

Hittite Dictionary Project

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We are happy to announce that the National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded a third three-year grant to the Hittite Dictionary, to run from July 1, 1982 to June 30, 1985.

\$215,189 of this grant is an outright award, while \$150,500 is contingent on matching funds. We are grateful to those donors whose generosity has made possible the raising of matching funds for our previous NEH grant and we hope that we will have the same success in raising the necessary amount for this current grant.

Reviews of the first fascicle of the Hittite Dictionary have been most complimentary. One reviewer from Germany

called our translations *meisterhaft* ("masterful"). We are gratified by the initially favorable response, but we are not complacent. The task before us to finish such a large project within the foreseeable future is a challenging one.

We continue to operate with two full time staff members, Drs. Berman and Kořak, two half time editors, Professors Güterbock and Hoffner, a summer visiting consultant, Dr. Gary Beckman, a consultant by mail, Professor E. Laroche, and our graduate assistants, of whom the most active is Mr. Richard Beal.

The copy for fascicle two of the dictionary, containing articles on Hittite words beginning with M, is ready to be sent to the photocom-

positor. Early drafts of articles on words beginning with N and many P words have already been written. Fascicle three should appear much sooner after fascicle two than the latter followed fascicle one. Our progress is therefore quite satisfactory. It takes time to discuss all of the issues involved in the interpretation of relevant texts, because, although the final decisions are made by the editors, each member of our staff is encouraged to contribute to the discussion. Although this approach is time-consuming, it produces a lexical analysis which is more representative of the divergent approaches in our discipline.

Through the courtesy of the Director General of Antiquities of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Nuretin Yarıdımci, and the directors of

the museums in England, Germany and Turkey, editors Güterbock and Hoffner were able again in the summer of 1982 to travel abroad and collate Hittite texts for the project. Once again Hoffner was able to photograph published texts in Turkey to enlarge our photo archive. We are grateful to the NEH for the financial support which enabled us to make these trips.

The editors are currently discussing with the Director of the Oriental Institute, Dr. Adams, plans for insuring the continuance and the high quality of the dictionary over the long term. Such planning is necessary in view of the anticipated length of the project (fifteen to twenty more years) and the uncertainties of the national economy.