

73) **A new join between fragments of MUL.APIN from Uruk** – In 1996 E. Gehlken published his second volume with editions of mainly economic documents originating from the German excavations of the Eanna temple in Uruk. The last document in this volume, No. 240a = W 18003 f, is a small fragment of the astronomical text MUL.APIN, as mentioned by Gehlken. What has remained unnoticed is that this fragment almost certainly joins two others, published by Hunger and Pingree (1989) as Text E in their edition of MUL.APIN. One of these, LKU 113, was also excavated in the Eanna, but its current whereabouts are unknown. The other fragment, AO 7540, was donated to the Louvre by Virolleaud after its previous owner, Comte Aymar de Liedekerke-Beaufort, who had acquired it in Iraq, died at the battle of Verdun (Weidner 1923/4). W 18003 f joins Text E at MUL.APIN I.iii.20-33. Since the fragments partly preserve MUL.APIN I.i.10 - II.iii.39 the tablet originally contained the whole of MUL.APIN, as pointed out by Hunger and Pingree. Weidner (1923/4) proposed that the tablet dates to the third c. BC, but the lifespan of the library in the Eanna to which it belonged ('Uruk 1' in Pedersén 1998; cf. also Jursa 2005) suggests a date between Nabonassar (625 BC) and the end of the reign of Darius I (486 BC).

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