



MINISTRY OF STATE FOR ANTIQUITIES
THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

PRESS RELEASE

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From: Office of Dr. Zahi Hawass, Minister of State for Antiquities

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All antiquities that were stolen from the American University in Cairo (AUC) in late March, had been documented by the Ministry of Antiquities, stated Zahi Hawass, the Minister of State for Antiquities.

These artifacts came from excavations led by American archaeologist George Scanlon in the Fustat area of Old Cairo beginning in 1946. Under Egyptian law 215, enacted in 1951 and repealed in 1983, the objects from the excavation were divided between Egypt and the foreign country. In this case, a number of objects were stored at the AUC campus in downtown Cairo.

A complete inventory had been taken of the AUC collections a year ago by the Ministry, Dr. Hawass stated. After the theft in late March, the Ministry conducted a new inventory, revealing that 145 authentic pieces and 50 replicas were missing.

The collection had previously been looted in 1989, with the culprit still at large.