

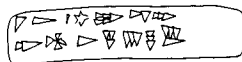
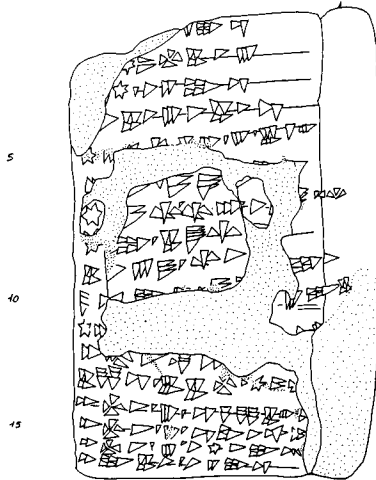
DENNIS • PARDEE

Dennis Pardee has been concentrating on the Ugaritic ritual texts this year. His edition of nine texts that contain ritual and mythic elements will appear later this year (*Les textes para-mythologiques de la 24 campagne*). He spent an inordinate amount of time getting the texts into final form for laser printing of camera-ready copy—a process that has the advantage of permitting the author absolute control over text and format but the disadvantage of placing upon him many of the tasks that used to be the printer's.

He benefitted from a "Travel to Collections" grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities during the summer of 1987 which enabled him to travel to Paris and oversee a relatively rare form of tablet collation. Convinced that the fragments of a Ugaritic ritual tablet discovered in 1929 and now kept at the Louvre had been incorrectly reassembled, he obtained permission from

Mme. B. André, curator of the tablet collection, to have the plaster mounting removed in order to see the inner workings of the restoration. Mme. A. Corbelletto performed the delicate task of destroying the plaster without harming the baked clay of the tablet then turned the fragments over to Pardee for restudy. The operation can be termed a partial success: the fragments are now correctly oriented (see the hand copy illustrated here), but enough is missing—minute fragments never discovered by the excavators—to preclude a full understanding of the text. The results, such as they are, will be published as “Troisième réassemblage de RS 19.019” in the journal *Syria*.

During June the final data were gathered by Pardee and P. Bordreuil in Damascus, Aleppo, and Lattakia for their joint work listing the vital data on all inscribed objects from Ras Shamra (see last year's *Report*) and during July and August a final preliminary manuscript was prepared for distribution to the other members of the Mission de Ras Shamra and to other experts for verification of data unfamiliar to us (especially the archaeological data on find-spots of the inscribed objects). It is hoped that the manuscript will be ready for publication in late 1987 or early 1988.



Pardee has also completed several projects in another field of interest, Ugaritic and Hebrew poetry. He has corrected proof for a volume scheduled to appear in late 1987 on *Ugaritic and Hebrew Poetic Parallelism* and has prepared poetic studies of Psalm 23 and of Psalm 93 for *Festschrift* articles.

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