Friday - Jan. 30, 1948

On Board S/S Marine Phoenix

Breakfast with Geoff, letter writing & packing. Started out for Chinatown, cable car to top of hill. Kodachromes. Narrow, sign-ridden streets, colorful, dirty. Full of grocery stores, drug stores, chop suey houses. Most interesting were the windows filled with dried fauna & flora. Collected my first specimen in a Chinese drug store - a small (8") lizard (sp. 1) - split, gutted, partly boned with supporting sticks from leg to leg. Front part of head cut off. Chinese lady bought four of them while I was in store - how I wish I could see to what use she puts them. Cost $1.25. Also dried sea horses, clams, oysters, squid, chicken feet (with something tied in feet), chicken gizzards, sea cucumbers, roots, seeds and dozens of items which remind me of nothing I have ever seen before. Someday I shall become acquainted with a Chinese druggist and learn their goods in trade. The grocery stores were next in unknown items. Chinese children speak better slang than I do. Couldn't stay longer.

Mrs. McCaskey called to say goodbye. Had received bird book.

Geoff and I checked out of Hotel Whitcomb, a most adequate place for short stay. Pier 32, Matson Line. S/½ Matsonia + S/½ Phoenix berthed together. Baggage tagged and placed under letter station, passport & ticket checked quickly. Everything handled most efficiently. Considering number of people embarking. Took Kodachromes of Matsonia + Phoenix. Porter took our luggage aboard - no trouble, but Geoff & I kept our eyes on him. Have heard of many people having trouble locating bags. Matsonia sailed at 5:15 - much paper tape throwing. Phoenix at 6:30 - too late for sunset behind the gate. The lights of San Francisco very lovely from water. Geoff and I stayed on deck until we went under the Golden Gate ship lifting to swells just before bridge. We are now quartering the seas and occasionally rolling very heavily. We are at second sitting - captain's table.
GOOD STEWARD. GOOD PLAIN FOOD. CONSOMME, SALAD GREENS, HALIBUT WITH LEMON BUTTER SAUCE, POT ROAST, CHOC. ICE CREAM + CAKE. CAPTAIN NOT ON HAND - THE USUAL FIRST NIGHT CUSTOM. ONLY ONE COUPLE AT TABLE. PLACES FOR ABOUT 12. OTHER TABLES BADLY CROWDED. WE HAVE A SICK CABIN MATE IN BED FROM START OF TRIP. SUFFERING FROM GASTRISTM. ONE OTHER MAN ALSO IN BED. CHILDREN ARE MANY, CONSPICUOUS, + NOISY + SMALL. HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH A MIXED PASSENGER LIST. PUBLIC ROOMS NOT VERY LARGE, BUT WE WILL MAKE OUT. I HAD SHOCK OF LIFE WHEN I SAW THE NOVELTY SHOPS STOCK OF 16MM MODACHROME MAGAZINE FILM - ABOUT 50 ROLLS - THIS IS A SUPPLY THAT EVER MODAK IN N.Y. LACKS. IT TOOK ME OVER A MONTH FOR MR. BIDDLE TO FIND 12 ROLLS FOR ME (COST $6.75 - 50 FEET).

SHIP IS FAR DIFFERENT THAN ANY I HAVE EVER TRAVELED ON. SINGLE SMOKE STACK SET FAR AFT. BOAT DECK TAKES PLACE OF PROMENADE DECK. SUN DECK BADLY CUT INTO BY MISCELLANEOUS GEAR. MORE ABOUT SHIP LATER.

FEELS GOOD TO BE ON BOARD SHIP AGAIN. MY LAST TRIP WAS IN 1935 WHEN KATHERINE & I WERE IN BERMUDA. MOST PEOPLE LOOK BORED ALREADY. MANY ARE JUST LOOKING AT FELLOW PASSENGERS. THERE IS QUITE A CAMERA BRIGADE ON BOARD. WONDER IF THERE WILL BE ANY BIRD WATCHERS ON SHIP. CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR TOMORROW TO START LOOKING FOR SEABIRDS. HAVE YET TO SEE MY FIRST ALBATROSS. THE FIRST BOOK ON MY LIST IS ALEXANDER'S "BIRDS OF THE OCEAN". IT WILL COME IN HANDY BEFORE END OF TRIP.

GEOFF & I WILL PROBABLY TURN IN EARLY TONIGHT.

SAILING DAY IS ALWAYS AN EXCITING DAY, BUT HOW MUCH MORE EXCITING THIS JAN. 30 IS THAN OTHERS - THE START OF MY FIRST FULL FLEETED EXPEDITION! HOW VERY GRATEFUL I AM TO MOTHER & TO DICK FOR MAKING THIS ADVENTURE OF THE MIND & BODY POSSIBLE. WILL START STUDYING THE COPY OF ELLIS TAUGHTON'S "FURRED ANIMALS OF AUSTRALIA" (1941: SCRIBNERS) TOMORROW. I WONDER WHAT NEW DATA DR. TATE & I WILL ADD TO THIS COMPREHENSIVE OF MARSUPIAL + PLACENTAL LONG.
SAT. JAN. 31, 1948

ON BOARD SS MARINE PHOENIX (VOYAGE 10)

CO. 328 - 11
DIST. 289 MILES
LAT. 34° 32' N
LONG. 127° 07' W

WE ARE SAILING A SMOOTH SEA TONIGHT - HARDLY A TRACE OF ROLL - NO PITCHING. NIGHT OVERCAST. VERY SLIGHT DRIZZLE. WHERE ARE THE GULLS AND ALBATROSSES THAT FOLLOWED US TODAY? BETWEEN 11:30 HRS. OF DARKNESS X S AVER. SPEED 17 KNOTS EQUALS APPROX. 200 NAUTICAL MILES. DO THEY FOLLOW WAKE AT NIGHT? DO THE GULLS EVER TAKE TO RIGGING? DO G.S. & A.S. TREED DOWN WHEN DARK FALLS, OR DO THEY RETRACE PART OF DAY'S FLIGHT. ONE OF GULLS IN FLIGHT TODAY HAD BROKEN LEFT 1° S; 1 OF A'S (AD.) HAD WHITE SPOT BASE OF 2° S DORSAL.

COUNTS AT VARIOUS TIMES:

8: A.M. - 9 DIOMEDEA NIGRIPES, 6 LARUS CALIFORNICUS
10: A.M. - 4 D. N., 5 L.C.
11:30 A.M. - 4 D. N., 9 L.C.
12: M. - 6 D. N., 12 L.C.
4: P.M. - 4 D. N., 8 L.C. (2 BAND-TAILED - 1 BROWN)
4:30 P.M. - 4 D. N., 23 L.C., 2 PUNUA TRIDACTYLA
5:00 P.M. - 6 D. N., 22 L.C.

SAW MY FIRST D. N. OUT OF PORTHOLE AT 7: A.M. - REMINDS ONE IMMEDIATELY OF SHEARWATERS. IM. HAVE WHITE BASE TAIL (COVERS). DORSAL VENTRAL - MARKED WHITE BASE 1° S. AD. COMPLETELY DART BUT UNEVEN SHAPED AREAS. WHITE AT BASE BILL + EYE LINE VERY CONSPICUOUS AS IS SHAPE OF BILL. KITTIWAKES VERY STRIKINGLY PATTERNED. DID NOT STAY NEAR SHIP MORE THAN 1/2 HOUR. WHERE DID INFLUX OF L.C. COME FROM? A WINTER-WANDERING GROUP? FOOD OR "MIGRATION" WANDERING? HAVE SEEN NO OTHER VESSEL SINCE LEAVING SAN FRANCISCO. I WISH OUR 410 HAD DYE PELLETS TO FIRE. WE COULD SOON SETTLE SOME OF THE SHIP-FOLLOWING PROBLEMS.

GEOFF AND I ARE PRACTICALLY ALONE IN CABIN 101 - ONLY 4 OTHER PASSENGERS: ONE - DAVID FAIRFAX HAS BEEN SICK SINCE BOARDING SHIP. ANOTHER, SLEEPS ALL DAY - AS DOES STILL ANOTHER. MY BUNK MATE - A SCOTS- (RETIRED) IS UP & ABOUT. HE IS HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME SEEING THE WORLD. IN M.L. 6 MONTHS, WILL SPEND 6 Mo. IN SYDNEY.
Have been busy reading "Birds of the Ocean" today. Tonight I began "Charles Darwin and the Voyage of the Beagle" - edited by NORA Barlow (his grand-daughter). There is some background reading, then follow letters written to his sisters + to father.

Breakfast: sliced fresh peaches, orange juice, scrambled eggs + Canadian bacon, delicious "sweet bread", butter, jelly, milk.

Lunch: soup, fish, liver + bacon, salad, custard.

Dinner: consomme, fish, lamb, baked potato, string beans, young onions, radishes, ice cream and cake. I notice that none of my companions at the captain's table eat salad. We have very adequate room at our table, other tables very crowded. We have 2 Australian couples, an australian doctor, GEOFF, myself + the captain. The captain showed up tonight for the first time (as is custom). Capt. Johannsen - Swedish - most of life in San Francisco. Conveyed over both Atlantic + Pacific. Not too observing ("you see Hawaii + you've seen all the Pacific Is.") Not too curious about natural history - knows next to nothing about birds (his ship-followers). Bluff, hearty - not a tuxedo captain. Our Dr. Passenger is in charge of all N. S. W. hospitals. Has spent 6 mo. studying hospital organization in Canada, Mexico, and U.S. He is only one I have met so far who can appreciate what "our trip" means. Capt. is a conservative: 1) Doesn't like news 2) Or Negroes 3) Or mixed marriage 4) Calls his ship a "third-rate troop ship" 5) The Panama canal ruined San Francisco 6) Smokes cigars 7) Drinks milk - because I have to. Too much coffee during convoy duty.

GEOFF is consuming a detective story a day. He intends to build up ship library which at present has 600 vols.

Filled out an array of 6 forms today for information of Matson records + Australian entry - I am an "alien" of course.

Boat drill at 3:15 p.m. Very well attended. Ship has Barker system which is most effective.

Sea was cobalt blue today - overcast most of day. Sun caught the wave occasionally. Bird figures listed above are affected by AMT. + freq. of garbage dispossals. Birds congregate + many linger, catching up to ship at their leisure. The 2 significant changes: 1) Drop in no. of albatrosses 2) incl. in no. of gulls at 4:30. How I wish we were in a sailing vessel with time to really study sea birds.

The Pacific is an empty world - if one is not a naturalist.
Sun. - Feb. 1, 1948
On Board S.S. Marine Phoenix
Lat. 29.50 N
Long. 132.56 W

Dist. 409 miles
Day 24 Hrs. 30 Min. [Teck Noon Report]
Aver. Speed 16.71 Knots
Miles from S.F. 698 Mi. to Pago Pago 3442
COURSE 226.27

We have lost 5° of N. LAT. + gained about 6° of Westing.

Day paraly overcast. Light rain squall in P.M. Sun occasionally.

We lost our gulls last night, but at least one of yesterday's
albatrosses is still with us - the one (H.B.) with brownish-white
spot on wing. Did not see in P.M. We have another - very
dark adult with a light cap. No other birds seen today. No steamers. No whales. The Pacific
is an empty ocean, as S.F. is an empty harbor.

Continued reading Darwin's Letters today; also a few pages of
T. H. Huxley's "Grammar of Science." The latter takes a lot of
reading.

The main interest of the day was in meeting new people. A
chap who has spent most of his time reading in isolation turns out
not to be a cultural representative of the British Consulate to
Australia (Mr. Charles Wilmot). He is responsible to the Consul
for the introduction into Australia of all manner of English
cultural attainments. Must go cautiously or "C" will stick in
Australian throats. Latest import: Old Vic Company. Knows the
Founder of Penguin Books well. Started on shoestring, order from
Woolworth's saved enterprise, profit-sharing, Company is practically
a cause not a business. Told story of "New Yorker's Report on
Hiroshima" being published as a Penguin (500,000 copies). Would like
to see Penguin put out more color plates of art etc. in folders;
also recordings on plastic (e.g. famous passages from Shakespeare).

Another, an Australia - Mr. John F. Gaffney - textile representative
in America for an American company. Very pleasant, well spoken, no
pretense of knowing everything. About my age, or a little younger,
had to explain Darwinian theory to him. There is nothing like
having had teaching experience to make you think clearly about
a subject. Could use a little. Asked how Aust. would react to
having the English send them a cultural representative - answered
that it was well to have opportunity to choose from varied
aspects of culture.

Dinner at our table - Dr. Alan B. Lilley, Australian couple =
Mr. + Mrs. Robin C. Spight. Capt. was at table tonight. He
HAS A HOBBY OF BOTTLE THROWING - TO HELP OUT U.S. HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE MAP OUT OCEANIC CURRENTS. HAS HAD 17 RECOVERIES - UP TO 3400 MILES IN LAST 7 YEARS. INVITED ME TO COME TO BRIDGE ABOUT 2 P.M. TOMORROW. SAYS ALBATROSSES DO NOT REST ON SHIP. PETRELS COME ABOARD OCCASIONALLY IN RAINY, FOGGY WEATHER - ATTRACTED BY LIGHTS. GULLS WILL REST ON CARGO BOOMS WHEN STORM COMING (WHEN SHIP NEAR COAST). NO OTHER BIRD WATCHERS ON BOARD. CAPT IS FOLLOWER OF T. ROOSEVELT.

DINNER: CONSOMME, RADISHES, CELERY, TURNKEY, CRAN- S., CAULI- FLOWER, SALAD, ICE CREAM, CAKE & MILK. THERE ARE NO HUNGRY PEOPLE ON BOARD THIS SHIP. FOOD IS PLAIN, BUT WELL COOKED & IN GREAT PLENTY. FISH IS EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD.

TURNED IN IMMIGRATION PAPERS TODAY AT PURSERS OFFICE. 5 FORMS INCLUDING DECLARATION.

MR. WILMOT TELLS ME THAT HE IS BUNKING IN DORMITORY CONTAINING 80 PEOPLE. GEOFF AND I ARE LUCKY. FRIEZE STILL SICK; I HAD DOCTOR COME TO CABIN TODAY TO SEE HIM. HAS A FORM OF INTESTINAL FLU. CONTAGIOUS?

OCEAN LIKE A MILL POND TONIGHT. SHOWERED & DRESSED FOR DINNER TONIGHT. CAPT. PROMISES US HOT WEATHER SOON. WE ARE ABOUT MID-WAY FROM CALIF. TO HAWAII. GEOFF WON OUR INDIVIDUAL MILEAGE POOL TODAY - 405 (WAS 409) - ISLAND 423.

SEVERAL WAR BRIDGES WITH BABIES RETURNING HOME MINUS HUSBANDS (SO MRS. ROBIN TELLS ME). OTHER COUPLE AT OUR TABLE HAS MARRIED CHILD IN SAN DIEGO - VERY HAPPY. BELIEVES MOST WAR MARRIAGES (AUST. + AMER.) WILL WORK OUT WELL.

NO DECK SPORTS TO SPEAK OF EXCEPT BEANBAGS & A DISC IN SLOT GAME. TRYING TO KEEP PASSENGERS HAPPY WITH BINGO, DANCE, & MOVIE TONIGHT. CROWD IS QUITE WELL BEHAVED. HOWEVER, WRITING ROOM IS ONLY QUIET PLACE AT NIGHT INSIDE SHIP.

"MORNING NEWSPAPER" TODAY - BOTH SIDES 1 SHEET PAPER.

WHERE ARE THOSE ALBATROSSES TONIGHT?

WONDER IF "DORY" STILL HAS ENGLISH SETTER - HOPE NO ONE CLAIMS HIM. HE NEEDS A DOG TO LAVISH HIS NATURAL TOYISH AFFECTION ON.
Mon. Feb. 2, 1948

On Board S/S Marine Phoenix

Dist. 383 mi.  
Day 24 Hrs. 30 min.  
Ave. Sp. 15.64 knots  
To S.F. 1081  To Samoa 3059

LAT. 25° 13' N  
LONG. 137° 53' W  
Course 223° 42'

4 1/2° of Southing - 5° of Westing

Overcast most of day - light rain squalls - sea freshening

On deck about 8:15. 1 Albatross (D.M.). But the excitement of the A.M. was the sighting of 6 Tropic-Birds. They are, I believe, Phaethon a. arthureus (Red-billed T.B.) rather than P. lepturus. The bill was surely red, but fine barring of upper parts with black was beyond resolving power of glass. P.M. Bred on islands off W. coast of Mexico & Galápagos. Flight, of course, very characteristic. Reminds one of pigeons at distance - chalky white - strong flight. Very often climbed into stall - flap vigorously, then short glide & resumption of steady flap. 3 new (?) individuals showed up later in P.M. Single Albatross until early P.M. may not have been same individual. First Petrel at 11:30 A.M.; another at 3:30 P.M. - Dark dorsal & ventral - white rump, lighter 2° coverts, tail nearly square or with slight fork, flight very swallow-like; wind force 5, no foot paddling.

One of Storm-Petrels - fits description of Oceanodroma castro crypto - leucura (Madeiran S.P.) - breeds in Hawaiian Is.

At 12:00 P.M. Geoff and I made use of Capt.'s invitation to bridge. The 3rd officer was on watch - Herman Goedel. Young, well read, self educated to a degree, knows ships, interested in electrical engr. As applied to ships - Radar, Loran, Fire Detection apparatus. Showed us everything on bridge & explained well. Sent detailed Weather Report to San Fr. at 6 Bells (5:00 P.M.) - Tells me Capt. Johansen has wonderful reputation with Weather Bureau & Hydrographic Office. Sends full, accurate, on-time (every 6 hrs.) reports. Capt. throws bottles over to night 10:00 P.M. Has crew collect bottles - asks where from - invariable reply "From Passengers' Quarters"! 3rd gave me run of Forward Gun Platforms for bird observation - said the Murphys also used. He served with Bob Allen in Army Mine Layers during war (for 1 year) - Bob interested him in birds to some extent. Lent me 2 books (must buy) "The Raft Book" - Harold Gatty - on practical Primitive Navigation - some exciting new information also something by Murphy on birds, drawings - Jacques, Fish, Nichols; "Pacific Ocean Handbook" - E.G. Mears - compendium type - all info.
H.G. has invited me to use cabin at any time. Our Merchant Marine is in good hands with his type. Favorite ship was the Pres. Coolidge — struck mines & sunk. Showed me many pictures of beached or grounded vessels. Tells me 2nd mate is an expert model maker — knows boat types very well — collection of pictures. Told of vessel of this type carrying 3400 troops, sleeping tiers & bunks high — stand in line 3 hours for meal. + Speight Wilmot, Lilly, Gaffney + I have had interesting talks. We discuss everything from M. Proust, 18th century French art collections, + communism to the Negro question, growing colored cotton in Australia, + the new capital city of Aus — Canberra, also atom smashing. Amer. vs. Aus. Politicians, hospital construction, correlation of new medical information, bird watching. It is fun to match one's ideas with the English and Australians. We have shaken down into a good crowd.

Today's paper had a note about Reynolds — Ball Point Pen millionaire — sending expedition to Western China. An interesting trip — Field Museum?

Temp. 80° in dining room tonight. Meals continue excellent. Pan cakes for breakfast, chicken pot pie for lunch, consomme Royal, Va. Ham, corn fritters, asparagus tip salad, choc. ice cream + cake + grapes for dinner. Speight explained good tea making to me today. Said Amer. never used enough tea (1 level tsp. per cup + 1 for pot). Aust. never used enough coffee. Mrs. Speight is taking home 2 Presto pressure cookers.

Blue ness of water partly due to high salinity. Blue even with completely overcast sky. Approaching Hawaii, but will leave well to West. Christmas Island may be our first land.

Should see more birds tomorrow.

Geoff and I sleep like 1 yr. olds. To bed about 11: + up at 7:30 — 8: This is a noisy ship — no wooden decks — no carpets, few curtains.

Hope Jack still has "his" dog!
TUES. FEB. 3, 1948

DIST. 387 (V.D. GUESS 391 - 5.T. HOP)  ON BOARD 3/F MARINE PHOENIX
LAT. 20° 25' N
LONG. 142° 32' W

1448 TO S.F. 2672 TO SAMOA

COURSE 221° 55'

3 A.M. ABOUT MOST OF DAY; AT 5:30 THERE WERE 11 ASTERN.
1 HUNG ON UNTIL ABOUT 6:30 - ALMOST DARK. AT LEAST 6 WERE
PRESENT AT 5: ACCORDING TO WILMOT. ANOTHER NEW SPECIES TODAY,
BUT I WILL PROBABLY NEVER KNOW JUST WHICH SPECIES. A SMALL
SHEARWATER WELL OFF PORT BOW - FLYING AWAY FROM SHIP - MAY HAVE
HAD LIGHT UNDERPARTS. ANOTHER SHEARWATER AT 5:15 - IT DEFINITELY
AND LFT. VENTRAL SURFACE - WELL ASTERN. THE FREQUENT GARBAGE
DISPOSALS MAKE COUNTING ALBATROSSES DIFFICULT. THERE IS A CON-
TINUOUS SHIFTING OF INDIVIDUALS FROM FAR ASTERN TO IMMEDIATE WARE
SEA VERY CALM. IN AM. AS MANY AS 6 RAIN SQUARES ON HORIZON AT
SAME TIME. WE FINALLY PRODGED THRU A LIGHT ONE. JUST PREVIOUS AT
11:40 M. TO SAW FIRST FLYING FISH BREAK SURFACE - 5 OR 6. ANOTHER A
DOZEN THROUGHOUT DAY. WONDER WHICH OF 20-30 SP. ? CHASED BY EITHER
OCEAN BONITO OR DOLPHINS OR ?. TRAVELED SAME DIRECTION AS SHIP.

SPENT MOST OF A.M. WITH GEOFF ON FORWARD GUN TURRETS. WE
BOTH PICKED UP A SLIGHT CASE OF SUNBURN (FACE & ARMS) - HAD WHITE
LIPSTICK ON FACE. MANY PEOPLE WITH GOOD BURNS.

GEOFF IS TYPING AWAY ON HIS PORTABLE - SOUNDS LIKE HOME.

VISITED BRIDGE ABOUT 3:30 P.M. H. GEBEL (3RD OFFICER) ON WATCH.
BORROWED U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE - WEATHER BUREAU - RECORD OF SHIPS
WEATHER OBSERVATIONS. FOAM WITH ALL ENTRIES FOR THIR - 4 ENTRIES
DAILY. E.G. WATER TEMP. HAD INCR. FROM 54° ON JAN. 20 (10 A.M.) TO 73°
AT 2:30 P.M. TODAY. MUCH INTERESTING DATA. WENT DOWN TO H.G.'S
ROOM TO ABSTRACT. NOT FINISHED AT 8 BILLS. H. G. HELPED FINISH CAPT.
STRIPPED TO WAIST - HIS FINE TATTOOED SHIP ON CHEST - DROPPED IN TO
CHAT. LONG SPEAK ABOUT OVERBEARING PASSENGERS, COMMUNISM. THE
VERY GENUINE HOSPITALITY AND LACK OF STIFF SANKED OFFICER DIS-
CIPLINE MAKE THIS A DELIGHTFUL SHIP. COULD NEVER IMAGINE SUCH
A SCENE UNDER ANY OTHER FLAG - 3RD STRETCHED ON DECK, CAPT.
STRAPPED + SMOKING CIGAR. PASSENGER COPYING WEATHER LOG - ALL
RELAXED + CHATTING ON EQUAL TERMS. AND YET UNDER IT ALL THERE
IS ABSOLUTE RESPECT - THE HARD CORE OF SHIP DISCIPLINE. IT'S
A WONDERFUL COMBINATION AND ALMOST PECULIARLY AMERICAN CAPT.
TELLING US HE HAD TO DISCIPLINE 2 CREW MEN - LIKES BEST TO
"TOUCH THEM IN THEIR POCKET BOOKS". NO C.I.O. THREATS. NOTHING CAPT.
Outside 3 mile limit. He is boss and men respect that knowledge. Recommends that we send air mail from Suva in Fiji rather thanPago Pago - no regular service for latter.

Steak (Austr.) dinner tonight - very good. Calv's liver slices for breakfast. Pineapple + cottage cheese - cold tongue salad for lunch. Temp. in dining room 84°F tonight.

Bird watching cuts down reading time. Read "Raft Mrs. Stanbery" from Today. Met Swiss girl - mother of 5 yr. old daughter, is returning to Austr. after 1 yr. at home in Zurich. Heard her talking Swiss to daughter. Has lived in Austr. 8 yrs. Return is like going into exile. Does not like country or people - lack of culture. Husband a European doctor in Sydney; parents + family killed in war - will not return. Mr. Wilmot says he can understand attitude of girl because for the sophisticated, Austr. is not sadly lacking in cultural urge and appreciation. However, he has high hopes for future + England thru its consular representative for culture will attempt to do its part. Austr. grow quantities of grapes - make some excellent wines (particularly white), also some good sherry, also good Queensland rum. Little exported, but seldom see Australians drinking wine. Irish Catholic + Scotch Presby. influence very strong in Australia. Australians in general reflect hard-working, lower + middle class, near-drinking, little appreciation of the arts, industrial city types which so common in England. Believes education + example will work wonders.

Tomorrow - about 3:30 P.M. - we pass Hawaii 500 miles off to SSE. Increase in bird life as reflection of comparative closeness? Capt. warns me I'll have a busy day when we past Christmas Is.

One of our cabin mates, Rev. Weem, has spent some time in Palestine. More later about him.

Time back ½ hr. tonight.
Wed. Feb. 4, 1948

On board S/S Marine Phoenix
Lat. 15° 20' N
Long. 147° 04' W
Course 220 - 30

Dist. 401
1400 - Day 24 - 30
Av. Speed 16.37
1869 to S. Fr. 2271 to Samoa

I saw only 1 bird today - came in well astern (from W.) turned + disappeared to N.W. - large, sailed + flapped (sea calm + not much wind) - white underparts, head (with some black - distribution?) + neck white, rump?, upperparts largely dark. It may be Laysan Albatross (Diomedea immutabilis), but would not rule out one of larger shearwaters. Late in day 5:15 P.M., dist. too great for accurate data. However, we may see others tomorrow - and settle point. (Head + neck gave stocky appearance). No D.N. showed up all day.

We came our closest to island of Hawaii about 3:30 P.M. - 500 m. off.

Flying fish were in sight most of day - many small, some large. Flights of 40 - 50, usually 1 - 2 - 5 - 6. When tail touches H2o vibrates very rapidly, giving extra boost for longer sail. Lower part tail much elongated.

Stay in P.M. filled with puff cumulus, strato-cumulus, cirrus + cirro-cumulus. Gov. has excellent bulletin on "cloud form". Copy on bridge. Filled in weather + misc. data chart from bridge reports. Capt. came on bridge to check report on meeting with S/S Rodman (Matson - on lease U.S. Maritime) - it is eastbound - stowaway on board. Capt. would like to take off but Rodman Capt. objects - why? Meet about 3:14 A.M. H. Goebel (3rd mate) will have radar in operation. It is an event in this empty ocean!

Question came up today about dist. of horizon from bridge of ship (45'). Flying Pan Am Clipper worked out formula as follows:
Range vision = \sqrt{alt. \times 1.225 \text{ miles}}
Bridge vis. about 8.5 mi.

Capt. also said cannot see pole star from equator. 3rd mate said he would like to teach me simple navigation - at least, dead reckoning. Read "Pacific Ocean Handbook" + "Raf Fock" today.

Became acquainted with Rev. George Wheen (Sydney) who has wife + two children (Helen & David) on board. Has finished studying for doctorate at Union Theological Sem. - 2 years. Has great respect for Dr. Van Deusen. He is English - in Parsity, mission to Australia to organize training of youth leaders. He is fine, open-minded liberal. Without usual corn of stubborn fanaticism. Impressed also by teaching possibilities of audio-visual
PROGRAM AT A.M.N.H. HAS PROCEEDED IN MONTCLAIR.

Mr. Lilley was taking pictures of our first flaming
sunset. Will have better ones later on. Mr. Wilmot has
been moved to Capt.'s table. Could not take movie more
than 15 mins. Joined Wilmot & Speight & Geoff for good
round of talk before coming to writing room. Discussion
covered possibility of Japs still remaining on Pacific Islands.

W. told of one Aust. party recently—landed on Is. attacked
by 5 Japs with hand grenades. No damage. Wines of Europe &
Aust. compared. Making of fermented cider in various coun-
tries. But there is nothing like fresh-pressed American cider.
Thur., Feb. 5, 1948

On Board S/8 Marine Phoenix
LAT. 10° 26' N
LNG. 151° 12' W
197 days 24 HRS.
Speed 16.30
Dist. 384
2253 To S.F., 1887 Samoa
Course - Various

Steaming Time 23 hrs. 34 Min.
26 Min. Detention - Transfer of Stowaway

Met our first ship early this A.M. Picked up on Radar at distance of 20 miles. Our Capt. finally convinced Capt. of S/5 Rodman that much trouble in San Fran. would be averted if transfer were made at sea. Woke up early - noticed ship at rest. Not feeling well so did not go on deck. Transfer done very neatly according to Dr. Lilley.

Went to meals today but stayed on liquid diet. Possibly a slight attack of intestinal flu. Took nap in A.M. & P.M. Not much bird watching. Heard of only 2 birds being seen today. Mr. Speight spoke of seeing a shearwater type. Another man spoke of an "albatross" following ship for short time in A.M. Did not see any birds myself. Many flying fish.

Mr. Speight told of his father (a geologist in N.Z.) having received an emperor penguin skin from one of Shackleton expeditions. Had skin made into muff and gave to his wife. Many years later his father gave muff to Mrs. S. when they went to visit him. Coming apart badly so they consigned muff to the waters of the Tasman Sea.

Did not visit bridge today. Will catch up on my weather data tomorrow. Feel much better tonight.

Rev. Wheen showed me brochure which he had prepared describing the war memorial - Methodist Young People's Training Center to be built in Sydney. How much better to have a memorial of this type rather than statues or other useless ideas.

Met Canadian couple tonight - going to settle in N.Z. He is physicist. She is from Winnipeg.

Man came up to me today. Wanted to know if I were a zoologist. Posed question of chemical stimulation of rabbit ovary - development of egg without fertilization. I did not know to what stage rabbit embryo would develop under such circumstances. Do not think it reaches birth stage.
But may very well reach advanced stage of call division.

91° in dining room tonight. Lovely cool breeze on deck.
Fri.-Feb. 6, 1948

On Board S/S Marine Phoenix
LAT. 05° 05' N
LONG. 155° 21' W

To S. Fran. To Samoan Course

My first introduction to a sooty tern at close quarters came at 11:15 P.M. (5) Tern crashed to deck just in front of the chair in which I was sitting (starboard boat deck). Tropic birds surrounded the ship, giving their rasping cries. I was very surprised to find a tern. Took it to writing room to measure and take notes (fortunately no one there except Geoff-who was completely uninterested in the whole affair). The steward wouldn't have liked the bird, either! Took tern to side and threw in long arc away from ship—did not open wings and fell into water. I am sure bird was uninjured. Had been flying in dark and fishing (have several food remnants from bill—in alcohol). Of course, I suppose I should have kept until daylight. Saw my first terns about 2:15 P.M. (5) flying in to ship off starboard bow—probably soottys. Saw (6) at 2:10 (may have been same). Also (1) later in day.

I was invited to bridge about 12:30 A.M. by H. Goedel (3rd mate) talked until 1:30. While there saw my first night-flying tropic birds (1) over ship. Did ship scare them off water? Saw the southern cross again—first time since Colombia. Rose about 10:30 A.M. (7) more tropic birds flew over (prob. red-ti.) At 12 P.M. 3 Red-T. T. B's and another group of 4 later plus I still later.

2 Boobies at noon—not sure or Sp. (possibly red-footed)—not a good observation. 2 P.M., 3 more—long range. 4 late in P.M. (5). 5:45—these blue-faced (S. diethylatra)—one mainly brown above, white beneath, 2 brown chevrons extending from shoulders (1 to a side) onto upper breast.

"Shearwater" type birds: (1) at 2:15 P.M., (2) at 5:45—6:15 P.M. latter came fairly close to ship but right now poor. Looked completely dark above & below—no white on rump—may have been some indistinct white under wings—suggestion only.

Prize bird of day (1) Frigate bird at 10:15 A.M.-flew length of ship—slow graceful flaps—disappeared astern. It's 2:45 P.M. — I'm off to sleep with my squid. More tomorrow.
The watchman now helping me! Fell in with spirit of occasion 
and excitedly reported to me that large bird had landed on 
deck. It was a gannet. Description below. I was very careful 
with bill—easy to grab by neck—then work up to head. Squid 
it disgorged about 4" long—not directed. When thrown 
from ship, took flight readily, but attracted by lights & 
flew back across stern house—could easily have filled 
self striking radio or guy wires.

There was continual squawking about ship from soon 
after night-fall—mostly tropic-birds. For once practically 
all passengers knew there were birds in the Pacific!

If only “Stan” Grierson & “Russ” Peterson could have 
been with me on this trip! What a field day (+ nights) we 
could have! If I never arrange another trip all my life, I 
am going to have them in the field with me someday. I 
think we could really clean up as observers + collectors. 
This is not a commentary on present trip—no implied criticism. 
However, I can think of no two fellows who come closer to my 
field entusiasms + in a more congenial manner.

This journey across 1000s of miles of open water is really 
an amazing experience! I believe I could have taken “a couple 
of years on a survey ship or whaler as assistant navigator”! 
Possible to act as observer on “Mother ship” whaler—an idea 
for the future.

Description: Gannet—immature. No doubt (S. Piscatarix) R.F. B.

Bill—pinkish (pale) — tips brownish
Eye skin—bluish
Forehead—brownish
Stippled
Head-neck—nape—underparts—white
Tail—wings—brown (Dorsal & Ventral)
Feet—wedged (4 toes) pinkish (good)
Back—brown

Disgorge small squid—about 6-8.

Landed on ship deck aft, watchman called me 2:15 A.M. 
(Tue, 7)

Throat—pale lav. gray

Passed 10-15 miles N + W of Christmas Is. A poor radar target—too 
low. About 1:30 A.M. (Wed, 7). A shame we didn’t pass in daylight! Still 
current sets to N. of Is.
SAT.-FEB. 7, 1948

AVER. SPEED - 16.71 KNOTS
DIST. 401 M.
DAY 24 HRS. [Noon Deck Report] LONG. 159° 27' W
3060 TO SAN FRAN.; 1080 TO SAMOA
CROSSED EQUATOR AT 11:15 A.M. (LONG. 159° 21' W)
PASSED TARVIS ISLAND ABOUT 2:30 P.M. (STANDARD - 10:15 ML)

UP AT 7: A.M. CALM SEA, AS USUAL. BETWEEN 7:30 Y 8: A.M.
ABOUT 15 GANNET - WELL OFF - LOW OVER WATER. 2 GANNET IN
CLOSER 10° 20' DARK. AT 8:30 A.M., 25 + TERN (PROB. SOOTY)
FISHING, WELL OFF.

FROM 10: 1 TO NOON SPENT IN LOOKING AT MRS. STANBURY'S ALBUM
OF SWISS PICTURES - ON FORWARD HATCH IN SUN. DR. LILLEY JOINED
US LATER; INVITED ME TO SEE HIS PICTURES. ONE LONG BLAST ON
WHISTLE WHEN EQUATOR CROSSED - IN SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE FOR
FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE! CLOSE IN COLONIA, BUT NEVER SERIOUSLY
THREATENED BEFORE. ANOTHER 20 TERN SEEN GOING PAST.

BIRD NUMBERS MEAN LITTLE TODAY - WE ARE NOT TOO FAR FROM
CHRISTMAS IS. & TARVIS IS AHEAD - OTHER SMALL ISLANDS TO
NORTH & N.E. MIDDLE OF DAY AND THE FLIGHTS ARE IN EVERY DIRECTION. A FEW FLYING FISH THIS A.M.

AT 12:15, 3 RED-T. TOP-DRIBS OVER SHIP

AT 12.30, 50 + SOOTY TERN

AT 12:45 P.M., 3 GANNET (10° 20' DARK)
1 ALL-BROWN GANNET

AT 1: P.M., 1 FRIGATE BIRDS (SPREAD TAIL IN BANKS)
1 PETREL - WITH WHITE RUMP (SHAPE TAIL & WHITE
PATCH?) - FAIRLY SMALL.

TO BRIDGE FOR METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS. COPIED MORE WEATHER
CODE DATA. CAPT. DROPPED INTO 3RD'S CABIN & CHATTED FOR A FEW
MINUTES - BROUGHT ME BOOK TO READ "WEATHER AROUND THE WORLD".
AT 3: P.M. 5 TERN (NNE). ANOTHER GANNET (10° 20' DARK). GOEBEL
OFF WATCH - TALKED A BIT (ABOUT STATE OF WORLD - CIVIL. WORLD
SHOULD TAKE STACK OF SELF AND STOP LIVING SELFISHLY & FURIOUSLY
IN THE PRESENT). LIKE H.G. VERY MUCH IT KNOWS WAY AROUND AND
VERY SOUND.

Saw Dr. Lilley's Pictures - BLOWS UP 2 1/2 SQ. BLACK + WHITES
THEN PAINTS USING TRANSPARENT OILS. SOME VERY BEAUTIFUL PAINTS.
SCENERY - BOTH COUNTRYSIDE & HUMAN (IN BATHING SUITS) - VERY
LOVELY. COLORS TRUE BUT OF COURSE PAINTING IS NOT QUITE
PROF. EYEN THO HE HAS DONE ABOUT 1000 PRINTS. DOES FOR COMPLETE
RELAXATION AFTER DUTY. NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY HE TOOK SUN-
SET IN BLACK & WHITE. N.S. WALES HAS SOME BEAUTY SPOTS
IN ITS HILLS AND RIVERS.

5:15 P.M. MRS. SPIGHT & I ON DECK — 5 TERN S(SWF) NNE

5:45 — 3 TERN, 3 FRIGATE BIRDS TOGETHER (NNE)

6:10 — 10 TERN (NNE)

6:15 — 1 GANNET: HEAD & UPPER NAPE BROWN, FACE
SKIN BLUSH — BILL LIGHT, PART OR BACK
BETWEEN WINGS WITH WEDGE SHAPE WHITE,
NECK & UNDERPTS. WHITE, WINGS COMPLETELY
DARK, EXCEPT SOME OF VENTRAL COVERS;
FEET "DARK", SOME VENT. WHITE STREAMING
ON HEAD BEHIND EYES

6:30 — 5 TERN

6:45 — 1 GANNET: HEAD, NECK, UNDERPTS. WHITE, BROWN
CHEVRONS CUTTING INTO WH. UNDERPTS.; WINGS
DARK (Dor. + Vent.), FACE BLUSH
— FLEW AROUND SHIP SEVERAL TIMES AT CLOSE
RANGE

ALL TROPIC BIRDS HAVE THEIR RED TAIL FEATHERS INTACT.

Saw T.B. STEER WITH FOOT

H.G. HAS BOOK "STORM" FOR ME TO READ — ALSO GLENCANNON STORIES.

GEOFF IN BRIDGE TOURNAMENT TODAY — SURVIVED FOR NEXT ROUND.

MR. LILLEY HAS MET NURSE KENNEY — (QUEENSLAND BUSH) — SHE
DOES THE TALKING — TERMINATES INTERVIEWS ABRUPTLY — IS EVIDENTLY
PERSONA NON GRATA IN AUSTRALIA NOW. MAKES GREAT SECRET OUT
OF METHOD. NOT A MICROSCOPIST — DRS. CAN DEMONSTRATE LESIONS
BUT SHE IS SCEPTIC. DRS. CANNOT STUDY CASES IN DETAIL; THEREFORE,
HER WORK CANNOT BE PROPERLY EVALUATED. POLIO CLINIC IN SYDNEY
OF LAST 1000 CASES (E.G.) ONLY TO CHOOSE KENNEY TREATMENT —
FREE CHOICE

FILET OF SOLE, YA. HAM — ORANGE SORBET, GREEN BEANS, ICED TEA

ICE CREAM FOR DINNER — 92° IN DINING ROOM TODAY

NO MORE MOTION ON SHIP THAN FERRY TO N.Y.C.

MET MEMBER OF CREW TODAY Mr. PARKS, BERKELEY, CALIF. WHOSE
BIRDY IS AVIARY — BRINGS BIRDS BACK FROM ALL OCEAN TRIPS (OFTEN ILLEGALLY) ONCE
FED GROUP OF MYNAS ALL ACROSS PACIFIC WHEN SHIP WENT UNDER G. GATE BRIDGE
ALL FLEW UP TO IT. BIRDS IN FURI WELL PROTECTED!

On Board S/S Marine Phoenix

Lat. 5° 33' S
Long. 163° 28' W

Course 216.42

Day 14 hr. 30 min.
Dist. 405
Av. Speed 16.54
3465 to S.F.; 675 to Samoa.

On deck about 6:00 A.M. - Sea very calm - flying fish. 2 terns seen at 6:15 (Far off). A few people on deck, including Nuns - one of whom was enjoying her chewing gum just like a good subway rider. The day ends with a tern, too! Had just come on deck tonight after dinner when one of the girls came to tell me she had just caught a bird that had flown against rigging - it is a sooty T. She volunteered to give me a rayon stocking (with a hole in it), so that I could tuck bird inside for the night. The falconers on Assateague Island showed me that trick. Decided not to chance another tern landing in the drink - nothing broken - hope no internal bleeding - will throw off in day light - should take wing then. Girls insist on seeing the show - 8:30 A.M. - Port Boat Deck.

At 8:00 A.M. - well off - (1) Apparently all-white tern - too far for any further notes. At 12:30 P.M. another - same cond. also at same time 3 frigate birds, together, low over water - far out.

Spent part of A.M. & most of P.M. copying weather code and with H.G. (3rd Mate) bombing-up on Compass points, corrections from Compass courses to True courses, terminology, ship tonnages defined, Middle Latitude & Bowditch Tables.

1. When correcting from a Compass course to a true course apply E'ly compass error & W'ly compass error clockwise.

2. (Compass Best - Error West)
(Compass Least - Error East)

Rain squalls about 5:00 P.M. - Cleared air considerably. Dr. Lilley & I stood at rail watching for petrels: at 5:15, 3 - wholly dark except for small white markings on upper surface of wing, about 1/2 way out, moderately long tail, could not see tail shape - all in N.N.E. direction (Actual?)

At 5:20, 1 petrel entirely black except breast & underparts, (unpert tail cov.?) white scattered on under wing coverts. Length - about 12 1/2", moderately long tail - seemed square cut.
At 5:30 p.m. - 1st Tern flying about ship. Tonight at 8:45 S.T. came aboard & at least 2 (R.-L.) tropic birds over ship.

Yesterday (while at breakfast) - a group of porpoises was seen from ship - 9:30 a.m. Today more near ship - about 200 one man estimated. While at lunch - a sperm whale seen not too far off!

Have started reading "Storm" - a novel whose central figure is "Maria"; a storm. Meteorological data & talk of ships' reports all very interesting. Also reading "weather around the world" - rainfall in Cape York region 80" per year - general average.

"Geoff" gave a birthday party for a 21 yr.-old Australian blonde - out of West Aust. Returning on account of health - husband studying (Amer. x G.I.), will go to Aust. later. G.T., Mr. Wilmot, Mrs. Garner - we learned that this is also her first wedding anniversary - a Mrs. Fitzer (from N.Z.) and I. In lounge, 254 presents, plenty of ice, Coca-Cola (for me) & olives & cheese. Believe she greatly appreciated the attention. Wilmot a lot of fun.

Took 2 whiskey bottles to Capt. For his drift experiments. Says sturdy, square, clear bottles best but hard to find.

No motion tonight. 44° in dining room this noon. Standing heat well. Took shirt off for a few minutes at noon today - taking sun easily.

"Geoff" did not survive bridge semi-finals. Partner solely at fault - would not bid his hands.

I believe I am the busiest & happiest passenger on board ship - birds, books, navigation, good friends. How Katherine would enjoy this life. Sun too hot & sea too calm on this run to suit mother.

Laundry collected today. Delivered before we reach Sydney.

And so to bed - hope Tern survives.

Went on deck & they had another Tern for me.
Mon. Feb. 9, 1948

Dist. 385
Day 24 Hrs. 00 [Deck Noon Report]
Av. Sp. 16.05
38°0 To San Fran.; 29°3 To Samoa

On Board S/5 Marine Phoenix
Lat. 10°38'S
Long. 167°24 W
Course 317.38

Rain squalls around ship all P.M.

The day ended as it started—with V.D. throwing birds off the ship! This morning at 8:30 we took the 2 Scotty terns out of their silk stocking sleeping bags, & I threw the vigorous one over first—his wings took hold & he flew away steadily; the quiet one held his own momentarily but then vol planed gently to sea—wings spread on water. Probably no hope for latter.

An internal injury? Tonight they came for me in the writing room. Another petrel of same species that H. Goebel—the 3rd mate—caught on deck last night, I caught the one tonight without his lacerating me with his powerful hooked beak. Mr. Lilley helped hold while I satisfied myself that it differed in no manner from the 3rd's. Description follows:

2 separate nostril openings on small central raised structure

4 toes — 2-3-4 webbed, no. 1 vestigial

Outer edge of toes—brownish—also along bones (dorsal + ventral)

Lavender

Leg color—outside, pinkish brown; inside, pale pink.

(dorsal + ventral)

Webs of toes—pale pink with obvious blood vessels

First 1° longest — 1st outer vane black; inner, blackish-bruckish

Under—pts. brownish-black; also under tail coverts.

Upper tail coverts; upper parts same but blacker

Top head—slaty-black; throat, slate gray (also sides of head)

Culmen 1 7/16; tarsus (rough meas.) 1 3/16

Tail 4 3/4 — 2 central feathers black, also longest

Total length — 16" (on slightly longer)

Wing — 11 1/4"

1° shafts (dorsal) dirty pink; bases white (ventral) black

2° shafts—white—see drawing for head

Lat. — H. Goebel's petrel

H. V.D.'s (0:70 P.M.)

Mr. Spright saw 3 petrels "all dark" this a.m. (same as above?)

I saw one Tropic Bird—about noon. — White tail feathers—seemed to have dark band on wings (shadow or under surface?)—well off.

Had night sinks headache today—took it easy. Read & slept in deck chair and in bun "feel fine tonight."
It was Mr. Wilmot's birthday today. We had a cake with 1 candle at dinner tonight. Lots of ice cream.

Played a couple of games with Mr. Speight in P.M. Deck quilts.

Read "Storm in Smoking Room" while horse races were on - only played one race.

We dock at Pago Pago tomorrow at 8:1 A.M. Natives call town "Pango Pango".

Rain tonight - cool breeze - calm sea. 94° in dining room.

Mr. Lilly took picture of bird being thrown off. I also took some Kodachromes.

Almost 8 bells
Tues. Feb. 10, 1948
On Board S/S Marine Phoenix

Ship docked 8: A.M. at Pago Pago, American Samoa
Ship sailed 2: P.M. for Suva, Fiji Islands.

Early A.M. - Gray waters - and thru the port hole I had
my first glimpse of that lovely island - Tutuila - of
strange greens, such as I had never seen before - great
thru the artist eyes of Jacques, mantling geologically
youthful hanging hills. Sun was tinting the eastern
Sky when I came on deck and soon we were in the
Passage between a small rounded island to the South, +
the turretted island, in a sheltered harbor of which
lies Pago Pago. The light was better now and the
unreal greens, contrasted with the gray, wrapped
ramparts of volcanic headlands. Terns + petrels were
around the ship, and the white fairy terns and tropic
birds wheeled against the hanging trees of the great
table-topped mass of vegetation encrusted cinder
block that dominates the Eastern side of the island.
The harbor entrance shows and our ship swings grace-
fully to Starboard, dwarfed by the sky-towering
ridges & peaks to the West. The swell is everywhere
bursting into surf against the black volcanic ex-
posures of shore line. Coconut trees rise from the
beach front and the high-domed oval native houses
nestle among them. Then the illusion of unspoiled
Samoa is shattered as the inner harbor opens. Low-lying
sheds with corrugated metal roofs, a destroyer at her
dock, ugly radio towers, the left over metal debris
of war's preparation. But dominating all are the
steep-sided green hills. The ship is warped into her dock,
a Navy Band, composed of native Samoans dressed in white
shelved costumes, bursts into a march medley that seems
strangely unsuited to the occasion. But the gesture is
friendly and the dock is crowded with shirted men +
Boys, and sturdy women, recently clothed in hideous
long-shelved shirt waists, who are just as curious about
us as we are of them. The gangway is down and the torrent
of curious-seekers is unleashed.
ASHORE AT 8:30. STARTED OUT ALONG THE WEST SHORE ROAD. THE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE STANDS ON A LITTLE RIDGE OVERLOOKING THE TOWN. A LITTLE NATIVE HOUSE WITH METAL ROOF ON A STILL HIGHER RIDGE - THE SLEEPING MATS HUNG IN THE MORNING SUN, A BUNCH OF BANANAS HANGING AT THE CORNER OF THE POTBELLY, AND THE LADIES OF THE HOUSE, BARE TO THE WAIST, COMFORTABLY SEATED, LOOING DOWN AT THE MORNING'S EXCITEMENT. STEEP HILLSIDES COVERED WITH THE ALL ENVELOPING TANGLE OF TREES, WINES, MOTES, FERNS, GRASSES - A TANGLE FIT ONLY FOR A BOTANIST AND LIZARDS AND BIRDS. THE LAND BIRDS WERE EXPERTS AT KEEPING OUT OF SIGHT: A FEW GLIMPSES OF A GERRY-WHITE (?) BIRD - CAT-BIRD-LIKE; A ROBIN-SIZED BLACK BIRD - WAS IT THE ONE MAKING THE WHISTLED NOTES?; A GREENISH BIRD - FLICKER-LIKE. SHORE BIRDS SEEM TO BE ALL OF ONE SPECIES - DRAB BROWNISH - GRAY ABOVE, LIGHTER BELOW, WITH YELLOWISH LEGS. ABOUT A MILE OUT OF TOWN PASSED AN OPEN-SIDED SAMOAN SCHOOL - CHILDREN SEATED ON FLOOR READING THEIR LESSONS IN UNISON. A LITTLE FURTHER ON A YOUNG GIRL CAME TOWARDS ROAD CALLING, "YOU WANT PICTURE?" HER HANDS WERE AT SHOULDERS OF HER BLUSE, AND THE OBVIOUS INTENTION WAS TO LOWER HER COLORS IF I WANTED HER PICTURE AT A PRICE. NEXT A SMALL BROWN BOY, WITH RAGGED BLUE SHORTS AND A STRAW HAT, CARRYING A FISHING POLE AND A STRING OF FISH - HE CALLED THEM "PULO." HE WAS USING A VERY SMALL HOOK WITH A WHITE FEATHER ATTACHED TO IT STILL WHIPPING THE WATER CLOSE TO SHORE. THE FISH WERE 4-6 INCHES LONG, STEEL BLUE ABOVE, LIGHTER BELOW, WITH A SCIMITAR-SHAPED TAIL; LATERALLY COMPRRESSED. HE WALKED ALONG ON THE LAVA ROCKS WITH COMPLETE LACK OF CONCERN FOR THE SKIN OF HIS FEET. I COLLECTED SOME SAND SAMPLES FOR BILL DOWNIN - SAND IS CORAL. FINALLY REACHED OUTER HEADLANDS. THE SUN ON THE LINE OF SURF WAS BEAUTIFUL. CAME TO A JUTTING BLOCK THAT REACHED INTO INNER WAVE WASH, STRIPPED DOWN TO MY SHORTS AND THEN THELA MY FEET IN THE GENTLE SURF. I FINALLY SLIPPED DOWN INTO THE SHALLOW WATER AND LET THE WAVES ROLL OVER ME. ANOTHER MAN HAD WALKED OUT FROM TOWN. IT WAS HOLLERING IN THE WATER NEAR ME. WATER WARM - SURELY ABOUT 82°! SUN WAS HIGH AND HOT SO FINALLY SLIPPED INTO CLOTHES AND FLAPPED
[Feb. 10 - cont.]

A ride back to town in a jeep. There are a number of gun-burners—concrete and steel scattered along the coast. Fortunately, they were never used.

Passengers were pouring on and off ship like a string of leaf-carrying ants! Arms full of grass mats, grass skirts, fans bordered with feathers, baskets, hats decorated with tail plumes of tropic birds, wooden outrigger canoes, mangoes, pineapples, coconuts, wooden ceremonial swords, shell rings, necklaces, and wooden salad relish bowls.

One old man had a novel "sales" talk. Started by asking if I had wife, then pressed some table mats into my hand — "Present for wife," then said his wife sick in hospital, would I give her present of half dollar — in other words, an exchange of gifts! With his wife getting much the better bargain. But I would have none of his presents, in fact, all I bought on island was a root beer and a sundae. The outdoor market was very clean, and the various trade stores were very neat. When a rain squall blew up, the market ladies retired with their goods beneath the porches of nearby houses. There was a local dance hall, crowded with ship's crew and passengers drinking beer, was another focal point of attention. One native girl was doing some beautifully intricate posturing with her arms and hands — others were just sitting and gazing.

Walked up a little "street" leading to hill in back of town — many large family houses — some thatched, some tin roofed. One house had an overhead water spout emptying into an outdoor shower — 3 small boys under the stream having a wonderful time! The people are simple in their dignity and manner, they are well built, and graceful in carriage. Everyone was greatly impressed by them. The girls even play basketball. U. S. Navy money has probably spoiled some of them. Prices on imported goods are, of course, high. As we lined rails before sailing, the passengers started throwing coins for children to scramble for on the concrete dock. Some also diving from outriggers on other side ship. Most canoes very narrow — opening about a foot only. Do not grasp top of paddle as we do in canoeing.

Many birds for an hour after we sailed. Estimates:
(For the Day): Fairy Tern - 50
   Tern - all dark, with white cap - 5
   Petrel - medium size - 35 (all dark)
   Tropic Birds - white tails, dark stripe on wings, could
   not see bill color - 25
   Frigate Bird - 5

Picked up some sun burn today - not bad. Took nap
for 3 hrs. All together again at dinner. Another birth-
day at our table - cake.

Katherine would have loved the swimming; mother, the
shopping; and "Dory", the beachcombing on Samoa.

We cross the Date Line tonight - tomorrow will be
Thursday. I am anxious to see Suva, in Fiji - we arrive
on Friday.

In the tide pools there were minnows with brilliant blue
backs, sand colored fish with vertical black stripes. What
a field day we could have with an invertebrate lab here.
Wed. Feb. 11, 1948

WE DROP THIS DAY - I. DATE LINE - WESTWARD Bound

Thurs. Feb. 12, 1948

Dist. (by Observation) 369
Lat. Day 31 MRS. 57 MIN.
Av. Speed 16.81 Knots
369 to Pago Pago; 322 to Suva

On Board 9/1 MAINE PHOENIX
Lat. 16 07 5
Long. 176 45 W
Course - Various

Up at about 8 A.M. - Surprised to see an island off the starboard quarter - 4 miles off. Learned later that this is Niulafou - or "tin can island" - the northernmost island of the Tonga group. This bit of land is now uninhabited due to fear of volcanic action. It is covered with coconut palms, but one can see a small cone in the S.W. part. The 3rd Mate says that the lava field is gradually expanding. There is supposed to be a lake in the large central crater. Once belonged to Germany. Post master built up a lucrative stamp collector's trade. Ships sealed letters in can + tied to buoy off shore; native swam out + brought letters ashore; postmarked + returned same way. Business is supposed to have ended when the sharks caught on to the postman's route!

There were 200 - 300 (or more I am sure) between us and the shore line: sooty terns, many dark colored petrels (the tips of 1°5 + some 2°5 blackish - no visible white - the rest of plumage brownish in the sun light - rather lighter at base of 1°5 - wedge ? shaped tail), a few gannets (one with brown head & throat; white underpts - brownish upper parts). Continued seeing terns & petrels off island below horizon. Have seen no red-tailed tropic-birds for 2 days now.

For future reference: re. the International Date Line

1. At 0° (i.e. Greenwich) at the instant of noon - it is the same date all over the world (midnight at 180°).
2. However, as soon as the sun moves west of Long. 0° at Greenwich, England it is now after midnight at the 180° meridian - in other words, a new day has begun. This (e.g.) is Feb. 12; however, it is still Feb. 11 (in the P.M.) at Greenwich. Feb. 11 comes to an end at midnight.
Therefore, if one crosses the 180th Meridian (or the
adjusted Int. Date Line which does not always corre-
spond exactly to 180°), one must add one day to his
reckoning (if westbound).

The birds are still following me! At ten p.m.
while I was writing here, some boys brought me a bea-

tifully colored "land bird" — I call it this for lack of the
proper family even — weak billed, greenish wings, wine-red
crown & under tail coverts — will look it up in the lib-

The capt. was not at dinner tonight — probably
resting so that he can be on bridge early in a.m.

Had kidneys on toast for breakfast; avocado salad,
pork & ice cream for dinner.

Did some washing in afternoon. A quiet day.

Geoff has radioed ahead to friend of Wilmot's to
engage plane reservations (Sydney to Brisbane). We hear
that the Queensland railways are tied up with a strike.

We will probably have a letter from "Len" Brass in Sydney
with details on his plans & our schedule.

There was a baby born on board ship yesterday;
another was due today. We hear that Doctor receives a
$50. bonus for each one.

Will send these first 14 pages off from Suva
tomorrow in 3 letters. They are not to be sent to Miss
Neuhaus for copying. Have decided to send only those written
in the field.
My day started at 6:30 A.M. The island was in sight when I first looked out of the port hole. The line of gentle surf was breaking in regular cadence on the fringing coral reef. The clouds were gray over the mts. to the west of Suva Harbor. Suva, the town, was spread over a series of very low undulating hills to the north and east of the harbor. Here was none of the breath-taking beauty of the island of Tutuila, and the harbor of Pago Pago. The pilot boat met us inside the reef - why we needed a pilot for this harbor is beyond me, but I suppose it is custom. Two tramp freighters were tied up at dock, as well as half a dozen luggers - both sail & steam, no brass band today, but a crowd of fuzzy-headed fishermen, and straight-haired Indians were on hand to look us over. The spectacles of the crowd were the Finian police - great mops of hair, blue shirts with various chevrons, white shirts with pinked bottom hem, & white gloves for directing traffic.

I'dcked promptly at 8 A.M. I went ashore a few minutes later. A small U.S. naval cutter tied to dock. Our 3rd Mate tells me that ship was abandoned except for one man who stayed alive for 4 months until ship found & towed to port. Lived on rain-water & fish. Walked to outskirts of town, passing many lovely flowers. Hibiscus, of course, was very (will finish tomorrow - too sleepy tonight - 11:30 P.M.) common. Some gardens were filled with temperate zone flowers, others looked completely tropical. And the Indian mynah birds were everywhere! They take the place of the starling and Eng. sparrow at home, in numbers, in noise, in curiosity & in filling city & suburban niches that native birds may have once occupied. Long-legged (yellow), rounded-winged (with white patches) & with yellow bill - quite friendly, & to one who has never seen them before, attractive. Another common bird in town - with distinctive cooing - a mourning dove type - black patches low on neck - the patches white-spotted. The 3rd common bird - a kingbird type - white rump, carmine under tail coverts, crest, dark broadly & ventrally, flycatcher bill, chestnut cheek patches. When I reached out, sights of town, started seeing very small birds flying over - thin, high notes. 3 birds in row 2?19 - small, reddish all over - more so
on head, dark (olive) under tail coverts, white spots scattered over plumage, very heavy bill (red), short white line under eye (yellowish undertails, reddish rump, few scattered white spots.

Later - small bird, decurved bill, white undertails, red chin patch, yellow line (running onto bill?), active, hanging head down occ... another - small, seemed wholly dark except head end of body. As ship entered harbor 3 small swifts over head - appeared all dark. On leaving, a small white heron sitting in some wreck age on coral here. Mr. Speight reports small flight of "ducks" flying close to water. After well out of harbor a few med-sized (all dark?) petrels, also 1 brown dooby flew by. Can not remember any tropic birds, terns. Strange not to see any gulls in a harbor! All too short a time 2 3/4 hrs. to study birds.

Native women carrying fresh caught fish, 4 a type of dark red (still alive) lobster, roots. Boys eating sugar cane - some houses had rows of cane as here. Wish len brass were here to identify. Turbaned Indians cutting grass on tennis courts & gardening about homes. New houses with many corner windows - built on stilts - cars run in on concrete strips under houses - no garage doors - window blinds hinged at top & held open by sticks - cloth curtains suspended over lower 1/2 of windows. Many small tailor shops, each with sewing machine (run by Indians). Other shops (grocery) in suburbs run by Chinese. Fijians supposed to use very shiftless compared to Indians. Their simple wants prob. requiring little money compared to whites + Indians. The flowing clothes of Indians are very graceful. Saw one woman with pearl stud in nose - a religious sign? Many cattle (with mynahs in attendance) + goat herds in out skirts. Very few dogs, long cane brooms. Roads cut thru what appeared to be stratified clay banks - small crumbling sections.

George + Mr. Wilmot went off together - breakfast at home of minister of education - governor of island, too. His idea of a wonderful time. He bought whiskey + mailed letters.

Business section of town dominated by several large department stores - burns philp is largest. Tried to buy ginger beer - had none. Stores are dark - you strain eyes to see goods on shelves. Little cares all over store - for account clerks. Some fine china + piece goods. Clerks - white - Indian - Chinese. The little stores are filled with curios - much filigree silver. Resisted all temptation again - didn't by a thing!
Feb. 13 (cont.)

Some natives selling coral - both natural & dyed. There was a great deal of copra activity on the pier. Large bags being loaded or unloaded from luggers. Copra, as I understand it at present, is the partially sun-dried meat of coconuts sent to plants where the oil is expressed. It has a smooth, all-pervading odor. I still haven't had a drink of coconut milk on this trip. Some of the passengers taxied out to the Western Pacific Hotel where they had fine breakfast for 4 shillings Fiji (about 50¢). The hotel is beautifully situated on south shore looking out at coral reef & receiving full sweep of the trades. Tariff is $3.50 a day - meals included!

The ship sailed late. Fiji post office sent mail to ship 17 minutes before departure time & were the ship officers burned up! We ran into a s.w. swell and had more motion than all trip. Heavy squall came up and we were properly washed down. Passed another of the Fijian group - a real beauty - a high, vegetation-covered truncated inverted table top mt. - some signs of habitation. It was a beautiful sight over the white-capped water. Dr. Lilley & I waited for a sunset to develop but the sun went down in a bank of dark cloud.

After lunch I made up my small "fruit-pigeon" - did a fair job. Saved syrinx for Dr. Zimmer. Nurse gave me small bottle and alcohol. Will rough out body for skeleton & send whole works to Dr. Mayr via 3rd mate - San Francisco.

Date: Feb. 12, 1948 Lat. 16° 55' South
Time: 9:45 P.M. (204 E. 12 Hrs. 30) Long. 179° 31' West
Locality: 21 mi. ESE of Taveuni Is. (7 x 23 mi. in extent)
14 mi. WNW of Naitanam Island (4 x 3 mi. ""
(35 mi. from E. edge of Fiji group)
Islands: rough, steep, heavily wooded, wild, thinly populated by natives, very few whites.

Weather (at time & for last 3 hrs.): Cloudy, mod. E.S.E. fly breeze (18 MPH), warm, atmosphere clear, good visibility. Bird wgt. 2 1/2 oz. (bird)

Met death: noticed flying in right range, then flew into superstructure & dropped to deck dead. The bird has well developed pectoral muscles - probably an excellent flyer - prob. not unusual for this species to fly from island to island. But one can never tell.
Mr. Wilmot down with the grippe. We took dinner to his "cabin" (40 roommates) in the hold.

Had a long talk with Mr. and Mrs. Speight. They are enthusiastic gardeners and we had fun comparing notes on how various species do in our gardens. Their problems are not enough shade and too many rocks. They have to buy soil. They may adopt a nephew (12 yrs. old) whose father apparently cares nothing about him—keeps in boarding school—has married again. It will be a wonderful thing for that boy; the Speights have never had children, but would make wonderful parents. Wanted to know all about my own son—was very proud to tell about how fine he could be most of the time, and explained the other times when he likes to tease his mother or is stubborn or thinks he knows it all. However, they all do it, and I guess the Speights can take it.

The night was softly cool and a sheet felt good. Good roast beef for dinner. The steward brings me my ice cream in a soup plate now!
Sat. Feb. 14, 1948

On Board s.s. Marine Phoenix

Lat. 24° 31' S
Long. 176° 58' E

Day 34 Hrs. 00
Av. Sp. 16.17 Knots
Dist. 387
394 from Suva; 746 to Auckland

Course - Various

AT SEA AGAIN. A FRESH BREEZE AND A ROUGH SEA. IT IS GOOD TO FEEL A LITTLE MOTION AGAIN. QUIET TONIGHT. ON DECK AT 8 A.M.

BIRD LIFE VERY QUIET TODAY. A TOTAL OF ONLY 6 BIRDS: 1 TROPIC BIRD, 4 PETRELS, 1? (BY LILLEY). THE T.B. WAS WELL ASTERN-DID NOT SEE TAIL WELL. NO IMPRESSION OF BLACK ON WINGS. SAW ONE PETREL FAIRLY WELL - BROWN ABOVE, MEDIUM SIZE, WHITE UNDERPARTS, WHITE EXTENDED FAR OUT ON UNDER-WING SURFACES. ANOTHER PETREL "DARK" AS WERE 2 SEEN BY SPEIGHT (ONE HAD SOME WHITE ON UNDERPARTS). ONE BY LILLEY - BROWN HEAD, DARK ABOVE, SOME WHITE ON UNDERPTS.


COMBINED TOTAL = AVER. 16.50"

PLAYED DECK QUOITS WITH MR. SPEIGHT & DR. LILLEY - MY HORSE SHOE PITCHING STANDS ME IN GOOD STEAD AND SO FAR I HAVE COME OUT AHEAD WITHOUT MUCH TROUBLE. IT IS GOOD FUN ON A ROLLING SHIP. HAVE NOT PLAYED SHUFFLEBOARD YET.

WE HAD OUR BEST COOKED DINNER ON THE TRIP TONIGHT. A DELICIOUS FILET MIGNON WITH GOOD FRENCH FRIES AND GREEN PEAS, CHILLED LIQUID FRUIT BOWL + ICE CREAM. MR. WILMOT WAS AT DINNER, AND WE HAD AN UPROARIOUS TIME TRIDDING HIM.

TOOK OFF WEATHER + POSITION DATA IN P.M. ON BRIDGE.

MR. SPEIGHT KNOWS CURATOR OF AUCKLAND MUSEUM. WE WILL HAVE 2 HRS. ASHORE + GEOFF & I thought we would call on him.

WENT TO CAPTAIN'S ROOMS AFTER DINNER TO SHOW BIRD TO HIM. HAD NEVER SEEN ONE LIKE IT BEFORE. GAVE ME A CIGAR BOX TO SHIP HIM HOME IN - OFFERED ME D.D.T. TO PUT IN BOX. GAVE ME AN EXTREMELY INTERESTING STAMP COVER - ONE OF FINAL LETTERS FROM TIN CAN ISLAND (NIUATOU), WHICH BROKE OUT IN A RASH OF VOLCANIC ACTIVITY IN 1946. HAS "ALOHA!!! Wm Quensell" WRITTEN ON BACK OF ENVELOPE. CAPT. USED TO DROP OFF + PICK UP MAIL THERE QUITE REGULARLY. TALKED FROM 8:30 - 10:30.

SLEEPY NOW - MORE ABOUT DINNER TOMORROW.
Mr. Wilmot, our Table companion + Consular cultural representative to Australia from G.B., had a touch of flu and was away from several meals. One baby was born on ship the other day + one or two more are expected. So, we started kidding Wilmot when he took to bed. Yesterday A.M, Dr. Lilley, John Garney + I went to his cabin carrying a basinette, diapers, bottle + stethoscope.

There is a genuine baby on board - we wish we could have taken him with us, too! At dinner radiograms expressing alarm, concern, curiosity + congratulations were handed him. (See carbon copy).

The Capt. was at dinner, and we had such a hilarious time that we could scarcely eat a wonderful dinner. The appearance of the child at Charles' arm was the crowning touch! And it wasn't a put up job either.
The following pseudo radiograms were delivered to Wilmot on his return to the table after an absence of two meals during which he had a temperature of 103.

Wilmot, Marine Phoenix
Sydney
Following publications available on demand "Radiant Motherhood, Care of the New-born child, Forever Amber, As you like it and The Taming of the Shrew."  
A. E. Lilley, M.D.

Wilmot, Marine Phoenix
Louisville Ky.
Production interesting but unnecessary stop Am sending copy of my book stop Suggest perusal before repeating experiment stop  
Marie Stopes

Wilmot, Marine Phoenix
London
Congratulations Charles stop Have suggested your offspring as my successor stop Please advise sex stop There will always be an England  
Clement Atlee

Wilmot, Marine Phoenix
Canterbury
The mills of the gods grind slowly but they grind exceeding small stop Take heed to thyself for the devil is at hand stop  
Archbishop

Wilmot, Marine Phoenix
Suva, Fiji
Am shocked and surprised stop Have advised council that I am in no way responsible  
Brian Freeston, Gov. of Fiji

Wilmot, Marine Phoenix
Sydney
Alarming information received per Capt Johansen stop Investigation will be made to determine paternity stop Suggest sedentary job and marriage at sea  
British Council of Education

Wilmot, Marine Phoenix
New York City
Congratulations Wilmot stop Any more buns cooking in oven stop  
Soc. for Propagation, Bundles for Briton

Per Walter Winchell

These messages were delivered at intervals during dinner last night and afterwards, quite unexpectedly, a strange child approached Charles with joyful cries of "Daddy?" Wilmot retired to bed again immediately after dinner.

Has fully recovered this morning.
SUNDAY, FEB. 15, 1948

ON BOARD M/V MARINE PHOENIX

HIST. 381

14:00 (Deak Noon Report) LAT. 30° 47.5

Speed 15.86

175 from Suva; 365 to Auckland

105-750

COURSE 188°-53°

AFTER A QUIET DAY AT SEA. FRESH BREEZE, ROUGH OCEAN. HEAD WINDS ARE SLOWING US DOWN — WE WILL NOT ARRIVE IN AUCKLAND ON TIME. WILL CUT OUR SHORT VISIT IN HALF. CHILDREN NOT ALLOWED ON SHORE DUE TO 'POLIO' EPIDEMIC.

SAW ONLY 1 FLYING FISH TODAY. NO ALBATROSSES AS YET. WE ARE NOT TOO FAR FROM KERMADEC IS. THERE HAS BEEN A FAIRLY STEADY FLIGHT OF PETRELS PASSING THE SHIP ALL DAY. TOOK WEATHER DATA OFF TIDE AND WATCHED FROM BRIDGE FOR AN HOUR OR 50. THE PETRELS SEEM TO BE OF 2 (POSSIBLY 3) SPECIES TODAY:

(1) MEDIUM-SIZED ONE (16-20) — DARK ABOVE & BELOW, SOME WITH WHITISH AREA AT BASE OF BILL & SOME WITH SMALL WHITE SLASH ON UNDER SIDE OF WINGS NEAR TIP — LIGHTER BROWN AREA NEAR BASE OF 10° S; THE SECOND, DARK ABOVE, WHITE BELOW, A SMALL TO MEDIUM-SIZED PETREL (10-14), RATHER BOB-TAILED APPEARING, POSSIBLY DUE TO WIND UNDER TAIL COVERTS. STIFF WINGS — NO FLAPPING. WHITE EXTENDS WELL OUT TOWARDS TIP OF WING (IN 10° 20' DISTAL PART OF COVERTS — VENTRAL); THE POSSIBLE 3RD SAME SIZE BUT DARKER BELOW (I CANNOT SAY SPECIFICALLY WHICH PARTS SO AFFECTED). STIFF BREEZE & THEIR ERRATIC MOVEMENTS MADE OBSERVATION DIFFICULT. ACTIONS SEEMED ALIVE.

6:17 A.M. — WILMOT = "5 SMALL BIRDS" — PROB. PETRELS

1:9:15 A.M. — V.D. = 1 A 2 B

10:11 A.M. — V.D. = 4 A 2 B 2 C (1 A HAD BILL WHICH SEEMED REDISH — ILLUSION?)

11:12 A.M. — V.D. = 6 A (1 WITH WH. MARKINGS, BASE OF BILL), 1 C

12:1 P.M. — V.D. = 2 A, 1 B

2:45-3:45 P.M. — V.D. = 5 A, 4 B, 3 C

MR. SPEIGHT & I ARE TRYING TO BEAT THE OTHER TO SEEING FIRST WANDERING ALBATROSS. NO SIGN OF ANYTHING BUT PETRELS TODAY. WISH I COULD WATCH FROM BRIDGE ALL DAY AS I DID TODAY FOR ONE HOUR IN P.M. CAN PICK OUT EASILY FROM HEIGHT Y. YOU ARE PROTECTED FROM WIND GUSTS.

H. GOEBEL RECOMMENDED INTERESTING BOOK (2 VOLS.) — SAILING DIRECTIONS FOR PACIFIC ISLANDS (4TH ED. 1938) — HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE #165, U.S. GOV. PRINTING OFFICE. HAS ALL ISLAND INFO.
Had a haircut and took a nap this afternoon. At 6:00 we had a farewell party of our own: Geoff, the Speights, Dr. Lilley, John Gaffney, Charles Wilmot, Miss Hackett, Miss Robertson & myself. The Dr. & I stayed on Coca-Cola while the others worked at emptying a whiskey bottle, which I presented to the captain for one of his bottle messages. He wants me to keep an eye out for bottles up on the beaches of the Cape York Peninsula. Many find their way up there thru the Torres Strait.

I have just showed my fruit pigeon to a Mrs. Edward E. White, an Englishwoman, whose husband is a geologist. Their address is: 148 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga, N.S.W. (15 miles from Sydney). Both interested in flowers & birds. One of few on board who is enjoying trip. Want me to stay in their home if I get back to Sydney.

Moon was out tonight, and even the crescent, made lovely track on water. Probably shining on snow back home.

Will send off airmail letters and post cards from Auckland tomorrow. Must visit library & museum (Dr. Archy is curator).

Wilmot composed song for us to sing at party tonight. The chorus ended up with "20 dollars a day." I believe Geoff will copy off — it is quite clever.

Herman told about bird that flew aboard a coastal steamer that had large eccentric walking beam engine — slipped down into ways & could not get out. Every time arm went thru ways the bird had to duck to avoid being hit. When engine was turned off in port & bird taken out of ways, it still continued to bob up & down! Well it's a good story.

And so to bed. Ship steady tonight.
Do Not Send to Museum.

Monday - Feb. 16, 1948.


On deck at 6:15 A.M. - The islands of New Zealand on the horizon. What a wonderful land the Maoris discovered for settlement! The sun was just over the horizon catching some of the hills in its first light. The forests have shrunk in the last 100 years, to remnants of their former extent. Some of the native birds have gone with the forest. The hills seemed bare (with only scattered trees in the rougher spots). Grazing is the curse of the country as far as Natural History is concerned. We passed one lovely island - Little Barrier Is. - which was one of the first bird sanctuaries to be established in the world. Quite a few of the islands seemed to have good bird-rock cliffs. From 6:15 until about 8:15 A.M. we saw: Australian Cannaet - 25
P. Carnipes } Petrel - Med. size - Dark above & white below - A
P. Grisus } Yellowish or pink bill (some) 80
P. Gavia } Petrel - Small, Med. size - White underparts - Flaps (150)
P. Bulleai } Petrel - Med. size - Entirely white, underparts - Flaps regularly 55
Black-backed Gull - 14 Following ship
75-100 mixed flock - off twin-primed Is. near coast - starboard.

Today was another day of frustration - so much to see & do & so very little time. We arrived in harbour at 10:35. Docked 11:15. The harbor is a particularly fine one - deep, green water; red roofs on many of the houses that surmount the little hills that ring the harbor. A few eroded water-meeting cliffs showed various sedimentary strata; small ferries connect various parts of the town. A good dock area - many tramps in heading frozen lambs, mutton & beef; also a few passenger ships, but none seemed active. One tramp - the "Cape York" - out of Glasgow. Ashore about noon, just before Mr. Wilmot's bags arrived, not to wait & we took taxi for Northern Club - a quiet club for gentlemen - Charles, a Corresponding Member. To Grand Hotel, next door for lunch. Doors not open so they had beer & I had a drink of ginger beer - at long last! Scotch broth, mixed grill (poor sausage) Yorkshire cake & Eng. Ice Cream - not a very good meal, but still one of best available in N.Z. Went to Wilmot's rooms - Book sellers - to buy a N.Z.
BIRD BOOK. ONE BY A MR. TURBOTT AVAILABLE - A RATHER RAMBLING, INCOMPLETE, POORLY PLANNED BOOK; HOWEVER, GIVES SOME IDEAS TO A STRANGER. TOOK TAXI TO MUSEUM ON HILL ABOVE AUCKLAND. AN IMPOSING GREEK-STYLE BUILDING SET IN A LARGE PARK - OVERLOOKS HARBOR - A BEAUTIFUL SITE. MR. ARCEY WAS NOT THERE, BUT MR. TURBOTT, THE ENTOMOLOGIST ORNITHOLOGIST, CAME IN & TOOK ME FOR A QUICK TOUR OF THE MUSEUM. THE FINEST COLLECTION OF MAORI CULTURAL EFFECTS IN EXISTENCE IS HOUSED HERE. AMPLE ROOMS & SPACIOUS HALLS. NO TIME TO SEE ANYTHING BUT A FEW OF THE BIRD EXHIBITS, SOME OF EXTINCT BIRDS, ANA RECONSTRUCTION, STRUTHIFORM SKELETONS, (NOW FINDING COMPLETE MAORI SKELETONS IN CERTAIN PLACES). KIWI IS HOLDING IT'S OWN IN NZ. - MANY KILLED BY CARS ON ROADS. KIWI IS DOING WELL - ONLY AN OCCASIONAL ONE ATTACKS A PEAK. NZ. QUAIL IS GONE.

STITCH BIRD STILL ON LITTLE BARRIER. TURBOTT'S OFFICE LITTERED WITH SPECIMENS - FELT JUST LIKE HOME. TOLD ME DR. MURPHY EXPECTED BACK IN AUCKLAND NEXT WEEK FROM SOUTH ISLAND. THEY WILL GO TO LITTLE BARRIER FOR A WEEK. THEN TO MAORI FORESTS IN NORTH ISLAND. NO HABITAT GROUPS. I ALREADY ONLY FAIR... I INSPECTED COPY OF HIS BOOK. DID NOT HAVE CHANCE TO GO TO TOP OF MT. EDEN - HIGHEST HILL IN TOWN TO GET BEST HARBOUR VIEW. CRICKET MATCH ON IN PARK. THUMBED A RIDE TO TOWN - DRIVER WAS THE PARK SUPERINTENDENT. SAW AN AMERICAN CAMP TOOK UP WHOLE FRONT OF GROUNDS NEAR MUSEUM - TRAM TO WATERFRONT. BOUGHT STAMP PACKETS FOR DORY.

SHIP SAILING. QUITE AN EVENT. MANY NZ. PASSENGERS FOR AUS.

MUCH COLORED TAPE THROWN. SEAPLANE BASE NEAR DOCKS (N.O.A.) - 4 MOTOR JOBS. SAILING OUT OF HARBOR WITH BLACK-BACKS FOLLOWING. A BEAUTIFUL SUNSET OVER NORTH ISLAND. RANGITOTO ISLAND IS BUSTLING GROUND FOR 100S OF GULLS. IS TO BE A SANCTUARY. FEW RESIDENTS GAVE 7 YEARS TO MOVE OUT. REPEATED PART OF OUR FORMER COURSE BOUND FOR THE NORTH CAPE. THE SOUND OF GULL CRIES (BLACK-BACK RATHER LIKE HERRING) IS MUSIC IN MY EARS.

THE WHOLE VAST WATER APPROACH TO AUCKLAND WAS ALIVE WITH PETRELS, SHEARWATERS & GANNETS. MR. SPEIGHT AND I WATCHED UNTIL DINNER. NOT SURE THAT WE SAW ANY DIVING PETRELS. 1 WILSON'S, 15 P. GAVIA, 200-300 P. BULLENI, 50 P. CARNIWES, 125 P. GRISEOS - NO ALBATROSSES, 1 GANNET.

BEAUTIFUL CRESCENT MOON. TO BED EARLY.

INTERVIEWED BY REPORTERS & PHOTOGRAPHED ON SHIP IN A.M.

ENG. SPARROWS ALL OVER PAMIT. PIGEONS IN TOWN.

NZ. CURRENCY VERY ZOOLOGICAL. WILL SAVE SOME FOR "DORY."

BOUGHT PACKET OF NZ. STAMPS (100 FOR 7/6)
Tuesday - Feb. 17, 1948

Distance - 297 miles
Jay 18 hrs. 50
Speed 15.87 knots

297 from Auckland; 980 to Sydney. Course - Various (20° at 3 p.m.)

Up at 5: a.m. - Air mild, calm sea, no breeze. Sun glow lighting up the high clouds. The black headland of "North Cape" was outlined against the southern sky on our port quarter. Petrels were everywhere around the ship - also gulls, both black-backed and red-billed, white-fronted terns, austral gannets, and last of all I finally saw my first wandering albatross! Before the morning was over I had seen at least 8, in varying states of plumage, floating on the water, paddling the water rapidly with their feet trying to take off, sailing in the light airs. But this was difficult in the heat, and they had to flap a great deal. On the water they ride high and look like one of our black-backed gulls. The S.W. swells were surfing on the headlands around Cape Maria van Diemen. The sun came up quickly and almost directly in our wake. Gannets were diving and petrels swarming on the water over a large school of fish. Soon the three kings group rose up out of the morning mist and sea to the N.W. and as we came closer the saw-tooth row of rocks called Princes Islands stood out jagged and clear. Turdott in his book "N.Z. Bird Life" has a short account of a visit to these islands. Someday, as Mr. Murphy is now doing, I should like to revisit this land of sea-bird islands and spend weeks on the islands, not just minutes looking at the islands.

The numbers of birds of the various species are extremely hard to judge in an area such as this. Visits to the breeding grounds would be essential and several censuses transects would have to be made. However, for this particular morning run (with a counting range of roughly half a mile on each side of the ship) my estimates run:

S. black-backed gull (L. dominicanus) (mostly ship-followers) 12
Silver gull (L. n. scopulins) (some ship-followers) 50
Austral. gannet (Morus serrator) 35
Wandering albatross (Diomedea exulans) 8 plus 3 following ship at 3:30 p.m.
White-fronted tern (S. striata) 4
Grey-backed Shearwater (Puffinus bulleri) 250
Fluttering Shearwater (Puffinus gravis) 30
Pale-footed Shearwater (Puffinus carneipes) 40
Sooty Shearwater (Puffinus griseus) 10
Wilson's Storm-Petrel (Oceanites oceanicus) 3

The water was so smooth that many of the shearwaters were flying so near the ship that one could see their reflections in the glassy surface. The tips of their wings occasionally sheared the water ever so slightly — you could only notice this in very calm weather. What a perfect landing one could make on the islands today! The gulls left us sometime between 10:45 and 11:20 A.M.

There was so little breeze that the albatrosses gave up also. We did not pick up any more until the middle of the afternoon — at least by 3:30 P.M. (saw from bridge) — possibly earlier.

I took a nap from 10:00 until noon. When I came above deck there was nothing doing except a Wilson's Storm-Petrel and a few (counting all P.M.) shearwaters — 75 (1 per 5 min.) — all of above species (probably mostly P. bulleri) — all well off ship. Went to bridge after lunch for about an hour — took off weather & read a couple of short stories of Maugham that the 3rd recommended. Sailed up the Cape York, Thursday Is. section a bit. Then went down to stern fantail to watch the albatrosses. The chief Electrician, R. Courtenay, an Irishman transplanted to N.Z. (an ardent N.Zer) was much interested in the albatrosses & told me about birds seen on board ship & from ship in various parts of the world. Well read & with an interest that should be encouraged. Loaned him N.Z. Birds to read. Told him about Alexander B. of Ocean Capt. visited bridge while I was there. Said he had news that the sharks were bad on Sydney beaches this season. Says gales on Tasman Sea blow up suddenly & subside as quickly — a deep sea, but not deserve name "the terrible Tasman".

When I came on deck this A.M. I could smell the land very strongly — a fresh tree-flower odor. We were not more than 4 miles off.

Early in A.M. (dark) we passed Kawau Island — Turbot told me that this is place where owner had introduced: Trichosurus vulpecula (opossum); Petrogale penicillata; Thylogale eugeni; Wallabia bicolor; Wallabia dorsalis.

Moon is shining tonight. Northerly breeze has sprung up & is funneling into our cabin. Norfolk Is. is to north of us. No motion — swell is gone.
Wed. Feb. 18, 1948

Dist. 379
Day 14 Hrs. 30
Speed 15.45 Kn.
676 from Auckland; 601 to Sydney 

On Board S/S Marine Phoenix
Lat. 34° 26' S
Long. 163° 19' E

Back to normal today. No land in sight - at noon we were ½ way across the Tasman Sea. The blow of last night & early a.m. was left behind by noon - we have another calm unruffled sea. I saw my first whales on this voyage this afternoon about 4:30. They were headed east - at least 6 in group - the spout was low & rounded, they did not appear to be large whales - no very obvious hump or fins. Passed about ½ mile off our port quarter. Later, about 5:30, we came up with a school of about 50 "porpoises" as we neared them. They started to leap clean out of water, and headed off to the south. A dark stream along the side & dark markings about the head. Sea calm at time so leaps quite impressive - small tail, small dorsal fin. Mr. Speight also reported seeing an animal which we decided was a sun fish holling on its side.

A flock of 6 Tropic Birds showed up about 3:30 P.M. - all red-tailed - stayed with ship for about an hour. No Albatrosses showed up all day today. However, the sooty & pale-footed shearwaters were with us all day long. Many of them were resting on the water & moved only when ship closed in. Numbers ran about 100. Sooty, 25 pale-footed. Another small to medium petrel, dark above with deep dip of black on sides of head. White of underparts seemed to come well up in front of eye. White area ran well out under wings - ventral leading edge dark, flapped quickly & coasted only a little. Mr. Speight said he saw a Storm Petrel (white rump) - seemed a little large for Wilson's Petrel. One flock of 50 mixed Petrels over school of fish (H. Goebel - reported).

Geoff & I talked over our Sydney plans - it will be a rush to finish everything on Friday. N.R. Strine still on - may have to fly to Brisbane yet.

Took my fruit pigeon body, de-fleshed, and hung up to dry. Sewed wings of F. Pigeon together today. Will wrap tomorrow & H.G. can mail by parcel post when he arrives back in San Francisco. Scrolled up second roll of 35mm film. H.G. will mail in the States, too.

Sleepy - turning in now,
Studied Dutton on Navigation for an hour this afternoon. Dobie is still better for practical application and simplicity.

Met Mr. Sid Grey this afternoon. Talked for quite a while as we watched the sunset develop. Big and quiet, unschooled but with a boyish curiosity about seeing the interesting places in the world. Has been a retail fruit dealer, but would like to be a gold prospector if it were not such a lonely life. If Geoff and I take the S/S Wandana up the coast to Cairns and Thursday Is., we will meet a friend of his—One of officers (Bobby Chalm). Mr. Grey is from Mt. Morgan.

Mr. Speight and I talked for an hour or so after dinner about natural history in N.Z. and Australia. He would have spent his life in this field if it were not for fact that he is color-blind. Instead he is Swift & Co. Representative in Australia. He would make a fine field companion.

Capt. inspected our cabin this A.M. Chief steward wanted to see bird. Capt. asked him to give me DDT powder to ship body home to museum. No other birds have come on board lately.
Thursday - Feb. 19, 1948

On Board H.S. Marine Phoenix

Dist. 377
May 24 Hrs. 30
Speed 15.40 Kns.

1053 from Auckland; 124 to Sydney. Course 372° 35′

1. W. BREEZE KICKING UP CHOPPY SEA TODAY - OVERCAST. NO ALBATROSSES FOLLOWING SHIP AT 9 A.M. MEDIUM SIZED ALL DART SHEARWATERS GOING BY OCCASIONALLY.

2. THE LAND OF NATURALISTS' DREAMS IS ALMOST IN SIGHT. A GLORIOUS MOONLIGHT SHINING ON THE OCEAN. THE SHIP IS LOAFING ALONG - WE ARE WELL AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. WILL MAINTAIN A POSITION OFF SYDNEY HEAD - PICK UP PILOT AT 5: - TO QUARANTINE AT 6:1. THE WARM TROPICAL BREEZE BLEW ITSELF OUT SOON. AFTER NOON, SUN CAME OUT, SEA MODERATED. NOW THE SHIP IS AS STEADY AS A ROCK. IT HAS BEEN A VERY QUIET TRIP. THE SHIP IS FILLED WITH A SUB-DUED AIR OF EXCITEMENT TONIGHT: BRIDES & GROOMS TO BE ARE ON BOARD; EX-G.I.S GOING TO NEW HOMES; FAMILIES EMIGRATING TO NEW LAND; AUST. RETURNING AFTER MONTHS OR YEARS ABROAD ON BUSINESS & PLEASURE; TOURISTS ON A VISIT; A VAUDEVILLE TRouPE BOUND FOR THE TIVOLI; AN EXPEDITION FOR THE PENIN SULA; AND MISSIONARIES FOR FAR & WIDE - WHAT A MISCELLANY THER IS ON BOARD - WHAT DIFFERENT HOPES & OBJECTIVES!

3. Pack up my fruit pigeon today - skin, syringe & skeleton in a cigar box. J. Gordon will take on return trip & mail in San Francisco (also 2 rolls film). I. has been a grand friend to me, and the trip has been far more interesting because of him & the captain - who has given me the run of the ship.

4. Mr. Speight reports seeing 2 or 3 Wilson's petrels today. 2 red-tailed tropic-birds showed up at 3:30 P.M. - I believe they were resting on the water. Mr. S. also saw 2 whales at mid-afternoon. No albatrosses all day.

[Time out - I have just written Capt. Johnson a thank you letter. I have never heard of its being done before but in there was ever a capt. that deserved one, then our Capt. is it. This is only a "tin can" - a third-rate troop ship, but it is a well run "happy" ship (in spite of all the groaning by the passengers).]

5. Washed a few clothes out today; packed, loaded my camera, got out my various landing papers. We were warned today that the customs ship will be very inadequate.
Numbers of Scotty and/or Pale-footed Shearwaters:

In A.M. averaged 15-20 per hour (8:00-12:00)

In P.M. seemed to reach peak of about 30 per hr.

Between 3:00 & 5:00, dropped off to about 5-10 per hr.

5:00 & 7:00.

Many resting on water as breeze began to subside. Some had dirty white ventral wing patches distally. Whitish at base of bill on many. Flapped rather often even tho' had good stiff breeze.

Capt. not at dinner tonight. Had another excellent steak dinner & strawberry sundae to top off.

A busy day tomorrow. I'm off to bed (after I deliver letter to bridge). To bridge at 1:00 A.M. H.G. (3rd) was just retarding ship's clock 1/2 hour. Gave him letter for Captain & change to mail bird & films. Had radar set in operation. I actually saw Australia by radar! About 30 miles off at time - ship running at 10 knots. I could also see glow of Sydney's lights in the western sky.
Friday - Feb. 20, 1948.

Hotel Carlton - Sydney, Australia!

What a change from our usual quarters! A comfortable room on the 7th floor - twin beds - bath at end of hall - no closet. But a large wooden locker - and now I have rigged up a clothesline for my wash - basin in the room.

Up at 6:15 a.m., dressed leisurely, passed a very casual medical inspection, waited in line for an hour to have immigration inspection (very quick), then police registration which I must complete when I arrive in Brisbane. Kept our luggage in storage room when allowed, asking I carried off to customs letter. Geoff got hold of head customs man and his men expedited our inspection. I got a baggage man to help us to car-run in middle of pier. Geoff found a taxi and we were off to the Carlton. Most of people were still on pier when we left. Arrived Carlton 11:15 a.m.

Unpacked. To lunch at 1:15 p.m. High-ceilinged old-fashioned dining room. Food very reasonable.

Went to Australian Museum. Met Mr. Walcomb who in turn introduced us to Mr. Troughton, Curator of Mammals.


Went to N.S.W. Free Public Library - Mr. Metcalfe in England.

Went to Sydney Municipal Library - Mr. Bell recovering at home from 6 mo. illness. Mr. Flannery in charge.


Home to shower. Jack Thomas to hotel for cocktails. Then he drove us home to supper. Wife (Annie) Canadian. We had a real home evening. I even washed the dishes!

Home by ferry - our first ride. They are small, fast and have funny add names.

Arranged for dinner & ballet Sat. night.
Sat. Feb. 21, 1948.

Hotel Carlton, Sydney, Aust.

Awake at 6:30 A.M.

Room service opened door at 6:45 A.M. - insisted that room

704 had ordered breakfast at 7 A.M. - we had not!

Back to sleep until 8 A.M. - trams noisy.

Breakfast at hotel (goes with room): Fruit juice - slice of

pineapple (sell for 1 - 6 on streets) - tomato omelette +
bacon (practically uncooked) - milk (good but not very cold) -
toast (very hard). They never put a glass of water on the

table. Geoff's coffee came in pot with milk already mixed

in - we call it "white coffee" (terrible). Geoff really

appreciates a good cup of coffee.

To ration board for food + clothing coupons - not open - have

promised ours to the Speights.

To insurance office - G's contact (possibly to cover trip home).

Lloyds have people in Cairns if we should ever need help.

To Port Line to present letter of mine (from Much). A Mr.

Archer took all details - will do all he can for us next fall. Suggested we return home by way of Europe

not very much more expensive. Idea appeals to us!

Geoff to hotel. I went bookstore - Swain's - bought the

following books:

Wildlife - Australian Nature Magazine 10:2 (Feb. 48)
Austr. Aboriginal Place Names - James R. Tyrrell
The Platypus - Charles Barrett
Koala - 

An Australian Bird Book - J. A. Leach
The Lore of the Lyrebird - Amdrose Pratt
New Biology - M.L. Johnson & M. Abercrombie
What Bird is That - Neville W. Cayley
(plus 1 copy for Don Carter)

To post office to send a few postcards (Postage: 2½pence Haypeny)

Hotel for lunch: "Prawns" (our shrimp) served with shell on +
a poor kind of mayonnaise for dressing.

To museum (Mr. Troughton phoned - asked him not to come in)

by way of Hyde Park - took picture of museum facade.

Very old fashioned, but have some splendid material: 2

Eskeo Curled, 1 great Anu skeleton + egg, good marsupial

material in cases (but poorly displayed), excellent alcoholic

marsupial young milk (Tangaroo on teat), Gregory's from...
Fish to man series, excellent mineralogical collection
(casts of gold nuggets - one, "Welcome Stranger" - 22.80 oz)
Synoptic bird collection hammed in tight!, good "AHO"
collection (Spear-throwers, bark boats, crocodile swimming log, Kangaroo nets, wallaby basket snake & of
course boomerangs). Stayed until 5; - closing.
Walked by bowling greens - watch them roll a few ends.
Went in Cathedral to look at stained glass - beautiful.
Strolled thru Park. Watched girl's cricket match -
use paddle-shaped bats.
To Botanic Gardens for few minutes - very lovely - occupies
a harbor point. Fragrant beds of pink petunias. Saw a
few birds: 1 Indian Turtle-dove (very insistant coo-ing)
2 Red-vented bulbul (2 whistled notes)
3 House-Sparrow
4 Starling
5 Common Myna
All of above are introduced
6 Black & white wagged tail sideways, flew
close to lawn
1 Small, erect tail, blue & black about head,
family party (mill reddish-brown - plum brown)
6 Rock Dove (many blackish ones).
To Hotel to dress for dinner at Glen Eagles with Jack & Anne
Thomas; + Shirley Grant. Per sherry, 1 oz. small but very tasty
oysters, 3" filet mignon, domestic hock (fair), pie a la
mode (fair pie-apple; ice cream surprisingly good but tiny
portions). Gave Anne T. present of box of "Vell" - delighted.
To Tivoli Theater (as guests of British Council) to see
Ballet Rambert (Giselle, Bluebird, Gala Performance). It
was rather good ballet - Sally Gilmour, good. The matinee
was highest attendance in Tivoli history. Ballet has made a
dig hit with Australians in Sydney.
Letters from May #3 + Mother - May's father died 2-11-48.
May in Florida - rather at 12 Highland.
Picked up air tickets for Brisbane.

Hotel Carlton, Sydney, Australia.
Up at 9: - Showered & to breakfast at 10:
Another hot humid day - all Sydney will be at the beaches.
Wrote cards rest of morning. Mailed.
Ferry from Circular Quay to Taronga Park (Zoo)
Spent all afternoon wandering around Zoo. Beautiful
location on side of hill facing harbor. Have some excel-
lellent animals, but many are poorly displayed. The
labeling, particularly on bird cages, is very poor.
Children's Zoo had 2 girls displaying chimps. Young
Wombat, Emu, 4 Kangaroos wandering about in the
Enclosure. Koalas well displayed, but not active. The
Park is full of flowers.
Home to change for dinner. To "Glen Eagles" with Mr. & Mrs.
Speight. Oysters Morey & excellent Veal & Peach Melba. We
also had pitcher of ice-water. Talked on open air porch
after dinner. Delivered cig. to Mrs. S. Home on tram.
Wrote May. Tomorrow we fly!
Mon. Feb. 23, 1948

Lennon's Hotel, Brisbane
( Pronounced Brisbane )

Up at 7:30 A.M. - Packed - Breakfast at 8:15. To Post Office to mail letters to May - girl mixed up the stamps a bit so dory could have a good selection.

We then went to the ration board & applied for visitors' rations. We received: clothing ration card - 56 coupons; meat - 83 coupons; tea - 40; butter - 31. The whole affair took only 10 minutes - noted on passport visa.

Geoff went off to do some business calls - I went to a 2nd hand book store, Dymoohse, to look at bird books. They had 2 good ones, but too dear. Bought one about lyre bird. Went to Kodak to find someone who knew about my shutter trouble, & to enquire about flash bulbs on plane - no help.

Back to Hotel at 10:15. Checked out. Taxi to Trans-Australia Airlines. Jack Thomas there to say goodbye. Asked about flash bulbs - baggage dept. said not to take. Coach to Kingsford Smith Airport. En route, houses all alike, all with fences - some slum areas of tin can dump type. Not a pretty airport. Our plane the Thomas Mitchell - DC-4 - 44 passenger - we had a full house. Take-off in short run. Swung around field & out over Sydney Harbor - a beautiful sight. The ground was red with color of roof tops. Climbed steadily to 8,000' - air speed 230 m.p.h. + 10 mile tail wind. Air temp. 60°. Small puffy cumulus. Smooth sailing. Passed barley sugar candy. Stewardess brought us a cold lunch soon after flight under way - quite good. No one appeared very interested in flight, and yet there was beautiful coast + cloud-land views. Hit a few bumps over Brisbane (11:30 P.M. - left 11:15 A.M.) and then a quiet landing. Coach to Brisbane & taxi to Hotel.

Lennon's Hotel - best in town - was MacArthur's Headquarters in Australia - very modern construction - corner windows; air-conditioning throughout, tile baths with room, island maple furniture, built-in radio, plenty of light, ice water fountain at end of our hall. Valet service got our suits & trousers pressed in a hurry. Unpacked a little and changed shirts, then out on errands.
WENT FIRST TO SEE MR. SPENCE (LLOYD'S INS.). MADE PLANS TO TAKE US ABOUT TOMORROW IN COMPANY CAR. THEN TO MEET MR. MITCHELL, MGR. OF BURNS, PHILIP & CO. HE WILL MAKE PLANE RESERVATIONS FOR US. HAD TEA. HE IS BUILDING A HOUSE — AN ENTHUSIASTIC GARDENER. OUR FREIGHT IS ON BOARD A SMALL BOAT "THYME"(?) LEAVING BRISBANE TONIGHT. WILL TAKE 10-14 DAYS TO REACH CAIRNS. MAY HOLD OUR WORK UP, BUT DR. TATE & I CAN COLLECT OUTSIDE OF CAIRNS. BACK TO HOTEL FOR DINNER — ROAST BEEF, FRESH FRUIT CUP OF PAPAYA ("PawPaw" HERE). PINK TABLECLOTHS ON TABLES, THE DINING ROOM ON "1ST FLOOR" WHICH CORRESPONDS TO OUR 2ND FLOOR (OUR 1ST = GROUND FLOOR).

LETTER #4 FROM MAY WAITING. POSTED IN FLA. ON 2-15 IN FLA.

TO MOVIE "FRIEDA" TONIGHT — A VERY GOOD ENGLISH PICTURE.

HOME AFTER WALKING DOWN TO VICTORIA BRIDGE AT FOOT OF QUEEN ST. A NEAR FULL MOON. BRISBANE IS BUILT ON BANKS OF A RIVER — 30-40 MILES FROM COAST. DREDGES ARE ALWAYS AT WORK KEEPING CHANNELS OPEN. FREIGHTERS COME UP RIVER TO SYDNEY.

BRISBANE HAS MANY SIDEWALKS COVERED WITH BUILDING ROOFS. A CONFUSING LOT OF SIGNS OVER WALKS. MANY ICE-CREAM BARS — 5d A MILK SHAKE. SOME GOOD CHOCOLATE MADE IN TASMANIA — Cadbury's. MUCH FANCY IRON GRILLE WORK ON BALCONIES OF OLDER HOUSES. MANY TRAMS — PEOPLE HOP ON & OFF WITH GREAT ABANDON.

FINISHED LETTER TO MAY. WAS MOST SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT SHE IS A DISTANT COUSIN OF T. DONALD CARTER!
TUES. FEB. 24, 1948
LENNON'S HOTEL, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA.

UP AT 8: BREAKFAST AT 9: A DAY OF MUCH PLEASANT ACTIVITY.
WENT TO P.O. TO MAIL KAY'S LETTER & A FEW POST CARDS. THE OLDEST P.O. IN QUEENSLAND. PLATYPUS, KOALA, EMU, MANGAROO, & THE ROYAL FAMILY ARE WELL REPRESENTED BY PICTURES ON STAMPS.

BACK AT 10:15 AFTER REGISTERING WITH THE STATE IMMIGRATION OFFICER. TURNED IN PASSPORT PHOTOS. HE IS A NICE GUY, KNOWS BRASS & ALL ABOUT US. IN SAME BLDG. WITH R.A. MITCHELL CALLED GEOFF TO SAY THAT OUR PLANE RESERVATIONS FOR THE 3:15 TOMORROW ARE O.K. ~ 500 ODD MILES. 3:15 TO 9:15 - 3 STOP AT COAST.
MR. SPENCE MET US AT HOTEL - TOOK US TO BOTANIC GARDENS. MR.
WHITE IS AWAY - HIS ASSISTANT SHOWED US AROUND. MET
MR. BLAKE (GRASSES) - A CORRESPONDENT OF MR. H.K. SVENSON; ALSO MR. SMITH. VERY LOVELY GARDENS ON THE RIVER BRISBANE.

NEXT TO SEE JOHN BURKE OF SHIPPING CO. OF THAT NAME - STARTED BY GRANDFATHER. PESSIMISTIC ABOUT COAL SHORTAGE FOR HIS SHIPS - DUE TO RAIL STRIKE. THE "TIME" MAY NOT GET TO CAIRNS WITH ALL OUR LUGGAGE UNTIL MIDDLE OF MARCH. WE HOPE THE "WANDANA" WILL BE LATE GOING N. TO CAIRNS. LOOKS AS THO MR. TATE & I WILL BE DOING SOME COLLECTING NEAR CAIRNS FOR A FEW WEEKS. UNDERSTAND MISS NEUMAUSER WAS REFUSED A NEW COLLECTING PERMIT. MR. BURKE HAS LOW OPINION OF PRESENT LABOR GOVERNMENT. DOESN'T WORRY, HOWEVER; TIES HIS SHIPS UP & GOES OFF FOR A GAME OF GOLF.

LUNCH TIME SO SPENCE TOOK US IN TOWN TO HIS CLU - TATTER-SALL'S - PRIMARILY A RACING CLUB (BOOKMAKERS) HAVE TABLES THERE FOR BUSINESS. A HIGH-CEILINGED, COMFORTABLE, OLD-ENGLISHED BUILDING - A LONG BAR AT WHICH I HAD 2 GINGER BEERS.
BOTTLED HERE IN TOWN - FAIR- BAR HAS SERIES OF SWINGING AWNING (AUTOMATIC) FANS OVER STANDING SPACE - VERY COMFORTABLE. A LIGHT LUNCH - OYSTERS, SNAPPER & ICE-CREAM. LEARNED THAT LITTLE MILK IS PASTEURIZED. ICE-CREAM IS 4 - THEY ARE IMPORTING MORE EQUIPMENT.

MR. SPENCE DROVE US UP HILL (MT. CUTH) FOR VIEW OF BRISBANE - DOWNTOWN - RIVER AND MRT. IN DISTANCE.

THEN TO QUEENSLAND MUSEUM TO MEET MR. MACHT, MR.
VERNON, & MR. MCLAUNA. DONALD WILL BE WITH US FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS. MR. MACHT TOOK US AROUND EXHIBITS - HE IS DOING FINE WORK IN MATTER OF REHABILITATING THE MUSEUM EXHIBITS; HAD TRAINED GIRL ARTIST.
Wed. Feb. 25, 1948
Hide's Hotel, Cairns, No. Q.
P.O. in A.M. Bought cig. tobs. for Len Brass £1.4. 11d.
Bought some N.H. books & magazines. Lunch at hotel.
Before returning I visited the wool exchange at corner of creek + Elizabeth Sts. Went to 5th floor Star-lot auction amphitheater - long curving seat benches each with dealer's name - small gallery. The day's auction not on until 2:30 P.M. Great excitement since wool is bringing highest bids in Q. history. Price bid is so much per pound but each lot is 10 bales.
To T.A.A. waiting room. Plane from north late. We finally got away at 3:30. DC 3 - 21 passengers. Had seat no. 1 stbd. over leading edge. Fair with cumulus clouds. Stopped at Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville. Full moon tonight. The clouds in the moonlight, the broad path of light on the sea, & the reflected bits of inland water made a sight that I won't soon forget. The plane seemed to drift slowly over or between & sometimes thru the puffy cumulus.
Len Brass + a friend Gil Yates were there to meet us with a pick-up truck. The airport is in a beautiful spot but rather dangerous in cloudy weather because of surrounding hills - red beacons on each hill. Good chorus of frogs near airport gate.
THURS. FEB. 26, 1948
HIDES' CAIRNS HOTEL, NO. 1.

ALL 4 OF US ARE TOGETHER AT Last! G. A. H. TATE CAME
IN ON THE 10:30 P.M. PLANE! GIL DATES HAD HIS PICK-UP
TRUCK THERE AND LEN, GEOFF & MRS. DATES & I DROVE BACK
tO THE HOTEL WITH ALL G's LUGGAGE.

WE WERE AWAKENED AT 7:30 P.M. BY A GIRL WANTING TO KNOW
WHETHER WE WANTED MORNING TEA. BREAKFAST AT 8: THEN WE
WENT OVER PROVISION LISTS WITH LEN, TO BURNS PHILIP TO
MEET MANAGER WHO SHOWED US AROUND & INTRODUCED US TO
HIS DEPARTMENT HEADS: TO BANT TO MEET MANAGER WHO
WILL HOLD OUR AMERICAN DRAFTS, TO P.O. - MAILED A
LETTER TO HAY (CAIRNS #1). MET ERNIE STEPHENS - PRES.
of CAIRNS NATURALISTS CLUB, HAD A GINGER BEER WITH HIM,
INVITED US TO A SPECIAL CLUB MEETING TONIGHT TO HEAR LEN
GIVE AN INFORMAL TALK ON NYASALAND. LUNCH AT HOTEL.

B-P. WAREHOUSE VERY MODERN (FOR CAIRNS) - A FINE PLACE
TO UNCRATE GEAR, DRY STINS & SKULLS, UNPACK & SORT
OUR GEAR, CONCRETE FLOOR, TIN ROOF & SIDES, LIGHT
& HIGH-CEILINGED. IN P.M. WE SPENT TIME PICKING
OUT FOOD & PROVISIONS FOR 1ST PHASE OF TRIP (AT B-P)
FOUND SOME ENGLISH BRASS PICTURE WIRE FOR SNARES.

TO HOTEL FOR SUNDOWNER WITH GIL DATES & MR. BROOMS
(DENTIST & BUTTER COLLECTOR). DINNER, MR. STEPHENS
& MR. WYER CALLED TO TAKE US TO MEETING. LEN GAVE
AN INTERESTING TALK & GOOD QUESTION PERIOD FOLLOWED.
THEN GEOFF & I WERE ASKED TO SAY A FEW WORDS. I
BROUGHT GREETINGS FROM THE LINNAEAN SOCIETY. WE
ALL WENT TO HAVE TEA & COFFEE AFTERWARDS. A FINE
INTERESTED & INFORMAL GROUP (Q7 & Q8). THEN TO
AIRPORT. WE STAYED UP TILL MIDNIGHT TALKING
WITH GEORGE. HAS HAD A FAIRLY GOOD TRIP BUT RAIL
STRIKE UPSET EVERYTHING. G. LOOKS WELL.

REMEMBER GIL'S STORIES OF CAUCUS & CACTUS &
HORSE.
Friday, Feb. 27, 1948
Hides' Cairns Hotel, Australia

Up at 7:30. Fair and warm. Breakfast together for first time. George and I took his skins, skulls and alcohols and collecting trunks to Burns Philip Warehouse after lunch. We strung up the undried skulls; put the skins out to dry; made formalin solution for rest of material. Took today 35 to camera store - shutter release is on the blink, one of strap supports is broken. Going ship express to Brisbane.

This A.M. we went with Gil Bates and Jim Buzzacot to Koah where we visited a thriving experimental farm run by Mr. Has some varieties of sugar cane that Tim & Gil wanted to check for disease. If at the end of a year stock is still clean, they can distribute for planting. George collected some soil samples & a sand sample. Camera shutter not working - only one picture. Some birds but going too fast to identify.

"Forest" country (Wallabies - none seen), large termite hills - waist to shoulder high - reddish - one, no hard outer shell - another, with hard shell, pulp layer, then tunnel passages. Black termite nests in trees.

Drove N.W. of Cairns - stopped at lookout for the fine view of sea, mts., & Cairns & sugar cane field. We drove in rain forest country - many trees with vines + fern platforms in trees. Fire-swept country - even the rain forest ("scrub"). Gardenias growing in the garden. Two sons, 5 daughters.

Saw a spine-tailed hawk over ridge (white head), swifts, finches, swamp pheasant.


Met chap over sundowners tonight at hotel. Mr. Gallup who is in charge of No. Queensland roads. Loves bush & may see us in Iron Range later. May fix several day trip for us to a virgin rain forest area.

Packed expedition box for weekend trip.
Mr. & Mrs. Clausen - Jewelers (White Opal)
McGregor - Photographer
Sat. Feb. 28, 1948  Eacham
Atherton Tableland, No. 9 — Hotel Paterson, Yungaburra.

Ernie + Gordon Stephens, George Brooks, Tom Webb called for Dr. Tate, Len Brass + myself at 7 A.M. Loaded our gear onto truck, + we were off for the Table-land country. Thru cane fields N. of Cairns, climbed the Kuranda Range, thru Kuranda, stopped at Mareeba while I bought vials + alcohol. Then to Yungaburra to EACHAM, registered, + went south thru rain forest National Park—Lake Eacham — 126 acres. Road to Old Bunji + parked near "scrub". "Boiled Billey" — corn, meat, tea, melon + ginger + jam, paw-paw. Collected spiders + beetles in scrub + edge. Stephens' saw python while fetching H2O for lunch. Many new bird calls. Caught a skink-type animal. Len looking for a once-only collected vine. No success.

To Hotel for dinner
Out with Brooks + Dr. Tate watching animals.
I shot snake with rifle. George shot 2 ring-tail possums + 1 red-legged pademelon! I shot at a possum twice — in thick tangle in tree — did not fall. Also shot at fruit bats in tall tree cluster. None fell. Home about 10:30.

Had swim in lake in P.M. — 480' deep — old crater.
George + I set traps (V.D. 16) (G.H.T.). Platypus in stream near traps (acc. to Ranger), went to hotel dance - community singing, solos etc. To bed at 1:30 A.M.
Sun. Feb. 29, 1948

Hoes' Cairns Hotel

Up at 5:30 a.m. (daydream) - To traps - Nothing.
Back to breakfast.
Skinned Pademelon. George made up 2 ring-tailed possums. All morning job 9-11:10.
To Lake E for lunch. Tree with large C, "orioles" +
To Atherton, met truck with Stephens' & Len. They found the vine!
Home by way of T where we had dinner at Hotel Fitzpatrick.
Warehouse - stretched out snake in formalin.
Laid out our skins.
Len went over tip + iron range plans on map. Also plans for Cairns stay.
Collected frog (Brooks) + spiders, beetles + others.
Saw bandicoot running in road near Cairns.
Mon. March 1, 1948

Hides’ Cairns Hotel

Returned key for warehouse to Burns. Philp.
Mailed exposed Kodachrome (Cairns #1) to Rochester - cost 80 + 3d registration - 1st class mail. This is one of films that shutter exposed on winding.

Letter from Don Carter enclosing new map of Australia. To warehouse to work on poinciana skin - ears, nose + toes. Split feet of possums - poisoned. It was like an oven + I really lost water!

To hotel for soda lemon squash before lunch.

Car called for us to take to road commission. Mr. Gallup waiting for us. Showed on large scale maps location of 12 dozen road camps where we could stay for a collecting trip. Decided to leave Wed. A.M. - George to go west to Chillagoe caves for bats; drop me at Herberton where ranger will pick up to take to Marlan - Suttie’s gap road camp on the Walter Hill Range (12 miles S. of Millaa-Millaa) - elevation 2500 - in virgin rain-forest. George will join me in 2 days.

Back to town to transfer our sleeping gear to building on waterfront that Ernie Stephens is turning over to us. Wonderful compared with warehouse - plenty of shelf space + room to work in. The museum building of Cairns Naturalist Club is next door. This location housed an army camp - most buildings sold + town will make part of the lots. Caretakers (Mr. Wilson + Mr. Baird) very fond of Americans - wished that U.S.A. had taken over Australia - civilian employees of army. War threat very real on this part of coast. Read letter of appreciation to army C.O. of this area - very touching.

To hotel for sundowners - Armstrong (used his truck for weekend - he is arranging fresh food delivery by truck for Cairns while strike lasts). "Gil" Dates - invited us to dinner Tuesday night. Ernie S. & H. of us. Gil tells some very funny stories.

Hard showers twice today. Stayed at hotel in evening.
TUES. MAR. 2, 1948

Hides' Cairns Hotel

Showers. Wrote Kay, Dick Sargent, Bill Downie (sand samples). Dr. Tate + I worked all A.M. sorting out & dividing our gear for our Chillagoe - Walter Hill Range trips.

Saw Mrs. Pride - her daughter can get us bandicoots thru a friend of hers - for 2/6 (supplies Greyhound men with B. for training).

Mr. Abdiss called at museum at 11:00 to pick up our trunks, food, etc. We are going in a weapon carrier.

To Mr. + Mrs. Bates for dinner - an excellent meal in an interesting house + garden. Harold Armstrong + Mr. + Mrs. E. Stephens came in for the evening. No screens, so many insects attracted to lights.

Came home with quite few labeled, bottled specimens.

Camera back from Brisbane today - repairs O.K.

Went over Cairns, N.Q. mammals this A.M., Dr. T. named many of them for "Ernie."

Wonderful clam chowder for lunch.

WALTER HILL RANGE (ELEV. 2500')

MARLAN-SUTTIES GAP ROAD CAMP

HAROLD MOON (DRIVER - 4 WHEEL DRIVE WEAPONS CARRIER) AND
JIM ABDISS (ASSISTANT TO MR. GALLUP - ROAD SUPERINTENDENT) CALLED
FOR US AT 7:30 A.M. CLIMBED UP TO THE "TABLELAND" (RAIN
THE NIGHT BEFORE - MANY SLIDES - "CREEKS" RUNNING HIGH).
MET "SNOWY" BAKER (ROAD BOSS OF TABLELAND AREA) AND LOADED
MY GEAR & TUCKER. GEORGE TATE, HAROLD & JIM WENT ON
TO CHILLAGOE. WE STOPPED AT SNOWY'S CAMP AT RAVENSHO E
FOR LUNCH. COLLECTED SOME SPIDERS AROUND SHED (OPEN FOREST).
INTO TOWN TO BUY MEAT FOR DINNER, FLASHLIGHT FOR HUNTING.
WENT TO MRS. BARTLETT'S HOTEL TO SEE HER 2 "WHIP-TAILED
WALLABIES, 2 GREAT GRAY MANGAROOS, EMU, DINGOES AND
BRUSH TURKEYS. ONCE HAD PET TREE MANGAROO. TO MRS. PALMER'S
TO SEE "FLYING MICE" - ACROBATIS PYGMAEUS. ENDED BY MY BUYING
FOR $2 "BOD" A PIECE (2 POUNDS). GAVE ME A BLIND SNAKE AND A
BLACK & WHITE-RINGED SNAKE.

TO ROAD CAMP IN P.M. - RAINED 12" THE NIGHT BEFORE - ROAD
ROUGH IN SPOTS. PASSED ONE BRIDGE THAT HAD BEEN UNDER
7' OF WATER. MAN & WIFE TRAPPED ON TOP OF CATERPILLAR TRACTOR
FOR THE NIGHT - HOUSE ALMOST WASHED AWAY. TIM O'REILLY (CAMP
FOREMAN) & BOB REYNOLDS (TIMEKEEPER) & 15-20 OTHERS IN CAMP.
WENT HUNTING IN RAIN AFTER DARK - NOTHING DOING. COLLECTED
2 FROGS & LARGE WORM. SET TRAPS - 15 RAT - 6 STEEL #1 1/2
COMFORTABLE CANVAS COT - 3 BLANKETS - SLEPT WELL.
RAINED 2.85" DURING NIGHT. RAINED ON & OFF ALL DAY.

* V.D. 7 - 10099  Collected by cat.
  V.D. 8 - 10100  Alcohols  Open "forest" (no "scrub")
  V.D. 9 - 10101  Outskirts of Ravenshoe
  V.D. 10 - 10103  Mar. Apr. - 1947

ALSO SET 6 SCHUYLERS.
THURS. MARCH 4, 1948
M. S. GAP ROAD CAMP

RAIN ON + OFF ALL DAY. RAIN DURING NIGHT 3.25"

SET OUT TRAPS.

WENT HUNTING - SAW BLACK CAT - 2 POSSUMS (1 SHOT - NO EFFECT)

TATE AT CHILLOCO IN BAT CAVES

RATS

R. norvegicus

V. D. 1 10093 608 310 6.3 (WITH NAIL) 28 (CROWN) 42 1.2 oz.
V. D. 2 10094 298 153 36 21 4 3.5
V. D. 3 10095 344 172 38 23 4 5.75
V. D. 4 10096 303 159 36 21 4 3.5
V. D. 5 10097 290 98 (STUMP TAIL) 38 - 22 4 6.25

BIRDS ARE WONDERFUL!!
Fri. March 5, 1948

Road Camp

Heavy Rain Spoiled Sets.

V.D. 6 10098 - 331 154 37 (m.mall) 33 (cr.) 27 6.25 oz.

George arrived in camp at 8:10 p.m. slept in my "Humpy." (Jim and Bob home for week-end). Harold and Jim back to Cairns.

Traps out. 10 Mus. Sp. - 15 Rat 12 Steel.

George and I fished for 1 1/2 hrs. I shot an Opossum and H.H.T. shot him. Dropped quickly. 2 shots.
Beautiful day!
Skinning - as usual + made up skins.
Arsenic headache in P.M. - off by night.
Tacking - shot black house cat (wounded) - chased but lost. Shot at cat (sandy yellow - ring-tail). Shot at possums. Shot at killed Perameles (bandicoot).
To bed at 11 A.M, George shot "possum" (found it next day).
Traps: 10 Mus. Spec. 15 Rat 18 Steel.

V.D. 11 10107 Possum
V.D. 12 10104 Uromys
V.D. 13 10105 Rattus
V.D. 14 10106 "
V.D. 15 10107 "
V.D. 16 10108 "
V.D. 17 10109 Possum (Pouch young of 10103)

C. + I taking turns cooking.
Sun, Mar. 7, 1948

Road Camp

V.D. 18   10110  Perameles
V.D. 19   10111  Uromys
V.D. 20   10112  Rattus
V.D. 21   10113
V.D. 22   10114
V.D. 23   10115
V.D. 24   10116

Another fair day. Took camp pictures. Took in most of traps, except native cat sets.
I went yacking - saw only 1 possum - shot at but did not drop.

Caught young brush turkey - broke leg in trap - soaked throat & abdominal cavity with "metho" (90% alcohol).

Heavy shower late in day. Beautiful night at start, but rained later. O'Reilly back to camp.

Packed up most of gear.
Mon., Mar. 8, 1948

Hides Cairns Hotel

V.D. 10 H.M. RATTUS
V.D. + G.H.T. 101 PERAMELES

BANDICOOT KILLED BY JIM'S CAR WHEN HE RETURNED
LAST NIGHT. FOUND IT ON WAY OUT OF CAMP.
TO MILLAR, MILLAR FOR LUNCH - BAKER, O'REILLY, V.D.
G.H.T., HAROLD MOON (WHO HAD COME TO MEET US), AND AN
ENGINEER -
HOME BY WAY OF GORDONVALE. BEAUTIFUL VIEWS.
SINGLE LANE HIGHWAY FOR 12 MILES. (GILLY'S HIGHWAY)
DINNER AT HOTEL.
SKINNED BANDICOOT AT MUSEUM - NO MORE TOW.
DID NOT FIND POSSUM IN A.M. SEARCHED FOR 1½ HRS.
TALKED OVER PLANS FOR NEXT FEW DAYS
STRIKE STILL ON - NO SORTS - OUR GEAR STRANDED.
Tues. March 9, 1948.

Hides Cairns Hotel

A day of rest. It was decided that Geoff & I were to leave for Mossman on Thursday. Spent A.M. at museum stringing skulls on wires in a "meat safe" and splitting gear with George in prep. for our collecting trips. George is heading for Devil-Devil Creek (West & S. of Mossman) to look for Hypsiprymnodon. Len & Geoff bought "Tow" - twisted into tight ropes. Spent P.M. pulling out tow.

Had tea with Mr. & Mrs. Webb. Stopped at the Clausens' jewelry shop to see their white opals. A lovely teardrop pendant & earrings - and a lovely ring with a fiery stone.

Regular monthly meeting of Cairns Naturalist Club. We all attended. George gave a lecture comparing S.A. & Australia - very well received. Saw Mrs. Pride's daughter - arranged for bandicoots after we finish Mossman trip. Had ginger beer & ice-cream with the Stephens & Mrs. Webb afterwards.

S/S Marella from China arrived today. Cairns has a deep water channel.

Wrote May. Mrs. Pride has to pay for "Dory".
Thursday - Mar. 11, 1948

Mossman - 2 miles west - Mossman Gorge Hydroelectric Station

Jim Cobb - Caretaker
Thompson - Assis. to Mr. Harold Lane - Superintendent

Took 8:00 A.M. bus to Mossman.
Mr. Lane took us in to Station
SAT. MARCH 13, 1948
Mossman George Hydro.
Geoff to Mossman to Bowling Club with Mr. Taylor.
I stayed home to set traps.
Sun., Mar. 14, 1948

Mossman G. Hydro.

Geoff went out collecting butterflies.
I caught my first marsupial mouse!
Geoff & H. Lane went out hiking.
Went for swim in P.M.
Mon., March 15, 1948

Mossman Gorge Hydro.

Len arrived at dinner time (night) with "Gil" Bates. Len to stay with us for a few days collecting.

Only 2 gray rats in traps last night.

Geoff and I walked down road to large boulder - took pictures of gorge and Mossman River.

We went for swim before lunch - took pictures.

George off on Devil Devil Creek trip.
TUES., MARCH 16, 1948

Mossman Gorge Hydro.

Rain last night spoiled trapping — only one gray rat. 51 traps out (30 Mus. sp. — 12 # 1/2 — 9 rat). The 1/2 s and rat traps are the only effective traps — 1/2 s best of all.

Supplies came up from town — including ginger beer.

My turn to cook today — sample dinner: canned sausages, peas & tomatoes, papaya, lemon barley drink, toast with black currant jam.

Very heavy showers in late P.M. just after I set my traps. Sheltered for a time under rock overhang.

Tried to shoot bats at dusk — too short a period.

Made box trap — bread bait — for bandicoots.

Len & Geoff out collecting — I brought home a fungus.

Mr. Gilby & bride called. Said tree-climbing kangaroo is common near Milanda.
Thurs., Mar. 18, 1948

Mossman Hydro Station

Harold lane promised to have his linesman look in the crack in the electric light pole under the lead capping to see if bats were still there. They were! A new species for the expedition—4 free-tailed bats. He arrived with them in a burlap bag—They are tiny animals without much hair & heavy forward-pointing ears—large mouth. Only 2 Rattus in traps last night, but I had fun enveloping the small Pademelon of the night before—saved the skeleton. Made up one bat also.

Brought in the Rocky path to Pool trap line—except for marsupial mouse set. Banana baited some traps near intake with H. Lane. We went hunting together—tried the Tauri pine trail. Saw Bandicoot—no shot. Found small Pademelon—shot with No. 6—not much effect—hopped into scrub at side of trail. Saw Lane off. Went out yachting again. Down Rocky Trail to Pool & home by wagon track. Finally decided to return to pine tree. I found Pademelon in path again & this time secured him with No. 2 shot—a fine young 7. The Bandicoot I saw earlier—went hopping off into the woods squeaking at every hop. To bed at 1:30 A.M. After pouring Method in abdomen of Pademelon.

The Pine—16 ft. in circ. was used as a landmark by early tin miners in their treks up the gorge prospecting.
Friday, Mar. 19, 1948

Return to Hides Cairns Hotel from Mossman Hydro Station

**Only animal in traps - young white-tailed rat** (at the marsupial mouse boulder, set #1/2 steel trap, No. 10), made up rat and stinnned out the "old man" pademelon that I shot in scrub last night. He was tough to skin.

Broke our tent camp just before a light shower. Packed up my skins, skulls & skeletons & live bats. I have taken a total of 25 specimens at this camp - 7 species: Rattus, Melomys, Isodon, "pademelon", Antechinus, free-tailed bat, Uromys - not too bad for someone green to the Australian scrub. Len Strauss says that specimens come slowly in scrub anyway.

Had my first granadilla for lunch. Juice is somewhat tart - seeds surrounded with jelly-like substance. Meat of fruit is rather flat and tasteless. Jim Cobb says that it makes a wonderful pie.

Harold Lane called for us at 1:30. Took us to Mossman to catch white bus for Cairns. Art Taylor down to say goodbye. The same beautiful drive down the coast with one short detour inland to deliver mail. Passed several litley looking platypus streams. On shore breeze kitching up white caps and snowing a little surf.

Hot shower, dinner & then to museum to unpack specimens. G.H. Tate arrived in Cairns soon after we did. He got his musk kangaroo! (Hypsiprymnodon - I - at Devil Devil Creek - saw others. "Snowy" Barker was right - they were there. Pleased to see my pademelons & the marsupial mouse.

Work night at the museum for the Cairns Naturalists Club. Mr. & Mrs. Stephens, Gordon, Mr. & Mrs. Read & Hugh, Mr. & Mrs. Seaton - Mrs. Seaton knows several houses in Cairns where bats roost in daytime. Will try for them next week. Had tea & cakes with them all at 10:30 P.M.
SAT., MARCH 20, 1948
Hides Cairns Hotel

Had my first Australian haircut this morning! They start shearing you at the bottom and gradually work out leaving you with a mop on the sides and top. I had to ask him to thin out sides, cost $1.60 and no tipping. Left boots for fixing - heel pulling off and stitching torn in one place. They held up very well in the rough scrub. They are something of a curiosity here in Australia - how army issue shoes usually worn - or bare feet.

To Museum to pin out a few specimens and to clean up a pademelon. Mr. Read stayed most of morning watching me work and asking various questions about tanning and skinning. His nephew, Hugh Read, is 11 and very much interested in shells. He would like to exchange with "Jerry."

Made up 3 free-tailed bats in P.M. Brought catalog up to date on my specimens and then cleaned skulls.

George and Len went south to look at Bell Peak (Coastal Range) with "Gil" Bates - also to find out about possibilities of working Bellenden Ker.

Geoff and I went to double feature movie in North Cairns. Harold Moon invited Geoff to go fishing in P.M. (I go to Tully Falls) - gave us lift to movies. "Home Sweet Homicide" - an amusing picture - our first since Brisbane. Home and collected gear for P.M. trip.

The Brookes family called in P.M. - very interested in work. I skinned one of the bats out thru mouth. Not too much trouble, but a nuisance when it came to stuffing.

Hides Cairns Hotel

Mr. & Mrs. Brookes, Edward & John Brookes (children) were at hotel for Dr. Tate and myself at 9:00. Up to the Atherton Tableland. Found fruit bat in North Cairns—dead on road—in good condition—infected with formalin. Threw in back of car. Turned south at Mareeba + went thru Tolga, Atherton, Ravenshoe. Stopped at locality where there was said to be a "Flying Fox" camp (place where fruit bats congregate to rest in daytime —altho they quarrel + yell all day. We found some men hunting "Flock" pigeons (?)-feed on a small black berry in "scrub" (rain forest). They offered to help us find bats, but we were in a hurry to reach Tully Falls. Found a ring-tailed, short-eared possum + a rat—mangaroo on road. We treated with formalin. Possum was pretty bloated + head crushed —well take a chance on saving it.

Tully Falls—120 miles from Cairns—the highest falls in Australia & doubtless the most beautiful. Take dead-end road south from Ravenshoe thru scrub. Small garden-covered shelter with picnic tables near the lookout. Took several pictures (start of Cairns Roll #3). Cucumbers, onions, tomatoes, cold chicken, milk, pie, came for lunch. Large pool at head of falls—a swimming hole. The water cascades down 700′ to 900′ in several falls—runs off to east in a beautiful narrow gorge. Hills and slopes covered with rain forest. Home by way of Innisfail, (around shoulder of Battle Fence) + north along foot of Bellenden Ker—thru Babinda (H. Raven worked on Babinda Creek) + Gordonvale. Car struck Boulder at side of mountain road down from falls—all a bit shaken but car ok. Beautiful stands of tree ferns in creek beds.

To Brookes for supper. I boiled the corn—good! They have a pet green frog which sleeps in small vase ¼ filled with water all day—comes out at night. They feed him cockroaches. To Museum where we did a fast job of cleaning our pickup. They had kept very well with injections! Bed at 11:00.
Mon. March 22, 1948
Hides Cairns Hotel

Another beautiful day—cool breeze.
Wrote "Dory"—cards to mother, Mr. Goodwin.
Sent sand samples to Bill Downin.

To Museum to look after Rat Kangaroo and Possum.
Skinned out feet and poisoned. Cleaned skulls of above + fruit bat. Meat safe is no longer safe—wire has parted along one side. Phalanger skeleton is almost dry.

Rested after lunch. Bought muscat raisins, peanut butter (1 lb), rolled oats (2 lbs), bacon. (They call it Windsor sausage here) 1/2 lb. Put the hot thru the meat grinder (mincing machine)—used only about 1/2 lb. of oats. Made a dark bait with good consistency.
Back to museum to finish skinning feet. Unpinned my Mossman specimens. George Tate and I have collected 121 specimens to date—not bad for short trips here and there. No. species must be approx. 20.

Gordon Stephens dropped in at noon to return rat traps—no rats. G.T. was going to give him a lesson in skinning. Much interested in clean-up operations.

Mr. Fletchert visited us and was surprised to see such a number of specimens. He is a Jewish doctor at the Cairns Hospital—radiologist. Very much interested in all branches of natural history. A bit on the know-it-all side, but quite genuinely interested.

Sample dinner: cream soup, kidney saute, roast pork + a delicious brown apple sauce, boiled green cabbage, sweet potato + yam, jello with custard + vanilla ice cream, creme de menthe in lounge.

Mr. Tate long delayed baggage arrived from Rockhampton—now have ample tow-y arsenic-alum. A few trains are running again.

Geoff & George down to Museum to work on insect collection. 2

Will send off Cairns #8 roll of color film tomorrow. Have shots along Cairns—Mossman Highway, Port Douglas, Mossman Gorge.
TUES. MARCH 23, 1948
HIDES CAIRNS HOTEL
Junction Creek, Russell River - East Foot Bellenden Ker

Apr. 1, 1948

Spent A.M. shopping for bread, eggs, "pines" for our trip to Bellenden Ker. Packed + wrote letter + a 9 from St. Pete. Sent cable for Apr. 5 - Day Kay returns from Florida - our 13th wedding anniversary. Tried to buy glass head pins - none in town. A farmer - R.H. Wiles - from near Barron River, brought us 2 striped possums (Dactyluropsina) - a 6 and young found in a felled Ti Tree. Kept alive until we reached camp, where killed with nembutol. Small hired truck (DeSoto) came for us at 2:30. All 4 of us + luggage made quite a load. South thru Gordonvale, past Pyramid Mt. + Bell's Peak to cane farm west of the Is. Mt. RR station. Our headquarters are in the barracks where the cane cutters live in season. George and I put out 39 traps along edge of an isolated piece of scrub, along a small brook + in the cane which stretched for many acres up to the big scrub footing B. K. Cot on porch with mosquito net - very comfortable. Starry night - under shadow of B. K. Junction Creek is 1/2 mile away across the cane fields.
Junction Creek - B. K.

Out early - my catch 7 out of 20 traps; George, 6 out of 19. Most of work done by noon. 2, possibly 3 sp. of Rattus + Melomys. C. also made up the 2 striped possums. The skinning net around our table + chairs is a great help in keeping out the blow flies. Went for inspection walk in P.M. Will switch traps to scrub tomorrow night. Wallaby tracks in soil around cane field borders. Junction Cr. is a clear cool Mt. stream draining part of E. slope of the B.H. ridge - our water is from this stream.

Out hacking for hour or so after dinner - shot once at large bat - no luck - saw nothing else. Soaked in sudden shower before reaching camp. Insect + frog chorus is constant. Collected insects around the carbide lamp on dining room table.

Area reputed to be the wettest spot in All Australia.
APR. 3, 1948

JUNCTION CR. - B.K.

Rain last night spoiled baited traps. Only 1 Rattus out of 18 traps - George 2 out of 19. Tom & George Giddens - 2 out share croppers owning cane farm - found a Melomys with one young clinging to teat, in rock pile in open field. Also found a fine specimen of blind snake.

My turn to cook lunch - or rather open & warm contents of several tin cans. Measured 3 mice, made-up, then spent P.M. setting new trap line in big scrub beyond Junction Creek (2 in local scrub, 2 in grass clump, 4 steel in log across stream set), 14 rat in scrub & 2 steel in scrub.

Rain off wet after dinner. No yachting.

Mr. Kern - the local orchid grower & expert - called in P.M. His son & he have climbed B.M. several times. George & Ken may go up next Monday for botanic & insect collections. Have not seen summit of B.M. clear of clouds.
April 4

Ran new trap line early - only 5 Rattus.
G's line took 9 (his is in big scrub at top of cane fields near start of track up 13 ft.). Spent most of day making-up. I skinned, George filled. G. took me out to go over his line. Lenny & G. spent much time preparing for 15 ft. climb.

Weather looks threatening.
April 5, 1948

An eventful day! My 13th wedding anniversary. Out early to run G’s line. Found a hydromys in 3 steel trap set 50 feet from creek, and 5 other specimens. Met Len & George, Kern boy & a friend Sven — with their packs, on way to start of track. They will stay at “Tick Camp” at 3000 tonight. So far no rain. Returned to camp for my breakfast, then out to take in my own line — a good catch: 1 marsupial mouse, 1 melomys, 5 rattus. Out again to set new line near G’s to facilitate my job each A.M. of running trap line. Put out 10 rat & 2 sets of 3 steel. Home at noon. Made-up all p.m. & for several hours after dinner. Geoff kindly cooked meals.

Geoff went down the road to get phone messages from Cairns. Good News! Stripes are all over. “Time” leaving soon for Cairns – at last we may see our gear which left N.Y.C. last November!

Very heavy rains all day & night — hardly a let-up. The mountain must be very wet! And they only have a blanket & piece + a palm thatched lean-to for shelter. A fire will be hard to make. However, I do wish I could have climbed B.I.T. with them. But this would have meant shutting down trap lines for 2 nights. Geoff could have gone, but doesn’t see any sense in climbing mountains!

11 steel + 19 rat in G’s trap line.
No hunting tonight!
Poor trapping—rain gets blame—only 1 Rattus, 1 Hydromys, & 2 Mus (caught in barracks)—a vacation! Re baited traps heavily in A.M. Showers all day. Geoff had phone message giving definite arrival + unloading dates for the S/S time.

Today our party should be at the summit and making their collections. Geoff still doing scouting—poor weather for his collecting. Pinned-out + cleaned skulls after dinner.

The trail to the trap line: cross barbed wire fence near barracks, across small brook on stepping stones, under another fence (the cane fields are all enclosed to keep the horses + cattle out), along a long grass trail, past 2 fern trees near a small brook—the cloud-capped ridge of B.K. Always in the background to the west, another fence, brook + fence, then a long uphill stretch past the cane fields, up to a wild raspberry patch where you turn into the rain forest—this is where a pair of laughing jackasses or too-too burras make the air loud with their cacklings, across a wild banana grove into the scrub.
Apr. 7, 1948

Out at 6:15 to run trap line (1 MAM MUSE, 1 Meromys, 7 Rattus). A huge toad was in one of my 3 steel sets - released him - off he went seemingly none the worse for wear.

LEN & GEORGE ARRIVED IN CAMP FROM B.K. AT NOON - TIRED, SORRY, WET, COVERED WITH LEECH BITE - BUT THEY HAD MADE THE SUMMIT & LEFT THEIR NAMES IN THE BOTTLE Register. LEN HAD 7 PRESSES FILLED WITH SPECIMENS; GEORGE, A FEW INVERTEBRATES & 3 SMALL RATS FROM "TICK CAMP". SUMMIT ABOUT 5000'

Tomorrow we break camp. Trapped 26 specimens while they were away - this made my staying home WORTH WHILE.
APR. 8

Return to Hides
Cairns Hotel

I ran line early. 2 Melomys -- 3 Rattus. Brought in traps. Made a heavy load. Camp at 8.

We had specimens made up quickly. Packed up, swept up & cleaned up. I have a fine bushy 5-day beard. Our clothes are rather wet & dirty. This place certainly lived up to its reputation for rain. I am surprised we caught a total of 65 specimens.
Hides Cairns Hotel

A Beautiful Day! The day of my first visit to the Great Barrier Reef. I had seen Green Island each time I stopped at the Kuranda Road Lookout - a low green dot on the horizon. A small excursion boat (maine size). The "Malita" left Cairns at 9:30. Very calm sea. Took pictures (moving & still) of the Tableland Scarp & Pinnacles. We ran out of harbor past False Cape, by the bay at the head of which is a large abo mission station (Mrs. McLeod's coral & shell diver lives there), past Cape Grafton - the newly extension of the Coastal Range B.E. of Cairns. A large tern with the heavy bill of a Caspian - common near the Island; medium slate tern with white cap; slaty-blue heron - yellow iris, legs & feet, chalky blue bill; white reef heron - all over the exposed reef flats. Arrived at 11:15 - looked for shells, collected sand sample - Took 12: Glass-bottom boat. Much coral near wharf - of many species, shapes, colors. Reef fish dodging among the coral growths, sea-urchins with foot-long black spines & 50 reflecting eye spots - 1 very large giant clam by itself on a sand bottom.

Lunch at the "Kiosk" for 35 - Reef fish fried in batter. Into my bathing suit & then out to the beach where the tide was on way out! The "nigger-heads" marking the edge of the reef were showing - these are blocks of coral thrown up at the surf line. With sneakers on I walked over the flat coral beds - now only ankle-deep in warm water. 4 Sp. of sea cucumber - jade green. 6 knobs - long, black; anchored in the coral by one end - white (sand coat) with background black showing thru in pattern - large sandy colored, cucumber girthed. Most amazing in color - the numerous indigo star fish. Sand crabs - exactly the color of their background. Petal-like sponges. Small giant clams embedded in the coral - beautiful spots of brilliant emerald (15") green on the edges of the mantle. A small carpet shell with black patches on back - stranded in coral pool. A cone poison shell. A crimson red rose petal shaped "spine" or sea anemone. A wonderful day! Met a Mrs. McLeod - a coral collector - on boat coming home. Invited to see collection. To cocktail party given by Dupain - Mr. & Mrs. Burns Philip. To museum after dinner to pack dry specimens.
April 11 "17
Hides Cairns Hotel
Took "meat safe" to Mr. West (plumber) to be
made fly proof.
Had pinning boards shaved for easy fit in trunks.
Ordered 10 "canite" pinning boards for camp use.
Skinned out 4 made-up 1 of 2 bats that George
brought back from Cairns intakte.
Geoff labeled & wrapped the 10 specimens that I
collected on Green Island.
Len changing papers on his Bellenden Ker material
went down to wharf - no sign of crates - only
barbed wire, jam, & flour. Loading sugar.
Double ice-cream cone costs 6d.
A beautiful day in Cairns. B. K. in clouds.
Went over shipping schedule - it may be another
2 weeks before we leave.
ON BOARD 3/5 LOCHIEL

FRIDAY

APR. 16

Was there ever such a sailing! The mate drunk—the Torres Strait boy "Coco" fairly high & reluctant to leave his half-caste girl friends—The cook "Terry" also high & shouting songs to the girls. However, our American skipper finally got everything under control & we cast off from the dock at Cairns at 12:15 A.M.—The deck piled high with salt, ice, fruits, vegetables & our bites on top. To bed at 1 A.M. In the roomy Forcastle—5 bunks & a table & a full complement of inch long cockroaches (The first night—It's best to go to bed without lights). Slept well—Up to see a beautiful sunrise! Coming up to Port Douglas about breakfast time. The white figure of the Good Shepherd stood out on the hill behind Mossman—could also see the gorge cliffs inland. The Table Land, coastal ranges & Bellenden Ker showed on skyline for many hours.

"Lochiel"—25 tons registered—52'—Beam 16'—Diesel—Built on Tyne—A trawler type. Our expedition boxes packed tight in the single hold forward of wheelhouse.

Crew:
Capt. — Wm. Wallace—American (Oregon)—Competent—very likeable.
Mate — ?—American—Bill flattened him last night & he is sleeping it off in the stern sheets. Left at Cooktown.
A.B. #1—"Bluie"—English—hard working & willing.
Cook—Terry—Canatdan—now a phillipino—knows how to "scroung" a good meal off the land.

Cook's boy—Ian Mackay—Australian—bound for T.I. Nice boy.
A.B. #2—Koko—Torres Islander—good natured—knows water.

Passed Mr. Thornton in A.M. "Len" has climbed twice. Later Mt. Finnegan (3740')—we will work this at end of our trip.

Arrived at Cooktown at 6 P.M.—on S. Bahn of Endeavour R. Packed up against Mr. Cook on East. Saw fine shell collection of Mr. & Mrs. Russel, who run trochus shell lugger. Took us on board—tasted turtle meat—good like beef. Went to visit a Dr. Kesteven—only Dr. in Cooktown—a charming & intelligent scientist major work on shell of skull & cephalic muscles. Gave us 2 bats he caught at hospital. Wants alligator & turtle eggs to study early day. A beautiful moon over River—Southern Cross over Cook Mt. Sailed at midnight after unloading deck cargo. Raw fish & onions—also mackerel. Steak for dinner.
Saturday  
APR. 17, 1948  
ON BOARD S/S LOCHIEL  

COMING UP ON CAPE FLATTERY IN A.M. AFTER PASSING SNAPPER IS. - THEN A STRETCH OF GREAT WHITE SAND HILLS WITH SEDIMENTARY FORMATIONS IN BACKGROUND. LIZARD IS. & N. & S. DIRECTION ISLANDS HOOMING UP TO N. KEPT THEM IN VIEW ALMOST ENTIRE DAY.  

ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL DAY - VERY LITTLE BREEZE - INLAND PASSAGE CALM. BILL CATCH ANOTHER MACKEREL AT 3:15 A.M. THAT MAKES 3 FOR TRIP - THEY GET 1 SH/POUND AT THURSDAY 15. RUN UP TO 20-30 POUNDS. HIGHLIGHT OF DAY WAS OUR ANCHORING OFF SWITZER REEF WHERE THE TACCHUS SHELTER "DARWIN" HAD FIRED ON. WE HAD A SKIFF ON BOARD TO BE PUT ON DECK.  

CAPT. SMITH - WHO OWNS LOCHIEL - WAS COMING UP ON "FAMILY" WITH SALVAGE EQUIPMENT. HAD ABOUT AN HOUR WALKING MINE DEEP ON REEF - VERY DIFF. FROM GREEN IS. MANY BRITTLE STARS WITH 1 OR 2 ARMS SHOWING - BODY IN CORAL HOLE - COULD NOT PULL OUT. SOME PURPLE STARS & SHORT ROUND BLACK SEA CUCUMBERS. SEVERAL "SPIDER SHELLS" (WHELKS).
Sunday        April 18, 1948

ON BOARD S/S LOCHIEL

Up about 4 A.M. for a look around. Moon had set but sky in East lighting. Stars clear - no squalls.
Bill Wallace up fixing water pump. Southern Cross near setting followed by Pointers. To bed & up soon after sunrise. We passed Cape Melville to port during the night after we resumed course from Switzer Reef. Most of dark hours spent crossing the wide N.E. pointing mouth of Princess Charlotte Bay.
At 8 A.M. we were opposite Breakfast Creek, & low Sandy Burbitt is coming up on our Starboard Bow.

Have spent most of day heading almost (345°-350°) North along coast passing a succession of low coastal hills with the backbone of the McIlwraith range to the west - the country where the "Terrible Archer" river has its headwaters. We are now (2:30) waiting for Cape Direction's the Southern Guardian of Lloyd Bay into which flows the Lockhart River. The R.B.O. mission of same name has many natives who know the "back blocks" well. The Barrier Reef only about 20-25 Ml. off shore. Bligh's boat entrance is only a few miles N.E. of present position.

A flattened fish of ovate shape - about a foot long - a shimmering blue (pale) just dumped out of water, dove & dumped again in a quick series, covering about 5 feet with each skip.

Pass beautiful sand beaches every few miles - sea is an honest water - green. Have passed a number of sandy islets - no vegetation - this P.M. Good localities for turtles, they say. Spent an hour this A.M. untangling our 2 fish drag lines - a 30" Barracuda that Bill caught during night messed up the lines. Soon after we had line out again & "Whitefish" struck - has long thin sickle-shaped pectoral fins - blunt nose & a "Mackerel" tail.

Raw onions, cucumbers, tomatoes, corned beef & papaya for lunch. 2 fried eggs, slice of ham & fresh orange juice. Tasmanian apples & mandarins to eat whenever we want them.

Our sails are set today - Yrb., mainsail, & wheelhouse vixen.
Mon.         Apr. 19, 1948          On Board SS Lochiel

HANNIBAL ISLAND
TUES.

APR. 20

The day we have been looking forward to since the start of the expedition! We landed on Red Island Point on the western tip of the Cape York Peninsula about 9:30 a.m. We look out across a ½ mile of water to Red Island and much further out to the Islands of the Torres Strait.

Up a ½ hour before sunrise—the C.Y. light blinking to port and the sky coloring. No birds as on the rounding of North Cape, N.Z. — only a single Red-billed Gull. We ran to S.W. past a few small islands and then thru a tricky channel east of Red Is. To our landing. On the point are a few tumble-down shacks, piles of U.S. Air Force fuel drums, a good wharf (rotting away), an old landing craft (the "Queen Mary"), and inland a few homes. "Jetty Joe" McLaughlin was on hand to catch our lines. The unloading of our gear went well — our pictures will give a good idea of the quantity. Good-byes to our friends on the "Lochiel" and we cast off for Thursday Island — the end of her trip.

Country is low lying and wooded, sandy beaches and a hot sun in a cumulus and mares tail sky — tempered by a S.E. breeze and occasional shower. Joe gave us a good meal — mackerel steaks, bread and melon jam, pineapple. Our table was under a broad-leaved "Terminalia" in the wind-swept shade. Tree in flower — sweet scent. Tom and Stan Holland (sons of the Mr. Holland of Lochiel) came down to greet us. Father will come in his truck in P.M. for us and our gear.

Bill Wallace gave me the Hydrographic Ship of Capt. Johnson's that he found on the Olive River. "Terry" may send me a collection of shells for "Dory". Sailing in a beam sea last night — did a lot of rolling.
Apr. 30

May 1

May 2
May 3, 1948

May 4

May 5
Naru Point
Newcastle Bay

Thur.
May 6 (3 m. south of Somerset)

May 7
Naru Point

May 8
Naru Point

Out at dawn to run traps—none in 55 sets! George had 1 Melomys in 65 sets—Moreton had none in 40. The dunes & Grassy Point seem very thinly populated. George & I took our machetes out with us to blaze trail thru the 'scrub' for our night vacking. Ran into my first green hornets! Walked along beach for shells. Rolled in shallow warm surf for 15 min. Then a 'shower' in our private fresh water stream. George & I went on an historic vacking trip! G. shot a Petaurus in Bloodwood tree near brook crossing. Later I saw one but could not knock down in waving tree top. While searching blossoms with light saw small white bellied animal (Melomys ?) shot with .410—fell later but I could not locate on ground. Marked spot. Saw another Petaurus (G. also) but did not get. Home disappointed with our luck. But!
SUN., MAY 9, 1948. NARU POINT

First thing after running traps went to marked spot under bloodwood tree. Hunted around but could not find the small mammal. Finally spotted a carpet snake coiled under dead branch 1 yard from my marked spot. Shot with .410. Took home to Geoff after George & I cleared more trail. After lunch had look at snake—saw bulge—opened. First out, a young bandicoot—then! an acrobates!!—The first recorded north of the Atherton Tableland—100s of miles to the south. Snake surely located animal I shot. A quite amazing chain of events. Took my green gill net, that Stan Grierson gave me, & netted opening of crevice in ironstone cliff at Naru Pt. where I had seen bat dodge.

MAY 10

NARU POINT

My bat net produced! A large grayish-winged bat—Taphozous + a tiny Hipposideros cervinus were hung up in net—2 new species for the camp. Repaired net in P.M. & restrung, but it never did produce another bat. Also caught a Melomys on cliff—head badly chewed by one of small black land crabs.

MAY 11

NARU POINT
Naru Point May 13 Newcastle Bay

Today we drove by beach, grass and scrub north along coast to the old Tardine (later H.S. Vidgen) plantation at Somerset. Surrounded by coconut palms - house of corrugated sheets - on high hill looking over Narrows to Albany Is. Wongai tree, 2 cannon in front; Cooktown orchids in full bloom in rear - Vinca running wild around lawns. First order of business was to knock down all the Hipposideros (red and brown) bats in the living room - bag of 38 (of which we made up 16 tonight). Took pictures and then off to Poro Creek for a tucker box lunch. Visited lane Bronte and Wintura (where I collected frogs for Geoff). No birds on lakes. Len's boy, Willie Somerset, born on old plantation. Took care of bat collection - found 3 large green frogs in camp. Saw large eel and some fresh water prawns in our little creek.

May 14 - "LOCKERBIE"

Out at dawn to collect traps. Broke camp very efficiently and were away at 10 a.m. Our vacation by the sea over. 1 Rattus in my sand dune line - 1 Melomys in George's. Made them up. This brings our total for the week up to 60 (38 bats) - 14 species! Of course the best find was Acrobates. Trail home was good and I spent my time catching spiders on top of the truck; beating the trees produces a fine variety of species. 7 of us rode the top, with Geoff and Mr. Holland inside. Saw 2 goronha making off at top speed in the Savannah forest. Found a carpet snake in road - I whacked him across back & Geoff put in his snake bag - 9'3". Mrs. A. had lunch for us - fresh baked bread- roll - cookies - melon, Yam - papaya - limes. Put our camp in order, worked on Pandemon tubes & ears, some rain at dinner. Black Palm in scrub very striking. Bees-eaters common.
May 18  Sawmill at Tom Hollands'

May 19  Sawmill at Tom Hollands

May 20  Sawmill at Tom Hollands
May 21, 1948.  Lockerbie to Red Island Point

Up for a leisurely breakfast with Hollands. Packed our gear in truck - the end of our camp here. Noticed bat hanging up for day over Hollands bedroom - caught by hand. Goodbye to a fine family. Took pictures. Camera stuck in middle of 36 eX. Film. Unloaded at Point - slept in shed under the terminalia tree. Arying specimens when some of Stan's "guests" came by. "Kenny" Dyck, Norma T., Charlie Mathis (Capt. of "Atlas" (out of T.N).), Mrs. Bornholt. Rowed over to Red Is. where we spent the P.M. gathering clams. Dinner at Stan's - oysters, onions + rice. Sat around watching green frog eat cockroaches out in jeep to see if we could find native cat - in old army sheds. Rain squalls.

May 22. Red Island Pt.

Just started out for walk it with Wrenn Bornholt when the truck with Len, G., Geoff and Mr. Hollands arrived back from the Yardine River camp. No mammals except 9 sand W. with young. Unloaded + reorganized gear most of day. Brought mam. catalog up to date. Dick Holland stayed down to take us nacking in truck to Higgins Field. I shot 9 W. with young soon after start - also a white-tailed rat. G. shot a house cat. Belie.

May 24  Red Island Point

Visited "cat" traps in early A.M. - nothing. Collected 1 bird & made up a few代. I repacked & listed all our mammal gear. Unpinned specimens. Went with "Stan" Holland after lunch to Cowal Creek Mission. Met Mr. Tamwuy (Baru Is.) - head of mission. Living shacks small & dingy - tin covered. The chapel St. Michaels All Angels "a good building, as was schoolhouse. Found native cat on ridge pole - one of boys poured him out & I shot with .410 just. Picked up a gin to bring back for one of "Stan"s boys. Large garden with yams & casavas. Flag white with red crossed stripes. Saw a black ibis (white tail & wh. breast). Also a white hawk. Made up "cat" after dinner (this is #4). Out "hunting" for 2 hrs. Among the bloodwoods. Set 3 traps. No results - but a beautiful night.

May 25  Red Island Point

Slept in this A.M. G's turn to visit native cat traps. Blank in scrub traps. Packed specimens & finished odds & ends. Now waiting for barge from Thursday Island to pick us up. Now dinner time, but no sign yet. Mr. & Mrs. Holland, Pearl, Mr. & Mrs. Bornholt, Norma & "Kenny" Dyck (Rom, Qld.) came down to see us off. Sample of one (Wolfram) for "Dory". Took 2 pictures of islands to W.H. Three "shell" boats arrived today - most interesting is a former "crash boat" (now geared to helmet diving). Divers keep any pearls they find. Best diving around 10 fathoms. Shot at bats at dusk but only tipped one. Our final count for tip is 303 specimens - 21 species. Up to Stans - Wallace, a diver telling about his work. Sea snakes often dart at helmet glass. Don't bite often.

May 26  Red Island Point

Lunch over & we are still waiting for our barge. Rain squalls. Rolled our swags, collected snail shells on beach. Stan telling us about dugongs - tow a dinghy for several miles - 2 young usually - in herds. Turtles - 1 hand at either end of shell - to surface & put hook in neck skin folds. Barge finally showed up at 4:30 P.M. Unloaded - then crew went to sleep. We turned in early - up at 2:30 A.M. To load our gear. Skipper Billy Fox - a half caste. Very peculiar motion to L.C.T. Curlew-like birds seen near Horn Is. Wh. Bellied Sea Eagle is a common bird in this region.
May 27, 1948  Federal Hotel - Thursday

Cast off about 3:30 A.M. Set a clear course for Entrance Is. Dawn when we passed Prince of Wales Is. (Muralug) a long scrub-covered island to the west - Hord Is. (Narupa) to the east. Arrived at #1 jetty at 8:00. 5/5 Cora + Alagna tied up. To Federal Hotel for breakfast - dugong steat + turtle steat! (also ginger beer). Sent off PtM with 4 films - airmail.

The town is called Port Kennedy on chart. In P.M. climbed Millman Hill + found 2 hippocidrous in gun battery store room. Met Dr. Barnes + we went to old naval fort on Green Hill (195). About 1500 bats in underground rooms - all 1 species - with interesting color variations.

To Mr. + Mrs. Cazow's for evening - 4 Torres Strait Capt. - also bank mar. (Mrs. Meek). Much song - whiskey - stories. Had eye dressed.

May 28  Federal Hotel - Thursday Island

To Alagna to get skinning instruments. I went to hospital on Vivien Pt. To have eye attended to. Beautiful day - picture book across Normanby Sound to P.of W.Is. Had tea with Dr. Barnes, Matron Scott & several of sisters (nurses). Eye improved. George made up 16 bats - I collected - I cleaned skulls. After lunch all walked up Green Hill - took pictures - hammond islands to N.W. G. I collected 51 more bats - emphasis on brown phase.

To Dr. + Mrs. Barnes after dinner. Another evening of stories - lemonade + "savories". Dr. examined eye + said I might leave T. I. with others. Bats squeaked all night.

Sat. May 29  On board 5/5 Alagna

To hospital for drops. Police rounded up a missing bat. To dock with gear. Sailed at 9:15 A.M. Out thru Ellis channel. Rounded tip of Australia - then thru Albany Pass on bridge snapping pictures - saw Somerset with its red roofs + coconut palms - a lovely spot. Past fly point + a glimpse of our beach on Newcastle Bay. Now 2:00 P.M. + we are off tacky - tacky - a blue sea + fair weather. We pickled the 51 bats in dining salon. Including G's prelim. trip this makes 710 specimens to date.
Sun. May 30

May 31

June 1
June 2, 1948.
Thurs. Oct. 21
Met Mr. England - M.R.C.
To Oasis with Darbyshire family
To Univ. of Q. to meet Miss D. England - Honors in Marsupiology

Fri. Oct. 22
Spent day with Mr. Menzies (to New Farm Park)
Dinner with Sandercott's

Sat. Oct. 23
R.A.O.U. meeting at museum
Met Robertson, Barker, Berney
Mr. Mack & Don spoke on Cape Y. Birds.
To Englands for dinner - Met Mrs. E. & M.
To movies Bob Hope + B.Cros. "Road to Rio"

Train to Oasis W. M.E. (D.E. Home)
River trip at 8: P.M. after dinner W. Geoff
at Lennon's

Mon. Oct. 25
Museum
Dinner + movies W. J.L.
Books

Tues. Oct. 26
Shopping
Dinner W. Geoff M.E. + D.E.
To Rehearsal
Dancing

Wed. Oct. 27
Interview w. Bris. Tel. Reporter
Dinner + theater W. J.L.
Thursday - Oct. 28, 1948

Sailed from Brisbane at 4:30 P.M. on the tide.

Don Vernon, Cecily Sandrock, Mary England down to see me off.

Wrote cards & letters in A.M. Don lunched with me.

To Barker's for books in P.M. Mr. Barker gave me C.B.'s book on "Caves, Waterfalls". Went to M.R.C. to say goodbye to Mr. England.

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Friday - Oct. 29, 1948

Lat. 27° 33' S  
Long. 157° 24' E  
COURSE 096°  
Dist. 215 mi.

Steaming Time 13 Hr 47 min

Av. Speed 15.58 knots

Dist. From Brisbane 215 mi.

Mod. N.E. swell Wind 5 mph

Our first full day at sea. Up at 6 A.M.

3 Jaeger-like birds before noon. Few flying fish

1st mate interested in birds. Showed him Alexander.

Food plain but good

Read: Flying Fox & Drifting Sand - Patagis.
      Blinky Bill - Wall
      Tales of the South Pacific - Michener.
Sat. Oct. 30, 1948

LAT. 28°-15'S  Av. Sp. 15.18 kt
L.G. 164°-00' E  To Panama 7,118 m
Course Various  Fr. Bris. 572 m.
Dist. 357 m  Mod. N.E. swell
Steam Time 23 hr. 30 min.  Wind NNE - 3 m.p.h.

Read all day. Flying bridge is very large.

Used for sunbathing. W. Albatross in ship's wake after
lunch (White Patch on L.W. 2°). 1 Tropic Bird resting on
water - flew off to N. 2 Speckled Pigeon at distance.

Dull in a.m. Sun in p.m. Our table steward comes
from New Bedford. Studied Russian Alphabet in p.m.

Father has strawberry patch near Falmouth P.O.

Sun. Oct. 31

LAT. 28°-49'S  Av. Sp. 14.93 kt
L.G. 170°-39'E  To Pan. 6767 m
Course 090°  Fr. Bris. 943
Dist. 351 m  Smooth seas
Steam Time 23 hr. 30 min. (and 12 hr 4"

Our roommate is a former concentration camp internnee -
A German Jew from Leipzig - in fur trade - to U.S. to settle +
go into business in N.Y.C. to marry a girl he met in
concentration camp. Very pleasant. Int. in music.

No Albatross today.
Mon. Nov. 1, 1948

Lat. 28-5'18S  Av. Sp. 14.97 K
Long 177-7'21E  To Pan. 6445
Course Var.  Fr. Bris. 1275
Dist. 352  Mod. N.E. swell
St. Time 2:30 hr. 30 (3rd 12 hr. 17 min.) Wind N.E. 4

Passed whale late in P.M. - Spouting 30-40 sec. intervals.
Low bushy spout. School of porpoises 1/4 hr. later. No.
up to 25. Med. sized petrels over school - too far for
identification. Read Raleiff's Russian Alphabet. Washed clothes in
Bendix - First Experience. Officers chipped in to buy machine.

Mon. Nov. 1, 1948  (DATE LINE)

Lat. 28-44S  Av. Sp. 14.35 K
Long 171-09W  To Pan. 6073 m
Course Var.  Fr. Bris. 1617 m
Dist. 342  Sea: Mod. N.E. ly swell
St. Time 2:30 hr. 30 min. (4D 44R 47S) Wind: N.E. 4

Passed Raul Is. (Kermadel Group) in early a.m. 5 Albatrosses
in wake until about 9:30 a.m. Also Black (Brown) + white med.
sized petrels in distant wake. I close Albatross above, dingy bl.
brown - wings + body. Below - patches of brown - wing - white except
1st. Officer from Niagara Falls - 14 yrs. at sea - married
to a Swiss girl - a doctor. Wants to buy home in Adirondacks.

P.M. - 10 med. sized petrels (Black above - wh. below)
only 1 seen at med. range - white below except for
black on throat - above (entire) Blackish - darkier black
streak length of wings (at distal ends of 1° or 2° cov.)
1 Albatross about 1 p.m. - 2 at sunset (entirely
Blackish-Brown above except for small white cap area)
**TUES. NOV. 2, 1948**

**Lat.** 28-16 S  
**Lg.** 169-37 W  
**Course Var.** (±70)  
**Dist.** 346  
**St. Time** 23 hr. 30 (52-11h-17min)  
**Av. Sp.** 14.72 K  
**To Pan.** 5707 M  
**Fr. Br.** 1963 M  
**Sea.** Mod. Fly Swell  
**Wind.** E-4

Wind on Starboard Bow for first time. Table Steward's father a Cape Verde Islander (lives at Matapoisett). They dance the "Mazurka" (like the Rhumba?).  
1 bird - small, white - below (t. above)?  
2 albatrosses in late P.M.  
1 Cape Pigeon (Petrel)

**WED. NOV. 3, 1948**

**Lat.** 27-25 S  
**Lg.** 163-29 W  
**Course Var.**  
**Dist.** 351  
**St. Time** 23 hr. 30 (6d 10hr. 47min)  
**Av. Sp.** 14.08 K  
**To Pan.** 5376  
**Fr. Br.** 2294  
**Sea.** Heavy. Fly Swell  
**Wind.** S.E. 4-5

Breeze fresh - Ship rolling easily - Table edges up. 2 diff. albatross following. Truman elected. Read Mayr, Lack.
Thur. Nov. 4, 1948

LNG. 157 - 27 W  To Pan. 5046
Course 079  Fr. Bris. 2624
Dist. 330  SEA Hvy. SLY SWELLS
ST. Time 2 - 3 hr. 30 (70 - 100 - 17 m) Wind S. E. 4

(1 a m)
2 ALBATROSSES STOPPED FOLLOWING AT 6 P.M. - SETTLED IN WATER - UP AGAIN? (DARK AT 6:45 P.M.) PHOTOGRAPHED - NOT TO SATISFACTORY - ALL WITH YELLOWISH TAILS SO FAR. 3RD MATE FROM BOSTON 1 1/2 YRS AT HARVARD. AMBITION TO BE A GEO.
PLAYED CRIBBAGE W. CAPTAIN - A BORING GAME.

Fri. Nov. 5

LAT. 25 - 12 S  Av. Sp.
LNG. 151 - 24 W  To Pan. 4712
Course 078  Fr. Bris. 2958
Dist. 334  SEA Hvy. S.E. SWELL
ST. Time 23 - 30 min. (8D - 09 K 47) Wind S S E. 4

(1 a m)
ONLY 1 BIRD SEEN - MED. PETREL - ALL (? DARK - PERHAPS WITH SILVERLY 1's (?) - NO ALBATROSSES.
READ NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICS (LONG ARTICLES ABOUT 4600
WORDS).

Sat. Nov. 6

LAT. 23 - 35 S  Av. Sp. 15 - 10 K
LNG. 145 - 11 W  To Pan. 4357 M
Course VAR  Fr. Br. 3313 M
Dist. 355  SEA LOW SWELL - SMOOTH SEA.
ST. Time 23 hr. 30 min. (9D - 9 hr. 17 m) Wind —
Sun. Nov. 7, 1948

LAT. 21°21'(or 51')S
Lg. 138-24 W
COUR. Var.
DIST. 348
ST. TIME 22 hr. 30 min (10D-08H-47MIN)
Av. Sp. 14.80 K
To Pan. 4009 M
Fr. Br. 3661 M
SEA - MOD SLY SWELL
Slight Seas
2nd MATE OBSERVED COMET IN S. SKIES

Mon. Nov. 8,

LAT. 19°07'S
Lg. 133-39 W
COUR. Var.
DIST. 350 M
ST. TIME 23 H. 30 MIN (11 D-08H-17M)
Av. Sp. 14.89 K
To Pan. 3659 M
Fr. Br. 4011 M
SEA LOW N.E. SWELL
Smooth Seas

Tues. Nov. 9

LAT. 16°55'S
Lg. 128-11 W
COUR. 066
DIST. 340 M
ST. TIME 23 H. 30 MIN (12D-08H-47MIN)
Av. Sp. 14.47 K
To Pan. 3319
Fr. Br. 4351
SEA Mild SELY SWELL
Wind E E3
Voyage 7  
Passage #17

Lat. 14° 42' S  
Lg. 122° 37' W  
Cours. 069  
Dist. 350  
St. Time 23° 30 (13D)

Av. Sp. 14.89 ft  
To Pan. 2969  
Fr. Br. 4701  
Sea Mod Ely Swell  
Wind ESE

Flying fish increasing; 2 or 3 petrels (all at long distance). Sun almost directly overhead at 12:17 PM. Pictures of Wm. C. Keese shooting sun.

Thur. Nov. 11

Lat. 12° 15' S  
Lg. 117° 14' W  
Cours. Var.  
Dist. 748  
St. Time 23° 30 (14D-06H-47Min)

Av. Sp. 14.80 ft  
To Pan. 2621  
Fr. Br. 5049  
Sea Mod Ely Swell  
Wind E 3

Largest no. of flying fish yet observed—in schools of 20-50-60. 2 or 3 mod petrels. Dark above, white below. No other birds. Comet still visible—tail covers 10°.

Fri. Nov. 12

Lat. 09° 54' S  
Lg. 112° 04' W  
Cours. 064  
Dist. 339 M  
St. Time 23° 30M (15D-06H-17M)

Av. Sp. 14.41 ft  
To Pan. 2282  
Fr. Br. 5388  
Sea Mod. Head Swell + Sea  
Wind E 4
SAT. NOV. 13

LAT. 07-15'S
LG. 106-59 W
COUR. VAR.
DIST. 342 m
ST.T. 23h30m (162-05h-47m)

AV. Sp. 14.55 K
To Pan. 1940 m
Fr. Br. 5730 m
Sea. Mod. S.E. Ly Swell
Wind S.E. 4

SUN. NOV. 14, 1948

LAT. 14-39 S
LG. 102-08 W
COUR. 062
DIST. 330
ST.T. 23h30m (17D-05h-17m)

AV. Sp. 14.04 K
To Pan. 1620
Fr. Br. 6060
Sea. Mod. S.E. Ly Swell
Wind S.E. 4

MON. NOV. 15, 1948

LAT. 1-58 S
LG. 97-17 W
COUR. 062
DIST. 330
ST.T. 23h30m (18D-04h-47m)

AV. Sp. 14.04
To Pan. 1290
Fr. Br. 6390
Sea. Low S.E. Swell
Wind S.E. 3

First storm petrels about 8-9 a.m. (white rump - at dist.)
Did not see flying fish.
Water temp 69°
TUES. NOV. 16, 1948

LAT. 00°-50' N  
LNG. 97°-18' W  
COUR. 062  
DIST. 341  
ST. T. 24H (19D-04H-47M)  

APPROACHING THE GALÁPAGOS. WENMAN IN SIGHT SOON AFTER NOON. (CAPT. SAW AT 35 M. RADAR AT 30)

BIRDS OBSERVED DURING P.M.:  
13 STRIKING PATTERNS

1) GULL - SWALLOW-TAIL - 1ST AT 8:30AM. - JOINED LATER BY 3 OTHERS

2) FRIGATE BIRD - ALL WH. HEAD, BREAST & UNDERPTS. - WASHED ON HEAD + BR. WITH YELLOW BROWN - VENT & UNDER TAIL COV. BLACK. - ALSO REM. OF PLUM. EXCEPT FOR WHITISH BAND ON EACH WING (2" COV.) - BILL CHALK BLUE.

3) PETREL (STORM) - WHITE RUMP - VERY RAPID FLYERS (NO PADDLING)  

3) GANNET - LIGHT BROWN ALL OVER (2)

5) TERN - VERY DARK ABOVE - WHITE BELOW, ON FORHEAD & SIDES OF NECK - ALL TERN'S SEEN CONFORM TO TYPE

6) PETREL - UNIFORM BROWN ABOVE - TAIL & UNDER TAIL COVERS DARKER - UNDERPTS. WHITE (SHARP DEMARCATION LINE UNDER EYE & SIDE OF NECK)

P.M.

12:15 - 1:15

#3 (4) - #6 (5)  

#6 (4) - WHITE EXCEPT 1" + 2" + TAIL - 1 W.B. + 1 BR. NEAR 5:30 P.M.  

#5 (7) FLYING TOWARDS WENMAN (BEARING 280°) AT 4:15 P.M.

7:15 P.M. SW.T. GULL IN WHITE

PASSED GAL. MAIN GROUP (ALBAMARLE Pt.) 65 ML. 70 S.
Wed Nov. 17, 1948

Lat. 03°32'N  Av. Sp. 14.34 K  
Long. 87°14'W  To Pan. 605  
Cours. 062  Fr. Br. 70.75  
Dist. 344  Sea Med. S. W. Swell  
St. Time 24h (29 D - 04H. 47m) Wind shifting

1. Frigate bird in sight - Black head - Wh. underparts  
   (not tail undercoverts)

Thur. Nov. 18, 1948

Lat. 06°12'N  Av. Speed 14.34 K  
Long. 82°10'W  To Pan. 249  
Cours. 062  Fr. Br. 7419  
Dist. 344  Sea Med. S.W. Swells  
St. Time 24h (21D. 04H. 47m) Wind & Seas

23 mi. off Punta H Malo  
About 5:30 P.M. I.M. & Duckhawk circled ship several times - Finally alighted on Foremast topping lift - Still there at dark. During day 5 or 6 gannets passing ship.  
Ad. = Black 10" 2"s White body & tail. Late in P.M. I very dark brown ind. (smaller than others?)  
Petrel - Med. to large - 1 Long, brod white under wing stripe - Wh. underparts - Black head  
Petrel - Small - Storm  
Gulls - Black-Hd ed - Winter Plume - Solid? Black 10's  
Dark Army mantle (5-6)  
10-15 Dolphins  
Rain squalls all day.  
Panama in radar about 5: P.M.
Fri. Nov. 19, 1948

LAT. 32° PASSING THRU Av. Sp. —
LG. Canal To Pan. ARRIVED PANAMA 6:00 A.M.
Cour. —
Dist. —
ST. T. WIND — Rain squalls in vicinity

—


BIRD LIST: (Duck, Hawk flew just at dawn + our signal, skua scared her off. 3/4 m. off shore)
1) Frigate Bird - 20-30 over bay + town - 3-4 along lakes
2) Gull - 75-100 - Laughing - Around bay + harbor
3) Cormorant - 7 - 5-10 scattered along canal (1 very dark)
4) Pelican - Brown - 10-15 - Both days - locks
5) Teal - 7 - 17-25 - At end Gatun Lake - Black cap + bill
6) Duck (sp.?) 7 - Bay - No Marks
7) Vulture - Turkey - 10-15
8) Vulture - 7-50-75 - Duff bases 1's Pac. end - most
9) Osprey - 1 - Lake
10) Hawk - Butte (sp.?) 1 - No Marks - with Vultures
11) Egret - Snowy 5 - Yellow feet - Mud banks, Pac. Entrance
12) Heron - Gr. Black type - 1 - Mud bank
13) Heron - 2 - Blue or type - Greenish legs
14) Ibis - 1 - Pink leg feet - White body - Black wing tips - Mud bank
15) Sandpiper - 4 - "Peeps" - No Marks
16) Large Wader - 1 - Mud, long, black bill - Mottled grey - brown
17) Grackle - 1 - Purple type - W. Eye
18) Blackbird type - 5 - Much olive in plum - cent. Pect. longer
19) Hummingbird - 1 - Along canal - Bright green breast
20) Swallow - 5 - Slightly forked tail - Dark plum - Patano's Manor
21) Finch type - 1 - No Marks
22) Parrot - 30-40 - Short, chunky body - Yellow under wing

Sailed 8:30 P.M. Geoff off at Baldor in A.M.
Moon rising over hills beyond Colon as we cleared Harbor
SAT. NOV. 20, 1948

LAT. 10-50 N

Av. Sp. 15.17 M

Lg. 76-27 W

To Port of Spain 933

Course Var.

From Cristobal 226

Dist. 226

Sea Hvy. N.E.

St. Time 14 h 54 min

Wind N.E. 6

My 39th Birthday - at sea. Marie Brass and others arranged
cake and ice cream in Capt.'s cabin.

Off the Colombian coast tonight - light glow from
Baranquilla! Pass S.N. 25' S, M. about 10 P.M.

Caught up on sleep most of day.

Passed Thirdy about 10 A.M. - also large liner (Dutch)
on Panama Track.

Took picture of new spray. Some flying fish.

1 Bird - small - wh. underpts. - light above - no marks.

SUN. NOV. 21

LAT. 12-25 N

Av. Sp. 14.04 K

Lg. 71-11 W

To P. of Sp. 600

Cour. Var.

Fr. Cris. 556

Dist. 520 M

Sea Hvy. N.E. swell

St. T. 23-20

Wind N.E. 5

In sight of coast of Columbia in P.M. - Guanira Penn. Passed
mouth of Gulf of Vene. Aruba in sight in late P.M.
Hit up pine Christmas tree at night. Passed Curacao before
midnight. 20-70 Gannet (Allad) 1°12' BL. - Bill yelled - rest wh.
a few tankers near.

MON. NOV. 22

LAT. 11-33 N

Av. Sp. 13.31 K

Lg. 66-00 W

To P. of Sp. 259

Cour. Var.

Fr. Cris. 869

Dist. 313

Sea Mod. Ely swell

St. T. 23-40(2D 3h 54m)

Wind E 5

All day along Vene. coast - a few low islands to N. of

course. Took cloud pictures (2) high cirro-cumulus.
TUES., NOV. 23, 1948

LAT. | Av. Sp.
---|---
LG. | Arrived Trinidad
COUR. | To P.O.S.
DIST. | Fr. Cris.
ST. TIME | SEA

WALKED ABOUT TOWN. - LETTER & CLIPPING FROM HAY.

WED., NOV. 24

Train at 7:30 to San Fernando (11:30 A.M.) Bus to La Brea.
At Pitch Lake - took pictures. Around plant. Train to
P.O.S. 5:15 P.M. Canoe & rice country. To Paul Robeson concert in
Evening - very fine - many encores. Check bond on birds.

THUR., NOV. 25

Train to Botanical Gardens in A.M. By bus to Maracas
Beach in P.M. - over Northern M.T. Range. Unspoiled. Some
surf - good swimming. Many pelicans (to 20) fishing. Road very
Scenic! To "Little Carrib" for dance recital in eve. (Miss McBurnie)
Very good! Spontaneous! Paul Robeson laid corner stone (Little Thea)

FRI., NOV. 26

Look tram ride to St. Ann Section town w. Mrs. Brass
Pictures of primitive log sawing (pit) - Salmon-Wood. To
Fish Market (no activity). To movies in P.M.

SAT., NOV. 27

LAT. 13° 10' N
LG. 62° 06' W
COUR. 349° 1 VAR
DIST. 162
ST. TIME 10 H 46 M:

Av. Sp. 15.04
To Boston
Fr. P.O. Sp.
SEA Hwy. NNE swell
WIND NNE 5

SAILED AT MIDNIGHT. GRENADE IN SIGHT IN A.M. ALSO
THE GRENADES. BRIGHT SUN. A FEW GANNETS (TO 10) - WHITISH
TAIL & RUMP - REST BROWN. MED. SIZED PETREL (TO 50) - BLACK &
WH. CONTRAST GOOD - WH. UP SIDES NECK. MANY FLYING FISH.

LAT. 18-57 N  
Lg.  63-36 W  
Cour.  VAR.  
Dist.  359 M.  
ST. T.  24 HR.  
Av. Sp.  14.95 K  
To B.  1479  
Fr. Prof. Sp.  .521  
Sea, Mod. N.E. swell  
Wind, NE 4

Mon. Nov. 29

LAT. 24-42 W  
Lg.  64-50 W  
Cour.  348°  
Dist.  352 M  
ST. T.  24 HR.  
Av. Sp.  14.66 K  
To B.  1127  
Fr. Prof. S.  873  
Sea, Hy. N.E. Ly swell (then calm)  
Wind, N.E., 4

Tues. Nov. 30

LAT. 30-28 N  
Lg.  66-15 W  
Cour.  348°  
Dist.  356  
ST. T.  24 HR.  
Av. Sp.  14.83 K  
To B.  770  
Fr. Prof. S.  1229  
Sea, Hy. N.E. Ly swell  
Wind, Chilling winds

Tropic Bird WH-T. - 29-44 N LAT. 66-05 W LG. (Bermuda LG. 65 W)

In P.M. Jaeger following ship - Central Rect. not extended
3/4 Black (Bk. Cap) WH BR. + Belly WH. Nape

Wed. Dec. 1

LAT. 35-56 N  
Lg.  68-00 W  
Cour.  346  
Dist.  340  
ST. T.  24 HR (HD-11n-16m)  
Av. Sp.  13.88 K  
To B.  438  
Fr. Prof. S.  1569  
Sea, Hy. N.E. swell  
Wind, NE 5

Jaeger following... Very dark - Short Central Tail Feathers
**Thursday, Dec. 2, 1948**

**Loc:** 41° 25' N  
**Lg:** 69° 28' W  
**Covr. Var.:**  
**Dist.:** 349  
**St. T.:** 24 lb 3 oz (5 lb 11 lb 4 oz)  
**Av. Sp.:** 14.25 k  
**T° B. 85 m  
**F. P. F. S. 1918**  
**Sea Mod. N. W. Ly swell to calm**  
**Wind light shifting winds**

Up at 7 A.M. Coming up on Nantucket Light. 12 Trawlers (out of New Bedford & Woods Hole) in our track. 

**Jowries** - singles up to 20-30 all about, Herring Gulls following. 1 gr. br.-br. gull on water. Gannets flying & resting - this species all up Cape. 1 shearwater - good contrast. 2 Kittiwakes. Calm sea - chill wind. Used blanket last night - first time. Cape in sight about 12:30 P.M. Chatham Light! Brilliant sun. Turn Provincetown about 3:30.

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**Friday, Dec. 3, 1948**

Land in Boston
MRS. HOBART M. VAN HEUSEN,
12 HIGHLAND AVENUE,
MONTCLAIR,
NEW JERSEY,
U.S.A.

Dated June 7,
Rec'd July 21, '53.
VAN DEUSEN
ARCHIBOLD EXPEDITION
C/O A. H. BUNTING
SAMARAI, PAPUA
NEW GUINEA
HOBART M. VAN DEUSEN
MRS. SANDERCOCK
OF
BRISBANE
QUEENSLAND

NATIONAL PARKS ASSO.
OUTING

CHRISTMAS CREEK,
BORDER RANGES

OCT. 1948
CHRISTMAS CREEK
Border Ranges

Oct. 1948
Christmas Creek
Border Ranges
Oct, 1948
Christmas Creek
Border Ranges
Oct. 1948
HOBART M. VAN DEUSEN

OCT. 1948

CHRISTMAS CREEK

BORDER RANGES

QUEENSLAND
CHRISTMAS CREEK
Border Ranges
Oct. 1948
CHRISTMAS CREEK
Border Ranges
Oct. 1948
Christmas Creek
Border Ranges
Queensland
Oct. 1948
CHRISTMAS CREEK
BORDER RANGES
QUEENSLAND

Oct. 1948
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
<th>Retouched</th>
<th>Order Finished</th>
<th>Reorder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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Mr. Van Oezeren