

This latter shows a personage seated with knees drawn up, upper arms pressed to the sides of the body, and hands meeting on the chest. A broad belt is indicated and possibly a headdress, though the carving may have been meant to show the hair in two plaits from the forehead to the nape of the neck. Traces of a black coating remain, but this and the more delicate lines have been obliterated.

The two figurines of shell represent individuals identical or akin to one another. Both are standing in the same attitude, arms pressed to side, hands on chest, above the broad belt. The headdress, however, differs: the shorter and thicker of the two wears a disc-like cap, while the headdress of the other is wedge-shaped, its front decorated by cross-hatching, its back bearing a design associated with the world symbol of the eight directions. This, the finest of the three figurines, is delicately incised: the features, the cross-hatching of the belt, the design of linked diamonds on the abdomen, the fronds on the front of the legs show that red paint was part of its decoration. There are lines between the hands which may represent a cup. This little figure was found broken in two and encased in a tiny gourd. The decoration of the companion figure is mostly obliterated, but there still remain traces of black and red coloring.

Since the little figurines here described are not perforated, they can hardly be thought to belong among the war amulets. It is possible that, if they are properly to be grouped together, they represented the water goddess and her two messengers, and were the possession of a Boii, priest, specializing in that cult.

H. N. W.

EXPEDITION NOTES

THE sixth season of the Piedras Negras Expedition has been arranged and the field staff will have reached the site by the time this issue of the *Bulletin* appears. The personnel of the Expedition consists of Linton Satterthwaite, Jr., Field Director, assisted by Margaret Satterthwaite, Francis M. Cresson, Jr., and Tatiana Proskouriakoff. Their season will extend into June and work will be especially concentrated upon the architectural problems of the temple complexes which heretofore have yielded so richly in information bearing on the history of Maya building development.