indictations that the individual, who was probably around 40 years of age at death, 1.70 m tall and of robust (if not corpulent) build, may have been a woman. Apart from negative evidence, such as the lack of the otherwise ubiquitous stingray spines used on the penis in autosacrifice, there is the fact that, among the burial offerings, which include food and drink, a bone malacate (spindle-whorl) had been placed on the tomb slab. Two women are known to have ruled over Palenque, Kanal-ikal and her granddaughter Zac-Kuk, and it is hoped that DNA, physical and chemical analyses (incl. C14) of the bones, a study of the glyptic texts, and an examination of the burial offerings will aid the identification. Four years of study are planned at this time.

Fourth volume of “The Maya Vase Book” published

NEW YORK (J. Kerr). Volume 4 of Justin Kerr’s “The Maya Vase Book: A Corpus of Rollout Photographs of Maya Vases” is to appear on 1 September, 1994. These photos present a cylindrical object, such as a vase, as a flattened single image, enabling the viewer to see the entire surface of the cylinder. Volume 4 contains rollout photos of 125 vases, but with only 15 pages in full colour. The book, priced at US $45, is 183 pages in length and wire-bound for ease of copying. The new volume, which has an essay by Karl Taube on the birth iconography found on an unusual rectangular polychrome vase, and a dictionary of Maya hieroglyphs attested on the ceramics compiled by Nikolai Grube and Werner Nahm, can be ordered from Kerr Associates, 14 West 17 St., New York, NY 10011.