

National

Scientists say not a forgery

Shroud origin still a mystery

United Press International
NEW LONDON, Conn. — The image of a flogged, crucified body on the mysterious Shroud of Turin is that of a man, but the world may never know if it was the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, an intensive scientific study has found.

A group of 45 scientists who participated in the three-year Shroud of Turin project and gathered for a three-day symposium to discuss the study, said Friday the "unique and remarkable" image of a crucified man is not the product of an artist or forgery. But despite exhaustive tests, the team of scientists has been un-

able to disprove or prove conclusively the 14-foot long linen is the first century burial cloth of Jesus.

The image on the shroud "has unique and remarkable three-dimensional information encoded in it, but the mechanism of the image formation remains a mystery," said Dr. Thomas D'Muhala, a radiological engineer and one of the original shroud investigators.

He said the study was conducted solely to determine the physical makeup and chemistry of the cloth and image.

The study concluded that "until further chemical studies are made ... the problem remains un-

solved." But the scientists agreed the shroud bears a clear, bodylength image of a flogged, crucified man, and has withstood exposure as a forgery, despite intense scrutiny under the most sophisticated scientific equipment.

The shroud, which first surfaced in the 14th Century in

France, is only shown to the public a few times each century and never leaves Italy.

The symposium will be followed by a 60-day free, public exhibition in nearby Groton of the more than 200 photographs and documents on the intensive tests taken during a five-day period in 1978.



Aggie aphorism

Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Elaine and George Johnson of Houston display a novel attempt at defining an Aggie on their way to the bonfire benefit barbecue Saturday in the Grove.

Repossessor group loses big balloon

United Press International
NEW YORK — The official organization of repossessors — known for taking cars, trucks and other vehicles from insolvent drivers — is looking for something that was taken from it — an advertising blimp.

"We checked everything out, searched everywhere and then had to go to the police," said Art Christensen, a Newark, N.J., repossessor who hosted last week's American Recovery Association's national convention.

The 4-foot by 6-foot balloon, filled with helium and valued at approximately \$1,300, was last seen Oct. 3 in the Grand Ballroom of the New York Statler Hotel, he said.

It is white with red, white and blue fins, has a large ARA logo and a banner saying "Repossession Specialists."

"It's a little embarrassing, not only for us but for the Statler as well," Christensen said. "After all we're repossessors, and any of the 10,000 or so people from whom we monthly repossess cars, trucks, tractors, mobile homes, whatever, must be having a laugh."

"It was taken from under our noses, so to speak, so someone has to know about it."



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OCT. 25, 1981

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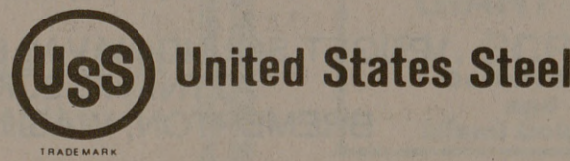
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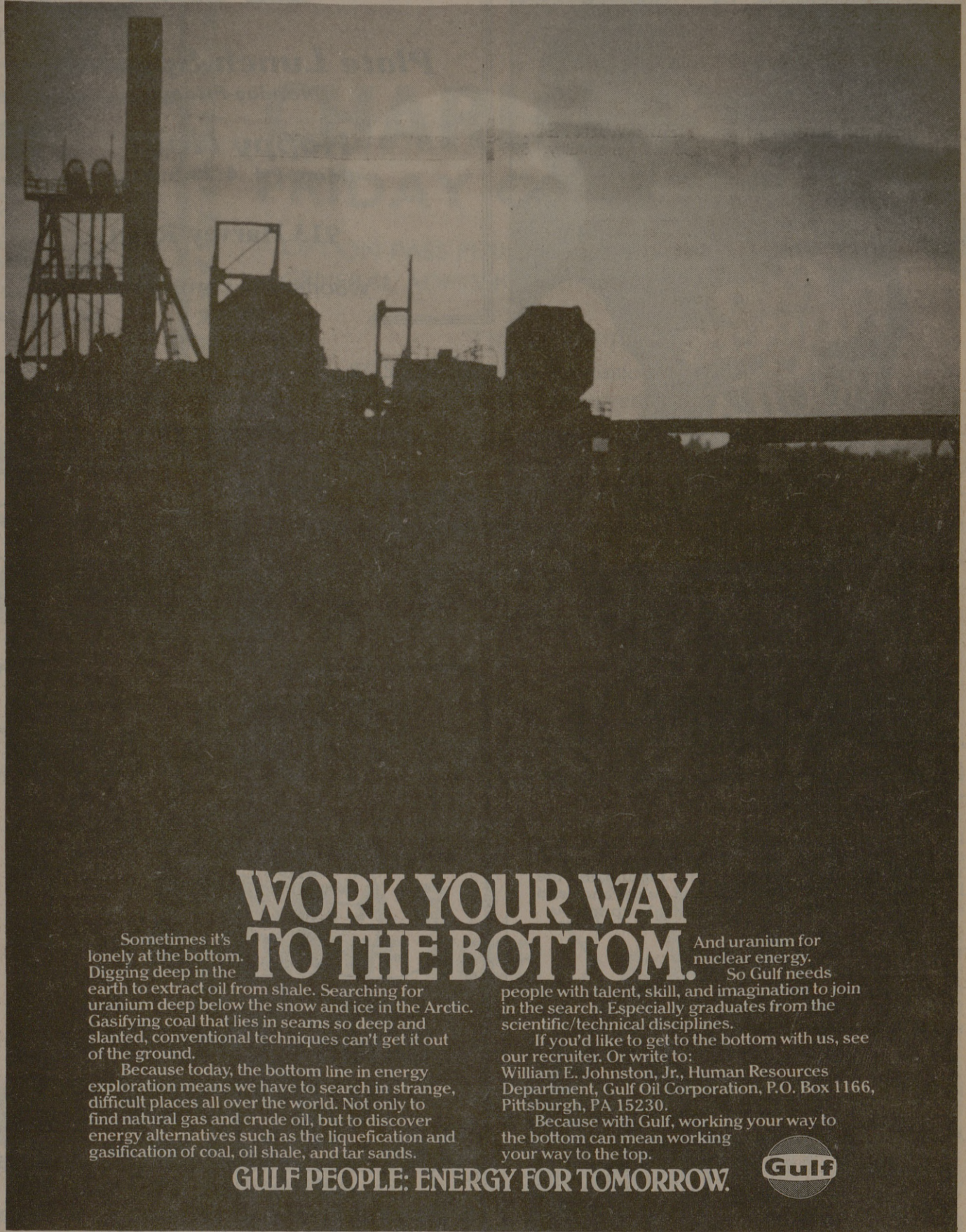
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