



GUAM

By R. C. Ayers, CQM

The Marianas Islands lie north of the Carolines and consist of a chain of steep volcanic islands extending for a distance of 380 miles. They were formerly known as the Ladrões, the name given to them by the Spaniards when they colonized the islands. Those southward of Farallon De Medinilla have sandy beaches, and the white sandy bottoms can usually be seen to a depth of 16 fathoms. Those to the northward have a dark gray sand, and the bottom cannot be seen through a greater depth than 5½ fathoms. The Marianas, with the exception of Guam, lie within the Japanese Mandate. The Branch Office of the South Sea Prefectural Government is located at Saian. Guam is a United States possession. The original inhabitants of the Islands were Chamorros, of whom there were about 100,000 at the time of discovery. These have gradually diminished in number, however, and at a later period the islands were colonized with Kanakas from the Carolines, who now constitute about one third of the population. The island of Guam is the southernmost, largest, and most populous island of the Marianas. It is 26 miles long in north-northeast and south-southwest direction, 4 to 8 miles wide, and had a population of 25,496 in 1936. At a distance this island appears flat and even. Its eastern side is bordered with steep cliffs and exposed to the ocean swell. The northern end of the island is comparatively low, Santa Rosa, about 870 feet above high water, being the highest elevation. To the Southward it is more mountainous, Mount Tenjo



WARNING

If your lips would keep from slips,
five things observe with care.
Of whom you speak, to whom you
speak, and how and when and where.
If you your ears would save from
jeers, these things keep meekly hid,
Myself and I, and mine and my, and
how I do and did.

forming several peaks of about 1,000 feet, and others near the southern end about 1,100 to 1,300 feet above high water. The western side has many small bays divided by rocky points. A large part of the coast is fringed by reefs which are dry in places. Near the middle of the island in the immediate vicinity of Agana there is a large spring from which a copious supply of water issues; this, after passing through an extensive swamp, enters the sea, as a river, the channel of which has been artificially lengthened and turned for a mile parallel to the coast, for the convenience of the natives. The soil is dry and fertile. The principle products are corn, copra, rice, and sugar, and there is some valuable timber. On the western side are coconut groves 3 to 4 miles long and 1 to 2 miles wide. Cattle and fowl are also raised. Fish, fruit, and vegetables are plentiful in some places. Agana is the capital of Guam and has a population of about 10,000. Practically the only steamer communication is by Navy or Army transports calling at irregular intervals.

PHILIPPINES

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The Philippine Islands, situated in the northern part of the East Indian Archipelago, were brought to the notice of Europe by the Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan in 1521. Magellan, who was in command of a Spanish expedition and was the first to pass through the strait still bearing his name, approached the Philippines from the eastward and entered the archipelago through the strait of Surigao. He was killed in a skirmish with the natives on Mactan Island, east of Cebu in 1521. The Philippines were formally annexed to Spain in 1565.

After the war between the United States and Spain (the Philippine Islands were ceded by Spain to the United States of America by the treaty of peace signed at Paris, December 10, 1898, and as a voluntary consideration the United States paid to Spain \$20,000,000. Spain also relinquished on November 7, 1900, to the United States, all title and claim to the islands of Cagayan, Sulu, Sibutu and other islands belonging to the Philippine Archipelago and lying outside the limits described by the treaty of Paris, the United States paying the sum of \$100,000. Palmas Island, which is within the treaty limits, was awarded to the Netherlands by arbitration on April 4, 1928. The limits described by the treaty of Paris were changed by agreement between the United States and Great Britain on January 2, 1930. According to these treaties the Philippine Archipelago comprehends all of the is-