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Hollow Ships On A Wine-Dark Sea and Other Essays

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Shelter and Limpapa Caves on the east coast of Zamboanga City, where archaeological remains were associated with the Subanun. The Tausug is revealed archaeologically in a series of excavated sites in Jolo island proper, particularly around the town of Parang. A number of the Jolo sites were cottas or military forts. The plans of these cottas have been reconstructed by Spoehr and are valuable historical documents for future research and writing on the history of southern Philippines. A Samal projection is implicit in the excavated materials from Sanga-Sanga Island, Tawi-Tawi, but the time depth is so distant (between 5995 and 6650 B.C.) as to make ethnic association rather hazardous. The rest of the book is a comparative analysis of ceramics, both local and trade, as well as non-ceramic assemblages such as stone tools, shell ornaments, brass artifacts, and grave marker styles. A major insight from the ceramic analysis of local wares is Spoehr's questioning of Solheim's threefold division of Philippine pottery into Kalanay, Novaliches, and Bau-Malay provinces. The Samalan pottery types and decorations found by Spoehr do not fit the traditional criteria of the so-called Bau-Malay prototypes. The challenge to this somewhat hazy southern Philippine pottery tradition is bound to be a turning point in the study of southern Philippine prehistory. The Sanga-Sanga rockshelter, which revealed the second site of shell-tool culture in the Philippines, connects with Tabon Caves on the one hand and with Micronesia on the other. And Spoehr, by coincidence, is the most logical person to make this tentative correlation between the southern Philippines and Micronesia because he has pioneered in both areas archaeologically. The Sulu-Marianas alignment initially is revealed by red-slipped potteries and the use of impressed circles filled with lime.

In conclusion, the link between ethnology and archaeology is found to lie in the role of excavated trade objects which throw light on both external and internal trade as well as on the internal dynamics of the participating societies. Spoehr may be right that the next frontier in archaeological research in the Philippines and Southeast Asia is in the central role of trade in the evolution of coastal and inland societies. And in this regard, Zamboanga and Sulu marks a good firm beginning.

Eric S. Casiño

HOLLOW SHIPS ON A WINE-DARK SEA AND OTHER ESSAYS. By William Henry Scott. Quezon City: New Day Publishers, 1976. 115 pages.

Everything that should be said of this collection of essays has been said in the Introduction by Salvador Lopez. The author, William Henry Scott, has spent the greater part of his adult life as a lay missionary in the Orient, first in China and then for more than twenty years in the Philippines. His writings on the peoples and history of the Mountain Province have made him a recognized

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authority on both those subjects. In these essays, ranging over subjects as diverse as Homeric Greece and Maoist China, the author is not concerned with presenting original data but, in the words of Salvador Lopez in the Introduction, sharing "with you an illumination and a refreshment." And he has done it well. The essays on St. Patrick and the conversion of Ireland have something to say about the problem of indigenization of Christianity in contemporary societies. In the essay "Staunton of Sagada: Christian Civilizer" he has rescued an interesting figure of Philippine church history from obscurity. In the final essay he offers some interesting reflections on the continuity of Confucianist and Maoist China. Dr. Scott's graceful style makes the reading of what he wrote pleasurable as well as informative.

One or two small points, though. The publisher used a see-through paper which makes reading something of a strain, which it definitely should not be. Secondly a few remarks on the last page, e.g., linking oil-drilling to earthquakes, had best been revised or omitted.

Bartholomew Lahiff