae, built up meticulously from blocks, cut to size. The visible upper edges of these monumental stone walls consisted mainly of basalt slabs of up to two meters in length, which proved to fit together precisely. A closer inspection revealed stone-framed shafts, sunk into the ground, resembling our well shafts...” What an impressive accomplishment...

It falls to the imaginative power of each of us to speculate about the when and why of these megalithic structures. At any rate, we at that time had found out nothing beside the fact that Pacific islands are rich in treasures which up to now hide insolvable puzzles. Archaeology has not, to my knowledge, come to plausible results, yes, on the Marquesas it has not even dug in a shovel!⁴³ The stone sculptures on Hiva Oa, named in the footnote, are three and a half meters high.

With this succinct statement I would like to leave the Marquesas to turn to another mysterious island in the South Seas: Rapa Iti. This tiny (iti) island has little to do with its namesake Rapa Nui (“Great Rapa”), Easter Island. There are no “Moai” standing around in the landscape, however there are “fortifications”, so to speak, which characterize the mountainous island as so peculiar! Rapa lies somewhat more than 1,000 km southeast of Tahiti, was archaeologically

43 The ethnologist K. Kohlenberg mentions the megalithic buildings there in his book *Decoded Prehistory* (Langen-Müller Verlag, Vienna, 1974, p. 327). Th. Heyerdahl cites the same stone statues in the Puamau Valley on the island of Hiva Oa in his first work, *Fatu Hiva*, (Bertelsmann Verlag, Vienna, 1974, p. 228-229). In this context he states the opinion of the German ethnologist Karl von den Steinen, who wrote in his documentary work *The Marquesans and their Art* (1895): The statues were already there when the ancestors of the nowadays inhabitants of the islands came and drove an earlier people into the mountains. And furthermore, both researchers say: There were persistent rumors throughout all of Polynesia according to which another people lived on these islands when the ancestors of the present population arrived (Fatu Hiva, p. 229).

studied by Th. Heyerdahl in 1957 and documented in his book *Aku* *Aku* in words and pictures (Ullstein-Verlag, Vienna, 1957, p. 342ff.). What the Norwegian researcher found there was a row of terraces around the deeply eroded volcanic mountain, crowned by the stump of a pyramid 20 meters high. A total of seven “fortifications” could be counted, each of which took up an area of around 10,000 square meters. This on an island of around 6 x 15 km! Heyerdahl chose one of the hilltops, the “Morongo Uta Fortification”, in order to carry out excavations with persons hired from the locals. Nothing exciting seems to have been found, but the fact that a tiny island shows such (defense?) complexes is cause for thought and our Frenchman, Vincent, said in his book (*Mu*, p. 337): These fortifications are very old, constructed by a powerful civilization which has disappeared. They are not the work of the natives of a tiny island who never put themselves to the trouble of cultivating their mountainous island!

Pitcairn, a South Sea Island at 25° Latitude South and 130° Longitude West, became infamous through the “Mutiny on the Bounty” (1788 or 1789). The mutineers settled on the lost island, and the newcomers gave it its name: “cairn” meaning grave mound. This was the beginning of what destroyed so much valuable material of the cultural history of humanity and which runs through archaeology like a recurrent theme:

- Puzzling discoveries were made.
- These were misplaced or destroyed.
- Therefore science can say nothing about them!

Let us use this sad insight on the aforementioned island:

On the 3.2 x 4.8 km island, temple platforms built out of giant stone blocks with skillfully worked stone statues were discovered, which once stood on the mountain peaks, while the island shows heights of up to 335 m. These stone buildings, complete with statues, were destroyed by the first settlers! So the remains of a (very?) ancient culture were found on the island, while the stone sculptures, 3–4 meters high, are supposed to have reminded in style of the Moai of Easter Island, 2,000 km away, in style. Again it is the previously mentioned explorer of the Pacific, Captain Moerenhout, who in his travelogue, published in Paris in 1837, proclaimed the following details:

Four square platforms were found with a statue at each corner and their backs to the sea (as on Easter Island!). These temple platforms carried, as said, stone sculptures standing on bases which came to a total height of around four meters, while at the time of the new settlers everything already showed a ruinous appearance. At the peak of a "high mountain" (the Dutch sea baron must have considered a 300 m hill already as high!) the remains of a relatively old temple could be seen, which once held a bust 1.4 meters high. Here it must be pointed out that the building blocks of the complexes were put together very precisely: Even large blocks of stone were worked extremely smoothly and stone tools showed careful workmanship. Some of them had a noticeably, unusually large size!

Were human remains also discovered, perhaps from giants that used these tools? Actually a skeleton was found near one of the platforms, the head of which lay on a large shell. Where are these bones? And if you look for the giants, you will not find them anymore...

Even the around 2,000 stone axes found on Pitcairn could be located only with difficulty today. This, therefore, is the fate of the remains of the giant inhabitants of the Earth and their artefacts, recovered worldwide, which have been lost!

Pitcairn, a fertile island, rich in water; why was it left by its previous inhabitants? Were these among the pitiful epigones of the vanished advanced civilization of Rutas Mu? And while I continually consulted the Great World Atlas, in order to trace them in the most distance corners of the South Seas, I noticed: The islands of Rapa Ití – Pitcairn – Rapa Nui all three lie at the 25th to 27th degrees south latitude. Was not this the southern border of the sunken continent, which was known in Sanskrit and to us as Rutas Mu? Its southeastern corner would have been this Rapa Nui, the "Easter Island", to which we now want to turn.

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