

The four coded sections

The message is broken into four sections. The first three codes were broken by 1999.

THE SOLVED PASSAGES

- 1 “Between subtle shading and the absence of light lies the nuance of iqlusion.”
- 2 “It was totally invisible. How’s that possible? They used the earth’s magnetic field. x The information was gathered and transmitted undergruund to an unknown location. x Does langley know about this? They should: it’s buried out there somewhere. x Who knows the exact location? Only WW (a reference to William Webster, a former agency director). This was his last message. x Thirty eight degrees fifty seven minutes six point five seconds north, seventy seven degrees eight minutes forty four seconds west. x Layer Two.”
- 3 “Slowly, desparatly slowly, the remains of passage debris that encumbered the lower part of the doorway was removed. With trembling hands I made a tiny breach ... And then, widening the hole a little, I inserted the candle and peered in. The hot air escaping from the chamber caused the flame to flicker, but presently details of the room within emerged from the mist. x Can you see anything? q” (Howard Carter’s account of finding King Tut’s tomb)

THE FINAL CODE

- 4 The fourth section was intentionally designed to be the most difficult. Misspellings and anomalies in the other sections could offer additional clues.

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Sources: Jim Sanborn; Central Intelligence Agency

The two halves

The left two panels are the encoded text. The right two panels consisting of a series of alphabets, the Vigenère Tableau, which was developed by a 16th-century French diplomat and cryptographer, used to decrypt the encoded text on the left side.

CODE	KEY
EMUFPHZLRFAXYUSDJKZLDKRNSHGNFIVJ YQTQUXQBQVYUULLTREVJYQTMKYRDMFD VFPJUDEEHZWETZYVGWHKKQETGFQJNCE GGWHKK?DQMCPFQZDQMMIAGPFXHQRLG TIMVMZJANQLVKQEDAGDVFRPJUNGEUNA QZGZLECGYUXUEENJTBjLBQCRTBJDFHRR YIZETKZEMVDUFKSJHKFWHKUWQLSZFTI HHDDDUVH?DWKBFUFPWNTDFIYCUQZERE EVLDKFEZMOQQJLTTUGSYQPFEUNLAVIDX FLGGTEZ?FKZBSFDQVGOGIPUFXH HDRKF FHQNTGPUAECNUVPDJMQCLQUMUNEDFQ ELZZVRRGKFFVOEEXBDMVPNFQXELGRE DNQFMPNZGLFLPMRJQYALMGNUVPDXVKP DQUMEBEDMHD AFMJGZNUPLGEWJLLAETG	ABCDEFGHIJKLMN O P Q R AKRYPTOSABCDEFGHIJL BRYPTOSABCDEFGHIJLM CYPTOSABCDEFGHIJLMN DPTOSABCDEFGHIJLMNO ETOSABCDEFGHIJLMNOQ FOSABCDEFGHIJLMNOQU GSABCDEFGHIJLMNOQUV HABCDEFGHIJLMNOQUVW IBABCDEFGHIJLMNOQUVW JCABCDEFGHIJLMNOQUVW KDEFGHIJLMNOQUVWX LEFGHIJLMNOQUVWXZ MFGHIJLMNOQUVWXZKRY
ENDYAHROHNLSRHEOCPTEOIBIDYSHNAIA CHTNREYULDSLSSLNOHSNOSMRWXMNE TPRNGATIHNRRAPESLNNELEBLPIIACAE WMTWNDITEENRAHCTENEUDRETNHAE TFOLSEDTIWENHAEIOYTEYQHEENCTAYCR EIFTBRSPAMHHEWENATAMATEGYEERLB TEEFOASFIOTUETUAEOTOARMAEERTNRTI BSEDDNIAAHTTMSTEWPIEROAGRIEWFEB AECTDDHILCEIHSITEGOEAOSSDDRYDLORIT RKLMLEHAGTDHARDPNEOHMGFMFEUHE ECDMRIPFEIMEHNLSSTTRTVDOHW?OBKR UOXOGHULBSOLIFBBWFLRVQQPRNGKSSO TWTQSQSSEKZZWATJKLUDIAWINFBNYP VTTMZFPKWGDKZX TJCDIGKUHUAUEKCAR	NGHIJLMNOQUVWXZKRYPT OHIJLMNOQUVWXZKRYPT PIJLMNOQUVWXZKRYPTOS QJLMNOQUVWXZKRYPTOS RLMNQUVWXZKRYPTOSA SMNQUVWXZKRYPTOSAB TNQUVWXZKRYPTOSABC UQUVWXZKRYPTOSABCD VUVWXZKRYPTOSABCDE WVWXZKRYPTOSABCDEF XWXZKRYPTOSABCDEF YXZKRYPTOSABCDEF ZZKRYPTOSABCDEF ABCDEFGHIJKLMN O P Q R

THE SIX-LETTER CLUE

Mr. Sanborn has told The New York Times that the 64th to 69th characters that currently read on the sculpture NYPVTT, when decoded, read BERLIN.

U	O	X	O	G	H	U	L	B	S	O	L	I	F	B	B	W	F	L	R	V	Q	Q	P	R
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

The decoded characters

T	W	T	Q	S	J	Q	S	S	E	K	Z	Z	W	A	T	J	K	L	U	D	I	A	W	I
36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60

L I N

V	T	T	M	Z	F	P	K	W	G	D	K	Z	X	T	J	C	D	I	G	K	U	H	U	A
67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91