

Source 1

GOLD CASED MUMMY OF TUTANKHAMUN IS FOUND IN COFFIN

Opening of the sarcophagus reveals pharaoh as he was laid to rest 3300 years ago.

Spectacle is dazzling.

Case is colossal in size and is a beautiful and artistic likeness of the king.

It has crown and sceptre.

Arms repose across his breast and faded wreath of olive leaves stills remains on its head.

The Times Newspaper

Glossary

Sarcophagus - a coffin

Pharaoh - ancient Egyptian ruler (king)

Colossal - enormous

Sceptre - heavily decorated stick

Repose - rest

Spectacle - a dazzling event or object to look at

Source 2

My Dear Gardiner,

Tuesday 28th November 1922

I wrote to my wife yesterday and asked her to give you a message.

The find is extraordinary. It is a cache and has been plundered to an extent but even the ancients could not completely destroy it. After some slight plundering the inspectors shut it again. So far it is Tutankhamun, beds, boxes and every conceivable thing. There is a box of papyri in it, there is a throne of the King of the most marvellous inlaid chair you ever saw, two life size figures of the King and all sorts of religious signs hardly anyone knows up to this date. The king's clothing is rotten but gorgeous. Everything is in a very ticklish state owing to constant handlings and openings in ancient times...

...There is enough stuff to fill the whole Egyptian section upstairs of the British Museum. I imagine it is the greatest find ever made. Tomorrow is the official opening and before I leave we peep into the walled chamber...

I hope to be back soon.

Carter has weeks of work ahead of him.

I have between twenty and thirty soldiers, police and gaffirs to guard.

Yours, C.

A letter from Lord Carnarvon to his friend.

Glossary

Cache - something hidden	Plundered/plundering - stolen/stealing
Conceivable - imaginable	Papyri - papyrus papers (paper used in ancient Egypt)
Inlaid - a pattern scratched or marked into	Ticklish - needs to be handled carefully because it is delicate
Chamber - room	Gaffirs - elderly men, like servants

Source 3

REMARKABLE DISCOVERY IN EGYPT

RICH RELICS OF FIFTEENTH CENTURY BC

In a message from the Valley of the Kings, the 'Times' correspondent tells of a remarkable archeological discovery in Egypt. He says:

On Wednesday afternoon Lord Carnarvon and Mr Howard Carter revealed to a large company what promises to be the most sensational Egyptological discovery of the century. The find consists of, among other objects, the funeral paraphernalia of the Egyptian King Tutankhamun...

For nearly sixteen years Lord Carnarvon, with the assistance of Mr Howard Carter, has been carrying out excavations on that part of the ancient Thebes situated on the west bank of the Nile at Luxor. Seven years ago work was started in the Valley of the Kings, after other excavators had abandoned the valley. The search was continued systematically, and at last the dogged perseverance of Mr Carter, his thoroughness above all his flair, were rewarded by the discovery...

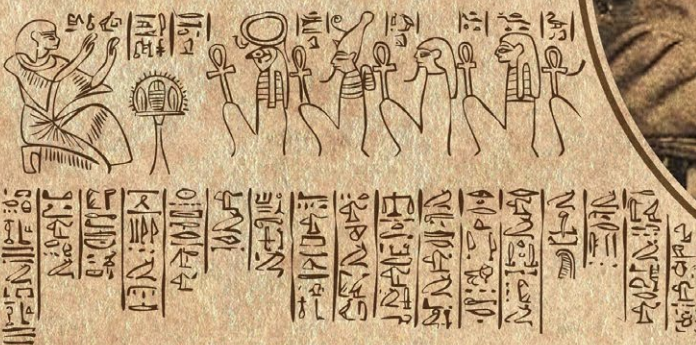
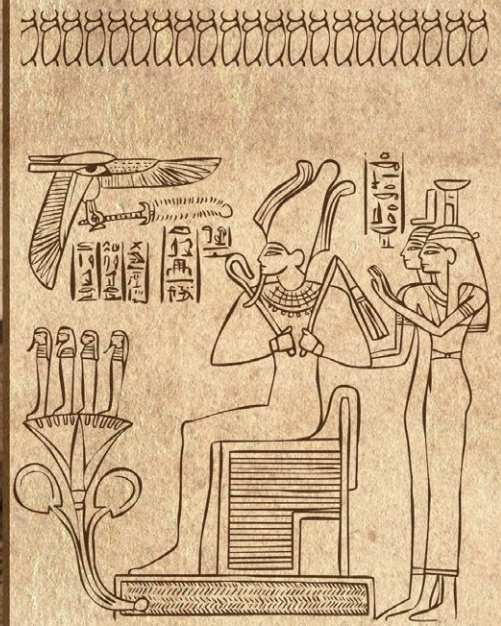
Mr Carter covered up the site and telegraphed to Lord Carnarvon, who at once came out from England. Little, however, did Lord Carnarvon and Mr Carter suspect the wonderful nature of the contents of the chambers as they stood outside. The sealed outer door was carefully opened. The way was cleared down some sixteen steps along a passage of about 25 feet. When at last the excavators managed to squeeze their way in an extraordinary sight met their eyes...

The Derby Daily Telegraph

Glossary

Relics - object of historical interest	Archaeological - ancient and historical
Excavations - digs	Thebes - ancient city
Nile - Egyptian River	Luxor - Egyptian city
Valley of the Kings - a place in Egypt where many pharaohs' tombs were discovered	Excavators - people who do archaeological digs
Systematically - working in a planned and organised way	Dogged - determined
Perseverance - never giving up	'his thoroughness above all his flair' - he was talented but he was particularly thorough and careful
Telegraphed - old fashioned way of sending a message	

Source 4



Above is the Valley of the Kings, where the discovery was made. Signs of damage to the tomb's external doors was found. Inside lay treasures untouched for thousands of years.

Right: Lord Carnarvon, ancient history enthusiast and sponsor of the expedition.

Source 5

At first I could see nothing, the hot air escaping from the chamber causing the candle flame to flicker, but presently, as my eyes grew accustomed to the light, details of the room within emerged slowly from the mist, strange animals, statues, and gold - everywhere the glint of gold. For the moment - an eternity it must have seemed to the others standing by - I was struck dumb with amazement, and when Lord Carnarvon, unable to stand the suspense any longer, inquired anxiously,

'Can you see anything?'

It was all I could do to get out the words,

'Yes, wonderful things.'

Howard Carter, 1923.



Glossary

Chamber - room	Presently - at that moment
Accustomed - get used to	Emerged - could be seen little by little
Suspense - waiting nervously	Inquired - asked
Anxiously - nervously	

Source 6

I cannot but think some risks are run by breaking into the last rest of a king in Egypt whose tomb is specially and solemnly guarded, and robbing him of his possessions.

According to a rare book I possess called The Egyptian History of the Pyramids (an ancient Arabic text), the most dire punishment follows any rash intruder into a sealed tomb. The book names secret poisons enclosed in boxes in such ways that those who touch them shall not know how they come to suffer. That is why I ask, was it a mosquito bite that has so seriously infected Lord Carnarvon?

Marie Correlli, Writer, 1923.

Glossary

Last rest - place for a dead body	Solemnly - seriously
Possessions - belongings	Dire - awful
Rash - acting without thinking carefully	Tomb - place to bury dead people

Source 7



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Source 7



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