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August 2008

## On the Cover

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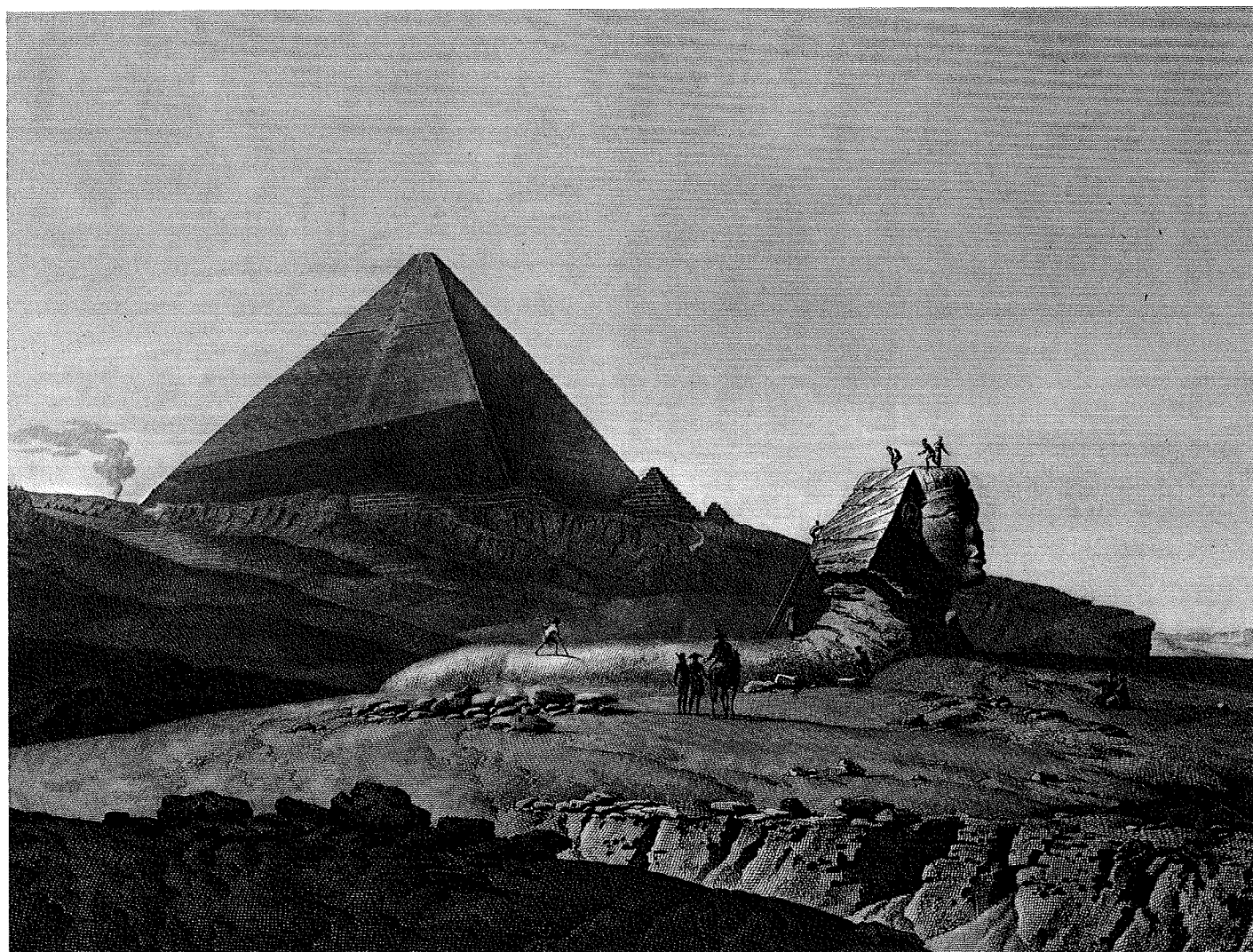
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# SciTech News

Ellis Mount, Editor Emeritus



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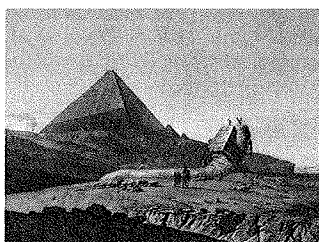
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### On the Cover



In July, 1798, Napoleon Bonaparte landed a huge army in Egypt. In addition to troops, he brought along 150 scientists and engineers to study and map the country, making this the first large-scale scientific expedition in history. The results were published in a massive 23-volume work, illustrating all aspects of Egypt's geography, natural history, and antiquities. The cover image, which is a detail from a larger view, shows Napoleon himself, observing from horseback, while his scientists measure and draw the Sphinx. The collected work is called *Description de l'Égypte* (Paris, 1809-1828); the image is from volume 5 of the *Antiquités Planches*. (Photo and caption courtesy of the Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering & Technology).

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