Now progress as Arctic levels are clarified, we will soon open the next trench to the east.
A rather clear graffito from FSA, of Atticarc date ... AAA EIMA: persuasion of a cup, apparently. Eric C. should be in touch and Alan J. consulted when he arrives in a few days.
73A. A wall in straightened on the southern face before we go furthur down.

MCS discovred a petite stairway in the western part of her trench, with three steps. Two.

X becomes a building of two stories most likely, because it is placed 1.5m above the floor level in the room just west of the double window.

74A Stairs leading to the upper level.

75A. Clearing of the scar on the east with the machine, after 76A, closed roadway was,

i fills in after all appropriate recording.

76A. Began just south of the stairway in P. The line of the north-south wall began to appear, made of huge blocks and, to our surprise, blocks on the same level appear on the east. There is a new structure here that may have been added to P. Here is a buttress, an entrance, another building?

At 1:00 the trench is extended to the east by one meter in order to begin to clarify what this may be. By the end of the day, although the extension is opened, the sand has not yet been removed entirely. We found nothing new. This is most unexpected and will force us to modify our plans in order to conform to whatever is found. As we leave this afternoon we cannot see any more under the road alongside the site and in most impressive and only a bit of what is to come.
12A. V slow progress in the removal of the Archaic levels which have multiple layers of burning. To offset this we should begin the new trench on the east so that earth removal and the more delicate work can go on at the same time.

New plastic pails with heavy-duty plastic and three metal handles that encircle the rim arrive, replacing old ones that have disintegrated over the years. Some 150 of various colors that we have used over the years at great profit, thanks to John Hay's original suggestion.

The 20m of thick nylon rope arrive in two via the taxi driven下乡. I will pick it up this weekend, hopefully beaded at the ends, and we will be ready to use it when the blocks in 74A are cleared from near the NE corner of Building 7.
43A. MCS finds entire pots; small and plain so far, in her s.e. room near the stairway during the last half hour excavation. There are left in situ until a full working day can expose them and any surface they may rest upon. At the moment we are considering that they are fallen among the slabs of the upper floor, but a surface somewhat above that known to the east is a possibility as well.

44A. We are finished with the upper level of Minoan remains (E545? A?) and are beginning to find major walls that are closest to X's orientation and appear to head downward. G6B divides the upper level with its pots and (which had the shells set near it) in preparation for its removal so that the next habitation level can be approached.

45A. The "tumbled" blocks referred to rest on or close to a surface that was picked up in 46A of the nesting surface of the large block set on edge. They may be arranged in 45A in a rough (very rough) wall set up against P's corner. They and 46B will be cleaned and photographed both separately and together, probably tomorrow by 10 A.M. Good progress in moving down toward the base of P's wall, our immediate aim.

46B. The upper level of the large trench (which will, however, become more constructed once P's walls are defined) is explored to reveal a surface, slightly burned, that has a scatt of large blocks from 7. At least one, perhaps two, are carved in the shape of walking trough, and there is, at a slightly higher level, the spout from what may have been a large oil press. The date may be Hellenistic.
77A. We will shortly extend trench if new women can be found. In 77A the remainder of the Archaic nivel is being stripped down to the upper, burnt floor of Building D.

The front loader has almost finished the deep trench in the sand, propped by the collapsing of an adjacent tree into the "glaze", perhaps 8m deep. I weigh the risks factors for the trench master against the need to explore, even if quickly, the habitation levels that may lie below.

Two emotional crises: the timing of the trench brought down from Pit 151; and the fact that GB's child has not yet been found, an arrangement that satisfies. The heat and unusually humid weather exacerbate the situation.
Photographs with 4 canvases of the upper level of the area of the rear court of P, encompassing the Archaic (?) wall and wall north of the court and the probable Hellenistic level higher up on the level of the topmost preserved blocks. Afterwards we excavated along the east facade in search of the continuation of the wall. This is found at a somewhat lower level and rather even. Above are two large blocks with fill and slabs in between. Could this be a window sill for Gallery 1? In any case, there is no entrance to Gallery 1 directly from the east, not as I had suspected. A number of possible plans had been submitted, usually with a doorway in each Gallery. The case for a window is strengthened somewhat by the fact that the pivot block (in the hypothesis of a window sill) that could be along the eastern wall of P. Proof might be furnished by cuttings and in some holes in a similar pattern of blocks along the eastern wall of Gallery 2, which will surely be excavated this year.

MCS descends slowly to within 30 cm of floor in the main western room. In the "southern alcove" near the stairway, a few oinochoai were found accompanied by many bivalves apparently set on a small oval slab that had cracked. Tomorrow's photography of them in situ, an unusual domestic detail for Kommos (LH III A1?).

Weeds continue down - surely the rooms converted will be defined shortly and either take up or separate themselves from Building X. Pottery continues to be of fine quality.
Almost down to the top floor of P in the remainder of the trench. No signs so far of any unusual activity. I must inquire more about the dates of the pottery from the lowest part.

D. Vallianos makes a quick visit to inspect. A number of villagers do the same. A group from the Palagiaastro excavations makes a visit. The chief guard from Gortyn, Zacharias..., visits Kommos for the first time and is effusive about the merits of the site, especially of its coolness and proximity to the sea.

T. Dabney presents the first contact sheets of trench and object photographs.
17 July 1971

75,16 A. In the form we reach, clear, and photograph the surface reached, possibly Archaic. Then the three large blocks that have tumbled from the n.e. corner of P are removed by the front loader, because about 1 m from the eastern escarpment with the front loader, a technique that will be used increasingly as we learn more about the stratigraphy of the area directly east of Building P. In March, we concentrated on the northern 1/4, directly behind the NE corner of P, where the steps were discovered in previous years. Here we are slowly descending into a roughly rectangular enclosure formed by the stairs on the west P's walls (n and e) and a 'new' wall on the south. The southern wall probably does not belong to the Minoan period or, if it does, then the steps are definitely post-Minoan since the area could be accessed only from the north (i.e., Minoan). There remains to be clarified. In any case we are doing the correct thing in emptying out this almost sheer wall space characterized by occasionally alternating levels of sand and alluvium, perhaps representing time of strong winds and rainfall, respectively. An Hellenistic pottery was found in the lowest step of the staircase; the fill must be post-Hellenistic and late in any case than the 76A area on the south. If my suspicions are correct we are descending into a spring chamber/well of the Hellenistic period, and perhaps earlier. We should certainly empty this out. Perhaps this year would a small pump be necessary? The water vessels could be handled easily (Alan Johnston just arrived today to take out the Greek pottery from Jerry's Pit), but we are not prepared, however, to handle the organic remains. That must be found: wood, rope, seeds. Could carbon can be sent to us from the Agora Excavations or from the Horace in Museum?
18 July 1941

75, 76. In 75 and 76 little change, especially in 75 with one man put to work elsewhere. There is a step-out in the wall of P with east 1. On the south end of the wall it is discontinued since the rear face is lost and to me it looks as if it might be dangerous if we will be continuing down, probably to water level. At some point we should restore the rear face by building a solid platform of cement and building up from that, cleaning as we go up as we did below the foundations of the temple.

78. We are below wall both here and may be entering MM according to the map of pottery that I see in the pause. If the walls above are of all I date, I do not think that they would be removed unless a particularly rich MM house is revealed: the MM levels by themselves are well known after all.

79. MCS continues to clear soil and occasional slab from the area in Room 4. Every time there seem to be pots: cups, a pyxis-like pot with a conical cup inset in it (conical cup buried on side as a lamp), pythos broken and smashed to within 6" of the floor. At least an hour day will be needed to clear as much as we can, and then gradual removal of the visible pots will become necessary. The group should make a handsome collection of IM IIIA pottery when published. The mending process should have been begun this year but I did not expect such amounts and a mudan was not laid on.

97. The trench continues to accomplish our
original aims as we come down upon what is most
likely the front floor of Gallery 2 in Building P.
It is extremely hard and seems to be thick.
Tomorrow we will clean a part of it and, after photog-
raphy, continue down in pursuit of the extenuin
of the eastern facade of T, if it extended southward
on the line already known to the north.

48A. Opened, after weeks of costly preparation. In
a great canyon I found some 4 metres deep we
situated a 3x3m. trench with Debi Rosello in
charge. Some preliminary digging into the earth-
clay surface was done yesterday when the front-
loader located part of a wall, on which the
eastern side of the trench was cut. I do not
know how dangerous the scarps are but am
taking the chance that they will hold firm
until we have finished in a few weeks or less. The absolute level is about +3.50 m,
now perhaps a metre above ground water
level. The wall mentioned is of rubble rather
than ashlar; only a few undatable sherds
so far but I am hopeful. The purpose of
the trench which took about 45 working
hours for the machine to clear (350,000
drainage) is to test the archaeological
worth of the newly purchased land on the
South.
A very active and successful day. The main event was the first stage of the removal and final clearing of the upper, LH III A1/2 floor of House X. Some 20 pots, most of them cups, were brought back to Pitsidia after appropriate recording by MC5, GB, and CS6. One, with fine scale and plant decoration, was more in the shape of a tall, thin pyxid-shape that would have been suspended by four cords tied at one end. The potter was left in the field until Monday. Near this “hanging pot” a number of small items (a stone bead, the top of a small stone vane, a stone pendant) appeared at the last minute during cleaning operations. No doubt there will be more of such little trinkets. Pits or cup and tripod cauldrons, both room must have been used in connection with storage of liquids. In the little room, south of No. 4 (I believe) were stacks of wide conical cups, no more than a time, as well as two more braziers. In this same room were found fragments of an alabastron-shaped rhyton with multiple spouts at the bottom. The braziers and rhyton may, as MC5 suggest, a ritual use of the room, but more evidence is, I think, needed. This is the most complete layer deposit found in Kommos, in situ, rather than in dumps, the usual circumstance.

44A. T. T MM III type fell with some Kamarios were fragments.

45A. A small probe reveals that the projection on its eastern facade is at least of two blocks, I am unable to arrange. I was a bit worried that there might be a chance of construction that could have been the probe into the well going on at the same
time in T6A on the other side of the same wall, no essential change in the character of T6 A but it continues descending. Perhaps a meter and a half to go. Some pottery showing up after no day of staking fill: if so well then recovery of pottery should accelerate.

T74. Floor of D appears to rest on sand, there are some constructions below, probably to be based on Monday.

T8A. Walls are built around the thin side of the trench to limit sand spill with the trench and to make available a handy place to throw excavated earth. Some sheds, probably diagnostic, appearing near the rough wall that continues to gain height.

Numerous visitors: Hugh, Samson and a Pallaeocastro group but we are too busy at the end of this Friday that there is no time to tour them around. Also, a friend of a major A/3A leader who will return on Monday. And the owner of a restaurant (first visit).

I meet Astrinaki, "owner" of the property to the south, for the first time when he comes searching for me and gives me in T8A. His complaint is that the front ditch has been piling sand in front of his property - I tell him that there is fine and that we will stop doing so. Instead, we will put in front of our property. Actually, during the day someone from the town council is supervising a minor road improvement just east of the site. He agrees to dump all of our earth on the road, improving the road and at the same time making it less resistant to erosion: a major project here only just begun.
21 July 1991

In 768, we are very close to the top of the second flight of P as found on the west:

- Present level: +3.84 m.
- Top of P: +3.64 m.
- Lower floor of P: +3.44 m.

Although I don't expect to find either one of them in the central part of the trench, they should be discernible at the back of the steps (il Muro) and at the back of the Mizzen wall (or a stone wall) as a sure way of identifying them.

After the fact, although there is some Heligoland pottery near the final, 8th step, we do not find P's floor. Rather, the fill of clay and broken bits (not pottery) continues down without change. On the southern wall, there is an enormous square block set (with others) on a kepis, which seems strange, and rather like an orthogonal construction.

Could this be the remains of a continuation of P's wall on the east? In other words did P's orthogonal wall jog east and then south? We continue down, and will inspect the area in front of the site (157) step very carefully.

320. Mostly the pottery is cut now and cleaning up the upper floor in 4 and 5 is complete. All is being sieved by dry sieving or by water sieving (similar to the latter). This is the first time that I think now it and admire David Reese's resolve in carrying out the work for so many years. In the first box through I find a stone head, green and beautiful, from the little neck (a). The remainder of the material I will go through at some later point. But of all, sieving reveals a fine stone discoid black stone seal with a flying bird upon it, our first seal this year and one of the few that we have discovered.
74A - 25m Mm, including (not found in sieving) a number of complete cups and a seal (Mm, presumably) of # type that preceded the fingernail type. Both seals mentioned are of blue stone, presumably steatite. I hope that some definition of the Mm floor comes in the next day so that we can open up the trench extension to the east so as to get down to M levels before the end of the season.

74A - 3 no. essential change, although in the latter the level outside of the wall is reached, unstable although some pottery as we continue down.
23 July 1991

76A. Sectors' perception that the huge block is an orthostat, and to have a eponymous Lead to the conclusion that an orthostat block of this extent was removed when P was constructed in order for them to be accessed to the newly constructed stairway. I accept this probability, which however remains to be proven, perhaps when we have excavated on the other side of the southern wall of what I still assume is a pool. If shown true, it will change fundamentally our understanding of Building T at the east, from the fragment mentioned above will turn to the east, skirt the 'well' on the south, and the eastern wall of P may turn out to be the wall of P as well. In this, I think or T may have turned off to have continued to the east beyond P's boundaries. If this is found, then the southern part of the eastern wall of P will probably turn out to have the orthostat facade that we have recognized in a number of places in the northern wall of T and the upper masonry may turn out to have been placed there in LM III. I note here that the eponym of the single 'orthostat' mentioned is at the level of P's first floor and would provide for this passage. I also note that the bottom of the ESE step of the stairway is at the same level which now opens up to the belief that the stairway belongs to the original first phase of P.

75A. Another probably shallow wall, N.E. appears in the general area of P's NE corner; this is the third we have come across. All three were probably co-
73A. A long and a stone pendent shaped like a shell appears under the excavation. The ceiling down to the lower floor of Room 4. Scales of red schist appear and may be excavation continues, extend throughout the room. The southern jamb base at the entrance (on the east) is of T4 type. The room appears to come close to the Europe's polite architecture of can I.

74A. An extensive dump of floor deposit of MM early appears. As soon as this is sampled we will begin the need to clean it for recovery of the MM levels.

Owner Daskalakis, men appear, and a new one time is at the beginning. Quiet and vociferous about rules and regulations which the man noted as I made various points to him. My full claim to own Astrapia? land, which may very well be true. It would appear and ases about me having contacted the ephorates — did we? Yes, I say, and talked to Epimeletis Karaiskou, and for us to ask. We can clean that at least. In the afternoon I receive a talk from a man about an ophthos (Vallianos) which may mean that we will have me. If so, at least our maps were almost done, especially with the south moorings and carving which they been extensive. We have also ignored, but after careful recording, a few walls. Also, the maps appear and we have a meaningful, discussion about the road to the sea.
(we would cede, it followed, Im., and replace the fence), as well as drainage to protect the archaeological area; he will arrange for consultants.
Three new trenches are being opened while at the same time work goes on in the old ones: an extension of 76 on the south, next to the stairway and well; an extension of 77 on the east to replace much of P's interior and how the "long walk" of the hall in Terminated; an extension of 78 on the east to include much of Building X and its boundary to the north. In house three on 3
new men to add to our capacity with the new trenches so that as phasing continues, the trenches can be completed.

43A. Clearing down to the primary floors of Rooms 4 and 7. Red plaster is preserved along the base of the eastern wall, blue along the western wall in 7, and there seems to be a raised ledge to the west with slabs, although not yet a slab form. A slab form is found in the southern room (4) just a few inches above, and it will probably continue throughout the room.

44A. Here were two patches of this remarkable rock at a 90° strike area. A slab form is found, and a broad basin setup on a slab within it. There are from 10 to 20 that are intact.

45A. The wall mentioned continues here.

46A. Definition of the wall of P continues here on the south. No further work in this well to day.

47A. As above in the extension.

48A. Clayish sand, future here.
76A. The well is now a well without water. Afternoon work in the mound reveals at least two steps far down below those known already, and entering the water. The interval between the steps, now about a vertical meter, is covered by fallen rubble. The rubble and the level of next step have up to this point been used as evidence that the stairway is of L M III date. On the other hand, if below this rubble we find evidence of broken steps the situation will be quite different. Tomorrow the accumulation will be photographed and at least partially removed. First, however, we should deal with a great triangular Minoan block that is on the top of the L M III wall and threatens in the event of a sudden collapse to mar all work anyone working in the area below.

73A. Cleaning and questions of interpretation.

74A. About the previous day.

75A. As I expect will happen in 75B, we do now the E-W wall of P rising up to join the N-S wall of P. It seems incredible that in a few meters stretch that the wall can be preserved at 2 courses and that the east to at least five. Major explanation occur to mind but must be examined.

48A. It appears that we are descending through LM II, which without walls in debnos make one wonder about the position of the fort in the area. Was it removed further from the shore then? Or do continue?