

17-31 OCTOBER  
Tokelau-Aleipata

19-27 FEBRUARY 2006  
APIA  
Tokelau-Aleipata

SPREP  
685 21 929

GCB - 754-3182  
DARA - 277-1159  
PAUL - 738-7954  
LUI BELL CELL -  
7772939  
Pauline (SPREP TRAVEL)  
778-5128

TOKELAU-APIA-ALEIPATA  
GEORGE H. BALAZS

Need - PDF scans

LIBRARY OF  
GEORGE H. BALAZS

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
Coconut Island • P. O. Box 1346 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

2/06 = Need Black & White photos  
NEGATIVES ASSEMBLED/  
STORED  
see p. 82-83 and 118

58.5 meters MV FRYDNA Tongan registry  
10/81 Warner Shipping - 1 of 5 vessels  
Captain - PIO  
Cook - Mano  
Reported \$1500 day running - much less at anchor

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS . . . . . p77-78  
10/81



APIA - p. 73, ALEPATA p. 110  
10/81

COMPOSITION BOOK

9 3/4 IN. x 7 1/2 IN. (24.8 cm x 19 cm)

AVAILABLE AS:

- No. 09-9130 (1130) 60 SHEETS COLLEGE RULED & MARGIN
- No. 09-9132 (1130-P) 60 SHEETS COLLEGE RULED & MARGIN
- No. 09-9134 (1143-X) 100 SHEETS COLLEGE RULED & MARGIN
- No. 09-9132 (1130-P) NUMBERED PAGES

Made in U.S.A.

APIA SPREP  
FEB. 19 -  
2006  
Page 89 -

VERNON McMILLAN, Inc., ELIZABETH, N.J. 07208

2/20/06 VA'ASA - INSEL HOTEL  
TUSI  
JULIET  
KATIE

need  
ferox  
daily  
logs  
TO FILL IN  
PAST SPREP  
RMTCP Meeting  
8-13 June 1998  
APIA



Presumably  
1981



Dick Wass - 633-4602

Father <sup>Simon</sup> Bourke - Ilihi,  
Tokelau People - Wahiawa; EWC; Poly. Cult. Center

Western Union - 537-6311 .13

TOKALANI ARIA

J. LARKINDALE - Tel. home - 21961

Matai Sagabolutele - owns Vini?  
Village - Ulutogia

Bill Travis - 20510

Expert turtle catchers at Luatuanui Village

Fish Trap Matai  
Matai Teo

Simi Teo

Makarita Hsu - Atofu

NESTING TURTLE SEEN  
- SOLO SOLO BIK SAND BEACH - NEAR NEW BRIDGE

TOKELAU

From  
William

FONU TUAKULA - GREEN

FONU

HAWKS BILL

LAWNIN Crawford - Food Processing

FUGACEI - APTA

21513

T

NEED LIST.

Medication  
Antibiotics

EPERB beacon

strobe

Tent

Air Mattress, canvas & light line

Turtle Buttons ✓

110 Camera; cubes; Polaroid at HMB; Film

Nikonos ? No

xerox tape-in several maps

check JSCG & FAA flights

Ludwig - <sup>MAURA</sup> Naughton 11-15  
ROSE ATOLL

clothes - Polaroid ?

Art Whistler ✓

See Banner

Viliamu photos - photo plant (Take myself)

Detailed maps ✓

Field note pad

sheet ✓

xerox Tokelau letters ✓

tape

haircut ✓

SNACKS - Beef?

Sea sick pills

MAP of Samoaan Is.

4 Paamoho Village, Wahiawa - 150 Tokelavans

South Pacific  
Island Airways

\$ 598 through  
Continental - 955-1155 or point to point  
SPIA - Honolulu - 526-0844  
Honolulu TO Pago: \$558.00 6-23 day excursion  
~2400 miles - 5 hours 18 minutes #510 - 30 days

14th 16th  
Wed Friday sat  
13th 15th 17th  
Tues, Thurs & Sat - arrive Apia 10

Dr. Barry D. Simmons  
Dental Health International  
847 South Milledge Ave  
Athens, Georgia 30601  
404-546-1716

Watson - Pacific Project - Smithsonian

Mr. John Pyke, Box 1061, Pago Pago (1/78)  
"Turtle Petroglyphs"

Terry Ferstle, Box 3620 688-7880

LIO MOLI TUFUNGA LEFA -  
"respected Samoa priest - tattooer"

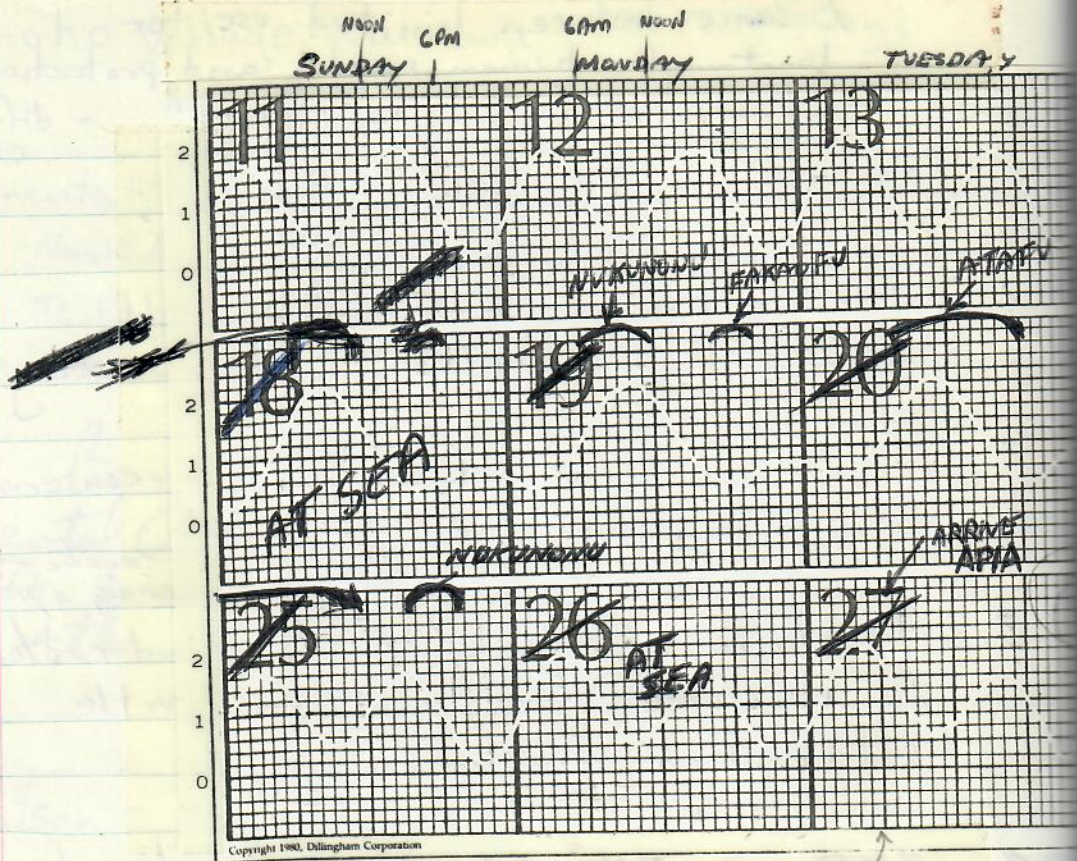
"Balance between limited use for legitimate human needs, and protection for perpetuation of the species" - difficult challenge 5

OBJECTIVES, AS PER WWF PROPOSAL:

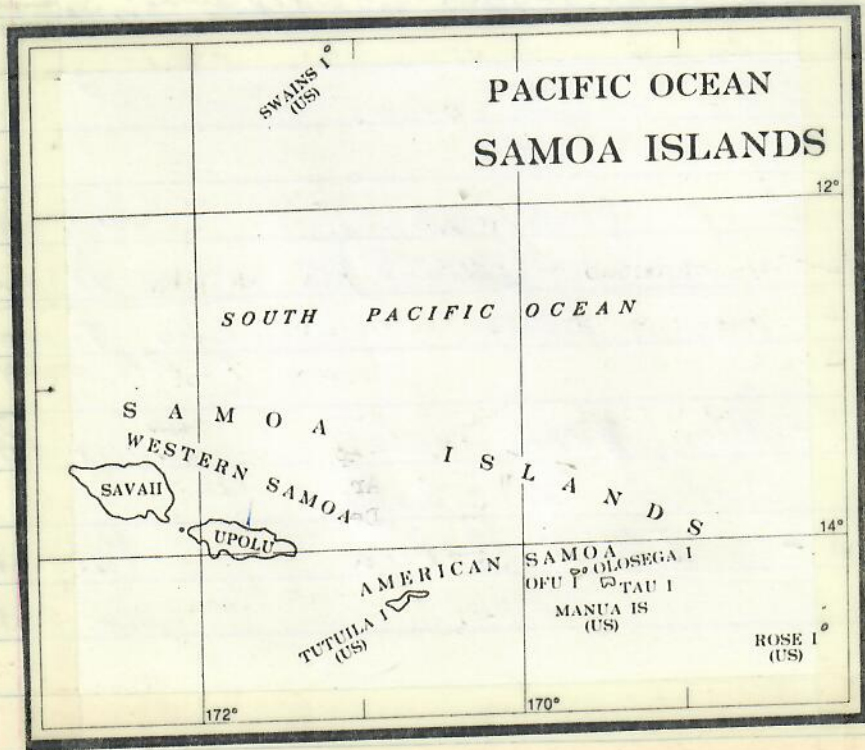
1. Gather current information on all aspects of sea turtles & their usage
2. Provide current information on conservation and management of sea turtles  
(Verbal - ie 1) Return to nest - Genetic stock 2) AGE 3) FARMING 4) need to control use
3. Ascertain current beliefs and customs to reinforce traditional sea turtle conservation practices
4. Make available educational materials on sea turtles  
(information packets for each island consisted of my STS booklet MacGregor's sea turtle facts and ID Guide, 5 watercolor sea turtle mysteries for children)
5. First-hand surveys of nesting beaches & foraging areas

6. Follow-up Program  
from PIM yearbook  
 ATAFU - ~~HEADMAN~~ (FAIPULE) PULENUKU VILLAGE MAYOR  
 AMUSIA PATEA Present Eha Tinietu at interview  
 NUKUNONO - ~~ATO SIDIKANE INGLE~~ TIONI PASI IIO  
 GOGO SAKARIA  
 FAKAOFU - Itieli Pereira Pulu Levao  
 VILI SIMONE GOGO ZAKARIA

South  
Island



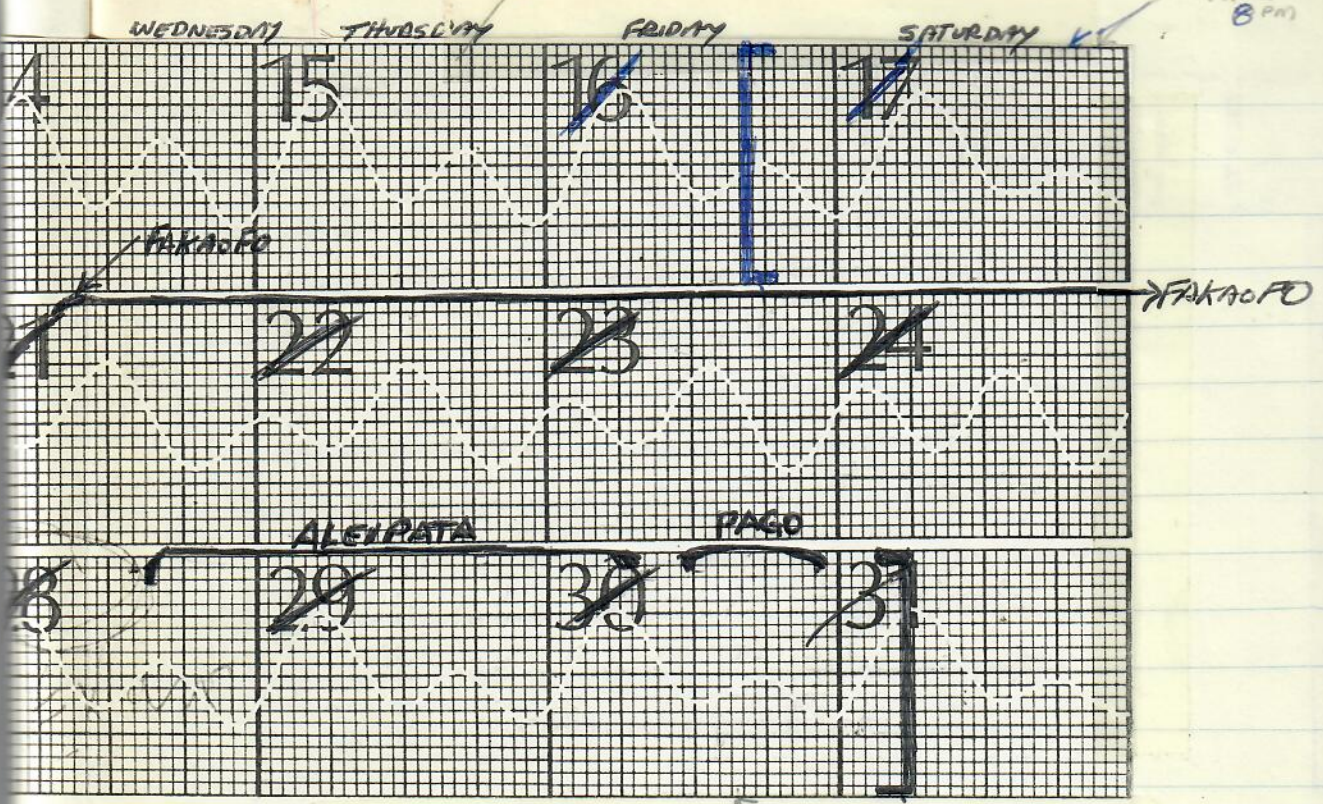
RETURN  
TO PIP/PI-6711





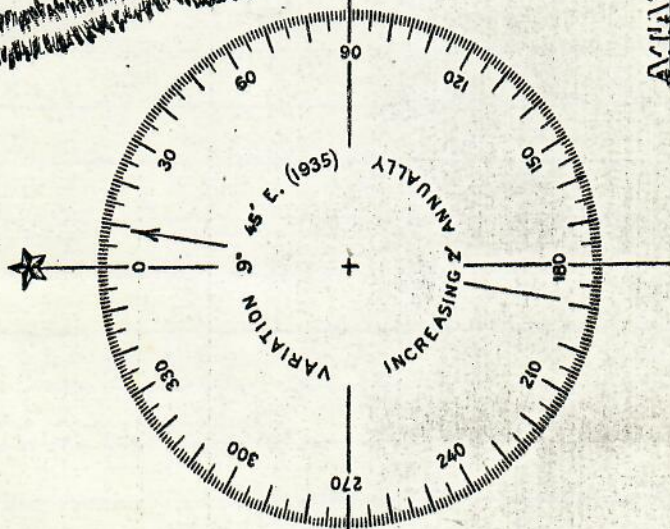
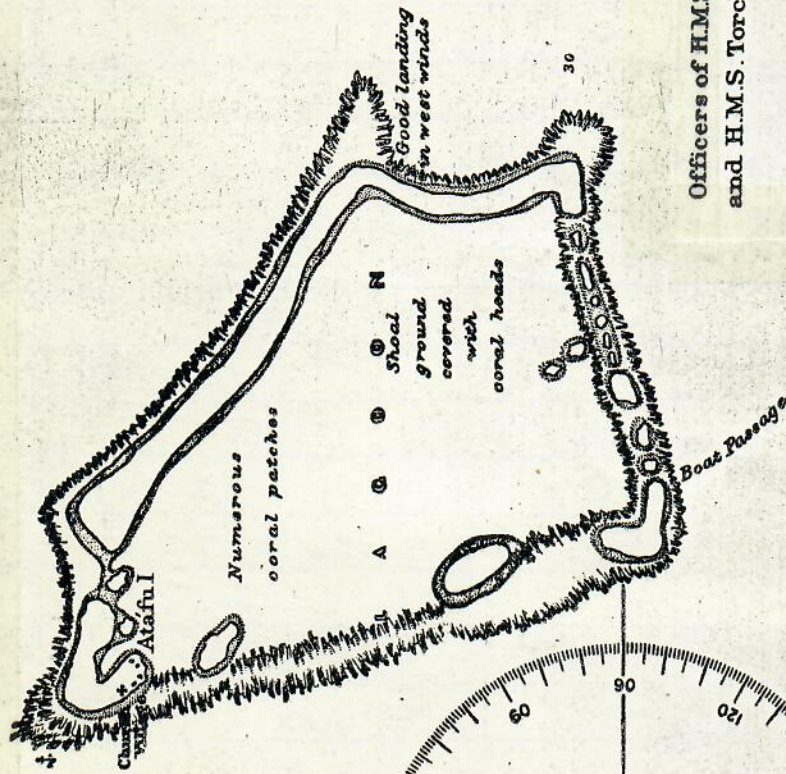
OCTOBER 1981

DEPART  
APIA  
8 PM 7



			<u>ORIGINAL PLAN</u>	
	Saturday, 17 October	2000	Depart Apia	
NUKU	Monday, 19 October	0600	Arrive Nukunonu	> 6hr
		1200	Depart Nukunonu	
FAKA		1630	Arrive Fakaofu	> 2.5hr
		1900	Depart Fakaofu	
ATAFU	Tuesday, 20 October	0600	Arrive Atafu	> 13hr
		1900	Depart Atafu	
FAKA	Wednesday, 21 October	0600	Arrive Fakaofu	> 61 hrs
	Thursday, 22 October		At Fakaofu	
	Friday, 23 October	1900	Depart Fakaofu	
NUKU	Saturday, 24 October	0600	Arrive Nukunonu	> 6 hrs
		1200	Depart Nukunonu	
FAKA		1630	Arrive Fakaofu	> 2.5hrs
		1900	Depart Fakaofu	
ATAFU	Sunday, 25 October	0600	Arrive Atafu	> 6 hrs
		1200	Depart Atafu	
	Tuesday, 27 October	0600	Arrive Apia	





MAP

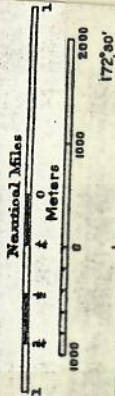
# DUKE OF YORK ISLAND

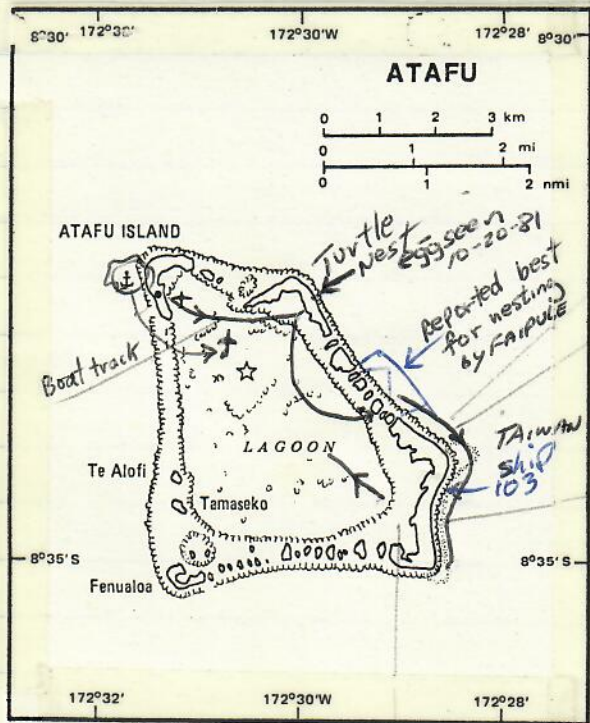
BTZ

Officers of H.M.S. Goldfinch  
and H.M.S. Torch 1896 - 1914

*There is no passage into the Lagoon and the sea breaks on the reefs with violence, but at H. W. a boat may pass over without difficulty. The tides are about 8 or 10 feet above the water; and covered with Cocco-nut and Pandanus trees. No fresh water. Population 400 in 1911*

Village Lat. 8°32'30\"S. Long. 172°30'57\"W.  
(H.M.S. Alert 1880)





Areas with steep piles of shingle/rubble

walked along beach

AREAS with fine beach sand

FRINGING REEF CLOSE TO SHORE

walked out to boat across intertidal sand/mud flat

NOTE - Not as many channels between motu on NW shore, as shown in this map, but not as prominently wide.

Feb 2006 ALEIPATA



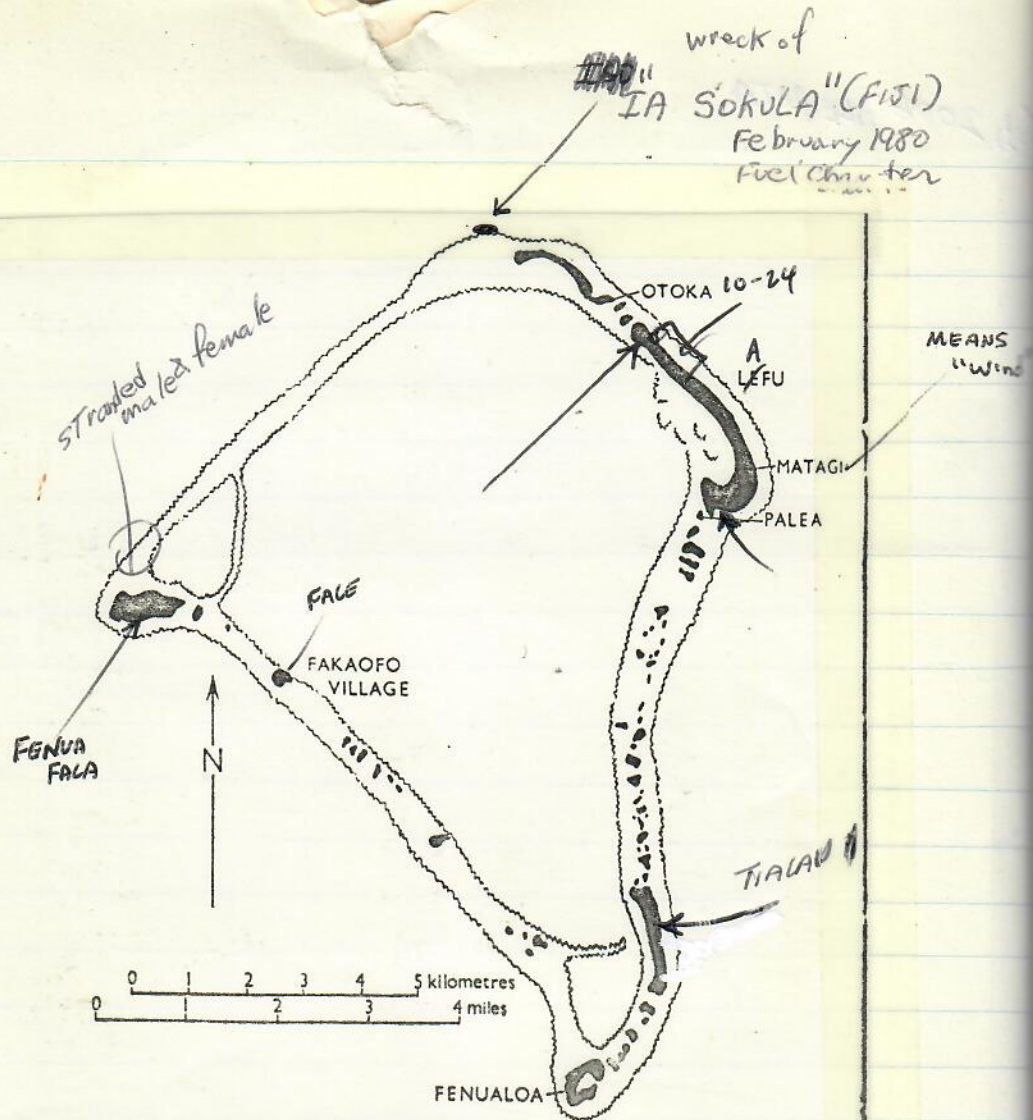
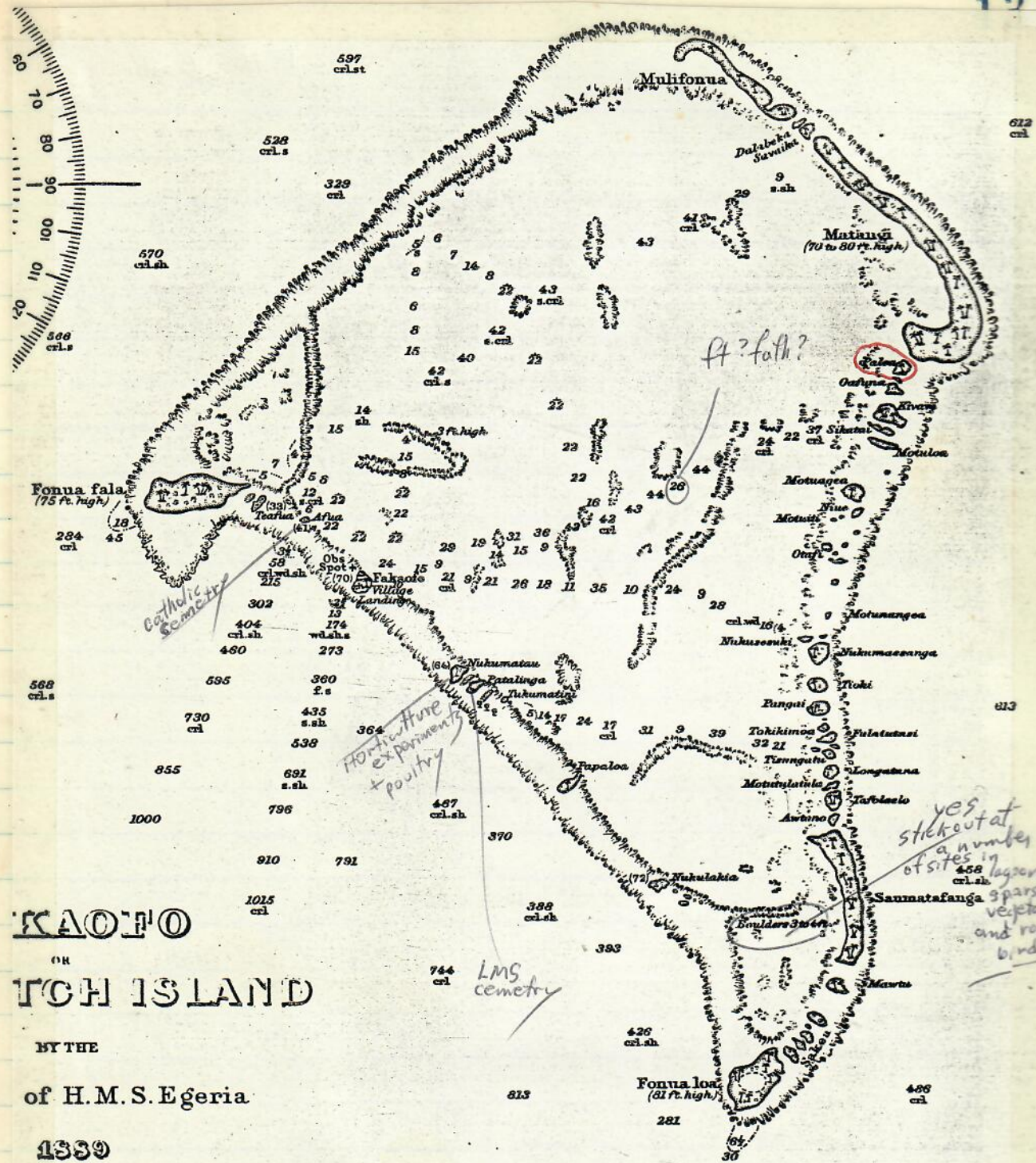


FIGURE 1 — Fakaofu Atoll



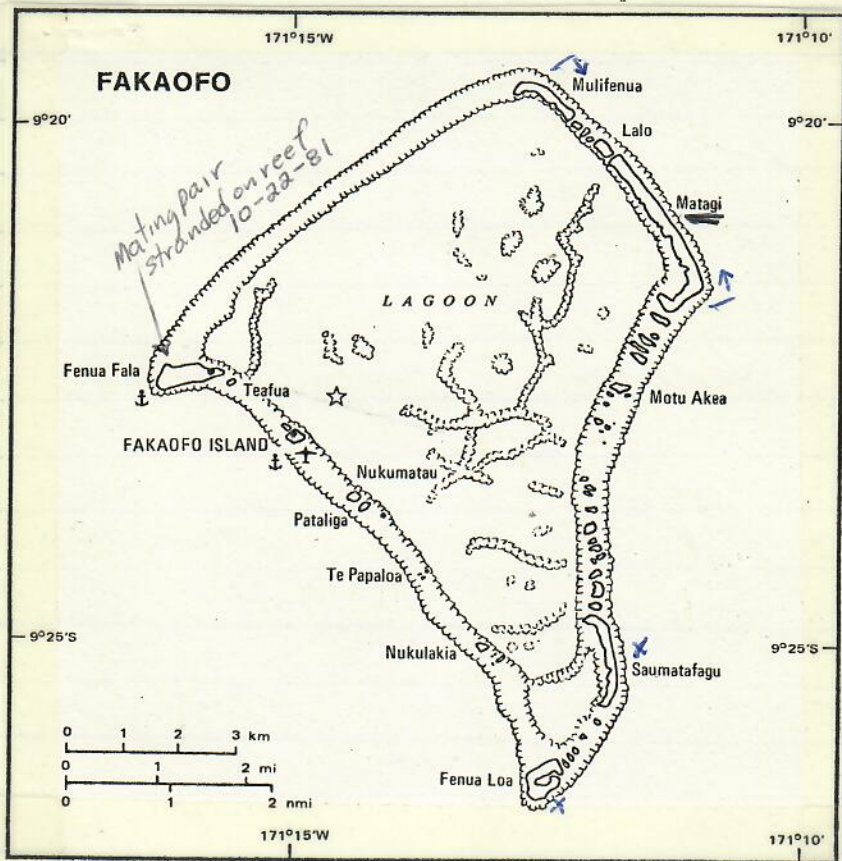
**KAOTOI**  
OR  
**TCHI ISLAND**

BY THE  
of H. M. S. Egeria  
1889

no entrance for a vessel.  
approach at the village  
carefully kept well

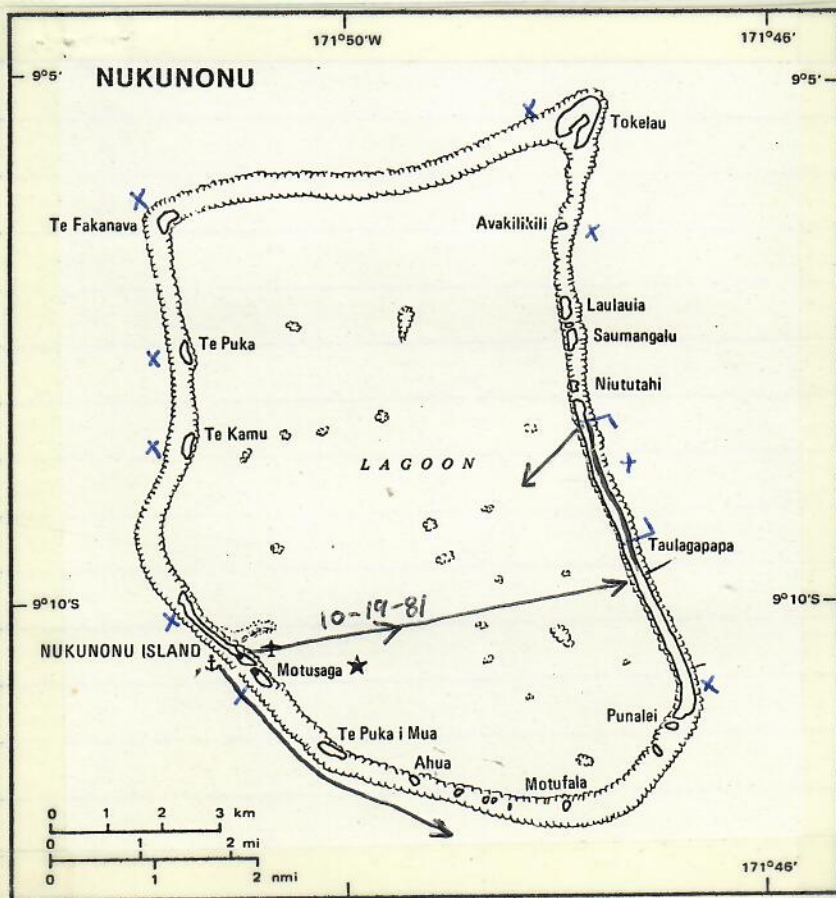
Lat. 9° 23' 2" S. Long. 171° 15' 03" W.  
C. VII. 00m. approx.  
is. rise about 3 ft





X - Hosea Kirifi





X - Loe Perez

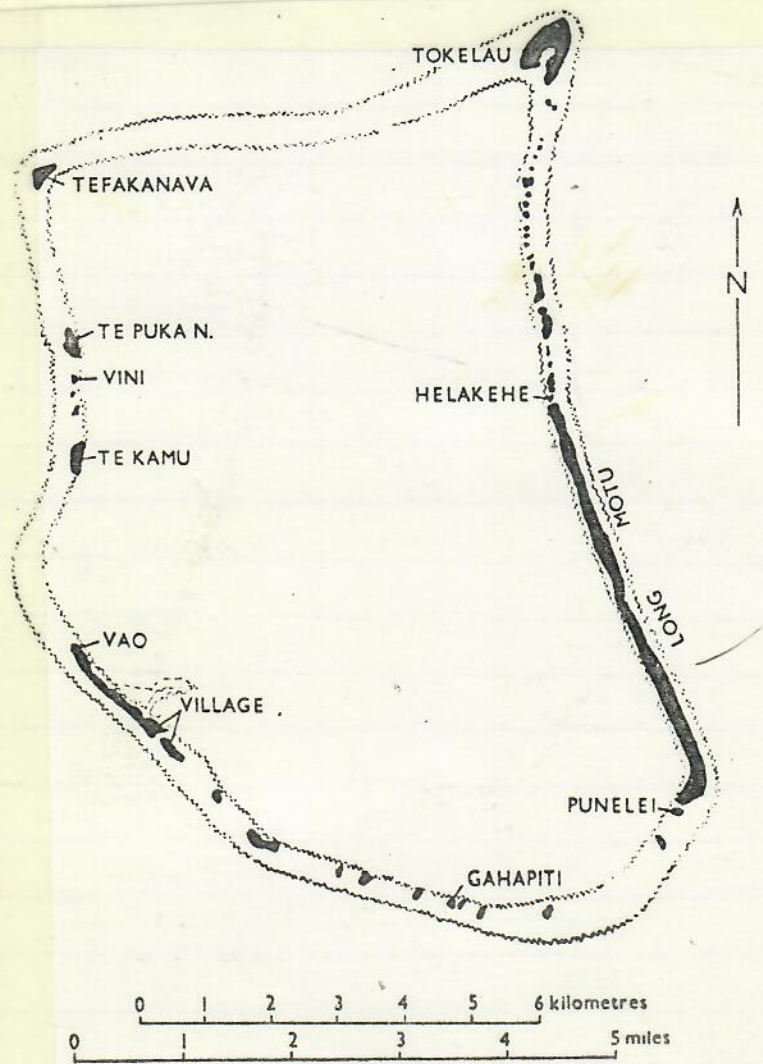


FIGURE 2 — Nukunonu Atoll

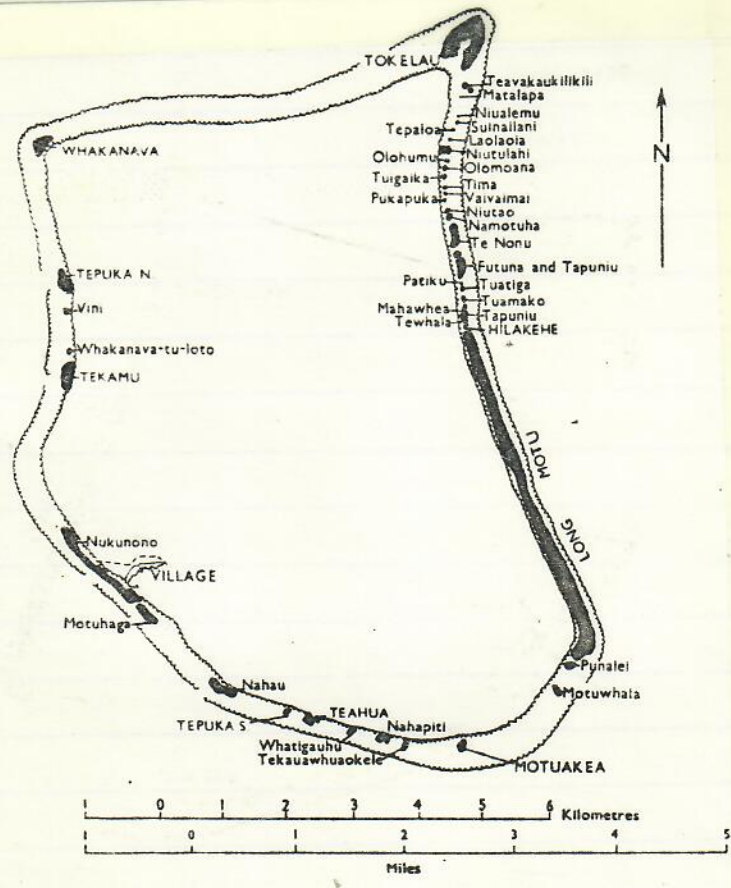
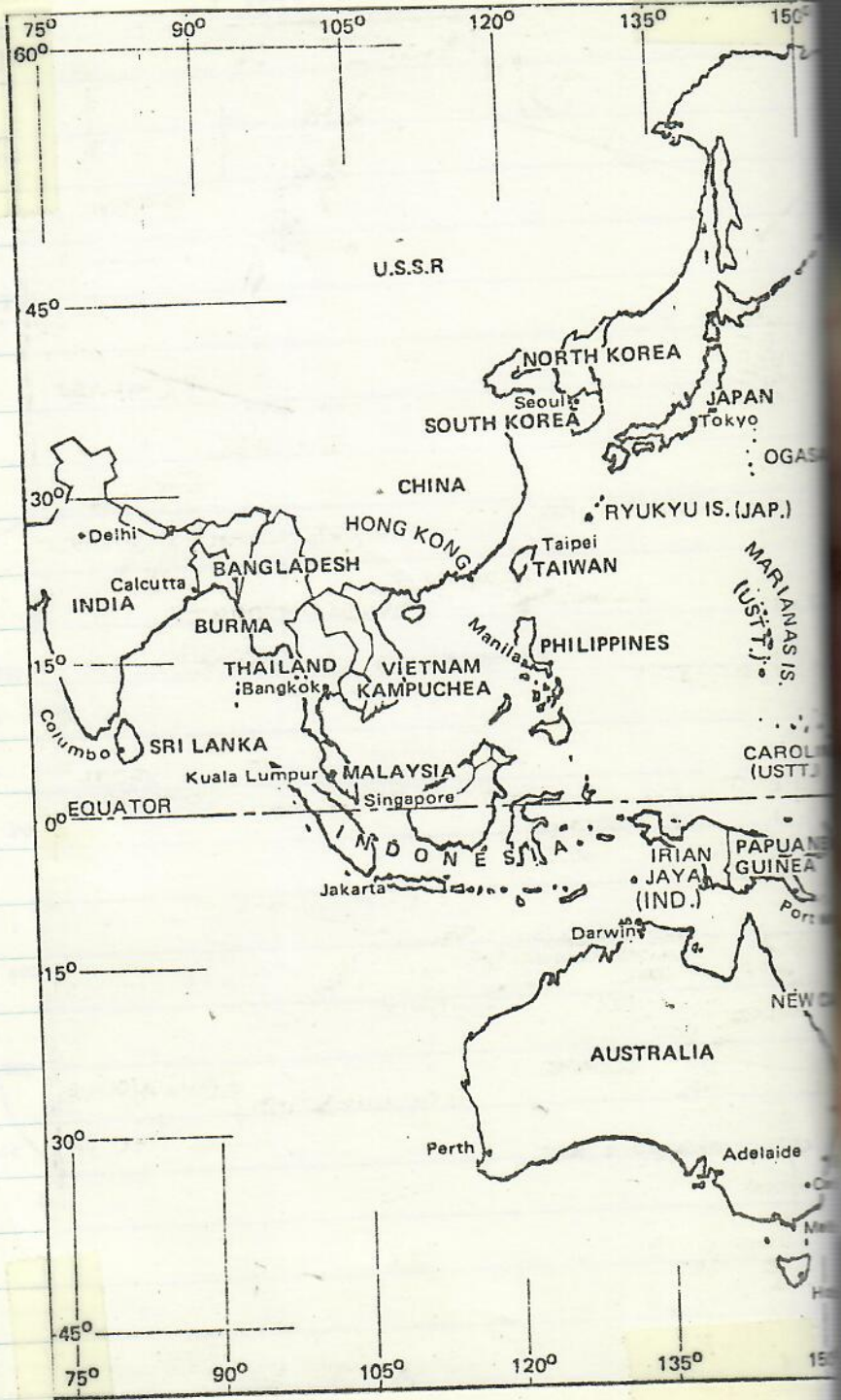
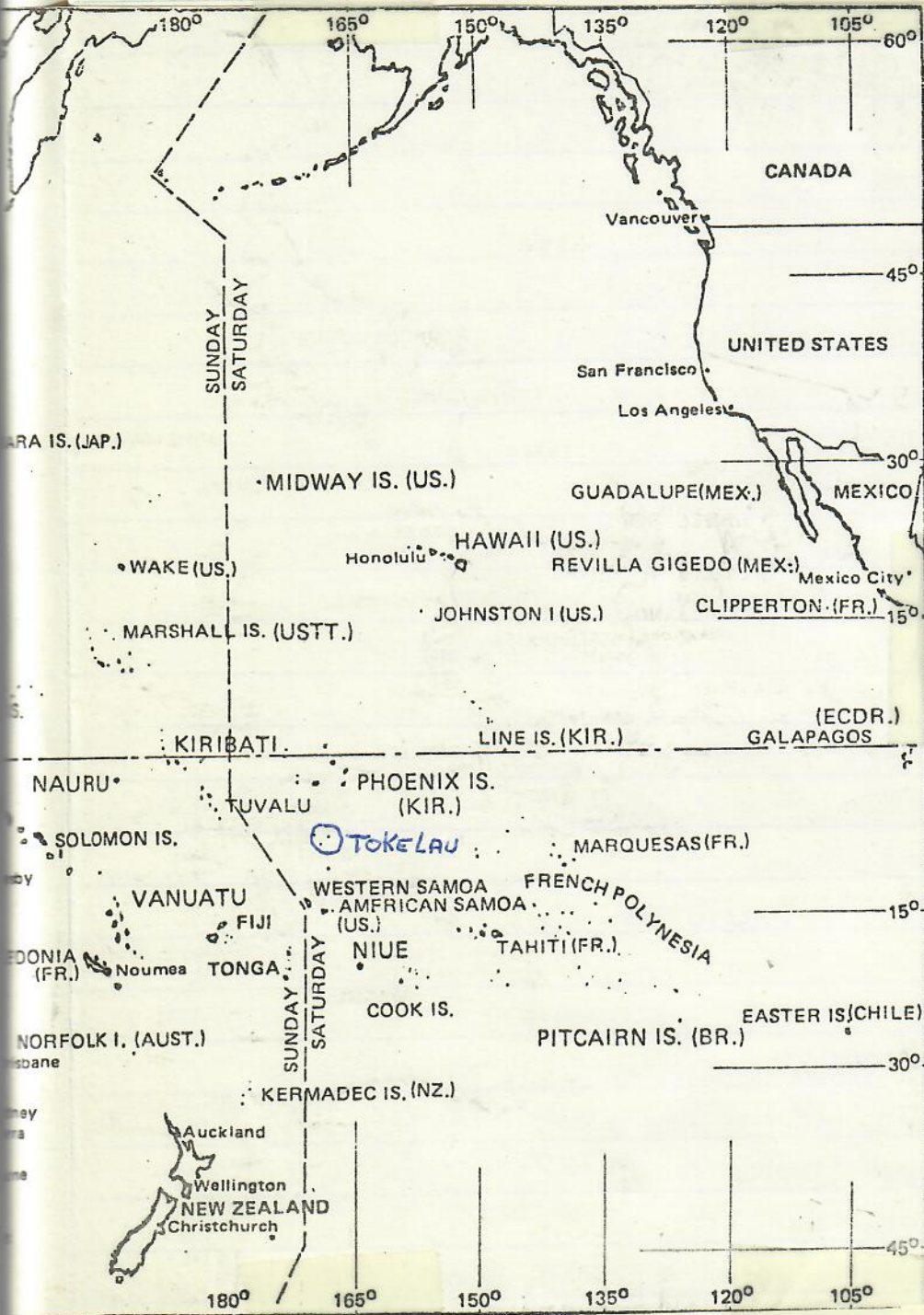


Fig. 1. Nukunonu atoll.

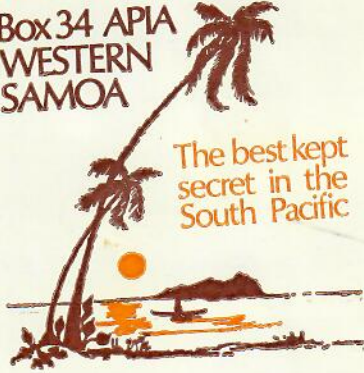






# TIAFAU HOTEL

Box 34 APIA  
WESTERN  
SAMOA



The best kept  
secret in the  
South Pacific

16 OCTOBER 1981

FRIDAY

Departed Honolulu ~ 5:30 PM  
 Continental Airlines flight 607 for  
 Pogo Pogo - \$289 each way - direct to Apia.

Consider  
 ID card

According to flight attendant, shop at airport  
 still (sells) turtle shell jewelry, as of  
 last night.

NUKUNONO - Matiti school

MR. G. J. Perez (Principal?)  
 (EOE)

Green; loggerheads, hawksbills

June - December

5-6 each night

20 caught during 1979

ATAFU - Matavala school (photo taken  
 of end of building)

MR. Tenise Atoni

Greens

Sept - Dec.

0-1-2 per month

Ban on eggs - catch turtle only

Sept - Nov: "Double call" period

FAKAOFO -

Hosea Kirifi

"ONE KIND"

"certain months"

"no restrictions"

AVERAGE 1 in every 2 months



24

# exchanged to #130 WS at DCAK

#118 US  
withdrew #210 from saving account at Hon Fed

16 Oct 81

~ 5<sup>hr</sup> - 15 min flight

FRIDAY

9:50 PM Arrive

Pago - met by Dick Wass  
 who informed me that William  
 wasn't going - no \$70 for RT Apia fare  
 Departed on 737 Polynesian Airlines  
 at 10:45 PM - Arrive Faleolo 11:10 PM.  
 Cab to Tiafau Hotel - \$10 WS  
 Hotel - \$26 WS.

17 OCT 81  
SATURDAY

APIA

Up about 6 AM - 6:30 AM walked to  
 market - noted lobsters, crabs  
 and fish - but no turtles  
 Walked to Aggie Grey's Hotel.  
 Saw burned-out WSTEC (?) building  
 across from market. Returned to  
 market several times during the day.

Breakfast at Tusitala Hotel - \$3.50  
 noted employee spraying bug insecticide  
 on everything.

Visited Tokelau office  
 Bought a 2-liter plastic bottle  
 of grape soda - \$2.97  
 Pineapple - .55  
 Lime soda - .45

Walked through town a few times.  
 Called Farbridge at home.  
 Slept from 1-3 PM.

17 OCT 81

SATURDAY

Sent a telegram to Tina at 4:30<sup>PM</sup> - \$2.00  
 Walked up road to hospital.  
 Took a taxi back - \$0.80  
 Vailima beer at Tia Fay - \$0.60  
 Ate canned food in my hotel room -

7 PM

Took a taxi to the dock - \$3.00  
 M/V FRYENA (name changed FRIGOMARE).  
 Got my entry form from Makarita Hou.  
 Met John (Sharkindale) and daughter Kate.  
 Vessel departed dock at ~ 8:20 PM -  
 one Samoan stow away put off.  
 Informed by John that next  
 year budget will be \$2 million.  
 Also, over the next 4 years, UN  
 contribution will be 5 fold of  
 past 4 years.

Vessel charter will be once every  
 5 weeks - flying boat once  
 every five weeks.

3-pigs aboard for fono.

Slept in cabin - up - 6:30 AM.

18 OCT 81 BREAKFAST at 7:30 AM - Eggs, ham, papaya  
 SUNDAY Cabin mate - Sake - going back  
 after 14 years in NZ.

~~Took~~ remainder of photos on Roll 1.

Very calm seas, boat barely rolling.

Met Noko Pule of Nukunonu.

Hosea indicated that turtles, seabirds  
 are not owned by the landowner.

18 Oct 81  
 SUNDAY A Peace Corps person, probably Banner,  
 visited Tokelau ~ 1970 and spoke with  
 Councils - suggested (advised) that they not  
 eat the turtles' eggs. Restriction was  
 not adhered to for very long.

Person from Tuvalu <sup>works in Tokelau office</sup> recently heard  
 over the Samoa radio about  
 low incubation temperatures causing males.  
 Small turtle shells are  
 preserved, but too much work for  
 larger ones, ∴ discarded.

Interview with NIKO PULE from  
Nukunonu -

He just came in on FRYDNA  
 from fuel charter to Tokelau - returning  
 now. (LAST SATURDAY)

Recently, a larger turtle was  
 caught using a hook & line -  
 motor up to a copulating pair quickly -  
 other males nearby.

Shell of turtle still there.  
 Luciano Perez has several  
 shells. Niko only knows of  
 one kind of turtle. Every day  
 someone goes to the lots  
motu. (Later information indicated no, because  
 village work must be done on 2-3 days a week)

18 OCT 81

SUNDAY

other similar  
folklore in  
Polynesia?  
reference?

Hosea related belief of mother  
turtle returning to the areas when  
eggs hatch in order to eat  
the young turtles.  
Also that people can tell from <sup>egg</sup> when  
turtle will return to lay more  
eggs. Reported to have very good  
ability to determine exact date of  
return. The above also mentioned by  
others aboard ship.

Breakfast - Sausage  
Dinner - Chicken

Semu <sup>ULLI</sup> Ag & Fisheries officer

Man in charge of cargo - from Nukunonu

Report from prior Nukunonu resident -

Caught turtle nesting on main village  
island on September 29, 1981. Big green.

Elder told him of narrower turtle (different)  
with center ridge nesting on Nukunonu -  
couldn't capture it.

Priest used to keep turtle in walled  
enclosure.

Attempts told by ~~Sakaia~~ <sup>Sakaia</sup> PATELESIO to raise  
hatchlings in wooden bowl at Fakoo -  
died. Disturbance of sand recognized as  
eggs hatching.

19 Oct 81 UP ~ 5:30pm - islets of  
 Monday Nukunonu could be seen as  
 sun/light arrives. Rain showers  
 in area. Church is prominent  
 landmark. MV Fryssa pulled  
 right up to reef.

Gas line missing on gas whole  
 boat motor, so Nukunonu  
 boat came out.

7PM Semu and I went to copra  
 shed and met his employe  
 Proceeded to boat  
 shed on lagoon side. I walked  
 back to ocean side while they  
 were preparing boat. Took  
 two polaroid photos for people  
 (elders & young kids).  
 Motored to Gary Motu. Saw 5 dy's;  
 + I reported on the inside of the  
 lagoon.

MOTORED  
 with  
 MR. ALOFA/ISAIA

Walked beach - sand sample taken.  
 Mosquitoes bad. Noted dead rat  
 and traps for rinhoseros beetle.  
Stenella offshore near reef. Yellala on shore  
 Lots of debris along vegetation line -  
 from coconuts. Returned to main  
 island at ~ 11 AM - into wind  
 (rough for small aluminum boat) and  
 passing rain showers.  
 Walked to enclosure where turtle

"TOKELOU" - means North  
- north weather -

29

OCT 81  
MONDAY

walked to boat motor shed where Henry Joseph showed me the shell taken last week -  $\varphi?$  41 inches CL  
reported kept in captivity - but not there.

(FUVACU)  
DR. SELUKA - filling in at Apia office for Dr. who is at UH for Masters of Public Health.  
Departed Nukunono ~ 12:20 PM - for Fakaofa - Two Sisters in cabin.

"AI

SOKULA"

FIJIAN -  
hit reef  
in Feb 1980

Fuel charter  
for TOKELAU  
enroute to TUVALU

FUEL REMOVED -  
BEER CONSUMED  
BY VILLAGE  
28,000 cans  
K.C. beer

Arrived about 4:30 pm - saw ship on reef. Did not go ashore, but watched boats taking people and cargo ashore.

Departed Fakaofa about 7 PM for ATAFU. Night passage to Atafu, arriving ~ 6 AM.

Spent the Day on ATAFU.

Met the Faifale on the boat -  $\leftarrow$  <sup>NO</sup> (SEGALO ALEHANA)

Spent the day in village and visiting the motu.  
Returned to FRYDNA ~ 5:45 PM  
vessel departed ~

BACKNOTES ON NUKUNONU VISIT 10-19-8  
and subsequent discussion with Sisters -

Walk on Long Motu revealed areas  
with heavy beach shingles - rock -  
interspersed with sand.

Reef flat is very narrow - only a  
short distance to deep water.

Saw white Terns and Noddy Terns.

Saw carapace of female green turtle  
that was "hooked" while mating  
last Saturday (Area where captured -  
recall that men were out fishing  
at night).

HENRY Joseph & wife Louisa  
are working on Nukunonu  
for two years - been there now  
for ~3 months.

TUAHIVI VALU  
(Backbone) (eight)

Believed to mean a very large turtle -  
measures 8 stretched hand along  
the backbone.

FONU UNA  
(scale)

FONU PUHI  
(sharp - long nose - cut)

Tel. 677-4276  
12-6-81  
GONE TO FIJI

31  
" Father Joseph Topeto Filipo  
St. Joseph's Church  
97,675 Farrington Hwy  
Waipahu, Hawaii 96782

KEA - young turtle  
Section of Long Motu where most turtles  
found - "TEWHUE"

FATHER IOSEFO TOPETO

has been at ~~the~~ Nukunonu for 3 years -  
now in Hawaii. Has keep a  
turtle in stone enclosure (dug out).  
He has been gone for - month.  
only a catechist there now.

House near enclosure, cared for  
turtles - kept children from throwing  
rocks at it.

TORELAVANS - Sister (Sr.) J. Perez SOLN

SISTERS JULIANA - (most informative)  
& TOMINIKO

Blood of turtle collected & cooked;  
scooped out of body cavity after  
plastron removed. Blood shared among  
people - given in cups or coconut shells.

Juvenile turtles are sometimes caught  
in crabs at Nukunonu

Luciano Perez - very enterprising;  
Principal of school; runs  
a small bar; has a Nikoros III  
& 8mm movie camera (filmed  
dancing 10-21 evening).

INATI -  
Sharing



NUKUNONU (cont)

Small eggs from within turtle will become hard when cooked.  
 one Method of cooking shelled eggs involves burning palm fronds on top of clutch.

(Prefer not) can't eat eggs if they are more than 30 days old.

continued (10-25-81) FAKAOFU → NUKUNONU  
 interview SUNDAY

Sister -

Raw blood and fluid distributed to villagers in cup or coconut shell -  
 Turtle is often "steam cooked" -  
 wrapped in leaves in <sup>earth-rock</sup> oven.

People and children sing songs to the turtle - or talk alot while it is on its back after being captured - This is believed to keep the meat from "turning watery or shrinking".

Four sections of <sup>coconut</sup> plantations at Nukunonu Village island - TE KAMU

NONU - Morinda citrifolia (Indian Mulberry)

20 OCTOBER 1981

ATAFU

TUESDAY

Morning

INTERVIEW

with KALOLO MIKA

Master fisherman - 78 years old; second oldest man on the island - brother is older. Son of Gordon MacGregor's informant MIKA MAYOR (POLE NUKU) TEMA NOVATA also present.

Greens - the most common Hawksbills - use for shell in making fishing hook. Catch them on the bottom while sleeping. Never heard of or seen them nesting.

Not familiar with loggerheads or others.

In the recent past (~10 years), <sup>7-15?</sup> 10-20 per year have been caught.

When he was young, remembers ~80 per year males & females, adults only - not including the small ones.

He knows of no restrictions in the past. 3-4 have been captured this year.

No family beliefs of not eating.

There are individuals who prefer not to.

Turtle is considered a "sacred fish" - must be cut up first and divided for sharing - ATAFU ~ 76 families.

Recently a law <sup>EDDPS</sup> has been made to  
outlaw the taking of eggs - (with?)  
But it is necessary to look at  
the eggs (a few) to determine when  
the turtle will come back to lay  
more.

STATED THAT:

FEMALE TASTES BETTER THAN MALE; AND IT IS BIGGER. No difference in taste reported between green and hawksbill, ~~or male & female.~~  
No poisoning ever reported from turtles  
(Fenise Atoni) - father is oldest man  
in village; KALOLO is his <sup>young</sup> brother  
(seen from ship)

Green turtles eat Hehema (velvella)  
and "greenish" limu.

Hehema is a common site  
in Topelau - Large jellyfish  
and physalia (small with float) are  
also known.

There has been a practice of keeping  
turtles in bowls to raise, but not  
until maturity because facilities  
aren't adequate.

They don't like the taste of turtles  
that are raised in captivity.  
Shells aren't used for decoration.  
Bones (carapace) are eaten by young  
men because their teeth are good;

He noted  
that there  
is not much  
to eat.

20 OCT 81 The old men eat the belly, soft  
TUESDAY for their teeth.

Head given to oldest man in village  
"TOKEN OF RESPECT"

He has heard the story about  
mother turtle coming back to eat  
the hatchlings, but can't confirm  
its accuracy.

\*

→ I promised to send him a copy of  
MacGregor's book.

No tags ever seen, but will report  
Semu if they come across one.

I provided information on migrations  
and turtles stocks/conservation.

Everything of the turtle is eaten except  
the bill.

He has no idea where the turtles  
go when they are not at Atafu.

Some people do save small turtles  
from wood, but there are none here  
now.

No placenames relating to turtles.

June-July? (mating)  
 Now, is the nesting season.  
 They believe that the females  
 become weak because the eggs are  
 in their belly.

Methods of catch: Traditional - noose on flippers  
 "Hook" is a modern method

Spears not used

Hooks and nooses are used when  
 there is not a sufficient number of  
 men present to take the turtle(s)  
 by hand.

At each place where I showed  
 drawings of the leatherback, great  
 interest was expressed in the species.

Interview ended ~11 AM. I  
 took polaroid photos; and 35mm  
 of family members and boy with a  
 pet brown noodle (~3/4 grown).  
 Turtle pins distributed to children  
 in house. Fan given to me.

Proceeded to motor immediately to  
 the east of island where village  
 is located. Show nesting area  
 where turtle was taken 1-2 weeks

20 OCTOBER 81

TUESDAY

Boat operator  
w/ Semu & KILI KORO

ago. Area very rocky; 2 photos taken; just beneath sand surface egg were present - large and almost certainly from the green turtle, one partially torn - several others seem to be distorted - rigid and firm. A few other dehydrating. High Tide mark goes almost to nesting site, which is just inside the vegetation line. Sand areas amongst beach rock.

were these  
all dug &  
reburied?

HARD TO  
BELIEVE THAT  
A GREEN  
TURTLE NESTED  
HERE,

Pemphis acidula

Photo taken at boat mooring site, with aluminum boat right up along side beachrock shoreline - "GAGIE" tree (a dense hard wood) appears in this photo. (Later I saw a KUPAVA tree).

We next surveyed and walked along the long motu situated in the east and south of Atafu atoll. Lots of high piles of fist-sized beachrock - 10' high in places. At other areas, low slabs of extensive beachrock are present. Sandy nesting-beach areas seem to be limited.

Saw the Taiwan boat (longliner?) on the reef (very close to shore). Photos taken. Reported to be 1 or 2 more. Fleet

fished in are ~ 2 years ago. when boat  
hit in rain squall, lights were on  
and village came to get crew. other  
boats in fleet rescued them - Makarita's  
husband was aboard one of them.  
It is also reported that the Faipule  
had one of the boats blasted off  
by a New Zealand team.

No other nesting sites seen.  
Returned to village at about  
2:30 pm. Sema played cards  
at meeting house; I bought some  
postage (stamps) and mailed a note  
to C. Taylor.

Met Terise ATONI (Head school  
master). He reports that throwing  
the bones of a turtle back  
into the ocean is good because  
it will bring (attract) turtles to the  
island (note that this would be with  
cooked bones).

Sat and talked with ATANI family  
Woman - Melane (Swain's father; TUUKU mother)

Grandmother - Puosei

Grandfather - ALUIA

Mele - 10-12 daughters

Pua

Solonaima 4 yrs

Tekako 3 yrs

NOTE -  
Bled beloned  
70 Repell in Hawaii

Met at ATAFU - first return after 21 years:

ETUACE NOUATA  
619 F NO. VINEYARD  
HONOLULU 96817

20 OCTOBER 81

TUESDAY

35mm photos taken  
and polaroid presented.

They gave me 4 tiger cowrie shells

ATAFU FAIPULE -

AMUSIA PATEA

(Always friendly and helpful to me)  
(Recipient of turtle information literature)

ATAFU Police office - came out on the  
boat with me! Son was injured  
in motorbike accident in New Zealand.

ACENI VILIAMU

(ALAN)

Walked around village - several path  
photos taken - straight, clean walkway  
Last photo on roll is of the end  
of school - significant dates of  
ATAFU painted there - including  
1944 USCG.

Remains of CG station and pig  
raising area located beyond  
school, but I did not walk there.

Board boat ~ 5:45 PM

Young boys - stowing away -  
took about 45 minutes to find them.  
- 170 people aboard from ATAFU.



overnight trip to Fakaofo -  
 21 Oct 81 I went ashore at ~ 8:15 am  
 WEDNESDAY

on beachrock  
 Welcomed by coconut shell drink  
 of VAIHALO - warm, thick, sweet  
 coconut drink.

Proceeded with suitcases to  
 fale set aside / water available  
 for ATAFU people.

Had tea and bread with  
 Fai'pule - welcoming speeches given.

Walked around village and to  
 Tokelau office administration building  
 built up on beachrock. Other  
 house here is for Catholic catechist.

Many pigs kept on beachrock.

Took photos of girl feeding pigs  
 and men searing and skinning  
 pig.

mother  
 Sakaria took me to  
 SINIVA SOSENE house where

daughters  
 also in  
 photos.

they have a captive-reared green  
 turtle being kept in a plastic  
 rectangular container as a pet.

Photos & Polaroid.

Very light colored. Appears to  
 be in very good condition - not  
 emaciated. Children charge the  
 water every so often. Fed bread,  
 coconut and fish. 35 cm CL

21 OCTOBER 1981  
WEDNESDAY

A red alga growing in posterior area of carapace.

Reported to be 2½ years old. Turtle resulted from 1 of 4 eggs that were given (distributed) to the family and buried to hatch. This is the only one to hatch. Other families also had some reared turtles, but they got away when children took them for a swim in the lagoon.

Went to Fenua Fala with suitcases at ~ 2 pm. Moved into government (Tokelau office) house.

Met ELIZABETH <sup>erra</sup> PERRERA

VIA MOANA RIMONI

who took me to meet **IEREKIRIFI**

wood carver. He had one finished carapace (#65), which I later bought;

Also had 3 incomplete turtles - roundish carapace.

He carves carapaces from memory. Note that there are 5 laterals and 5 centrals. Marginal scutes are not accurate for any species.

Carvings (at least carapace) are from TAUSUNU wood (Messerschmidia).

ORDER

Saw colony  
of 4 sea turtles  
at school

Afternoon girls basketball and  
men's rugby at Fala school field.  
Evening dinner at house consisting  
of large fish that John got from his  
fish trap - photos taken of table.  
Went to dancing and singing at  
Fala - motor with VairMoard and  
drivey. Many photos taken of the  
event.  
Returned to Fala - 11:30pm

22 OCTOBER 1981

THURSDAY

John and Elizabeth report that  
two adult turtles were taken  
during early August while waiting -  
captured by 'hook and line' off  
channel entrance.

John bought at least one of these  
shells (♀) while I saw  
by his house in a decomposing  
condition. Heavy black in color -  
Lute samples obtained -  
Also a photo was taken of the  
shell with their two daughters,  
Pepe and Sophie size?

Report that Ianetta (Janette)  
& Luti (large lady at Fala) have shells (neither seen)

22 OCTOBER 1981 THURSDAY John's fish trap is close to shore at Fala and made of wood and chicken wire. There is reported to be a stone fish trap out on the reef flat (possibly Nemtia's). Turtles are never caught in them.

NEMIA is in charge of fish - harpooned a turtle during early August while walking on reef; it started to dive when <sup>(just before)</sup> he speared -

Man by the name of GAU reported to specialize in yellowfin and bonito. same?

Another fisherman is TEAO

Custom dictates that a man with a pregnant wife is not allowed to go out to catch turtles (wating pair) because he will scare them off. This was confirmed by Janet's (Dr. TINIELU's daughter) 8 month pregnant Tokelauan on Fala - photos taken also a polaroid.

HORIANA ( $\frac{1}{2}$  Mauia/ $\frac{1}{2}$  Caucasian) and husband FETALAIGA ULI (Semu's brother) report that

or 7th day Adventist?

Jehovah Witnesses are now on Fakaofo -  
 can't practice openly - have been threatened  
 to be "set adrift." Reported that  
 7th-day adventists are on Atafu.

Family names  
 Perez - Nukunono  
 Pereira & Pedro - Fakaofo  
 Wilson - Atafu (county unknown)  
 (source unknown)

Jehovah witness reportedly can not  
 eat animals in which the blood  
 has not been drained ∴ can't  
 eat turtles on Fakaofo because of  
 method of kill employed.

Reported that ~2 years ago 56 eggs  
 were brought from Fenua Loa - an  
 island owned by the village - few  
 people go there because of the  
 closure to coconut gathering imposed by  
 elders.

Some of the eggs hatched  
 2 hatchlings were reared  
 of which 1 got away  
 1 sent to Samoa (to Aieyata hatchery?)

TAIULI is a large Kanava  
 tree -

22 OCTOBER 1981

THURSDAY

At about 11:20am, while I was waiting for Vaimona to take me to interview her grandfather, two large turtles were being dragged in from the reef flat off the (end of) Fala. An old piece of black (nylon) rope was used. These turtles were spotted/stranded by children, who first thought they were "sharks". Photos taken of John Senera and numerous people around turtles. They were pulled along in shallow water to the mooring area for boats - where they were both loaded into an aluminum boat.

Subsequently I went with them over to Fala. Measurements and observations recorded on the way, as follows:

FEMALE - 105 cm by 94.5 cm CL  
 mostly black, but some <sup>reddish-brown</sup> ~~was~~ brown and olive and clear blotches. Platyplepas on neck. Reddish and black color to dorsal <sup>flaps</sup> flippers  
 Tail (excised) - looked small and short compared to Hawaiian greens - tip to dorsal edge of skin where cut was made - 15 cm

MACE- 91 cm by 85.5 cm, Cf  
 Red alga seen on tail -  
Platylops on neck and tail.  
 Mostly olive, but also black  
 spots; with some white spots.

Neither turtle seems to struggle  
 very much - in boat they were on their  
 bellies, but did not try to crawl around.

At Fala, the turtles were taken  
 from the boat at one of the "landing"  
 ramps - placed on belly again  
 near water, but they did not try  
 to crawl away. No one seems  
 particularly excited about their  
 arrival - however, possibly this  
 was due to excitement of Fava and  
 forthcoming rugby trophy match this  
 afternoon.

After discussions with several  
 people, it was decided that butchering  
 and division of turtle would  
 not take place until tomorrow  
 morning. I therefore returned to  
 Fala to the rugby game.  
 (Turtles turned on backs)

During this game, a man from Nukunone  
 broke his humerus - probably in 2 places.  
 He is a Samoan married to a Tokelau woman

Powder & perfume regularly put  
on dancers when they did good.  
Also put on Nukunono people when  
they first left the island.

22 OCTOBER 1981

Thursday

and has not been back to Apia in  
10 years.

After the game, I had a light meal  
with players and people adjacent  
to the rugby field. Crew of FRYSTA  
was also present.

Motored to Fono dance this evening ~ 7:30  
hit the reef a few times - and saw  
the Alea, UN gifts, loaded to the  
bulwarks (with people).

Took 110 and some 35mm photos  
at the dance - including PALESAN (84 year  
old Nukunonoan dancing, after which he  
gave a <sup>TRADIT</sup> ~~soldier~~ talk) about performing  
Tokelau, rather than Tuvalu, Tahiti, etc.;  
Also photos of SAFATA TENISE (ATAFU)  
and Elisapeta (visiting Fakaofu home  
from New Zealand).

Dancing ended ~ 12:15am; Returned to  
Falala via Semu's older brother-in-law  
at ~ 12:45am - (mustache and yellow  
workman's hat).

Turtles were laying on backs in same  
place - no one around.



23 OCTOBER 1981  
FRIDAY

UP early and motored <sup>with John</sup> to <sup>Lark</sup> <sup>indab</sup>  
Fale by Jenu, but we  
ran out of gas about  $\frac{3}{4}$  way over.  
Another boat picked us up -  
arriving about 7:15 at Fale.

Noted kids throwing small stones  
at turtles - Also 1-2 boys were  
hitting them with palm leaves or  
other vegetation - at which time the turtles  
would move moderately.

At about 8:00 the turtle processing  
started - Female first - hit on  
neck and each shoulder with blunt  
end of sp. Surprisingly little  
movement from turtles - stunning seemed  
to be effective. About 5 or 6 hits  
made on each turtle.

MANY  
PHOTOS

Belly plate was then cut off in  
usual fashion and cups used  
to scoop out blood and fluids.  
Hitting apparently ruptures major  
vessels which then drain blood  
into the body cavity.

Egg yolks in ovaries were then  
removed and given to others  
who carefully separated them  
and placed into palm-fruit baskets.

23 OCTOBER 1981

FRIDAY

Turtle's front and hind quarters were then removed and quartered more - all other parts also removed. Fires were built to singe the skin and make it easy to peel off. One fire was used to cook the covered pots of blood.

The scales were taken of the plastron; but the shells (carapaces) were left intact - first reportedly for decoration of the meeting house; but later sold to Etere (of Tokelau office) for \$10 (he said \$50), and made to John Perreza (he still couldn't find it at the time of my departure). Other shells have reportedly been sold to people outside the island - but others have been treated here, but not properly so they deteriorated and discarded.

The GI tract was carried into the water and slit open longways, washing the contents out.

The male contained material all the way through tract - I estimate stomachs (2 seemed apparent) to be  $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  full. Algae consisted of *Turbina* and mostly ~~un~~ unidentified that

→ 1 DECEMBER 81 letter from Dennis Russell 51  
dried algae sample sent I.D. ed as

Valonia aegagropila

seemed to be the same as the contents from the small stuffed green turtle that originated from Fiji. A bird feather was found in the lower part of GI tract. Samples of material dried and saved.

The female's GI tract was completely empty - except for a piece of blue plastic (saved). see p. 79

After peeling scales, the turtles were sectioned, with front quarter sections going to Atafu and Apia and Nukunono; and Fono delegates at meeting.  
(Philpo)

KALEPO MATIVA, wearing a green T-shirt (Tokelau asi) presided over dividing the turtle into shares. Portions of a pig were also incorporated so there would be a reasonable portion. The title of the person who gives out the shares is TAUVAEGA.

After shares were laid out on leaves on the ground, the children started to arrive with pan, bowls, etc. Some shouts were made about 'come and get it' (?) and everyone stood around while Kalepo called out names

calling out family names

13 October 1981

FRIDAY

900  
people  
at  
FAKAOFO?  
∴  $\bar{x} \approx 12$   
per  
family?  
seems  
high ∴  
P.M.  
yearbook

from lists written on cardboard (4 pieces each containing 19 (76 total)). The largest family showed 18. Families with more extended members got bigger shares. Nearly everyone seemed to get a few egg yolks.

The entire affair was a group effort and everyone seemed to know exactly what they were doing. - kids (young boys included) Note that no women were seen involved in butchering and cleaning. It was reported that (at least) 300 eggs were counted out of the female. None had shells.

In my photos, a large man with a yellow T-shirt and white hair is Seritu IASONA.

The males gonads were readily ID'ed as such by the people. They looked small to me, compared with the Bellow's adult male autopsies at SCP. However, it was stated that this looked normal to them. The penis of the male's tail was pulled out (but not detached) and ~~was~~ singed that way.

No special staining  
to reproductive  
organs

At 2 houses on Fala (and possibly one on Fala)  
I saw young boobies being kept as  
pets. 53

The men who prepared the turtle ate  
the stewed blood - this was not  
shared.

Information from Kalipo and Nemia:

Female turtle - IKA FUA  
(fish) (egg)

Male - IKA TANE

Small turtle - KEA

→ If turtles first start nesting at  
Fenua Loa, then there will  
be many that season. If at  
Mataga first, then not so many.

[ FAIPULE of Fakaofo: VILI, SIMONE  
Pule Nuku : GOGO Zakaria

Last year, 6-10 turtles were taken;  
So far this year - 5

Tokelauans that lived on Sidney Island  
reported good turtle nesting. Once a large  
turtle came ashore - too big to turn - had to  
dig hole.

23 OCTOBER 1981

~~FRI~~ DAY

Ate lunch with Fono delegates - looked over Tui Tokelau stone (with recent head attached) - entire structure painted white. Hosea later reported it was originally 14 feet long - cut out of beachrock. Has always been at Fakafo. Missionaries broke it. Also Hosea referred to an early sailing vessel that found a stone god (made of a different stone (basalt?)) - it was carried away.

## NUKUNOAN INTERVIEW

During lunch, I interviewed PALESAN LEONE (84) for a short time through Sister Julianna. He stated that numbers of turtles are variable from year to year. The season is September - February. When he was young, 3-4 day would be taken (Big ones). In 1970, 14 were taken. He knows of a reddish turtle that is not common. It lays eggs. When it comes, lots of green turtles come. The reddish turtle comes from far away.

Sat around Semu's house for a while,  
then went to Nemua's house  
to interview: TUVALA (stated to be one of  
the most respected  
fishermen in islands)

When he was young (born 1916 - age 65)  
720 turtle were taken each  
season - mostly water.

Sept-Oct is the peak; season  
runs Aug-December.

Small green and hawksbills occur in  
the lagoon. More in former years,  
5 clutches of eggs have been taken  
this season. Eggs are taken  
to the elders, where the age is  
determined and statement made as  
to when turtle will return. They  
are accurate in this prediction.

Eggs are only good for 4 days,  
after which they are "watery".

The only restriction on turtles known  
is that they are a "sacred fish"  
oidi must be shared.

This also includes

Sail - TUANIV and  
Swordfish - TIUVAKA (sākylā per Macgregor)

and porpoise (harpooned, and driven  
ashore with rafts banded  
together - but rare)

and whales (tāfolā per Macgregor)  
Shark is not sacred.

23 OCTOBER 1981

FRIDAY

Nemia is reportedly able to catch sharks, by using a baited hook and line while he is in the water. Claims that shark won't bite person holding the line.

"Bonanza"

If lots of skipjack <sup>or yellowfin</sup> are captured, then they must also be shared.

This way not be done at the present time.

If turtle is taken without sharing, the person is rebuked before the 'Council of Elders'. Nemia's grandfather's brother caught a turtle on the water and ate it himself. To this day, his family is sometimes <sup>modified</sup> referred to as village laughing stock. i.e. "You don't want to be like ~~the~~ soal so family"

Nemia's

Grandfather's grandmother named FONU  
If one of the family dies, a turtle will be sought in (a day) or two.  
Nemia's aunt died, then he found a female stranded on the reef at low tide between <sup>Nemia's</sup> Fala and Fala.



23 OCTOBER 81 (NEMIA continued)

FRIDAY Turtles sometimes nest on lagoon side beaches.

There are restrictions on visiting the islands designed to protect conserve coconut resource - both copra production and drinking nuts.

Semu reported that 1a copra stage nut takes ~1 year; drinking nut not less than 6 months.

one group of motu at Fakaofo can be visited all the time,

but others including watagi are periodically closed and opened by the Council of Elders

TOE'AINA

(Secondary effect of helping to conserve turtles?)

There are individuals in village who do not eat turtles, but not whole families.

In the late afternoon, the people from ATAFU started boarding the FRYSNA. For awhile it was reported that the vessel experienced generator problem, but this problem was repaired. ~170 people from Atafu when allotted only ~60, ∴

23 OCTOBER 81  
FRIDAY

a special trip had to be made to Atafu.

The last aluminum boat going out lost power in the channel (fuel line not connected properly) and swamped. Only men were aboard and no one was hurt. This was fortunate, in that earlier boat had contained women, children and old people.

Motor back to Fala about 8:30pm. Talked for a while with HORIANA & FETALAIGA <sup>UILI</sup> ULIHI, Semu's wife, Viamoara, and her friend. Tried Samoan brewed wine.

Beach section of TIALAU  
2-3 fellows by landing area indicated that last Saturday found a clutch of 101 eggs on the ocean side. Eggs were given to ~~the~~ elders, who apparently distribute them among themselves.

24 OCTOBER 1981

SATURDAY

Up early and motored to Fagle at ~ 6:30am; departed with Semu and at 7:15am for Matagi motu. noted 5 brown boobies and a few white terns flying near the motoring boat. 7:45-8:30pm - Crossed Matagi to the ocean side - reef once again, very close to shore, and noticeably pink (algae composition). Led to place where turtle had nested many months ago (possibly last year). Coconuts sprouting in area.

see  
MAP  
page 12  
"Reported  
PUKAEO"  
beach  
section  
where we  
landed

Semu worker found turtle while laying poison for rats on motu. Got both the turtle and the eggs. They tied its flippers to a pole and carried it across to the boat. On other occasions when there are lots of men, they drag the turtle back.

Noted <sup>(a few)</sup> Reef Herons along the shoreline (potential predators) -

Topelan name - MATUKU  
other possibilities present include ghost crabs, hermit crabs and polynesian rats.

Walked beach for a distance, but no nest sites seen. Noted again that high tide comes almost to

Turtle  
 postcard 10-2781

 Odele Stanley.  
 P.O. Box 34. C/O Tiafau Hotel.  
 Apia.  
 Western Samoa.

24 OCTOBER 1981 SATURDAY

 the vegetation line. When we reached  
 the last rocky point area, we cut across  
 and waited for boat. Coastline  
 comprised of alternating sand areas, then  
 beach rock extending up high.

 Maximum tide reported to be 5 feet.  
 Notes that tide is needed to get  
 turtles in over the beachrock to the  
 sand area. photos BW

 Motored to Matagi (end of island)  
 (see map on page 12) -  
 Copra drying stands present here.  
 Beach consists of a relatively small bay.  
 photos BW no signs of nesting.

 Motored to TIALAV (site reported where  
 10:45pm clutch was found last Saturday) -  
 Found 5 digs under vegetation - some  
 holes at first looked like partially dug  
 egg chambers - but they were probably  
 dug by human hands looking for eggs.

24 OCTOBER 1981

SATURDAY

Proceeded to Fenua Loa -  
 Village land; tarp shelter noted on  
 shore. Walked along north edge of  
 water to get to back side - dugged  
 sharp beachrock blackish in appearance.  
 Arrived eventually at what is reported  
 to be the only sand area on the  
 islet - pitifully small - BW photos  
 taken. Under the vegetation I  
 noted a few places that may have been  
 last year's digs.  
 Saw PUA tree on the way out.

Also several Pisarias.

Islet has a relatively large  
 "lake" in the center - greenish  
 water - fairly clean - possibly ~15' deep.  
 Only one surface connection to the  
 ocean, that is nearly bare at low tide.  
 Fencing or rock walling would  
 appear to be easy (unless  
 area subject to storm waves).  
 What caused this depression?

It looks similar to the A-bomb  
 crater I walked around at Enewetak.

Some said that John Larkindole  
 thought this might be good for turtle  
 farming. Small sand beach present.  
 Problems would be food, fencing.  
 One idea might be to put female

SATURDAY

24 OCTOBER 81

in lake" when caught, <sup>resting or</sup> waiting, and allow her to rest - but, problems of fertility and emergence of *Schoblingia* into lake.

While motoring to Fenua'oa we saw ~4 ~~th~~ aluminum boats, and ~2 wooden outriggers (one with sail) mostly anchored with people in the water searching along patch-reef edges. Senku suggested that they are looking for *fasua* (clams) to send back on the boat to Apia.

Visited Ag experiment station island, which is one islet south of Fale. Saw healthy productive papayas in normal substrate of islet.

Plots were present of mulch soil (sawdust and soil) growing pumpkins and (watermelons?).

The soil was obtained from motu PALEA - which has a lot of birds resting/roosting in its *Pisonia* trees. In 1965 (or 1966, scientists from the US (Pacific Project) came in a yach, and spent a few days at Palea.

Visited poultry house - good looking meat birds - bought in Apia.

Reportedly fed coconut and sometimes fish. If they know the day of the week that they get fish - jump up and down wildly.

Returned to Fale, about 1 pm.  
Ate deep-fried small needle fish at Semu's parents house.  
Watched cricket game for awhile.

Went to <sup>MATIVA</sup> Kalipo's house for clarifying interview. (daughter's name - FAEA)  
Head is not now being given to oldest man on island at Fakaofo - it is just put in among the other shares.

He plans to ask elders to reinstitute this practice.

Eggs in oviduct usually show 70-90 first laying; 100-200 second & third layings; last laying 70-90.

Kalipo does not now have any preserved shells.

The one that Nepia speared rotted and was thrown away. He put it on the back and poured hot water in, but it leaked out through the hole left by the spear. This turtle was not eaten because flesh was found to be watery.

This point  
stated  
morning of //  
10-25-81

24 OCTOBER  
SAT.

and shrunken. This point was never mentioned by Nemia.

Occasionally turtles in this state are found - no external signs (i.e. tumors or emaciated plastron). Some people have eaten this, but did not get sick.

Poisoning from turtles. never heard of.

Toward the latter portion of interview, word was received that his next door neighbor had died - ~ 60's. Cause unknown - but possibility of cancer suggested later by Horianna. Custom has it that all activities of village stop and preparations are made for a funeral. Men gathered in meeting house to build a wooden coffin - Women assembled to sew a cloth decoration for the edges of the coffin.

Horianna mentioned that one of the women had told her that the turtles stranding on the reef represented a sign that bad luck would occur. This was not confirmed.



by others that I questioned.

I spent some time at the house of Mary (Nzer; nurse) and her Tokelau husband - Astie Alepsio Isaac. Elizabeth brought me the shark jaw (tiger) that had been <sup>hooked</sup> caught off Fala, landing early this year. Reported from a 9-10 foot shark. Night fishing.

Shark bites are very rare in Tokelau.

MOKOHA - tiger shark

TANIFA - white pointer

Nemia stated that we had caught a tiger shark in Pago in 1974 that had a turtle in its stomach.

In the late afternoon I walked around the village - funeral was in progress - singing took place. Some men were on the motu (Protestant cemetery, to the south) digging the grave.

Motored back to Fala with John and Elizabeth and children just after dark - very small aluminium boat.