

From the Organizers and Editors

The Editors regret very much the delay in publishing these Proceedings. Several factors have been responsible, all of them basically resulting from unexpected effects of the fundamental transformation of our part of Europe in recent years.

The idea of the organization of continuous Dymaczewo symposia was obvious to all who attended our 1980 and 1984 conference. In 1984 the Participants decided that these symposia should be held every four years. The subject of the 1988 symposium was discussed during the meeting of the Board of the International Commission of the Later Prehistory of Northeastern Africa in Cologne on the 3rd of November 1986. This was the last day of the memorable international conference on "Chronological Problems of the Eastern Sahara and the Nile Valley" organized by Rudolph Kuper, who had just founded his "Forschungsstelle Afrika", a major research institute of African prehistory at the University of Cologne. The Board of our Commission decided there to devote the following Dymaczewo symposium to the theme "Environmental Change and Human Culture in the Nile Basin and Northern Africa until the Second Millennium B.C." It was felt that after discussing the main lines of cultural development in the later prehistory of northeastern Africa at the two previous symposia, it would now be useful to have a review of recent evidence on the natural environment in this time period – a background to the cultural processes. The symposium was held on 5–10 September, 1988.

That was another successful symposium. The Organizers wish to thank very much those who attended as well as those who submitted their contributions to this volume and have been patiently waiting for their publication. Word of appreciation also goes from the Organizers to John Alexander, who has kindly agreed to become a third Editor of these Proceedings.

The Organizing Committee

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