

THEY LIE IN WAIT TO DECEIVE

by Robert L. & Rosemary Brown

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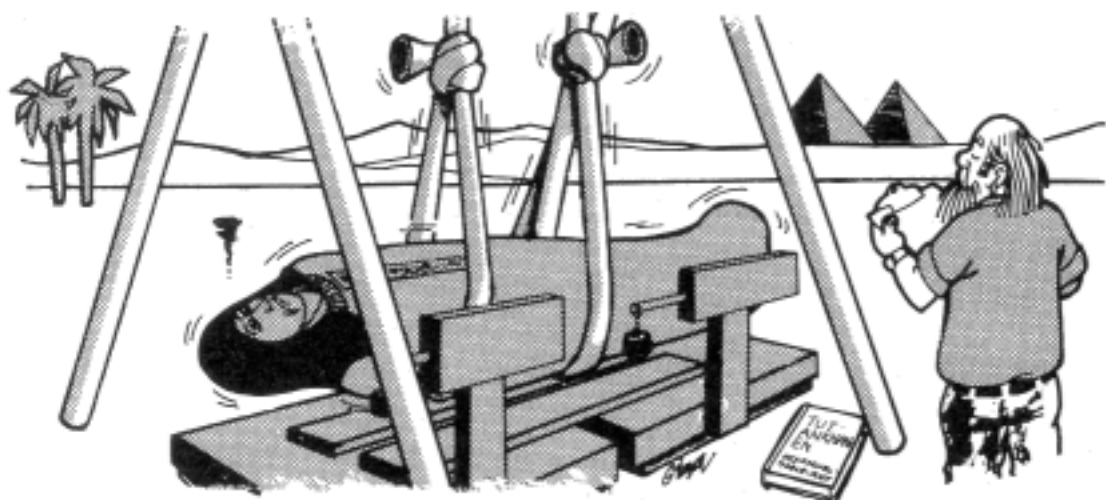
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The Foundation for Apologetic Information & Research

DEE JAY NELSON: CREDENTIALS AS A MATHEMATICIAN



OBJECTIVES

- To prove that Nelson does not have an academic background in Mathematics.
- To prove that Nelson was not commissioned by the Egyptian government to weigh King Tutankhamen's solid gold coffin.
- To prove that Nelson has no skill as a mathematician.
- To prove that Nelson arrived at the wrong "calculated" weight for King Tut's solid gold coffin, 2,448 lbs. 4 oz., by quoting a misprint in a book.
- To prove that the correct weight for King Tut's solid gold coffin is 296 lbs. troy.

CHAPTER TWO

DEE JAY NELSON: CREDENTIALS AS A MATHEMATICIAN

Dee Jay Nelson claims some skill as a mathematician. In his lecture (see p. 189), he stated how he used that skill as an Egyptologist:

“The greatest single treasure in the Cairo Museum is the coffin of King Tutankhamen in a glass case. Tutankhamen was a rather unimportant king because his treasure was intact when it was found by Egyptologists. Almost all other tombs in Egypt had been looted in ancient times. This coffin is made of solid gold, somewhere between 20 and 22 karat gold; and in 1960, the Egyptian government asked me to calculate its weight. I have some skill as a mathematician, so I measured it from all aspects and spent weeks trying to work out **this Pythagorean calculation and that one. Finally, I humiliated my mathematical prowess** by putting it on two grain sack scales. I built an oak scaffolding so that one end of it would sit on each of the two scales, then using a fire hose as a sling, we jacked it up with hydraulic jacks and weighed it. It took me nearly three weeks thereafter to calculate the error of the scales, and then I was confident that its weight was 2,448 pounds and 4 ounces of solid gold. Imagine what it would be worth at the present price of gold!”

(For purposes of clarification, there were several coffins within the casket of King Tutankhamen. It was only the inner coffin that was solid gold.)

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND IN MATH

For Nelson to claim to have some skill as a mathematician, it would naturally be assumed that he must have some academic background in mathematics. However, his high school transcript records that he received an “F” for the first grading period in General Math, and a “C” for the second grading period (see high school transcript, p. 41). Of course, this averages out to be a “D” — which is considered to be below average. This was the only math class Nelson took in high school. His college transcript records that he enrolled in a math class, Elementary Algebra, and received a “W” — meaning he withdrew from the class before the end of the quarter (see college transcript, p. 43). These are hardly qualifications to claim any “mathematical prowess”!

COMMISSION BY THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT

Nelson stated his commission by the Egyptian government:

“. . . in 1960, the Egyptian government asked me to calculate its (King Tut's coffin) weight.”

For the Egyptian government to ask Nelson to weigh as important a treasure as King Tutankhamen's coffin, he would surely be known as a qualified Egyptologist in Egypt. In the *New Horizon's* pamphlet, Nelson claims to have made four licensed digs (see pamphlet, p. 49). Is he really known in Egypt?

Mr. James Allen, Director of the American Research Center in Cairo, Egypt, states:

“The Egyptian Antiquities Organization apparently has no concession in his name (they license all digs in Egypt), and the Egyptian Museum is not familiar with him or his project” (see Allen letter, p. 50).

Would the Egyptian government ask an unknown “Egyptologist” to do anything? Or, would they select a qualified Egyptologist from among those working at, or known by, their own museum?

SKILL AS A MATHEMATICIAN

Nelson tells how he applied his “mathematical skill” in weighing King Tutankhamen's coffin:

“I have some skill as a mathematician, so I measured it from all aspects and I spent weeks trying to work out this Pythagorean calculation and that one.”

The Pythagorean Theorem states:

The square of the hypotenuse of a right triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the two legs.

The Pythagorean Theorem cannot be used to weigh anything; it is totally inappropriate for that use! The use of the Pythagorean Theorem to compute the weight of Tutankhamen's inner gold coffin is summarized by Dr. Louis C. Barrett, Professor of Applied Mathematics, Montana State University:

“It is not suited to the problem of computing weights of irregular solids, such as a casket. Anyone who would suggest that it is has no skill as a mathematician and **dangerously little knowledge** of the subject” (see Barrett letter, p. 51).

WEIGHT QUOTED FROM A MISPRINT

Nelson gives a very vivid picture of how he arrived at his calculated weight of King Tutankhamen's coffin:

"Finally I humiliated my mathematical prowess by putting it on two grain sack scales. I built an oak scaffolding so that one end of it would sit on each of the two scales, then using a fire hose as a sling, we jacked it up with hydraulic jacks and weighed it. It took me nearly three weeks thereafter to calculate the error of the scales, and then I was confident that its weight was 2,448 pounds and 4 ounces of solid gold."

Unfortunately for Mr. Nelson, he copied the "2,448 lbs. 4 oz." from a **misprint in a book**. He apparently missed the corrected printing which gave the correct weight as 296 lbs. troy (see p. 52). His "mathematical prowess" was off in his calculations by **over a ton**. Several qualified Egyptologists have substantiated its true weight of 296 lbs. troy.

According to Peter F. Dorman, Curatorial Assistant, Egyptian Department, Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, in the book, *TUTANKHAMEN*, by Desroches-Noblecourt, when the book was translated from French to English, there was a misprint when giving the weight:

"The innermost solid gold coffin of Tutankhamun weighs 110.4 kilograms, which comes to around 296 pounds troy . . . The measurement of 2,000+ pounds is a widespread error arising from a misprint in Desroches-Noblecourt's *Vie et mort d'un pharaon*, page 74, where the weight was mistakenly given as 1110.4 kilos; when the book was translated into English, the misprint was not caught and . . . the coffin's weight was erroneously given as 2,448-1/8 pounds . . . Unfortunately, the 2,448 pounds weight has been widely repeated in popular books, magazines, and newspapers." (See Dorman letter, p. 53)

It will be noted further that in a letter from Dr. Robert S. Bianchi, Associate Curator of the Department of Egyptian and Classical Art, the Brooklyn Museum, he quotes the weight as 296 pounds troy (see Bianchi letter, p. 54).

There was also a reply from N.B. Millett, Curator, Egyptian Department, The Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He mentioned that the weight of the (gold) coffin of Tutankhamen is 296 pounds troy or 110 kilograms. He goes on to say:

"Much higher weights have, however, been published by careless writers and one of those may well have been the source of the figure cited by Nelson" (see Millett letter, p. 56).

IN SUMMARY . . .

Nelson states: "I have some skill as a mathematician." However, his high school and college transcripts record a "**D**" **average grade** for his only math class in high school and he **withdrew** from his only math class in college. In reality, his background in mathematics is very poor, and he has very little skill as a mathematician as evidenced by his **misapplication of the Pythagorean Theorem**.

Nelson is **unknown in Egypt**. Although he claims to have had "four licensed digs" in Egypt (see p. 49), the famous museum in Cairo that licenses all digs has never heard of him and has had no concession (license to dig) in his name. It is extremely unlikely that the Egyptian government would ask Nelson to weigh King Tut's coffin when there are qualified Egyptologists right there at the museum. **Howard Carter discovered King Tut's Tomb in 1922. Why would the Cairo Museum wait over 30 years to weigh the most valuable art treasure ever found?**

Nelson had the misfortune to **quote a misprint** to arrive at his "calculated" weight of 2,448 lbs. for King Tut's casket. The true weight, as reported in all later publications, is given as 296 lbs. troy.

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NH43: LIFE FORCE IN THE EGYPTIAN PYRAMIDS: Will deal with the more than seventy Egyptian pyramids and the life force information that was coded into the architectural measurements of some of them. Classes will include experiments with the life force principle as well as color slides made in Egypt during Nelson's four licensed digs. Human mummies and other artifacts will be shown.

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ONGOING INSTRUCTION: A preparation course provided in preparation for the Fall and Spring 0 or 1st semester classes at Rocky Mountain College. For more information contact Nelson at 303-441-1232.

NELSON, DEE JAY: Lecturer, author and Egyptologist. B.S. in Biology from Pacific Northwestern College. M.S. in Egyptology, University of California at Berkeley.

NH42: THE FORTIFIED EGYPTIAN PYRAMIDS AND THE LIFE FORCE INFORMATION THAT WAS CODED INTO THE ARCHITECTURAL MEASUREMENTS OF SOME OF THEM. Classes will include experiments with the life force principle as well as color slides made in Egypt during Nelson's four licensed digs. Human mummies and other artifacts will be shown.

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1979

NELSON, DEE JAY: Lecturer, author and Egyptologist. B.S. in Biology from Pacific Northwestern College. M.S. in Egyptology, University of California at Berkeley.

NELSON, DR. DICK: Director, Center for Career Opportunities and Associate Professor of Education, Rocky Mountain College. D. Ed., University of Oregon.

NELSON, TOM: Owner of The Castle Gallery and Framing. B.F.A. in Art History, Education, and Studio Arts.

NEWMELL, BOB: Program Development Specialist, EMC M.S. in Education, EMC. Ten years experience in coding and using health and education field.

PATRICK, ELLEN: Appeared on the Broadway Stage. Was a student with the Original Studio Theatre in Los Angeles and appeared in Broadway State Theatre, Maine, Sweden. Ten years as a performer and over fifteen years as a ballet instructor.

RAMSEY, DR. BOB: Professor of Biology, Rocky Mountain College. Ph. D., University of California.

RECHTERFELT, PETE: Course leader and fifteen years experience in career counseling.

SHELDON, TIM: M.F.A., Playwriting and Dramatic Literature, Yale University School of Drama. Fifteen years experience teaching acting and freelance writing.

SLUCKOW, LARRY: President, Western Commodities, Inc. Worked with commodity futures and markets for 20 years, including the Chicago Board of Trade Building. Member of the Chicago Board of Trade.

THOMPSON, CINDY: Works for Rocky Mountain College in sales exercise and evaluation program. Six years experience teaching swimming.

WARD-WILLIAMS, LINDA: M.A. in Anthropology, University of Montana. Registered archaeologist for Bureau of Reclamation in Montana. Studied with Achard Barkan at Baghdad, Dabab of Las Vegas, and Mahabadi of Cairo, Egypt. Has directed in Denver and Boulder, Colorado areas. Has taught dance in Loveland, Montana and in New Horizons.

WARREN, JACK: Consulting Geologist, included in 1st and 2nd editions, B.S. and M.S. in Geology from Stanford University.

مركز البحوث الأمريكية بمصر

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٣ ميدان قصر الدوبارة
جاردن سيتي - القاهرة ج.م.ع.
تليفون ٣٣٠٥٢ - ٣٨٢٥٩

April 3, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown
[REDACTED]
Mesa, Arizona 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

With reference to your inquiry of 12 March, I have no information concerning Mr./Dr. Dee Jay Nelson. His US credentials are not in my capacity to check. The Egyptian Antiquities Organization apparently has no concession in his name, and the Egyptian Museum is not familiar with him or his project.

Sincerely yours,

James P. Allen

James Allen
Director

JA/ak

CABLE ADDRESS : AMARCH CAIRO
TELEX 93673 NOIS UN

15 October 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Mess, Arizona 85203

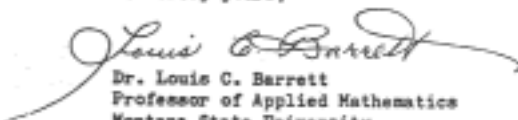
Dear Mr. Brown:

In reply to your letter of 3 October 1980 regarding the Pythagorean Theorem; tradition is unanimous in ascribing to the Greek philosopher Pythagoras (569? - 500?) the independent discovery of the theorem on right triangles which now universally bears his name - that the square of the hypotenuse of a right triangle is equal to the sum of the squares on the two legs. However, the theorem was known to the Babylonians of Hammurabi's time more than a thousand years earlier.

The theorem simply establishes a relationship between the sides and the hypotenuse of a right triangle.

It is not suited to the problem of computing weights of irregular solids, such as a casket. Anyone who would suggest that it is has no skill as a mathematician and dangerously little knowledge of the subject.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Louis C. Barrett
Professor of Applied Mathematics
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Home Address: 1721 South Willson
Bozeman, Montana 59715

ENCLOSED AS PART OF DORMAN'S LETTER ON THE NEXT PAGE.

Life and death of a pharaoh

Tutankhamen

CHRISTIANE DESROCHES-NOBLECOURT

With 75 color photographs by F. L. Kenett

Preface by His Excellency Sarwat Okasha,
Member of the Executive Council of UNESCONotes on the color plates by Dr A. Shaukey,
Director General of the Antiquities Service of the U.A.R.

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27. Diagram showing the
four golden shrines, the
funerary mask, the three
mummy-form coffins

Within the first coffin was another, fitting so exactly that a little finger could not be inserted between them. It, too, was of wood covered with gold leaf, but this time inlaid all over with multicoloured glass-paste. A small wreath of flowers had lain on the first coffin; on the breast of the second, however, was a great necklace of olive and willow leaves and blue lotus flowers (39, 40).

The opening of the first coffin on 10 October 1925, marked the beginning of a most exciting period for the archaeologists and their guests. A third mummy-form shroud, wrapped in a red linen shroud, was revealed where the priest had left it, with only the face exposed to the darkness of the tomb. A necklace of flowers on a backing of papyrus plants still lay on the breast and the side-pieces of the wig. The coffin, of solid gold, was incised with a religious pattern of touching purity: the interlaced wings of the goddesses Isis and Nephthys, and then, in gold cloisonné and shallow relief upon the king's arms, the great goddesses of Upper and Lower Egypt, Nekhabet, the vulture, and Wadjet, the serpent. This golden coffin combined the ornamental elements of the two others, the first of which was clasped in the feathered arms of Isis and Nephthys, and the second embossed by the outstretched wings of Nekhabet and Wadjet. This last coffin which disposed all four goddesses about the body of the dead king was opened on the morning of 28 October 1925. It revealed the extraordinary gold death mask—a most striking portrait of the king (227)—placed upon a mummy almost burned away by excessive use of unguents.

More than a hundred and forty-three gold jewels were distributed in a hundred and one different spots over the swaddled body.

A very low lion-shaped bed of gilt wood bore the entire weight of the three coffins, including the solid gold one containing the bejewelled mummy. (This adds up to a weight of some 3,050 lb.—the solid gold one alone $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, accounting by itself for 2,218 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of pure gold.)

1st PRINTING — 1963

Life and death of a pharaoh

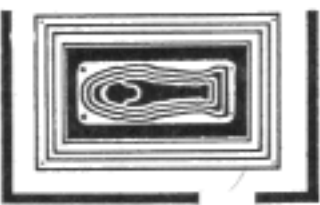
Tutankhamen

CHRISTIANE DESROCHES-NOBLECOURT

With 75 color photographs by F. L. Kenett

Preface by His Excellency Sarwat Okasha,
Member of the Executive Council of UNESCONotes on the color plates by Dr A. Shaukey,
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quote brief passages in a review.NEW YORK GRAPHIC SOCIETY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS27. Diagram showing the
four golden shrines, the
funerary mask, the three
mummy-form coffins

Within the first coffin was another, fitting so exactly that a little finger could not be inserted between them. It, too, was of wood covered with gold leaf, but this time inlaid all over with multicoloured glass-paste. A small wreath of flowers had lain on the first coffin; on the breast of the second, however, was a great necklace of olive and willow leaves and blue lotus flowers (39, 40).

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11th PRINTING — 1978

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10028 212-TR 9-5500

Egyptian Department

March 12, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown
 [REDACTED]
 Mesa, Arizona 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

This letter confirms our telephone conversation of March 11, 1980, in which I stated that I have never previously heard of D.J. Nelson, nor of any connection he may have had with the Oriental Institute, where I studied for three years under Dr. Klaus Baer and others. Two other points are relevant to our conversation:

1. The innermost solid gold coffin of Tutankhamun weights 110.4 kilograms, which comes to around 296 pounds troy (Alfred Lucas, Ancient Egyptian Materials and Industries, 4th ed., London, 1962- p. 230). The measurement of 2,000+ pounds is a widespread error arising from a misprint in Desroches-Noblecourt's Vie et mort d'un pharaon, page 74, where the weight was mistakenly given as 1110.4 kilos; when the book was translated into English, the misprint was not caught and (using an equivalence of about 2.2 pounds = 1 kilo), the coffin's weight was erroneously given as 2,448 1/8 pounds (Desroches-Noblecourt Tutankhamen, page 74). However, the translators further failed to convert aovidupois to troy (multiplying by about 1.2), as Lucas did in giving the correct weight as 296 pounds troy. Unfortunately, the 2,448 pounds weight has been widely repeated in popular books, magazines, and newspapers.

2. In my opinion, the Egyptian government would not lend any antiquities to private individuals; antiquities are presently protected as national treasures.

For further information from Egypt, I suggest you contact:

Mohammed Mohsan
 Director, Cairo Museum
 Midan el Tahrir
 Cairo, Egypt

Shehata Adan
 President, Egyptian
 Organization of Antiquities
 Midan el Tahrir
 Cairo, Egypt

Enclosed please find a current listing of American Egyptologists presently employed in the United States; it is not all-inclusive. I hope this information will prove useful to you.

Yours truly,



Peter F. Dorman
 Curatorial Assistant



THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM

Department of Egyptian and Classical Art
21 March, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown
[REDACTED]
Mesa, Arizona 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

In response to your question about the weight of the gold used for the funerary equipment of King Tutankhamun, I am happy to enclose a copy of the relevant paragraph from the volume by Lucas and Harris. According to them, the coffin "is 6 feet 1 3/4 inch long, weighs approximately 296 pounds troy (110.4 kilograms) and is engraved inside as well as outside."

I hope that you find this information sufficient for your purposes.

Very sincerely yours,


Dr. Robert S. Blanchi,
Associate Curator

RSB:me
Encl.

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN MATERIALS AND INDUSTRIES

BY

A. LUCAS

O.B.E., F.R.I.C., F.S.A.

FORMERLY DIRECTOR CHEMICAL DEPARTMENT, EGYPT, AND HONORARY CONSULTING
CHEMIST, DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES, EGYPT

FOURTH EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED

BY

J. R. HARRIS

M.A., D.Phil.

RESEARCH LECTURER, CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD; LAYCOCK STUDENT
OF PSYCHOLOGY, WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD

LONDON

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of Queen Hatshepsut (Fourth Dynasty); a gold belt of the Fifth or Sixth Dynasty;¹ the gold head of the hawk from Hierakonpolis² (Sixth Dynasty); the gold work found at Dahshur³ and Lahun,⁴ including diadems, pectorals, bracelets, beads, etc. (Twelfth Dynasty); the jewellery of Queen Akhmeret,⁵ that of three princesses of the time of Thutmose III;⁶ the treasure from the tomb of Tutankhamun⁷ (all Eighteenth Dynasty); the jewellery of Ramses II from the Serapeum;⁸ the Tell Basta hoard;⁹ and the treasure of the king of the Twenty-first and Twenty-second Dynasties from Tanis.¹⁰ Some of the specimens connected with gold working and the making of jewellery are illustrated on the walls of tombs,¹¹ for example in the tombs of Ti¹² and Mereruka¹³ at Saqqara (Fifth Dynasty), in a tomb at Beni Hasan (Twelfth Dynasty)¹⁴ and in the tomb of Bekhmet at Thebes (Eighteenth Dynasty).¹⁵ Even as early as the Fourth Dynasty the ancient goldsmiths were manifestly able to manipulate comparatively large amounts of gold at one time, as shown by the gold work on the canopy of Hetepheres, and by the time of the Eighteenth Dynasty they were making solid gold coffins like that of Tutankhamun, which is 6 feet 1½ inch long, weighs approximately 266 pounds Troy (120.4 kilograms) and is engraved inside as well as outside.

Gold was shaped both by hammering and casting (it melts at 1063° C. or 20° F. lower than copper); it was engraved and embossed; it was used in the form of granules for decorative purposes; it was made into thin sheets for covering furniture, wooden coffins and other objects such as the rims of stone vessels, and for plating copper and silver; it was beaten into still thinner leaf for gilding; it was cast, beaten or cut into strips that were drawn into wire;¹⁶ it was coloured, soldered¹⁷ and burn-

¹ G. A. Reiser, *Berlin AnZ*, xxv (1917), Supplement; xxvii (1918), pp. 76-81; xxviii (1919), pp. 43-60; xxx (1921), pp. 25-66; *History of the City Memphis*, v, pp. 23-47.

² E. Drioton, *Bull. Inst. Égypt.*, xxvii (1944), pp. 77-90; A. Youaf, *Ann. Serv. Ant.* (1927), pp. 149-15.

³ J. E. Quibell, *Hierakonpolis*, v, p. 11; J. E. Quibell and F. W. Green, *Hierakonpolis*, v, p. 17.

⁴ J. de Morgan, *Dahshur*, *monuments 1894*: 1897-1898; E. Verriest, *Bijdr. et Opgav.*

⁵ G. Bruzzone, *Lahun*, i, H. B. Woodcock, *Treasure of Et Lahun*.

⁶ W. von Drieling, *Ein Thebaischer Gräberfeld*.

⁷ H. E. Verriest, *Treasure of Theban Egyptian Princesses*.

⁸ H. Carter, *Tutankhamun*, 1-6. ⁹ A. Mariette, *Le Sérapéum de Memphis*.

¹⁰ C. C. Edgar, in G. Maspéro, *Monuments Égyptiens*, v, pp. 97-107, Pls. 222B-247; W. R. Stephens, *American Journal of Archaeology*, xxxv (1931), pp. 29-43.

¹¹ P. Montet, *Khart*, ix (1942), pp. 1-93; *Néropolis royale de Tanis*, 1-40; *Memnonium No. 12* (1946), pp. 1-33.

¹² C. P. Moore, *Séjour de la vie privée*, pp. 273-87; L. Kébs, *Bull. Inst. Égypt.*, pp. 24-86; M. B., pp. 128-31; N. B., pp. 207-31.

¹³ G. Strudwick, *Ti*, Pl. 10000.

¹⁴ P. Duval, *Mém. Inst. Égypt.*, Pls. 2222-2223, 2224-2225.

¹⁵ P. E. Newberry, *Bull. Inst. Égypt.*, v, Pl. 30. ¹⁶ N. de G. Davies, *Bull. Inst. Égypt.*, Pls. 108, 119.

¹⁷ G. Möller, *Mémoires*, pp. 20-31; E. Verriest, *Bijdragen et Opgaven*, pp. 34-62; B.L.F.A.O., viii (1915), pp. 28-31; xii (1916), pp. 48-52; C. B. Williams, *Gold and Silver Jewellery*, pp. 39-43.

French's statement (*Art and Craft*, p. 90) that drosses were not used in ancient Egypt.

¹⁸ Some of the gold 'beaten' from the tomb of Tutankhamun have started at the back which are soldered on with gold of a slightly lower melting-point than that of the sequins of A. Lucas.

Ann. Serv., xii (1945), p. 145. For other examples of gold-soldering see, C. B. Williams, *Gold and Silver Jewellery*, pp. 37-39; E. Verriest, *Bijdragen et Opgaven*, pp. 68-71; G. Möller, *Mémoires*, pp. 12-15; M. Montet, *Ann. Serv.*, xii (1945), p. 145.

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May 9, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown

~~████████████████████~~
Mesa
Arizona 85203
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Brown:

I can only express my own opinion on the various points brought up in your letter, beginning with the first.

1. I am not aware that the Egyptian Government has asked anyone recently to calculate the weight of the inner (gold) coffin of Tutankhamun. The recorded weight, which is believed to be accurate, is 296 pounds Troy (110 kilograms). Much higher weights have, however, been published by careless writers, and one of those may well have been the source of the figure you cite as having been given.
2. I am not aware on any recent resurvey of the Great Pyramid or the Giza plateau, but it is of course perfectly possible. No published map is in use among Egyptologists dating to the time you mention of ascribed to the person you mention, at least to my knowledge.
3. I do not know of the discovery of a tomb assignable to a Princess Nefer-ka-ra in the year you mention.
4. There is no Meroitic language or script. The reference is presumably to Meroitic, a language spoken and written in two scripts in Nubia (modern Sudan) during the last few centuries B.C. and the first few centuries A.D.
5. Mr. Gamal el-Malakh is not nor has he ever been the head of the Antiquities Department. He is a journalist who writes a column for an influential Cairo daily. It would be most irregular for the Antiquities Department to lend artifacts to a private person for any reason.

6. About the mummy you refer to I cannot say very much. The one in the photograph I must say has many puzzling aspects, and may well be a modern pastiche.

I am afraid I am not acquainted with the person in whom you are interested, but I understand from colleagues that he has written a few pieces on the relationship between the Church of the Latter Day Saints and ancient Egyptian religious literature. He was once, I think, a Mormon himself.

Hoping that this may all be of some interest to you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,



N.B. Millet
Curator