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Documenta Malucensia

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DOCUMENTA MALUCENSIA: III (1606-1682). Edited and annotated by Hubert Jacobs, S.J. (*Monumenta Historica Societatis Iesu*, Vol. 126). Rome: Jesuit Historical Institute, 1984. xxxvi, 54*, 777 pages.

Reviewing the previous volume in this series (*PS* 30[1982]: 426-27), this reviewer called attention to the value of the documents edited there not only for Indonesia but for a wider history of the Philippines within the context of the whole Malay world. That statement concerning the earlier, Portuguese period in Maluku (the Moluccas) is much more true of the volume under review. Its coverage extends to the whole of the Spanish period in Maluku from the conquest of Ternate by Governor Pedro de Acuña in 1606 to its abandonment in 1663, and to the conquest of the independent Catholic kingdom of Siau by the Dutch in 1677, where Jesuits had continued their ministry after the Spanish withdrawal. Portuguese Jesuits from the province of Cochin in India worked in Maluku until some time after Portugal regained its independence from Spain in 1640, and they were only definitively replaced by Spanish Jesuits from the Philippines in 1654. Nonetheless, during both periods there was considerable contact of the Islands with Manila, from which the relief flotilla (*socorro*) came each year, though often captured by the Dutch. The contact was personal as well. Ex-governor Hurtado de Corcuera, writing in 1658 (p. 602), speaks of the garrison for the Islands as being composed of six companies of Spaniards, two of Pampangos, and one of native Ternatans.

It should be said, however, that this is not a collection of documents on the Philippines; that is not the intent of the series. That intent is to give a carefully documented history of the Jesuits, Portuguese and Spanish, and of their missions in Maluku. But the work of editing is done with the greatest care: detailed and careful summaries in English at the beginning of each document in its original language, extensive bibliographical information, notes on textual variants, and informative footnotes identifying persons, places, or unknown words in the text. The author is familiar with the sources dealing with Indonesia as well as with the Philippines — Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, and others. Hence, apart from specialists in Jesuit or Maluku history, precisely because of the wide scope of the work, Philippine historians will also find much that is of interest for their own field. About a hundred documents in this volume are either addressed to or come from the Philippines; a considerable number more mention the Philippines at greater or lesser length. A number of questions arise: to what extent did Spanish preoccupation with Maluku affect colonial policy in Mindanao? how did the Dutch reaction to the Spanish presence in Ternate prolong the Dutch wars in Luzon? and others. The documents published here will provide likely answers.

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