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The shadow an earthquake casts across the Earth: Seismic Shadow Zone

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When a large earthquake strikes, seismic stations around the world record the shaking one after another within minutes. Strangely, however, seismic waves do not properly reach stations located at a certain distance from the epicenter. This band-shaped region, which seismic waves seem to avoid as if a shadow had fallen inside the Earth, is called the ‘seismic shadow zone’. Simply put, a seismic shadow zone means ‘a region where seismic waves passing through the Earth’s interior are bent or blocked by the core and do not reach the surface directly’. In 1906, the British geologist Richard Dixon O