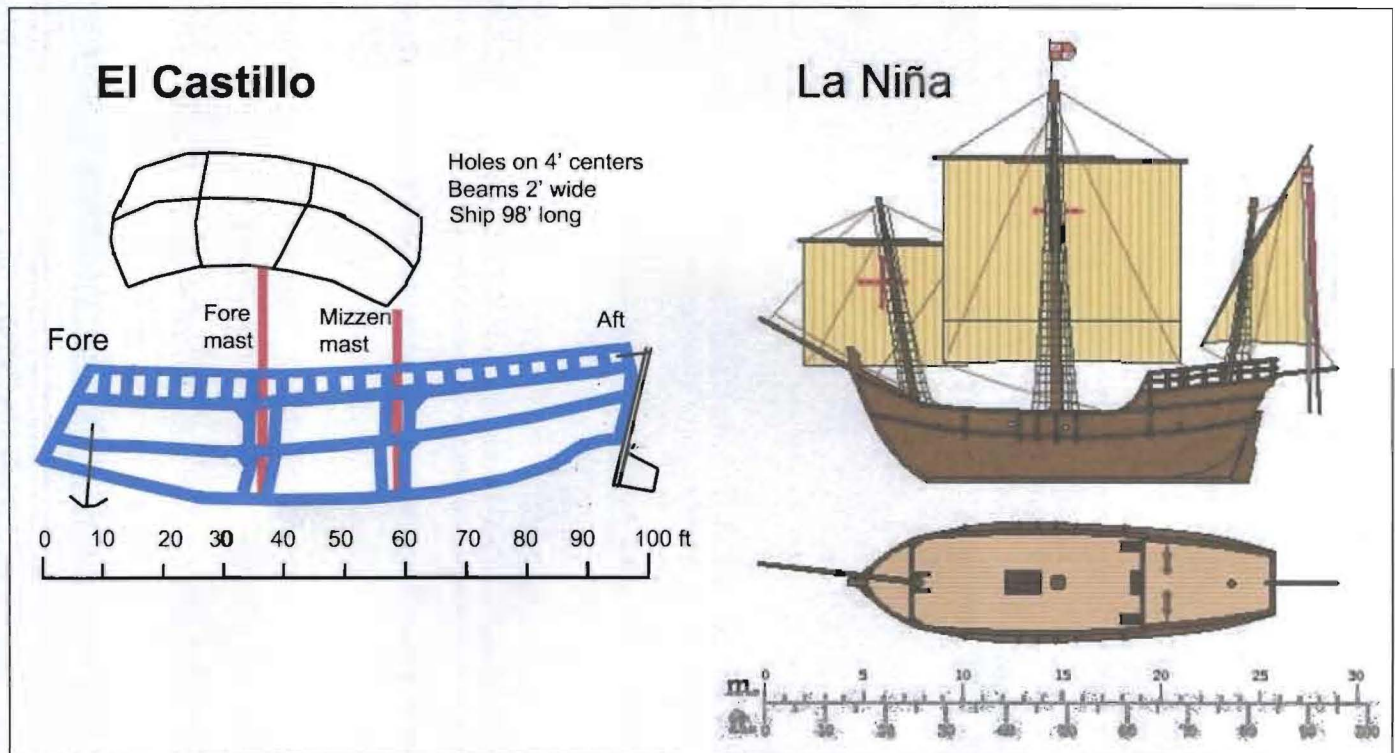


Decipherment of El Castillo Ship

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After being stranded for six months on the treacherous north coast of Spain near the pyramid-shaped mountain of El Castillo, Captain Uro drew his ship's profile on the walls of El Castillo Cave. His drawing is also a rebus in Old European that details his crew, cargo and calendar. Christine Pellech (2005) dated it to around 12,000 BC.

Uro means 'Champion'. His ship carried a crew of ten reefers and seven brawny rope pullers. It measured about 98 feet long, 38% longer than La Niña, the favorite ship of Christopher Columbus. La Niña, a 60-ton caravel, traversed the Atlantic Ocean three times and logged 25,000 nautical miles before disappearing at Venezuela. Leaving Greenland toward Atlantis, the El Castillo ship had nearly completed its fourth voyage around the Atlantic when a sudden storm blew it across the North Atlantic and wrecked it on the coast of Spain. It carried a fortune in copper from Bolivia. To survive the storm, the captain tossed 100 casks of copper into the sea. Each cask weighed about 1.35 tons. If a cask to him was a hundred-pound sack of cement to a six-foot laborer, the captain was 18 feet tall. +



El Castillo had two large masts, a foremast and a mizzen mast, both anchored to the keel of the ship. Each mast had a rectangular sail made from reindeer hides sewn and glued together with red ochre glue, the toughest sail material. Because it lacked a keel to resist overturning torque, the sails were wider than tall. Absence of a keel allowed the ship to traverse shallow water and anchor in ports at high tide without overturning on mud at low tide.

The bow sloped away from the ship, much like steam-driven battleships of WWI. An inverted bow reduced drag, increased speed, and produced a smaller bow wave. Its drawback was increased spray onto the vessel.

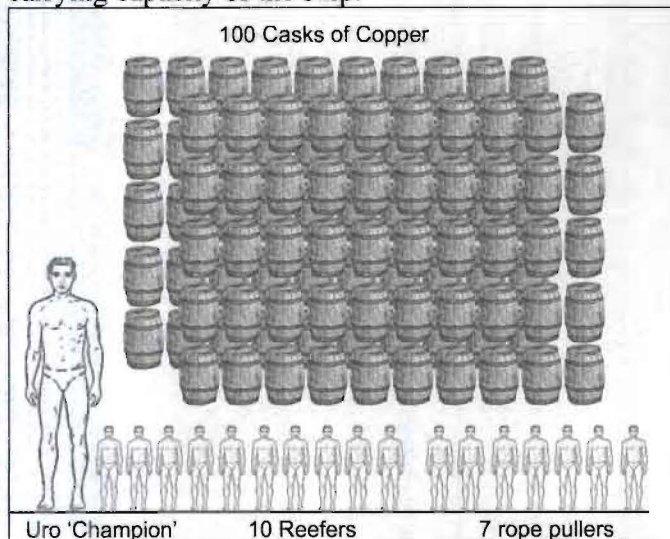
The stern sloped inward like La Niña and was indented to allow free movement of a center-mounted stern rudder. Mounting the rudder in the center of the stern enabled swift tacking when sailing upwind.

The size of El Castillo can be estimated by counting the number of openings along the top rail above the deck. The common unit of measurement was a fathom divided into six feet. Each opening is separated by planks as wide as the opening. These planks in turn are as wide as the main beams. If the distance between openings is 4 feet, a common dimension within the building trade, then the main beams are 2 feet square, which is reasonable.

Adding these up, El Castillo measured 98 feet long. This compares with La Nina's length of 71 feet. Michele de Cuneo, who accompanied Columbus on his second voyage, mentioned that Niña was "about 60 toneladas" (60 tons). Ratioing this tonnage by the cube of length gives an estimated tonnage of 150 tons.

The image is somewhat erratic because it is a rebus, written in Old European in the Finnish language. It carries a wealth of detail about the ship, crew, cargo and calendar.

Beside the captain, the ship carried a crew of ten reefers and seven brawny rope pullers. Cargo was 100 casks of loose copper that the captain threw overboard to save the ship in a storm. The most likely cask size was Pipe or Butt, 4 feet high holding 128 gallons. Loaded with copper, each would weigh 1.35 tons. A hundred casks would total 135 tons, within the carrying capacity of the ship.

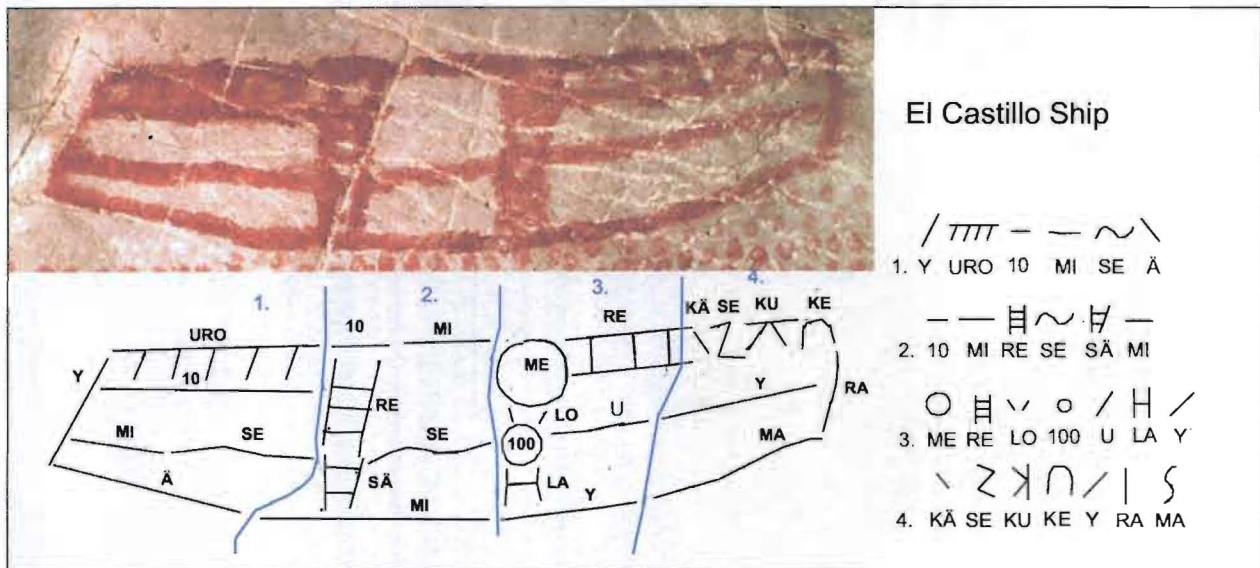


Based on the strength required to pick up a cask in a storm and toss it overboard, the captain was at least eighteen feet tall. This is the same height as the life-size statue of Gilgamesh holding a lion found at Khorsabad, Iraq, at the palace of Sargon II, now housed at the Louvre.



What was the copper worth? Otzi the Ice Man carried a pure copper adze that weighed 174 gm. It was exceedingly rare, only one other has been found and it weighs half as much. He was skilled because his hair includes arsenic from smelting copper. If it cost him one month's work, its value might be \$4000. At that rate, 135 tons of copper would be worth \$2.8 billion.

The ship rebus divides into four sentences that read left to right, top to bottom. Each letter is standard Old European consonant-vowel syllabary, cleverly arranged. Words are compressed using three rules: omit final consonant of a syllable; omit internal D, H, J, T and V; and compress the remaining vowels into the first vowel.



Translation

Old European

1. Y URO, 10 MI, SE Ä.
2. 10 MI RE, SE SÄ-MI.
3. ME-RE LO 100 U LA Y.
4. KÄ SE KU, O RA Y Y MA.

Finnish

1. Yksi uro, 10 miehiä, see äijää,
2. 10 miehiä reivata, see säie-miehiä
3. Merehen loin 100 urttia lanttia yksi.
4. Kahden se'en kuun, on rantut yön yli maan.

English

1. One champion, 10 men, seven tough guys,
2. 10 men to reef, seven rope-men.
3. Into the sea I cast 100 casks of copper first.
4. In the second and seventh month, there are streaks at night over the land.

Notes

2. By angling one side of the ladder, the letter changes from SA to SÄ.
3. *lantti* means 'copper, coin'.
3. The most likely cask was the Pipe, equal to half a Tun, with a volume of 128 gallons/476 liters. Scrap copper averages 150 pounds per cubic foot and a Pipe cask weighs 165 pounds, so each loaded cask averaged 2688 pounds / 1.35 tons. A hundred casks would weigh 135 tons, well within the estimated capacity of 150 tons.

3. The captain tossed each cask overboard. If he picked up a cask with the same effort that a six-foot man picks up a 100 pound sack of cement, then his height was at least 6 ft x $(2688 \text{ lbs}/100 \text{ lbs})^{1/3} = 6 \text{ ft} * 3 = 18 \text{ ft}$
4. Se'en from *seitsemän* meaning 'seventh'.

Second and seventh month shooting stars

The calendar used by Atlantis was probably the same as the calendar drawn in Senenmut's Tomb in Egypt, which begins before 9000 BC (Spedicato, 2016). Each year had twelve months of 30 days each.

Spedicato argues that our present Moon was originally the largest moon of Mummu Tiamat, 'She who bore them all', in the Mesopotamian creation myth *Enuma Elish*. Called Kingu, this moon was acquired in 9437 BC as a gift to Earth before she died, carried to Earth by her killer, Marduk-Nibiru (Harris, 2018). Prior to this acquisition, Earth had Mars for a moon with an orbit of 120 days. Each phase of Mars lasted 30 days, which conveniently totals twelve months of 30 days each, in common with the Zodiac.

In Senemuts calendar, each passage of planet Marduk-Nibiru was marked with a five-pointed star because it was the fifth planet from the Sun. The other four were Earth, Mars, Mummu Tiamat and Jupiter. The start date for each year was the fall equinox on September 20, established by the close passage of Marduk-Nibiru every twenty years.

Summarizing: Atlantis likely had a twelve-month calendar of 30 days each that began at the fall equinox in September. Mars circled Earth three times a year; its symbol was three running legs joined at the center.

Line 4 describes shooting stars in the second and seventh months, which would be October-November and March-April. The Taurid meteor shower comes in late evening of November 9, associated with Comet Cluster Encke. The Lyrid meteor shower comes in the pre-dawn hours of April 22, associated with comet Thatcher.

Route to South America

Another drawing in the cave made with dotted lines seems to show the beginning of four journeys to South America and the return of three. The ship began at Atlantis, sailed to the adjacent island of Frisland, then turned south to follow the same route as Columbus. The image is a rebus of three letters, RA Ä U, which determines the orientation of the image. These spell *Rajujen äijäin urhojen* meaning 'Courageous tall champions'. The word 'tall' is reserved for giants, of which only two sites in Europe are known from that time, Atlantis and Frisland. In this orientation, the rebus resembles a man carrying a heavy log.



Both islands were warmed by the Gulf Stream and remained inhabited while the rest of Europe froze. Unlike land directly east, these islands never glaciated.



In this scenario, Uro and his crew just had to wait until another treasure ship passed by.

Bibliography

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