

10/ Regarding the petrified wood I sent you, I have to say that I sent it just as I found it out in the desert in Egypt. I noticed myself that it appeared as if someone had sawn it off cleanly, but of course that couldn't be.

The fact is, the wood when petrified fractures cleanly. I dropped several pieces on to a rock - they broke cleanly in half. I dare say the effect of heat & cold causing expansion & contraction would be sufficient to cause a piece to break. It gets very cold in the desert at night, you know.