

THEY LIE IN WAIT TO DECEIVE

by Robert L. & Rosemary Brown

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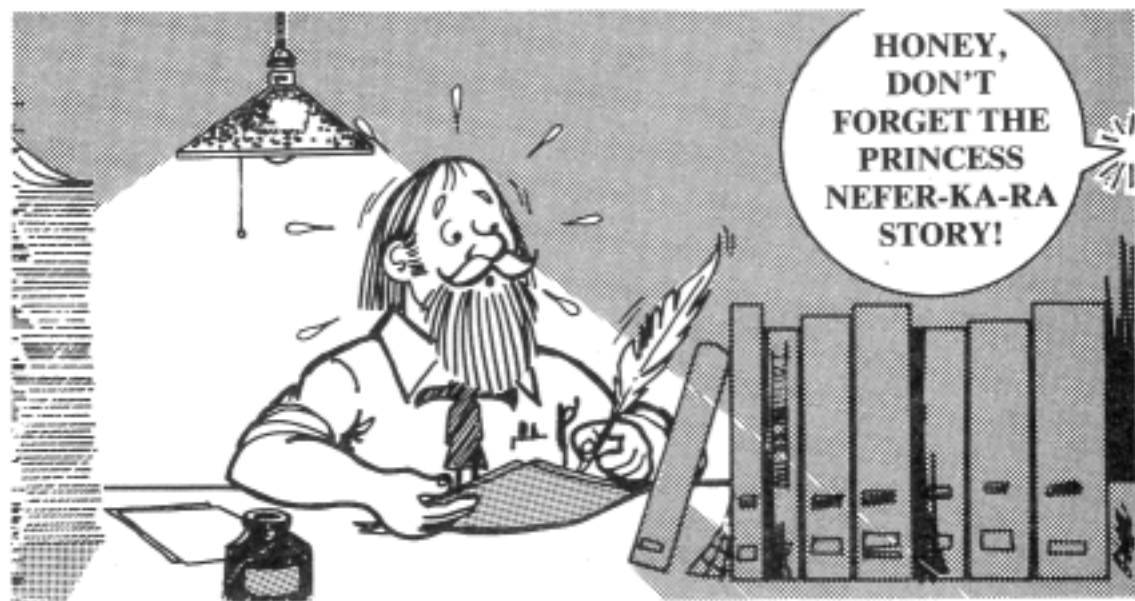
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DEE JAY NELSON: CREDENTIALS AS AN AUTHOR



OBJECTIVES

- To prove that Nelson's claim to have authored eight books and large booklets on Egyptology is false.
- To prove that Nelson co-authored one book, *LIFE FORCE IN THE GREAT PYRAMIDS*, the subject matter of which is not considered by real Egyptologists to be within the realm of Egyptology.
- To prove the four of Nelson's greatest Egyptological "achievements" are unknown to real Egyptologists.
- To prove that Nelson's "130 scientific papers and articles" are unknown to real Egyptologists.
- To prove that Nelson's only contribution to Egyptological literature (his translation of the Joseph Smith Papyri) is rated as "amateurish with gross errors."

CHAPTER FOUR: DEE JAY NELSON: CREDENTIALS AS AN AUTHOR

Nelson claims as an author:

To have written 8 books and large booklets on various aspects of Egyptology and to have published nearly 150 scientific papers and articles, many of them on Egyptology (see Appendix, p. 211). A preface page in Nelson's book mentions "130 scientific papers and articles that appeared in technical journals and magazines under his name" (see Appendix, p. 222).

NELSON CO-AUTHORED ONE BOOK ABOUT PYRAMID POWER

Nelson has co-authored one book on "pyramid power", also referred to as "pyramid energy", called LIFE FORCE IN THE GREAT PYRAMIDS.

In return for receiving free passage to Egypt, Mr. Nelson agrees occasionally to be a guide and guest speaker. In the brochure for the ATLANTIS RISING TOUR EGYPT, 1980, credentials are mentioned for Peter Tompkins and Dee Jay Nelson. Both are to serve as guides. When referring to Mr. Tompkins, his two books are mentioned — MYSTERIES OF THE MEXICAN PYRAMIDS and SECRETS OF THE GREAT PYRAMID. When referring to Nelson, it says, "**His book**, co-edited with David H. Coville, LIFE FORCE IN THE GREAT PYRAMID, is a unique study of the human body and Inner Pyramid science" (see tour sheet, p. 72).

WHAT IS "PYRAMID POWER"?

"Pyramid power" is concerned with relating various mathematical calculations and relationships of the ancient pyramids, such as the Great Pyramid, with electrical fields, auras, biorhythms, etc., that affect the human body. It is felt by those advocates of "pyramid power" that understanding these relationships can be used to treat illnesses and add vigor to the body. In some health foods stores, a small pyramid can be purchased to wear on the head for such purpose.

An explanation of "pyramid power" from Dee Jay Nelson's book, *LIFE FORCE IN THE GREAT PYRAMIDS*, is given below:

"Much has been written about the energy powers of pyramids and cones . . . I found that soft steel razor blades placed for a time under a cardboard pyramid regained a part of their sharpness; that food stored under pyramids retained its freshness for longer periods of time than expected; and that meat placed under a pyramid dehydrated without spoiling and retained its flavor . . ." (p. 71 of Nelson's book).

That the pyramids have power to emit energy was shown by the following example:

"The best documentation of electrostatic energy which comes to my mind is an experience of Sir William Siemens, a renowned British scientist, who visited Egypt in the middle of the last century. In the company of a guide, a fellaheen attendant, he climbed to the summit of the Great Pyramid to enjoy the view and a bottle of good wine. At the top, Siemens noticed a distinct tingling of his index finger when it was held above his head. Recognizing the effect as electrostatic leakage, he contrived to convert his wine bottle into a Leyden jar by wrapping a dampened newspaper around it. This improvised electric capacitor collected sufficient charge to produce visible sparks and to knock one of the Egyptians senseless when he got too close to it." (p. 72 of Nelson's book).

A summary sheet sent by Nelson's publisher is on p. 73, and gives an overview of his book.

It is not the purpose of this chapter to debate the pros and cons of pyramid energy. Suffice it to say that there are armies on both sides. **THE QUESTION IS NOT WHETHER THE THEORY IS VALID, BUT WHETHER IT IS CONSIDERED TO BE WITHIN THE FIELD OF EGYPTOLOGY.** For the answer to this question, we must turn to qualified Egyptologists. Mr. Peter F. Dorman, Egyptian Department, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, sent this author a listing of 17 educational institutions and museums and the Egyptologists assigned to those institutions. Letters were written to several of these Egyptologists asking:

What does the field of Egyptology include?

Is "Pyramid Power" considered to be included within the field of Egyptology?

Following is a summary of their replies.

EGYPTOLOGISTS DEFINE THEIR FIELD

What does the field of Egyptology include? These definitions of Egyptology are from qualified Egyptologists (see letters on pp. 74-77):

Hans Goedicke, Johns Hopkins University — “The field of Egyptology includes all aspects of the study of ancient Egypt. This comprises the study of ancient Egypt in all of its phases: the writing system used, the history and the chronology, the literature, religion, social institutions, technology, and, of course, the material remains of ancient Egypt from architecture to minor arts.”

Leanna Gaskins, Univ. of CA, Berkeley — “The Egyptological field includes the study of the ancient Egyptian people and their history, as well as more specific elements of their culture, such as religion, political and economic organization, art, language, and so on.”

Richard A. Parker, Brown University — “I would define Egyptology as the study of the language, history and culture of Egypt from its earliest prehistoric periods down to the early Christian centuries.”

N.B. Millet, Egyptian Department, Royal Ontario Museum — “Egyptology is generally defined as the study of the ancient Egyptian culture through material remains and written texts. In terms of the time range, an Egyptologist is concerned with Egypt from late prehistoric times down to the establishment of Christianity in A.D. 312.”

IS “PYRAMID POWER“ EGYPTOLOGY?

Egyptologists below comment on their feelings regarding “pyramid power”.

Hans Goedicke, Johns Hopkins University — “‘Pyramid Power’ is not included in the field of Egyptology because it is a pseudo-scientific diletante. The drive to attempt to see mysteries in ancient Egypt has its beginnings in the 5th Century B.C. and is happily continued at the expense of a gullible public.”

“It might be true that milk does not get sour inside the Great Pyramid, but I do not know of any case that somebody took milk

inside. You probably know Peter Tompkin's *SECRETS OF THE GREAT PYRAMID*, which is a ruthless exploitation of Patty Smith's. It is a pity that Mr. Tompkins did not listen to his wife who wanted him to write a novel instead of science fiction. To put it as briefly as possible, 'Pyramid Power' is peddled by charlatans who know nothing about ancient Egypt and is happily picked up by people who would rather believe in mysteries than cope with life. I hope this will clarify your questions."

Leanna Gaskins, Univ. of CA, Berkeley — "In response to your query about 'pyramid power' I would say that, in general, Egyptologists do not include that area of study within the field of Egyptology. Though the Egyptologist deals of necessity primarily with archaeological remains, those artifacts are normally used as a vehicle to explicate some facet of the culture itself: history, language, religious practice, and the like. As I understand the term 'pyramid power', these investigations are not intended for that kind of purpose, but rather are intended to demonstrate some inherent properties of the geometrical form itself, entirely aside from its use by the Egyptians. Thus, I would say that the study of 'pyramid power' does not really fall within the area normally called Egyptology."

Richard A. Parker, Brown University — "Neither 'pyramid power' nor 'pyramidology', the belief that the Great Pyramid can predict the future, is included in this field. Egyptologists have been known, however, to use the term 'pyramidiot' on occasion."

N.B. Millet, Egyptian Department, Royal Ontario Museum — "Most Egyptologists, including myself, regard the theories of 'pyramid power' as lying wholly outside our field and within the half-lit world of occultism. Most of us believe that whatever may be the truth in the much-debated question of the properties of a pyramid, it is clear that the Egyptians themselves did not hold any such beliefs. We are used to having the Great Pyramid being the target of obscurantist occult theories of every kind, and we tend to get restive when the public takes such writers as von Daniken, Piazza Smyth, or Tompkins, at all seriously. At the same time, we are reluctant to spend much of our time refuting these theories publically; this is partly because we are busy enough solving the genuine mysteries which do exist, and partly because we know that most of the 'believers' are such for reasons of faith rather than logic, and will be pretty resistant to the voice of reason".

The letters containing the above references — Goedicke, Gaskins, Parker, Millet — can be read in full on pp. 74-77.

Whatever conclusions are drawn for or against the concept of "pyramid power" or "pyramid energy", it clearly is not included within the field of ac-

cepted Egyptology. Therefore, to date, Nelson has not written one book on Egyptology!

NELSON'S FOUR GREATEST "ACCOMPLISHMENTS"

Where is the scientific record of four of Nelson's greatest Egyptological "accomplishments"?

In the Press Release Information from Dee Jay Nelson, p. 210, he listed four of his greatest Egyptological accomplishments as:

- Measuring the Great Pyramid.
- Measuring the Eastern Giza Cemetery.
- Creating the map of the Eastern Giza Cemetery that is in general use by Egyptologists today.
- Discovering the tomb of Princess Nefer-Ka-Ra with the most colorful wall paintings ever found in Egypt.

Mr. Peter F. Dorman of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York, refers to the above accomplishments of Nelson in his letter of April 15, 1980:

"Nelson may very well have measured the Great Pyramid in 1959, but he has left no scholarly record of it. As for the Eastern Cemetery at Giza, this was excavated for Harvard University and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts by George A. Reisner between 1902 and 1939; it is Reisner's map, in THE HISTORY OF THE GIZA NECROPOLIS I (Cambridge, 1942) that is in general use by Egyptologists."

"If Nelson has discovered the tomb of a Princess Neferkara, he has kept it and its colorful wall paintings a secret from the rest of us. Incidentally, it is not the policy of the Department of Egyptian Antiquities to allow individuals to excavate; archaeologists are sponsored (and funded) by institutions or foundations" (see letter, p. 78).

Also commenting on some of Nelson's "achievements" is N.B. Millet, Royal Ontario Museum:

"I am not aware of 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."

"I do not know of the discovery of a tomb assignable to a Princess Neferkara in the year you mention" (see letter, p. 79).

From the above comments, it appears that Nelson's "achievements" are unknown to Egyptologists.

NELSON'S SCIENTIFIC PAPERS AND ARTICLES

Are any of Nelson's "scientific papers and articles" known to Egyptologists? Here are comments from six leading Egyptologists:

"I'm not acquainted with, nor have I ever heard, to the best of my knowledge, of Mr. Dee Jay Nelson" (see letter, p. 80).

Mr. William Kelly Simpson
Curator
Egyptian/Ancient Near Eastern Art
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Massachusetts

"I have never heard of the man and I have no idea what his qualifications may or may not be. He is not listed in the International Directory of Egyptology nor have I been able to find any publications by him. The field of Egyptology, particularly in North America, is not large. Most of the people involved in it are known to others in the field at least by reputation. **It would be curious that a person with the background he advertises is completely unknown to me** but I am sure that there are some 'Egyptologists' that I don't know" (see letter, p. 81).

Mr. William H. Peck
Curator of Ancient Art
The Detroit Institute of Arts
Detroit, Michigan

"I have no information concerning Mr./Dr. Dee Jay Nelson. His U.S. credentials are not in my capacity to check. The Egyptian Antiquities Organization (that licenses all digs in Egypt) apparently has no concession in his name, and the Egyptian museum is not familiar with him or his project" (see letter, p. 82).

Mr. James Allen, Director
American Research Center
Cairo, Egypt

“The list of Mr. Nelson’s achievements makes very amusing reading”
(see letter, p. 83).

Mr. Jaromir Malek
Griffeth Institute/Ashmolean Museum
Oxford, England

“This letter confirms our telephone conversation of March 11, 1980, in which I stated that **I have never previously heard of D.J. Nelson**, or of any connection he may have had with the Oriental Institute, where I studied for three years under Dr. Klaus Baer and others” (see letter, p. 84).

Mr. Peter F. Dorman
Curatorial Assistant
The Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York, New York

“I have not otherwise heard of Professor Nelson, and as I mentioned to you, our field is rather small” (see letter, p. 85).

Dr. David P. Silverman, Ph.D.
University Museum
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

For being the “renowned”, “world’s leading authority on Egyptology,” and for having published over 130 scientific papers or articles, one can’t help wondering why more Egyptologists haven’t heard of him — can one?

NELSON'S TRANSLATION OF THE JOSEPH SMITH PAPYRI

What about Nelson's translation of the 'Joseph Smith Papyri'?

In Dr. David P. Silverman's letter (p. 85), he states that "Most Egyptologists publish the results of their findings (whatever their research), and the studies are listed alphabetically by author in the ANNUAL EGYPTOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY INDEX." Nelson did submit his translation of the Joseph Smith papyri (Metropolitan papyri) to this publication.

How was it received by Egyptologists? Dr. Klaus Baer, Oriental Institute, Chicago, Illinois, refers to Nelson as having a good amateur knowledge of Egyptology (p. 37), and Dr. Richard Parker, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, quotes an abstractor as stating that Nelson's work qualifies as "**amateur studies with gross errors**" (p. 86).

It appears, therefore, that Nelson's only contribution to Egyptological literature is second-rate, amateurish, and with gross errors. It would, no doubt, have been worse if Dr. Baer had not helped Nelson somewhat in his translations (see Baer letter, pp. 37-38). In addition, he has written three small booklets dealing with his interpretations of the Book of Abraham. They are not scholarly productions.

The significance of the Metropolitan (Joseph Smith) papyri to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is discussed further in Chapter 10, "The Truth About the Book of Abraham".

IN SUMMARY . . .

Nelson claims to have written at least eight books and nearly 130 scientific papers and articles. The truth is that he co-authored only one book concerning "pyramid energy". Egyptologists consider this subject to be very much outside the realm of true Egyptology. Egyptologists are unaware of Nelson's many purported scientific papers and articles.

It is true that he wrote several small anti-Mormon booklets on the Book of Abraham. They are published by Modern Microfilm Co. of Salt Lake City, Utah. **With no formal education in any aspect of Egyptology, and no respectable reputation as an Egyptologist, it is incomprehensible that any of Nelson's writings could possibly be taken seriously** — especially any of his "amateur studies with gross errors" dealing with the Joseph Smith papyri.

Four of Nelson's greatest achievements are unknown to the world of Egyptology. Two of them (measuring the Great Pyramid and discovering the tomb of Princess NeferKaRa) were apparently a well-kept secret from other Egyptologists. And the credit for his remaining two achievements (measuring the Eastern Giza Cemetery and creating the map that is used by Egyptologists today) was given to George A. Reisner — **not to Nelson.**

BROCHURE OF THE 1980 ATLANTIS RISING TOUR OF EGYPT.



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1980**

REDISCOVER
THE WONDERS
OF ANCIENT EGYPT

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 1, 1980
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GUEST SPEAKERS

Peter Tompkins, author and researcher, has spent many years accumulating data about the Pyramids of Mexico, and the Great Pyramid of Giza. His books MYSTERIES OF THE MEXICAN PYRAMIDS and SECRETS OF THE GREAT PYRAMID, are the elite of any work accomplished in those fields.

Dr. Dee Jay Nelson holds a Doctor's degree in Anthropology, Archeology with specialization in Egyptology. He reads Hieroglyphic, Hieratic, and Demotic Scripts. His book, co-edited with David H. Coville, LIFE FORCE IN THE GREAT PYRAMID is a unique study of the human body and Inner Pyramid science.

John Anthony West, is a novelist and a playwright at heart. It was through this background that he became interested in astrology and the Ancient Wisdom of Egypt. Mr. West has done an in depth study of the work of R.A. Schwaller de Lubicz, who spent over 15 years in Luxor studying the temples. SERPENT IN THE SKY is his contribution to the field of Egyptology.

Daniel Kolos, holds a Masters Degree in Egyptian language and literature. He has written several programs on ancient Egypt for CBC Radio. He has been site supervisor for the Akhenaten Temple project in 1977 & 1978. He has a book published which is a laymen's guide to hieroglyphic inscriptions, called THE NAME OF THE DEAD, Tutankhamun Translated.

There will be several surprise speakers and special guests. A professional photographer and videographer will accompany our group to Egypt. The third part of a documentary movie on The Mysteries of Egypt will be filmed.

NELSON CO-AUTHORED THIS BOOK.

ANNOUNCING...

*The Book that Takes an Entirely New
Direction in Pyramidology:*



The authors have coined the term *INTERPYRAMID SCIENCE* to describe their new approach to the subject of pyramid energy, about which so much has been written in the past few years. They are convinced that they have made an important series of re-discoveries of ancient knowledge recorded in pyramid architectural proportions by Egyptian priest-scholars 46 centuries ago. This knowledge, which includes the neuro-molecular frequency of the "life-force" and ancient understanding of biorhythms, will add a dimension of effective usability to Do-In procedures. In this work, the authors prove the reality of biorhythms as a bio-electric configuration, and show that there is a half-cycle (11.5 day) reversal of the electric polarity of the physical biorhythm and thus a periodic reversal of Do-In meridian energy. This is a valuable contribution to diagnostic methodology.

LIFE FORCE IN THE GREAT PYRAMIDS

From the Foreword:

"A careful analysis of ancient word roots by means of a character by character breakdown of hieroglyphic spellings indicates that the Egyptians of the Pyramid Age had knowledge of aural energy fields, their effects and the methods of manipulating them.

"Understanding the principles of energy fields and their relation to human bio-electricity can open the way to corrective measures and the restoration of vitality. To this end our book is dedicated."

ABOUT THE AUTHORS . . .

Dee Jay Nelson is Professor of Egyptology at Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Montana, and a nationally known explorer-naturalist. He has lectured extensively throughout the United States and abroad, and has photographed or produced numerous television films. His film *The Light from Galilee* was acclaimed as one of the year's best on European television in 1960.

David Coville has been lecturing for a number of years on the relation of electromotive properties of the human body to Do-In, acupressure, acupuncture areas and a healthful diet. His innovations in this field have been termed by many experts as revolutionary.

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DEPARTMENT OF NEAR EASTERN STUDIES

October 31, 1980

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

Dear Mr. Brown:

In response to your letter of October 29, I am trying to answer you as quickly as possible. I refer directly to the questions you propose in order to simplify matters.

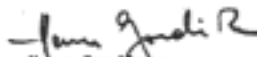
1. The field of Egyptology includes all aspects of the study of ancient Egypt. This comprises the study of ancient Egypt in all its phases: the writing system used, the history and the chronology, the literature, religion, social institutions, technology, and, of course, the material remains of ancient Egypt from architecture to minor arts.

2. The training of an Egyptologist is primarily done as graduate studies and requires a minimum of four to five years graduate study after an undergraduate curriculum preparing a student for its pursuit. It includes Greek, Latin, French, and German as prerequisites; further, Old Egyptian, Middle Egyptian, Hieratic, Demotic, and Coptic, in addition to training in the aspects mentioned above.

3. "Pyramid Power" is not included in the field of Egyptology because it is a pseudo-scientific diletante. The drive to attempt to see mysteries in ancient Egypt has its beginnings in the 5th Century B.C. and is happily continued at the expense of a gullible public.

It might be true that milk does not get sour inside the Great Pyramid, but I do not know of any case that somebody took milk inside. You probably know Peter Tompkins', Secrets of the Great Pyramid, which is a ruthless exploitation of Patsy Smith's. It is a pity that Mr. Tompkins did not listen to his wife who wanted him to write a novel instead of science fiction. To put it as briefly as possible, "Pyramid Power" is peddled by charlatans who know nothing about ancient Egypt and is happily picked up by people who would rather believe in mysteries than cope with life. I hope this will clarify your questions.

Sincerely,


 Hans Goedicke
 Chairman

HG:jd

RICHARD A. PARKER
21 LARCH STREET
PROVIDENCE, R. I. 02906
7 November 1980

Mr. Robert I. Brown
Mesa, Arizona 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

I would define Egyptology as the study of the language, history and culture of Egypt from its earliest pre-historic periods down to the early Christian centuries.

In the United States an Egyptologist is expected to have carried out the above study as a graduate student while familiar at least with the French and German languages, to have completed a thesis on some aspect of his study, and to have been awarded the Ph.D. degree.

Neither "pyramid power" nor "pyramidology," the belief that the Great Pyramid can predict the future, is included in this field. Egyptologists have been known, however, to use the term "pyramidist" on occasion.

Sincerely yours,

Richard A. Parker

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF NEAR EASTERN STUDIES

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

December 2, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown
~~University of California~~
 Mesa, Arizona 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

In response to your query about "pyramid power" I would say that, in general, Egyptologists do not include that area of study within the field of Egyptology. The Egyptological field includes the study of the ancient Egyptian people and their history, as well as more specific elements of their culture, such as religion, political and economic organization, art, language, and so on.

In order to be respected academically as an Egyptologist, one is generally expected to have a university education that includes specific training in the field of Egyptology. While a degree in Egyptology is not essential as such, a reasonable amount of study in the field -- sufficient to allow one to demonstrate a good understanding of its background -- is required if ones pronouncements are to be taken seriously.

Though the Egyptologist deals of necessity primarily with archeological remains, those artifacts are normally used as a vehicle to explicate some facet of the culture itself: history, language, religious practice, and the like. As I understand the term "pyramid power", these investigations are not intended for that kind of purpose, but rather are intended to demonstrate some inherent properties of the geometrical form itself, entirely aside from its use by the Egyptians. Thus, I would say that the study of "pyramid power" does not really fall within the area normally called Egyptology.

I apologize for being late with this reply; a deadline that had to be met interfered. I hope that what I have said will be helpful to you, and if I can be of any further help, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Leanna Gaskins


 Egyptian Department

Royal Ontario Museum
 100 Queen's Park
 Toronto, Ontario, Canada
 M5S 2C6

Telephone 928-3685
 Cables: ROMA-Toronto

November 11, 1980

Mrs. Barbara Ellsworth

~~100 Queen's Park~~
 P.O. Box 672
 Chandler
 Arizona 85224
 U.S.A.

Dear Mrs. Ellsworth:

From time to time we get a request from someone like yourself for information on "pyramid power", and it seems to me that one writer last year was also asking about Mr. Dee Jay Nelson, who seems to make a specialty of lecturing on the subject. Owing to the peculiarities of our filing system, I cannot find the letter, which states among other things the qualifications Mr. Nelson claims.

In any case, I can try to answer your specific questions. First, Egyptology is generally defined as the study of the ancient Egyptian culture through material remains and written texts. We who are in the field professionally regard the ability to read hieroglyphic as essential if one is to be regarded as an Egyptologist, so that we would not consider someone, say, who teaches Egyptian history, even at the university level, but cannot read the ancient writings, to be an Egyptologist. In terms of the time range, an Egyptologist is concerned with Egypt from late prehistoric times down to the establishment of Christianity in A.D. 312. An Egyptologist, to have the respect of his peers, must nowadays have the PhD degree from a recognized centre of Egyptological studies, or its equivalent. This generally involves several years of graduate study after the BA and the writing of a thesis on a chosen subject.

Most Egyptologists, including myself, regard the theories of pyramid power as lying wholly outside our field and within the half-lit world of occultism. Most of us believe that whatever may be the truth in the much-debated question of the properties of a pyramid, it is clear that the Egyptians themselves did not hold any such beliefs. We are used to having the Great Pyramid being the target of

obscurantist occult theories of every kind, and we tend to get restive when the public takes such writers as von Däniken, Piazzí Smyth, or Tompkins, at all seriously. At the same time, we are reluctant to spend much of our time refuting these theories publically; this is partly because we are busy enough solving the genuine mysteries which do exist, and partly because we know that most of the "believers" are such for reasons of faith rather than logic, and will be pretty resistant to the voice of reason.

I hope that this is enough for you to go with on your editing job. If you need further thoughts on the subject, please feel free to write.

Sincerely yours,



N.B. Millet
 Curator
 Egyptian Department

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

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

Egyptian Department

April 15, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown
Mesa, Arizona 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am happy to supply the following information,
listed according to your queries:

1. Discussed in my last letter.
2. Nelson may very well have measured the Great Pyramid in 1959, but he has left no scholarly record of it. As for the Eastern Cemetery at Giza, this was excavated for Harvard University and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts by George A. Reisner between 1902 and 1939; it is Reisner's map, in The History of the Giza Necropolis I (Cambridge, 1942), that is in general use by Egyptologists.
3. If Nelson has discovered the tomb of a princess Neferkara, he has kept it and its colorful wall paintings a secret from the rest of us. Incidentally, it is not the policy of the Department of Egyptian Antiquities to allow individuals to excavate; archaeologists are sponsored (and funded) by institutions or foundations.
4. I doubt Nelson's proficiency in "Demontic". The correct word is "demotic". Students of this language are often prompted by its miserable script to call it "demonic" but never "Demontic". "Meroiphican" is a gross mistake for "Meroltic", a language that flourished in Nubia during the Roman period in Egypt; demotic, however, is purely Egyptian, appearing first around 660 B.C.
5. Discussed in my last letter

6. As for the general's summy, if it is pictured in the enclosure you sent to me, its name reads "Tjes-aha-khaw-taw..." or something close to that. I don't know what Ten-air-ah-men-aches means, but it does not mean "The splitter of heads". Mummies, of course, are not made of paper mache.

If I might correct one of your statements: the Oriental Institute does not grant degrees, but it is part of the University of Chicago, which does. Indeed, I hope to be getting my own degree there within a few years, and I can promise you that it is one of the most rigorous Egyptology programs in the United States! I hope this letter will be of some interest.

Very sincerely,



Peter F. Dorman
Curatorial Assistant


 ROM
 Egyptian Department

Royal Ontario Museum
 100 Queen's Park
 Toronto, Ontario, Canada
 M5S 2C6

Telephone 928-3665
 Cables: ROMA-Toronto

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

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON · MASSACHUSETTS · 02115

22 April, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown
████████████████████

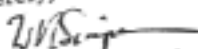
Mesa, Arizona 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am not acquainted with, nor have I ever heard, to the best of my knowledge, of Mr. Dee Jay Nelson. For legal reasons I think it not advisable to comment further on the points that you raise.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,



William Kelly Simpson
Curator of Egyptian and Ancient Near Eastern Art

WKS:mc



THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

3200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48202 • Phone 313-833-7900 • Cable DETINARTS

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FREDERICK J. CONNORS, Director
MICHAEL KAY, Deputy Director
ROBERT T. WELTON, Administrator and Secretary

April 21, 1980

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

Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your letter of April 6th concerning Dee Jay Nelson. I have never heard of the man and I have no idea what his qualifications may or may not be. He is not listed in the International Directory of Egyptology nor have I been able to find any publications by him. The field of Egyptology, particularly in North America, is not large. Most of the people involved in it are known to others in the field at least by reputation. It would be curious that a person with the background he advertises is completely unknown to me but I am sure that there are some "Egyptologists" that I don't know.

I would suggest that you write to the American Research Center in Egypt, 40 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, New Jersey 08540. This is the most important organization for Egyptologists in the United States. It is to the advantage of professionals in the field to be aware of such situations.

Sincerely,

William H. Peck
Curator of Ancient Art

WHP:hpo

مركز البحوث الأمريكية بمصر

AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT, INC.

40 WITHERSPOON STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TELEPHONE : 609-921-9797

2, MIDAN KASE EL DOBARA
(SIMON BOLIVAR)
GARDEN CITY, CAIRO, EGYPT
TELEPHONE : 33082 - 38239

٢ ميدان كاسر الدوبارة
جاردن سيتي - القاهرة ج.٢٠٠٤
تليفون ٣٣٠٨٢ - ٣٨٢٣٩

April 3, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Brown

████████████████████
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

GRIFFITH INSTITUTE · ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM · OXFORD OX1 2PF
Telephone 37522

Mr Robert L Brown
~~Mr Robert L Brown~~
Mesa, Arizona 85203
U.S.A.

18th April, 1980

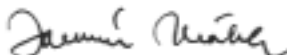
Dear Mr Brown:

Thank you for your letter of the 6th April concerning Mr Dee Jay Nelson's lectures on the 'Mystery of the Pyramids.'

I am happy to say that by 'Gaseal Mallock', the head of the Department of Antiquities, he must have, rather than myself, meant the former President of the Egyptian Organisation of Antiquities, Dr Gamal Mokhtar, now of the Riyadh University, Saudi Arabia.

The list of Mr Nelson's achievements makes very amusing reading.

Yours sincerely,



J Malak

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

 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 weighs 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 Tutankhamun, page 74). However, the translators further failed to convert avoirdupois 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 Adam
 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 UNIVERSITY MUSEUM



UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
 THIRTY-THIRD AND SPRUCE STREETS
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104
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 TELEPHONE: (215) 341-4000
 DIRECTOR: MARTIN EIDDLE

CURATORIAL DIVISION
 WILLIAM H. DAVENPORT
 ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
 340-4121

April 17, 1980


Mr. Robert L. Brown

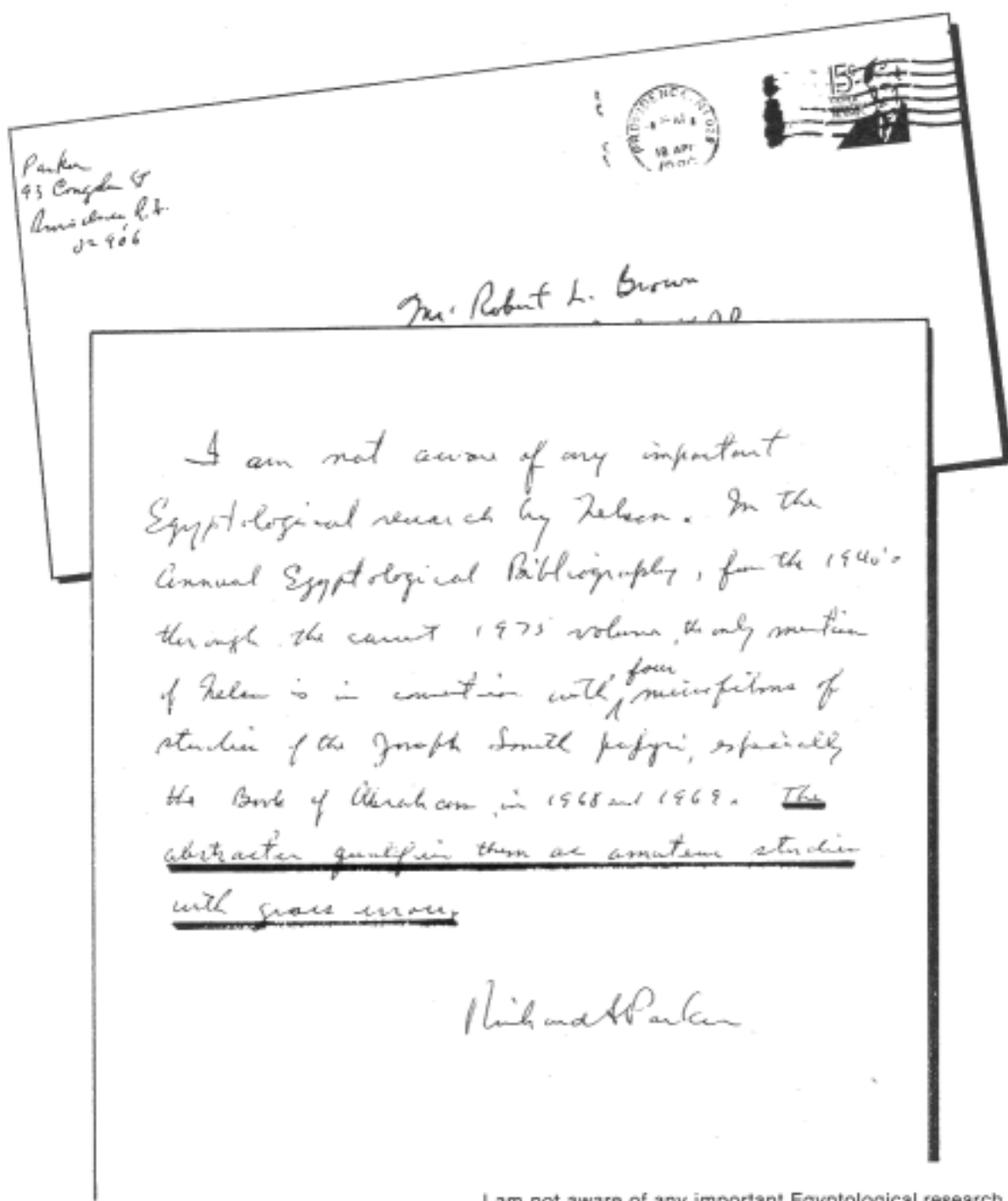
Mesa, AZ 85203

Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your letter of April 6, 1980 and the enclosed information. I have not otherwise heard of Professor Nelson, and as I mentioned to you, our field is rather small. In regard to your direct queries, much of the specific information does not coincide with our present knowledge of the field, and there certainly appear to be some misconceptions. You could easily check for yourself accurate descriptions of the language by looking in Gardiner's Egyptian Grammar or Egypt of the Pharaohs, or Wilson's The Culture of Ancient Egypt. Most Egyptologists publish the results of their findings (whatever their research), and the studies are listed alphabetically by author in the Annual Egyptological Bibliography. Once you have examined these sources, you should be able to decide yourself the accuracy of his claims.

Sincerely,


 David P. Silverman, Ph.D.
 Egyptian Section



I am not aware of any important Egyptological research by Nelson. In the Annual Egyptological Bibliography, for the 1940's through the current 1975 Volume, the only mention of Nelson is in connection with four microfilms of studies of the Joseph Smith papyri, especially the Book of Abraham, in 1968 and 1969. The abstractor qualified them as amateur studies with gross errors.

— Richard Parker