

including coral fragments, mined by the ants. It is probable that Lloyd's colony was not under water at normal high tide, but the possibility exists that this or other nests of *O. malignus* do suffer submersion from time to time. If so, one imagines that they might exist in air pockets in the coral that have passages entering only from below. The omaniid bug *Corallocoris marksae* is cited by Woodward (1958) as regularly sheltering at high tide in such places under periodically submerged coral rocks along the Great Barrier Reef off Queensland, and emerging to feed on the exposed reef when the tide goes out. But whether or not *O. malignus* nests are ever covered by sea water, the existence of the ant in this habitat raises some fascinating questions. If it forages regularly in the intertidal zone, how does it time its excursions from and back to the nest? What is its food? Does it possess physiological protection against salt water? This is an autecological problem that might well make a wonderful doctoral thesis.

In addition to the new New Guinea record, I have found specimens in J. W. Chapman's collection [MCZ] from Tawitawi (A. C. Duyog) and Sitanki, Jolo Island (A. Herre) in the Sulu Archipelago of the southern Philippines. A male placed with this species in MCZ comes from Teuhungano, Rennell Island (J. D. Bradley, 14 October 1953). It is light brownish-yellow and has the petiolar node rounded above.

[23] *O. minutus* is a modest-sized species with opaque striato-punctate gastric dorsum (Plate 1, D). It is very widely distributed and common in forested parts of Central and South America. The color varies from dull ferruginous to dark brown, and the lighter-colored forms are most common in Central America; the types of Mann's *dulcis* are light specimens. A *meinerti* type (ZM-Copenhagen) examined through the kindness of Dr. Børge Petersen is clearly just a Venezuelan specimen of *minutus*. *O. minutus* is collected commonly in leaf litter samples, especially those run through Berlese funnels or other extraction systems, and it seems to be a more cryptic species than most of those related to *O. haematodus*. On Barro Colorado Island in the Panama Canal Zone, I took two nests in the forest under rotten logs, and in central Brasil I found the species common in the litter of gallery forests in the cerrado areas (near Brasilia) and in Mato Grosso. The most northern known record is from Pueblo Nuevo, near Tezonapa, Veracruz, Mexico (E. O. Wilson).