I have known, admired and have been deeply impressed by 3 Dutch scholars:

1. Henry Frankfort, (fig.1) the distinguished authority on Near Eastern Archaeology, who conducted the renowned seminars on Near Eastern Studies in the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, out of which came numbers of scholars of the Near East

2. Emily Haspels, (fig.2) authority on Grek vase painting, excavator of the Midas City, author of “The Highlands of Phrygia”, the last of the “great travellers in Anatolia” (fig.5) and

3. Machteld Mellink, of my own generation, Senior Foreign Archaeologist in Turkey, whom everybody knew (fig.4).

All three very special personalities, with tremendous backbone, who spent most of their professional life abroad, away from their homeland, but never gave up their nationality and who in times of need did all they could for their country and its citizens, at the risk of their own life and health.

I met Henry Frankfort in the fifties at a Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences in Spain and sat next to him all along the long bus excursions of the Congress, a fascinating, inspiring personality with tremendous vision and intelligence, great human warmth, although intolerant of the vulgar and the phony.

Emily Haspels was one of my cherished mentors, with whom I worked, dug and travelled in the Phrygian highlands (fig.5) in the fourties. She was of sharp intelligence, unbelievable industry, perseverance and endurance, of utmost cleanliness of mind and heart, but very perspicacious and intolerant of dishonesty and falseness, capable of laughing at ourselves, the person of the greatest intellectual integrity I have ever met in life.

It was in 1947 that I first heard of Machteld Mellink. We were exploring Hittite rock monuments across the Taurus mountains on truck (fig.6) or horsecart. We then began digging at Karatepe with a team of Istanbul University; Prof. Dr. H. Th. Bosser, Bahadir Alkim, Muhibbe Darga and others.

In the same year 1947, Hetty Goldman was anew digging at Tarsus-Gözüüküle, which together with Mersin Yumuktepe shed light on the traditional Neolithic stage in Cilicia. And here was Machteld, member of the team, which was to be joined as a volunteer by Arlette Cenani, later Mrs. Mellaart. The Gözlüküle excavation lasted on till 1949, later even without Miss Goldman, who fell seriously ill. Up in the roadless, forlorn, mountainous region of Karatepe, we marvelled at the flying rumor that Machteld and Arlette were going dancing in Tarsus on their days off and that Miss Theresa Goell, later excavator of Nemrud Dağ, logistically the most difficult dig in all of Turkey, when in a fury,
would smash a pot and then restore it. This led to the standing joke between Miss Hapsels and myself: "broken and mended by me."

I do not remember exactly when we first met, but I remember Machteld telling me, that in 1950 she was to sit with Miss Goldman to work on the publication of Tarsus and indeed she did. You will find her as one of the authors of the Tarsus Excavation, vol. II, the Neolithic, which appeared in 1956. Basically trained as a Classicist, this was her first introduction to Anatolian culture and the Near East in the field.

In the fifties, she joined Rodney Young at Gordion (1950-52), a Phrygian/ Iron Age site. She dug the LB Hittite cemetery and managed within a decade to work and publish on a wide range of subjects. Indeed, within this time bracket she covered the Glician Neolithic with Tarsus – Gözükule, the EB with an article on Alacahöyük, the LB and the Iron Age with Gordion. The width of this range reflects the breadth of Anatolian Archaeology at that point.

In 1949 Machteld Mellink had begun teaching at Bryn Mawr as Assistant, in 1953 as Associate Professor of Classical Archaeology and in 1963 was promoted to the Professorship. In Istanbul University her companion in the trenches was similarly promoted in the early sixties. Prehistory, formerly a certificate within Classical Archaeology was established as a separate chair (1964) and the Prehistory Lab (fig.7) with its well known collection of study material could be institutionalised. Machteld Mellink was to chair the Department for Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology in Bryn Mawr for uninterrupted 28 years and made it into a center for Anatolian Studies. Here she set standards and trained generations of excellent and well-equipped students, who have become effective in our field of knowledge. It is easy to assess the fruit of her teaching just by looking around. Not only with her own students, but with all those who are genuinely interested, exited and serious in their undertaking, Machteld would generously give her time and her immense knowledge and share her thoughts with them. She has thus spent hours and days in the Prehistory Laboratory of Istanbul University, looking at material and coming forth with new ideas.

Her life-long dedication to Anatolia was such that she would not suffer any impropriety. Thus, she was adamant with reference to the smuggling of antiquities and was known to have made it a point of travelling from Bryn Mawr to New York to stop the keepers of the Metropolitan Museum from buying smuggled goods, such as Haedlar figurines, from Anatolia.

In 1955 Machteld Mellink had started her annual reports (fig.8) "Archaeology in Anatolia", for the AJA, which she carried on till it was taken over by Marie-Henriette Gates only a few years ago. Her reports provided not only a complete synopsis of the annual results of the various excavations and research in Anatolia, but a masterly synthesis of the developments of archaeological work and studies on Anatolian cultures. These reports have become the primary source of reference for the student of Anatolia. During the same time I was going on working at Karatepe, this time with a new team, the old one having moved on to other sites. We started the restoration of the sculptures and bilingual inscriptions, half of which were broken up in bits and pieces, in cooperation with the Roman Istituto Centrale del Restauro, the best at the time. This meant collecting and excavating thousands of fragments, putting and sticking them together and resetting them in their original place in view of recuperating the monument in its entirety and exhibiting it in its historical and natural environment. It also meant the construction of protective shelters for their conservation which led to the organisation of an open-air museum on the site. At the time this constituted a new, unaccustomed and largely disapproved approach, not considered worthy of an academic. Ultimately, when finished, it gained support and by now has set standards that have ended up becoming normative.
In 1963, Machteld Mellink began her own long-range work at Elmalı-Kara taş. (figs. 9, 10) Here she uncovered a small fortified village of the EB rebuilt in several stages, with a fortified mansion and free-standing rectangular buildings, a large and several smaller cemeteries. Near the site she also found two stone tombs with frescoes of the 5th/6th centuries B.C., which she took great pains to restore (fig. 11).

In the same year, though still continued annually to attend to Karatepe, we began the long-term Istanbul and Chicago Universities Joint Prehistoric Project in Southeastern Anatolia with the Braidwoods. Bob Braidwood had taken a B.A. in architecture. (fig.12) He later shifted into prehistory, inspired by the great, unusual and remarkable G. Childe (fig.13) and investigated early sites in Iraq and Iran. Our Joint Project was carried out by a multinational team and an interdisciplinary and problem-oriented approach, that set standards. The Project aimed at investigating early villages, the transition from hunting and gathering to the domestication of animals, agriculture and sedentary life on the southern slopes of the Taurus mountains. A number of sites were excavated, the main one being Çayönü (fig.14), the first one of its kind to be dug on such a large scale. Here an early pre-pottery and pre-agricultural early village, rebuilt in multiple stages with well established settlement patterns, free standing buildings and very sophisticated ones, as well as early manipulation of copper could be attested. Prof. Dr. W. Schirmer and his team joined us and later Prof. Dr. M. Özdoğan (fig.15) took over and also took care of restoration. This phase in the human career with its preceding and following stages was to kindle the interest of a number of prehistorians. A series of similar sites were excavated, such as Nevalı Çorî or Göbekli Tepe with their astounding cult buildings and stunning earliest large scale sculpture, Halan Çemi probing into the earliest beginnings and Aşıklı in South-Central Anatolia disclosing an up to then totally unknown cultural tradition.

Later in the sixties and seventies we were involved under the leadership of METU, Ankara and its rector Prof. Dr. Kemal Kürşat in organising and steering the Keban and Lower Euphrates Projects initiated due to dam projects. They were the first international efforts for a large scale regional investigation with an interdisciplinary approach, which set standards. 14 sites were dug in the Keban area and 13 sites in the Lower Euphrates including Giritilî, excavated by Dr. R. Ellis from Bryn Mawr. They provided a vast chronological scale from what we conventionally call the Neolithic to the Iron Age, and in the Keban area they were particularly fruitful in increasing our knowledge on the prosperity and development of the BA in the East.

With Elmalı / Karataş, Machteld Mellink had picked a small site, that could with its cemetery be excavated completely and that would give her the answers she was looking for.

When we look at her scholarly work in perspective, we might ask; what were her main interests and why, because the answer has a relevance for the development of Anatolian Archaeology during our generation. One point seems to be clear and runs like a recurrent theme all through her work. Contrary to the common notion that Anatolia is a land-bridge between 3 continents; Asia, Africa and Europe—which was run over, conquered, settled by various groups from various directions, without any contribution of its / her own, Machteld Mellink believes in the existence of a basic Anatolian culture and pursues this idea in her work. She went into the details of the Hittite chapter of past Anatolia which has been sufficiently studied for long years by Kurt Bittel and Peter Neve and is still in good hands. She thus concentrates on the earlier and the later periods, mainly the BA and the Iron Age. Boğazköy / Hattuša continues to supply us annually with finds of extreme importance and restoration on a monumental scale has been carried out (fig.16).

Regarding the Iron Age, she had always taken great interest in Gordion, which Dr.R.Young
and Prof. Dr. E. Akurgal interpreted as of classical derivation. Quite to the contrary Machteld Mellink considered the Phrygian culture to be the synthesis of a new people's encounter with age-old Anatolian tradition. Thus, among the traits recognizable through the available evidence, the Phrygians would have brought in their language of Indo-European stock, their burial customs, the tumuli, to be taken on later by the Anatolian Greeks and Romans. On the other hand, it appears that they not only adopted the western Anatolian architectural idiom, but were also inspired by the Late Hittite relief sculpture and North Syrian polychrome ware. Likewise, the Phrygian alphabet appears to have been derived not from the Greek but from the Phoenician alphabet for which we have long inscriptions in Cilicia.

Regarding the BA, her attention continued to be focused on Troy. The coastal area of western Anatolia, known best through this site, was traditionally considered a part of Grek culture (mainly due to Homer as part of the Grek oral tradition). Thus the stratigraphy of Troy was based on Greek imports. Through her studies Machteld Mellink held, that if we want to understand Troy, we must understand it through the coastal zone of Anatolia. The importance of Tarsus in this context is that it has contacts way up to Troy and down to Syria, through which we can further link it to the historical periods of Mesopotamia. If we can thus get absolute dates for the early levels of Tarsus, by way of Mesopotamian chronology, where we have dates for the Early Dynastic period and where we even know the names of kings and queens, these absolute dates would shed light on the dating of Trojan stratigraphy. Further links with Egypt with its well known chronology are possible. Seen from this angle, Troy could provide absolute dates for Grek chronology, where designations such as Early Helladic are still relative and insecurely founded. Contrary to James Mellaart who interpreted the connections between Tarsus and Troy to be the result of maritime contacts, Machteld Mellink proposed to look into the coastal region for clues about possible land routes. This study of the coastal plains just beyond the shore-line, below the Central Anatolian plateau, which is of a different brand, should reveal the indigenous culture of the beginnings of the BA.

This must be why she picked Elmalı/Karataş, which lies one step (60 km) above the Lycian coast-line. She was not after monumental temples, palaces or gold, nothing sensational, but was trying to solve a problem. By luck or by foresight the mound gave her the answers she was looking for.

One of the problems of Trojan stratigraphy and therefore chronology has been whether there is a gap between Troy I and II. According to Schliemann's architect Dörpfeld, the site was abandoned after Troy I for a period of time and resettled again in the level we call Troy II. According to Blegen, however, there was no break between Troy I and Troy II. He claims that the same culture continued. This being the state of affairs, in Elmalı/Karataş an intermediate level between Troy I and II was found, with finds that also explain a similar level at Tarsus. Today the new team working at Troy is trying in the field to reinvestigate this problem.

It was also realized that the houses in this indigenous Anatolian village were all megara. This building type, well-known in its monumental form from Troy II was to develop into the basic Grek temple. Furthermore, the typical western Anatolian burial practice in pithoi was revealed in the almost complete burial sequence in the cemetery area of this village. Let me also mention that some of the graphiti signs incised on the burial jars stirred up great discussion when compared to the yet unciphered script of the Phaestos disc.

The choice of Elmalı/Karataş shows the characteristic modesty of Machteld Mellink, picking a site that she could excavate completely. Unlike many of us in her scope, her breadth of interest
and broad knowledge, she went into depth. Yet she never lost herself in the infinitesimal detail that she commanded and always set up a large framework for Anatolian Archaeology in the prehistoric and historic periods. She was fully aware of the fluidity of time and history and that the artificial divisions and terms that archaeologists still go on using, are only a tool for communication, without any reality. She therefore always in the end of a discourse stressed the continuity of time and events.

Looking back at the involvements of these two companions in the Anatolian trenches, I find that we belong to a generation where, together with our peers and colleagues in this joint effort of shedding light on the Anatolian past, a grand leap forward has been achieved and a younger, creative generation has been raised that has taken the torch and is carrying it on.
Res. 3: E. Haspels on a horse cart in Phrygia.

Res. 4: Machtejd Mellink and Abdullah, the jeep driver near Karatas (August 1974).
Res. 5: The Midas city.

Res. 6: On the truck; 1-Halet Çambel, 2-Muhibbe Darga, 3-Nihal Ongursu in Anatolia (1945).
Res. 7: The Istanbul University Prehistory Laboratory.

Res. 8: 1-M. Mellink taking notes with a flash-light at the annual Excavations Symposium for her report in the AFA. 2-Halet Çambel, 3-Ekrem Akurgal.
Res. 9: Karataş. M. Mellink jumping rope (September 1973).

Res. 10: Karataş. M. Mellink playing frisbee (October 1974).
Kısılbel, M. Mellink mixing cement (September 1974).

Res. 12: Robert J. Braidwood surveying.
Res. 13: Gordon Childe.

Res. 14: 1-Robert J. and 2-Linda Braidwood, 3-Bruce Howe, 4-Halet Çambel (Çayönü 1968).
Res. 15: Çayınpınar. 1-Wulf Schürmer, 2-Mehmet Özköşan, 3-H. Çambel.