

(3)

The number which the informers gave, namely 80,400 is clearly one of their symbolic numbers, probably a way of saying "numberless", ^{"in the extreme"} I know that their term "four hundred" or 20x20 was an expression for that.

When I built the great Tzompantli according to Duran's specific measurements I could get a better idea of how many skulls could be mounted upon it. I calculated that something between 8,000 and 10,000 were all that it could hold. It was after all a "pantli" — one or possibly two parallel rows of poles six feet apart and 60 or 70 in number (I think 60 since it is a multiple of 30 which is the ^{measurement} module of the whole structure. The walk way on top of the thirty ^{stepped} platform was only thirty feet wide and this palisade ran down the middle of it leaving only ~~fifteen~~ about 12 feet at the most on each side. so that could not be that many ^{ranked} ~~boxed~~ ^{of} structure ~~from~~ the model in Mexico City. Duran said that the poles were as tall as a tall tree. I made them sixty feet high which could be stretching it a bit.