



Navy hydrographic survey crews required the use of a helicopter to get ashore on Gardner Pinnacle, which is about half way between Oahu and Midway Islands.—Navy Photo.

## Navy Team Maps Remote Mid-Pacific

A Navy hydrographic survey team has invaded some of the most remote and barren land areas in the mid-Pacific area during a survey of such little known areas as Lisianski Island, Nihoa Island, the Pearl and Hermes Reefs and Gardner Pinnacle.

Working from the Pacific Fleet tank landing ship Duval County, the survey team recently completed a three-month odyssey from Oahu to Kure Island, charting every reef, pinnacle and island along the route.

At some of the locations the survey crew found it impossible to make a boat landing with survey equipment, so a helicopter was used to ferry men and equipment ashore.

In one location, however, this also proved impossible until the Duval County's men could build a makeshift landing pad.

This was on Gardner Pinnacle, halfway between Oahu and Midway Islands.

The work crew was lowered from a hovering helicopter and within hours had carved an improvised landing area on the barren 200 by 75 yard volcanic pinnacle.

At Necker Island, crews encountered live bombs believed dropped by training planes during World War II. These had to be cleared away before the survey could be made.

The Duval County has completed the trip that started January 23 from Pearl Harbor and is enroute to San Diego, California.

She is commanded by Lieutenant Francis L. Roach.

Honolulu Star Bulletin

May 23, 1961