

FROM WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

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019-1972 Richard K. Taylor April 25, 1972

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Archaeologist Named to Senior

Post at U.S. Expedition in Israel Next Month

Dr. Lawrence Toombs, a world-renowned Canadian archaeologist has been named to a senior post at a large archaeological expediton in Israel beginning next month.

Dr. Toombs, chairman of the Waterloo Lutheran University's school of Religion and Culture, was named chief archaeologist for the expedition to one of the largest ancient city sites in Israel. It contains about 135 acres on the Mediterranean coast, about 35 miles north of Tel Aviv.

The city was built originally by Herod the Great in honour of the Emperor Caesar Augustus, his patron. It becomes one of Palestine's chief seaports and is now a summer resort.

Dr. Toombs will be consultant on stratigraphic questions, will train staff in excavation techniques, and will have general oversight of excavation in the field. The aim of the project, to last from May 16 to Aug. 15, is to get a basic idea of the city plan.

About 120 student volunteers from American universities, and a staff of professional archaeologists and scientists, all American, will work with Dr. Toombs.

While there will be no Canadian or WLU students on this particular project, WLU students are offered opportunities each year to take part in archaeological expeditions and digs both in Canada and in the Near East.