

252511

**Provenience:** Western Caroline Islands ; Palau**Field No.****People or Culture:** Palauan**Object:** shell trumpet

55-86

**Material:** natural shell and coconut fiber cord

**Description:** The shell called Choronia tritones nobilis is used in the making of these trumpets. The trumpets were used for a series of occasions. Frequently they were employed to call people together, to announce a death or other calamity, to signal in warfare and so on. There were a

**Dimensions:**

(in cm.)

ca. 30.0

(over)

**Neg. No.**

**Collection:** Presented by Roland W. Force; Collector, 1956. Tri-Institutional Pacific Program Ethnological Expedition to Palau, 1954-1956.

Acc. 2574

recognized set of signals which had different meanings which were employed. Trumpets such as this one were kept in the men's houses and in the chief's house. Every war canoe had one. Native name: dibusech. This is the name for the shell in its native and unmodified state. If a person blew the shell without sufficient reason he suffered a fine.

