

DAILY LOG

APPLIED FISHERIES LABORATORY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

410746

Locality Rongelap Atoll - Rongelap Island Date October 22, 1955 - Saturday
Personnel Bonham Held Weather Fair - only a light wind
Lowman Seymour Water conditions with no white caps on water.

Radiation level(s) Rongelap Island - range open 2 - 0.2 m.rep/hr
closed 0.5 - 0.1 " "

Operations:

Rongelap Island:

0800 Weighing anchor. Obtained Caulerpa and pulverized coral sample (No. 59) from anchor chain. To have left before this hour would have put the crew on overtime. About 10:15 at anchor off Rongelap Island about 2 miles. Came from north end through lagoon rather than going out NE Passa and around outside.

1030 put off from LST. Landed on sand beach in front of village. Excellent landing area. Used LCVP because it is faster to get off of ship and goes about twice as fast. It takes 20 to 30 minutes to open the door of the LST to unload the DUKW.

Survey meter readings made with same instrument as yesterday. Range given above and individual readings on Island sketch. Readings were limited to village area. Readings made in similar manner as yesterday.

Island water samples taken from one well and three cisterns. Two 250 ml. samples from each. The depth of water in well was just that of the length of the water bottle, approximately 15". Ed climbed down into well to obtain samples of the soil from well bottom and of algae growing on the walls of the well.

Soil samples taken within a few feet of the well. Ground level meter readings were 0.9 & 0.3; at 3", 0.3 & 0.05; at 6" 0.2 & 0.05.

The flies were beastly. The coconuts and papayas were heavy with fruit. The squash were in bloom but no fruit found. Again the breadfruit trees were barren of fruit. Dog tracks, pig tracks were seen and a rooster was heard off and on. In general the vegetation on the Island was lush. Morinda was present and in fruit. Arrowroot plants higher than ones' head.

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Personnel _____ Weather _____

Water conditions _____

Radiation level(s) _____

Operations:

Rongelap Island (con't.)

Coconuts, arrowroot and morinda collected.

The second soil sample was taken from a papaya cluster behind school house. The meter readings at ground level were 1 & 0.3; at 3", 0.5 & 0.1; at 6" 0.4 and 0.1. In all, 12 one gallon soil samples have been collected for NY00, two gallons for each sample area which includes the top three inches of soil from a $\frac{1}{2}$ square foot area in one gallon can and the soil from 3" to 6" below ground level in a second gallon can; there have been two sample areas on each of three islands, Kabelle, Lararedj and Rongelap.

Fish collections were made about $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ of a mile north of landing area using both Prima cord and rotenone. Not many fish present and only fair collection made. Another collection was made at boat landing using Prima cord and this was bigger and better. Collection made at low water and first of the incoming tide. No surf. Only a few terns present and none were shot. An egret and a couple of shore birds made up collection.

Sea cucumbers, algae, Tridacna, spider snails collected from general area in front of village (lagoon side).

Frank with Bob Isa standing by took sand profiles and collected algae and sea cucumbers (a red variety, H. rubirosa) from 22 and 59 feet. Plankton tows were for 30 minutes. NY00 water sample from beach; AFL water sample from boat anchorage.

Would have moved to Ailinginae Atoll this P.M. if we could have left beach by 1400. However work was not done by this time. Returned to LST about 1630.

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