12. Maurice Tiberius (582-602): Thessalonica and the western mints.

Thessalonica; 40 nummi.

MIBEC 109D (601-602).
ONMAVRICI TIbERPPAVI.

Consular bust facing.
M, Christogram above, X/X (regnal year 20; 601/2) to right, B beneath, TES below.

12.1.*
D. O. (69).
13.26 gms. 180.
1516.10.

12.2.*
D. O. (69).
10.83 gms. 180.
1430.09.[1]

Thessalonica; 20 nummi.

MIBEC 110B and 111B (582-583).
ONTIbERM AVRICPP.

Enthroned figures facing.
K, regnal year to right, TES below.

MIBEC 110B: Cross between heads.
MIBEC 111B: Long cross held between figures.

12.3.
MIBEC 110B.
Regnal year 1 (582/3).
D. O. 71.
6.58 gms. 180.
644a.99.

12.4.
MIBEC 111B.
Regnal year 1 (582/3).
D. O. 70.
5.86 gms. 180.
644.99.

MIBEC 112B and N112D (582-584).
ONTIbERM AVRICPPAVI (or similar).

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with cross and holding globus cruciger and shield.
K, regnal year to right, TES below.

12.5.
Regnal year 2 (583/4).
D. O. (73).
6.43 gms. 200.
1478.10.

12.6.
Regnal year 2 (583/4).
D. O. (73).
5.40 gms. 180.
1548.11.[2]

Half folles of regnal years 3-6 (584-588).
ONMAVRIC TIbPP (or similar).

Armoured bust facing holding globus cruciger and shield (or wearing cloak).
K, regnal year to right, TES below.

12.7.*
Regnal year 3 (III; 584/5).
6.85 gms. 180.
979.05.

12.8.
MIBEC 112D.
Regnal year 5 (U; 586/7).
5.86 gms. 180.
1522.10.

12.9.
Regnal year 5 (U; 586/7).
5.89 gms. 190.
562.95.

12.10.
Regnal year 6 (U/I; 587/8).
4.53 gms. 190.
413.92.

MIBEC 113D (587-602).
ONMAVRI TIbERPPAVC (often abbreviated).

Armoured bust facing wearing helmet with plume, sometimes a cloak, and holding a globus cruciger.
K, regnal year to right, TES below.

12.11.
Regnal year 8 (589/90).
D. O. 81a.
5.63 gms. 200.
455.94.

12.12.*
Regnal year 10 (591/2).
D. O. 82, var.
5.08 gms. 180.
981.05.

12.13.
Regnal year 18 (599/600).
D. O. - .
6.54 gms. 180.
1600f.11.

12.14.
Regnal year 18 (599/600).
D. O. - .
6.06 gms. 180.
932.04.

12.15.
Regnal year 20 (601/2).
D. O. (89).
4.55 gms. 190.
81.85.

12.16.
Regnal year 21 (602).
D. O. 90.
5.39 gms. 160.
754.01.

Thessalonica; 10 nummi.

MIBEC 115D (584/5; 592-7; 601/2).

Profile bust right.
I, regnal year to right, TES below.

12.17.
Regnal year 13 (594/5).
D. O. - .
2.66 gms. 150.
468.95.

12.18.*
MIBEC - .
Regnal year 14 (595/6).
3.26 gms. 150.
2073.15.

Carthage; 20 nummi.

MIBEC 118 (582-583). DNTIbM AVRICPPAVC.

Armoured bust facing.
Pellet within circle, K/R to left, T/G to right, XX between N and M beneath.

12.19.
D. O. (244).
8.37 gms. 190.
114.85.

MIBEC 119 (584/5). DNTIbM AVRICIPP.

Armoured bust facing.
K between two six-pointed stars, cross between M and N above, INDIII beneath.

12.20.
Indictional year 3
(584/5).
D. O. 249.
6.24 gms. 040.
148.86.

MIBEC 121 (597-602). DNMAVRI TIbPPAVC.

Armoured bust facing, wearing helmet with plume.
Cross potent on globe between N and M, pellets above and beneath each, XX between.

12.21.
D. O. 252.
7.64 gms. 240.
235.88.

Carthage; 10 nummi.

MIBEC 122 (582-583).
DNTIbM AVRPPAVC (or similar).

Armoured bust facing, wearing crown and cross.
Circle with central pellet between N and M, X beneath.

12.22.
D. O. 245.
3.81 gms. 120.
272.89.

MIBEC 123 (584-585).
DNTIbM AVRCPPA (or similar).

Armoured bust facing.
I between two crosses, N and M above with cross between, INDIII below.

12.23.
Indictional year 3
(584/5).
D. O. 250.
4.28 gms. 080.
277.89.

MIBEC 126 (587-588). DNMAV RICI (or similar).

Profile bust left, INDS beneath.
Cross potent on two steps between
N and M, X beneath.

12.24.
Indictional year 6
(587/8).
D. O. 255.
3.63 gms. 050.
276a.89.

MIBEC 80A (592-597). Legend unclear.

Two busts facing holding long cross between,
VITA beneath.

I between N and M with pellets above and beneath each.

12.25.*
D. O. - .
2.05 gms. 120.
248b.88.

MIBEC 125b (597-602).
DNMAVRI TIbPPAVC (or similar).

Armoured bust facing.
Cross potent on globe between N and M, pellets above and beneath each, X between.

12.26.
D. O. (253).
4.58 gms. 130.
125.86.

MIBEC – (602). ( ) TIbPPAVC.

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with pendilia.

X between N and M each with pellet above and beneath each; star below.

12.27.*
D. O. - .
2.66 gms. 090.
2044.14.

Carthage; 5 nummi.

MIBEC 127 (582-583). DNTIb MAVRICPP.

Armoured bust facing.
V between N and M with pellets above and beneath each.

12.28.
D. O. 246.
2.21 gms. 060.
30.83.

MIBEC 128 (584-585).
DNTIbM AVRICPPA (or similar).

Armoured bust facing, wearing
crown with circle and cross.
Є between N and M, INDIII beneath.

12.29.
Indictional year 3
(584/5).
D. O. 251.
2.61 gms. 040.
650.99.

MIBEC 131 (587-588). DNMAV RICI (or similar).

Profile bust right, INDS beneath.
Palm tree between N and M, V beneath.

12.30.*
Indictional year 6
(587/8).
D. O. (256).
2.44 gms. 040.
228.88.

MIBEC 129 (592-597).
DNMAV RITIbPPA (or similar).

Armoured bust facing.
Christogram, Є between pellets beneath,
all within wreath.

12.31.
D. O. 263.
2.79 gms. 330.
99.85.

MIBEC 130b (597-601). DNMAVRITbPPAV.

Profile bust right.
Cross potent between N and M, each with pellets
above and beneath, Є beneath.

12.32.
D. O. 254.
2.41 gms. 310.
126.86.

Carthage; nummus.

MIBEC 135 (592-597). No legend.

Profile bust left.
Monogram of Maurice.

12.33.
D. O. - .
0.45 gms. 270.
290.89.

Catania; 10 nummi.

MIBEC 136B (582-584).
DNTIbЄR MAVRICIPPAV.

Armoured bust facing.
I, regnal year to right, CAT below.

12.34.
Regnal year 1 (582/3).
D. O. - .
3.75 gms. 140.
155.87.

MIBEC 137D (587-602: the majority of years).
DNMAV RTIbPPA (or similar).

Armoured bust facing.
I, regnal year to right, CAT below.

12.35.
Regnal year 18
(600/601).
D. O. 276.
2.36 gms. 180.
35.84.

Syracuse; 10 nummi.
MIBEC 140 (587-602). ONMAVR TIbPPAVC.

Armoured bust facing.
X, SЄ above, CI beneath, LI to left, A to right.

12.36.
D. O. 281.
3.25 gms. 160.
63.84.[3]

Ravenna; 20 nummi.

MIBEC 146 (585-602). DNMAVRC TIbPPAVC.

Armoured bust facing.
K between R and A, VENN below.

12.37.
D. O. 292a.
4.07 gms. 160.
161.87.

Ravenna; 10 nummi.

MIBEC 148D (585-602). DNMAVRC TIbPPAVC.

Profile bust right wearing helmet, cuirass
and paludamentum.
I between stars.

12.38.
D. O. 293.
2.97 gms. 000/180.
1296.07.

Military issues: uncertain but probably eastern.

MIB 150. Blundered legend.

Consular bust facing holding eagle-tipped sceptre
and mappa.
M, II to right, Γ beneath, CHEUP below.

12.39.
9.97 gms. 200.
635.99.

12.40.
8.51 gms. 180.
359v.90.

Consular bust facing holding eagle-tipped sceptre
and mappa.
K, XUI to right, R below.

12.41.*
MIBEC - .
6.39 gms. 180.
609.97.[4]

Military issues: CON (MIBEC 149).
ONMAVR ICTIbEPPAV (or similar).

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with cross
and holding globus cruciger and shield.

M, date arrangement to right, officina letter
beneath, CON below.

12.42.*
Year I; officina A.
D. O. 21.
14.93 gms. 180.
1509.10.

12.43.*
Year I; officina A.
D. O. 21.
11.92 gms. 200.
662.99.[5]

12.44.*
Year I; officina A.
D. O. 21.
10.88 gms. 180.
1496.10.

12.45.
Year I; officina A.
D. O. 21.
9.37 gms. 000.
577.96.

12.46.
Year I; officina A.
D. O. 21.
9.31 gms. 180.
2013.14.

12.47.
Year II; officina A.
D. O. 24.
11.08 gms. 030.
506.95.

12.48.
Year II; officina Γ.
D. O. - .
12.73 gms. 200.
1473.10.

12.49.
Year II; officina Γ.
D. O. - .
8.95 gms. 000.
1307.07.

Military issues: north Africa; 20 nummi.

MIBEC 120 (Carthage). DNMAVRITbPPAVC.

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with cross and holding globus cruciger and shield.
K, date arrangement to right, officina letter beneath.

12.50.*
MIBEC - .
Year X; A.
10.54 gms. 000.
1557.11.

12.51.*
Year XI; A.
14.01 gms. 340.
232.88.

12.52.
Year XI; A.
8.92 gms. 270.
731.01.

12.53.
Year XI; A.
7.01 gms. 010.
181.87.

MIBEC 151A (uncertain military mint).
OMTIbER COTANTPPAV (or similar).

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with cross and holding globus cruciger.
K, X to right, CON below.

12.54.*
D. O. - .
5.73 gms. 010.
508.95.

Military issues: north Africa; 10 nummi.

MIBEC 124b (Carthage). DNMAVRI PPAVC.

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with circlet and trefoil.

I between stars, each with a pellet above; CON below.

12.55.*
D. O. 262.
4.79 gms. 090.
113.85.

Military issues: Italy; 20 and 10 nummi.

MIBEC 151D and 155.
DNMAVRIC TIbPPAV (or similar).

Armoured bust facing holding globus cruciger.
XX, ROM below; or K, X to right, CON below.

12.56.*
ROM.
D. O. 283.
8.12 gms. 200.
197.87.

12.57.
ROM.
D. O. 283.
5.28 gms. 000.
245.88.

12.58.
ROM.
D. O. 283.
5.06 gms. 000.
1963.13.

12.59.
ROM.
D. O. 283.
3.50 gms. 320.
478.95.

12.60.
CON.
D. O. 260.
5.69 gms. 010.
405b.92.[6]

12.61.
CON.
D. O. 260.
4.56 gms. 340.
1986.13.

10 nummi.

MIBEC 141. MAVRIC TIbPP (or similar).

Armoured bust wearing cuirass and paludamentum and holding globus cruciger.
I between crosses, dashes above and beneath.

12.62.*
D. O. 295.
3.37 gms. 000/180.
1638.12.

12.63.
D. O. 295.
1.64 gms. 020/200.
479.95.

REFERENCES AND GENERAL NOTES

12.1-2. Six specimens of this coin are recorded, two in public collections and four in private collections. Hahn and Metlich, in MIBEC, note four examples. These are: Tolstoi 114 (the MIB plate coin - also the D. O. reference); Classical Numismatic Group (CNG; Triton VII auction), January 2004, lot 1089; American Numismatic Society (for these purposes, a public collection); and a coin sold via EBay in relation to which Metlich provides only a serial number. This last coin is almost certainly 1330.09, described below. The coin catalogued by CNG was subsequently sold in the Ira and Larry Goldberg auction of 26 May 2009 (lot 2074). Described as "apparently the second known example", the hammer price (not including the buyer's premium) was $14,000. One further coin is known: in a private collection in Essex, United Kingdom. Thus, this collection contains two of the six known specimens. No photograph of the ANS specimen appears to be available, but an initial die study of the other five coins suggests that two obverse dies and three reverse dies were used in their striking.
12.7-10. These coins show stylistic peculiarities (noted individually – see below) and, for this reason, I have not (except in the case of 12.8) given individual MIBEC or D. O. references.

12.7. The style of the portrait is unusual and there is no cross on the crown. Some of the letters on the reverse are clumsily engraved.
12.8. Trefoil on crown.
12.9. Helmet with plume. The style of the portrait is again slightly odd.
12.10. MIBEC 113D. The portrait style is conventional; the obverse legend reads ONMAVRC TIbPPAVI.
12.12. The mint mark is a blundered TH, but I think the coin is regular.
12.18. Year 14 appears to be unrecorded. The regnal year is arranged as XΔ (a half follis at D. O. – new acquisitions – has the same date arrangement). Probably found on Cyprus.
12.25. The general type (MIBEC 80a) belongs to Justin II. See Fairhead, N., A New Quarter Follis of Maurice Tiberius of Carthage, Numismatic Circular, March 1981, p. 77. The attribution of these rare coins to Maurice on grounds of style has not achieved general acceptance despite the apparent strength of the argument, particularly in comparing the obverse of this issue with the reverse of D. O. (306) for Theodosius son of Maurice. This specimen has traces of an obverse legend, albeit illegible.
12.27. A very interesting, hitherto unpublished, coin. It is possible that the coin represents a very brief issue produced at Carthage at the end of the reign of Maurice. An alternative explanation – that the coin was issued at the beginning of the reign of Phocas – is also discussed in Mansfield, S. J., The Carthaginian Copper Coinage of the Emperor Maurice; (unpublished – see chapter 41). A second specimen appeared in CNG, sale 93, lot 1328 : 2.73 gms; 240; 14mm. I have also observed a probable pentanummium of the same type offered on EBay.
12.30. In MIBEC (see p. 56), Hahn takes the date of the coin back by one indictional cycle; MIB and D. O. had, earlier, given it to 602.
12.39-40. The first of these coins is probably die-linked to MIB 150; a coin that reappears in MIBEC as X3, Hahn having to come to regard it as an eastern imitative of uncertain origin. The coins are of good, if unusual, style and well struck.
12.41. The German scholar and collector Marcus Stauber is preparing a monograph on anomalous Antioch folles and half folles of this reign dated years 16 and 17 and characterised by unusual portraiture and abbreviated obverse legends. Herr Stauber suggests that the coins are very common although the half follis is found less frequently.
12.42-46. These are intriguing coins. D. O. (footnote, p. 302) comments on the unusual style and fabric, the form of the legend (which does not appear conventionally until regnal year 2) and the unbarred A of the officina letter. Grierson referred to them as "Rome style" but his planned study never appeared. MIBEC (p. 58), referring to the anomalous legend, says that the dates cannot be trusted. Hahn infers that they are the product of a military mint perhaps located in Italy, even in Rome itself. Number 12.42 (incidentally a heavy specimen of this type) has a reasonably strong Middle Eastern provenance, however. A number of others may also have been found in the region and a specimen is known from the Sanamein hoard (see the commentary to chapter 9).
12.43. Die-linked to D. O. 21.
12.44. Die-linked by obverse to 12.46.
12.50-53. D. O. attributes these half folles to Constantine in Numidia (Constantina). MIBEC proposes the mint of Carthage for those dated year 11 (without a mint mark) and a military mint for those dated year 10 (with the mint signature KWN or CON). In D. O., Volume 2 (page 363; footnote to 261), Bellinger notes the wide variation of weights for the type without a mint mark (D. O. 261.1 weighs 10.18 gms while 261.2 weighs only 5.66 gms) and suggests that they form an irregular issue. Catalogue 12.50 is of the heavier type and the date arrangement X (regnal year 10) is unpublished. Thus, the heavier type seems to have been struck in both years 10 and 11. See also Glendinings, 9-13 March 1931, ex lot 492, for an example of the heavy issue dated year 11. Mansfield, S. J., A North African half follis of Maurice of regnal year 10 (unpublished – see chapter 41). More research is needed into these interesting heavy half folles and on the north African mint generally. A non regular mint, perhaps established for military purposes and located at Constantina, cannot be ruled out.
12.51. Struck on a very thick flan.
12.54. The arguments in MIBEC (p. 58) in favour of a military mint for a rather disparate group of coins are not easy to follow. The obverse legend, referring quite clearly to Tiberius II, is hard to explain, but with the date arrangement X, the coin cannot belong to that Emperor and it is best grouped with 12.50-53 above.
12.55. MIBEC (p. 56) dismisses the possibility of Constantina. CON is otherwise hard to explain although the die-axis of 090 is typical of Carthage.
12.56-61. MIBEC (p. 58) suggests the existence of obverse die-links across a large group of anomalous coins including these. It is obvious, in any case, that the ROM and CON coins belong together – the portraits, with the distinctive shape of the face, the depiction of the crown and the wavy lines of the cuirass together provide sufficient evidence. It is unlikely that they belong to north Africa in view of the date (X) on 12.50 but no firm provenances seem to be known. The most obvious candidate is of course Italy in view of the

ROM mint mark; these coins would probably not circulate elsewhere. The date of issue is uncertain.
12.56. Struck on a thick flan.
12.62-63. MIBEC reattributes these coins from Sicily to a military mint in Italy. The portrait style of the first specimen, particularly in the form of the crown, resembles that of the military mints under Maurice and they belong best with the preceding half folles.

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[1] Gorny and Mosch sale no. 170, October 2008, ex lot 3318.
[2] Gitbud-Naumann, June 2011.
[3] Spink sale no. 40, December 1984, ex lot 328.
[4] Baldwins, December 1997.
[5] Baldwins, December 1999.
[6] Baldwins, June 1992, ex Linville collection.