

December 11, 1947

Dr. Paul E. Jones  
U. S. Geological Survey  
Ground Water Division  
Box 8516, University Station  
Baton Rouge 3, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Jones:


Many thanks for the two crabs and your letter of December 4. The two crabs are being returned to you by separate mail. They are *Harpaetocarcinus americanus* Rathbun, two females. This species of crab has been found in the Cook Mountain formation from Mexico to Mississippi at many localities. It occurs also in the Cache River of east Texas and Louisiana. It was originally described from a locality in Brazos County from the Wheelock member of the Cook Mountain. The Wheelock member, first described in University of Texas Bulletin 3818, is the lateral continuation of the Milams member of Louisiana, which was first described by Ellis in the A.A.P.G. Bulletin, volume 13, page 1335.

I am particularly interested in your reference to the Archaeocete that you found in 1944. It is evidently the oldest one of that group discovered so far in North America. I had discovered an Archaeocete in the Cook Mountain formation, but about the Wheelock member, in Leon County. This one has been described in Remington Kellogg, "A Review of the Archaeoceti," Carnegie Institute, Washington, D.C., Publication 482, page 242. This Archaeocete came from the Hurrican Bayou lentil of the Cook Mountain and is the next to oldest of the group. If such finds of vertebrates continue, we shall have very good vertebrate data on our Eocene Tertiary and your find is obviously an important contribution.

I appreciate your interest in these crabs and I hope you will keep me in mind in future collecting.

Very truly yours,

H. B. STENZEL  
Geologist



HBS:hrb P.S. By separate mail I am sending you two publications on crabs. H.B.S.