

January 6, 2005

Mr. Wayne G. Sayles Executive Director Ancient Coin Collectors Guild P.O. Box 911 Gainesville, MO 65655

Dear Mr. Sayles:

Thank you for bringing this script to my attention. Although the main subject of this report was illicit trafficking, it lacked balance on the issue of ownership of antiquities. The editor of the Focus program will temporarily remove the script from the VOA website and seek a private collector's response to the view that antiquities from a foreign country should not be privately owned.

Once the script is balanced, it will be restored to the website.

I appreciate your concern and hope you will continue to follow our Focus program on its varied subjects.

Sincerely,

David S. Jackson

Director