Atlatl From Peru

By Steve Barnett

Here's some pics from Annie and my trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio, this summer.

Also, this is what was written on it:

Spear Thrower, 200 BC –AD 200
South Coast, Peru, Late Paracas or early Nasca Style
Bone, Hematite, Cotton Thread, Sinew
The Norweb Collection 1940.507

Spear throwers improve a spear’s range and thrust. The spear was placed against the stone pivot and hurled using the thumb rest, carved as a figure with a skeletal chest, back–bent head, and a severed human head at its rear. This figure, frequent in art, is not well understood, but its appearance here suggests a connection to death. The shaft” carving makes clear use of the bone’s marrow cavity.