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166698

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Field No.

Camman - 28

Bieber - 28

CHICAGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM—ETHNOLOGY

54B-19/14

Provenience: CHINA

People or Culture: Chinese

Object: TOGGLE

Material: Malachite, cement, gilt bronze, silver

Description: Flat disc of irregular chips of malachite set in dark cement enclosed by a circular rim of gilt bronze with rounded edges. Secured by a heavy silver bolt with cuboctahedral head holding a ring; outer end of bolt flattened into a smaller circular disc, worked to represent the Yin-Yang symbol surrounded by the Eight Trigrams (pa kua). Small flat washer under head of bolt, at rear, shaped to resemble a 6-petaled flower with light engraving on petals. The head of

Dimensions:

(in cm.)

max. diam - 4.5, max. thickness - 3.9

(over)

Acc. 2780

Collection of Chinese Toggles: Gift of Miss C. E. Bieber, 4 October 1962

the bolt itself is inscribed with 3 Chinese characters, Li Jun Hsiang, probably the name of the silversmith or the owner. This appears to have been a Tibetan toggle of the type of Cat. 166697, altered to Chinese taste by the addition of the silver fastening. Acquired in Jade Market, Peking, late 1920's, early 1930's.