

## Information from Dr Henry Clive, leader of the Clive Expedition

The party discovered a chamber in Menkauraa's pyramid, the smallest one of the three at Giza, which contained the unprepared but preserved remains of an unknown Egyptian queen. No hieroglyphs identified the body, but the marvellous funerary trappings convinced Clive that here rested a great ruler. Preparations for removal of the casket and the mummy were made in conjunction with the Egyptian authorities. Only an ornate gold coffer containing papyrus scrolls were actually taken from the chamber. "Alas," Dr. Clive says coolly, "all the scrolls were totally illegible, the result of improper sealing when the coffer was originally placed in the chamber."

Three nights later, terrible screams echoed from inside the pyramid. When the archaeologists investigated, they found that the mummy, the sarcophagus, and the two Egyptian police guards were missing without a trace. The guards have not been found, and are presumed dead. No one knows how the thieves so quickly removed an alabaster sarcophagus weighing several tons; it would have taken the Clive Expedition several days, yet from the time of the hideous cry to the time that the party entered the pyramid no more than twenty minutes elapsed. The dust in the corridors was undisturbed except by the identifiable footprints of expedition members and antiquities authorities, nor were there signs of roller marks or of wear at inclines and elevations along the corridors where winches would have needed bracing.

