

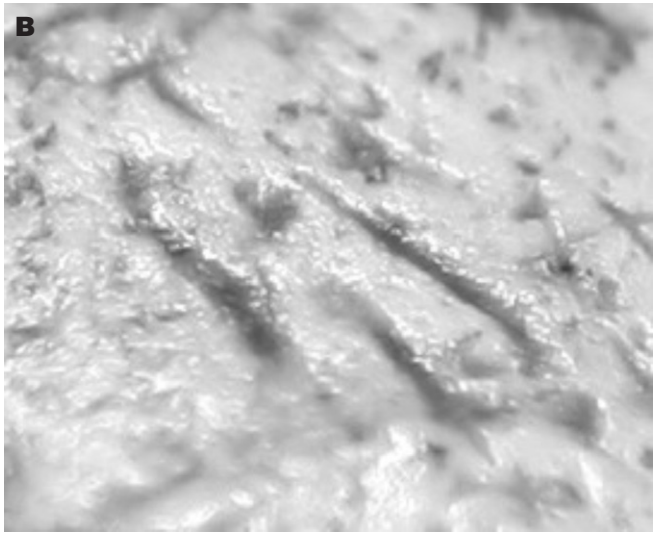
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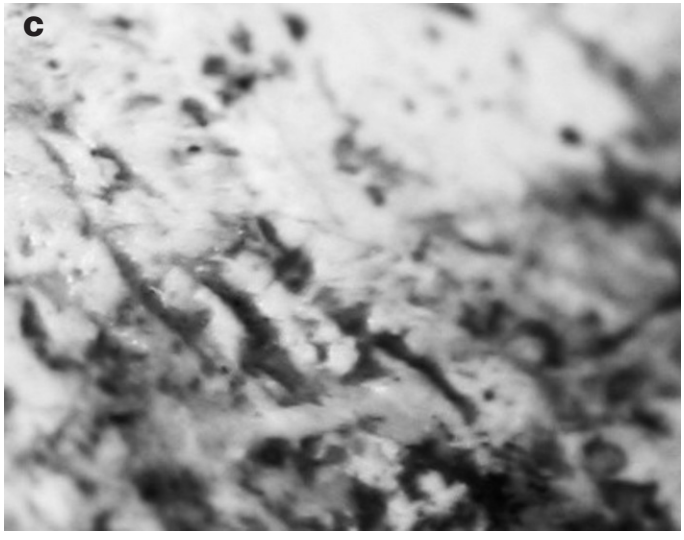
Further evidence for eagle predation of, and feeding damage on, the Taung child.

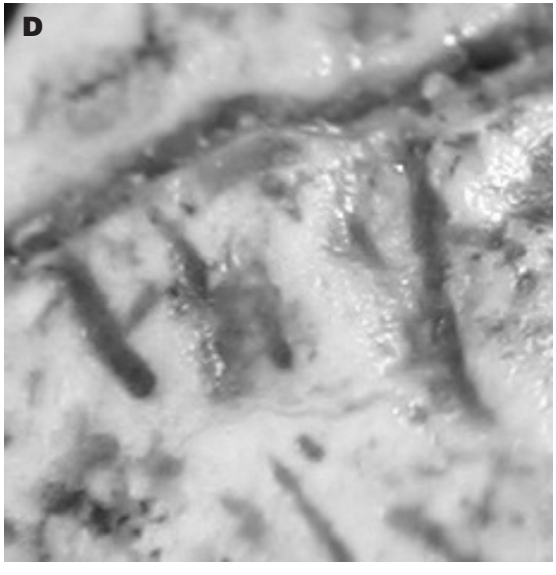
Berger, L.R.; McGraw, W.S.

2007-11
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http://hdl.handle.net/10539/21436
Berger, L.R.and McGraw, W.S. 2007. Further evidence for eagle predation of, and feeding damage on, the Taung child. South African Journal of Science 103 (11/12), pp. 496-498.

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Figs B–D. Close-up views of selected scratch and gouge marks on the face of the Taung child. Note the jagged pattern of many of the marks and that few marks look similar to the distinct V-shaped damage typically caused by metal tools. Observe also the distinctive 'dot and dash' marks in Figs B and C, which do not appear to be consistent with the scraping of a metal tool over the fossil's surface.

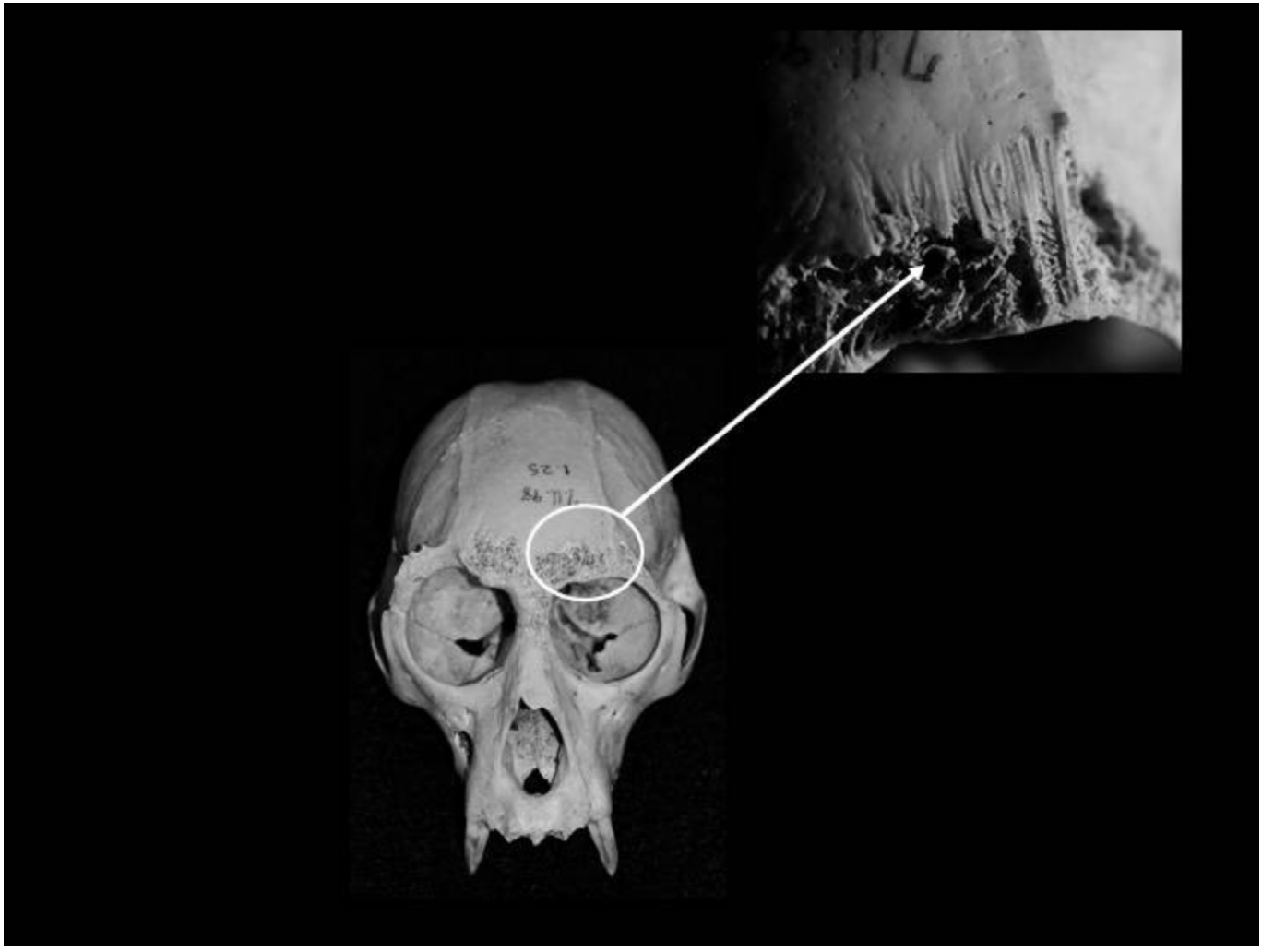


Fig. E. Rodent gnawing damage in the supraorbital region of an adult male *Cercopithecus* monkey found on the ground below the nest of a crowned eagle (*Stephanoaetus coronatus*) in the Ivory Coast's Tai Forest. Note the closely-spaced, parallel grooves resulting from incisor gouging.

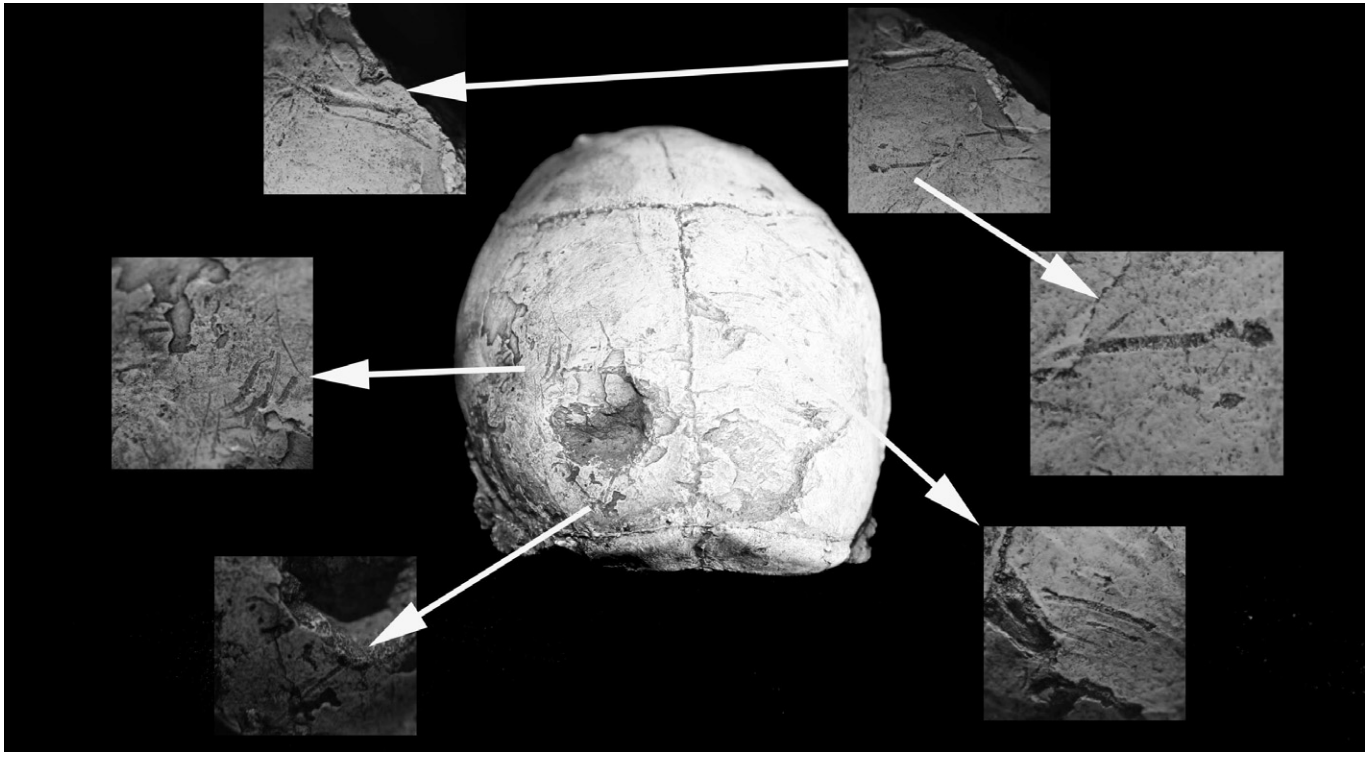


Fig. F. Taung fossil baboon (T31) figured in ref. 1, fig. 11a with the depressed flap in the left parietal. Also present are scratches similar to those found on monkeys preyed upon by modern crowned eagles.



Fig. G. Another fossil monkey from Taung (TP 65) with scratch marks on the face. Note that the position and frequency are comparable with those found on modern monkeys illustrated in the main article. It is not known whether these fossil monkey specimens were ever prepared by Dart or others, or if they were recovered from the blasting complete.