

Luristan Swords

IMAS 10

Note: The "Luristn Sword" paged will be formatted somewhat differently (simpler) than the rest. As I grew older, my eyes deteriorated to a point where I can just barely type stuff in my html editor. I apologize for typos and perfectly spelled but wrong words produced by the erroe correction without me noticing.

Transferred to Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels

High resolution pictures in [this link](#)

My internal descriptionn

Object:	Luristan Iron Dagger, c. 10th Century B.C. (parts) IMAS 10 IR3745 Luristan; Raubgrabungen in 1910 - 20
Origin:	Artemission, Auction XXII, No.: 26.31877 2016 2016
Provenance:	From an important private London collection, formed in the 1970s and 1980s.
Price:	S 600.-
Description:	An iron short-sword or dagger with leaf-shaped two-edged blade, ribbed transverse guard, flat-section tang with two raised collars, discoid pommel with two bearded human heads overhanging the lower edge of the disc. Luristan; c. 10th Century B.C.
Notes:	See Hyperscript "Iron, Steel and Swords". It is No.3 Determine age; analyze large area (after possibly electrolytic cleaning and cutting). Done. See reports to "Luristan project".

Pictures:

Liege Pictures
here





Details

Darta from the "[Project](#)"

3. Schwert IR 3745 (=IMAS 10) See Projcet, A Abschlussbericht 3.1 Übersicht



IR3745

Bezeichnung Antrag: Luri 3

Altersbestimmung:

C-Konzentration C14 Probe: 0.01 %; für Altersbestimmung grenzwertig.

C14 Alter: 1745 – 1533 calBCE

Metallographie:

Poliert, Nital und Oberhoffer geätzt Ca. 260 Bilder im Lichtmikroskop 3 Bilder im REM, 12 EDX Analysen.

Typisches Rennofeisen, inhomogene Struktur mit Zonen verschiedener Mikrostruktur; globulare und ungewöhnliche Zementitstrukturen. Keine Härtung; erhebliche Verformung durch Schmieden.

Erhebliche Schlackeneinschlüsse. Merklicher Ca Gehalt bei niedrigem K-Gehalt (Verhüttung mit Kalk?).

Härte zwischen 100 und 185 mHV

3.2 Illustrationsbilder zur Metallographie

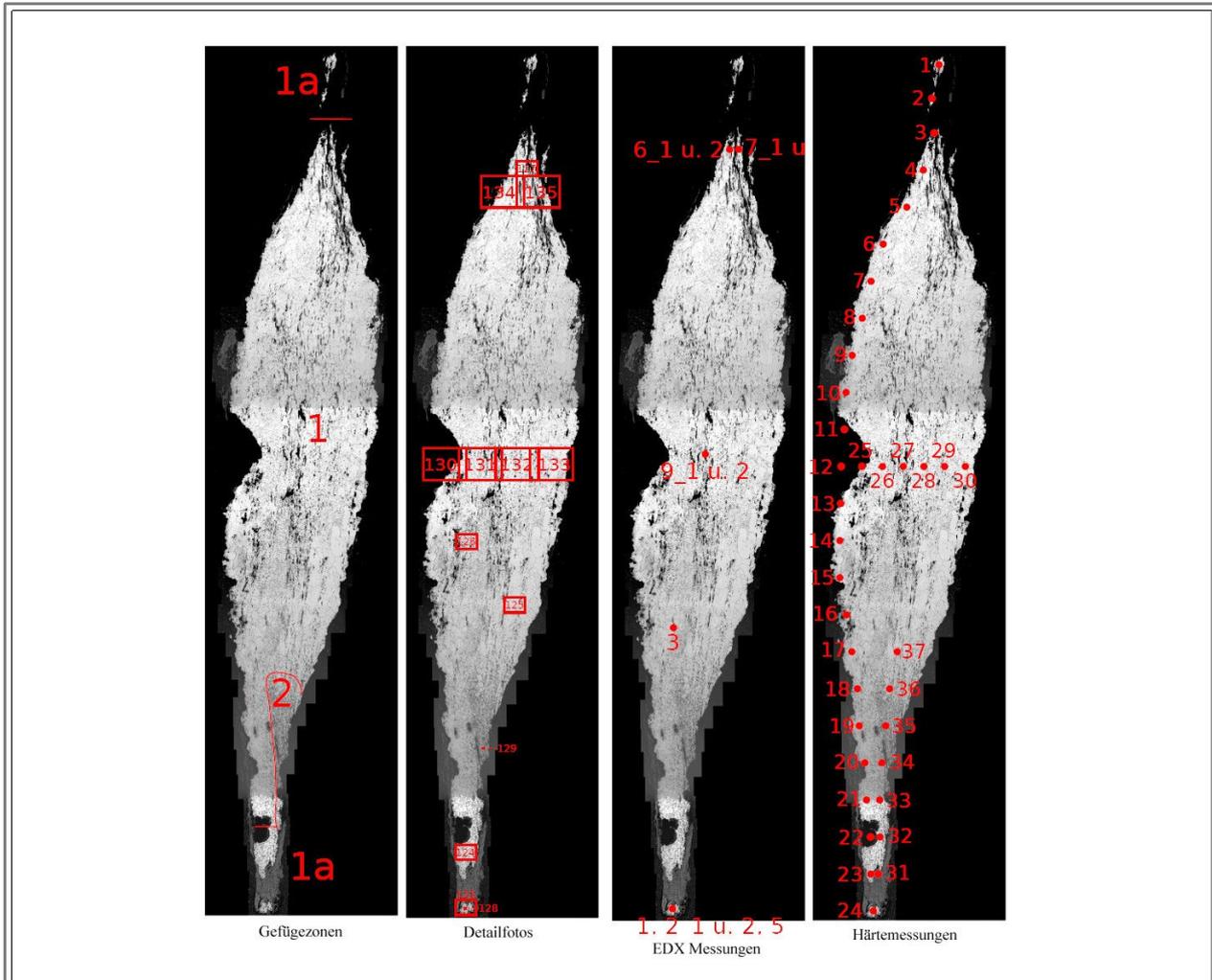


Fig. 3-2: Schwert IR3745. Übersicht der Nital geätzten Probe und Angaben zu weiteren Messungen. Itss a cross-section of the blade. With hindsight; this does suggest a finely layered structure as in IMAS 8.

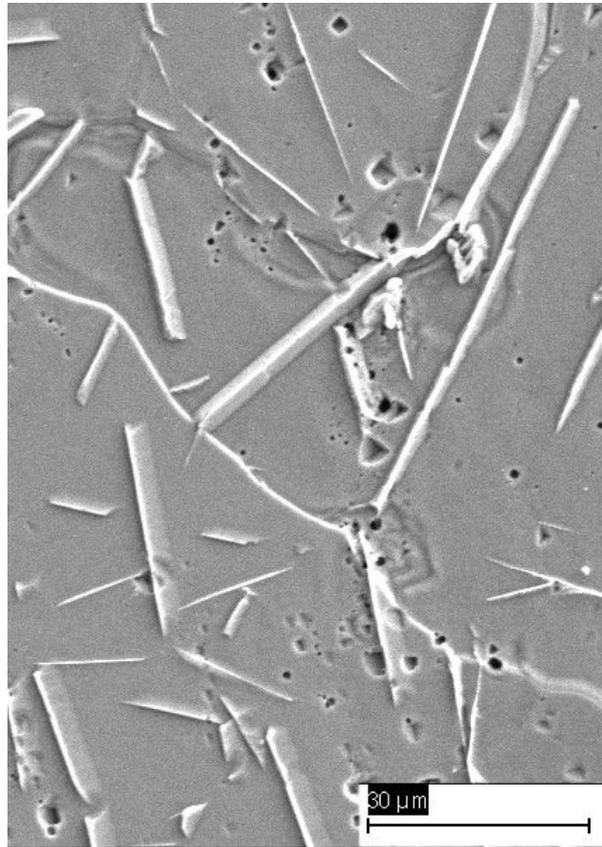


Fig. 3-3: Schwert IR3745. REM Aufnahmen ungewöhnlicher Zementit Strukturen.

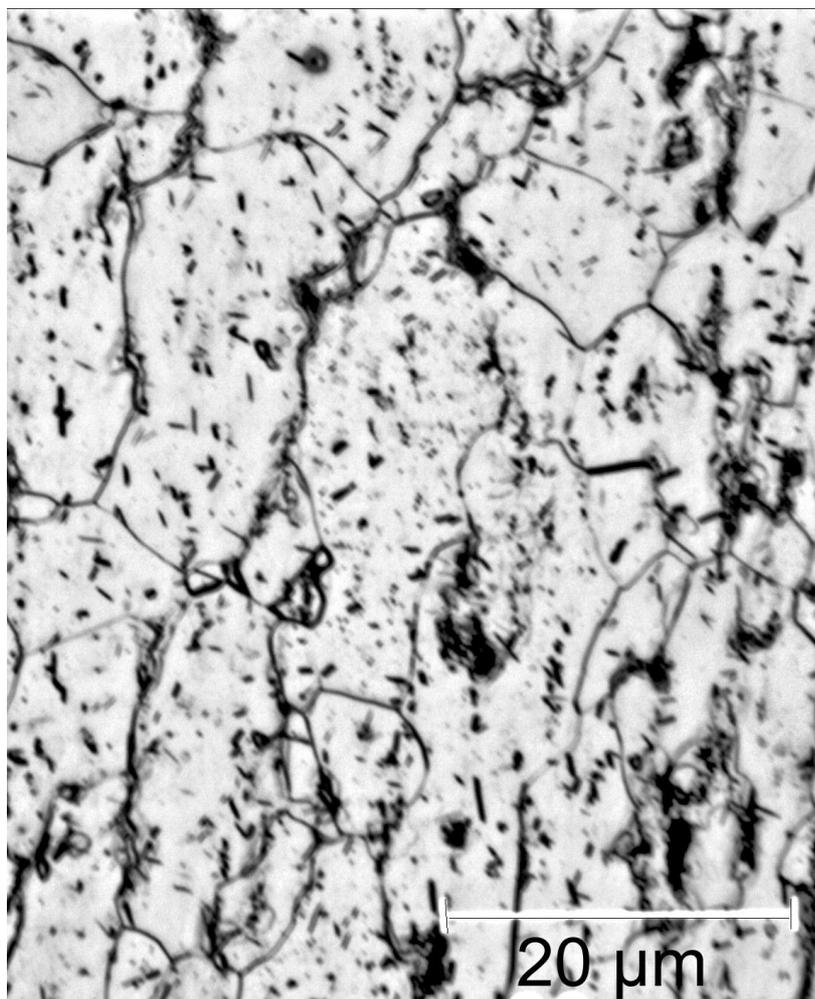
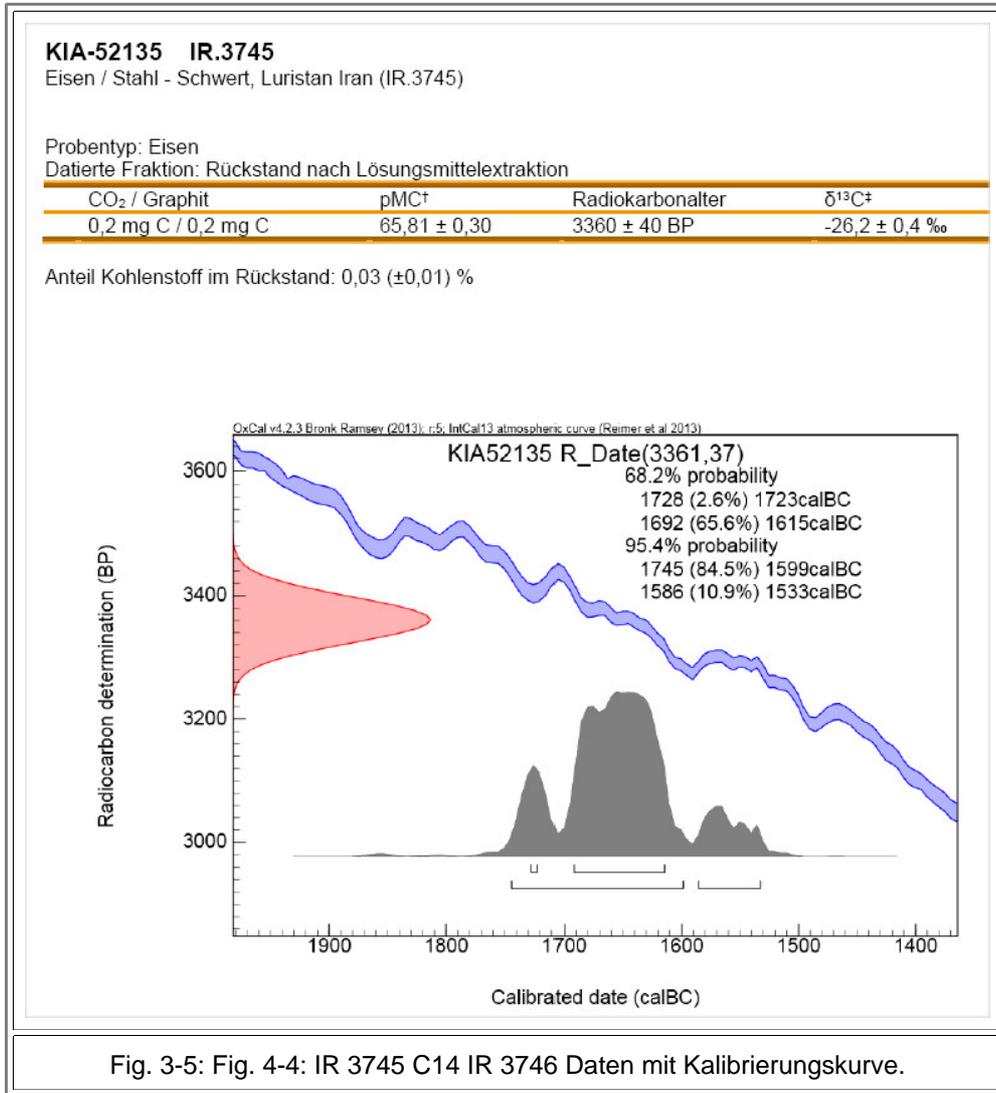


Fig. 3-4: Schwert IR3745. Unklare Struktur (P- Ausscheidungen?).

3.3 Daten zur Altersanalyse



IMAS 10 was one of the three swords that we for a C14 age analysis. The link tells you how that works. A small piece was cut off, its structure determined by metallurgy, and then used for the C14 analysis. The age found (see above) was

1745 – 1533 BCE

However!

The iron ore or in the materials used for the smelter might contain carbonates; i.e. the CaCO₃ of limestone or iron ore in the form of iron carbonate, FeCO₃. The carbon in these minerals is extremely old and if some of it gets into the smelted iron, the mix of mineral carbon and charcoal carbon would always give an age large than that of the charcoal carbon. The results thus must be seen as only giving a limit to the age of the sword, It always could be younger than the number found, but never older.

For some swords used in the “Luristan project”, large scale pictures have been made which I will show here top preserve them for eternity. They are shown only ¼ of their original size. You can restore the original size by copying the picture and inserting it into some image processor.

These pictures show an unusual feature:



The "grip" of the hilt shows some texture (banding) that I have never seen with other INAS.

Our original thoughts: The hilt most probably contains the largest amounts of preserved iron. **But as it also shows remnants of an organic grip binding preserved in corrosion products**, it should not be sampled.

The blade is heavily corroded, the samples for AMS dating have to be taken out of its the centre because only here larger amounts of preserved iron are to be expected. So it is planed to cut out three whole cross sections, one for dating in Kiel, one for dating in Finland and one for metallography.