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Son Excellence M. Frédéric Mitterand,
Ministre de la Culture
Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication
3 Rue de Valois
75001 Paris - FRANCE

March 11 , 2010

Louvre statuette # 27215
Pink Limestone Amarna Princess
Daughter of Akhenaton and Nefertiti
From the Mansoor Amarna Collection

This letter concerns a matter, which may have some **serious and grave consequences** for some of **France's most celebrated scholars, the laboratoires des Musées Nationaux, the CNRS** and the **conservators of the department of ancient Egyptian Art of the Louvre and its director**. Indeed, it may well **affect the integrity of the Ministère de la Culture, itself**.

I have been trying to resolve this problem by appealing to **Monsieur Pierre Vimont, Ambassador in Washington**, but he also, in spite of his efforts and several attempts, was unable to find a solution and we sincerely appreciate his efforts on our behalf.

Obviously, the Louvre, the laboratoires des Musées Nationaux, the CNRS , the Louvre director and the conservators of the Egyptian department need no introduction, although they play a major role in this affair. But the individuals involved, i.e. the late **Chanoine Etienne Drioton** **Mme. Christiane Desroches Noblecourt** and the late **Fr. Pierre DuBourguet, S.J/PhD**, although probably known to you, are what makes this whole affair compelling and intriguing and I am pleased to reintroduce them to you.

The late **Chanoine Etienne Drioton**, a giant of Egyptology, was born in Nancy in 1889 and died in 1961. He was Directeur Général du Service des Antiquités Egyptiennes (1936-1952); professor at l'Institut d'Egyptologie à l'Université Fouad 1er in Cairo; Conservateur en Chef du Musée du Louvre (1952-1957); professor at the Collège de France, Chair of Champollion; membre du Conseil Artistique des Musées de France; Director of Research in Egyptology at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS); Médaille d'Or (Officier) de la Légion d'Honneur; recipient of decorations from King Farouk of Egypt and the Shah of Iran. Author of numerous books regarding Ancient Egypt. His book, "*Les Pharaons à la Conquête de l'Art*" with **Fr. Du Bourguet** carries the notation "*Ouvrage Couronné par l'Académie Française*". The "**Who WAS Who in Egyptology**," 1995 edition, credits him with publishing SCORES of articles and reviews on Ancient Egypt. According to the Panthéon Lorrain, he is considered "*le plus grand Egyptologue de tout les temps*". When Dr. Drioton was Directeur Général du Service des Antiquités in Egypt, he advised the late King Farouk of Egypt to purchase 10 artifacts from

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investigation of this matter. If presented with ALL the facts, I refuse to believe that the "personnalités scientifiques" on the *Haut-Conseil des musées de France* will side with the subjective opinions of Mr.Loyrette and his Ancient Egyptian Art conservators. One must remember that they are pawns in a cabal orchestrated and directed by one Dietrich Wildung, formerly of the Berlin Museum.

Again, thank you for your efforts and your time. I sincerely appreciate your help.

With all my respect for you and my regrets for the Louvre.

I trust you had a Merry Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year 2010.

Alfred Mansoor, for the family of
The Late M.A. Mansoor


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January 7 , 2010

His Excellency Pierre Vimont
Ambassador of France in Washington
Embassy of France
4101 Reservoir Rd. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20007-2170

Your Excellency :


Louvre Statuette # 27215

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I regret the delay acknowledging your letter of November 30, 2009.

I was shocked by the cavalier attitude, and decision, of your interlocutors at the Louvre and I wonder on what basis they formed that decision. They are well aware that Dr. Noblecourt's decision to accept the artifact had received the blessings of the experts of the musées nationaux, and was supported by the scientists of the CNRS.

Since they have decided to ignore the opinions of the late Etienne Drioton and Dr. Noblecourt and the laboratoires des musées nationaux and the CNRS, is one to consider these scholars and institutions- the laboratoires des musées nationaux and the CNRS- equal to third world individuals and institutions?

As far as the non existence of an agreement to exhibit the artifact, no donor would ever donate an artifact to any museum, and see it relegated to a storage box in a basement and I really wonder why they do not want to relinquish the artifact. This incident will make prospective donors think twice before offering a gift to any museum and especially the Louvre.

I well intend to pursue this matter and request the return of the artifact, as I had done in the past. However, on April 10, 2009, Mr. Loyrette wrote " *...une telle procédure, nécessairement longue de plusieurs mois, implique la réunion d'une commission nationale.....*" This statement, I believe, was made in order to discourage us from pursuing this matter. Please note that the recent return to the Government of Egypt of some stolen ancient Egyptian artifacts acquired by the Louvre, did not take " *plusieurs mois*" .

I had on a previous occasion – my letter of August 6, 2009- asked for the return of the Princess but my request fell on deaf ears. It has now been five months and I never received an acknowledgment to my letter or any indication that my request was submitted to the *commission nationale*.

Because of the above, I hope you will understand why I will not appeal directly to Mr. Loyrette. It would be as if we asked the fox to protect the chicken coop. I will appeal directly to His Excellency Monsieur Frederic Mitterand ,the French Ministre de la Culture. I will ask for a full

