

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

BALBOA PARK • SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

MAILING ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 1390, ZONE 12

FOUNDED AND OPERATED BY
THE SAN DIEGO SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY
INCORPORATED 1874

March 12, 1963

Mr. Jerry MacMullen, Director
Junipero Serra Museum
P. O. Box 10248
San Diego 10, California

Dear Jerry:

For many years we exhibited a map showing the general configuration of the floor of the Pacific Ocean. This was built on the navy oil tanker U. S. S. RAMAPO, and was based largely on depth data obtained from the ship's echo-ranging equipment during various crossings of the Pacific Ocean. The Ramapo Deep off Japan, sometimes called the Tuscaloosa Trench, as well as an uncharted shoal area some distance northward from the Hawaiian Islands were among the significant discoveries. The map, which measures 53 by 126 inches, was built on shipboard under the direction of navigator Ross P. Whitmarsh and his successors.

The map was given to this museum. While it is of considerable historic interest and has always been a popular exhibit, I have removed it from display to make room for a new map section. I offered the map to the museum at the Naval Training Center, but they also lack room. Admiral Whitmarsh, the original navigator, requested that it be given him. At our board meeting yesterday the trustees suggested I ask if you would want it for the exhibits in the "Star of India" or the proposed museum section on the second floor of the Broadway Pier, before considering any other disposition.

The map is now stored under a tarp outside the museum, and should be moved to a more suitable place. We would be very pleased if you can use it.

Yours sincerely,



George E. Lindsay
Director

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