

THE PANTAR METEORITE

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Many meteorites cross the sky, unnoticed and are buried, without any record, in the solitudes of vast forests or the bottom of the sea. On the contrary, hardly greater publicity could have been given to the meteorite that fell at Pantar, Lanao, on June 16, 1938, at 8^h 45^m, a.m., in the presence of a large congregation of Christians who had just attended a Military Mass on the occasion of the graduation of the students of the School of Reserve Commission and before the eyes of a vast crowd of people, Christians as well as Meres, who had assembled at Camp Keithley to witness the Military review of the Battalion by Assemblyman Cabili.

The detonations connected with the fall were heard at Dansalan, Ganasi, Pantar, Iligan, Oroquieta, Cagayan, Matuae, Impalutao, Parang and Cotabato, and were fantastically described by irresponsible people to target practice of the Navy in Illana Bay, to the shelling of Lanao by enemy planes and to the projection of volcanic bombs by Mayon volcano.

Hardly had the detonations subsided when the panic stricken people beheld in the sky, for about three minutes, a tubular meteoric cloud originated by the swift passage of the meteorite. The meteoritic cloud was successfully photographed by the mining engineer R. H. Wygle, Rev. F. Avendaño chaplain of the Battalion and Engracio Nori who instead of snapping the military trainees, placed the yellow filter on the camera and secured one of the most remarkable photographs of meteoritic clouds ever taken in any part of the world. According to reliable reports the number of meteorites