

FILE OF GEORGE  
BALAZS

KURE  
1970s G. BALAZS  
FILE

II KURE  
1970s - 1990s GH BALAZS FILE

# Shipwrecked on Kure Island

ON OR ABOUT Thanksgiving Day in 1870, a captain's gig with five men aboard tried to land through the winter surf at Hanalei on Kauai. All but one man drowned in the landing.

The gig's sole survivor had a message for the authorities — a message of shipwreck and survival on one of the remote Hawaiian Islands. Help and rescue were needed.

There was no telegraph, cable or radio in 1870. Messages were delivered by hand, or as in this case, word of mouth.

Unrecorded is how the news of 88 stranded, starving, thirsty shipwrecked men on the island more than 1,200 miles away was transmitted, and believed, by officials of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

Did the lone survivor gasp out the details along with the sea water he swallowed as the gig tumbled through the surf? Did he realize the importance of his words since his four companions were dead?

Or was the news calmly told to a Waioli missionary as the man dried out and recuperated in the mission house near Hanalei beach?

Who was the messenger who rode the horse to the port of Nawiliwili? Who took the word aboard an inter-island ship to what official in Honolulu?

WHOEVER AND WHATEVER, the Kingdom of Hawaii dispatched the government steamer Kilanea. It rescued the 88 survivors in January 1871 from Kure Island, a coral atoll about 55 miles west of Midway Island. Both Midway and Kure are part of the Hawaiian archipelago.

(However, Midway was not politically a part of the kingdom nor is it part of

## Tales of Old Hawai'i

By Russ Apple



the State of Hawaii. Since 1867, Midway has been directly owned by the United States and administered by the U.S. Navy. Kure became a part of the kingdom in 1886 and is now part of the state.)

The juxtaposition of American Midway and Hawaiian Kure were important

### *Tragedy strikes those trying to get help.*

to the five men in the gig. The gig belonged to the USS Saginaw.

What had happened in 1870 was that the Saginaw left Midway and went aground on Kure's reef in the dark morning hours of Oct. 29. The shipwreck was no error on the part of the captain.

He knew where Kure was. His lookouts had spotted it and he was backing away to safety.

Then a major steamline burst. Without power, the Saginaw drifted onto the

coral reef. All 93 men aboard got ashore on Green Islet, about a mile long, half a mile wide, and all sand.

AMIDST KURE'S LOW SHRUBS of naupaka, the American bluejackets decked over the captain's gig and launched it toward Honolulu, about 1,200 miles away. The five men aboard were to deliver the message of the wreck and its location.

Like most of the northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Kure's list of shipwrecks is long. Many stranded sailors cursed the island but called it home while they waited for rescue.

Castaways on Kure were found with such frequency during the 1800s that Hawaii's King Kalakaua ordered a permanent shelter built on the atoll.

Tanks were built to hold water and supplies were cached there.

This was in 1888. Kalakaua sent Cols. James Boyd and James Harbottle to take possession for the kingdom, to give it an Hawaiian name, and set up the humanitarian facilities for future castaways.

Kure's Hawaiian name was Moku Papapa. Kure was the name of a Russian navigator. Kure has been the most lasting name — since 1827 — but some charts label the low atoll as Ocean Island. There are other Ocean Islands in the Pacific, but only one Kure. The name of Moku Papapa never stuck.

Those facilities built by the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1888? Within a year, the supplies had been stolen, the drains on the water tanks opened, and the shelter partially broken apart and used for firewood.

Vandalism on Pacific islands is not new

Friday, February 5, 1982 Honolulu Star-Bulletin A18

A-6 Tuesday, March 29, 1983 The Honolulu Advertiser

## Japanese fishing boat seized

The Coast Guard has seized a Japanese fishing boat with a crew of 17 on allegations of fishing within U.S. waters.

The Shinmei Maru 21 was seized by the Honolulu buoy tender Sassafras in waters near Kure Island, about 1,200 miles west-northwest of Oahu, said Coast Guard spokesman Bob Schenk. He said the boat was

spotted Friday within the 200-mile fishing limit by a Coast Guard C-130 Hercules on patrol.

The Japanese boat and the Sassafras are expected to arrive here Thursday afternoon, and the case will be turned over to the U.S. attorney.

Schenk said it was the fifth such seizure since the fisheries law went into effect in 1976.

# Japan Fishing Vessel Seized

A Japanese fishing vessel has been seized by the U.S. Coast Guard for entering the 200-mile fishery conservation zone, thus violating the 1976 Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, a Coast Guard spokesman said yesterday.

The Shinmei Maru No. 21 is being escorted to Honolulu Harbor by the Coast Guard buoy tender Sassafras. Both are expected to arrive here Thursday afternoon.

A Coast Guard spokesman said the vessel was spotted Friday by a Coast Guard C-150 aircraft near Kure island. The vessel was seized and the crew charged with fishing within a fishery conservation zone without a permit, the spokesman said.

He said there were 17 crewmen aboard the ship.

Once here, the vessel will be turned over to the U.S. marshal, while the U.S. attorney will determine the legal implications of the seizure, the spokesman said.

# FORUM

## the Readers' Page

### Ballet's Tour

Our sincere thanks to Pierre Bowman for the human interest coverage of the Midway-Kure tour of the Honolulu City Ballet. It was quite an experience for the members of the company. We hope we have gained some "Friends" for ballet—from Mr. Bowman's article it would surely seem so.

Marion N. Vaught  
President  
Friends of the Ballet

FEB 25, 76 SB

# Fishing Boat Breaking Up

The grounded Japanese sampan Houei Maru No. 5 is breaking up on Kure atoll near Midway Island, the Coast Guard said yesterday.

There has been no sign of the 17 fishermen who were aboard the vessel on Feb. 4 when it left Midway.

State wildlife officials warned last week that if the ship was left to the elements and broke up on the reefs of Kure, it would create hazards for seals,

green turtles and birds.

A SIX-DAY, 10,000-square-mile search for the crewmen was conducted after a Coast Guardsman was put aboard the sampan by helicopter in heavy seas and found nobody aboard.

It is not known whether the crew managed to float a 25-man life raft equipped with a homing beacon, the Coast Guard said.

A routine notice to mariners has alerted ships to be on the watch for the raft.

# A Place of Restless Contentment

Continued from C-1

ment because it gives him lots of responsibility.

There is a strange quality of restless contentment among the men. Each will tell you that the hardest thing is being so far from

family and friends, wives and lovers. Each knows exactly when his Kure tour is over, and how long he's been on the island.

**BUT EACH WILL ALSO** tell you something very positive about life on Kure. One will say that ping pong and volleyball are big

on the island, and get as much enthusiasm into his voice as a first string quarterback on a hot high school football team. Another will tell you about 200 spiny lobsters in a cave in the lagoon. Another will tell you how he water skied twice before he came here—and now you ought to see him

skimming the water on one ski.

If the look and feel of the island are a surprise on Kure, the men and their attitudes of acceptance are just as astonishing.

The statistics do not do it justice here.

## Fishing Boat Owners Warned

Const Guard officials here have warned the Japanese owners of a fishing boat aground at Kure atoll near Midway Island that they are responsible for preventing pollution.

3/3/76 S-B

# Life Amidst the Gooney

Continued from C-1

There is a sense of impermanence on Midway, probably because of the phase-out of dependents. Some of the family housing is shabby. A couple of the barracks are downright slums. Over and over, there are broken windows and torn screens and peeling paint and mildew.

The Consolidated Club, a low blue-and-white wooden structure near the lagoon, has a dining room, bar, game room and lounge. All of it smells of mildew and popcorn.

A waitress at the club informs a customer that she can't fill his order for a glass of milk. He makes light of it, saying that it's probably better that the milk is going to a child on the base somewhere.

"THIS COMMAND IS SCREWED," says the waitress by way of unsolicited reply. "I doubt it (that a child would get the milk). They're probably all breast fed. That's the only way they're going to get it."

Actually, the waitress indulges in hyperbole. There's plenty of milk at the Navy exchange. It's no great bargain at \$1.08 a half gallon, only pennies less than Honolulu prices. The exchange looks like a fine place for groceries, except for produce. The broccoli is on the yellow side, and the celery is tan and the tomatoes are green.

As a place to live, there's a range of opinion among Midway residents.

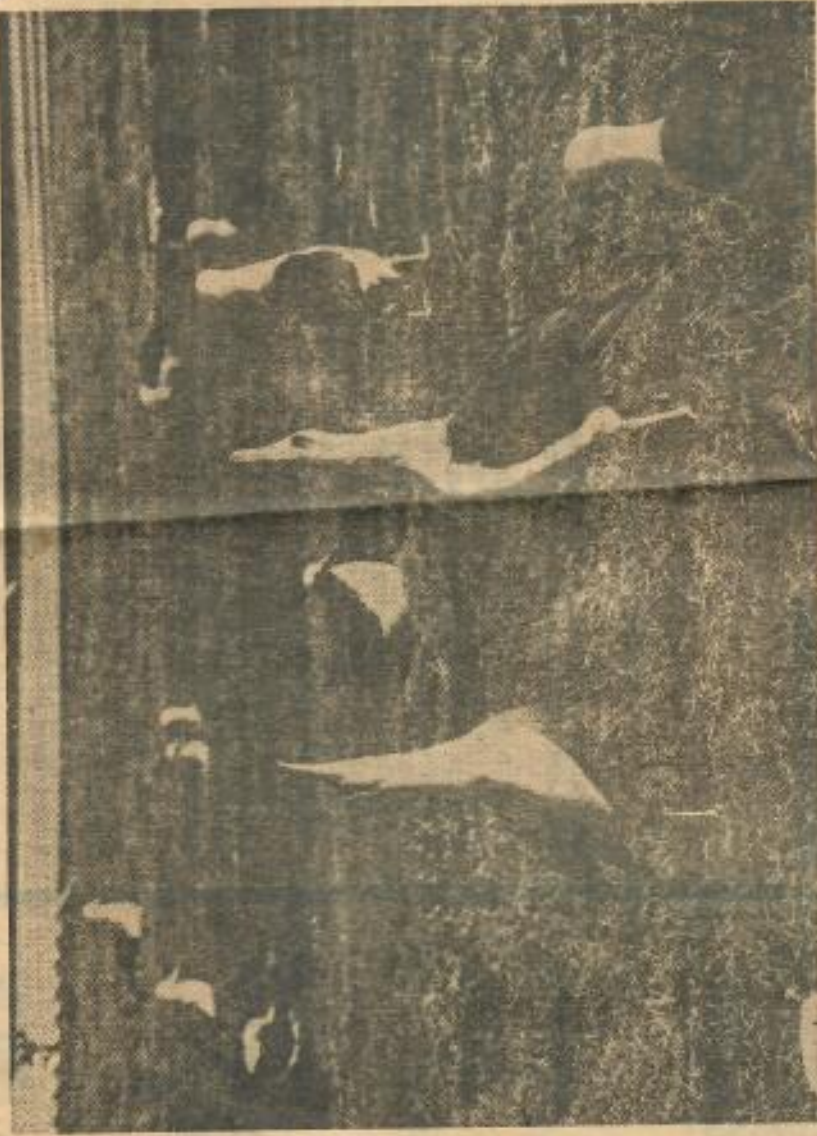
The athletic director for the base, who moonlights as a bartender, loves it. He praises the quiet living, the lack of cars and the good fishing. He is on his second tour on Midway—voluntarily. Some of the single people assigned to Midway aren't as happy.

A trio of single women, at the absolute bottom of the heap in the Navy pecking order, have a host of complaints.

"I'm doing time here. It's like a prison," says one. "That ain't fair."

ANOTHER COMPLAINS "YOU'RE SO FAR AWAY. Nothing's here. And it's filthy. A mess. Rats all over the place like you wouldn't believe."

Yet another echoes these sentiments:



"It's a great place."

Outside, in the nearby square where there's a gazebo and a huge cannon, a 15-foot statue of a gooney bird dominates the scene.

Late at night, the photographer sharing a room with this writer wakes. He can't figure out why his roommate is typing in the dark.

He isn't. It's merely the gooney birds outside, snapping their beaks.

—Pierre Bowman  
Star-Bulletin

"There's more animals and bugs than people."

Clustered near the center of "town" are the recreation facilities. The gym. The enlisted men's club—which is a room with pool tables, and a larger room that's a disco, all quite modern and jazzy. And there's a 12-lane bowling alley that's as spanking-new-snazzy as anything you'll see in Southern California.

At night, at the enlisted men's club, a man dressed in a sharp three-piece suit and high-heeled shoes flashes his Cartier lighter. He's obviously cultivating an image as the baddest dude on Midway. He offers an unsolicited opinion of Midway:

# Birds

*All day long the gooneys do their courtship dances. They rock from foot to foot and extend their beaks skyward while they emit a variety of whistling noises.*

# Life Amidst



*It's detente between man and gooseys on Midway after years of trying to get rid of the birds which nest where they please, next to sidewalks, in the middle of a yard or under a hedge.—  
Star-Bulletin photos by Ken Sakamoto.*

# the Gooney Birds

MIDWAY ISLAND—Officially, Midway Island belongs to the U.S. Navy. Realistically, it's for the birds.

The gooney birds.

They were here long before man. They will probably be here long after he's gone.

You step from a plane for your first look at the island. The overwhelming initial impression is the concrete of the airstrip and the huge, corrugated metal hangar. Then the eye goes a little farther, to an open field next to the airstrip. The initial impression of that field tells the mind that it's an old cemetery, filled with hundreds of headstones.

Then the mind says no. Research into Midway says the island has only five graves.

Those are not headstones. They are gooney birds.

EVERYWHERE YOU GO here, if the ground isn't covered with a building or with pavement, there are gooney birds. They far outnumber the human population of 1,500—700 Navy personnel and 900 dependents. Estimates on the gooney census run up toward 200,000.

The birds build their nests right on the ground, constructing the rough equivalent of a small child's sand castle. They nest where they please, next to sidewalks, smack in the middle of a yard, under hedges. A human presence doesn't phase a gooney. The birds merely snap their beaks together

er rapidly in a strange parody of applause when someone comes close.

All day long, the gooneys do their courtship dances. They rock from foot to foot and extend their beaks skyward while they emit a variety of whistling noises. Then they click beaks with each other and let out loud, peculiar moans, rather like a whoopee cushion on its last legs. Then the beaks clap again, sometimes sounding like someone running in zoris, sometimes in the more rapid mock applause. After that, there's a kind of short, mewling sound, and then that rude sighing again.

THE GOONEYS MATE for life and share the responsibilities in raising the young. They take turns sitting on the single baked-potato-sized egg in the nest, and after hatching take turns feeding their baby. They fly to the nest, regurgitate squid they have caught in the waves, and the baby pecks the squid from its parent's mouth. It is not pretty.

The birds are a navigation hazard on Midway, and over the years the Navy has tried a number of schemes to reduce the gooney population. They've tried high-frequency radio signals, roman candles, shotguns loaded with blanks, relocating birds to the Philippines, Japan and Guam, moving eggs to another atoll and beaming them with baseball bats.

Nothing worked.

One of the central problems is the gooney instinct.

Once a gooney is mature, it returns to within 10 or 12 feet of the spot where it was hatched. So the gooneys keep returning to Midway.

It's detente now, between man and gooney here. The birds are protected by law, and there's a \$500 fine and/or six months in jail for harming one.

FOR ALL THEIR NUMBERS, the birds are accepted with something resembling affection by Midway's humans, which just goes to show you that one man's infestation is another man's treat.

The Midway community is nestled among tall ironwoods and looks like a cross between a plantation camptown and military quarters.

Bicycles outnumber motorized vehicles by about the same ratio as birds to people and the population pedals about, avoiding the gooneys as they waddle across the streets.

Midway for people is like going back 10, 15 or maybe more years. It's the home of the 35-cent pack of cigarettes out of vending machines, and the 40-cent beer, also out of vending machines.

There's a bucolic quality to the town, and on a drizzly, windless day, beads of water cling to the ironwoods like frost.

This is the last year for Midway as a true community. Starting in the summer, dependents will be sent home and it will become a base strictly for Navy personnel.

Turn to Page C-6





Verdant naupaka separates the airstrip on Kure Atoll from the beach, where gooney birds nest amidst the sweet alyssum. Hawaiian monk seals, photo at left, bask and snooze in the sun on the beaches of Kure, but they're quick to waken and take notice of a photographer. The 26 Coast Guardsmen live in a small complex of low, concrete buildings, photo below.



Up the road, there is a small aluminum shed.

It tells the leisure-time story for the island's men. There is a pile of snorkles and baseball mitts sharing space with scouring powder, cans of paint and pine oil. There are a few pieces of gardening equipment and swim fins and water skis and furled sails that go with the three Sunfish sailboards and Hebie cat that are outside.

**NEXT TO THE SHED**, there are three sea grape trees, and under them, stunted English parsley grows like a ground cover.

In front of the building complex there are a couple of coconut palms, growing absolutely vertical, as coconut palms so often do

at military installations. Around the palms are shells that would be beachcomber treasures on Oahu. Cowries and slender, ivory-colored freckled cones the size of bananas. The shells, dropped around the trees by the men, attest to the bountiful pickings on the beach.

The men, however, do not leave the glass balls from Japanese fishing nets out around the trees. The floats are treasures, and one Coast Guardsman shows off his hoard. It fills a good-sized pasteboard box and is the booty from three months' worth of beachcombing.

Inside the buildings, quarters are bedrooms lining two sides of an L-shaped corridor. The

communal area is the mess hall and a fair-sized lobby outside it where the only piece of furniture is a handsome pool table.

**AT THE HEAD OF THE** hall to the bedrooms, one room is designated as a library. It has 22 shelves, each about five feet long, each crammed with books. The only vacant spot on the shelves is

designated for publications labeled Playboy, Penthouse and Sawdy Broads.

The men of Kure are mostly very young.

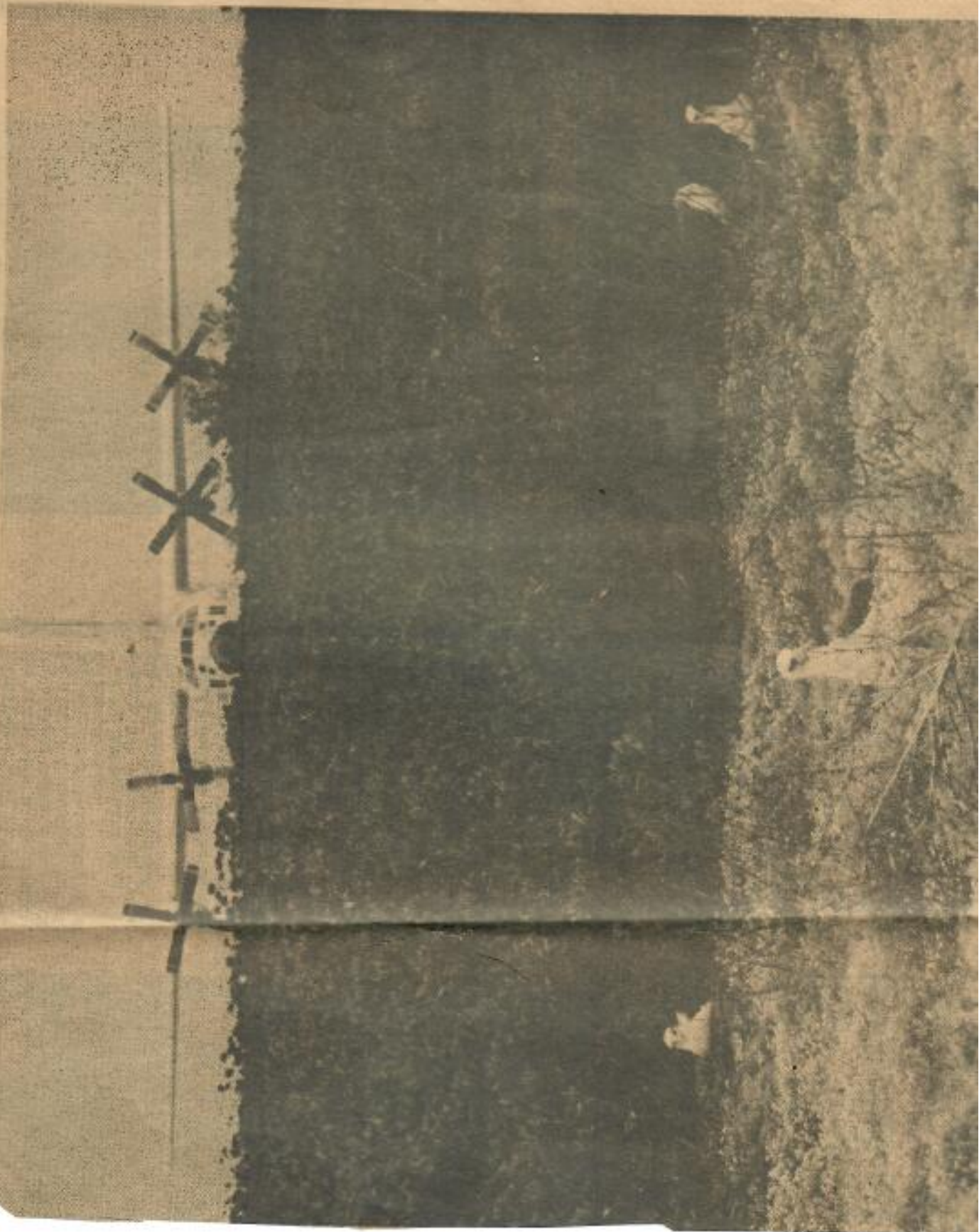
Their commanding officer is 24. He requested the Kure assign-

Turn to Page C-4

features, entertainment, food

**C**  
section

Honolulu, February 5, 1978



# Sunday Today

## In the Middle of Nowhere

By Pierre Bowman  
Star-Bulletin Entertainment Editor

**KURE ATOLL**—The statistics do not do it justice here.

By the book, Kure Atoll is some 1,200 miles northwest of Honolulu as the farthest point in the City and County. It is a circular reef, five miles at its widest point, with a hunk of land called Green Island, a half-mile by a mile-and-a-half, 26 feet at its highest point.

By way of comparison, this works out to almost exactly the size and elevation of Waikiki, if you don't count Kapiolani Park and anything beyond it toward Diamond Head.

That shakes down to a spit of land in the middle of nowhere, the desert island of the novelist's imagination and the cartoonist's wit.

Kure, though, defies the preconceptions of those who have never seen an atoll. For the first-time visitor, it is a place of beauty coupled with qualities of solitude and serenity that make it extraordinary.

**GREEN ISLAND** IS temporary home to 21 Coast Guardmen who run equipment that sends out

**AMID THE NAUPAKA**, the gooney birds—the most prevalent and apparent species here—nest flat on the ground. The term gooney applies to the white Laysan Albatross, with its snowy breast and Cleopatra-style "eye make-up" and dark wings and the all-dark black-footed albatross, which isn't nearly as numerous.

The glory of the atoll is its lagoon.

It is an extravaganza of color; on a bright day, it is almost too vivid for the naked eye. On a gray day, its waters are still swimming-pool blue, and the color reflects on the clouds, giving the sky a false blue that is otherworldly.

To the uninitiated, who imagine the lagoon in a size appropriate for 75 Dorothy Lamour swimming strokes, it is a surprise.

It seems the size of a sea, with the outer barriers of the reef creating an artificial horizon on which the waves from the ocean crash, white and feathery, like distant dancing fountains.

As the sky clears to true blue, the color of the lagoon intensifies.

Star-Bulletin photographer Ken Sakamoto and Pierre Bowman, its entertainment editor, recently covered the Honolulu City Ballet's tour of Midway Island and Kure Atoll. Today, we publish some of Sakamoto's photos of the islands and Bowman's essays on each of them.

navigational signals over the Pacific. Otherwise, the atoll, named after its discoverer, a Russian navigator, has never had a human population. It is a place for seabirds, seals and small Polynesian rats.

The men live and work in a small complex of low, concrete buildings that have sturdy metal shutters that fold down over the windows during foul weather. There's an airstrip to service the island and a slender, 625-foot tower to send out electronic signals. The tower is festooned with guy wires that form a cone that looks like the framework for a gargantuan circus tent.

Aside from the building complex, tower and airstrip, Green Island and the atoll of which it is a part are basically at one with nature.

Naupaka grows lush, abundant and vibrantly green all over the island. Where it ends, sweet alyssum, with tiny white flowers low to the ground, sends its pungence into the breeze, which has a nip to it this time of year.

Against the broad, fine, almost untracked white sand of its beach, the scenery once again becomes too dazzling.

**THE GOONEYS ON LAND**  
walk like John Wayne or Elsa Lanchester in bedroom slippers, looking silly. Their landings are clumsy, but not as hilarious as their running starts before they take flight.

But in the air, over the lagoon, they are glory.

Swooping and turning, they fly mere inches above the sand and water, with grace and finely honed instinct that looks like skill to men.

On a narrow paved drive from the Coast Guard compound to the lagoon, a gooney begins his run to flight. He sees a man walking toward him. He stops. He folds up his wings. As the man passes, he snaps his beak a couple of times. Then he runs again, ungainly and amusing, and a moment later is transformed into beauty as he soars on wings spanning six feet.

912 Feb 1, 78 ADW

# Satire, anyone?

By DAN MYERS  
Advertiser Special Columnist

## The Shadow knows

A small team of men in black suits and sunglasses was seen leaving Waikiki at dawn yesterday in a chauffeured limousine. The men, carrying violin cases and acting in a furtive manner, drove to Honolulu Airport. There they boarded a chartered jet and flew straight to Pittsburgh, landing in a snowstorm.

At deadline they were reported holed up in a motel on the outskirts of Punxsutawney, Pa., going over their plot. Their leader was reported to have said:

"Got it, Scarface? You cover the west entrance."

"Okay. And Three-fingers draws down on the south entrance, right, Boss?"

"Yeah. And the moment the little rat pokes his nose out, we pour it on him."

"Yeah, Boss. That is gonna be one lit-up groundhog."

It is thought that the men are mercenary "lightmen" who have a contract to make sure the groundhog sees his shadow tomorrow and declares six more weeks of winter on the Mainland.

The Hawaii Visitors Bureau disclaims any knowledge of who would want to hire them.

## Sinking funds

It has now been learned that there is no substance to reports of possible error, incompetence or rascality by former officers of THC Financial.

Rather, the now-defunct industrial loan firm was simply a company which efficiently met the requirements of the investor who needed to have his life savings tied up for many months, then lose much of it.

For example, many of the 14,000 investors are said to be people who live in homes so small that there is no room to store large amounts of money. Others are believed to be those who require large financial losses for tax purposes.

Among premiums believed given depositors were bags in various decorator colors and fine fabrics, all suitable for holding when left by THC Financial.

## Isle of clean thoughts

Brain wave measuring equipment aimed at Kure Atoll has confirmed reports of a huge burst of clean thoughts on Thursday among the 20 Coast Guardsmen stationed at that isolated base.

Technicians who were monitoring the devices at the time report that the needles "went completely off the graph, on the chaste thoughts end" at the time the young men were watching a performance by the pretty young women of the Honolulu City Ballet.

A seaman apprentice, asked whether watching scantily-clad girls leap and spin beat watching gooney birds, replied, "Yeah. They made me think of mom and apple pie."

A Kure gooney bird, interviewed by phone, confirmed that the men watched the girls' hands throughout the performance.

"The hands tell the story," the bird told a reporter.

## Shoes dropped

Early-morning commuters on Beretania Street have reported seeing a strange, ritualistic dance on recent days.

Witnesses say a few men gather, facing Washington Place. They begin the dance by dropping one shoe. Then, keeping one ear to the ground, they enter the political arena, launch trial balloons, test their support, get their ducks in a row, commission polls, put a toe in the water and stop, just short of throwing their hats into the ring.

Political scientists at the University of Hawaii confirmed last night that the dance is seasonal and is usually performed at about this time in gubernatorial election years.

The dance traditionally ends with the dropping of the last other shoe. At that moment the dancers become candidates.

Potential candidates never like to be seen dropping loafers, snow shoes or sneakers, the political expert told reporters. They prefer to be seen dropping work shoes, or combat boots, or occasionally hip boots.

The expert confirmed that a World War I air ace once entered politics by dropping a pair of Lafayette espadrilles.

# Dancers, Sailors and a

Continued from D-1

gathered before dawn in the dim lobby of their digs.

"THIS IS WORSE than Camp Kokokahi," said one dancer. "Cold showers."

Another gray bus sputtered up, and the dancers crammed their lithe bodies into it.

To sort of even things out, the dancer who found fault with the cold water praised the flush toilet.

"Do you have your eyelashes on?" asked one dancer to another, her voice filled with awe. "I couldn't even find the eyes on my face this morning."

It turned out, however, that the speaker and another dancer had won the dance contest the night before at the enlisted men's club where golden Cadillacs—an alcoholic confection described as tasting like a milk shake—were a mere 85 cents, a full 15 cents cheaper than at the officer's club.

Once at the airstrip, the dancers assumed their prune-pickers posture while they waited for it to be light enough for the plane to fly off to Kure. The Navy was unable to arrange an early breakfast, so vi-

sions of Coast Guard doughnuts danced in more than one head.

THE SUN ROSE in the morning chill, the company trundled onto the plane, and soon enough was on Kure, where the Coast Guard had laid out a spread: Bacon, sausage, eggs to order, toast, fried potatoes, creamed beef, orange and grape juice, milk and coffee.

An intermittent drizzle fell outside, and the company abandoned plans for performing on the basketball court as it made short work of the bountiful breakfast spread. Soon the tables were removed from the dining room, the company laid out dancing mats on the floor, changed into rehearsal togs and began what the dance world calls class.

In absolute silence, Fuson snapped her fingers and the dancers went through their positions, some working at a portable bar which they'd brought from Honolulu, some working against shelving or straight chairs.

Gradually the men based on Kure trickled in, wearing their work clothes. As they watched the dancers, it became clear to them

that dancers work as hard at their art as professional athletes work at their sport.

As time for the formal concert approached, the men drifted away. The dancers changed into costumes and the men returned in more formal uniforms and shoes with a spit and polish shine.

AT LAST, THE performance began, with dancers mere inches from the audience at times because of the cramped space, with the men lifting the women very carefully to avoid the fluorescent light fixtures on the ceiling.

The company presented ballet in all its phases, displaying its youth and joyous energy, sometimes telling stories, sometimes moving in pure abstraction. Gradually the small audience—which, in fact, was nearly the entire population of the island—lost its self-consciousness and consumed the dancing with eager eyes.

If the company had looked like prune-pickers a couple of hours earlier, it had become beauty.

As the dancing ended, a single tear trickled down the cheek of one of the men in the audience. The applause was as thunderous as you can get with some 40 hands.

Afterward, there was time for prime rib for lunch, and then the flight back to Midway.

THAT NIGHT, the company performed again here.

# Lot of Gooney Birds

Outside, before the performance at the base movie theater, the line looked like Honolulu and an audience waiting to see "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Inside, the ballet company honored its Coast Guard flight crew with front row seats, much to the consternation of the Navy man who managed the theater.

The audience appeared to be made up of enlisted men and their families. The Midway commanding officer said he was going bowling rather than attending the performance.

The interior of the theater was painted turquoise and was decorated with six heroic paintings of military doings, like a submarine loading a torpedo and a crane laying metal runway landing mats.

"These are terrible seats," said one woman as she sat on one of the many chairs with slashed upholstery. Children ran up and down the aisles.

"Good thing those aren't my kids," said another woman. "I'd wring their necks."

**THE PERFORMANCE**—the same program as Kure—began and the kids settled down. Nobody seemed to mind that the company wasn't doing "The Nutcracker," as had been indicated by erroneous advanced publicity.

At intermission, a small girl had a dreamy look in her eyes, the same look kids have when they

want to run away with the circus.

"Aren't they beautiful," she said, drawing out the syllables in beautiful.

The next morning, the dancers were at it again.

They had class. Then they performed for all 210 kids from the school on Midway.

The kids went absolutely wild when two of them were picked from the audience to try out the Puss 'n' Boots pas de deux from "Sleeping Beauty." At the end the kids went bananas getting autographs. After all, the ballet doesn't come here every day. To emphasize the point, the principal at the school said it was the first cultural event here in the six years he has spent on Midway.

The company picked its way

through the gooney birds that are all over Midway, went back to quarters, packed up, and departed for the airstrip on another gray bus. No one had a trace of sentiment at leaving the gringy building. There was no official farewell at the airstrip.

**ONCE INSIDE** the C-130, with earplugs in place, almost everyone slept. There was no sense that the sleeping people were tired prune pickers. Rather, they were tired dancers who had given fully of their art.

The same flight crew, in the same orange coveralls, watched its sleeping passengers. There was a new expression on their faces. It was quite clear. The Honolulu City Ballet was among admiring friends.



Donna Ching and Rhoda Kong entertain on Kure.—Star-Bulletin photos by Ken Sakamoto.



Star-Bulletin

Today

Section

D

Features

Entertainment

Honolulu

Tuesday, January 31, 1978



*Dancers William Ige and Earnest Morgan on Midway.*



*James McCuen and Kim Pester, 11, on Midway.*

# Ballet That's Far

By Pierre Bowman, Entertainment Editor

**MIDWAY ISLAND**—They sat on a long bench in the pre-dawn gray here, looking more like migrant workers waiting to pick prunes than the ballet dancers they are.

It was Thursday, last week, and they'd arrived at the airstrip here, waiting for the Coast Guard C-130 to take them to Kure Atoll, 50 miles and some 15 minutes away.

The day before, they'd come here

on the same plane from Honolulu, often flying low as the Coast Guard did its fishing boat patrol.

It all started in December when Yvonna Balfour, company manager for the Honolulu City Ballet, got a bright idea.

She phoned the Coast Guard and asked how it would like to take the company to perform at French Frigate Shoals. The Coast Guard nixed

that idea, but offered an alternative: How about Kure Atoll. There was a flight leaving the next day.

Balfour said they'd need a little more time to prepare—but by last week they were ready.

**IN HONOLULU**, the 18 members of the troupe eyed the C-130 critically. There it sat on the runway, its bulging body bare inches above the runway, its four huge propellers, its Marsha Mason pug nose.



On Kure, the kitchen became the 'wings' of a theater, and dancers made their entrances and exits amid pots and pans.

# Out

Inside, it looked like a cross between a cave and a flying carport.

On board there were airline seats, just like the kind you find on commercial jets, and the Coast Guard warned that the lavatory facilities were primitive and pointed out the air sickness bags.

"We've got a couple dancers who get sick in cars," said someone on the plane, in a dispirited tone. Pink, waxy earplugs were passed out. They looked just like bubble gum.

The engines began roaring, the hydraulic system began whining like a dental drill for a giant, the ear plugs went in and the flight—some 5½ hours for some 1,200 miles northwest from Honolulu—began to Midway.

THE BIG PLANE flew smooth and steady, often sweeping down low and close to the sea. Almost everyone clambored into the cockpit, and ballet mistress Nell Fuson took a turn at the controls. Nobody got sick. Before Midway, the plane stopped at Kure, where everyone first made a beeline to the flush toilets and then gaped at the beauty of the little island.

The 20 Coast Guardsmen who make up the entire population at Kure acted shy as the population of the island more than doubled with the influx of strangers. The cook, however, knew that company was coming. He had platters heaped high with his homemade doughnuts, and the low-ceilinged dining room was filled with their aroma.

The Kure stop, though, was merely a pause.

Soon the C-130 was on its way again. It landed. There was no official welcome to Midway from the U.S. Navy, which administers the island. A gray Navy bus with a front tire so bald it was smiling took the dancers to their "hotel"—the Bachelor Officers' Quarters, a three-story building with peeling paint, mildew, broken windows, dust, grit, and an erratic hot water supply.

After a restive night, the dancers

Turn to Page D-3

# Dancers, Sailors and a Lot of

Continued from D-1

gathered before dawn in the dim lobby of their digs.

"THIS IS WORSE than Camp Kokokahi," said one dancer. "Cold showers."

Another gray bus sputtered up, and the dancers crammed their lithe bodies into it.

To sort of even things out, the dancer who found fault with the cold water praised the flush toilet.

"Do you have your eyelashes on?" asked one dancer to another, her voice filled with awe. "I couldn't even find the eyes on my face this morning."

It turned out, however, that the speaker and another dancer had won the dance contest the night before at the enlisted men's club where golden Cadillacs—an alcoholic confection described as tasting like a milk shake—were a mere 85 cents, a full 15 cents cheaper than at the officer's club.

Once at the airstrip, the dancers assumed their prune-pickers posture while they waited for it to be light enough for the plane to fly off to Kure. The Navy was unable to arrange an early breakfast, so vi-

sions of Coast Guard doughnuts danced in more than one head.

THE SUN ROSE in the morning chill, the company trundled onto the plane, and soon enough was on Kure, where the Coast Guard had laid out a spread: Bacon, sausage, eggs to order, toast, fried potatoes, creamed beef, orange and grape juice, milk and coffee.

An intermittent drizzle fell outside, and the company abandoned plans for performing on the basketball court as it made short work of the bountiful breakfast spread. Soon the tables were removed from the dining room, the company laid out dancing mats on the floor, changed into rehearsal togs and began what the dance world calls class.

In absolute silence, Fuson snapped her fingers and the dancers went through their positions, some working at a portable bar which they'd brought from Honolulu, some working against shelving or straight chairs.

Gradually the men based on Kure trickled in, wearing their work clothes. As they watched the dancers, it became clear to them

that dancers work as hard at their art as professional athletes work at their sport.

As time for the formal concert approached, the men drifted away. The dancers changed into costumes and the men returned in more formal uniforms and shoes with a spit and polish shine.

AT LAST, THE performance began, with dancers mere inches from the audience at times because of the cramped space, with the men lifting the women very carefully to avoid the fluorescent light fixtures on the ceiling.

The company presented ballet in all its phases, displaying its youth and joyous energy, sometimes telling stories, sometimes moving in pure abstraction. Gradually the small audience—which, in fact, was nearly the entire population of the island—lost its self-consciousness and consumed the dancing with eager eyes.

If the company had looked like prune-pickers a couple of hours earlier, it had become beauty.

As the dancing ended, a single tear trickled down the cheek of one of the men in the audience. The applause was as thunderous as you can get with some 40 hands.

Afterward, there was time for prime rib for lunch, and then the flight back to Midway.

THAT NIGHT, the company performed again here.

Outside, before the performance at the base movie theater, the line looked like Honolulu and an audience waiting to see "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Inside, the ballet company honored its Coast Guard flight crew with front row seats, much to the consternation of the Navy man who managed the theater.

The audience appeared to be made up of enlisted men and their families. The Midway commanding officer said he was going bowing rather than attending the performance.

The interior of the theater was painted turquoise and was decorated with six heroic paintings of military doings, like a submarine loading a torpedo and a crane laying metal runway landing mats.

"These are terrible seats," said one woman as she sat on one of the many chairs with slashed upholstery. Children ran up and down the aisles.

"Good thing those aren't my kids," said another woman. "I'd wring their necks."

THE PERFORMANCE—the same program as Kure—began and the kids settled down. Nobody seemed to mind that the company wasn't doing "The Nutcracker," as had been indicated by erroneous advanced publicity.

At intermission, a small girl had a dreamy look in her eyes, the same look kids have when they

# Gooney Birds

want to run away with the circus.

"Aren't they beautiful," she said, drawing out the syllables in beautiful.

The next morning, the dancers were at it again.

They had class. Then they performed for all 210 kids from the school on Midway.

The kids went absolutely wild when two of them were picked from the audience to try out the Puss 'n' Boots pas de deux from "Sleeping Beauty." At the end the kids went bananas getting autographs. After all, the ballet doesn't come here every day. To emphasize the point, the principal at the school said it was the first cultural event here in the six years he has spent on Midway.

The company picked its way

through the gooney birds that are all over Midway, went back to quarters, packed up, and departed for the airstrip on another gray bus. No one had a trace of sentiment at leaving the gringy building. There was no official farewell at the airstrip.

ONCE INSIDE the C-130, with earplugs in place, almost everyone slept. There was no sense that the sleeping people were tired prune pickers. Rather, they were tired dancers who had given fully of their art.

The same flight crew, in the same orange coveralls, watched its sleeping passengers. There was a new expression on their faces. It was quite clear. The Honolulu City Ballet was among admiring friends

# Sunday Today

## In the Middle of Nowhere

By Pierre Bowman  
Star-Bulletin Entertainment Editor

**KURE ATOLL**—The statistics do not do it justice here.

By the book, Kure Atoll is some 1,200 miles northwest of Honolulu as the farthest point in the City and County. It is a circular reef, five miles at its widest point, with a hunk of land called Green Island, a half-mile by a mile-and-a-half, 26 feet at its highest point.

By way of comparison, this works out to almost exactly the size and elevation of Waikiki, if you don't count Kapiolani Park and anything beyond it toward Diamond Head.

That shakes down to a spit of land in the middle of nowhere, the desert island of the novelist's imagination and the cartoonist's wit.

Kure, though, defies the preconceptions of those who have never seen an atoll. For the first-time visitor, it is a place of beauty coupled with qualities of solitude and serenity that make it extraordinary.

**GREEN ISLAND** IS temporary home to 21 Coast Guardmen who run equipment that sends out

**AMID THE NAUPAKA**, the gooney birds—the most prevalent and apparent species here—nest flat on the ground. The term gooney applies to the white Laysan Albatross, with its snowy breast and Cleopatra-style "eye make-up" and dark wings and the all-dark black-footed albatross, which isn't nearly as numerous.

The glory of the atoll is its lagoon.

It is an extravaganza of color; on a bright day, it is almost too vivid for the naked eye. On a gray day, its waters are still swimming-pool blue, and the color reflects on the clouds, giving the sky a false blue that is otherworldly.

To the uninitiated, who imagine the lagoon in a size appropriate for 75 Dorothy Lamour swimming strokes, it is a surprise.

It seems the size of a sea, with the outer barriers of the reef creating an artificial horizon on which the waves from the ocean crash, white and feathery, like distant dancing fountains.

As the sky clears to true blue, the color of the lagoon intensifies.

Star-Bulletin photographer Ken Sakamoto and Pierre Bowman, its entertainment editor, recently covered the Honolulu City Ballet's tour of Midway Island and Kure Atoll. Today, we publish some of Sakamoto's photos of the islands and Bowman's essays on each of them.

navigational signals over the Pacific. Otherwise, the atoll, named after its discoverer, a Russian navigator, has never had a human population. It is a place for seabirds, seals and small Polynesian rats.

The men live and work in a small complex of low, concrete buildings that have sturdy metal shutters that fold down over the windows during foul weather. There's an airstrip to service the island and a slender, 625-foot tower to send out electronic signals. The tower is festooned with guy wires that form a cone that looks like the framework for a gargantuan circus tent.

Aside from the building complex, tower and airstrip, Green Island and the atoll of which it is a part are basically at one with nature.

Naupaka grows lush, abundant and vibrantly green all over the island. Where it ends, sweet alyssum, with tiny white flowers low to the ground, sends its pungence into the breeze, which has a nip to it this time of year.

Against the broad, fine, almost untracked white sand of its beach, the scenery once again becomes too dazzling.

**THE GOONEYS ON LAND**  
walk like John Wayne or Elsa Lanchester in bedroom slippers, looking silly. Their landings are clumsy, but not as hilarious as their running starts before they take flight.

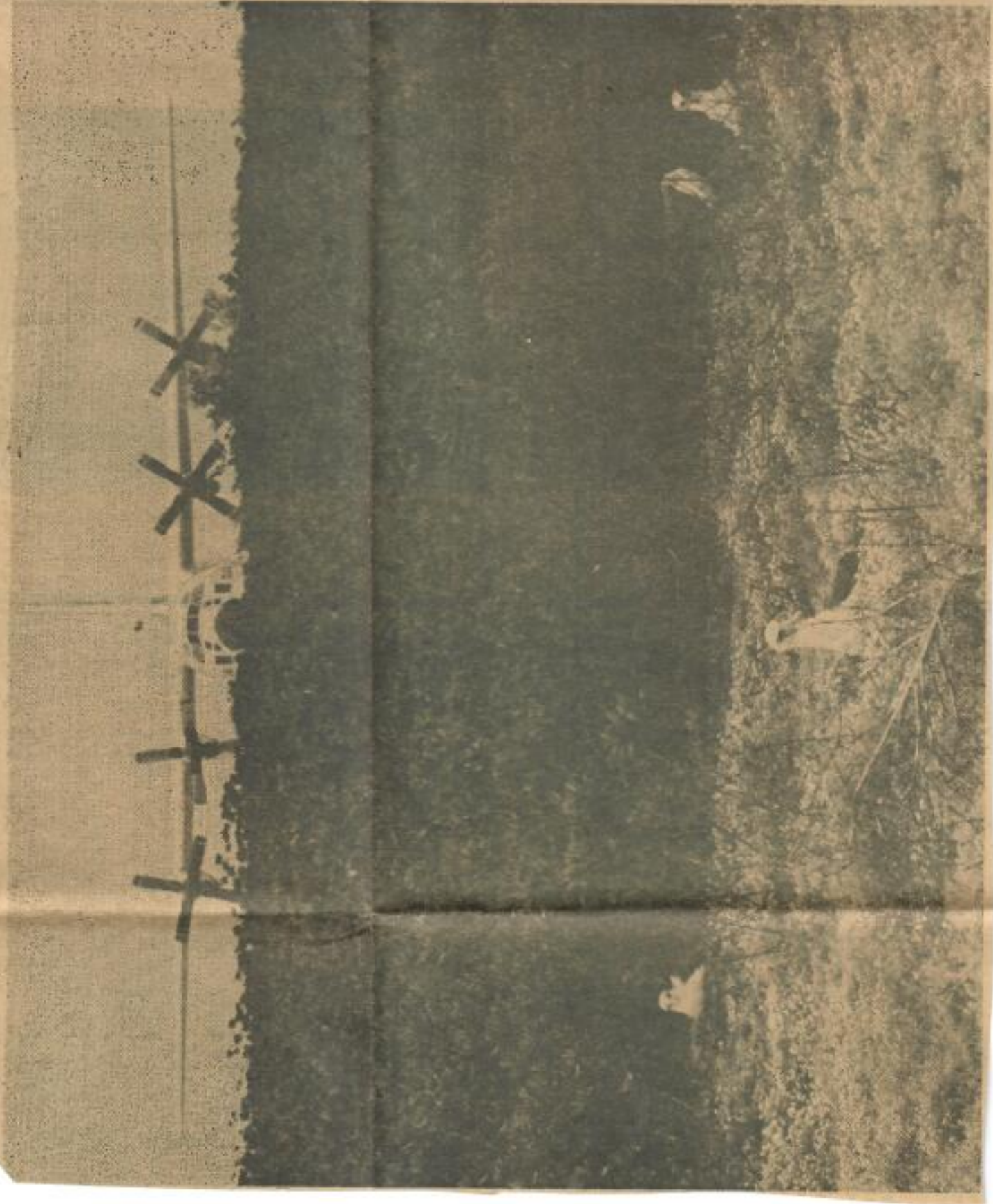
But in the air, over the lagoon, they are glory.

Swooping and turning, they fly mere inches above the sand and water, with grace and finely honed instinct that looks like skill to men.

On a narrow paved drive from the Coast Guard compound to the lagoon, a gooney begins his run to flight. He sees a man walking toward him. He stops. He folds up his wings. As the man passes, he snaps his beak a couple of times. Then he runs again, ungainly and amusing, and a moment later is transformed into beauty as he soars on wings spanning six feet.



Honolulu, February 5, 1978



Verdant naupaka separates the airstrip on Kure Atoll from the beach, where gooney birds nest amidst the sweet alyssum. Hawaiian monk seals, photo at left, bask and snooze in the sun on the beaches of Kure, but they're quick to waken and take notice of a photographer. The 26 Coast Guardsmen live in a small complex of low, concrete buildings, photo below.



Up the road, there is a small aluminum shed.

It tells the leisure-time story for the island's men. There is a pile of snorkies and baseball mitts sharing space with scouring powder, cans of paint and pine oil. There are a few pieces of gardening equipment and swim fins and water skis and furled sails that go with the three Sunfish sailboards and Hobie cat that are outside.

**NEXT TO THE SHED**, there are three sea grape trees, and under them, stunted English parsley grows like a ground cover.

In front of the building complex there are a couple of coconut palms, growing absolutely vertical, as coconut palms so often do

at military installations. Around the palms are shells that would be beachcomber treasures on Oahu—cowries and slender, ivory-colored freckled cones the size of bananas. The shells, dropped around the trees by the men, attest to the bountiful pickings on the beach.

The men, however, do not leave the glass balls from Japanese fishing nets out around the trees. The floats are treasures, and one Coast Guardsman shows off his hoard. It fills a good-sized pasteboard box and is the booty from three months' worth of beachcombing.

Inside the buildings, quarters are bedrooms lining two sides of an L-shaped corridor. The

Continued from C-1

family and friends, wives and lovers. Each knows exactly when his Kure tour is over, and how long he's been on the island.

**BUT EACH WILL ALSO** tell you something very positive about life on Kure. One will say that ping pong and volleyball are big

communal area is the mess hall and a fair-sized lobby outside it where the only piece of furniture is a handsome pool table.

**AT THE HEAD OF THE** hall to the bedrooms, one room is designated as a library. It has 22 shelves, each about five feet long, each crammed with books. The only vacant spot on the shelves is

designated for publications labeled Playboy, Penthouse and Bawdy Broads.

The men of Kure are mostly very young.

Their commanding officer is 24. He requested the Kure assignment.

Turn to Page C-4

# A Place of Restless Contentment

on the island, and get as much enthusiasm into his voice as a first string quarterback on a hot high school football team. Another will tell you about 200 spiney lobstersters in a cave in the lagoon. Another will tell you how he water skied twice before he came here—and now you ought to see him

skimming the water on one ski.

If the look and feel of the island are a surprise on Kure, the men and their attitudes of acceptance are just as astonishing.

The statistics do not do it justice here.



Donna Ching and Rhoda Kong entertain on Kure.—Star-Bulletin photos by Ken Sakamoto.

# Ballet That's Far Out

Star-Bulletin

Today

Section

D

Features

Entertainment

Honolulu

Tuesday, January 31, 1978



*Dancers William Ige and Earnest Morgen on Midway.*

By Pierre Bowman, Entertainment Editor

**MIDWAY ISLAND**—They sat on a long bench in the pre-dawn gray here, looking more like migrant workers waiting to pick prunes than the ballet dancers they are.

It was Thursday, last week, and they'd arrived at the airstrip here, waiting for the Coast Guard C-130 to take them to Kure Atoll, 50 miles and some 15 minutes away.

The day before, they'd come here

on the same plane from Honolulu, often flying low as the Coast Guard did its fishing boat patrol.

It all started in December when Yvonna Balfour, company manager for the Honolulu City Ballet, got a bright idea.

She phoned the Coast Guard and asked how it would like to take the company to perform at French Frigate Shoals. The Coast Guard nixed

that idea, but offered an alternative: How about Kure Atoll. There was a flight leaving the next day.

Balfour said they'd need a little more time to prepare—but by last week they were ready.

**IN HONOLULU**, the 18 members of the troupe eyed the C-130 critically. There it sat on the runway, its bulging body bare inches above the runway, its four huge propellers, its Marsha Mason pug nose.



On Kure, the kitchen became the 'wings' of a theater, and dancers made their entrances and exits amid pots and pans.

Inside, it looked like a cross between a cave and a flying carport.

On board there were airline seats, just like the kind you find on commercial jets, and the Coast Guard warned that the lavatory facilities were primitive and pointed out the air sickness bags.

"We've got a couple dancers who get sick in cars," said someone on the plane, in a dispirited tone. Pink, waxy earplugs were passed out. They looked just like bubble gum.

The engines began roaring, the hydraulic system began whining like a dental drill for a giant, the ear plugs went in and the flight—some 5¼ hours for some 1,200 miles northwest from Honolulu—began to Midway.

THE BIG PLANE flew smooth and steady, often sweeping down low and close to the sea. Almost everyone clambored into the cockpit, and ballet mistress Nell Fuson took a turn at the controls. Nobody got sick. Before Midway, the plane stopped at Kure, where everyone first made a beeline to the flush toilets and then gaped at the beauty of the little island.

The 20 Coast Guardsmen who make up the entire population at Kure acted shy as the population of the island more than doubled with the influx of strangers. The cook, however, knew that company was coming. He had platters heaped high with his homemade doughnuts, and the low-ceilinged dining room was filled with their aroma.

The Kure stop, though, was merely a pause.

Soon the C-130 was on its way again. It landed. There was no official welcome to Midway from the U.S. Navy, which administers the island. A gray Navy bus with a front tire so bald it was smiling took the dancers to their "hotel"—the Bachelor Officers' Quarters, a three-story building with peeling paint, mildew, broken windows, dust, grit, and an erratic hot water supply.

After a restive night, the dancers



James McCuen and Kim Pester, 11, on Midway.

Turn to Page D-3



*Kure's not  
for everyone*

By JOHN C. GIVEN

Advertiser Staff Writer

**KURE ATOLL** — The Russian navigator's name was Captain Kure. According to the story, he was the first man to lay eyes on this tiny dollop of sand and scrub brush about 1,200 miles northwest of Honolulu.

Actually, no one has confirmed that Kure (the captain) ever existed. But the atoll bears his name anyway. And the first record of a landing there is of a British shipwreck — the HMS Gledstanes, in 1837.

Now, after a colorful history including a string of wrecks over the ensuing 140 years, the site is home for a small band of Coast Guardsmen, who man a signal station that helps ships in the area keep on course.

"It's a beautiful island," said Chief Electronic Technician Keith Larson, 34. "There's great sailing, and great fishing. But after about a month it does get old."

And no wonder. Green Island — the island within Kure Atoll where Larson and 19 other cohorts live — is only 1½ miles long and a half-mile wide.

There's an airstrip, three buildings, three roads, and a more than 600-foot tower that dominates the island.

There are gooney birds, which come to live here seven months of the year; Hawaiian monk seals, which rest their giant slug-like bodies on the island's white coral sand.

There are red-tailed tropic birds, blue-faced boobies, brown boobies, and red-footed boobies, among other species of sea birds.

And that's about it.

If you hunger for city lights, you might get lucky and catch a flight to Honolulu, if any airplanes happen to be in the neighborhood.

Technically you're already there, since Kure Atoll is in fact part of the City and County of Honolulu.

Otherwise, the next best thing is "downtown" Midway, 50 miles to the southeast — again, if you can find a way to get there.

It sounds deadly, but in fact, some of the 20 men who live there don't mind it all that much.

"I like it," said Boatswain's Mate Tommy Michael, 31. "Most of the guys who go there just go to get their year over with. But as far as the island is concerned, I like it."

"We've got two 16-foot Boston whalers, a catamaran, and two Sunfish that we can use any time," he said, adding that he even extended his 12-month tour to 16 months, because "I needed time to save some more money."

Another popular pastime is combing the beaches for glass balls that have broken loose from Japanese fishing nets.

In fact, that's about the biggest thing going on Kure, right now.

Whatever they feel about beachcombing, tours on remote stations such as Kure are part of Coast Guard life. As Michael put it: "The career guys know it's coming sooner or later."

Besides the chance to save money, those who spend a full year receive an extra 30 days leave on top of the 30 they already accrue.

"It's a personality thing," said Lt. (jg.) Quint Bailey, 24, commanding officer of the base.

"If you're a quiet type, if you like to reflect and read, it's not so bad." He added that among those who are often content on Kure, are "guys who just got divorces."

On the other hand, Bailey said, "if you're from the city, you may tend to get bored quickly."

Bailey said he was happy to be there "because I got the most responsibility I could get at this stage in my career." Also, "I don't get any hassle from superiors, which is a welcome change. They give me free rein."

The young commander acknowledged that while some enjoy remote tours, and most endure them, there are the other few who go bananas.

While it hasn't happened during his tour, Bailey said, "if I think a man needs psychiatric evaluation, then I'll send him (into Honolulu) for counseling. Then the decision is his whether he comes back out here or not."

C-2 Wednesday, June 28, 1978 HONOLULU ADVERTISER



**Quint Bailey, the C.O.:** "If you're a quiet type, if you like to reflect and read, it's not so bad." Then there are the others who go bananas on Kure Atoll, right.



# Isolation Rules on Kure Atoll

By Lyle Nelson  
*Star-Bulletin Writer*

**KURE ATOLL** — Nude men water skiing on a tranquil turquoise lagoon.

Gooney birds going through the mating ritual: Standing face to face, pecking each other in the beak, stretching their necks straight up, going "honk," chattering their bills, then sticking their beaks under their wings, and repeating.

Soaring birds above a beach, a five-mile triangle of sand around a tiny atoll called Kure. A land covered with scaevola, a thick impenetrable brush that gives the island its name (Green Island) and protects the fluffy baby birds perched on their sandy nests.

**SCURRYING POLYNESIAN RATS** picking on a dead bird carcass or poking into an egg.

The images of life on Kure for 25 men of a Coast Guard Loran navigational aid station.

"Toughest part of the duty is the isolation," said Lt. (j.g.) Deryck Bratton, the youthful station commander not long from the Coast Guard Academy. "And not having women."

Bratton is nearing the end of his one-year tour at Kure, his young wife back home in Connecticut. He took home leave once.

**MOST MEN AT KURE TAKE** advantage of the water, swim, dive, beachcomb.

The beach prize is Japanese glass fishing balls and there are shells, liquor bottles, pieces of plastic and lumber on the beach, but mostly bottles.

"Macrame is popular to go with the glass balls and to kill time," Bratton said. "Others spend too much money on stereo equipment bought at the PX on Midway."

The men go to Midway, 50 miles to the east, but not often. Though Midway has women and TV (Kure does not), it is no real attraction, the opposite in fact.

Midway personnel pull a quiet day of R and R on Kure to walk the beach.

"THERE'S A WAITING LIST," Bratton said, "for visits to Kure.

Is it good duty?

"It drives you nuts," said one electronics technician who works on the navigational gear.

One did go nuts recently. "He faked it," claimed a chief, sourly.

Bratton's roster includes a warrant officer and three chiefs.

The men get a few extra bucks in overseas (spell that hardship) pay and 60 days of leave and compensation time at the end.

**KURE IS EASY ON the wallet.**

Few ask for Loran duty. They're chosen.

The stereo is loud in some rooms, the library appears unused. There is beer (25c) but no liquor. Movies every night. Three dogs and the graves of two others.

The island is one and a half miles long and half a mile wide. The highest point is 28 feet.

Kure is about 1,300 miles west of Honolulu and 5,850 from Elliott Key, Fla., a long stretch between parts of the United States. Kure is part of the City-County of Honolulu and closer to Tokyo than it is to San Francisco.

**GOONEYS ARE EVERYWHERE** as well as tropic-birds, frigatebirds, petrels, terns, plovers, a total of 66 species. Also Hawaiian monk seals, geckos, ants, green turtles and lobster.

Human disease is rare. There is no bed in the Coast Guard sickbay.

They put a bed in sickbay recently because Kure's population became 50 men and a girl. The girl was Marlee Penner, a porpoise trainer at Sea Life Park and the daughter of Paul Breese, former Honolulu Zoo director. She visited to help with wildlife research.

The tiny station managed to find room for most of the other 25 visitors that included scientists and news representatives interested in the wreck of the Hove: Maru No. 5.

All rooms on Kure are air conditioned.

**THE SWEAT OFF THE** air conditioners (both for rooms and transmitters) will fill a 55-gallon drum in 20 minutes. The station is looking at ways to save this distilled water for showers. As it is now the men have shower hours with limits, i.e., lather up outside the stalls.

"Some men are loners," said a Guardsman. "He wants to go to his room, close the blinds, shut out the station and turn up the music."

Along the windward coast of Kure is a shack built by two former Army Vietnam veterans who enlisted later in the Coast Guard. It has a hammock, a few cans of beans. It is a "solitude" special.



**AIRCRAFT SPOTTER**—Baby gooney birds sit on nests close to the packed coral runway at Kure Atoll near Midway. Coast Guard duty there is isolated but sort of interesting.—Photos by Warren R. Roll.



The Hawaiian monk seal protests picture taking at lonely Kure Atoll near Midway.



**SIZE UP**—Two gooneys consider family matters at lonely Kure Atoll as they sit in scaevola bush and honk.

FEB 14, 1976 Advertiser

# Pair found, plane ditched

By DAVID TONG  
Advertiser Staff Writer

A missing pilot and his companion were sighted adrift in a rubber raft at 6:20 p.m. yesterday by a Coast Guard C130 aircraft 160 miles south of Pago Pago.

The pilot, J. Eric Carlson of Walnut Creek, Calif., and an unidentified were reported to be in good condition.

THE COAST GUARD aircraft dropped a radio, food, medical supplies and a 20-foot raft to the two persons. Their single-engine Piper Cherokee was reported still floating 4 miles away from the raft, which came off their plane.

The 55-foot Coast Guard cutter Mataala, dispatched from Pago Pago to pick up the survivors, is expected to reach them sometime this afternoon.

Carlson's plane was reported missing at midnight Thursday. In his last radio contact, the pilot said he was lost and running out of gas about 100 miles north of Pago Pago.

Lt. Robert V. Rehaud, Coast Guard spokesman, said Carlson was flying from Honolulu to Pago Pago, evidently missed Pago Pago and ditched his plane 150 miles south of his destination after running out of fuel.

MEANWHILE, the Coast Guard continued its search yesterday for a twin-engine plane that disappeared at sea southeast of Christmas Island before noon Wednesday.

The pilot, Robert Austrand of San Francisco, was last heard from on a flight from Hawaii to Tahiti after he had passed Christmas Island.

"The last we heard, he was 360 miles

southeast of Christmas and radioed that he was descending to 1,000 feet because of a malfunctioning engine," said a Coast Guard spokesman. A search since Wednesday afternoon turned up no trace of the small plane or its pilot.

In another development, the Norwegian freighter Mosborg, which reported 15 feet of water in her cargo space Tuesday as a result of a 2-foot crack in her hull, is expected to arrive in port today. The ship, which was carrying a cargo of coal from Vancouver to Japan, was 350 miles north of Midway when it began taking in water.

The Coast Guard has discontinued its search for 17 missing crewmen of the Houei Maru No. 5, a Japanese fishing vessel that ran aground near Kure Atoll on Feb. 6. A search was made of the vessel Wednesday but there was no trace of the crew.

# Grounded Ship Threat to Kure Atoll Wildlife

By Helen Altorn  
Star-Bulletin Writer

Wildlife biologists are concerned about possible harm to rare wildlife on Kure Atoll — northernmost of the Hawaiian Islands — if a Japanese fishing ship grounded there breaks up.

But it isn't clear whose responsibility it is to prevent such a situation.

The Houei Maru was found on the reef at Kure earlier this month with the 17-man crew missing. Coast Guard and Navy searches have uncovered no trace of the men.

Ronald L. Walker, chief of the wildlife branch of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, said if the ship breaks up and oil leaks it could be hazardous for Hawaiian seals and green sea turtles inhabiting the waters.

He said sea birds also could get coated with oil.

TRASH WASHING up on the beach from the ship also "could be mechanically hazardous to the wildlife," he said.

"Nails and metal could be ingested by the birds. They eat practically anything that floats. You find incredible things in the stomachs of sea birds . . .

"But the seal is the main concern to us," he added.

Although Kure has endangered species of wildlife, the atoll is not part of the Hawaiian Islands National Refuge and the birds and animals have no official protection, Walker said.

The State Fish and Game Division has proposed a change in regulations providing protection to all offshore islands in the State — including Kure — by designating them seabird sanctuaries.

"WE'RE WRITING up the draft but it has not been subjected to public hearing," Walker said.

Meanwhile, he said, "It's a good question who's responsible for it (Kure)."

James J. Detor, land management administrator at the land department, said the atoll technically is under that department's jurisdiction. It is State land, he said. "But how we'd take care

of it I don't know."

He said the DLNR gave the Coast Guard permission years ago to use Kure for a LORAN station.

Robert C. Schmitt, chief of statistical analysis at the State Department of Planning and Economic Development, cited some interesting facts about the little known Hawaiian Island.

HE SAID KURE is closer to Tokyo than Honolulu is to Los Angeles. It is 2,486 miles from Tokyo while Honolulu is 2,557 miles from Los Angeles.

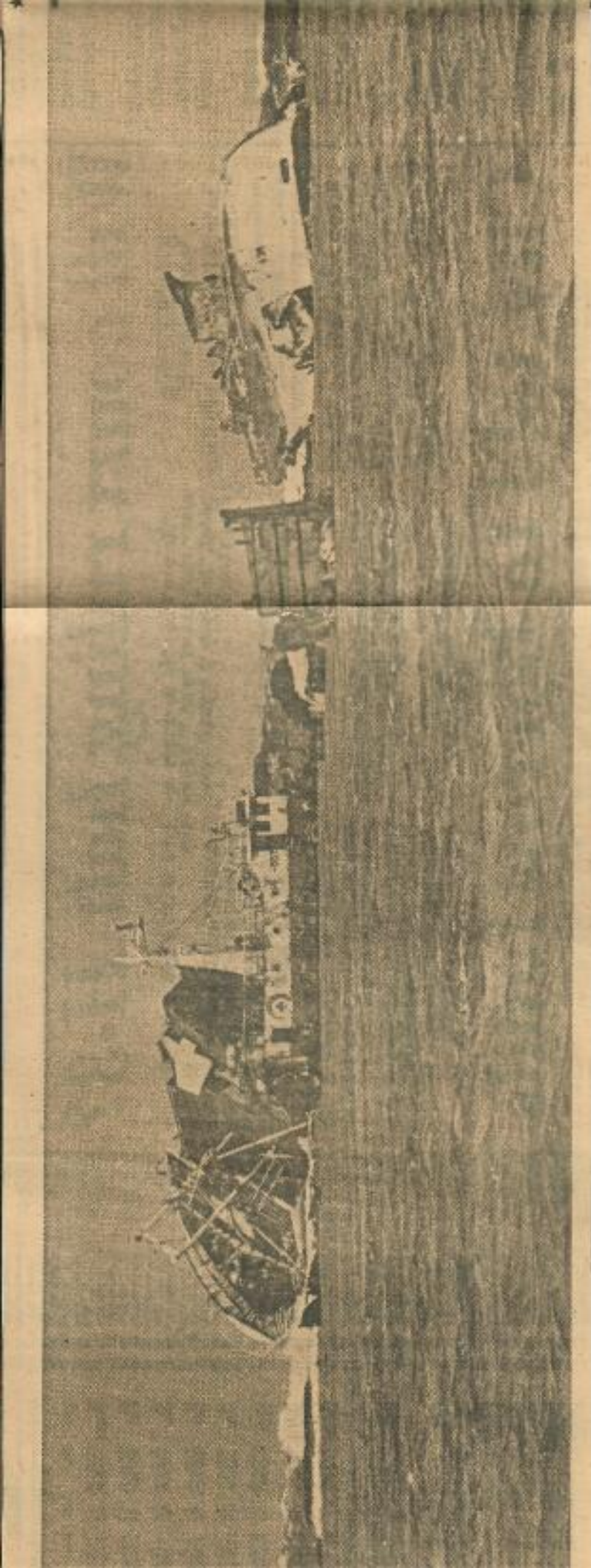
But Kure is defined as part of the City of Honolulu. "It is the remotest

part of the City of Honolulu, being 1,367 miles from Honolulu Airport," Schmitt said.

Schmitt said the Kure Atoll is more than 50 miles beyond Midway, which also was omitted from the wildlife refuge.

Both Kure and French Frigate Shoals have small populations of Coast Guardsmen — 26 at French Frigate Shoals and 29 on Kure in 1974, Schmitt said.

Schmitt keeps statistics on disasters in Hawaii which are published in a data book. He said the Houei Maru grounding and loss of 17 crew members "is the biggest marine disaster in recent years here."



Thursday, March 11, 1976 A-3

## Ship wrecked

The Houei Maru No. 5, its crew still missing after more than a month, breaks up on the reef at Kure Atoll. The Japanese fishing vessel grounded there Feb. 4. No trace of the 17 crew members was found despite an extensive Coast Guard search. A UPI photographer took this picture during a visit to Kure this week.

addition of fifty dollars for every repetition of the offence, to the amount of the fine for the first violation of this law.

2. If however any person, whether foreigner or native, sell spirits by the barrel or large cask, he will not be amenable to this law, but any person who sells in any smaller quantity, will be liable to its penalty.

3. Any house having been licensed for retailing spirits, may sell by the glass, but not by any larger measure; and its doors must be closed by ten o'clock at night; and all visitors must go away until morning. And on Sunday such houses shall not be opened from ten o'clock on Saturday night until Monday morning.

4. We prohibit drunkenness in the licensed houses. If any one, whether foreigner or native, drink and become drunk at such house, the owner of the house where he got drunk shall pay the following fine: Ten dollars for the first offence; twenty dollars for the second, and thus the fine will be increased by the addition of ten dollars for every repetition; to the extent of his misdemeanors.

5. The officers appointed to this duty will watch, and they will quietly observe whatever is going on in the said houses. Let no one obstruct them in their duty.

6. Any house licensed for selling spirits, and conducting in a manner at variance with this law, will, on conviction, have its license taken away and it will not be given back again.

LAHAINA, March 29, 1838.

KAMEHAMEHA III.

Under this law, few houses have been permitted to take out a license, instead of twelve or fourteen as has been the case for three or four years back.

*Ocean Island.* The accompanying chart of Ocean Island was engraved for this work, at the engraving department of the Mission Seminary, Lahaina, Maui. For the original draught we are indebted to the kindness of Capt. John Richard Brown, master of the English whale-ship *Gleditsia*, at the time of her shipwreck upon the reef which extends several miles from the island itself, and which was not laid down upon any chart. Capt. B. who surveyed the island and reef, has furnished us also the appended memorandum.

"The island, in Lat. 28° 22' N. and Long. 178° 30' W., which I suppose to be Ocean Island, is about three miles in circumference. It is composed of broken coral and shells, and is covered, near the shore, with low bushes. In the season it abounds with sea-birds, and at times there is a considerable number of hair-seals. There is always an abundance of fish, and in a great variety. The highest part of the island is not more than ten feet above the level of the sea. The only fresh water is what drains through the sand after the heavy rains. From the specimens of dead shells lying about the beach, there appears to be a great variety of shells."

The *Gleditsia* was wrecked on the 9th July, 1837, about midnight. Only one man was lost; he jumped overboard, intoxicated. Capt. Brown remained on the island till the 15th Dec., when himself with his chief mate and eight seamen sailed for the Sandwich Islands, in a schooner they had, with great toil, and perseverance and skill, constructed from fragments of the wreck. The other officers and men who remained several months on the island, and endured great sufferings, were subsequently brought off by a vessel sent for that purpose, by H. B. M. Consul at these Islands.



July 1900

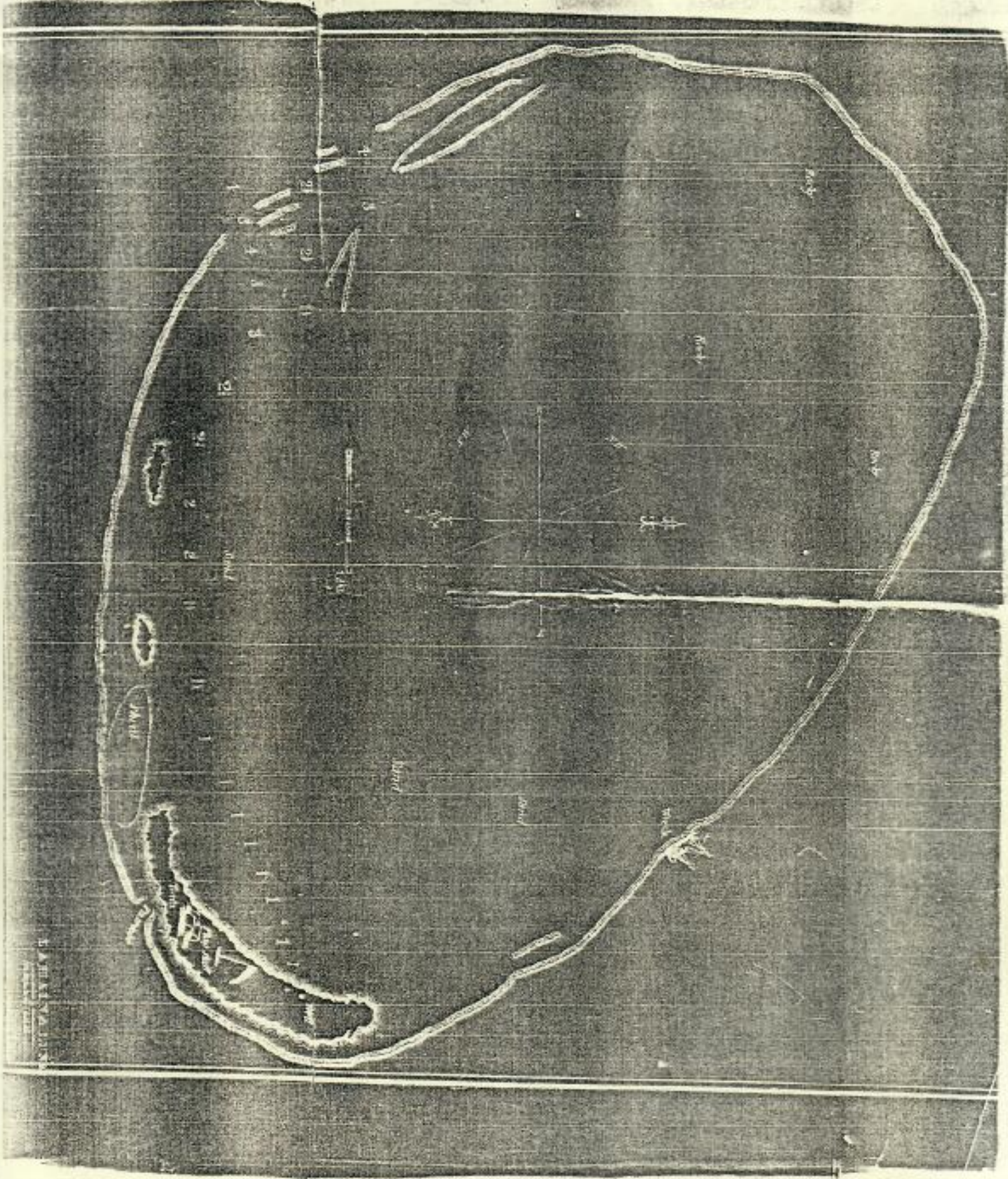


PLATE I

# TERS to the EDITOR

ist dollar that you are so painstakingly reaching for, will shrink like a sun-drenched prune, if you do not wake up to keep Waikiki beach free from filth and debris. It's a shame and a disgrace.

ALFRED L. PEREHUDOFF

## Efficient bottleneck

Editor, the Star-Bulletin: Would the group responsible for the new traffic lights on Kam and Nimitz Highways opposite the Navy-Marine Golf Course please step forward and receive the accolades of an awed admirer? Certainly no individual possesses the ingenuity required to develop such an efficient bottleneck. The cockles of their hearts must indeed be warmed by the sight of six lanes of traffic stalled on Kam for extended periods while two or three trucks (from Damon Tract Industrial Area—a pointed indictment) ramble leisurely across this intersection.

Why is it necessary to halt three lanes of Ewa-bound traffic on Kam to allow a few vehicles, headed in the same direction, to get from Nimitz onto Kam?

I'd also suggest that the timing of these lights be re-evaluated—there's too short a period between red lights on Kam and too long a green light period for cross traffic. I was previously under the impression that timing was supposed to bear some relationship to traffic loads and create a minimum of interruption of traffic flow.

DON BURNS

## Take a second look

Editor, the Star-Bulletin: I enter my protest against the high tax program which seems to be facing Hawaii. The Senate request of \$25 million and the House request of \$38 million is far excessive. Competent financiers say \$14 million is sufficient to grant an overall pay raise to all government workers, regardless of efficiency and to shorten the work week is being unfair to the taxpayers. To increase retirement funds and lower the retirement age is scarcely logical. Most honest people want to work. High property tax and an increase in the excise tax on food and all necessities of life will play many a hardship on rich and poor alike, especially the middle class. Has thought been given to what this means to those who rent property, if landlords have to carry these heavy tax burdens? I am not opposed to high taxes on liquor, tobacco and the unnecessary items. A reasonable increase in salaries for teachers is justified. May I suggest that our legislators take a second look and work out a program which we, as taxpayers, can bear?

MARTHA J. DANIELS

## Helpful Patsy Mink

Editor, the Star-Bulletin: Mr. Slavin seems to infer that Mrs. MINK has done little more than to pass out leaf-



Jim Becker's

# Hawaii

KURE ATOLL, Hawaii—This is where Hawaii started, and in another 40 or 50 million years or so, this is what it will all look like again. (If it turns out that I am wrong on that estimate, you can have your dime back.)

Judging from Kure today, that means that there won't be much of Hawaii left—just sand and coral and scrub brush—but it will be kind of pretty, and very peaceful. Too bad we won't be around to enjoy it.

Kure is as far north and west as you can get and still be in Hawaii—it's 1,500 miles from Honolulu but still part of the State—and it was the first island of the Hawaiian chain to stick its head up above the ocean floor. It was, of course, also the first island to sink back below, leaving only a 1½-by-½ mile glob behind on the rim of the old volcanic mountain.

*The rest has slipped back into the sea, as have all the other islands of the Hawaiian chain north of Kure, in a slow domino action. (Every five million years we lose another island.)*

But Kure is not a total loss, because there currently is a Coast Guard Loran (short for Long Range Navigation) station there, with 25 men. It was opened three years ago.

The station is one of 72 scattered around the world—and of 28 in the 14th Coast Guard District—which send out signals that can be used by any passing ship or plane to find its exact location.

The 25 Coast Guard men share the island with a few thousand gnoony birds, lots of shy rats, a few seals and a 625-foot antenna tower that sends out its Loran signal 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The tour of duty is one year, with an occasional break over at the thriving metropolises of Midway Island, 50 miles to the Southeast. (Since all things are relative, the men on Kure say they like to go to Midway, because there is more doing over there.)

*The whole Coast Guard crew, from Lieutenant Commander David Worth—who can afford to be cheerful since he gets relieved this week after his one-year tour—down, seems a happy bunch.*

Take Ralph Campbell, the jovial cook from Washington, D.C. He fishes up conversation meals with a smile. (The

# A new doct

By ERIC SEVAREID

NEW YORK—President Johnson has enlarged the war in Southeast Asia by bombing the territory of a foreign government with which we are not legally at war and he has invaded the territory of a Latin American country without benefit of an invitation or even the prior approval of other hemisphere governments in the O.A.S.

Domestic critics have said that he has made an *ex post facto* rationalization of the bombing by emphasizing that North Vietnam is the vital source spring of the fighting in South Vietnam. Domestic critics now argue that the similarly rationalizes the Dominican intervention by emphasizing what evidence there is that Communists were taking over the people's uprising.

THERE ARE SURFACE similarities between the two actions, but they remain on the surface. They need not and ought not be lumped together by the President's detractors or by his supporters. Critics of his Asian policy may well turn out to be wrong in the end, but there are much stronger grounds for this criticism than for criticism of his action in the Dominican Republic. Vietnam lies very far away from the United States and very close to a major power that just might enter that war. The Dominican Republic lies very close to us, very far from any other great power and carries no danger of international war.

What deeply puzzles those who are dubious of our Vietnam policies is how we are to make a "victory" there work over the long haul, how that area riven by tribal and sectarian rivalries, with almost no national consciousness, is to be kept stable and in one piece. The Dominican Republic is far more able to usefully employ economic assistance and does have a strong national sense, however bitter its class enmities. Our aims there have much more chance of realization.

THE O.A.S. IS a useful entity; we ought to consult it before we act if circumstances make it safe to do so. In the Dominican situation affairs were moving much too rapidly, as in 1950, the North Koreans were moving much too rapidly for Mr. Truman to throw out the question of American intervention for Congressional debate; it would be very nice, indeed, if we could always act by the book. But we cannot always do so in this new era of the quick Communist coup. We cannot because no Latin American government is politically or militarily able to act quickly in concert with us. If it is not too strong a word, that is the hypocrisy built into the Organization of American States. Its other members can share its protection; they will not, because they cannot share the ultimate responsibility of action.

The New York Times, which President Johnson privately refers to as a "bastard" newspaper, seems to be

Japanese war derailed by bombs. We do and they did do know that in the Domib we do not ha Caribbean. A flood of artic to prove fro before woul critic had v

THE DOMINGO to be difficulties to though the Pa as example of benefit of La will save our moral and b future mind from our m bris.

1—THE N current work o alternative to Communism; perhaps we probably do these count short fuses, they need a see the red barracks and the opinion. American s suppression necessary p vance under

2—THE N regimes in a ly bad. The countries ed leaders are responsible; numbers. W the military into Brazil, over Perry a time that b characters i his Progress impossibility that in some times when ability is th they exist foreign ent-military giv any means not reactio

3—THE States is re-substant di the teacher are not. J America th possess, ar weight for tion of fe periority. Other resp an internat no unrabel do not po comes fro turning de-

It is a President.

ould all ey will be use of the t could be would be say god. IC PARK

Concerning agreement ral's deci- and should did not go

from Ka- should be rther main- Air Station. arines now PCS allow- turn to the

Those ma- could be and Lualaba- to be closed. ose limits at nsferred to ec allowing

discussed oding train- fantry Div- o grow this- to become w transport y available troops any- that is fast nfeasible to in Hawaii. imediate fantry Div- Okinawa, or e more ade- recommend er and the es to Sch- R. D. SMITH

So, Poet and turned. Before the turns out to e seems that e cleanliness order. Has at Hanalei a ficial sight if litter

of Bellows e enjoyment? more years, ma Bay. n way" give ng your gar- land? It's litary prefer e beaches. hat way, or

makes it pos- and his fam- at an in- ay or anoth- Believe it or

IDENT WIFE

Let this rticularly to "The Visitors" hotel execu- and the

lators take a second look and work out a program which we, as taxpayers, can bear?  
MARTHA J. DANIELS

### Helpful Patsy Mink

Editor, the Star-Bulletin: Mr. Slavin seems to infer that Mrs. Mink has done little more than to pass out leis to deserve her publicity.

May I cite my experience with Mrs. Mink. I recently wrote to her concerning information on Federal Aid to Library Education. Mrs. Mink not only researched and then answered my questions thoroughly, but she also sent me two publications from the American Library Association on scholarships in library education.

I am sure Mrs. Mink has done such services for many Hawaii residents. Her concern for the loss of her briefcase which contained requests for assistance, attest to this interest in helping people.

(MRS.) VIOLET L. LAI

### Needled Beagle

Editor, the Star-Bulletin: I read about Beagle, Ringo Starr, in the "Coffin's Needle" article of April 22, and I almost started throwing things! Who does that Mr. Coffin think he is? There is nothing wrong with the Beagle haircut, but I strongly think something is wrong with Mr. Coffin! He should have his head examined! Both of them! I'm sure I'm speaking for many fans.

LOYAL BEATLE FAN

### Try and stop me

By BENNETT CERF

A COUPLE of resourceful sprouts in the publishing area threaten a new book club designed solely to whet the appetites of the fresh and salt water anglers of America. Their fishy prospectus declares that subscriptions will be filled in order of their receipt, operations conducted on a "broad scale, no fluke selections and all bonus porpoises removed, members kept on the hook, no floundering by the judges, and a fair herring for all.

Alfred Bendiner tells about the visitor to Philadelphia who pointed to a building on South Broad Street and asked what it was. "That," said his guide proudly, is our Union League Club. "What's the crepe doing on the door?" asked the visitor. "I guess one of the members died," answered the Philadelphian. "Hmm," mused the visitor. "Cheers it up some, doesn't it?"

### SILLY RIDDLE DEPARTMENT

Q. Why do elephants hate martins?  
A. Did YOU ever try to get an olive out of your nose?  
Q. What's yellow, smooth, and dangerous?  
A. Shark-infested mustard.  
Q. What's the best way to serve shrumps?  
A. On your knees.  
Q. How do you tell girl pancakes from boy pancakes?  
A. By the way they stacked.

The whole Coast Guard crew, from Lieutenant Commander David Worth—who can afford to be cheerful since he gets relieved this week after his one-year tour—down, seems a happy bunch.

Take Ralph Campbell, the jovial cook from Washington, D.C. He dishes up gargantuan meals with a smile. (The day we visited Kure with Rear Admiral T. J. Fabik, the 14th District commander, he served a choice of steak, roast beef or turkey).

"This place isn't so bad," he said. "We got a good crew of guys. When you're cut off like this, it helps if you all pull together, and we do. No sir, it's not too bad. Of course, I'm leaving Thursday."

Campbell's tour is almost up, too.

However, Frederick Smith of Ventura, Calif., has only been on Kure a month. "Pd be a liar if I said I loved it," he said, "but it's not half as bad as I thought it would be. The thing I miss the most is my girl."

Smith said that once in a great while a woman will visit the island—a nurse, librarian or wife of a high ranking official—for the day, but the men could just as soon they couldn't. "If they can't send enough to go around, they shouldn't send any," he said.

Worth took his visitors out to the sweeping, fine white sand beach that faces the lagoon. Even though there are no palm trees, the beach is still a beautiful sight.

"It'd be worth about 30 million dollars in Honolulu," he said. "It's a thrill to walk along it for a whole mile and not see another human being."

At about that point, Worth's visitors were jolted out of their beach-combing reveries when a wasp stung the Admiral. We went in search of first aid, and prowled through the J-shaped, hollow-block building where the men sleep, eat and play pool, shuffleboard and other dandy games.

Worth pointed out his own quarters, and somebody quipped that they would rent for \$175 a month in Waikiki. "I'll be glad to pay it—in Waikiki," Worth said.

He also pointed out his garden, a patch of green stuff that looked like alfalfa, growing in a glass case. Somebody said it looked like alfalfa.

"It is," Worth said. "I like to eat it," proving that a year on a desert island really never hurt anyone, very much.

Over in the crew quarters, Martin Kimmel of San Antonio, Texas, said he didn't mind Kure either, although he missed his wife and baby daughter.

"I've been here five months," he said, "and that has passed very quickly. And remember, we are still in Hawaii. I love Hawaii. My wife and I were stationed on Molokai for two years, and we loved it."

"We call our baby Loni. People back in Texas want to spell it, 'Loni' but it's 'Loni'."

ian government is politically un- tally able to act quickly in concert with us. If it is not too strong a word, that is the hypocrisy built into the Organization of American States. Its other members can share its protection; they will not, because they cannot, share the ultimate responsibility of action.

The New York Times, which President Johnson privately refers to as a "yes-but" newspaper, seems to be said that because of his quick intervention we will never know whether or not the Dominican uprising was falling into the hands of the Communists or not. There are worse sorrows, as Castro has demonstrated to us. We also will never know whether the

## Trade with the e

By WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY, JR.

NEW YORK—The majority of the delegates to the Chamber of Commerce voted at their annual convention in favor of easing relations with Red China.

The delegates didn't come out specifically for recognition. It is probable that if they had, the withdrawal of public recognition of the Chamber of Commerce would have resulted sooner than the recognition of Red China. But the political effect of the vote was clearly in the direction of accommodating Red China.

Its purpose, according to one reporter who identified Edwin Canham of the Christian Science Monitor as the principal lobbyist for the vote, is to get American foreign policy in Asia "off dead center" in order to "establish contact with the Chinese people."

IN CALIFORNIA, Governor Brown has repeatedly come out for trade with Red China, and there is no denying that businessmen on the West Coast are hungry for it. The 1949 Export Control Act, the measure that has practically inhibited trade with the enemy will expire soon, and the pressure is to write a new law which will substantially lift the embargo on strategic shipments to the slave states.

President Kennedy's big wheat deal with the Soviet Union foreshadowed all of this. The pressures on him and his successor are not alone from the ideologists of reconciliation, but also from the businessmen.

The way they like to put it is this: we are supposed to compete not only with other American firms but with foreign firms. The foreign firms are trading with the Communists every day, with the result that the enemy is getting pretty much everything it desires anyway. So what is the point, if we cannot enforce a world embargo, in simply depriving ourselves of valuable profits that are ours for the asking?

THE POINT, of course, is that the Soviet Union cannot get everything it desires from countries other than the United States; that although it is true that our allies trade with the enemy, they do show some restraint; it is not as much as we'd like to see in respect

weight for any lions of fancie- perately. Time other respect- an international- to unavail; from do not possess comes from a- tioning democ-

It is a 16a President has- wpt, by force- tablishment of regime in this Monroe Doctrin- tion, harder in- nal version, b- to the realities-

of materials of fulness, and Countries great the passage of country and f- nists believed more than it s- fuse to trade- they would do, to put politics-

There remain- divedual Ameri- ject. It is con- of industry and primitive, to c- with the Com- accents. Basil Know, and w- horns, like Ja- the subject of time- anybod- South-

But many A- corrupt the E- moral syllab- are our enemy Communists is- trade with C- our enemy), s- a lot of self- vated, in the E-

SO THAT W- representatives- cans for Free- major tire com- its plans to b- plant in Rom- young Americ- ing-

it may have- ing young peo- something pr- rather than th- effect of stum- nity. Anyway, n't decided i- want to build- in Romance- utterly unabl- tification, have- er American- ning to incre- the Iron Cu- called upon- to American-

And Ameri- the yeast- ungumbers- to call "all- ra" by who- nity of war-





ACTION WILL also be pushed

posed to exploit the deposits by strip mining.

on Eagle passport program for admission into national parks.

by long-term railway workers' union in 1964.

6 JAN 73 AM S-B

# The Shipwreck Isle of Kure

By Russ and Peg Apple

ONE OF HAWAII'S least known islands is Kure, a coral atoll more than a thousand miles from Honolulu and about 55 miles west of Midway island.

Kure is the last official Hawaiian island on the northwest end of the Hawaiian archipelago. The other end is almost 4,800 miles away — the Big Island of Hawaii on the southeast end.

Beyond Kure is open ocean. It's 2,800 miles west to Japan's Bonin Islands.

LIKE MOST of the northwestern Hawaiian islands, Kure's list of ships wrecked there is long. Many stranded sailors earned the island but called it home while they waited for rescue.

Cashtowns on Kure were found with such frequency during the 1890s that Hawaii's King Kalakaua ordered a permanent shelter built on the atoll. This was in 1898.

Tanks were built to hold water and supplies were cached there.

Within a year, however, somebody had stolen the supplies, opened the drains on the water tanks, and had begun to break the house apart for firewood.

Even remote Kure was not safe from vandalism.

KURE IS pronounced today like the spice "curry," but has also been pronounced in this century, perhaps mispronounced, like the name of the woman who discovered radium — "Curie."

Captain Kure was a Russian navigator. His good friend Captain Stankowitch of the Russian barque Moller named it Kure in 1827. Kure has been the most popular and best name, although some charts and maps still list the atoll's alternate name of Oregon. There are other Oregon Islands in the Pacific but only one Kure.

Kalakaua named it Noku Papanu in 1885 when he sent Colonel James King and James Harbottle to take possession for the Kingdom of Hawaii. Give it a Hawaiian name, and build the humanitarian facilities for future castaways.

KURE'S MOST FAMOUS shipwreck was the USS Sargun which obliterated herself on Kure's reef in the dark morning hours of Oct. 21, 1870. Her captain knew the reef was there — his lookouts were searching for it and had spotted it — as the ship was heading away. A steam line burst and without power the Sargun drifted onto the coral reef. All 23 aboard got a-hove on Green Island, the only real island — a sandy islet about a mile long and a half a mile wide.

Amidst its low shrubs of na upoko, the crew decked over the captain's gun and launched it toward Honolulu, 1,210 miles away, with five aboard to take the message of the wreck and tell the location of the survivors.

The five sailors lived through three major storms and 30 days later, without cars or provisions, tried to land through the surf at Hapaia, Kaula

Island. All but one man was drowned in the landing.

Hawaii's government steamer El-Luce rescued the rest from Kure in January, 1871.

AS PART OF the plan to take Midway Island, an American naval and air base, the Japanese Navy in June 1942 was going to occupy Kure. It built an air field and launching facilities on the islet for midget submarines. But the first units assigned and trained for the Kure job were among those defeated in the Battle for Midway.

Kure is now a State of Hawaii wildlife refuge, has a small American-built airfield, and a resident cadre of the U.S. Coast Guard which mans a loran station.



# Chinese Genius for Capital

CHUNGKING, China — On the rat-trap airplane to this often place I knew best is former China. I found myself chomping cloves in my hand like a squirrel in a cage gnawing its tail. I had just seen once-familiar Yunnan Province quite radically and mysteriously transformed. It was natural to search for clues to the transformation.

The best clues, I think, were finally provided by a remote memory and a recent experience. The memory was of a rummy picnic by the old Burma Road in the time before Pearl Har-

bor. We were on the height. Far, far below, in its deep gorge, ran the great Salween River. And from the height to the river's brink, hundreds of tiny rice terraces run down the steep slope.

I have always remembered the scene for a simple reason. I was so profoundly struck by the amazing work of capital creation, carried on generation after generation, that those rice terraces obviously represented, from nothing, land had finally been built to sustain five tiny isolated villages in the infertile hills.



By Joseph Alsop



"Bob, not that I'm greedy or desperate, but can you, and Bing make just one more Road picture?"

AS TO THE RECENT experience it was the only time, I think, that kind boots in Yunnan tried to put wool over my eyes. I had asked one of the poorer farming communities in the mountains, to get a ton with what I had seen before. On that day in the province instead, took me to a commune where thousands of the mountains, where land was rich.

Even so, the visit had been a vicious experience, for the people were very proud of what they done, and what they had done fairly staggering. The brigade with the usual 4,000 people or so had built itself a small canal, 600 feet long, seven kilometers long to water its fields in all seasons.

The commune had more the usual number of mountain roads to boast about, plus several of its better pigs, plus new telephones and so on and so on. At this, noted you, the people had themselves, with nothing to them, on except some guidance in occasional hint of menace would from higher authority.

IN THE AIRPLANE to Chungking, it suddenly occurred to me that this recent experience an remote memory of the past, quite directly and intimately. The link was the singular Chinese genius for capital creation, which had noted in the Salween gorge that 30 years ago. This scene

DEF: true knowledge, according to Plato, is knowledge of their definitions. Not physics, engineering or geography, but references for words. Language "government" may change meaning methods of breeding governing people. But the essential meanings of these remain unshifting. Plato held that true knowledge transcends time and change.

LY there is nothing in the Shakespearean T. S. Eliot to (or the vandalism and violence saw at San Francisco in 1968-69). Surely the social sciences nurtured by the social does not account for the of the civil rights and segregation of the majority of and faculty, such as now at Harvard, Stanford, Columbia. I don't know how many distinguished institutions!

he horror fact is that the laws and the social sciences (in my view have specialized academic life) did indeed release angry and that tyranny of the Why? Because built into education system is that Platonism that knowledge of words prior to all other kinds of life, and therefore that the of the verbal arts—the philosophy, literary scholars, political are—entitled to be a ruling

PLATONISM, still predominant in modern higher education what accounts for the intellectual profligacy of what has been "The Movement." The underclass is shut down while we do our "academic." Why? Because, says old be ruling class, we say so. Cabot Lodge must not be allowed to speak on campus. Why? e. says the same authority, we are the conscience of the city!

imately, the era of the tyranny of a sophisticated Platonic philosophy seems to be over. But we remain aware of the dynamics induced it. It is the scene of the actual for the otherwise "intellectual

Jacques Barzun, provost of Yale University, saying contemptuously of painters and engineers and scientists, they need "divisive intellect; rarely need literacy."

THE store of the teacher in a legal preparatory program in a city college for his colleagues' educational art.

Platonic idea of political "topper," is a kind of hermeneutic, the art of manipulating and of down the human cattle.

are fortunate to live in a country where there are no "human gutters" (the body and fend) and the teamsters have the same advanced as the literary critic or artist. Our educational system reflect this fact.

In Republic and Tribune Syndicate



### Wilson's Cuts in Spending Under Fire

LONDON (AP) — The Labor government came under fire from all sides today after announcing cuts in government spending for the next five years.

Left-wingers in Prime Minister Harold Wilson's Labor party called the necessary "Wet Paper" a document of shame.

Business leaders said the reductions were "a taste and not a meal."

The cuts are to begin in 1977 and will affect virtually every British government, will stop the building of a new £1 billion factory for iron, and £4 billion from 1978 for ships.

Current spending is not allowed to exceed that of 1974, unless necessary for the defense of Great Britain.

Current spending is not allowed to exceed that of 1974, unless necessary for the defense of Great Britain.

Current spending is not allowed to exceed that of 1974, unless necessary for the defense of Great Britain.



Harold Wilson

### Liquor Payoff Probe Goes Back to City

The Honolulu Liquor Commission has declined to file action on a report that a liquor licensee prepared a "payoff" to get a permit to sell liquor.

The commission declined the report because the licensee had paid the permit fee.

The commission declined to file action on a report that a liquor licensee prepared a "payoff" to get a permit to sell liquor.

By Helen Ahern  
Star-Bulletin Writer

Wildlife biologists are concerned about possible harm to two wildlife on Kure Atoll — northern frigatebird and Hawaiian monk seal — if a Japanese fishing ship grounded there breaks up.

But it isn't clear what repercussions it is to present with a situation.

The House Tern was found on the reef at Kure earlier this month with the frigatebird.

Coast Guard and Navy searches have uncovered no trace of the men.

Ronald L. Walker, chief of the wildlife branch of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, said if the ship breaks up and oil leaks it could be hazardous for Hawaiian seals and green sea turtles inhabiting the waters.

He said sea birds also could get coated with oil.

THIASI WASHINGTON, a 25-year-old, would be unemployed Hawaiian in the middle, he said.

The State Fish and Game Division has proposed a change in regulations protecting protection to all offshore islands in the State, including Kure — by designating them sealed sanctuaries.

"WE'RE WAITING" is the draft but it has not been subjected to public hearing, Walker said.

It's a good question who's responsible for it.

James J. DeJoy, land management administrator for state land department, said the rule is really a matter of department's jurisdiction.

It is state land, he said. "But we'd take care

of it as best we can," he said the DNR gave the Coast Guard permit last year, 1974-75, for a LOAN station.

Robert C. Schmidt, chief of state's study at Planning and Economic Development, cited some interesting facts about the little known Hawaiian is-

land.

HE SAID KURE is closer to Tokyo than Honolulu is to Los Angeles. It is 2,482 miles from Tokyo while Honolulu is 2,547 miles from Los Angeles.

The Kure is defined as part of the City of Honolulu. It is the remotest part of the City of Honolulu.

# Grounded Ship Threat to Kure Atoll Wildlife

part of the City of Honolulu, being 1,000 miles from Honolulu Airport, Schmidt said.

Atoll is more than 60 miles beyond Midway, which when was occupied by Kure and French Frigate Shoals have small populations of Coast Guard Station — 24 at French Frigate Shoals and 29 on Kure in 1974, Schmidt said.

Schmidt keeps registers on censuses by Hawaii which are included in a data book. He said the lowest Kure groundings and loss of 17 crew members "is the biggest increase disaster in recent years here."

HE SAID KURE is closer to Tokyo than Honolulu is to Los Angeles. It is 2,482 miles from Tokyo while Honolulu is 2,547 miles from Los Angeles.

The Kure is defined as part of the City of Honolulu. It is the remotest part of the City of Honolulu.

# RENT NOW\* BUY LATER

## In Salt Lake

PIUMBA MAUI 590 ft. tall. Street 2. 1000 sq. ft. in a prime area. Call 581-1111. \$35,000. Contact: GREAT HAWAIIAN REALTY, INC. Phone: 581-1111.

## In Makiki

PUNCHBOWL PLAZA 1921 Meter South, 1 and 2. 2000 sq. ft. in a prime area. Call 581-1111. \$33,500. Contact: GREAT HAWAIIAN REALTY, INC. Phone: 581-1111.

## In Ewa Beach

EMALANI VILLAGE 1000 sq. ft. in a prime area. Call 581-1111. \$33,800. Contact: GREAT HAWAIIAN REALTY, INC. Phone: 581-1111.

## Noritake NOW OPEN AT PEARLRIDGE

The Peregrine Falcon — one of a beautiful collection of hand-carved and hand-painted birds available at Noritake



Makiki Mall, Pearlridge second floor  
between Dept. 8 Store  
Phone: 488-4985



It's the Rattiest Place in the State

HSH

DEC 10 1960  
**Rats Give Men a Tussle**

By MARK WATERS

The rattiest place in the State of Hawaii is Kure Island, 1,340 miles west of Oahu.

A year ago it was even rattier.

At that time, according to Lieutenant A. G. Taylor, operations officer at Coast Guard headquarters here, the rats crawled past a roaring fire to gnaw on sleeping men.

Taylor was there with other Coast Guardsmen to begin the establishment of a Loran station in November, 1959.

"Four or five of us made

camp on the beach," he said.

"During the night several rats crawled to one of the men and bit his leg. He jumped up hollering and woke us all up.

"By the light of the fire we could see a circle of bright beady eyes sizing us up.

"We built the fire into a roaring blaze but it didn't faze the rats. They stayed there.

"We found that the only way to keep them back was to throw chunks of coral at them.

"So we stood watches

during the nights we stayed there, the man on watch being detailed to throw coral at the rats."

Taylor said the desolate island, about one mile in diameter, has a heavy growth of thick, dense scaviola bushes.

The rats stay hidden during the day and are not injured by men walking over the entwined bushes.

Apparently the rats, which are small and dark brown, feed on the egg laid in the bushes by thousands of birds which use the island as a nesting area.

The rats can't get much

Copyright 1960  
Democratic

1  
LIBRARY OF  
GEORGE H. BALAZS

## on Kure Island

sea food cast up on the shore because the beaches are home to the Hawaiian monk seal which also feeds on sea and shore life.

Taylor thinks the rats got there from one of several ships which were wrecked in the area.

Some 50 years ago a cast-away sailor spent months on the island awaiting rescue, getting drinking water from a shallow well he dug.

Coast Guard Lieutenant Commander Harold Brock, project manager on the Kure construction project, returned last week from the island to report that the

rat population, although far from eradicated, is under control.

"We were catching 25 rats an hour in big cages," he said, "and poisoning many more.

"Now they aren't a problem. The last two days I was there, no one saw a rat but previous to that a man had his arm bitten while he slept and a rat gnawed my shoes.

"They are brave little rascals."

He said the rats gnaw the scaviola for water but there is brackish water eight inches beneath the soil.



in



Of all the islands in the Pacific, one of the most insignificant is Ocean (or Kure) Island, a tiny speck on the watery wastes far out on the very tip of the Hawaiian chain.

Yet for epic drama the story of this barren, desolate atoll has no parallel.

I call it Castaway Island. Because here 1,200 miles from civilization, on a strip of sand hardly 10 feet above sea level, there have been five incredible, major shipwrecks.

★ ★ ★ ★

NO OTHER atoll in the Pacific has such a record. But a more unlikely spot for a half-drowned castaway would be difficult to imagine. The island, made of coral and sea shells, is three miles long and half a mile wide. There is no fresh water. No edible plants grow there.

Probably the reason so many proud ships have ended their days on this dreary spot is because Ocean Island has no right to be there. Who would ever dream of going aground in the middle of the Pacific over 1,000 miles to the northwest of Honolulu?

★ ★ ★ ★

IMAGINE the consternation of the crew of the British whaler Gledstanes when she stuck fast on the reef about midnight on July 9, 1837. One crew member who had been drinking jumped overboard to save himself. He was never seen again.

Captain John R. Brown and the rest of the crew swam to the island. The next morning they saw what a predicament they were in. The ship was stuck fast on a coral reef that made a huge circle 16 miles across. The island was part of the reef.

★ ★ ★ ★

FOR SIX MONTHS Capt. Brown and his crew lived on this desert island eating turtle and fish and drinking brackish water.

Meanwhile, they pulled the ship apart and built a small schooner. Finally, on Dec. 15,

## one ear

by BOB KRAUSS

APR 9 1962

Brown, his chief mate and eight sailors sailed for Honolulu.

They made it and, months later, the British Consul in Hawaii sent a vessel to pick up the rest of the crew.

★ ★ ★ ★

THAT TRAGEDY set the pattern of violence and hardship that was to plague the tiny atoll for the next 50 years. At 2:30 a.m. on Sept. 24, 1842 the American whaler Parker struck the reef about eight miles from NNW of the island.

The wind was blowing a gale. Within 45 minutes the ship was a total wreck.

Meanwhile, the first mate and two sailors launched the lifeboat. It was immediately stove against the side of the ship. A strong current carried the wrecked boat away from the ship out to sea, three men clinging to the wreckage.

★ ★ ★ ★

THE REST of the crew, 22 men, cut the masts and made a raft of spars. On this they put out for the island. The current now carried the lifeboat back close to the raft.

One sailor swam to the raft. Then, the lifeboat was swept away and the other two men were never seen again.

Meanwhile, the current threatened to carry the raft away from the island. The men desperately threw out an anchor. They were on that raft eight days and seven nights.

★ ★ ★ ★

EVERY MOMENT was a battle to keep from being swept far out to sea. They finally reached the island by warping . . . one man would take the line and swim ahead with it, then fix it to the bottom.

Men on the raft would pull it ahead to where the anchor was stuck. Then the procedure started over again.

From the ship they had saved only the clothing on their backs and no water. They did manage to fish a 20-pound cask of salt beef and one peck of beans from the ocean. Everything else was swept away.

★ ★ ★ ★

ON THE ISLAND they found a dog left

by the crew of the Gled the dog and ate it. They they left the island, a to sea fowls and 60 seals w

They drank brackish they dug in the sand. F of the Gledstones and washed ashore they got f and building materials made cooking utensils of

★ ★ ★

MONTHS PASSED. Th es made on bits of wood different birds hoping so with help. Nothing happe

The men had saved morning and every even Smith held services. Ev stood watch for a pass

On April 16, 1843 a But she was carried t island and the sail dis darkness. The next mor back and the castaways

★ ★

BUT THEIR hardship ship was the James Stewa bound out on a voyage. She Captain, the carpenter, coop boy and continued on her wa

However, the Stewart left salt beef, 20 pounds of bread, cotton clothing. And her skip to pick up the survivors on h Twenty men continued to wai

★ ★ ★

ON MAY 2, the American v sau out of New Bedford d wretched crew on Ocean Isl them all off. The Captain cl them and gave them passag

But did those months of l those sailors a lesson? Of co 13 landed in Honolulu. The re of the Parker signed on aboa for two more years at sea.

★ ★ ★

(Next week: Two amazin open boat across 1,000 miles

A. Dodgers

↓

Fishing paradise for midway navy men A 7/13/45 p 4

Remains of 100 yr. old vessel discovered by navy divers  
near Kure S 10/5/60 1-A:30

Life on isolated atoll A 5/7/65 B11:5

Crew don't mind life on atoll S 5/10/65 A 8:4

\* Shipwreck Isle of Kure S 1/6/73 A 11:2

Extracts from the journal of Robert W. Anderson  
E n, p, 1870-717 Hawaii G 530 A 53

Annexation of Ocean Island (In All About  
Hawaii) Honolulu v. 13 (1887) p. 65  
Hawaii. O U 622 A 4 1887 p. 65

NOV 22 52

## Kure Isle, Aiea Land Returned To Territory

President Truman this week ordered two parcels of federal land, Kure Island near Midway, and Aiea military reservation on Oahu, returned to the Territory of Hawaii. Norman Godbold, Territorial public lands commissioner, announced yesterday.

SINCE WORLD WAR II the land has become surplus property of the defense department. It will now be under the administration of the Territorial department of public lands.

Kure Island was originally a part of the Hawaii group, but in 1938 President Roosevelt placed the island under the secretary of the navy for military purposes.

The island was at one time used as a reserve and breeding place for native birds. The public lands department said the island will probably will be turned over to the board of agriculture and forestry.

THE AIEA MILITARY reservation, a 4.3 acre tract on Moanalua road opposite Aiea school, probably will go either to the Hawaii Housing authority to be used as a site for new homes or to the department of public instruction for use for school needs, according to the public lands department.

The final decision as to the use of the lands rests with the Governor.


KURE Is. Outpost of Hawaii by Bryan, E. H.  
Hawn. DU 620 p. 21 v. 49 no. 8 p. 12, 30

Pacific Islets by Neal, DAVID (see his  
Uncle Sam's Pacific Islets. 1940)  
DU 30 L4 p. 19-20

How the territory of Hawaii grew and  
what domain it covers. (see Hawaiian  
Historical Society, Honolulu. Report, 1933)  
DU 620 H4 1933 p. 21

The Last Cruise of the Saginaw by Read, G. H.  
1843-1924 Hawn G 530 S2

The Wreck of the Saginaw - Robertson, K.  
HAWN G 530 S22

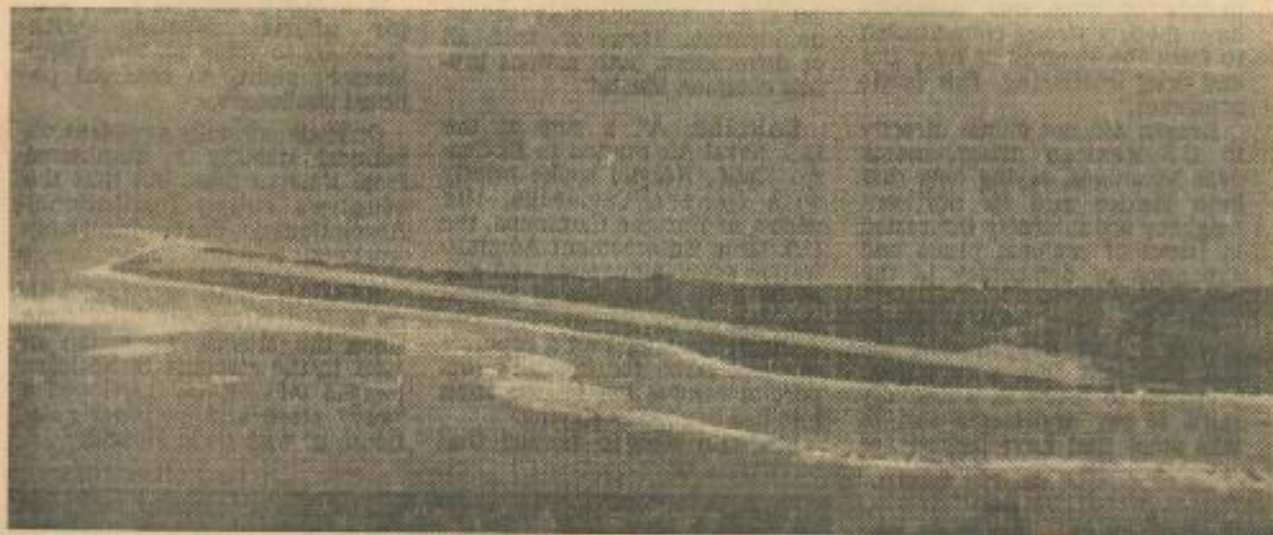


Johnny Ukulele, center,  
Mary and Norman gag

LIBRARY OF  
GEORGE H. BALAZS

# IN HAWAII

## Kure: Life with Gooneys



**REMOTE HAWAIIAN ISLAND**—Kure Atoll, 1,200 miles northwest of Oahu, is oval-shaped with a nearly continuous coral reef enclosing a shallow lagoon. The only permanent land is Green

● Friday, January 3, 1986 A-3

**Star-Bulletin**

Business .....	A-13
Obituaries .....	A-16
Police News .....	A-16

## and Beer Cutbacks



Island, where the Coast Guard operates a navigation station. —Star-Bulletin Photos by

# Morale Is Main Problem on an Atoll

By Helen Altonn  
Star-Bulletin Writer

**KURE ATOLL** — Nightclubs are out for the 21 Coast Guard men and women who live in this remote part of the Hawaiian Archipelago, but they have "morale occasions" when they can buy more beer than usual.

Alcohol is prohibited at the LORAN (Long Range Aid to Navigation) station except for beer. Each person is allowed to have a six-pack for a party. Otherwise, the limit is two cans each per day.

The small Coast Guard community also has "morale telephone calls" and a "morale com-

mittee." The committee recently purchased some "morale equipment" — barber shears.

Morale is emphasized because Kure Atoll, while part of the City and County of Honolulu, is "basically out in the middle of nowhere," the Coast Guard says.

The atoll is 1,200 miles from Oahu at the far northwest end of the Hawaiian Archipelago. It is believed that a Russian navigator, Capt. Kure, discovered it but no authentic account of this is available, according to the Smithsonian Institution.

**SOME SHIPWRECKS** have occurred on Kure's reef. The most baffling case involved the

Japanese fishing vessel Houei Maru, which went aground here in February 1976. No clues regarding the fate of the 17 crewmen were found. However, legal documents, charts and diaries were found in the "water-tight" bridge section of the ship.

The Coast Guard station is on Green Island, the only permanent land in the atoll. It is about 1½ miles long and ½ mile wide. There are no native trees — just a five-foot-high bush.

The only people here are those operating the navigational facility or visiting to manage and study the wildlife. The atoll is a state wildlife refuge, administered by the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The LORAN station was built in 1961. Rear Adm. Alfred P. Manning, commander of the 14th Coast Guard District, is planning a 25-year celebration this year.

Manning toured the facility during a visit before Christmas and chatted with the 21 people stationed here.

**HE EXPECTED** them to grumble about late paychecks, which are processed on the Mainland and flown here with the mail. But their major complaint is about a new policy on beer consumption.

"There was no limit and now there is a limit," said Petty Officer Marc Labeau, whose duties include handling the beer. Beer is sold here for 25 cents to 85 cents for a can or bottle.

"You're trying to put me out of business, admiral," Labeau joked, calling himself "the local supplier." He said the crew members believe the limit is "a punitive thing."

Manning said he established the limit after visiting the LORAN stations and finding that they all had different policies. "At one station I saw people walk out of the exchange with entire cases. There was an indi-



**ENDANGERED SPECIES**—A Hawaiian monk seal pup basks in the sun at Kure Atoll, a state-administered wildlife refuge.

## 'in the Middle of Nowhere'

cation that they were winding up downtown and being used as barter," he said.

"You can't do much bartering with those birds out there, but there are places where it can be done," Manning said.

Also, he said, "We don't want people alone in their room with a case of beer and not participating in activities. . . ."

A SIGN ON a bedroom door expresses the loneliness of the island: "I feel like a lost sock in the laundromat of oblivion."

Lt. j.g. Lurilla Lee, 26, the station's commanding officer, said she tries to keep everyone busy in hopes that "responsibilities" will override feelings of isolation and depression.

She tries to "make it more of a family" with parties, sports activities and time for people to be by themselves. "A person with a positive attitude will have a good time," she said.

Recreational opportunities include boating, swimming, snorkeling and tennis. There is a big hot tub. And for photographers, there are sea birds, turtles and Hawaiian monk seals.

The station has a well-stocked library, movies, tapes and records. Radio and television reception is poor but improvements are expected with a satellite dish given to the crew for Christmas by the 14th Coast Guard District office.

Shopping is done through the Army-Air Force Exchange Service catalog.

And, generally, the crew members said they get along well together except for "a battle between smokers and non-smokers."

LEE SAID contacts with the outside world are limited. It's expensive and difficult to call the Mainland, she said. Mail is delivered only every two weeks, when a Coast Guard C-130 arrives with supplies. "We can't go

to the local grocery store, and there is no place to go out," she said.

"But you don't have to worry about things that happen in real life . . . getting mugged on the beach or getting ripped off," she said. "We have a beautiful lagoon and recreational equipment. The beaches are gorgeous. . . . The food is good."

Signs are posted throughout the kitchen and dining room: "Clean up your mess." And the facilities are immaculate.

Lee told the admiral she has no complaints except for the little Polynesian rats — the only animals on the island that the Coast Guard isn't pledged to protect.

Rat-control efforts were scheduled at Kure this month by the Navy and the state Health Department's vector control unit.

MOST OF THE people working here said they joined the Coast Guard to get an education and job skills. The pay for new service members is about \$695 a month, plus \$30 for overseas duty.

LORAN duty is for one year, but Jan Freeman is at Kure for the second time. "I think it's the Club Med of the Pacific," she said. She was first here in 1980-81 and returned by request in June, five weeks after she was married. Her husband, David Ogawa, works in Honolulu.

Although the separation is difficult, she said, she "loves it" on this remote island. "If you want to, you can really pamper yourself." She said she tries to keep physically fit with aerobics and workouts in the weight room.

But Freeman, 34, said it's easier for her than some of the others at Kure because she can talk to her husband by telephone.

Seaman Apprentice Guy Possi, 20, of Fairhope, Ala., has been here for six out of his eight months in the Coast Guard.



**PROUD MOM**—A Laysan Albatross stands up in her nest to show off her egg. This bird and the Black-footed Albatross are known as boobies. They are among seabird colonies that breed at Kure Atoll.

"I PICKED it because I figured I could go where I wanted after I was here and I wouldn't get stuck floating around on a ship," he said. It's not bad "if the weather's right and you're not on watch," he said. "But it seems like we're working all the time here."

Fireman Apprentice Don Larrabee of Anaheim, Calif., 26, joined the Coast Guard eight months ago and requested duty here. "I thought it would be nice that I would have time to myself," he said. "It turned out to be harder than I thought. . . ."

"It makes you appreciate things that you take for granted, like driving and traffic," Larrabee said.

"Like civilization and girls," Possi added.



# Plants, Animals a Chance

## Praised for Helping to Protect Endangered Species

birds and shore birds four years ago and 27 monk seals were counted in July 1982 on Green Island and smaller islands in the atoll, he said.

He said the people working at the Coast Guard station "are our best observers because they are

baby seals during a recent walk around the island.

Saito noted that the seals are going to open beach areas, indicating that they have "learned to co-exist" with the people.

He said the Coast Guard personnel are "more ecologically at-

land, Walker explained. But he said, "When they get in the air, they're poetry in motion. They're built for flying, really."

SAITO SAID the Coast Guard C-130s land "hard and fast" to avoid striking flying birds, which have a six-foot wingspan.

Visitors to Kure are free to walk along the beaches and collect glass balls or floats. But they are cautioned not to approach the seals or the birds.

"The Coast Guard has been a lot more cooperative, not only in helping us but in not disturbing the wildlife," said William Gilmartin, wildlife biologist at the National Marine Fisheries Service's Honolulu laboratory.

Gilmartin heads the laboratory's Marine Mammals and Endangered Species Program, which includes a Monk Seal Recovery Team. They have a "head start" enclosure at Kure to protect female seal pups until they can take care of themselves.

Hawaiian monk seal pups at Kure have decreased from an average of 10 to 13 a year in the late 1970s to an average of four or five a year, Gilmartin said. But he said the head start project "has been real successful."

Of 13 females raised in the enclosure, 12 are still alive at Kure, he said.

The NMFS scientists also have been collecting endangered seal pups from French Frigate Shoals. After "fattening them up" in Honolulu, the pups are taken to Kure, where they have a better chance to survive.

"Essentially, we are doubling the number of females being put into the population at Kure each year," Gilmartin said. "We hope it will be enough to start the population climbing once the animals start reproducing."

*"Essentially, we are doubling the number of females being put into the population at Kure each year. We hope it will be enough to start the population climbing once the animals start reproducing."*

— Biologist William Gilmartin

on the scene all the time. They have a very solicitous feeling toward the wildlife up there."

"The main thing is to minimize disturbance to Hawaiian monk seals, especially when they are pupping," Walker said.

The north end of the island is off limits, even to the Coast Guard, because it is an important breeding area, he said. "It seems to be working fairly well."

"The crew is aware that it (the atoll) is a wildlife refuge and they respect it," said Lt. j.g. Lurilla Lee, commanding officer of the LORAN station. She said the station surveys the seal population every week for wildlife officials. As for the birds, she said, "We just let them do their things."

HERBERT KIKUKAWA, Oahu district forestry manager, and Ralph Saito, district wildlife biologist, counted 20 adult and

tune" than they were in the past and they no longer have dogs, which they kept there until the mid-1970s.

"Plant-wise we are not happy," Saito added, referring to the three "lost species." Introduced plants and rodents are the main threats to the native plants, he said.

He noted ants on the breasts of nesting birds but said he doesn't think that's a problem. "When the chicks hatch they are very vulnerable," he said. "But these have been very successful nests all these years."

Saito said the young birds remain about five months after they are hatched. Then they roam the ocean for six or seven years. They become sexually mature during that time and then return to island where they were born to breed.

The albatrosses are called gooneys because they waddle on

# Pacific Refuge Offers Rare

## Coast Guard

By Helen Altonn  
Star-Bulletin Writer

**KURE ATOLL** — Gooney birds line both sides of the airstrip here like decoys — luring visitors with their clicking noises, cooing and courtship dances.

Many are sitting on eggs that will hatch this month. Some stand up, proud to show off their accomplishments. Others flap their beaks to keep people away.

The gooneys are the black-footed albatross and black and white Laysan albatross — stately sea birds that return here each November to begin an eight-month breeding cycle.

They are protected because the atoll is a state wildlife refuge managed by the Forestry and Wildlife Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Green Island, where the Coast Guard operates a LORAN navigational station, has many types of sea birds, green turtles and Hawaiian monk seals.

"Kure Atoll is a unique place on Earth," says one of several signs that greet people to the island and warn that the wildlife and plants shouldn't be removed or disturbed.

Three native plant species on Kure are believed extinct because they weren't found during the last survey in 1979. They include a native mint and two types of native grasses, said Carolyn Corn, state Forestry and Wildlife Division botanist who participated in the study.

"WE CAN'T do anything about the plants that are gone," she said. "We are trying to protect the ones that are alive."

Ronald Walker, head of the state wildlife branch, said the bird populations at Kure appear to be fairly stable.

Kure had 17 species of sea



**BALLPLAYER**—A gooney has taken over the Coast Guard station's tetherball, sometimes batting the ball with its beak.

### **Kure's 'webs of wantonness'**

Jan TenBruggencate's analysis of the problem of marine debris at Kure Atoll (Sunday, Sept. 12) is made more significant by the fact that staff of our laboratory working with the crew of the Coast Guard vessel *Sassafras* and state Department of Land and Natural Resources staff had cleared the Green Island beaches of debris by mid-August. Therefore, the nets and lines which Jan saw on his visit had accumulated during a relatively short interval. Our combined beach cleanup effort prior to Jan's visit had identified at least 742 items (with an estimated total weight of 4,300 pounds) capable of entangling wildlife.

Sadly, this Kure tally is not an unusual one, and this debris does kill Hawaii's monk seals, turtles and sea birds. The headline on Jan's article on the marine debris problem is most appropriate: These are indeed "Webs of wantonness traveling beyond the reach of redemption."

Incidentally, Mr. TenBruggencate's Page 1 article in the same paper suggests there are "hundreds of sea turtles" at Kure Atoll. Kure Atoll, however, actually has very few turtles, the lowest population of all the sandy islands in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, and nesting activity is virtually nonexistent with only two records of nesting attempts in the last 20 years.

**WILLIAM G. GILMARTIN**  
Chief, Protected Species Investigation  
National Marine Fisheries Service

# Aloha, Kure



By Jan TenBruggencate  
Advertiser Staff Writer

*The Honolulu Advertiser 9/12/93 Sunday A1*  
crosses.

**KURE ATOLL**, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands — This most distant of the Hawaiian Islands is about to be left alone.

Army and Coast Guard crews this month will complete the removal of almost all traces of two centuries of human use.

Later this week, the last C-130 transport plane will take off for the 1,367-mile flight to Oahu, and the runway will be left to alba-

Kure, named after a Russian navigator who may actually not have seen it, will become an unstaffed state of Hawaii wildlife refuge left alone except for dozens of Hawaiian monk seals, hundreds of sea turtles and millions of seabirds of 13 different species.

It is a wild place. A charming place. All greens and blues and blinding whites. A stunning lagoon, clear as the air on a summer day.

The lagoon is placid and pale green in calm weather, but wind-whipped, wet and bracing in the fierce gales of winter, according to Coast Guard personnel who once served year-long tours of duty here.

It's a lagoon that makes you think

of tranquility, but where big tiger sharks come in the summer to feed on albatross chicks testing their skills.

Kure is the site of famous shipwrecks, one of which is still visible on the reef.

The Houei Maru No. 5 left Midway Feb. 3, 1976. The next morning, after a strong overnight storm, the ship was aground on the Kure reef. Its 17 crew members were not aboard, and were never seen again.

The advent of the radio navigation system, LORAN (Long Range Aids to Navigation), prompted the Coast Guard to open its station at Kure in 1961. Today, satellite navigation has bypassed the need for

See Kure, Page A11

Kure



Midway

PACIFIC OCEAN

## INSIDE:

- State wants pristine refuge / Page A10
- Coast Guard's changing role / Page A10
- Big fish story / Page A10
- Collection of sea-borne trash / Page D6

0 miles 150



Oahu

Hawaii

# Kure: Distant Hawaiian atoll being

FROM PAGE ONE

remote radio stations like Kure, and in July 1992, the Coast Guard left.

Kure is an atoll enclosing several small sandy islands. The largest, Green Island (most people call it Kure Island), is just 1½ miles long, and most of it is less than half a mile wide. You can walk all the way around it in less than an hour.

It's at the far end of the Hawaiian chain, a five-hour flight from Honolulu in a Coast Guard C-130 aircraft.

All the other Northwestern Hawaiian Islands are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but Kure is controlled by the state of Hawaii. When the Coast Guard said it was leaving, the Department of Land and Natural Resources did some quick thinking.

Kure is more than four times the distance from Hilo to Lihue. When the Coast Guard leaves, the runway will deteriorate and flights will be impossible. The Navy is discussing closing the next nearest runway at Midway Island, 60 miles

away from Kure.

State forester Mike Buck, in charge of Hawaii's wildlife refuges, said there's little likelihood of getting funds to maintain a permanent facility, or even for staffing it regularly. Just getting there by boat would be a huge expense.

The state decided to ask the Coast Guard to remove virtually all signs of its 31 years on Green Island.

The state would leave Kure as pristine as possible, and leave it alone. Wildlife officials will try to set up annual trips to monitor progress. To make

The Honolulu Advertiser Sunday, September 12, 1993 A11

## abandoned, returned to wildlife

the trips more comfortable, and to provide shelter for any shipwreck victims, one concrete water tank and a three-room concrete building will be left behind.

Everything else is going. Water tanks, kitchens, bunkhouses, workrooms, water desalination plant, generator structure, radio tower and radio rooms and all the rest of a facility that once housed about 40 people at a time.

The Army's 65th Engineer Battalion, part of the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield, is doing much of the demolition

as a training exercise.

The Coast Guard had no legal obligation to remove its facilities, but is footing a bill that could run to \$1.1 million, said Wendy Thompson, a Coast Guard civil engineer and project officer for the demolition.

The demolition is a huge effort, and for many, a sad one. To hundreds of Coast Guard personnel, Kure was special, and its passing is not made easier by the demolition.

"Here, you take the videos, I can't do it," one officer said to another during the admiral's visit.

Lt. Gus MacFeeley, operations officer for the Pacific LORAN stations, was there, overseeing the work. He slept in a tent on the beach, to be away from the wrecking scene, at least at night.

MacFeeley brought a short-wave radio, and each evening answered radio buffs' calls from around the world. Hams had not heard from Kure since the Coast Guard left, and it's unlikely they will be hearing from it again.

"I just wanted to do it," he says with a catch in his voice. "One last time."

# Rats, trees making it tough to leave Kure Atoll pristine

By Jan TenBruggencate  
Advertiser Kana'i Bureau

KURE ATOLL, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands — The state wants to create an unstaffed wildlife refuge at Kure Atoll, and to make that work, wants to leave it as near as possible to pristine.

Unfortunately, that's not nearly as pristine as wildlife officials would like.

After this week, there will be no one on Kure. Researchers may visit for a couple of weeks only once a year.

This would be fine if Kure could be left the way it was before the first humans visited. The seabirds could fly in, nest in the burrows, or on the ground, or in the shrubbery, just as they have for eons.

But Kure is not the way it was. Even on a small island like Green Island, the main island within the Kure lagoon, alien species are competing with native ones and changing the environment.

There were, for instance, no rats. When the Coast Guard closed its Kure LORAN station last year, rats were so common that if you sat in one place for

a while, you'd see them scurrying from place to place.

State wildlife officials, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and others, are trying to eradicate the rats — estimated in the tens of thousands — before humans leave Kure.

They started with extensive trapping along lines that crisscross the island. Then they put out plastic containers with rat poison. The containers were designed so birds would be unlikely to get at the poison.

The type of poison was changed every few weeks, to account for rats that may have recognized the smell and avoided one kind.

With three weeks to go before the final human exodus, the rat population was reduced and there's a chance of full eradication, said state biologist Randy Kennedy.

In case there are still some rats around, additional poison traps were to be left on the island after the last person left.

Rats are just one problem. Another is all the alien trees that have been planted around the island, mainly by Coast Guard officials trying to make

Kure more pleasant.

To ensure they won't take over the island, the nonnative trees have been killed, including coconut palms, ironwoods, false kamani and others.

Wildlife officials have not yet figured out what to do about the golden crownbeard, a tall weedy plant with a pretty yellow flower. Scientists call it *Verbesina encelioides*.

It's been a wet year at Kure, and the verbesina has grown extremely dense on the northern half of Green Island. The verbesina can grow so thick that ground nesting and burrowing birds can't nest in it, and it's not strong enough to support the nests of shrub-nesters.

It is out-competing the native naupaka shrubs.

One thought is to bring in lots of people and simply pull it up, Kennedy said. This was tried in a small section of the island, and new verbesina seedlings immediately appeared.

But since the Coast Guard has stopped maintaining the Green Island coral runway, it will be difficult to get sufficient numbers of people to the island for such a project.

## Ulua still local brutes as fishing tales fade

KURE ATOLL, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands — The big fish story during the final days of demolition at this remote spot wasn't the shark that chased the lobster divers out of the water, or the mullet so big a man could carry only seven of them, but the huge ulua.

"I was in 3½ feet of water and he followed me right in. His belly was on the sand and his fin was out of the water," said one diver.

The big predator was behaving aggressively, so the diver removed fish from his stringer and pushed them in the direction of the ulua. The big animal took them and swam away.

Another diver a day later was swimming to shore with

his catch of multicolored uhu (parrotfish) when the ulua appeared. It attacked the speared fish, and bit the belly out of one of them. The diver poked the ulua with his spear, which bounced off. The ulua left.

"That was ONE BIG FISH," the diver said. "I don't know what I'd have done if the spear had stuck."

There won't be much more fishing at Kure for long. The island is 1,400 miles from Honolulu, a long way by aircraft. Its runway no longer will be maintained.

It's also a long way by boat, and there's no safe anchorage. The channel blasted for the construction of the Coast Guard station in 1961 has been blocked by coral growth.

On top of that, it's a state

wildlife refuge, and one whose management theme will be the least human interference possible.

The state Division of Forestry and Wildlife won't be giving out many entry permits, for fear visitors will bother the wildlife.

Even Hari Kojima, of the television program, "Let's Go Fishing," couldn't get a permit.

The last anglers and divers on Kure are the workers dismantling the old Coast Guard facility.



Advertiser photo by Jan TenBruggencate

## Seabird paradise

Flocks of seabirds swirl over Kure Atoll, where noddies, terns, frigate birds, boobies and others come to lay eggs and raise their chicks. Some nest in burrows, some on the surface, and some in the shrubs and low trees seen in background.

# A new role for the Coast Guard

By Jan TenBruggencate

Advertiser Kauai Bureau

The Coast Guard's shutting down of its LORAN stations, like the conversion of most of its manned lighthouses to automated systems, represents changing times and the fine-tuning of the service's role.

It does not mean the Coast Guard will shrink, or have less to do.

Rear Adm. Howard B. Gehring, on Kure recently to view the demolition of facilities there, said Long Range Aids to Navigation date to a time when the guard had ocean station vessels, ships that sat in the same position far at sea for months at a time, providing navigational signals to trans-ocean airline flights.

"Today, we don't have a customer base to buy these services," Gehring said, reflecting the Coast Guard's efforts to be responsive to the people who use its services. It's tax dollars that pay for the agency, but it works not to spend money on services for which there is no demand.

The military's global positioning system (GPS) uses satellites, and it provides people with relatively inexpensive receivers with more accurate positions than LORAN ever gave. And that improves the performance of some of the Coast Guard's other functions.

A ship in trouble, using pinpoint modern locating technology, can expect a C-130 to arrive on the spot and drop emergency equipment quickly

rather than spending hours in search patterns, Gehring said.

But the improved technology doesn't mean the Coast Guard will shrink. As it has dropped some functions, such as manning LORAN stations and lighthouses, it has taken on others, Gehring said.

"We're getting new mission requirements like pollution monitoring and oil spill clean-up, and our law enforcement duties have been expanded."

The law enforcement function includes such things as patrolling over the oceans for fisheries violations, interdicting drugs and dealing with increasing incidents involving mass alien immigration, like the ships during recent years carrying Chinese nationals bound for the United States.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southwest Region  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

AUG 07 1992

F/SW033:ETN

AUG 17 1992  
Abs-sent to TL  
G. H. B.  
J. H. B.

Captain C. W. Allison  
Chief, Operations Division  
Fourteenth Coast Guard District  
300 Ala Moana Blvd.  
Honolulu, HI 96850-4982

Dear Captain Allison:

This letter provides the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) evaluation of the impacts of closing the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Loran Station at Kure Atoll on endangered Hawaiian monk seals (Monachus schauinslandi) and threatened green turtles (Chelonia mydas). Consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 was initiated on November 25, 1991 at a meeting with the U.S. Coast Guard where scheduling of the station closure and concerns for Hawaiian monk seal protection were discussed.

The proposed action is to close the Loran C Station on Green Island at Kure Atoll, remove hazardous materials, and demolish existing structures during two time frames. The first period of demolition was scheduled from June 15 through July 31, 1992. During this time the transmitter and generator buildings were to be stripped of wiring and equipment, the hazardous and non-hazardous materials were to be sorted from the landfill and either transported off-island or buried as appropriate, the transmitter tower was to be demolished, and the ground radials, guy cables and tower sections were to be removed from the island. The line supplying the fuel tanks was to be cleaned and the above-ground portion to the valve box removed. All fuel is projected to be used by the end of October 1993. In the event that there is remaining fuel it will be removed by a Coast Guard buoy tender. All buildings were to be sealed before leaving the island in 1992.

The second period of demolition will occur from July 1 through October 1, 1993 when any remaining hazardous materials such as sludge from the fuel tanks will be removed. Any rinseate remaining from the tank cleaning will be treated by bioremediation. The non-friable asbestos from the floor tiles and ceiling material in the buildings will be removed, stabilized and if possible buried on-island. If it is not possible to ensure long-term encapsulation, the asbestos will be transported off-site for burial. The buildings (except for the Reverse Osmosis pump building) would then be demolished and buried at





sites adjacent to each building. These areas are sufficiently inland of the beaches that no effects to seals or turtles is expected. All of the material to be buried will be inert and non-entangling. If the paint on the fuel tanks is found to contain lead in concentrations considered to be hazardous by EPA standards, the paint would be removed prior to demolition and burial of the tanks. Any spills resulting from the fuel line and tank clean-up will be contained and removed taking into account any impacts to wildlife resources from clean-up activities. Spills will be reported to the USCG Regional Response Team in a timely manner.

Because most of the demolition activity will occur inland of monk seal haul out beaches NMFS expects there will be little impact on Hawaiian monk seals or critical habitat. Stripping of the pier and removal of the ground radials and tower guy wires present the greatest potential for disturbance of seals. Extreme caution will be exercised by the demolition crew when in areas in proximity to beach areas (positions C5 - C10 and C20 - C22) so that seals are not disturbed. The NMFS does not anticipate any impact to green turtles from this activity since all of the proposed activities will take place on Green Island except for the rinsing and cleaning of the fuel line and removal of the above ground portion of the line.

During meetings with staff from the Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit - Honolulu, State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources and later the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) a number of other protective measures and plans for removal and/or disposal of station equipment and debris were identified. These protective measures and mitigation plans were finalized at a meeting on May 20, 1992 and included in an environmental assessment prepared for this project. These measures were implemented during the demolition activities conducted in 1992 and will be implemented, as appropriate, for activities scheduled in 1993. These protective measures include the following:

1. The timing of demolition activities was scheduled for mid to late summer to avoid monk seal pupping and nursing periods to the maximum extent possible in both years.
2. Briefings for all personnel involved in this project will be provided by NMFS, State of Hawaii and the Coast Guard. Instructions on activity restrictions and off-limits areas will ensure that disturbance to monk seals does not occur.
3. At least one NMFS representative will be present during the closure activities in 1992 to monitor the effects of the project on Hawaiian monk seals and to ensure that seals are not disturbed and activity restrictions are followed. The monitoring effort by NMFS personnel for 1993 will be determined at a later date.

4. Surveys of the burial sites will be conducted on a periodic basis by the Coast Guard in conjunction with the NMFS, State of Hawaii, and the FWS to ensure that the materials remain buried and no secondary effects occur.

5. All hazardous materials, tower sections, tower guys and ground radials will be cut up and removed from the island.

The NMFS Head Start program for female monk seal pups born on Kure Atoll and the monk seal rehabilitation project which introduced yearling seals from French Frigate Shoals into Kure were initiated in 1981 and 1984, respectively. These programs were designed to increase the recruitment of female seals into the population at Kure which had declined significantly since 1961. These programs have been very successful with a high ratio of females now in the immature portion of the population. A large proportion of these animals is now or will shortly become sexually mature. Based on pupping and survival data over the past ten years the adult sex ratio should begin to even out in a few years and the population should continue to recover.

Closure of the Loran Station and the departure of the USCG from Kure Atoll will also mark the end of logistical support from the USCG for these programs. Concurrent with this proposed action and the initiation of a project at Midway to introduce female pups and rehabilitated yearlings from French Frigate Shoals, the Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team reviewed the status of the Kure monk seal population and its prospects for recovery. The Team determined that sufficient resources had gone into enhancement efforts at Kure and that the population appeared to be recovering slowly. For this reason, the Team supported a shift of the program to Midway. Thus, even if the USCG were to remain at Kure, the Head Start and rehabilitation programs would be terminated at Kure. The assistance of the USCG and the State of Hawaii in supporting these projects over the past 10 years is gratefully acknowledged.

Based on an evaluation of the proposed action and the protective measures agreed to by the USCG and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, the NMFS determined the proposed closure of the Kure Loran Station was not likely to adversely affect Hawaiian monk seals, green turtles, or Hawaiian monk seal critical habitat. Based on this determination and the verbal agreements to implement protective measures in 1992, the USCG proceeded with the proposed demolition activities in July and August of 1992. This letter serves to confirm NMFS determination concerning the USCG activities conducted in 1992, and also concludes informal consultation on those activities that will be conducted in 1993. Consultation must be reinitiated if: 1) new species are listed that may be affected by the proposed activity; 2) the activity affects listed species in a manner or to an extent not previously considered; or 3) critical habitat is designated for a previously listed species.

Please contact Mr. Eugene T. Nitta, Protected Species Program Coordinator, Pacific Area Office, 2570 Dole St., Honolulu, HI 96822-2396 (Tel. 808/955-8831) should you have any further questions regarding this consultation.

Sincerely,

*Gary Macloch*

*for* E. C. Fullerton  
Regional Director

cc: F/SW033 - Nitta  
F/SWC2 - Boehlert  
F/PR - Foster  
USCG, CEU - J.T. Peck  
MMC - Twiss

## Kure Atoll, Home for Monk Seals

The isolated atolls and islands of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, which stretch some 1,200 miles northwestward from Honolulu to Kure Atoll, are the only terrestrial habitat of Hawaiian monk seals.

These seals, having remained virtually unchanged for 15 million years, are sometimes referred to as living fossils. Since 1972 the Hawaiian monk seal has been protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act and, since 1976 by the U.S. Endangered Species Act. However, a major cause for the decline of the Hawaiian monk seal population continues to be the disturbance of its breeding grounds.

To keep the monk seals from extinction the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources keeps a close watch on the level of human activity in the breeding grounds, including the white sand beaches that surround the Coast Guard LORAN Station on Kure island.

Although Kure is only one and a half miles long and a half mile wide it is an important breeding ground and an has become an area of concern for the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

An issue is the level of contact that Coast Guard personnel and visitors on Kure have with the monk seals.

During a recent visit to Kure for a change of command ceremony, Rear Admiral Clyde E. Robbins, 14th District Commander, took a walking tour of Kure with Ralph Saito, a wildlife biologist with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources and Doyle Gates.

western pacific program administrator for NMFS.

"I wanted to talk to them about the problem and see the situation for myself," Rear Adm. Robbins said. "I wanted to see it with my own eyes rather than just on a piece of paper back at my office."

Some of the beach area on Kure is off-limits to visitors and station personnel, however NMFS feels that is not enough. Female monk seals with pups are likely to be disturbed by even the most benign human activity and may interrupt nursing to bellow and charge at intruders.

Doyle gates says that even though some steps have been taken, "more needs to be done to insure the well being of the seal population there," he said.

(Continued on page 8)



Rear Admiral Clyde E. Robbins, 14th District Commander, (above) studies a living fossil — the endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal, on wind blown Kure Atoll.





annual Carol Kai Bed race, March 24th at Ala Moana park. Funds raised at the race went to the Variety School for learning disabilities. Ninety-four beds were entered in the competition, representing all of the armed services on Oahu and civilian teams from Guam, Fiji, the mainland and neighboring islands.



## around the district

*(Continued from  
page 3)*

Order Brides." Merri Churchill, wife of Cmdr. Winston Churchill, located video equipment and was assisted by a production staff that included Linda Reichl, Candy Kelso, Debra Dawnorowitz, Debbie Anderson, Barb Hauden, Earlin Sawyer, Lynda Jones, Terri Zapata and Debbie King.

The production was highlighted with Vivian Kujawski's candlelight dinner set for two with a picture of Jarvis, and the background music "Sailing". Another scene featured a pregnant clown that gives birth to a monkey and a dance hall number "Hey Big Spender", described as a "show stopper".

Hats off to the MUNRO for being selected to receive the Navy Meritorious Unit

Commendation. Munro was one of a dozen U.S. ships that were assigned to Task Force Seventy One, during the KAL flight 007 search and salvage operations. Officers and crew were praised for their "sustained superior performance throughout that potentially volatile and extremely sensitive international situation."

Mahalo to Clancey Greff of Hanalei, Kauai and Papillion Helicopter tours Ltd. for assisting the Coast Guard in the rescue of six persons stranded off Kauai's rugged Napali coast on the night of 2 May.

According to STATION KAUAI's BM1 Alvin McAdams, Greff jumped into one of his Napali Coast Tours zodiacs and rescued two men off Alapii Point in their broken down boat.

The two men were part of a group of six who had gone on a snorkeling trip earlier in the day. The remaining four were spotted by a passing helicopter at the remote Honopu Valley where they had written H-E-L-P in the sand.

They were later rescued by the Papillion Ltd. helicopter.

On May 9, Captain Thomas Schaffer, Chief of COMPTROLLER DIVISION bid "aloha" to the Fourteenth District when he departed for his new assignment as Deputy Comptroller at headquarters.

Captain Schaffer's replacement will be Commander Robert K. Jones who will arrive in mid-July from Group South Portland, Maine.

LORAN STATION HOKKAIDO'S C.O., Lieutenant J.G. Paul Butler has departed the "14th" for a two year undergraduate program at Indian River Community College at Fort Pierce, Florida. He was relieved by Lieutenant J.G. Frank McNiff who previously served on the cutter Durable, as first lieutenant. The Durable is homeported at Brownsville, Texas.

## Seal Pups on Kure (Continued from page 3)

"Our goals are the same; more seal pups," Rear Adm. Robbins said, "And within the limits of reason, we'll do what we can to help. We certainly don't want to be party to the extinction of the monk seals. However, at present, I'm not inclined to close additional beach area," he said.

Rear Adm. Robbins suggested that there are alternatives to restricting more beach area, such as educating visitors about the seals with a video tape.

"The former commanding officer and the present commanding officer of Kure are very sensitive to the situation," Rear Adm. Robbins said. "Those on Kure have gone out of their way to learn how not to disturb the seals. They want to see more seal pups there too."



## IRON MEN of the Mallow

Page 5



## Iron Lady Wins Trophy

Page 8

# Pacific Shield

May-June 1984

14th Coast Guard District

Honolulu, Hawaii

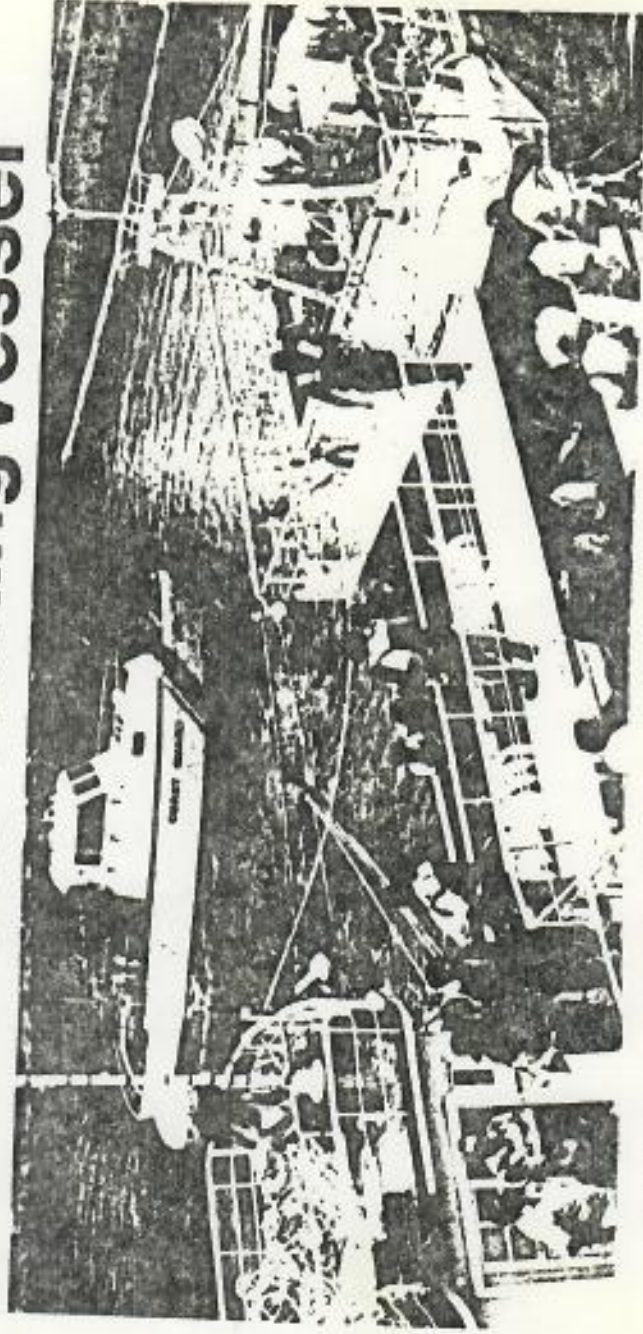
## Mallow Seizes Taiwanese Fishing Vessel

Crewmen from the Honolulu based Coast Guard cutter Mallow seized the 110-foot Taiwanese vessel Jin Ruy Ying on April 7, for fishing without a permit in U.S. waters near the Hancock Seamount area of the Hawaiian Islands.

The vessel, with 18 crewmen, was seized by a boarding team from Mallow, headed by Ensign Dave Littlejohn, for allegedly dragging for coral about 45 miles inside U.S. waters.

A custody crew was placed on board the vessel while it was escorted back to Honolulu. Mallow arrived with the Jin Ruy Ying in tow on Sunday, April 15.

News media from three local television stations and at least two Honolulu news papers were at the pier when the vessel arrived. Commander Robert Christiansen, from the 14th district's intelligence and law enforcement



## GREEN SEA TURTLE ILLNESS

GREEN ISLAND, KURE ATOLL

AGE: T<sub>1</sub>

SEX: UNKNOWN

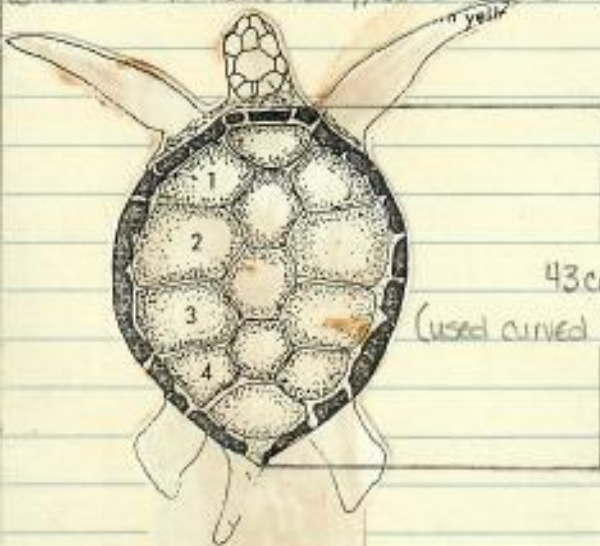
COLLECTORS: MICHELLE REDDY, KRISTEN O'BRIEN

FIRST SIGHTED: 7-1-87, SEC. #7, by KRISTEN O'BRIEN, 6:30AM

DESCRIBED AS "FUNGAL INFECTION" ON FLIPPERS.

RESIGHTED: 7-5-87 - T<sub>1</sub> in SAME AREA, "INFECTION" STILL PRESENT. A SINGLE DIGIT ON RIGHT FRONT FLIPPER IS PROTRUDING THROUGH SKIN.

SAMPLE COLLECTED: 7-7-87 "INFECTION" INVOLVES ALL 4 FLIPPERS AND TAIL. TISSUE IS WHITE & SLOUGHING OFF MANY AREAS "EATEN" THROUGH, LEAVING A LACY APPEARING DIGIT STILL PROTRUDING CURVED LENGTH TAKEN USING (USED CURVED LENGTH) TAPE MEASURE. SAMPLE TAKEN AS PER INSTRUCTIONS BY WWG. SMALL SAMPLE TAKEN FROM MIDDLE & EDGE OF FLIPPER - RIGHT FRONT FLIPPER. SHELL MAY BE SOFTER THAN USUAL. TISSUE FROM SAMPLE SITE BLEED, EVEN THOUGH ONLY A THIN SAMPLE WAS SECURED. TURTLE SEEMS MORE LISTLESS THAN USUAL.



Green Sea Turtle

PHOTOS TAKEN: COLOR SLIDES 1-8 ROLL (SLIDES) #3 KURE 7-7-87 (low light cond.)  
KRISTEN HAS PHOTOS. VHS CAMERA 7-3-87

NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS



JANUARY 1988

EXCERPT -  
HAWAIIAN MONK SEAL POPULATION MONITORING,  
PUP CAPTIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM,  
AND INCIDENTAL OBSERVATIONS OF THE  
GREEN TURTLE AT KURE ATOLL, 1985

Michelle L. Reddy  
Carrie A. Griffith

NOAA-TM-NMFS-SWFC-101

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southwest Fisheries Center



## **NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS**

This TM series is used for documentation and timely communication of preliminary results, interim reports, or special purpose information; and have not received complete formal review, editorial control, or detailed editing.



**JANUARY 1988**

# **HAWAIIAN MONK SEAL POPULATION MONITORING, PUP CAPTIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND INCIDENTAL OBSERVATIONS OF THE GREEN TURTLE AT KURE ATOLL, 1985**

**Michelle L. Reddy  
Carrie A. Griffith  
Southwest Fisheries Center  
Honolulu Laboratory  
National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA  
2570 Dole Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396**

**NOAA-TM-NMFS-SWFC-101**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
C. William Verity, Jr., Secretary  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Anthony J. Calio, Administrator  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
William E. Evans, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries**

## ABSTRACT

Data on the monk seal, Monachus schauinslandi, were collected at Kure Atoll from 30 January to 23 October 1985. All pups were double-flipper tagged after weaning; the weaned females were maintained in an ocean-beach enclosure until mid-September. The mean count from atoll-wide censuses of monk seals was 24.5, excluding pups of the year, and two tagged turtles, Chelonia mydas, were resighted during the 1985 field season. Pelage bleaching aided in the identification of seals from which a minimum population estimate of 68 seals was derived: 55% adults and 45% nonadults. Of the adult population, 40% were males and 15% females, a 2.6:1 ratio. Five pups, two males and three females, were born from early February to mid-July. All were born at the southwest side of Green Island and survived to the end of the field season. Two deaths and eight injuries were observed. The injuries usually involved the cookiecutter shark, Isistius brasiliensis. Three incidents of entanglement were observed. Two were of seal pups, one male and one female, entangled in fishing line, and the third was a turtle entangled in trawl net. From 12 June to 22 October, 771 samples of fishing debris that could pose a threat of entanglement to wildlife were collected.

## CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction . . . . .	1
Methods . . . . .	1
Census . . . . .	1
Marking . . . . .	4
Tagging . . . . .	4
Captive Maintenance Program . . . . .	4
Collection of Specimens and Debris . . . . .	5
Results and Discussion . . . . .	5
Census Data . . . . .	5
Population Estimate . . . . .	6
Tag Resightings . . . . .	6
Pup Production and Survival . . . . .	7
Captive Pup Maintenance . . . . .	7
Deaths and Injuries . . . . .	10
Entanglement . . . . .	11
Debris . . . . .	11
Entanglement Cases . . . . .	14
Acknowledgments . . . . .	17
Literature Cited . . . . .	17
Appendixes . . . . .	19

## INTRODUCTION

Kure Atoll (lat. 28°25'N, long. 178°10'W), at the northwestern end of the Hawaiian Archipelago, is one of eight breeding, pupping, and haul-out sites used by the Hawaiian monk seal, Monachus schauinslandi. It also is used for terrestrial basking by the Hawaiian green turtle, Chelonia mydas, which regularly feeds in the atoll waters. Kure Atoll consists of one permanent vegetated island, Green Island, and two weather-dependent sand islets, Shark and Sand Islands. For more descriptive information about the atoll, see Woodward (1972). The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) operates a loran station on Green Island, and the islands are a Hawaii State seabird sanctuary.

Counts since 1958 indicate that the Hawaiian monk seal population is declining at Kure Atoll and throughout the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) (Johnson et al. 1982). Historical information on seals at Kure Atoll prior to 1957 is essentially limited to scattered accounts of shipwreck victims and the scientific expeditions of the 19th and 20th centuries (Woodward 1972). In 1957 and 1958, Kenyon and Rice (1959) surveyed Kure Atoll. This was followed by other monk seal beach surveys: the Smithsonian Institution from 1963 to 1969 (Wirtz 1968; Woodward 1972), Johnson et al. (1982) from 1977 to 1978, Kenyon (1979,<sup>1</sup> 1980<sup>2</sup>) in 1979-80, and Gilmartin et al. (1986) in 1981. A captive maintenance program for female monk seal pups, initiated in 1981, has been conducted annually in an effort to curb the high mortality rate of weaned female pups (Gilmartin et al. 1986).

Monk seal research was conducted at Kure Atoll in 1985 by the Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), NOAA. The main objectives were to determine monk seal population size and composition through pelage marking and censusing techniques, tag weaned pups, collect weaned female pups for temporary captive maintenance, and quantify and sample debris capable of entangling seals or turtles. The results of this research are presented here.

## METHODS

### Census

Census data were collected at Kure Atoll by a single person, two-person tandem, or two-person split team from 30 January to 22 October 1985. The

---

<sup>1</sup>Kenyon, K. W. 1979. Hawaiian monk seal observations at Kure Atoll 10-22 May 1979. Unpubl. rep. for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Seattle, WA 98125, 54 p.

<sup>2</sup>Kenyon, K. W. 1980. Hawaiian monk seal observations at Kure Atoll 17 June-3 July 1980. Unpubl. rep. for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Seattle, WA 98125, 35 p.

two-person tandem censuses were occasionally conducted to ensure consistency in seal size classification, especially if one observer was new to the atoll or census process. Usually, only two observers were present on the atoll at any time (Appendix A). A total of seven NMFS observers recorded census data.

The beaches of all islands at Kure Atoll were divided into sectors (Fig. 1) for the purpose of recording seal location. Green Island consisted of sectors 1-8 and sector 13, which was the ocean-beach enclosure for female pups, who were noted but excluded from census totals. Shark and Sand Islands were each classified as a single sector, sectors 9 and 10, respectively. Sector 11 is a reef known locally as Stark reef, and sector 12 is any area not included in the other sectors. Sectors were unequal in shoreline distance, unvegetated beach area, beach slope, and nearshore habitat. Sectors on Green Island are marked by permanent features, either natural or manmade, and sector divisions are consistent from year to year. Each beach was divided into categories: wet sand, dry sand, and permanent beach above the crest. The location, by sector and beach category, of each seal censused was noted. Not all sectors and categories were always present, especially on the islets where ocean conditions could result in major sand shifts, sometimes causing the islets to disappear. If that was the case or if no seals were present, it was indicated as such in the data.

Green Island was censused on a regular, alternate day basis, except on five occasions when duties related to pup maintenance deemed it necessary to advance the schedule by 1 d. Because monk seals usually haul out in greater numbers in the afternoon (Kenyon and Rice 1959), censuses began between 1143 and 1335 (Hawaii standard time) from 30 January until 22 March, and then at approximately 1300 from 23 March through 22 October. Green Island was always censused first, and if weather and boat conditions allowed, Shark and Sand Islands were censused in that order. Single-person or two-person tandem censuses on Green Island always began at the junction of sectors 1 and 8; however, the direction taken varied. A split team composed of two people went in opposite directions at this junction and usually met at the junction of sectors 3 and 4. The time required for a single census varied with weather, number of seals, and number of observers, all of which were noted. A standard census form (Alcorn and Buelna in prep.<sup>3</sup>) was employed, and general census procedures are detailed by Stone (1984).

Seals were sexed if the ventrum was visible; classified by size; and identified, if possible, by scars, tags, or bleach marks (see Stone (1984) for detailed methodology). Weaned pups identified by tags were always classified as such. The molt status of each seal was recorded as percentage (1-100%) of total body area molted. If the seal's body position prevented the determination of molt status, it was noted on the census form. The only behavior and associations recorded were those occurring as the observer

---

<sup>3</sup>Alcorn, D. J., and E. K. Buelna. The Hawaiian monk seal on Laysan Island, 1983. In prep. Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 2570 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396.

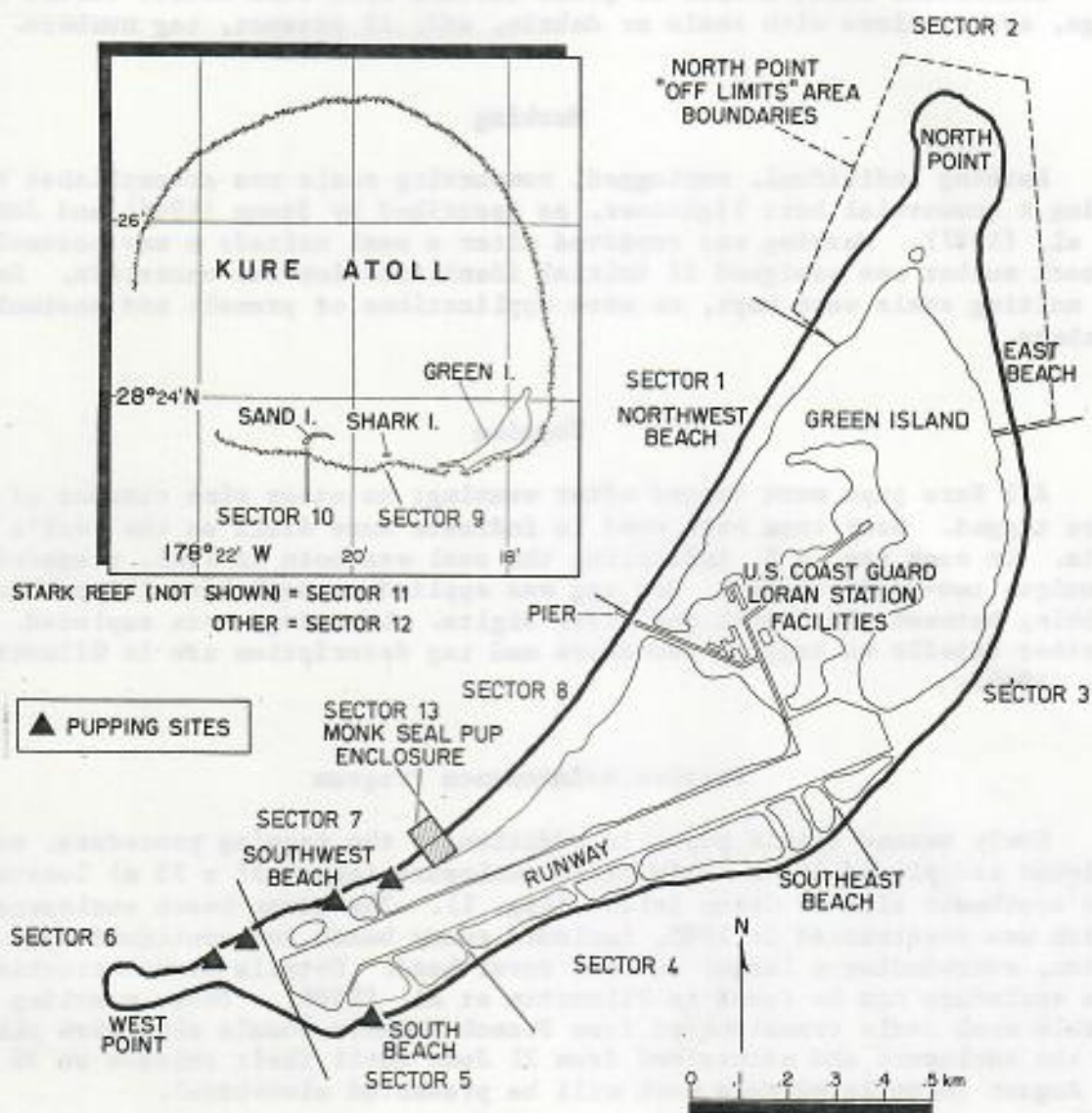


Figure 1.—Map of Kure Atoll, showing the monk seal enclosure, sector division, off limits area, and 1985 pupping sites.

passed by the animal, because lengthy observations would prolong the census and possibly allow for a miscount due to seal movement. Any disturbances related to the observer also were recorded, as were associations between seals and debris capable of entanglement.

Incidental observations of green turtles also were noted: turtle sightings, associations with seals or debris, and, if present, tag numbers.

#### Marking

Marking individual, nontagged, nonnursing seals was accomplished by using a commercial hair lightener, as described by Stone (1984) and Johanos et al. (1987). Marking was repeated after a seal molted; a new postmolt bleach number was assigned if initial identification was uncertain. Records of molting seals were kept, as were applications of premolt and postmolt numbers.

#### Tagging

All Kure pups were tagged after weaning; no other size classes of seals were tagged. Gray tags were used to indicate Kure Atoll as the seal's birth site. On each tag, a K, indicating the seal was born in 1985, preceded a unique two-digit number. One tag was applied to each hind flipper in the webbing between the fourth and fifth digits. Lost tags were replaced. Further details on tagging procedure and tag description are in Gilmartin et al. (1986).

#### Captive Maintenance Program

Newly weaned female pups, in addition to the tagging procedure, were weighed and placed in an ocean-beach enclosure (about 37 x 55 m) located on the southwest side of Green Island (Fig. 1). The ocean-beach enclosure, which was constructed in 1985, included sandy beach and continued into the ocean, surrounding a large, natural coral head. Details on construction of the enclosure can be found in Gilmartin et al. (1986). Three yearling female monk seals translocated from French Frigate Shoals also were placed in the enclosure and maintained from 21 June until their release on 26 and 27 August (details of this work will be presented elsewhere).

To prepare seals to forage independently in the wild, live fish and invertebrates were added to the enclosure at an average of 3.7 kg/d. Feeding was initiated in a new pup by introducing stunned fish until the pup was feeding on its own. All fish were caught in wire mesh fish traps (about 65 x 65 x 90 cm), which were baited, placed at various sites near Green Island, and moved as necessary to obtain maximum yield. Fish catch was weighed on a small spring scale. Species composition of the catch was similar to that in Gilmartin et al. (1986). Fish were not added 10-16 July, but numerous fish were available to the seals in the enclosure.

at Kure Atoll in 1981, moved from the atoll and was sighted at Pearl and Hermes Reef in 1984 (R. Morrow pers. commun.<sup>4</sup>).

Two tagged green turtles were resighted during the 1985 season. One, an adult female (tag No. 6285, 6286, 6287), was found basking on Sand Island on 28 July. Tag records indicate that she was tagged in 1972 at Lisianski Island where she had nested laying 99 eggs. This resighting is the first record of a turtle from any other NWHI resighted at Kure Atoll.

The second resighted turtle (tag No. 2988, 2989, 2990) was a juvenile captured by dip net on 6 August near the shore of the northern part of Green Island. More than 6 yr earlier, on 30 January 1979, it had been tagged in the same general vicinity, where it was found sleeping on the bottom at night (G. Balazs pers. commun.<sup>5</sup>).

#### Pup Production and Survival

Five pups were born at Kure Atoll from 3 February to 18 July (Table 2), all at the southwest end of Green Island (Fig. 1). The lactation period ranged from 33 to 41 d and averaged 37 d (Table 2). Weaning was not observed, but daily observations of mother-pup pairs allowed an error of less than 24 h in weaning dates recorded. No pups died, and all pups were resighted throughout the 1985 season. Two of the weaned pups, however, one male and one female, were found entangled with fishing lines (see section on entanglement). Compared to 20-25 yr ago, pup production at Kure Atoll is very low (Kenyon and Rice 1959; Wirtz 1968), probably the result of older adult females dying with little or no recruitment (footnote 2); however, pup survival has now increased, partly because of the pup captive maintenance program. Only one female born at Kure has died or disappeared since initiation of this program in 1981.

Following the construction of the USCG station in 1960, Green Island became less utilized as the major pupping area on the atoll, most likely because of constant human disturbance (Kenyon 1972). Instead of Green Island, most monk seals pupped on the less stable sand islets. Kenyon (footnote 1) suggested that, if the Kure population is to survive, it is probably necessary that Green Island again become the primary pupping site. It is encouraging that, since 1982, all pups except one have been born on Green Island (Table 3). Some restrictions on USCG personnel beach activities at Kure Atoll since the late 1970's may have resulted in reduced disturbance.

---

<sup>4</sup>R. Morrow, Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 2570 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396, pers. commun. November 1985.

<sup>5</sup>G. Balazs, Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 2570 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396, pers. commun. November 1985.



Table 2.--Summary of Hawaiian monk seal pups born at Green Island, Kure Atoll, 1985. (All actions completed in 1985.)

ID No.	Tag No. <sup>a</sup>		Sex	Born	Date		Days nursing	Island tagged	Date tagged	Measurement at tagging (cm)		Mother ID	Capture date	Date weighed	Capture weight (kg)	Release date	Days of captivity
	L	R			Weaned	Girth				Length							
K513	K02	K01	M	2/3	3/14	39	Green	3/26	103	133	K186	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
K514	K04	K03	M	2/20	3/25	33	Green	3/26	103	130	K266	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
K515	K00	K06	F	4/8	5/13	35	Green	5/13	112	130	K068	5/13	5/17	78	9/20	130	
K516	K07	K08	F	4/20	5/31	41	Green	6/1	120	135	K009	6/1	6/1	107	9/20	111	
K517	K10	K11	F	7/18	8/27	40	Green	8/28	106	123	K070	8/28	8/31	68	9/20	23	

<sup>a</sup>L = left hind flipper; R = right hind flipper.

<sup>b</sup>F = female; M = male.

## Appendix A.--Itinerary for the 1985 Kure Atoll fieldwork.

Date	Event
1/29	M. L. Reddy, R. L. Westlake, S. L. Austin, and R. G. Forsyth arrive at Kure Atoll via U.S. Coast Guard C-130. Set up camp and begin observations of monk seals and pup captive maintenance work under State of Hawaii Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) 85-28 and Marine Mammal Protection Act/Endangered Species Act Permit Nos. 413 and 372.
1/31	Westlake, Austin, and Forsyth return to Honolulu. Reddy remains to continue observations.
3/11	R. J. Morrow and C. A. Griffith arrive at Kure Atoll. Construction of ocean-beach enclosure for captive maintenance commences.
3/27	Morrow returns to Honolulu. Reddy and Griffith continue research at Kure.
4/12	Reddy returns to Honolulu. Griffith remains to continue observations.
4/23	Reddy returns to Kure Atoll.
7/19	Reddy returns to Honolulu. J. R. Henderson replaces Reddy, and L. D. Banish, D.V.M., arrives to take blood and culture samples from pups and to later replace Griffith.
7/29	Reddy returns to Kure.
8/2	Griffith and Henderson return to Honolulu.
8/8	D. J. Alcorn arrives and replaces Banish, who returns to Honolulu.
8/19	P. M. Pagel arrives to replace Alcorn.
8/21	Alcorn returns to Honolulu.
9/5	Austin arrives to replace Pagel, and Banish returns to take blood and culture samples from pups.
9/6	Pagel and Banish return to Honolulu.
9/24	Austin returns to Honolulu; Reddy remains to complete project work at Kure Atoll.
10/23	Kure Atoll field camp is disbanded. Reddy terminates project work at Kure Atoll. Returns to Honolulu.

Appendix B.--Number of Hawaiian monk seals, by age class and sex, counted on whole atoll censuses conducted at Kure Atoll, 1985. (M = male, F = female, and ? = unknown.)

Date	Adult			Subadult			Juvenile			Pup			Total		
	M	F	?	M	F	?	M	F	?	M	F	?	Non-pup	Pup	Grand
2/5	9	3	7	1	4	5	2	1	2	1	0	0	34	1	35
2/17	6	2	4	4	3	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	25	1	26
2/23	10	4	6	5	3	2	2	1	1	2	0	0	34	2	36
3/13	11	2	8	2	2	2	3	1	2	2	0	0	33	2	35
3/17	7	5	5	4	1	6	2	0	3	2	0	0	33	2	35
3/21	3	3	3	5	3	1	2	1	0	2	0	0	21	2	23
4/2	8	1	3	2	1	4	1	0	0	2	0	0	20	2	22
4/8	6	3	5	2	2	1	4	0	0	1	1	0	23	2	25
4/10	10	2	4	0	0	3	1	2	0	1	1	0	22	2	24
4/30	11	5	5	3	3	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	29	4	33
5/22	8	2	4	4	2	3	2	1	0	2	0	0	26	2	28
5/24	12	3	4	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	28	1	29
5/26	11	4	6	4	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	30	1	31
5/28	6	2	2	5	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	19	2	21
5/30	5	3	3	1	3	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	18	3	21
6/1	10	1	1	4	1	4	0	0	0	2	1	0	21	3	24
6/3	7	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	22	0	22
6/5	11	0	0	1	4	6	2	0	0	2	2	0	24	4	28
6/7	8	2	1	3	5	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	20	2	22
6/9	7	2	0	3	4	2	1	1	0	2	2	0	20	4	24
6/13	7	3	0	2	3	5	1	1	0	1	1	0	22	2	24
6/17	3	2	1	3	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	17	0	17
6/19	7	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	13	2	15
6/22	8	2	1	3	7	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	22	3	25
6/24	10	1	2	2	5	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	23	2	25
6/26	10	2	3	5	3	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	25	4	29
6/28	6	1	2	2	1	4	0	1	0	1	1	0	17	2	19
6/30	5	1	1	3	4	2	1	1	0	1	2	0	18	3	21
7/2	10	1	1	3	5	0	2	1	0	1	2	0	23	3	26
7/4	9	2	0	6	6	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	26	3	29
7/6	12	2	3	5	1	5	1	1	1	2	1	0	31	3	34
7/8	9	3	4	4	5	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	26	3	29
7/12	8	1	1	5	6	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	24	3	27
7/14	8	5	1	2	4	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	24	1	25
7/16	8	2	0	5	3	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	20	3	23
7/18	4	2	1	2	3	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	16	4	20
7/20	4	1	0	1	2	3	1	1	0	1	2	0	13	3	16
7/22	5	1	3	4	4	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	18	5	23
7/24	12	3	0	5	6	1	0	1	0	2	3	0	28	5	33
7/26	9	2	3	3	2	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	20	4	24
7/28	13	1	2	4	3	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	26	4	30
7/30	9	3	2	3	1	3	0	1	0	2	2	0	22	4	26



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southwest Fisheries Center  
Honolulu Laboratory  
P. O. Box 3830  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

8 Jan 1985

Mr. David Eli  
Commanding Officer  
Kure LORAN

Dear Mr. Eli:

I am writing to express my appreciation to both you and Mr. Ashkenbrenner for your efforts in salvaging the dead turtle found at Kure in late October. The turtle is now in our freezer and I plan to conduct an autopsy in the near future. An examination of dead (stranded) turtles like this almost always contributes something new to our knowledge of the species. For example, a 1516 turtle I dissected a few weeks ago was found to have eaten literally hundreds of small pieces of plastic oceanic litter! A blockage had formed in the intestine. I'll let you know what we find out about your Kure turtle.

(OVER)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southeast Fisheries Center  
Laboratory  
P. O. Box 3870  
Beaufort, North Carolina 28516



In addition to conducting an internal examination, we also cut out and clean several limb bones which are later used for cross-sectioning and experimental age dating. So you see, the turtle you obtained for us will be put to very good scientific "use".

As a token of appreciation, I have enclosed ID posters and articles for the two of you. Also, two self-addressed post paid envelopes, in the event you want to communicate future information to me about Kure's turtles. Between 1976-80 I personally tagged about 50 juvenile turtles at Kure. Presumably some are still there, and may be occasionally seen by your men.

Best regards,  
Ray Balazs

Bill, READ THIS, PLEASE.

DATE - ?

June - 1985

Aloha George -

ENTANGLED  
TURTLE AT  
KURE

Just when you thought nothing exciting ever happened for the turtle world at Kure...

Earlier this week, I was out on the tail end of an outer island census when I saw what turned out to be a sick, perhaps dying seal. It was very emaciated & had a large bite (looked like a seal bite - not a shark bite) in its back. It was in an area of coral heads, perhaps 1/2 way to Stark. Returned the next A.M., found him, found out it was a him, & then when we returned the day after that I saw a back & a flipper under the water's surface. We got ready to put the body on the boat. But it turned out to be a Large Green(?) turtle, male, who had its neck & front left untagged flipper wrapped hopelessly in a large net that was stuck to the coral. We were able to <sup>cut</sup> ~~the~~ the line from its neck, but the flipper was wrapped too tightly & it was moving & we feared cutting the flipper. So we (CG was in a boat, close by) hoisted it onto the boat (Oh, my back!), cut it free, took a couple pics & released it. (Must have weighed 300 lbs.) Didn't have tagging gear or a tape measure on board, sorry. I'll send the pics when we get out.

enlarger back.

Michell

PS he was about 4 feet long! He looked different from the other turtle - mostly because of the shell coloration.

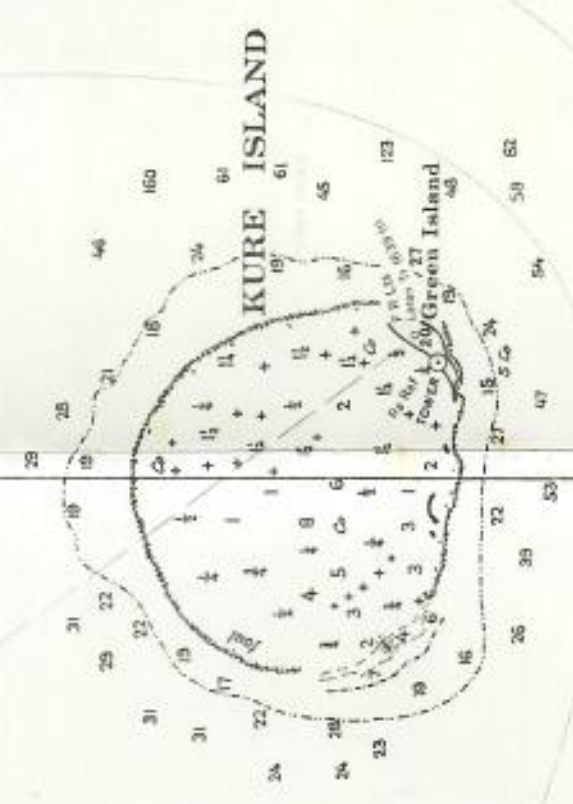
BASELINE EXTENSION 4990-Y-28000

29050

29075

29025

Schematic ridge  
(map not to scale)



660 (Rep 1960) P4

70 1700 reported

29050

960

1280

500

800

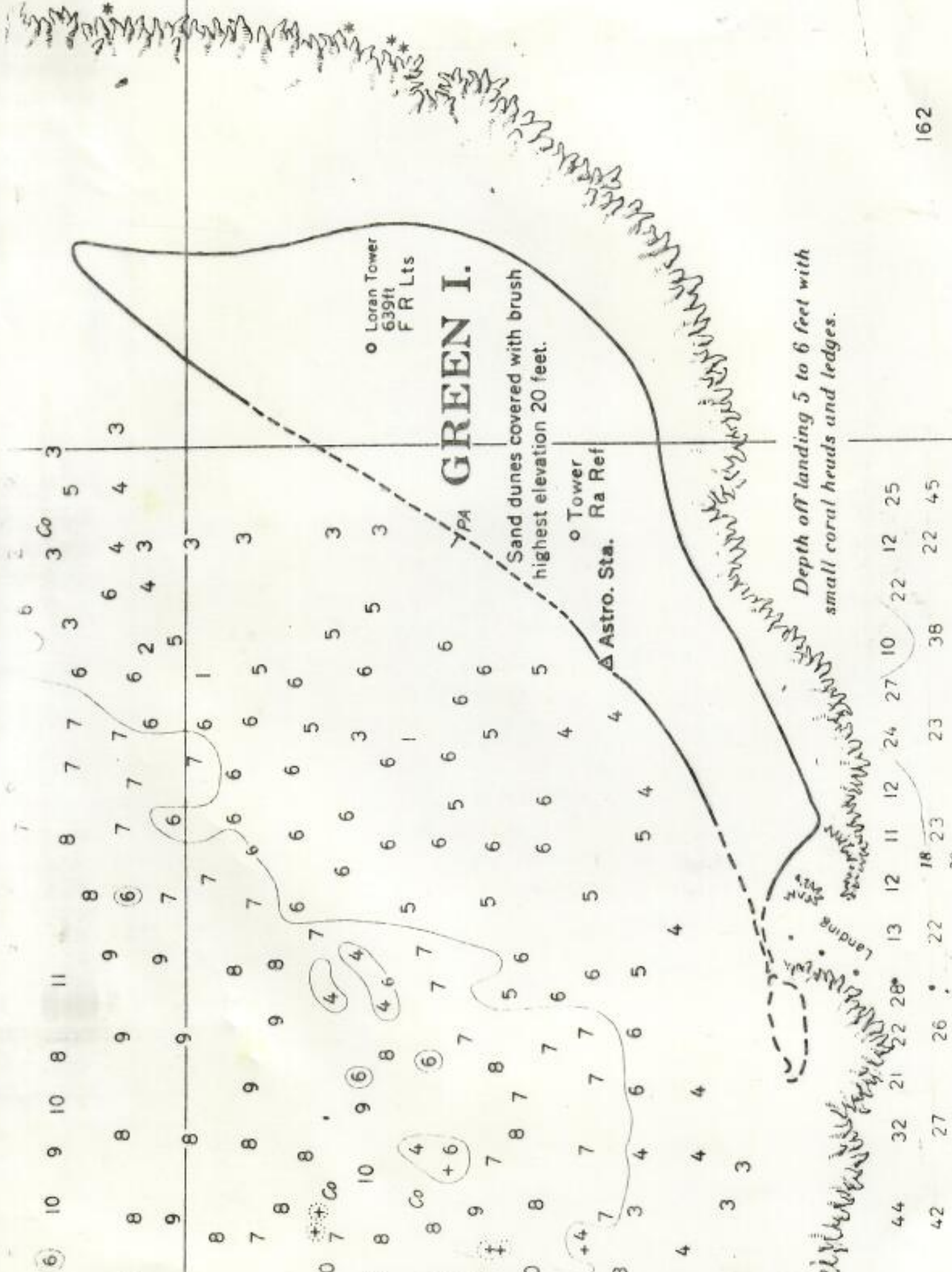
230 (Rep 1960) P4

890

960

4990-Y-28000







DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

MAILING ADDRESS:  
Commanding Officer  
USCGC LORSTA KURE  
PPO SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA 96619

\*KURE INSTR 5100.1B  
24 MAY 1980

KURE INSTRUCTION 5100.1B

Subj: Water Activities Safety Plan

1. PURPOSE. This Water Activities Safety Plan is intended to eliminate accidents involving Station motorboats and sailboats, and persons engaged in SCUBA diving, snorkeling, swimming, and other activities in and around the Ocean.

2. CANCELLATION. KURE INSTR 5100.1A and KURE INSTR 9820.2 are superseded and cancelled.

3. OBJECTIVE. This Instruction provides specific guidelines and defines levels of qualification and experience for all people who might engage in any activity in or around the Ocean at KURE ATOLL.

4. DISCUSSION.

a. The operation of all craft attached to USCGC LORSTA KURE shall be in accordance with Coast Guard Regulations, CG-300, and the rules prudent seamanship.

b. Nothing in this Instruction shall be construed as relieving the person in charge of a vessel, each time it is placed in the water, of the responsibility to insure the boat is fully equipped and manned, that the boat is properly operated, and that the boat is used under the cognizance and approval of appropriate personnel.

c. This Instruction places the burden on the individual to be aware of his own abilities, limitations and qualifications.

5. POLICY.

a. A fully operational stand-by boat will be ready for launch whenever a vessel is underway. Two motorboats underway at the same time fulfill this requirement.

b. Occupants of Station boats will either be capable swimmers or will wear PFDs. There will be one PFD for each POB.

c. No use of compressed air SCUBA equipment by persons who have not satisfied a Nationally accredited Certification Course (NASDS, PADI, NAUI, YMCA) is authorized.

d. Smoking and open flames are prohibited aboard and around fueled motorboats.

Subj: Water Activities Safety Plan

e. No boat will be left unattended while it is underway or anchored.

#### 4. QUALIFICATIONS.

a. The Engineering Officer is responsible for the training and qualification of all motor boat Operators. He will administrate a Qualification Program in accordance with this Instruction.

b. The Deck Division department Head will be responsible for the qualification of all sailboat Operators. He will administrate a Qualification Program in accordance with this Instruction.

c. The following Watermanship Qualification Levels shall apply to all persons desiring to engage in any activity in or around the Ocean:

NOT QUALIFIED: Poor swimmer, little experience, no Quals; Must wear PFD at all times.

LEVEL ONE: Entry level of water skills, adequate swimmer, basic snorkeling ability; may qualify in motorboats, may qualify in and operate sailboats within 100 meters of shore.

LEVEL TWO: Intermediate water skills, adequate swimmer, experienced snorkeller, may be a Certified SCUBA diver of basic ability; Should be a qualified motorboat Operator, may operate sailboats for which qualified out to the stern section of the HOUJI MARU; Confident and knowledgable in the Water.

LEVEL THREE: Consummate Waterman. Years of SCUBA diving and snorkeling experience, Should be Lifesaver or EMT trained, Is a motor boat Operator and may operate sailboats for which qualified anywhere in lagoon. Is aware of personal and situational limitations.

d. The Commanding Officer will be aware of Qualification Levels of all persons engaged in Water Activities at KURE ATOLL. A signed Water Activities Safety Card will be completed by all persons prior to engage in Water Activities.

Subj: Water Activities Safety Plan

#### 5. MOTOR BOAT OPERATION

a. The C.O. shall be informed by the Operator of a motorboat, before the boat is launched; of its intended use, the POB, and the estimated time of return.

b. The Operator shall sign the KURE ISLAND Boat Log prior to launching a boat. He will inform the Communications Watch of the Communications schedule and will use the "TIME IN, OUT, TIME IN" portion of the Log to record the issue and return of a portable radio.

c. The Operator is responsible for the safe and proper conduct of the boat and its occupants.

d. The Operator will ensure the proper securing of the boat. No boat will be left unattended in the water without the express authorization of the C.O. When a boat is moored out or beached, it remains the responsibility of the Operator until it is properly secured or is signed out by another Operator.

e. Unusual or improper operation of engines or controls will be brought to the attention of the Engineering Officer as soon as possible. Discrepancies in boat or equipment will be recorded in the Boat Log.

#### 6. SAILBOAT OPERATION

a. Qualified sailboat Operators may rig and sail sailboats during daylight by informing the Communications Watch of the area of operation and the estimated time of return. A portable radio will be signed out for use by a beach Watch.

b. Areas of Operation will be strictly observed in accordance with Qualification Levels as defined paragraph 4c of this Instruction.

c. Discrepancies in sailboats will be brought to the attention of the Deck Department Head and will be logged.

Subj: Water Activities Safety Plan

7. SCUBA DIVING, SNORKELING, SWIMMING, AND OTHER WATER ACTIVITIES

a. Utmost care will be taken to insure the safety of all acts related to compressed air SCUBA diving and equipment. The air compressor will be certified quarterly, no tanks with hydrostatic dates more than five (05) years old or any visual signs of damage will be filled. Filling will be done by qualified personnel, as designated by the Engineering Officer.

b. The Commanding Officer shall be informed of the dive plan before all SCUBA dives. The time of the start and end of all dives will be relayed via radio to the Communications Watch or will be recorded onboard the boat. Any abnormalities will be reported and investigated.

c. No dives will be made to depths greater than 100 feet. Tables will be consulted for all repetitive dives (more than one (01) dive in twelve (12) hours) and all divers will remain at least 10 minutes within no decompression diving limits.

d. Snorkellers of Qualification Level ONE will inform the C.O. and the Communications Watch prior to beach entry dives, and arrange for a beach Watch. Level TWO and THREE snorkellers will inform Communications Watch of the area and expected duration of their dive and will log out in the Boat Log.

e. Swimming is authorized during daylight in pairs or with a beach Watch.

f. Bangsticks shall be treated as firearms at all times. Firing mechanisms and ammunition will be stored in the pyro Locker and will be logged in and out.

g. It is the duty of each individual to recognize his responsibilities, limitations, and qualifications and to conduct himself to insure the maximum safety of everyone engaged in Water Activities.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Instruction is effective upon receipt.

*Daniel Whiting*  
Daniel WHITING, LT(jg), USCG  
Commanding Officer



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADL 24-1980

Commanding Officer  
USCGC LORSTA KURE  
APO SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA 96619

KURE INST 5901  
24 MAY 1980

KURE INSTRUCTION 5901

Subj: Environmental Protection; Refuse Disposal

1. PURPOSE. The preservation of the environment and its inhabitants through careful control of waste disposal is the intent of this Instruction.

2. OBJECTIVE. The effective handling of all human refuse and the reclamation of otherwise wasted resources are the goals of refuse disposal aboard KURE ATOLL.

3. DISCUSSION. In accordance with KURE INST 5900B, it is the duty of all Coast Guard personnel to actively participate in the Environmental Management Mission. No where will a lack of effort and concern be more obvious and destructive than the way we dispose of material that is considered refuse. KURE is a small atoll. We can not afford to destroy one square inch through negligence or casual attitudes.

4. POLICY.

a. No person on KURE ATOLL will cause refuse to be discarded in an unauthorized manner.

b. Waste will be separated into combustibles, food and organics, recyclable solids, and unrecyclable or reusable material.

c. Combustibles will be burned in the incinerator. The Messcock will take special care to avoid exposing galley wastes to insects and rodents. Rubbish from the galley will be burned immediately.

d. Food and organic wastes will be buried in the compost area. Care will be taken to bury all scraps at least 20 cm deep and no debris will be left exposed.

e. Recyclable and reclaimable solids will be collected for export. They shall be separated, cleaned, compacted and piled in designated areas.

f. Unrecyclable solids will be taken to South Point and buried.

5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Instruction is effective upon receipt.

*Daniel Whiting*  
Daniel WHITING, LT (jg) USCG  
Commanding Officer.



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

MAILING ADDRESS:

Daniel WHITING  
Commanding Officer  
USCG LORSTA KURE  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA 96619

4 JUNE 1980

Dear George:

Saw a few turtles out here and am enclosing sighting reports for you.\* Diving has been unbelievable these past few weeks. Very calm days, glassy lagoon and calm seas. The moon, although not up 24 hours straight was very pretty when it was in opposition to the Sun.

I am putting out feelers for informational support of my observational efforts. One area I lack expertise and don't know who to inquire to is coral related algae. I took a stroll on the Algal Ridge the other day during low tide and was trully astounded at the productivity there. Really large brown algae, and many different types. If you know a source of information concerning algae that might be present out here at KURE, I wouldn't mind being enlightened.

Craig MacDonald's Divers should be here these two weeks working in the Project area. Hopefully they can get me up to speed in fish identification, particularly Hawaiian names.

Also enclosed are a few pearly gems that I have promulgated out here. They might be of interest to you or someone you know.

Summer is in full swing and I'm really just starting.

Love and Peace,  
*Daniel Whiting*  
Daniel Whiting

\* FIVE SIGHTINGS NOT WRITTEN UP  
IN TIME FOR FLIGHT, SORRY.



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

MAILING ADDRESS:

Commanding Officer  
USCGC Loran Station Kure  
P.O. San Francisco 96619

KURKINST 5900B  
24 May 1980

KURE INSTRUCTION 5900B

Subj: Environmental Management

Ref: (a) Endangered Species Act, 1973 (16 USC 1531-43)  
(b) COMINL Message 040054Z JUN 76  
(c) ANNEX W COMINL OPLAN 1-(YR)  
(d) COMINL ltr 0570 dtd 15 SEP 76  
(e) Hawaiian Revised Statutes 187-3 and Section 195D-6 Regulation 7.

1. Purpose. This instruction delineates the policy governing the conduct of all persons stationed at or visiting KURE Atoll in regard to Environmental Protection and Wildlife/Habitat Conservation.

2. Cancellation. KURE INSTRUCTION 5900A dated 23 June 1977 is hereby cancelled and superseded.

3. Objective. The enlightenment of all persons at KURE ATOLL to specific environmental requirements and wildlife protections is the goal of this instruction.

4. Discussion: KURE ATOLL is a most unique portion of the Earth. Its relative isolation from the acts of man make it an important habitat for numerous animals and plants. We, The Coast Guard, are in a position of responsibility for our actions and their consequences here. Nowhere on Earth is it more important that all persons tread lightly. Many legally binding regulations affect KURE ATOLL. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1974, Hawaiian Regulation (07) and various other Fish and Game Regulations all define areas that warrant special protection. The Coast Guard is the lead Agency for all Environmental Protection Missions at KURE ATOLL. Several Protected Areas have been designated, along with specific Endangered Species. The Hawaiian Monk Seal, all Marine Turtles, and all nesting birds shall enjoy special protection from the intrusions of people.

5. Policy: ALL Persons at KURE ATOLL will be required to adhere to these Regulations:

a. No plants or animals will be introduced to the island. Arriving personnel will be inspected for intentional and unintentional introduction at the airport terminal.

b. All Dry Land North of latitude 28-24' shall be "OFF LIMITS" to all human traffic. The Commanding Officer may authorize infrequent visitation.

c. All Sand Spit Islands, including but not limited to Sand Island and Shark Island are off limits to all human traffic from 1 January until 1 July each year. From 1 July until 31 December each year trips may be made to these Islands, but only with the express knowledge and permission of the Commanding Officer.



Subj: Environmental Management

d. Vehicles will be operated in accordance with NRPINST 11260.1. Vehicles will not be operated in Scowwala or the beach areas without prior Command approval.

e. Persons walking the beach should feel free to remove man made articles; wood, plastic, glass and petroleum as they wash ashore. Shells may be collected. Seals have the right to the beach. If avoidable, you should never pass between a seal and the water. If you must pass a seal, do so sidestly, in a crouched or prone position if possible. Special care to avoid female seals and pups should be taken. All young seals seen should be recorded in the NURE APRIL BIO LOG. Any groups of more than (03) seals, any injured, sick or dead seals, any births or other unusual acts should be reported to the Commanding Officer. Approaching even soundly sleeping seals to harrass them in any manner will not be tolerated. Picture taking may be accomplished, but only in a quiet, low profile manner.

f. All activities in the water shall take place in accordance with NURE INST 5100.1A. Fishing, spearfishing and the taking of crustaceans, mollusks, and corals shall be controlled by effective Hawaiian Fish and Game Regulations, and may be limited as required by the Commanding Officer. No Marine Turtles will be harrassed or captured.

g. The "PROJECT AREA" will be a protected zone controlled by the University of Hawaii for the study of the lagoon environment. Biological matter should not be removed, moved, or altered in this area without express written instruction from the University of Hawaii.

h. Nesting birds will not be harrassed. No bird shall be intentionally injured or killed.

i. Destruction of any habitat or creation of new habitat shall be avoided.

j. The animals were here first. The whims and desires of Man should not be an overwhelming factor to the continued existence of any animal.

6. Effective Date. This Instruction is effective upon receipt.

  
DANIEL C. WHITING, LT(jg) USCG  
COMMANDING OFFICER

Mr. GEORGE H. BALAZS  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

10131 Merrimac Drive  
Huntington Beach  
California 92646  
23 February 1976.

Dear Mr. Balaza:

Thank you for your letter of 14 Feb 76 and the interesting news items about Kure and French Frigate. I was intrigued also by your address. In 1943 I was the Engineering Officer at Naval Air Station, Kaneohe Bay and the only thing outside the main gate was the little settlement of Kailua and, if memory serves me correctly, another one called Lanikai (?). I assume that Cocoanut Island must be what we used to call Chris Holmes Island since the other little islands in the bay would be too small to have a marine institute.

I'm not sure I can give you much information which may bear upon your research problem but I shall offer what little (mostly negative) that I possess:

With respect to the presence at Kure in 1944 of the green sea turtle (CHELONIA MYDAS?) I can state only that there were certainly none there on the one day I was on the island. Except for that visit our reconnaissance of Kure was done by low flying dive bombers and the creature would not have been visible despite his size. With respect to his presence at Midway in 1944 I am even more certain. I frequently patrolled the beaches of both Sand Island and Eastern Island many times on foot during April through September 1944 and never saw a trace of them. However we must remember that there were 8000 men on Midway at that time. There was also a great deal of activity: bulldozers, graders, airplanes, torpedo boats, frequent gunnery activity. Under these circumstances the green sea turtle might not have felt welcome if Midway was indeed one of his habitats. I shall however offer the following suggestion which may be helpful.

Up until 1935 when Pan American Airways used it as a way station for the China Clipper aircraft, Midway must have been in something approaching its original pristine condition. Before then, all through the 1920s and 1930s the Pacific Cable Company maintained a small crew of cable technicians on Sand Island. Some of these men must still be alive though retired by Pacific Cable. It may be helpful to contact the Cable Company and get the addresses of their older retired personnel who served at Midway in the period just prior to its occupation by the U.S. Navy. These chaps could probably attest to the presence or absence of CHELONIA. Also the Dillingham Company (which participated in the early construction at Midway) may have such people on their pension roll. They may be helpful

Concerning the banding or marking of turtles to study their migratory habits I can give only one piece of data and this applies not to the green sea turtles but to the giant land turtles of the Galapagos Islands. Years ago, perhaps in the 1950s, I read an article in the National Geographic Magazine concerning these latter creatures and the methods used to study their migratory habits and lifetimes. I do not specifically recall that the article dealt with banding or notching their shells. But I do remember that they had discovered one turtle so ancient that the name of a colonial Spanish soldier was found carved in his shell along with the date which must have been in the late 18th or early 19th Century. The Readers Guide to Periodical Literature at the University Library may guide you to the article which may contain further information on banding or marking of the Galapagos Turtles.

I regret that I can not be of further help in guiding your researches but with best wishes for success therein, I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully Yours,

*Webb Miller*

WEBB MILLER  
LCDR USNR (Ret)

## Certificate of Appreciation

The Federal, State and Provincial Conservation Agencies join with thousands of professional and amateur ornithologists throughout North America in expressing their sincere appreciation for the interest and cooperation shown by reporting the bird band number and recovery data noted below. A report containing these data will be forwarded to the ornithologist who banded the bird and these data will be permanently retained in the cooperative North American Bird Banding files maintained at the Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Laurel, Maryland 20811, U.S.A.

It is only through the continued cooperation of interested conservationists such as yourself that these important data can continue to be compiled and made available to the scientists who study our wild bird populations.

### Awarded To

**GEORGE H BALAZS**

#### BANDING DATA:

BAND NUMBER: 767-54205      KIND OF BIRD: LAYSAN ALBATROSS      SEX: UNKNOWN

AGE OF BIRD: IT WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED

BANDER: IT WAS BANDED BY PERSONNEL OF US NATIONAL MUSEUM  
C/D C D HACKMAN 3033 WOODSIDE PARKVILLE MD 21234

BANDING LOCATION: NEAR KURE      HAWI      DATE: 06/21/67

#### RECOVERY DATA:

FILE REF.: 21576

LOCATION: KURE ATOLL PCC      DATE: WINTER 1976



CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE



U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96741  
Cable Address: OAHUHAU

March 7, 1978

DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

MAR 13 1978

BIRD BANDING LABORATORY  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

CONFIDENTIAL

Bird Banding Laboratory  
Office of Migratory Bird Management  
Laurel, Maryland 20811

Dear Sirs:

The following band numbers were recovered at Green Island, Kure Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands during the period 24 February - 2 March 1978:

<u>767-49359</u>	Laysan albatross
<u>587-91911</u>	" "
<u>767-52208</u>	black-footed albatross
<u>767-52221</u>	" " "

The above birds were killed and eaten by an eagle (presumably golden) that took up residence on the island in early February.

<u>737-98267</u>	Laysan albatross
<u>697-22311</u>	" "
<u>767-47668</u>	" "
<u>587-85765</u>	" "
<u>737-98261</u>	" "
<u>767-51313</u>	red-footed booby
<u>767-51028</u>	masked booby

The cause of death of the above birds appeared to be either collision with wires or contact with aircraft.

Sincerely,

*George H. Balazs*  
GEORGE H. BALAZS  
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Mr. Ronald Walker  
State Division of Fish & Game



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O.Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
Cable Address: UNIHAW

March 7, 1978

Bird Banding Laboratory  
Office of Migratory Bird Management  
Laurel, Maryland 20811

Dear Sirs:

The following band numbers were recovered at Green Island, Kure Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands during the period 24 February - 2 March 1978:

767-49359	Laysan albatross
587-91911 Feb 1969	" "
767-52208	black-footed albatross
765-52221	" " "

The above birds were killed and eaten by an eagle (presumably golden) that took up residence on the island in early February.

737-98267	Laysan albatross
697-22311	" "
767-47668	" "
587-85765	" "
737-98261	" "
767-51313	red-footed booby
767-51028	masked booby

The cause of death of the above birds appeared to be either collision with wires or contact with aircraft.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS  
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Mr. Ronald Walker  
State Division of Fish & Game

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

DATE: 8 NOV 76

FROM :

George -

SUBJECT:

Hope this is of interest to you.

I'm also going out again today & tomorrow in hopes to get measurements and photos of this turtle on "Sand Island".

I'm leaving in two weeks for San Francisco & won't be returning.



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

If I get photos and all, I'll  
send you some if you write & let  
me know if it's pertinent if so.

Take care -

Greg



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

U. S. COAST GUARD  
COMMANDING OFFICER  
USCG LORAN STATION  
US NAVAL STATION  
BOX 36  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96614

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

HM3 G. G. MARTIN  
USCG Loran Station  
U.S. Naval Station, Box 36  
FPO San Francisco 96614

11015  
08 November 1976

Director of Marine Biology  
Department of Biology  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL.

Dear Sir,

This is to inform you of a most startling find on Kure Atoll. Upon a routine cruise of the Atoll's lagoon 6 November 1976, myself and a couple of friends decided to beach our boat on the Atoll's only sand spit that remains above sea level throughout the year. As we were looking for glass fishballs, I spotted a Green Sea Turtle snoozing in the sand. Upon closer observation I noticed a tag on his left front fin.

It is not at all uncommon to observe these Sea Turtles while diving in the lagoon. I've been here approximately 11½ months and frequently sight many of them to which I report all findings to George H. BALAZS, U. of Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. However, this is the first Florida "citizen" I've seen here. The tag on the Turtle read your address on one side with number B-26 on the other side.

I hope this has been of some help to your department's research program. Enclosed is a copy of USCG Loran Station, Kure Island Info. Booklet. This booklet should give you an idea of what exactly is here. George BALAZS will come out in the near future for an extensive study on Green Sea Turtles, so he may be of some help to you as well. Good luck with your tagging and research programs.

Sincerely,

Greg Martin, HM3, USCG  
Medical Representative  
Kure Island LORAN

Copy to: G. H. BALAZS  
Jr. Marine Biologist  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

この漂流びんを拾ってくださいました方へ

わたしたち安城小六年生は社会科で学習した海流について実さいにどのようなように流れていくのかを確認するために五年前から毎年、近くの海岸からこのピンを流しています。遅よく拾ってくださいましたあなた様へお願いいたします。拾われた場所、月日、時間、びんの種類などお知らせ下さい。おたよりを心からお待ちいたします。



found 2/78

昭和51年3月

3/76

鹿見島県西之表市  
安城一〇〇八  
安城小学校  
六年(山口道徳)

〒891-34

Mr. Michitoku Yamaguchi  
% Anjo Elementary School  
1008 Anjo, Nishino-Omote-Chi  
Kagoshima 891-34, JAPAN

where  
date  
time  
condition of bottle





DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

MAILING ADDRESS:  
Commanding Officer  
Loran Station Kure  
FPO San Francisco  
96619

4651  
5 September 1979

From: Commanding Officer, Loran Station Kure Island  
To: Personnel Enroute Kure Island Via Coast Guard Air Station  
Barbers Point

Subj: Station Information and Regulations

1. Welcome to Coast Guard Loran Station Kure Island, "The Little Paradise in the Pacific." Kure is a small island,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile in dimension, approximately 1200 miles northwest from Honolulu, Hawaii. The sole human inhabitants are twenty Coast Guardsmen who provide a continuous LORAN (Long Range Aid To Navigation) signal for vessels and aircraft in the Central Pacific. In addition, Kure Island serves as a state wildlife sanctuary where all wildlife are protected by law.
2. Your attention is called to the following regulations in effect on board Kure Island:
  - a. All items arriving or departing Kure Island will be checked by a designated Customs Officer at the station.
  - b. Off-limits areas are posted and visitors should ensure that they are aware of beach areas which are off-limits. All working and berthing spaces are off-limits to visitors unless the visitor is either escorted by station personnel or assigned a room in the barracks.
  - c. If you are remaining overnight, you will be assigned quarters a short time after your arrival by the Master-at-Arms.
  - d. All persons are welcome on the messdeck where coffee, fruit drinks, and sodas are always available. Feel free to roam about the station grounds and open beach areas. The Buddy System is enforced when personnel go swimming, and permission must be obtained when doing so.
  - e. Use of station recreation equipment (sailboats, etc.) is not permitted without the permission of the station Commanding Officer.
  - f. When you are scheduled to catch a departing flight, ensure you are at the "terminal" at least 15 minutes prior to take-off.
  - g. Beachcombing is quite popular at Kure. Visitors are welcome to take certain items found on the beaches, such as fish balls, floats, nets, which have drifted ashore.
  - h. Harassment of wildlife is forbidden.

3. Visitors are always welcome on Kure, and the above regulations are not meant to lessen one's enjoyment of the island, but rather are necessary for the operation of an isolated unit such as Kure Island. Feel free to ask for directions or inquire about anything of interest. All hands at Kure will be glad to assist you.

4. We hope your stay is a pleasant one.

  
M.D. FARRELL

Enclosure: (1) Map of Kure Island

3. Visitors are always welcome on Kure, and the above regulations are not meant to lessen one's enjoyment of the island, but rather are necessary for the operation of an isolated unit such as Kure Island. Feel free to ask for directions or inquire about anything of interest. All hands at Kure will be glad to assist you.

4. We hope your stay is a pleasant one.

  
W.D. FARRELL

Enclosure: (1) Map of Kure Island



Scale 1:1000  
1 cm = 10 m



USCG LORAN STATION, KURE ISLAND

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Daniel C. WHITING for Michael D. PARRELL



Welcome to U.S. Coast Guard Loran Station  
Kure Island, also known as "Paradise of the  
Pacific", and by the crew as "Dark Side of  
the Sun." Construction of the station began  
in 1960, and the station was commissioned  
on 17 March 1961. Personnel assigned to  
Kure consist of two officers and 18 enlisted  
men of various rates critical to the smooth  
operation of this truly isolated unit. Feel  
free to roam about the station and beach  
areas, and to ask any Kure-ite for information  
or guidance. Departure flight is scheduled  
for take-off at 1230. Have a pleasant day  
and safe return to Barbers Point!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

26 March 1980

- 0930 Arrival of CG-1340 with guests and visitors. Refreshments for all on the messdeck.
- 1000 CINCPACFLT Band commences pre-ceremonial music.
- 1015 Arrival of Senior Participant.  
(Please rise)
- Playing of National Anthem.
- Invocation--Father Ignacio, Catholic Chaplain, Barbers Point NAS.
- Commanding Officer and Prospective Commanding Officer conduct Personnel Inspection.
- Remarks and reading of orders by LTJG Michael D. FARRELL, Commanding Officer.
- Reading of orders by LTJG Daniel C. WHITING.
- Transfer of Command.
- Remarks by Senior Participant.
- Benediction--Father IGNACIO.
- Conclusion--Adjourn for reception to be held on the front lawn--music program presented by TSUNAMI.

29 MARCH 1984

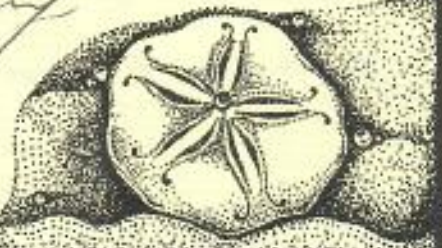
Dear Mr. Balaga:

I thank you for comming out on the week that I took over out here at Pure. I know the Change of Command wasn't your reason for being here, but it is always nicer to have someone to observe such rituals.

I appologize for not really talking with you very much, but I guess you could tell I was involved in some pretty intricate work.

I am really ~~excited~~ excited at the prospect of this coming year. Hopefully I'll be energetic enough to get together with whoever is interested in getting out here. I have a great deal of interest in all there is to be seen, experienced, and learned at this isolated part of the world.

Just as introduction, I graduated with a B.S. from the Coast Guard Academy in 1978. I have a Marine Science designator, but that doesn't say too much. The Academy was



very Physical Oceanography oriented. Lots of math, physics, chemistry, and computers. But some very good instructors and excellent opportunities.

In 1973 I ~~did~~ participated in a NSF program at O.R.I. Beyond just spending the summer at their graduate school, I did a stratigraphic foraminiferal study of three cores from the Gulf of Mexico. It was an excellent opportunity, as I was only in High school. I ~~was~~ also worked at Woods Hole the year before graduating from the Academy. I have split my time between the Bio lab and the Geological division. and because I grew up in San Diego, I spent a great deal of time around Scripps Institution in La Jolla.

I'm just becoming aware of the treasure that there is and I hope I can do something to keep it from being destroyed, polluted, and trashed.

I may be in Honolulu towards the end of April and would enjoy coming by and visiting the University of Hawaii.

Please let me know of any arrangements or plans I can help with.

Love and Peace,

Pamela Whiting  
CO, LORSTA KURSE



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

MAILING ADDRESS:

Daniel Whiting  
Commanding Officer  
USCG LORSTA KURE  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA 96619

20 MAY 1980

Dear George:

I was interested to hear about the commemorative marine turtles stamps. Enclosed is a copy of the letter I sent to the Postmaster. I've also encouraged the people out here who are interested to write and I'll send copies of any other letters when I see them. I would guess that a complete set of these stamps with original issue postmarks from KURE ATOLL would be of interest to someone someplace.

Haven't got any new sightings for you. Weather has been cool and windy, so either the turtles aren't around or we just haven't been in the right places often enough. Is negative data of interest?

I wish I would have known where I was going to be six months ago. As it is I am just starting formulation of plans for my activities here and can already see that a year will be a very short time for all the things I hope to accomplish. At present I am gathering background information for a project to compile data for an Odum style, energy flow, ecosystem model that, if I get moving with the proper support; could be a fairly comprehensive investigation.

I've written a really general, far too comprehensive and ambitious statement of what I would do if I had infinite time and resources. What gets done depends mostly on what I can do. I am trying to get Coast Guard funds and support, but they usually only fund academic research that directly gathers information of interest to the Coast Guard.

I don't want to compete with anyone for a slice of the ever shrinking pie, but I feel that my being in charge out here is an opportunity to set priorities on KURE ATOLL. Research is definitely one of my high priorities, with or without outside assistance.

If you could put me in touch with the proper people to find out if there is interest in research at KURE ATOLL, to supply basic lab needs, or just get background information; it would undoubtedly make my personal efforts more fruitful.

Love and Peace)

*Daniel Whiting*  
Daniel Whiting



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

MAILING ADDRESS:

Commanding Officer  
USCG LORSTA KURE  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA 96619

KURE ATOLL:  
A VERY SPECIAL ECOSYSTEM

During the period 24 March 1980 through 1 April 1980, the oceanic environment of KURE ATOLL, HAWAII will be observed and systematically investigated by LT(jg) Daniel WHITING, U.S. COAST GUARD. Data on environmental conditions including weather, winds, waves, currents and tides will be gathered. The water column will be examined, looking specifically at variations in temperature, salinity, oxygen, nutrients, and trace elements. Biological activity will be investigated using both qualitative and quantitative techniques in an attempt to construct detailed nitrate and phosphate cycles. An Odum style energy level flow model for the ecosystem will be developed, and conclusions concerning the present state of the KURE ATOLL ecosystem and its future will be drawn.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
P. O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

June 20, 1980

SUSUMU ONO, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES

EDGAR A. HAMASU  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

DIVISIONS:  
CONSERVATION AND  
RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
CONVEYANCES  
FISH AND GAME  
FORESTRY  
LAND MANAGEMENT  
STATE PARKS  
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable John Craven, Marine Affairs Coordinator  
Honorable Fujio Matsuda, President, University of Hawaii  
Honorable Hideto Kono, Department of Planning and Economic  
Development

FROM: Susumu Ono, Chairman and Member  
Board of Land and Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Visitations to Kure Island by Other than Coast Guard Personnel

As you probably know, Kure Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, is under State of Hawaii jurisdiction and administered by our Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Since 1959, Kure Island has served as a U.S. Coast Guard Loran Station and has also provided a research base for visiting scientists studying the various wildlife and seabird species, including the nearshore marine resources. Understandably, the island is attractive for scientific pursuits because of transportation, lodging and amenities that have been kindly provided by the Coast Guard.

Recently it has come to our attention that visitations to Kure by non-Coast Guard personnel have increased markedly and we are concerned that unless these excursions are coordinated, the welfare of protected Hawaiian monk seal and green sea turtle populations on Kure may be jeopardized. We are also concerned that Coast Guard's accommodation of travel requests to Kure and hospitality may be unduly infringed upon.

For these reasons and need to assist the Coast Guard in their logistics regarding access to Kure, this office will function as coordinator for all non-Coast Guard related travel to Kure. As agreed to by our Department and the U.S. Coast Guard, all personnel whose visitation to Kure Atoll is non-Coast Guard related will first be required to inform this Department of their intentions by letter specifying the nature of the visit, the period of visitation, whether or not entry authorization into Midway has been obtained and whether Coast Guard transportation and accommodations are desired. The Coast Guard will henceforth await a written clearance from us before considering air transport and lodging arrangements for any non-Coast Guard visits to Kure.

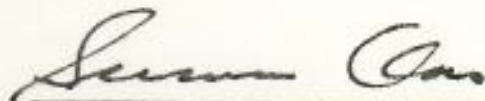
6/30  
[Handwritten initials and signatures]  
Admin

Memorandum  
June 19, 1980  
Page Two

Because Coast Guard flights to Kure may include unscheduled stop-over at the Midway Island U.S. Naval Air Facility, all visitors flying to Kure must first obtain U.S. Navy Entry Authorization into Midway. Such authorization which entails the filling of a Statement of Personal History for security clearance purpose may be obtained from: Commander THIRD FLEET, Pearl Harbor 96860 (Attention: Security Manager - Code N11, Phone: 472-8622).

We believe this coordinating procedure to be of mutual benefit to all affected parties and is consistent with our Department's responsibilities as administrators of Kure Atoll.

Your understanding and cooperation regarding future visits to Kure Atoll will be sincerely appreciated.



SUSUMU ONO, Chairman and Member  
Board of Land and Natural Resources

cc: Rear Admiral David Lauth, U.S. Coast Guard, 14th District  
FLP, U.S. Coast Guard, 14th District  
Commander, Third Fleet, Pearl Harbor  
Mr. Doyle Gates, NMFS  
✓ Mr. Richard Shomura, Director, NMFS, Honolulu Laboratory  
Mr. Dale Coggeshall, USFWS  
Dr. Jack Davidson, Director, UH Sea Grant  
Dr. John Caperon, Director, HIME  
Dr. Fred Kamemoto, Chairman, Zoology Department, UH  
All Divisions, DLNR



# 'One big family' of 19 on lonely Kure

The sun was sinking and it didn't look like the plane would be fixed in time.

The Coast Guard C-130 was parked on Kure's bumpy coral runway.

"Yippee!" squeaked Connie Humble. "We're going to have company — from the real world."

The population of Kure is 19. All are part of the detachment that operates the Coast Guard's LORAN station, a huge navigational antenna.

Humble and Jan Freeman are the only women on the island.

Freeman was the first female to be stationed on Kure. She asked for the assignment and arrived six months ago — after the Coast Guard installed, ahem, a new toilet.

Kure is a lonely post — some 1,200 miles from Oahu. The island's only link with civilization is the twice-monthly C-130 flight, which brings food and other necessities, television tapes and mail.

The plane stays only three or four hours — long enough to drop off the supplies and for the crew to chow down. The plane has to take off for Midway before sundown because Kure has no runway lights.

But the C-130 crew members who landed earlier this month discovered a slight problem as they warmed up the engines: The hydraulic pump that runs the landing gear wasn't working properly.

It was a tough repair job, and the crewmen knew that if they didn't fix it before dark they'd be spending the night.



**jim borg**

Advertiser military writer

And that's why Humble was happy. It isn't often that Kure gets overnight guests.

But she was ultimately disappointed. The pump was fixed and the plane took off in the waning light.

But it wouldn't be the last time the plane broke down that trip.

When women first were sent to Kure, there was some concern about how the sexes would mix and how well they would work together.

But Freeman, who runs the station supply store, reports no harassment, and the men say Freeman and Humble "handle themselves pretty well."

Morale seems good on Kure. The food is tasty; a beer from the pantry is 35 cents.

Tours of duty are for one year, but it's "24-hour duty," as one of the men expressed it, because the faces are always the same and there's nowhere else to go.

"One big family" is what another man called the community. "It's like being married to 18 people at the same time."

Supplying Kure is only one of the responsibilities of the C-130 flights, which leave Barbers Point every other Tuesday and return two days later.

Their other chief mission is to patrol the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands for illegal fishing boats. But given that the archipelago is 1,000 miles long and fishing grounds extend for 200 miles, that three-day search is somewhat haphazard.

Even if they spot boats fishing illegally, the most the crews can do is photograph the vessels and forward the pictures to the State Department.

Officers recall that one Japanese skipper naively followed the crew's instructions over a loudspeaker to "proceed to Midway," where the boat was promptly seized and the owner fined.

The next time that skipper was caught, he "turned tail and ran."

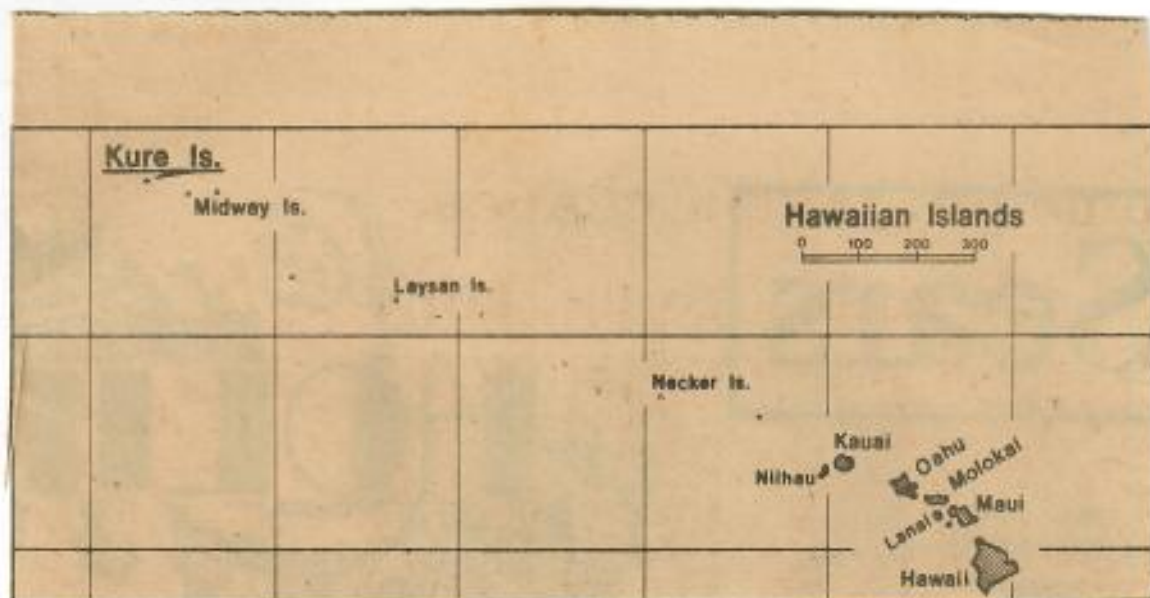
The Coast Guard's responsibilities for rescues and medical emergencies also can cut short the fishing patrols.

The plane had not even taken off on its Wednesday patrol from Midway when the crew was instructed to return to Barbers Point with a man who had appendicitis.

The clinic at Midway is not geared to handle surgery, so serious medical cases are evacuated to Tripler Medical Center.

The ambulance was waiting at the airstrip, and other passengers were ready to board, when the second breakdown occurred: this time a propeller.

So a second C-130 was sent out from Barbers Point with a spare prop.



File-Kure

REPORT ON THE ACCIDENTAL CAPTURE AND RELEASE OF A  
LEATHERBACK SEA TURTLE IN THE NORTHWEST HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

LIBRARY OF  
GEORGE H. BALAZS

Robert L. Humphreys, Jr.

On September 22, 1980 while fishing at Kure Island aboard the EASY RIDER TOO, an adult leatherback sea turtle, Dermochelys coriacea, was brought to the surface while retrieving lobster gear. The turtle's left front flipper had become entangled in the polypropylene rope which connected a string of 253 lobster traps on the bottom. As the turtle was hauled slowly to the surface, it offered no resistance and though alive, it made very little movement on its own. No attempt was made to lift the turtle out of the water and onboard the ship. Efforts made to untangle the turtle from onboard the ship failed; the turtle began to roll over entangling its head in the line thereby placing the head below the surface. At this point the captain, Gary "Skip" Naftel, decided to enter the water and attempt to free the turtle from there. Whether the line was untangled or cut is not recalled, but the turtle was subsequently released and appeared to swim slowly down underneath the ship and out of sight. The elapsed time from the turtle's retrieval to its release was approximately 15-30 minutes.

The trap string had been set at 1745 hours on September 20, 1980 and retrieval started at 0747 hours on September 22, 1980. The incident occurred in the morning sometime between 0800 and 1000 hours. The depth of the lobster gear ranged from 16-22 fathoms and the end to end position of the string was as follows:

28°21.45'N 176°19.5'W - 28°23.6'N 176°24.9'W

Unfortunately, no record was made as to which end of the lobster string the incident took place.

Three photographs of the incident were taken and are included in the report. While the captain of the EASY RIDER TOO was in the water alongside the turtle the carapace length was estimated at 5 feet. The apparent condition of the turtle upon release was uncertain since it moved slowly away and was observable for a very short time. The only apparent physical damage to the turtle was an imprint of the polypropylene line at the base of the left front flipper.



Photos 1 & 2 show the entangled leatherback sea turtle off the starboard side of the ship. In photo 3, the leatherback has rolled over in the water while the captain attempts to remove the line from around the turtle's head and flipper.

ERII 531-8794

Questions for  
Ship

Date - SEPT. 22, 1980

Time of day - 0800 - 0815

Location (mark on map) - SEE back

Depth - 12 FATHOMS

General weather conditions - CLEAR, Flat, water clear,

Length of forearm (elbow to wrist) - 30 cm.

Location on string of traps - (end, middle, etc) -  
"START"

ABOUT 25 TRAPS INTO SET.  
EAST END.

Damage to adjacent traps? NONE

HAD TO CUT LINE TO  
GET HER OUT.

Maro Reef shark  
fishing - (approx. date) -

July. 16 1980

AT 2300. AT ANCHOR  
INSIDE ANCHORAGE

~~SPRINT~~

April 27, 1981

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Svein Fougner, Executive Director, WPFMC

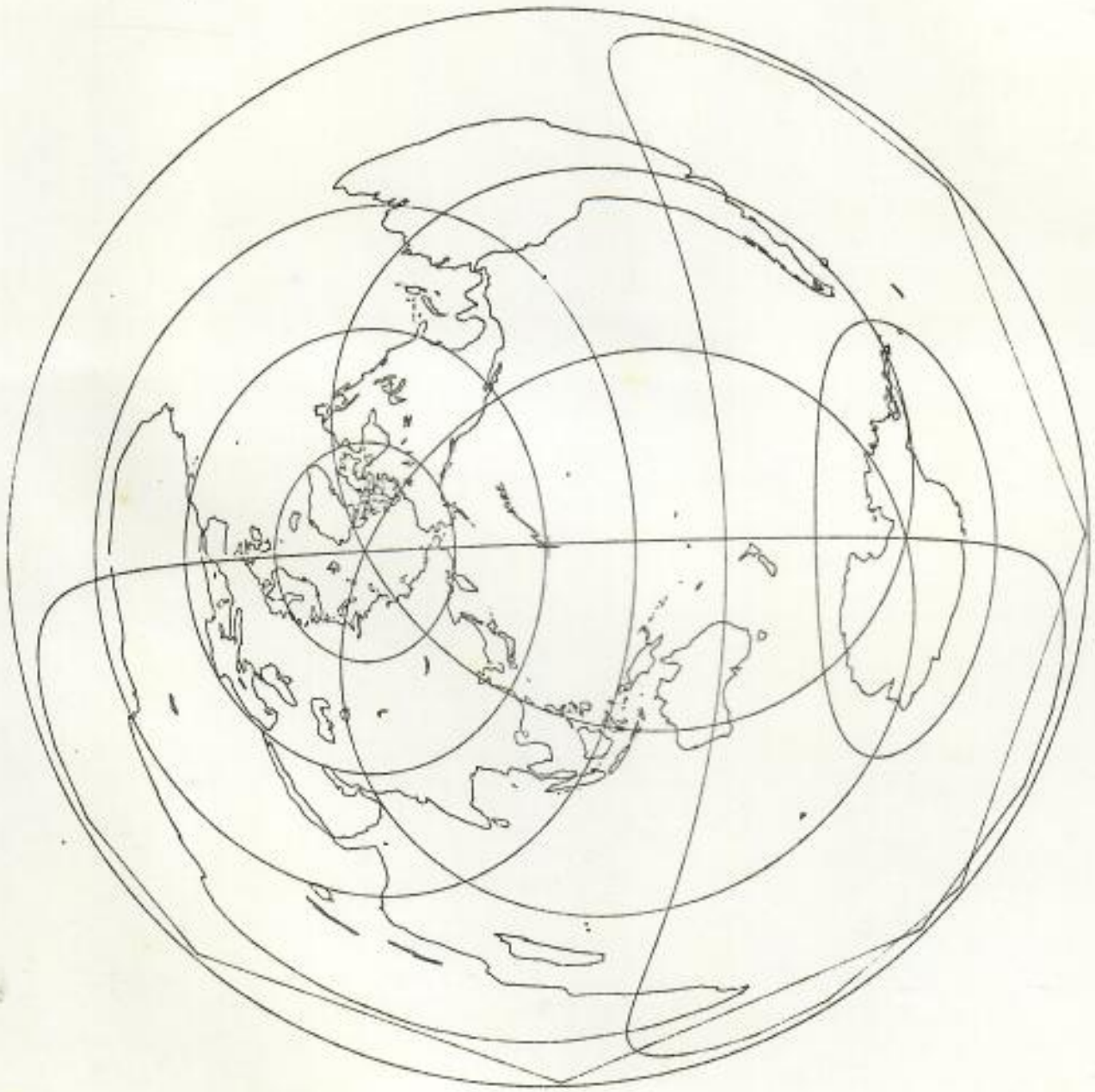
FROM: Craig D. MacDonald, Principal Investigator, Spiny Lobster Project

This memo is to document observations of Hawaiian monk seals and green sea turtles seen in the study area of Kure Atoll where research on the population biology of spiny lobsters is being conducted. An effort was made by trained technicians to regularly record these observations while working aboard boats and while diving in the study area. Despite this intent, some observations went unrecorded because of work situations or inclement weather during which personnel were over-burdened by other matters which required their full attention. However, I consider the order of magnitude of the recorded observations to be generally representative of the overall frequency of such sightings. The observations, summarized in the following table, were made during the interval January 1979-January 1981.

<u>Monk Seals</u>		<u>Green Turtles</u>	
<u>Diver</u>	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Diver</u>	<u>Boat</u>
5	5	10	4

The study area in the lagoon at Kure Atoll is approximately 2 km<sup>2</sup> and encompasses an expanse of scattered patch reefs separated by sand in shallow water (1-10m depth). A total of 50 commercial-style lobster traps and 14 lobster larvae collectors are permanently deployed in this area. An additional 6 larvae collectors are deployed along the lagoon margin in the western and northern reef quadrants. All traps and collectors have lines attached and are buoyed at the surface. There has been no indication of any interaction between either monk seals or green sea turtles and this gear. Each weekend, twenty-five randomly selected traps were fished overnight and all larvae collectors were checked during the interval June 1979-January 1981. There were about 1300 man-dives made during the interval January 1979 - January 1981. The few observations of monk seals and green turtles that were made by divers indicated that these animals transited the study area without any apparent interest in the sampling gear.

cc: Mr. Doyle E. Gates, National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Region  
Mr. Kenji Ego, Hawaii Division of Fish and Game







45-601 Luluku Rd; Rt#11  
Kane'Ohe, O'ahu HAWAI'I  
96744-1854

18 OCTOBER 1981

Mr. Gee H. Balass, Chief  
Hawai'i Inst of Marine Biology  
PO Box 1346  
Kane'Ohe, HAWAI'I 96744-1346

Dear Mr. Balass:

I have enjoyed your photos for sometime, especially in this years Dillingham Corp Tide Calendar.

Circumstances brought us together when I was operating my Amateur Radio station and in contact with Kure Island's club station when they had their medical emergency, hepatis.

At that time your offered to provide Mr. Bart Dolman, WB6FBN, with one of your photos, at the suggestion of one of your workers on Kure. I handled that "phone patch".

I just received my QSL card from Bart and the picture on Kure's QSL is brautiful.

May I say my thanks to you for your part in helping us to help Dave Goodwin, WBOICS/Kure Is, the operator there.

Again, thanks fer your help and assistance in helping Amateur Radio to help each other.

Mahale and Aloha. If you ever need a radio operator to go with you on some distant location, take an Amateur Radio operator with you. They'll get the message through.

Sincerely yours,  
*L. Roger Wical*  
L. Roger Wical, KH6  
"Bloomin' Zipper Flipper"

Enc  
cc  
bcc



L. ROGER WICAL  
DCA-PACIFIC  
WHEELER AFB, HAWAII  
96854

14 Aug 81

Major John B. Dolman, USAF - Ret.  
5521 Sagittarius Way  
Citrus Heights, CA. 95610  
WB6FBN ZIP CODE

Dear George

Thank you very much  
for the use of the slides  
which I am returning -

Will note on the card  
as you indicated for credit  
and I will send you a  
few dozen when they are  
finished.

Many thanks George

Bart

Geo,

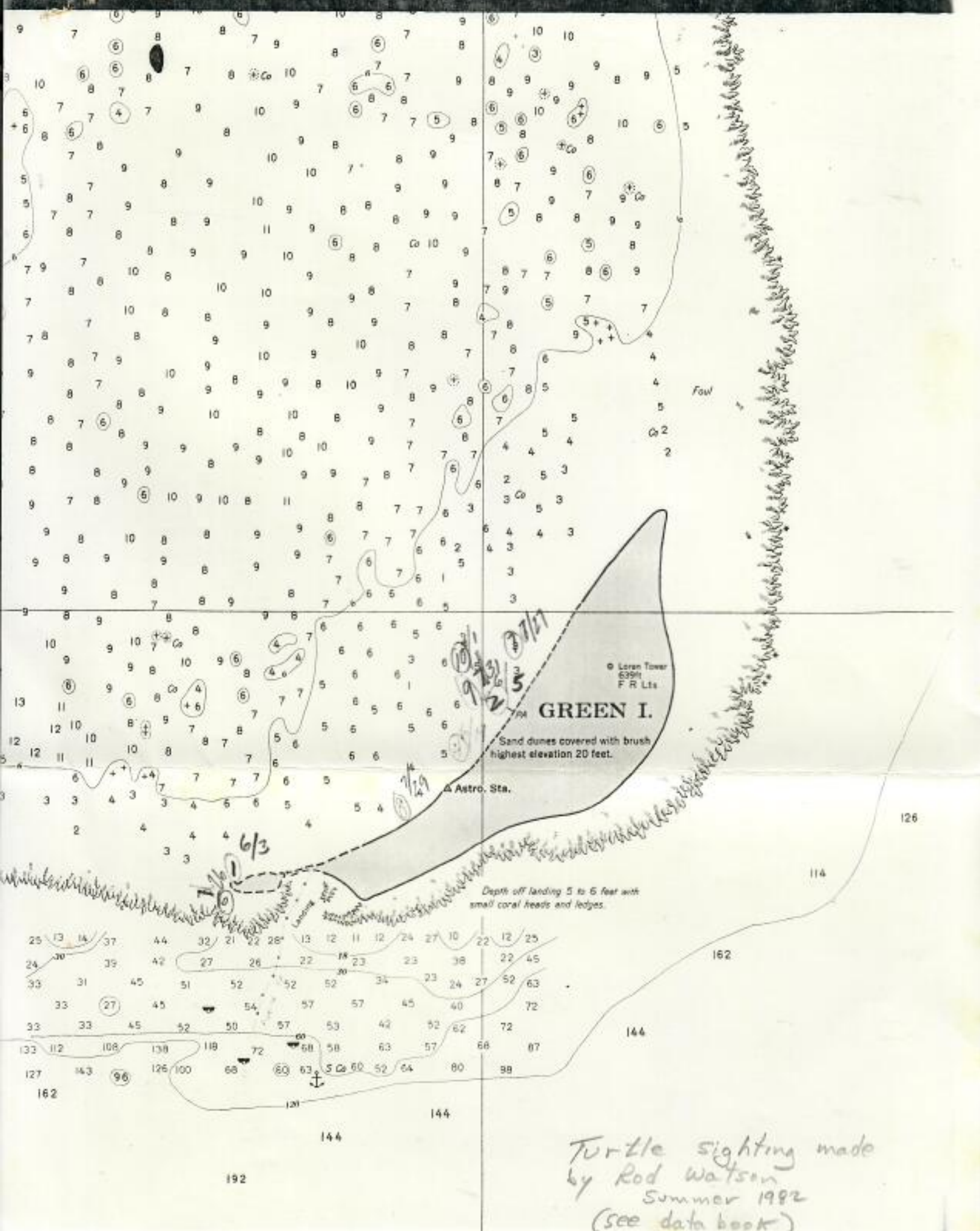
6 Oct 81

Thanks a lot for  
the use of your slides  
and here are some  
production cards for  
you.

Thanks,

Bert

Major John B. Dolman, USAF - Ret.  
5521 Sagittarius Way  
Citrus Heights, CA. 95610  
WB6FBN



**GREEN I.**

Sand dunes covered with brush  
highest elevation 20 feet.

Loran Tower  
1000ft  
F R Lts

Astro. Sta.

Depth off landing 5 to 6 feet with  
small coral heads and ledges.

Turtle sighting made  
by Rod Watson  
Summer 1982  
(see data book)

192

144

144

144

162

114

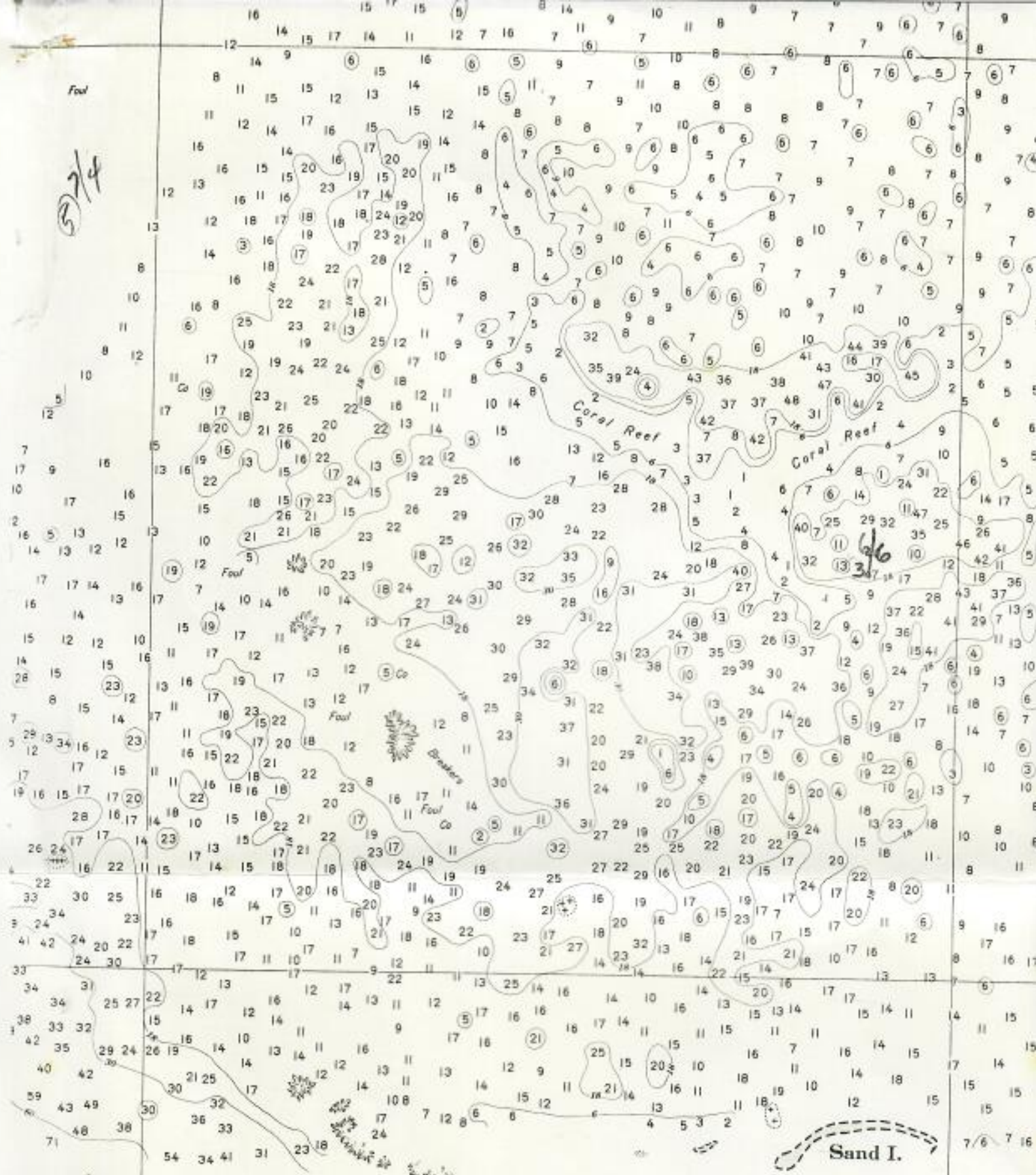
126

162

25 13 14 37 44 32 21 22 28 13 12 11 12 24 27 10 22 12 25  
 24 30 39 42 27 26 22 18 23 23 38 22 45  
 33 31 45 51 52 52 52 34 23 24 27 52 63  
 33 27 45 54 57 57 45 40 72  
 33 33 45 52 50 57 53 42 52 62 72  
 133 112 108 138 119 72 60 58 63 57 68 87  
 127 143 96 126 100 68 60 63 56 60 52 64 80 98

Foul

3 7/4



Sand I.

Foul

*Handwritten notes and scribbles at the bottom of the page, including a wavy line representing a reef edge and some illegible text.*

15 Jan

George,

I am afraid there wasn't many water temps taken while I was gone. I guess I will have to start it again myself. I hope these two months give you some info.

It was nice to see you again. Hope you get a chance to visit Kure again before I leave in Oct.

Oh, I noticed ~~the~~ last Saturday when I walked the beach that a lot of turtles are coming out to lay their eggs ??? There was a last spot on the lagoon side from the dock to south point.

Take care.

CWO2 K.R. Henson  
CG LORSTA  
USNS  
Box 36  
FPO San Francisco  
96614

Your friend  
Ken,

DATE	W. C°	TEMP	AIR	TIME
3 Feb		17.5	19	
1 MAR		21	19.5	0730
4 MAR		19	18.5	0810
7 MAR		21	19	0815
11 MAR		18	18	0830
14 "		20	18	0815
18 "		21.5	21+	0830
22 "		22+	21.5	0900
25 "		19+	16-	0830
28		18-	16.5	0830

Had 60 kt winds on 24 and caught 25K gal water on 23.





77

Aug

Date	Time	Sea Water Temp	Wind
Aug 8	0900	28	S-SW-0 <sup>th</sup>
Aug 15	0830	28.5	N-0 K <sup>B</sup>
Aug 19	1200	29.	N-0-S K <sup>B</sup>
Aug 21	0900	26.5	N-9 N <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup>
Aug 30	1330	27.5	—

H. Gorge

Well There's not much going  
on out here. I've been seeing  
More Turtles lately but most of  
the sightings have been by the reef  
are outside the reef while Feeding  
I haven't been able to check any

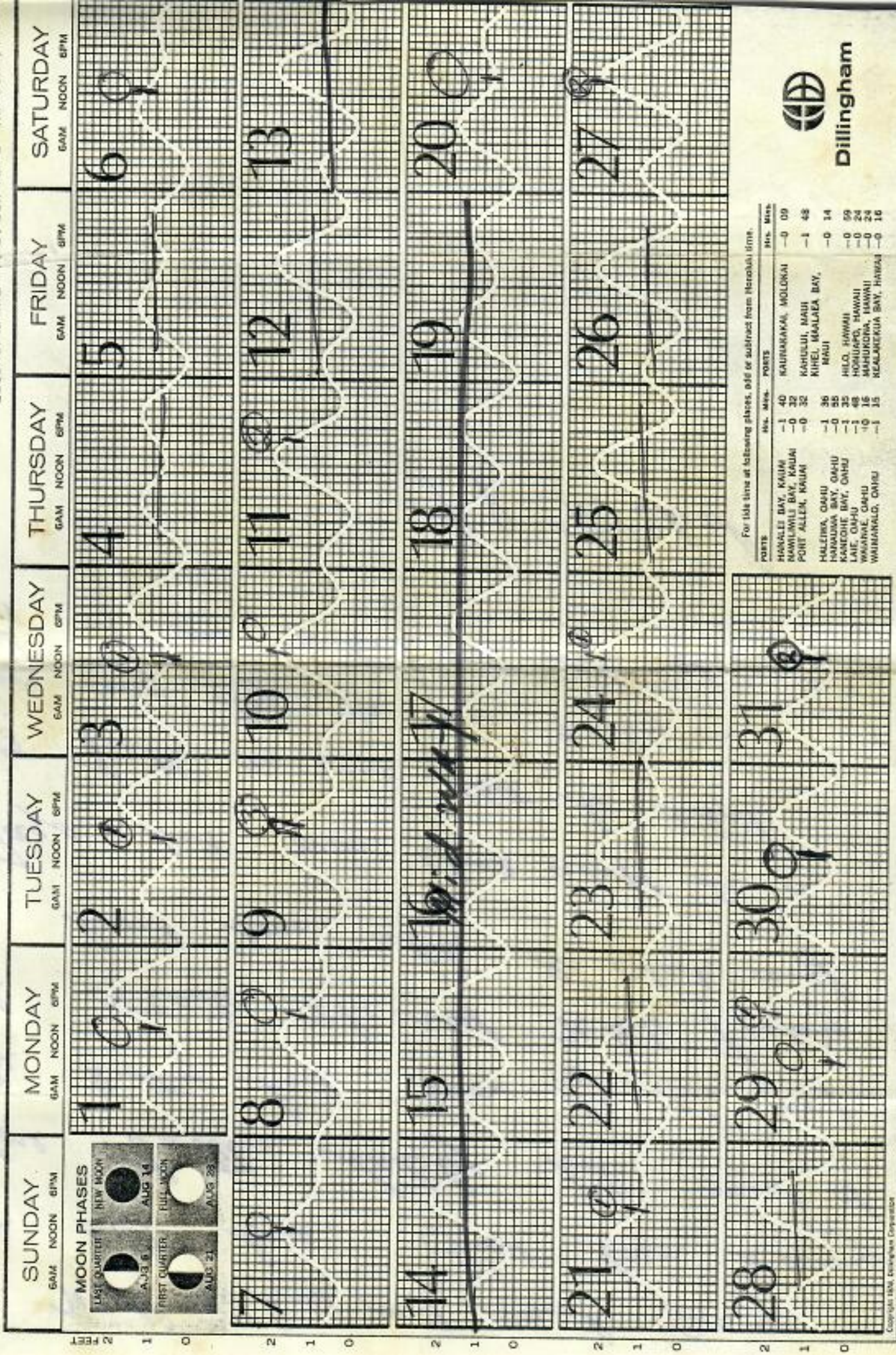
Tags but was close enough to a  
Big Turtle to see that he didn't  
have any tag. He was floating on  
top of the water out side the reef.

J R Michel

Please return to -

GEORGE H. BALAZS  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
Coconut Island · P. O. Box 1346 · Kaneohe, Hawaii

# AUGUST 1977 TIDE CHART



Dillingham

For tide time at following places, add or subtract from Honolulu time.

MAY 20, 1977

Hi George,

I Didn't Have A chart For APRIL I keep  
IT IN my note Book "Boats"

APRIL 1	16
2 1300 - (1)	17 → 7
3	18
4 1100 - (2)	19 Midway
5	20
6 0900 - (1) 1330 (2)	21 Midway
7	22
8	23 → 7
9 1000 - 0	24 1330 - (1)
10	25
11 1330 - 0	26 0900 - 0
12	27 1430 - (1)
13 - 0915 - 0	28
14 0930 - (1) 1400 - (1)	29
15	30 1400 - (1) - 1530 - (1)

This MONTH I've only observed The SAME (2) TURTLES ALL MONTH OF APRIL, ALSO There one Turtle THAT MADE A home by A CORAL head behind The Dump The Turtle has been IN THAT AREA ALL MONTH.

MAY 24, 77

I'm going ON leave FROM 25 MAY UNTILL 15 JUNE BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S STILL The same TWO TURTLES This month ON The south point The one behind The Dump STILL hangs out There. WITH Diving Toward North End OF The Island have notice a couple up there. Counted 4 Turtles OFF SOUTH POINT ON The Ten MAY IN The evening.

BOATS

MAY 20, 1977

Hi George,

I Didn't Have A chart For APRIL I keep  
IT IN my NOTE Book "Boats"

APRIL 1	16
2 1300 - (1)	17 → 7
3	18
4 1100 - (2)	19
5	20
6 0900 - (1) 1330 (2)	21
7	22
8	23 → 7
9 1010 - 0	24 1330 - (1)
10	25
11 1330 - 0	26 0900 - 0
12	27 1430 - (1)
13 - 0915 - 0	28
14 0930 - (1) 1400 - (1)	29
15	30 1400 - (1) - 1530 - (1)

This MONTH I've only observed the same (2) turtles ALL MONTH OF APRIL, ALSO There one turtle THAT MADE A home by a coral head behind the Dump The turtle has been IN THAT AREA ALL MONTH.

MAY 24, 77

I'm going ON leave FROM 25 MAY UNTILL 15 JUNE  
but IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S STILL THE SAME TWO TURTLES  
THIS MONTH ON THE SOUTH POINT THE ONE BEHIND  
THE DUMP STILL HANGS OUT THERE. WITH DIVING  
TOWARD NORTH END OF THE ISLAND HAVE NOTICE A COMPE  
UP THERE. Counted 4 TURTLES OFF SOUTH POINT ON THE  
TEN MAY IN THE EVENING.

BOATS

A.C. Martin  
Kure Atoll, Box 36  
FPO SAN Fran 96614.

30 July 76

Dear George -

You said that not many turtles were nesting at French Frigate; did you dive around the outer sand-spits & shoals as well? Haven't been diving myself in a few weeks. Have had several Shark sightings in the perimeter of Green Is. Will be anxious to dive the lagoon when you arrive.

About the logistics flight schedule of Kure - CCA Air Station Barber's Point is making C-130 fisheries patrols bi-monthly from Hono. out past Kure & back. It takes approximately 2 days and remains overnight on Midway the first night of patrol. The Air Force flies C-141's Tues., Thurs. & Saturdays to Midway. Currently, were supplied Mon. & Fridays by Midway's H46A Helo's. (but very unreliable service) It's suggested that you contact ~~the~~ Captain Resperance of 14th District CCA office (OAN DIVISION) for specific schedules on the fisheries patrol flights. It's the most feasible way to expedite your plans. This way, you're assured of a visit to Kure w/out waiting for the next "log flight" from Midway to Kure delaying you.

It's always a pleasure receiving correspondence from you. Myself + the "sport divers" of Kure are at your disposal to aid in your studies. I only wish I were able to be funded in research or development in my interests. I envy you George. Take good care + let me know of your itinerary.

Aloha

Greg

11 APR 76

George -

Just a note to express my thanks for the newspaper clipping you've sent.

Accidentally, I've seen several (4-5) turtles the past two weeks near the wrecked Houie Mary, all within the same chain of coral heads. (Mating??)

Have you ~~to~~ scheduled an approximate date to come out? I'll be more than glad to prepare anything needed for your visit.

Aloha.

Greg



MARCH 26, Observed A Very SMALL Turtle  
Close To THE Beach While Fishing ON South  
POINT Approx WIDTH 10-12" AND had A Very LIGHT  
Colored Shell Between Yellow To GOLD Colored

Note - have NOT observed ANY Turtles ON THE  
BEACH

MARCH 31, 77

H. George,

Just Thought I would write A FAST note.  
We still have A few Turtles OFF The South  
POINT but They are NOT AS MANY AS when you  
were here, I've been out IN THE BOAT just About  
every week I've only notice Two Turtles IN  
The lagoon. We've been seeing A lot OF Sharks but  
still haven't got A big one yet, but I'M STILL  
Trying.

"BOATS"

JR Michael  
USCG Sorensen Sta  
USN Sta Box 36  
P.O. San Francisco, Calif  
94614



MARCH 26, Observed A Very Small Turtle  
Close To THE Beach While Fishing on South  
Point Approx width 10-12" And had A Very Light  
Colored Shell between yellow to Gold Colored

Note - have NOT observed ANY Turtles on The  
Beach

MARCH 31, 77

H. George,

Just Thought I would write A FAST note.  
We still have A few Turtles off The South  
Point but They are NOT AS many AS when you  
were here, I've been out in The boat just About  
every week I've only notice Two Turtles in  
The lagoon. We've been seeing A lot of Sharks but  
still haven't got A big one yet, but I'm still  
Trying.

"Boats"

JR Michael  
USCG Soran c Sta  
USN Sta Box 36  
F.P.O San Francisco, Calif  
066N

SUNDAY  
6AM NOON 6PM

MONDAY  
6AM NOON 6PM

TUESDAY  
6AM NOON 6PM

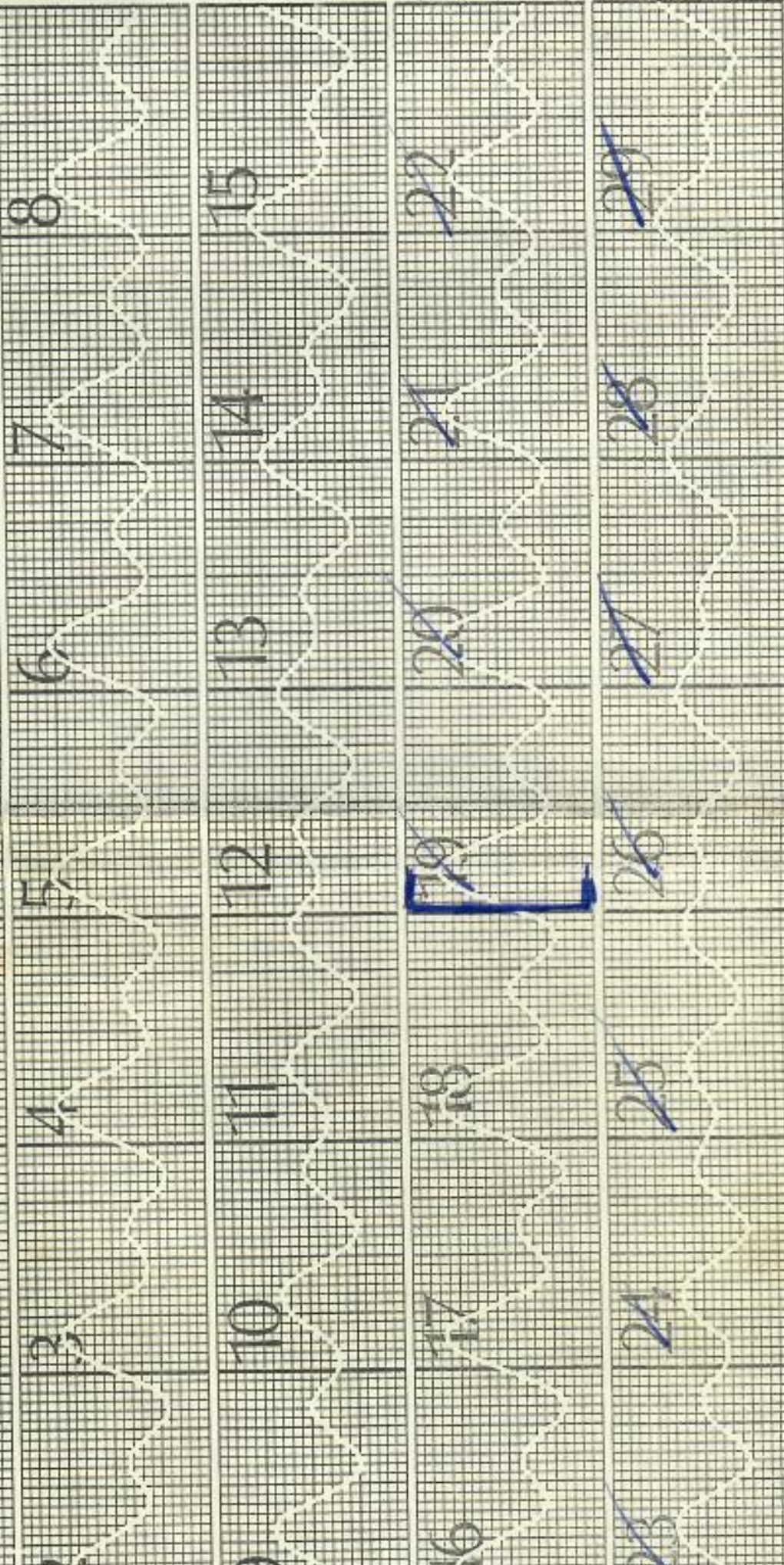
WEDNESDAY  
6AM NOON 6PM

THURSDAY  
6AM NOON 6PM

FRIDAY  
6AM NOON 6PM

SATURDAY  
6AM NOON 6PM

JANUARY 1977 TIDE CHART



For 600 line at following places, add or subtract from Honolulu time.

PLACES	Hrs. Mins.	PORTS	Hrs. Mins.
HAWAII BAY, KAUI	-1 40	KAUAIKAKAI, MOLOKAI	-0 09
MAHELE BAY, KAUAI	-0 32	KAHULUI, MAUI	-1 48
PORT ALLEN, KAUAI	-0 32	KIHEI, MAUI	-0 34
HALEIWA, OAHU	-1 26	MAUI	-0 34
HONOLULU BAY, OAHU	-0 55	HILO, HAWAII	-0 55
KAHOOLAWE BAY, OAHU	-1 35		



Dillingham

# KURE

June 1977

DATE

DATE

~~0920~~

29 June 77

Time

0920

Before

28

AIR

AFTER

28

Water Temp

21

Wind

## KURE

MAY 1977

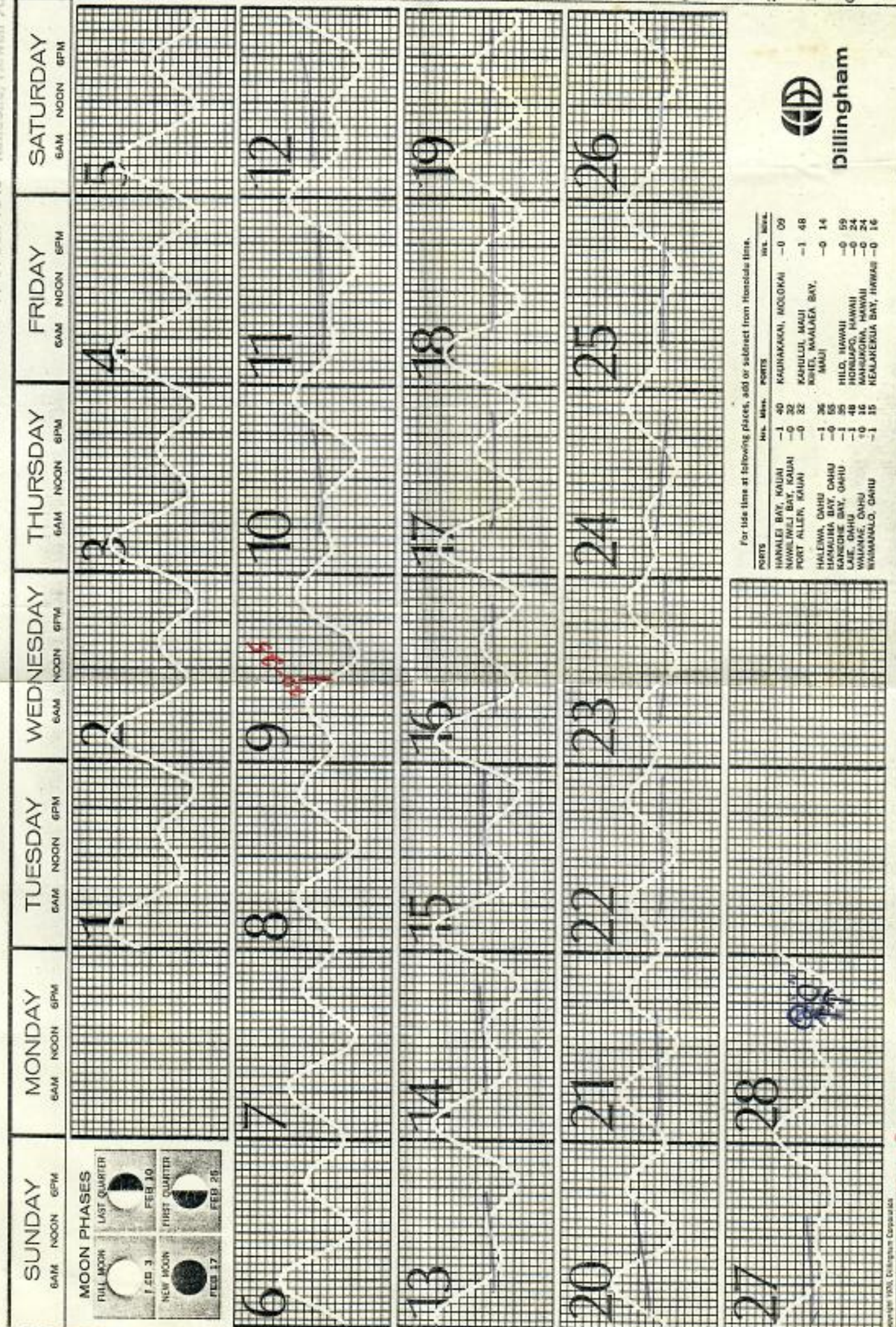
DATE	TIME	AIR Temp		WATER Temp	Wind
		Before	AFTER		
6	1300	24	23	23.5	NNE 2-5
16	1330	25	22	25.5	—
20	0900	26	24	26.5	

South Point, KURE ATOLL  
TURTLE CENSUS

please return to -

GEORGE H. DALAZS  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
Coconut Island - P. O. Box 1346 - Kaneohe, Hawaii 96706

# FEBRUARY 1977 TIDE CHART



**MOON PHASES**

FULL MOON FEB 3	LAST QUARTER FEB 10
NEW MOON FEB 17	FIRST QUARTER FEB 25

For use time at following places, add or subtract from Honolulu time.

PORTS	hrs.	mins.	PORTS	hrs.	mins.
HAWAII BAY, KAUAI	-1	40	KAHAKAKANI, MOLOKAI	-0	09
NAWILIWILI BAY, KAUAI	-0	32	KAHULUI MAUI	-1	48
PORT ALLER, KAUAI	-0	32	KIHEI, MAALAE BAY, MAUI	-0	14
HALEIWA, OAHU	-1	36	HILO, HAWAII	-0	59
HANALEI BAY, OAHU	-0	55	HONOLULU, HAWAII	-0	24
KANEOHE BAY, OAHU	-1	35	MAHUKONA, HAWAII	-0	24
LAIE, OAHU	-1	48	NEAHEKUA BAY, HAWAII	-0	16
WAIKANE, OAHU	-1	35			
WAIMANALO, OAHU	-1	35			



Dillingham

Tom Michael - Kaneohe

Well back off. Leave back at it  
did only leave one this month from  
South point. Some how I lost  
July Tide Chart did get any but no  
July did just keep it in my Green  
book until you send me one, and  
I only took one Sea Water Temp  
for June. nobody took them  
while I was on leave.

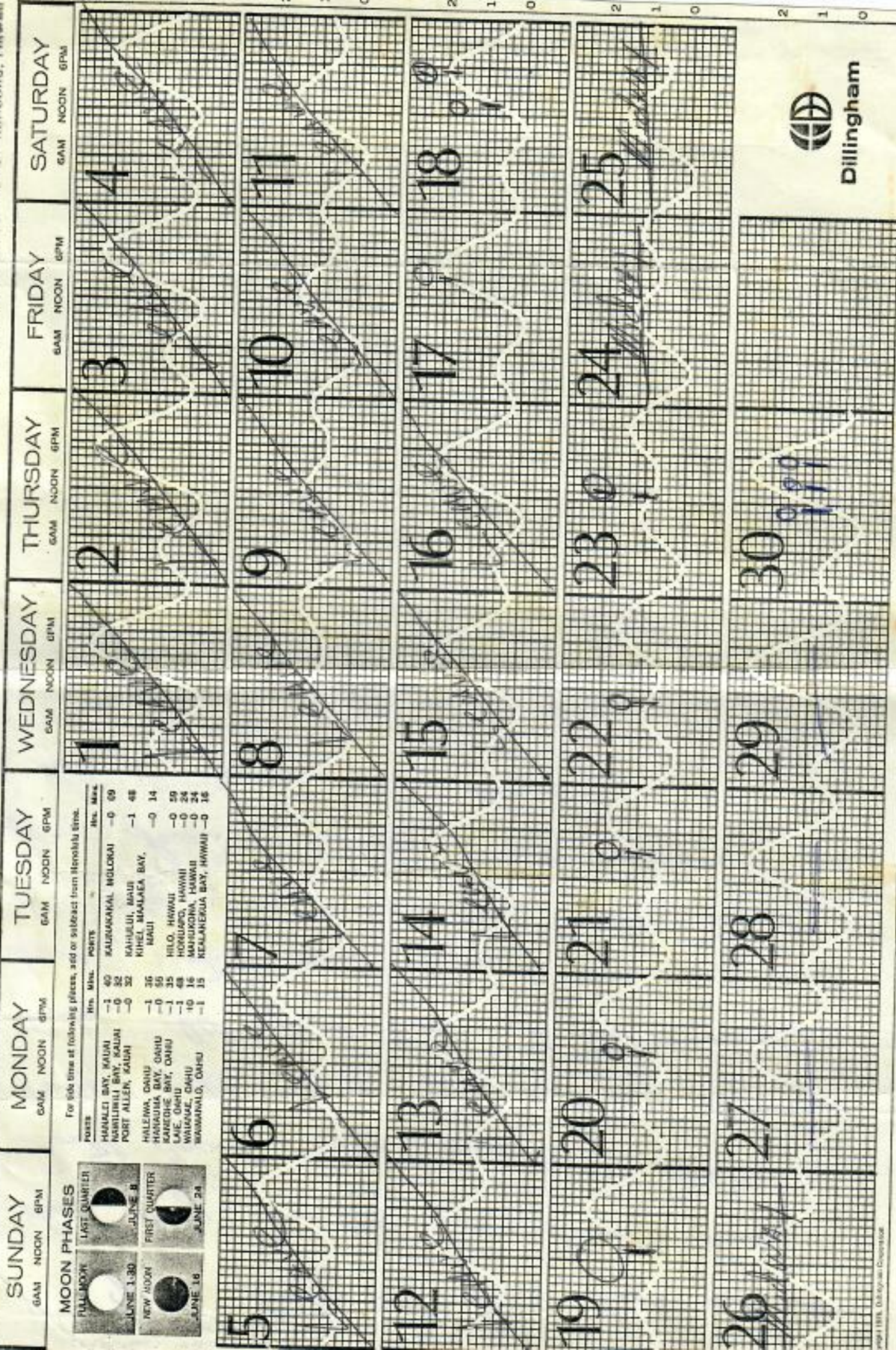
Louise



Please return to - GEORGE H. DALRYMPLE

# JUNE 1977 TIDE CHART

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



SUNDAY 6AM NOON 6PM

MONDAY 6AM NOON 6PM

TUESDAY 6AM NOON 6PM

WEDNESDAY 6AM NOON 6PM

THURSDAY 6AM NOON 6PM

FRIDAY 6AM NOON 6PM

SATURDAY 6AM NOON 6PM

MOON PHASES  
 FULL MOON JUNE 13  
 LAST QUARTER JUNE 8  
 NEW MOON JUNE 16  
 FIRST QUARTER JUNE 24

For side time at following places, add or subtract from Honolulu time.

PORTS	Hrs. Min.	Hrs. Min.
HANALEI BAY, KAUAI	-1 40	-0 00
KAUNAKAKAI, HONOLULU	-0 32	-0 00
MAHUKU, MAUI	-0 32	-1 48
KIHEI, MAALAEA BAY, MAUI	-1 36	-0 14
HALENA, OAHU	-0 50	-0 50
HONOLULU BAY, OAHU	-1 35	-0 50
KANEHE BAY, OAHU	-1 48	-0 54
LAIE, OAHU	-1 16	-0 54
WAIKANE, OAHU	-1 15	-0 54
KAUNAKAKAI, HAWAII	-1 15	-0 16
NEALANAKUA BAY, HAWAII	-1 15	-0 16



Dillingham