

King Tut May Prove Just Kid If Egypt 'Zero Dynasty' Found

By RELMAN MORIN
AP Newsfeatures
CAIRO—The mystery of ancient Egypt's "Unknown Dynasty" confronts archaeologists again today on the low east bank of the River Nile.

Fresh evidence discovered there compels them to reconsider the probability that the so-called first dynasty of Egyptian kings was not the first, at all. There may have been a royal house that preceded it, a line of kings even older than the shadowy royal figures who were thought to have been the oldest.

Archaeologists sometimes refer to it as the "Zero Dynasty."

The Mists Of Antiquity
If its existence is established, it will mean that Egyptian civilization goes back even further than known records have indicated. The known span is 5,000 years.

What raised the question again was the discovery of a burial ground, near the Nile, at a point midway between Cairo and the city of Helouan.

Two years ago — while Rommel's Afrika Korps was at the gates of Alexandria — Egyptian officials were notified that natives had uncovered some tombs, found some pottery and other objects. The site was part of one of King Farouk's estates.

An archaeologist from the directorate of antiquities, Zaaki Youssef Bey, went to examine the findings. He realized immediately that a discovery of major importance had been made. But because of the war, excavation had to be postponed.

Work Resumed
Work has been resumed now. The results are important — and puzzling.

Zaaki Bey found more than 2,000 tombs. Only about 200 were intact. The others had been broken into, centuries ago, and rifled by grave-robbers. Some had been re-opened by Roman troops, who placed their own dead beside the gleaming white skeletons of the long-departed Egyptians.

But from the few graves that survived there came a wealth of scientific material. The tombs

yielded jewelry, necklaces, bracelets, beautiful alabaster vases and dishes, pottery, a huge flint sword, thousands of flint knives, finely carved figures of Osiris and Isis, the god and his sister-wife; as well as some stone palettes used by the very artists who painted the decorations on these tombs.

Egyptian 'Dog Tags'
They even found an ancient Egyptian "dog tag," an identification disc, oval-shaped and cut from ivory, hardly different from the metal ones used by American soldiers today.

Hieroglyphs on the stopper of a perfume bottle and on an earthen jar apparently established the period of these tombs. The one inscribed on the stopper read "Den," and the other "Adi-Ib." These are the names of the fifth and sixth kings, respectively, of the first dynasty.

But on a stone lintel in one of the tombs, Zaaki Bey read still another: "Ka," a king's name. It has been discovered before in Egypt. But it does not belong to the first dynasty, nor probably to any of the earliest known lines of kings.

Who, then, was King Ka? When did he reign?

Zaaki Bey's immediate concern, he said, was not with this problem, but with one that, to him, was much more intriguing. These tombs, obviously, were first dynasty. (Or earlier?) The names of the other two kings, the type and decoration of the objects found there, and some additional evidence, apparently fixes the period beyond question.

Concealed Doorways
But some of the tombs were built of limestone. Huge limestone slabs shored up the earthen sides, provided partitions between the compartments, and were used as false doors and portcullises.

Limestone, Bey said, has not been found in use as a building material before the third dynasty. Here it was used, and obviously by skilled architects — long before that period. Moreover, the structure of the tombs, themselves, with their sloping steps and sealed sections, and the entrances cleverly concealed by false doors — all this indicates a high degree of development in building.

Such development did not spring into existence, full blown. There must have been antecedents for it, long years of evolu-

tion from simpler forms. Who were the ancestors of these architects? In what period were they working?

The questions have no answer, yet. It may lie in the unknown dynasty, in the civilization even older than ancient Egypt.

Lane Goes—

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tion investments appeared certain to hit \$13,000,000,000, nearly 150 per cent of the original goal. Total individual sales were \$3,796,000,000. Grand total was \$16,468,000,000.

Individuals, the Washington story said, can still put their quota over by subscribing to the sixth war loan up to Dec. 31, even though the drive officially will be closed Saturday.

Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, former commander of American forces in the China-Burma-India theater, who was recalled from China recently, urged "each and every" citizen to invest in "at least one extra \$100 bond" in the remaining days of the drive.

He urged Americans "to pour it on" to put the "finishing touches on the nazis and go all-out on the tough brutal enemy in the Pacific."

An Associated Press story from Washington Friday reported that fighting men and civilian employees of the United States navy have invested close to a billion dollars in war bonds in the last three years according to Capt. Gerald A. Eubank, navy coordinator for war bonds.

The chief of the navy's vigorous and world-wide program of selling war bonds said, "We don't use a patriotic appeal to sell bonds to men in uniform, because when men are fighting and many give their lives, a patriotic appeal would have a hollow sound. We sell them bonds for their own post-war security—for savings."

BAIL
PORTLAND, Ore.—(P)—A soldier didn't have the one-dollar bill for a parking ticket, but he offered his seven packages of cigarettes to the policeman who issued the tag in exchange for a dollar bill that the policeman had.

The offer was accepted — but fast!

DUTCH IN GERMANY
U. S. NINTH ARMY, Inside Germany, Dec. 15.—Dutch volunteer troops recruited in Holland assumed army occupation duties in Germany today on a limited scale.

GALE TIPS BIG TRUCK

PORTLAND, Dec. 15.—(P)—A 100-mile-an-hour gale which overturned a moving truck on the Columbia River highway yesterday was expected to continue today except for a slight slack in the early morning.

The weather bureau recorded an average velocity of 80 miles an hour at Crown Point last night, with gusts up to 100 miles an hour. Melvin C. McCoskey, 39, Portland, was hospitalized with serious injuries after a gust of wind overturned his heavily loaded truck, pinning him below.

Fighting On Small Scale In Athens

ATHENS, Dec. 15.—(P)—Strong British reinforcements still were pouring into Athens today as relatively small scale fighting continued and official secrecy shrouded any peace moves.

ELAS units stabbed at the perimeter of the British and Greek government positions in central Athens, but the attacks were light and apparently designed to test the defenses.

The ELAS forces last night carried out a small attack in the area of Vironissos square and tried to establish a road block with German teller mines, but were repelled by the British who were clearing the mines today.

H. G. Wells Opposed To Churchill Actions

LONDON.—(P)—Novelist H. G. Wells declares that Prime Minister Churchill has "outlived" his role as Britain's fighting symbol and asserts that "it is high time he retired upon his laurels before we forget the debt we owe him."

In an article published in the Weekly Tribune, the historian said the prime minister's intervention in the Greek situation was a "discredit" to the nation. He declared Churchill had "lost his head completely" and become a "would-be British fustianer."

Wells asserted the British policy in Greece resulted from Churchill's "pro-royalism," his "snobbishness" and "limited range of ideas." The article was entitled "Churchill Must Go."



REFUGEE CHILDREN AT PLAY — Children at the UNRRA camp in African desert north of Suez enjoy swings built by the refugees themselves from salvaged pieces of wood.

Seizure Of Seven Ward Stores Threatened, WLB

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(P)—The war labor board today posed a seizure threat for Montgomery Ward stores in seven cities if the company does not comply with its edicts by Monday night.

The agency extended to properties in six other cities the same ultimatum it issued last night as the outgrowth of a strike in four Detroit stores. The six other cities

involved in today's action are Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore.; San Rafael, Cal., and Jamaica, N. Y.

SP SURGEON DIES

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 15.—(P)—Dr. Jacob Everett Shearer, 75, former chief surgeon for the Southern Pacific at Roseburg, Ore., and one-time public health officer at Portland, Ore., died Wednesday following a heart attack.

New Prexy Of AAU To Select Committeemen

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 15.—(P)—Willard N. Greim, newly elected president of the National Amateur Athletic Union from Denver, said today he would select committees to assure enactment of the six-point physical fitness program adopted by the organization at its annual convention which closed yesterday.

New Army, Navy Ranks Opened by President

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(P)—President Roosevelt today announced legislation creating the new ranks of general of the army and admiral of the fleet, and nominating four generals and four admirals to the positions.

To be "generals of the army" posts comparable to field marshal of Britain and other countries, he named Gen. George C. Marshall, army chief of staff; Douglas MacArthur, supreme commander in the southwest Pacific; Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of the Allied forces in western Europe; and Henry H. Arnold, commander of the army air forces.

To be "admirals of the fleet," ranks comparable to the rank of many foreign countries, he named Gen. Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the Pacific Ocean and Pacific Ocean areas; and William D. Leahy, personal chief of staff to Mr. Roosevelt.

Because the bill allows men to be assigned to such of the new ranks, the president will appoint another "super" admiral, Gen. John J. Pershing, commander of the American expeditionary force of World War I, remains as the highest ranking U. S. army officer. His rank of "general of the armies" created by him by special act of Congress remains superior to "general of the army."

Solons Ask FDR To Reconsider Nominees

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(P)—Senators opposing six state department nominees announced today they would attempt to win the nominations back to President Roosevelt.

Senator Pepper (D-Fla.) a reporter he and others who opposed to confirmation of the state headed by Joseph C. Gurnea would "resist any effort to take up the nominations out of order."

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