

...gues of its face, and just lately the photography of the corona in broad daylight by means of infra-red light.

"What of the present eclipse? It is really going to be a good one, with a long duration of totality, the maximum being about five minutes, seven seconds; but in the Philippines it will range from about three minutes fifty-four seconds around Palawan, to three minutes twenty-eight seconds near Siargo Island. San José de Buenavista and Iloilo in Panay, Catmon and Sogod in Cebu lie near the center of the path of totality. At Cebu, Cebu, and Tacloban, Leyte, the eclipse will also be total but the duration shorter, since these places are nearer the southern and northern limits respectively. Capiz, Panay, is just north of the northern limit, while Surigao, Mindanao, is just south of the southern limit. At Manila and Zamboanga about ninety per cent of the sun's disc will be obscured, at Aparri only seventy-seven per cent. Mideclipse will occur about 3:30 p. m. (Philip. Standard Time), but the moon starts to obscure the sun one and a half hours earlier, and finally leaves it near forty-five minutes past five o'clock.

"Where are the various eclipse parties from different countries going to be stationed, and what do they expect to do? It is still a little early to state exactly, but the following will give some idea of present plans. In Sumatra, a Dutch expedition expects to take spectrograms of the chromosphere and corona, and to study the solar radiation near and through totality; a German expedition will study the Einstein shift already mentioned; an Australian party will consider the outer coronal spectrum. Two British expeditions will go to Kedah and Siam, both to study the Einstein effect and the coronal spectrum. Two German expeditions favor Siam for spectral and photometric work.

"One American expedition is heading towards Sumatra, while Italian, French and even Russian expeditions are planned, with sites not yet definite.

"Who are coming to the Philippines? * * * The Naval Observatory, Washington, which intends to go to Iloilo. * * * Their program will be astronomical. In connection with them, the local naval wireless experts intend to study wireless signal fading across and in the totality zone. A German expedition from the Hamburg Observatory will station themselves around Catmon or Sogod in Cebu to take direct photographs of the inner and outer corona, and to study the spectrum of the sun's outer atmosphere. * * *

"What of the Manila Observatory itself? At present it is planned that Father Selga go to Iloilo to study meteorological changes during the eclipse and also the changes in the solar radiation. The writer hopes to go with the German expedition to Catmon, Cebu, to take comparative photographs of the corona in the red and green light of the corona, and also spectrograms of different parts of the corona. In addition, a recording electrometer will be used to study any variations there may be in atmospherical electricity during the eclipse. It may be added that the observatory was also instrumental in suggesting the plan of studying wireless fading to the local navy men and amateur radio fans. The observatory's master clocks will be connected to the Cavite wireless to broadcast accurate time signals to help the astronomical parties. * * *

Over in America scientists have taken advantage of the proximity of Mars and Venus, to study them. Surmises concerning both are now better defined, and Mars, more than ever before, encourages the conjecture that it is inhabited. It is found that the atmosphere will support life such as exists on earth; changes in the surface appearance are ascribed by one authority to new vegetation. In this wonderful age of progress in the sciences grouped loosely under the head of physics, it is a pleasure to note the esteem in which the Jesuit scholars who conduct the Philippine weather bureau (at the observatory which pioneers of their order founded) are held by their colleagues in

science throughout the world. As this article has delved into legend, it may as well add a word of history: Jesuit mathematicians gained imperial Chinese support for their missions and the Christian doctrine when they confounded the soothsayers at Peking in the 16th century and

accurately forecast an eclipse. The emperor thereupon gave them the places which Arab scholars had been occupying at his court, and they founded the Peking meteorological station which is still functioning. They themselves have a station at Shanghai.

Ucudo!

By H. G. HORNPOSTEL

Ucudo! in the Chamorro language of Rota, an island of the Mariana group, means, in its not-too-liberal English translation, *Tell it to the Marines!* In other words, *You don't mean it; you are only trying to fool us.* The word was particularly interesting to me, hearing it often, as I did, in conversations between the natives during my recent exploration of Rota. Then, quite naturally, when I finally came across the legend concerning the word, an even greater interest developed, that of its association with the prehistoric burials at the foot of the giant latte stones on the island and its connection with the habits and customs of a long-departed race.

As is the case with most antiquities of the Mariana group, the legend quite palpably antedates the period of habitation of the present native peoples.

"On a stormy night many years ago," the story runs in Chamorro, "long, long before Magellan made his voyage, the principal chief of the island of Satpana (Rota) lay dying. Around the finely woven pandanus mat upon which he lay were gathered the minor chiefs and the wise men of the tribe, for the great one had ruled justly and they were anxious to have him live.

"Long they pondered upon what should be done to save their beloved

master's life. All known medicines and mystic ceremonies had failed, and each succeeding sunset saw a greater decline. The great chief was indeed so ill that the native high priest had ordered that he be so placed upon his mat that his feet might face the east—a last desperate attempt to save him. One must face the rising sun in order to gain strength, it was believed.

"Secretly, the ill one's wife had gathered together his many ornaments of pearl shell, his polished stone weapons and his implements in order that they might be ready to be placed beside him in his grave beneath the colossal latte stone. His pottery was also carefully collected, ready to be broken into fragments and to be scattered over his body when it should be lowered into the grave.

"Then, as was the habit of those bold seafaring men, one of the minor chiefs left his place among the watchers and, at the first blush of dawn, strode toward the beach. He looked upon the sky with a mariner's critical eyes. As he glanced in a southeasterly direction, he discerned a large, oil-polished canoe approaching the island from the direction of Guhan (Guam). A strong southwest gale was howling over a stormy sea, and in such weather, he noted,

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ly the boldest of the bold would venture out to attempt the passage.

"The priest at once regarded the coming of this canoe during such a gale as a good omen. Presently, it shot through the perilous entrance of the reef and grounded on the sand of the beach, and then out stepped Ucudo, a chief from Guam, his magnificent brown body glistening in the rays of the sun as he saluted the chiefs of Rota.

two chiefs and give him this life-giving drug. After he has taken it it will only be a matter of a few hours before he will again take his normal place among his people.' The priest assured Ucudo that his instructions would be strictly obeyed.

"During the interview between Ucudo and the priest all the people had gathered around the two, so that no one saw the maiden who had accompanied the

the Rota

"The members of the Rota navy had a tactical advantage over Ucudo in that, in addition to the driving power of their sails, they used their paddles, each canoe being manned by several men, but they had forgotten their artillery, and Ucudo had not.

"In his canoe was a basketful of highly polished and sharp-pointed sling stones. As his swifter enemies approached he handed the steering paddle to his mate. Taking deliberate aim at the helmsman of the nearest enemy craft, he hurled a slingstone with terrific force, striking the man between the eyes and killing him. Then for the next few minutes the slingstones did their work to such deadly effect that the men of Rota, realizing that it was impossible to capture Ucudo on the high seas, maneuvered so as to sail parallel with him on both starboard and larboard quarters and well out of range of his deadly missiles.

"The chase continued until the pursuers and pursued approached the strand of Letegyan on the island of Guam. There two canoes of the men of Rota left their position in line and landed a few moments before Ucudo and, after

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"Upon being told of the great chief's illness, the stranger expressed his sorrow and asked permission to be admitted to his presence in order, as he said, to suggest a cure. The people of Rota were pleased to grant the wish.

"Ucudo sat down near the sick man, assuming a very learned air and, after many minutes of apparently deep meditation, spoke as follows: 'If you, the people of Rota, will allow me to select the most beautiful maiden of your island and will allow her to accompany me into the jungle for three days, I will be able, with her help, to find certain herbs that will, I am sure, restore your beloved chief to health.' The people readily consented to the plan and brought before Ucudo all the handsome maidens of their islands.

"From among them Ucudo selected the most beautiful and asked her if she was willing to go with him upon his errand. The maiden looked upon him and coyly consented. The herbs were secured, and after three days the pair returned to the village. It was noted at the time that the maiden cast many admiring glances at Ucudo.

"The stranger brewed the potion that was to restore the chief's health and gave it to the priest with instructions. 'When I pass through the entrance of the reef with my canoe and I have raised my sail, let your king be brought forth from his house between

Guam man into the jungle, cautiously approach his canoe and hide herself under covered bow.

"Several young men helped Ucudo to launch his canoe, and as he raised his sail the king was brought forth and given the potion. But instead of gaining strength he fell dead.

"Then the people of Rota became enraged and called out: 'Ucudo, man

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of Guam! What medicine should we give to a dead man?' The answer came: 'Bury him or he will have a foul odor!' The men of Rota called back: 'Your advice will be followed and that medicine will be given to you!'

"At the word of the senior chief they ran toward the beach, hastily threw their fighting spears, pointed with barbed points of human bone, into their canoes and pursued Ucudo. As they

a short tussle, the Guam man was in the hands of his enemies.

Realizing that he was about to die, Ucudo said to the men of Rota: 'We have had a glorious chase and it takes good men to catch a man like me. Will you not grant me one last wish? It is the custom of my people to allow a captured enemy to walk 100 yards to the north and 100 yards to the south before he is killed.'

"This wish they foolishly granted. Ucudo walked 100 yards to the south and returned, then walked 100 yards north and bolted into the jungle along a trail leading up a precipice. The Rota tribesmen followed, but, not knowing the short cuts, were hopelessly out-distanced.

"Ucudo rested at the top of the cliff, having placed a large boulder ready to roll down upon the first Rota man to show his head, but instead of a man he beheld the beautiful face of his loved one as she toiled up the steep grade to join him. Great was his joy and

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