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“Diamond Ring” Eclipse Phase

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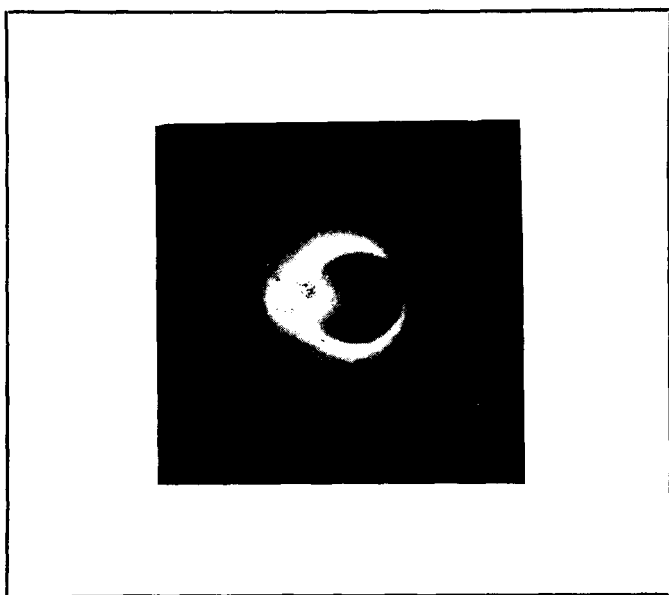
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“Diamond Ring” Eclipse Phase

The accompanying photograph shows the “diamond ring” phase of the solar eclipse of June 20. Precisely at the end of totality, as the western limb of the sun emerges from behind the western limb of the moon, the first bit of the sun’s photosphere appears much larger than it really is. This is due to irradiation of light, affecting both the photographic film and the retina of the eye. The picture is an enlargement from a snapshot taken with an



ordinary hand camera by A. Millares and R. Foronda, students at San Jose Seminary. It will be noticed that the central line of the moon’s path is slightly south of the sun’s east-west diameter. This is because Quezon City, where the seminary is located, is about 50 miles north of the central line of the totality zone. The “diamond ring” would be perfectly symmetrical if observed in Batangas, Laguna or the Bicol regions.

V. MARASIGAN