

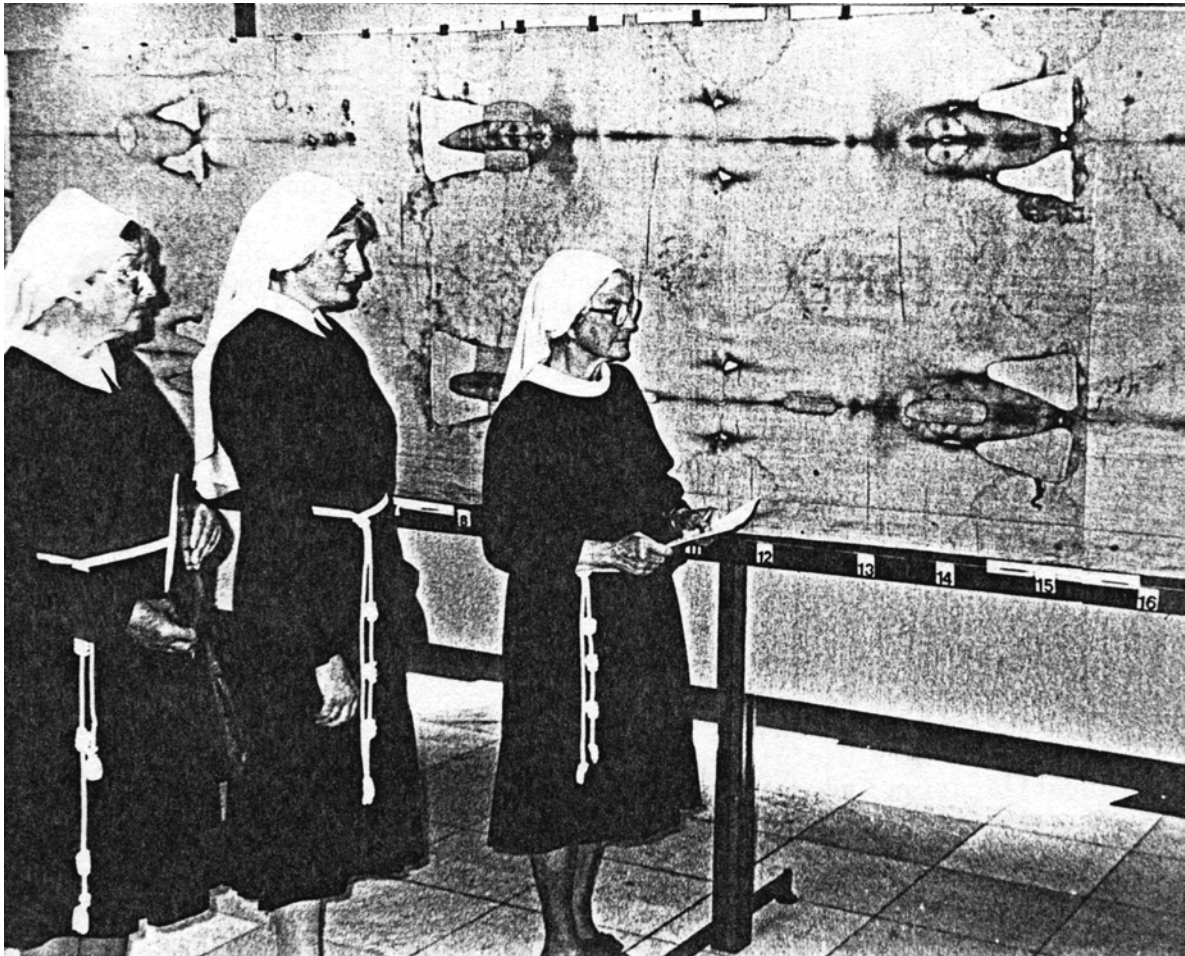
SHROUD NEWS

A NEWSLETTER ABOUT THE HOLY SHROUD OF TURIN
By REX MORGAN - Author of PERPETUAL MIRACLE



Issue No. 21

JANUARY 1984



SISTERS MARY AILEEN, HELEN AND JOSEPHINE OF THE ORDER OF ST CLARE, SYDNEY INSPECT THE TRIANGULAR PATCHES SEWN ONTO THE HOLY SHROUD BY THEIR POOR CLARE PREDECESSORS IN FRANCE IN 1534 AT THE SHROUD PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION IN SYDNEY 450 YEARS LATER

EDITORIAL

I had hoped to be writing this editorial message before the end of 1983 but once again affairs of this busy world have prevented my wishing all _my readers a Happy Christmas.

As 1984 is only a few hours old as I write let me then begin by wishing everyone a peaceful New Year, wherever you may be, and for readers of SHROUD NEWS that includes countries in many parts of the world.

1983 was a remarkably significant year for the Holy Shroud and its scholars. It was, regrettably, a year of departures from the Shroud scene; and from this life of three important people. Dr Max Frei of Zurich, whose many years of work on the identification of Shroud pollens had made an enormously important contribution to the verification of the location of the cloth throughout 2000 years, died in January. Shortly afterwards, in March, the Shroud's legal owner, King Umberto of Italy, died and willed the Shroud to the Holy See which action was, we understand, ratified later in the year. And just to hand is the information that Dr John Robinson, former Anglican bishop of Woolwich and Shroud scholar, died a few days ago. Robinson appeared in the film, *The Silent Witness*, and had written many authoritative papers as one of the leading Greek scholars of our time interpreting the gospel accounts as they relate to Shroud study.

Also, during 1983, a number of new books appeared, some of which have been reviewed in SHROUD NEWS and some about to be. Joe Nickell's *INQUEST ON THE SHROUD OF TURIN* took the strong view that the Shroud is a fake. Frank O. Adams's *SINDON* is an overview of some of the research and history and a personal view of the Shroud's significance. John Heller's *REPORT ON THE SHROUD OF TURIN* is a lively and very useful description of his own work on the blood identification and many other tests carried out by the 1978 team of scientists. Ray Bruce and Ian Wilson's school text book *JESUS AND THE SHROUD* gives a masterly summary of material liberally illustrated to stimulate interest in the young (and not so young) in the subject. American Frank Tribbe has produced *PORTRAIT OF JESUS* which is, in my view, the best and most comprehensive book on the whole subject of the Shroud since Ian Wilson's *THE TURIN SHROUD* in 1978. And for Australian readers at the moment, my own modest *SHROUD GUIDE* became available in December.

Editorial (contd)

During the 1983 Shroud year I had the experience of meeting for the first time: Dr Jean Volckringer, proponent of an image-formation theory forty years ago which has much relevance and credence today; Fr Paul de Gail, an extraordinary French priest with a dozen Shroud books to his name and still writing, in his eighties, a regular newsletter; Madame Frei-Sulzer, widow of Dr Max, master pallinologist, and now responsible for his work; Revd Albert (Kim) Dreisbach who conducts the Atlanta Center for the Continuing Study of the Shroud and the permanent exhibition in Atlanta, Georgia; Professor Baima Bollone of Turin who has made significant discoveries using the blood samples from the Shroud; Professor Giovanni Tamburelli, also of Turin, who continues the three-dimensional image enhancement work with significant new developments; Father Peter Rinaldi, with whom I had corresponded for several years and the most significant figure in the world circle of Shroud scholars; William Meacham an American archeologist domiciled in Hong Kong and an eminent sindonologist.

I also renewed my acquaintance during 1983 with Ian Wilson, the British historian who really put the Holy Shroud before the world in the late seventies with his book and film; Don Piero Coero-Borga, the indefatigable secretary of the International Centro at Turin; Vernon Miller and Ernest Brooks, the two chief photographers at Turin 1978; Professor Francis Filas of Chicago who continues to produce more and more evidence for his coins-on-the-eyes identification and further possibilities. Contact has been established with more and more of the Shroud circle including the Centro Mexicano in Mexico, a group in Argentina and various other individual scholars and scientists such as Paul Maloney and Charles Foley.

Perhaps the most important single event of the Shroud year for us in Australia and, indeed, an event which seems to be ringing in Shroud ears around the world, is my bringing to Australia in December the Brooks Institute Exhibit of Photographic Data, not to mention bringing Ernest Brooks himself together with Peter Skinner from California for the Sydney opening of the exhibition.

There is a report on the Exhibition in this issue but suffice it to say here that the great success of the two weeks in Sydney seems set to ensure a successful tour of the rest of Australia, the first country outside the United States to have the opportunity to see it.

Editorial (contd)

As regular readers of SHROUD NEWS during 1983 will appreciate, it has been an amazing year for the Shroud and its study; it has been an amazing and action-packed year for your editor in Shroud matters and it has been perhaps the most significant year in Shroud history for Australians by the presence in our country for the next few months of the Brooks Exhibit.

Thank you for your continued interest and support. When I wrote SHROUD NEWS No 1 for a few interested friends I wondered whether there would ever be a second issue. Now, three and a half years later, we have number 21 and I have great difficulty selecting from the masses of material I have available. If SHROUD NEWS were my fulltime occupation you could almost have a Shroud Weekly!

I greatly look forward to the privilege and enjoyment of bringing you more Shroud news during 1984 and I hope the format and content continues to serve your interests in the subject.

REX MORGAN

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IN MEMORIAM --- JOHN A. T. ROBINSON

Dr John Robinson, former Bishop of Woolwich and Dean of Trinity College, Cambridge, England died in December of cancer. He became world-famous through his controversial book HONEST TO GOD and was labelled by many as a heretic. He was the author of many other controversial views of Christianity and was forced from his position as an Anglican bishop. At first a sceptic about the Holy Shroud he subsequently became one of its most noted proponents. As a Greek scholar he wrote particularly about the translation of the gospels and helped to solve the difficulties posed in their apparent conflict with the Shroud evidence concerning the number and nature of the "grave-cloths" associated with the burial of Christ. He played a major part in the film THE SILENT WITNESS and attended many Shroud conferences. He had expressed private interest in the question of possible cloning of residual DNA in the Shroud blood before it had been proved that there is blood on the Shroud. The world-wide circle of Shroud scholars mourns the loss of another of its important contributors.

SHROUD PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION IN AUSTRALIA

The people of Sydney were the first outside the United States to see the Brooks Institute of Photography Holy Shroud Exhibit. A few days before the opening day on Monday 5th December 1983, Mr Ernest Brooks II, President of the Institute and Mr Peter Skinner, Public Relations Director arrived in Sydney where they stayed at the Koala Oxford Motel by courtesy of Homestead Motor Inns.

Brooks was one of the chief photographers with Vernon Miller and Barrie Schwartz who were members of the Shroud of Turin Research Project whose forty scientists studied the Holy Shroud itself in Turin in October 1978. The exhibition was created at Brooks University using some of the thousands of photographs made at Turin. It was first displayed in California in April 1981 where popular demand extended its planned season of two months to seven and it then toured the United States. Over the past year Rex Morgan has collaborated with Brooks and Skinner so that the exhibition could come to Australia before any other country and through the generous support and sponsorship of the following Australian companies this is now a reality: The Commonwealth Banking Corporation; Evercraft; Graeme Bartlett Insurances; Homestead Motor Inns; IBM Australia; Imin Productions; Jax Customs Agency; Macarthur Press; Pacific Australia Direct Lines; Runciman Press and Trans Australia Airlines.

On the Saturday before opening day Ernie Brooks himself, together with Peter Skinner, Rex Morgan and Helen McGee, supervised the setting up of the exhibition as it was taken from its massive security crates. With the help of Commonwealth Bank exhibition staff the display looked superb and during the course of the season many remarks were made about the quality of the material and the manner in which it was displayed for the public.

On Monday as the Bank opened its doors at for business at 8.15 a.m. the first people arrived to see the exhibit. We were fortunate to have during that week wide coverage in press, radio and television and the crowd grew bigger as the week went on.

Over the ten days in Sydney we estimated that MORE THAN 40,000 PEOPLE came to see the display. There were all kinds of fascinating stories to be heard. One man heard Rex Morgan giving a national ABC Radio interview while he was on his farm in Nyngan (360 miles from Sydney). He promptly packed his bag and arrived at the exhibition next morning. People came from as far away as the Gold

Exhibition in Australia (contd)

Coast, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong, Newcastle and the Central West, not to mention those we didn't hear about.

Brooks and Skinner stayed until day 4 giving interviews and talking to visitors at the gallery before they returned to their American commitments. Their presence was particularly valuable since many of the pictures in the exhibition were taken by Brooks himself and he had been present throughout the Turin testing. It was a unique opportunity for the people to meet a member of the STURP team at first hand and discuss the problems and fascination of the image on the Shroud.

At a small official opening reception one evening we were delighted to receive senior members of the sponsoring companies, members of the press corps, Shroud News subscribers together with other notables such as the Italian Consul-general. Mr Brooks expressed his pleasure at being in Sydney to open the exhibit and was supported by Mr Skinner. Ernest Brooks then showed a series of hitherto unpublished slides demonstrating new work since the creation of the exhibition which provoked considerable interest.

Throughout the course of the exhibit in Sydney there were visitors of all ages and many different religions who had come to judge for themselves. A comment book put out by the Bank disclosed hundreds of remarks made by the people of New South Wales who showed their gratitude to the organisers and the sponsors for having given this opportunity to see the Shroud image at very close quarters through the marvels of modern photographic technique. There were very few sceptics indeed and some of them went away, we suspect, not quite so sceptical after being confronted with the remarkable scientific and visual evidence of the researchers. There were also many stories of personal and religious experiences, allied miracles and other events which people felt had been connected in some way with the Shroud and these have mainly been recorded for later study.

The itinerary of the exhibit has now been confirmed for Canberra: it will be on show there at the Canberra-Rex Hotel, Northbourne Avenue from Sunday 8th January 1984 until Saturday 14th every day from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. We have also confirmed the Melbourne season will run from Monday 23rd January until Wednesday 8th February in the Commonwealth Bank Head Office at 363 Collins Street during banking hours 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (5 p.m. on Fridays).

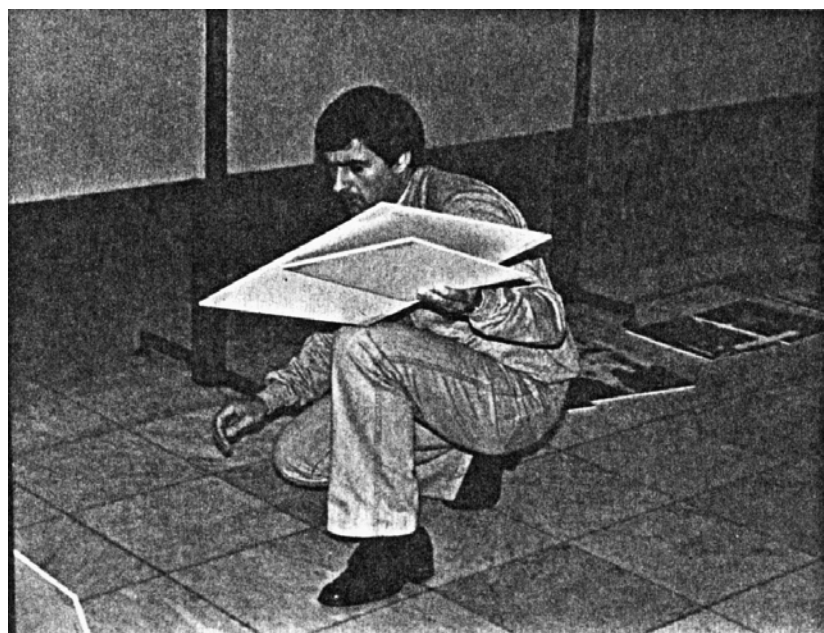


IN THE COMMONWEALTH BANK, SYDNEY, ERNEST BROOKS AND PETER SKINNER PUT UP COMPUTER GENERATED IMAGE OF THE SHROUD FACE

BELOW:

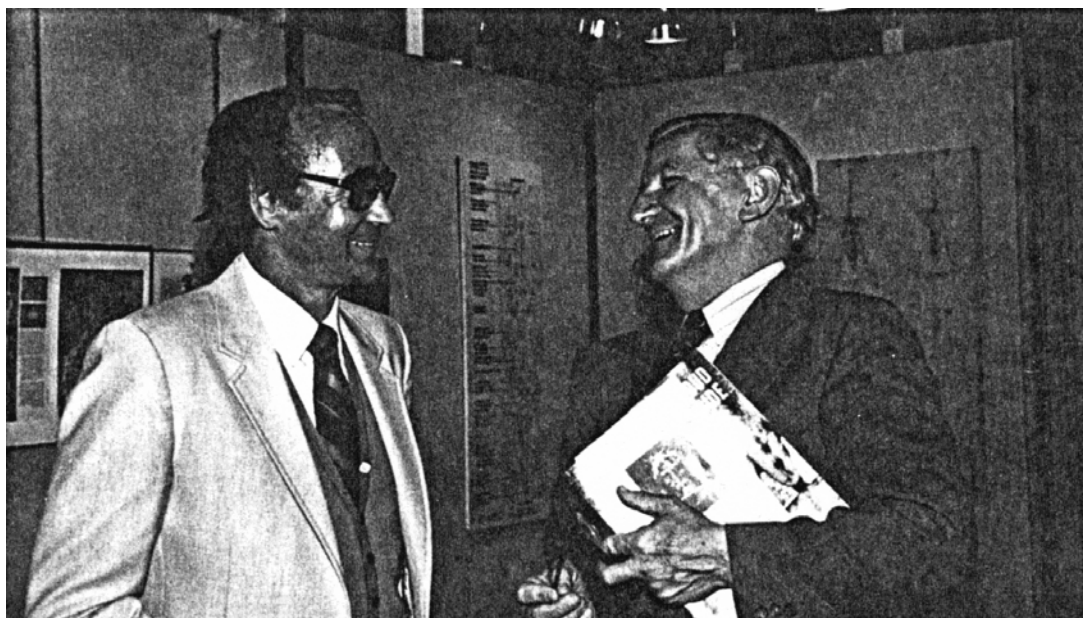
PETER SKINNER CHOOSING PICTURES OF THE SCIENTIFIC WORK AT TURIN FOR THE EXHIBITION

MORE THAN EIGHTY PANELS WERE DISPLAYED FOR TWO WEEKS AND WERE SEEN BY MORE THAN 40,000 PEOPLE

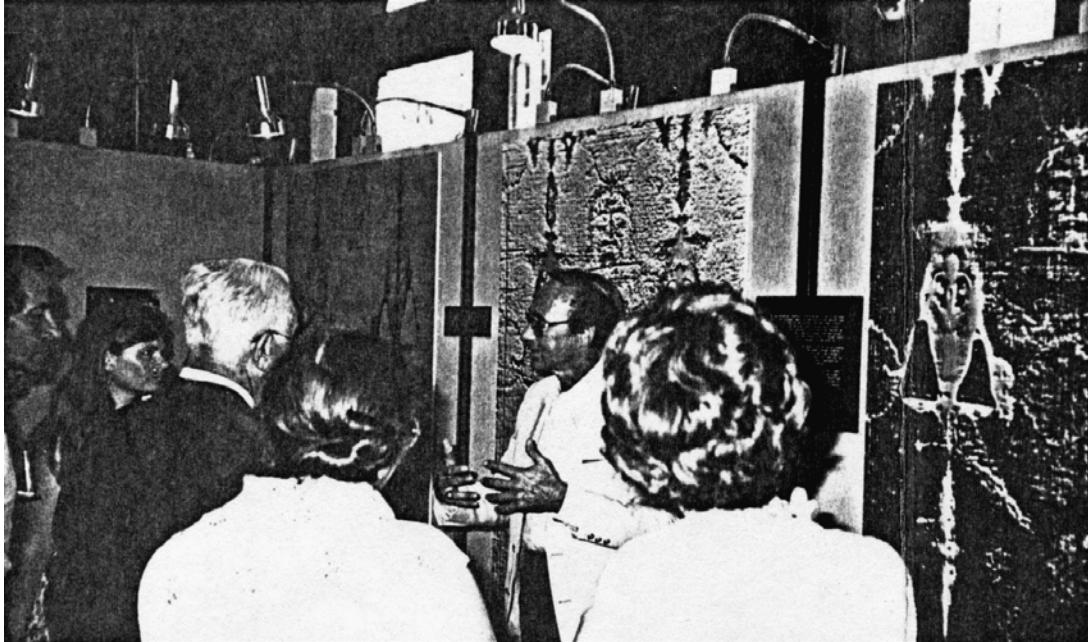




ERNEST BROOKS PERFORMS THE OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY IN SYDNEY



ERNEST BROOKS WITH Revd GRAHAM HARDY, FORMER MODERATOR OF THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING IN SYDNEY



ERNEST BROOKS TALKS WITH SYDNEYSIDERS AT THE SYDNEY EXHIBITION



ERNEST BROOKS, REX MORGAN, SYDNEY JOURNALIST ALAN GILL AND MRS GILL AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION



ERNEST BROOKS GIVES AN IMPROMPTU LECTURE TO A PARTY OF SCHOOL GIRLS VISITING THE SYDNEY EXHIBITION



BROOKS AND MORGAN CONTEMPLATE DETAILS OF AN ENHANCED IMAGE

Exhibition in Australia (contd)

After Melbourne we go on to Hobart, Adelaide, Perth, Darwin and Brisbane.

Officials at the Bank in Sydney were taken by surprise at the great number attending the exhibit and they and many others have requested a return season for Sydney. There have also been requests for it to tour some provincial cities and several for overseas countries. We are looking at these possibilities and will advise what may be arranged in due course.

All in all, it was an overwhelming Australian debut, a success which we hope and anticipate will be duplicated in the seven remaining capital cities of the tour.

Our thanks are again expressed to all our sponsors and to all those who have voluntarily helped with many aspects of this considerable undertaking, particularly in Sydney, and to the 40,000 Australians who have already taken the opportunity to share the Brooks generosity and to see and to judge.

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SOME GREETINGS RECEIVED

"It is a herculean task and may God continue to bless you and all concerned so that in turn all others who are privileged to see it may be blessed by your labors."

Revd ALBERT DREISBACH, ATLANTA CENTER

"I want to congratulate you on obtaining the Brooks Exhibit for Australia; I'm confident that it will do much to introduce the Shroud to thousands of your people who might otherwise not have had the occasion to learn about it."

DOROTHY CRISPINO, Editor SHROUD SPECTRUM, NASHVILLE

"I am with you in spirit today as your exhibit opens in Sydney. This is a crowning point in your outstanding activity to promote the Holy Shroud. I have no doubt it will be a great success."

Fr PETER RINALDI, TURIN and NEW YORK

"... electrifying in its impact ..."

ALAN GILL, SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

WIRE STORY - DECEMBER 1983

IMAGE ANALYSIS OF TURIN SHROUD SUPPORTS PONTIUS PILATE COIN, AUTHENTICITY, DATING

New findings from digital image analysis done on the photographically negative image of the Shroud of Turin vastly increase evidence for the authenticity and dating of the Shroud, declared the Revd Francis L. Filas, SJ, Professor of Theology at Loyola University of Chicago. The photographs used were those made by Giuseppe Enrie in 1931.

Father Filas, long-time researcher on the Shroud, was the first to suggest that broken money-shape patterns in the right-eye area of the male, crucified figure on the Shroud were imprints of a Pontius Pilate coin. His present comments were issued on the occasion of the release of a 66 page report of image analysis of the Shroud that was begun in June 1983.

This study was done by Dr Robert M. Haralick, Director of the Spatial Data Analysis Laboratory at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University at Blacksburg, Virginia. Dr Haralick volunteered his services and directed the image research together with one of his graduate students, Jong Soo Lee.

For scholars who have investigated the Shroud, Filas pointed out, the list of implications from the Haralick study includes these points:

1. In 1979 Filas had noted four Greek letters (from the name of the Emperor Tiberius Caesar) in the right-eye area (UCAI). These fitted a Pilate coin dated on its reverse to 29 A.D. The Haralick study adds additional evidence that there are imprints on the Shroud of at least two more of these letters (O and C), before and after the original four. In addition, Filas believes that three more areas in the low-pass filtered image represent the final three letters (POC) of the Pilate coin, since he finds identifiable letters on highly enlarged photographs of his coin precisely where the three areas exist on the Shroud right-eye image. He states: "Equivalently nine letters plus the astrologer's staff plus a distinctive clipped margin indicate agreement between the existing Pontius Pilate coin and imprints on the Shroud. But this is not all. There is the earlier evidence that the misspelling of the Greek name for Tiberius Caesar (C instead of K in KAISAROS)

Haralick Image Analysis (contd)

was unknown in numismatic science until I first called attention to it in the UCAI lettering found on the Shroud. That "C" misspelling not only exists on the Pilate coin in my possession but on three other coins I have located and photographed. The present image analysis worked with the existing Pilate coin which is dated on its reverse to the sixteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar -29 A.D.

"All of this defies explanation as if it were one massive accident. It is difficult to understand how this could be anything but powerful confirmation that the Shroud originated in Palestine during the time of Pilate, and of course, near the date of the death of Jesus Christ, generally accepted as occurring in 30 A.D."

2. The Haralick study compares digital enhancements of the coin imprints in the right-eye area on the 1931 and 1978 photographs and finds that they are substantially identical. This finding differs from other published claims that the imprints of the Pontius Pilate coins did not exist on the 1978 photos, Filas added.

3. The Haralick report noted a dark rectangular shape in the lower waist-to-knee area of the frontal image of the Shroud. Filas interprets this shadowy rectangle as evidence of a hitherto unsuspected "modesty cloth" about 61 inches wide and 9 inches long. It appears to rest on the inner thighs, covering the genital organs, and extends from the pubic bone at the base of the abdominal area to about 2 inches above the knees. A top corner of the "modesty cloth" evidently touched the proximal joint of the little finger of the right hand and clearly left its imprint there as a right angle.

4. Perhaps the most enigmatic results of the image analysis are the Haralick findings that some sort of band appears to have surrounded the head at the height of the forehead, and that a "white rectangular area" appears to exist in the middle of the forehead. Some scholars have conjectured that a phylactery (or small leather container for biblical texts) was placed on the forehead of the Man of the Shroud. That conjecture was countered by the position of other scholars who hold that phylacteries were never placed with a corpse at burial. "What this means," Filas concludes, "is that the whole question of a phylactery will have to be re-opened and re-examined in the light of these new data."

Haralick Image Analysis (contd)

5. The Haralick study finds strong correspondences between the face of the Man of the Shroud and certain Byzantine icon styles. Filas considers this a confirmation of the conclusions of Dr Alan and Mary Whanger of Duke University. Whanger and his wife compared various icon photos with the Shroud face by means of polarizing filter overlays. They discovered an unexpected degree of matching. The icons must have been copied from the Shroud, because literally dozens of such agreements of patterns, lines, even wrinkles in the Shroud, exist. This would necessarily be testimony to the Shroud's existence as early as 525 A.D.

In Filas's words, "As one who has followed Dr Haralick's work step by step, I believe that the results of his analysis represent major advances, to put it mildly. The study has provided new supporting evidence never known before for the dating of the Shroud, and therefore new indirect evidence that the Shroud is not a forgery."

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THE LATEST BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED ABOUT THE SHROUD

SHROUD GUIDE -- Rex Morgan's second book on the Holy Shroud is of large format and beautifully produced on art quality paper. It is a brief introduction to aspects of the history and scientific study of the Shroud and is lavishly illustrated with 78 pictures of which 30 are in full colour. They range from the earliest photograph of the Shroud taken in 1898 to present-day computerised images and many taken by the STURP photographers of the Turin scientific work.

The book has not yet been released through bookshops but is available to visitors at the showing of the Brooks Photographic Exhibition in Australia.

You may also obtain it direct from the publisher.

Price: \$5 (+ \$1.65 for post and padded bag) (overseas airmail + \$5)

Order from: THE RUNCIMAN PRESS, P.O. Box 86, MANLY, 2095, N.S.W.

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PICTURE AT LEFT:
Dr Julio Lopez;
Elsa Maria R de Lopez, Art
Co-ordinator; Cardinal
Ernesto Corripio Ahumada;
Rev Faustino Cervantes

Inspecting the display of
Shroud books at the
inauguration

SHROUD NEWS

Shroud News began in 1980 when Rex Morgan, author of PERPETUAL MIRACLE - SECRETS OF THE HOLY SHROUD OF TURIN started putting together a few notes about current developments for a small circle of interested people in Australia. He didn't think it would go beyond a few issues.

The bulletin now reaches subscribers all over the world and because of its relatively simple method of production it can be written and produced and the information disseminated more quickly than most news-sheets of a similar kind.

It contains information, news, articles and illustrations gathered from sources of Shroud study world-wide through Rex Morgan's extensive personal connections with what has recently been called the "Shroud Crowd".

Rex Morgan is a frequent overseas traveller and has the opportunity to keep well abreast of latest developments in Shroud matters. He was present at the preview of the Shroud itself in August 1978 in Turin and has since met with numerous Shroud researchers in many countries. His quest for information about the Shroud has become, as he describes it, a "passionate hobby" and he has since written SHROUD GUIDE (December 1983) and is writing another major book on the subject.

Our list of subscribers continues to increase. We request a subscription rate in Australia of \$4 for four issues. Shroud News comes out approximately 6 times a year. Overseas postage is by negotiation according to country.

Please encourage those of your acquaintance to take out a subscription. The more we have the more we can improve the bulletin.

LECTURES

Rex Morgan is happy to lecture (free of charge) to any group interested in the Holy Shroud. Contact SYDNEY (02) 981 4633

All information and opinion published in this newsletter is given in good faith. It is edited (and mainly written) by Rex Morgan and published by

THE RUNCIMAN PRESS, Box 86, P.O., MANLY, 2095, N.S.W., Australia