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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter Contents Preface 1.The He zun Inscription and the Beginning of Zhou 2.Supplement to the "The 'Question' Question"- British Museum Scapula and British Museum Library Deer Horn 3. The King and the Bird: a Possible Genuine Shang Literary Text and Its Echoes in Later Philosophy and Religion 4. The Hampers of Zeng: Some Problems in Archaeoastronomy 5.New Study of Xiaotun Yinxu Wenzi Jiabian 2416 6. Research Notes On Yin Li Chronology per Zheng Xuan 7. A Tell-tale Mistake in the Lü shi Chunqiu: The Earthquake Supposedly in the Eighth Year of Wen Wang of Zhou 8. The Origin of the Chaochen Rule 9. A New Analysis of the Guoyu Astrological Text 10. Qingming Day, 1040 BC 11. Kong Jia of Xia, 1577-1569 BC 12. Shaughnessy's Slip 13. Review of Sun, Xiaochun, and Jacob Kistemaker, The Chinese Sky during the Han: Constellating Stars and Society 14. Zhang Peiyu on the Dayuan Li yi

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	and the "Jinben" Zhushu jinian 15. The 1046 Hypothesis 16. Huang Di to Zhi Bo: A Problem in Historical Epistemology 17. Was Warring States China Ahead of Greece in Science? 18. Notes on Royal Ontario Museum, White Collection, #1908 19. 90th Birthday Address 20.Two yuan and Four quarters 21. The "31 Years" Problem 22. The Nivison-Shaughnessy Debate on the Bamboo Annals (Zhushu jinian) 23.Important Discoveries and Bad Mistakes Postface 1 Postface 2 Index
Sommario/riassunto	In his last essay just weeks before his death at the age of 91, David S. Nivison says, "Breaking into a formal system - such as a chronology - must be like breaking into a code. If you are successful, success will show right off." Since the late 1970's Nivison has focused his scholarship on breaking the code of Three Dynasties (Xia, Shang, Zhou) chronology by establishing an innovative methodology based on mourning periods, astronomical phenomenon, and numerical manipulations derived from them. Nivison is most readily known in the field for revising (and then revising again) the date of the Zhou conquest of Shang, and for his theory that Western Zhou kings employed two calendars (His so-called "Two yuan" theory), the second being set in effect upon the death of the new king's predecessor and counted from the completion of post-mourning rites for him (i.e., a "second 'first' year"). Nivison's enabling discovery that the Bamboo Annals (BA) had a historical basis was initially designed to make Wang Guowei's analysis of lunar phase terms (the so-called "Four quarter" theory that separated each month into four quarters) work for Western Zhou bronze inscriptions. In order to do so he had to assume that some inscriptions used a second yuan counted from completion of mourning. The king's death was the most important event late in a reign, so this implied that a king's reign-of-record was normally counted from the second yuan, omitting initial mourning years. It follows that when the unexpressed mourning years are forgotten (or edited out) but the dates of the beginning and end of the dynasty are still known, the remaining reigns-of-record cluster toward the beginning and end, and a reign in the middle is enlarged. Problems, ideas, and solutions like the one described above are found throughout this new collection of important works on chronology, astronomy, and historiography.