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NOTES

¹ Paterson (1990:35) apud Cahen (1947): A treatise, dedicated to the Sultan Saladin by Mardi at-Tarsusi, mentions olive wood as the wood of the crossbow, spanned by hand and foot and not by mechanical means such as a windlass. He says, "After yew comes wild olive wood, of which there are two varieties, one imported from North Africa, the other from Yemen."

The greater number of extant Egyptian bows by far, were made of Acacia wood (cf. Western and McLeod 1995).

² Clark et al. (1974) quotes Brelsford (1937:348): "In central Africa the shaping is done by heating and steaming the limbs to which are then bound for several weeks two heavy templates cut to shape."

³ Five foreshafts similar to the el-Makkukh examples were found in the remains of Eleventh Dynasty soldiers slain in battle. Winlock assumes that these never had flint tips, versus McLeod, who argues that they had (1982:58–59; illustrations in Yadin 1963:119).