

1 primarily Thailand. The two Jonathan and Carolyn Markell cases before
2 this court are part of Operation Antiquity.

3 a. Based on my long familiarity with Thailand, it long
4 has been common knowledge, stated in most tour guides, that
5 individuals seeking to export antiquities must have a permit from the
6 Thai Fine Arts Department (FAD).

7 b. Among the thousands of artifacts I authenticated for
8 Operation Antiquity, I saw only one or two examples where export
9 permission had been obtained from the Thai Fine Arts Department.

10 c. This led me to believe that the remainder had been
11 looted (excavated illegally and without professional scientific
12 methods) from prehistoric archaeological sites primarily in Thailand
13 and then illegally imported into the United States.

14 3. The scale of the archaeological damage was obviously
15 devastating for Thai archaeological resources.

16 a. Artifacts entering the antiquities market such as
17 those I authenticated for Operation Antiquity tend to be fairly
18 intact. Intact artifacts are rare in archaeological sites and tend to
19 come from human burials.

20 b. To retrieve intact artifacts from sites like Ban
21 Chiang, large scale excavations must be undertaken. Most of the
22 materials recovered from such sites like Ban Chiang, which are
23 occupation/mortuary sites, are overwhelmingly fragmentary artifacts
24 and/or materials that are not marketable, such as human bones, animal
25 bones, evidence of food, and other materials discarded during daily
26 life such as broken pottery.

27 c. Based on quantitative comparisons of materials
28 recovered by scientific excavations at Ban Chiang and similar sites

