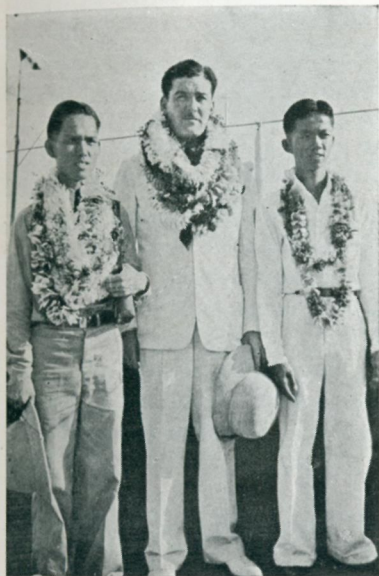


Seventh Expedition to American Equatorial Islands

By RICHARD B. BLACK

Field Representative, Division of Territories and Island Possessions, Department of Interior

To keep current information before the readers of the *Paradise of the Pacific*, on the South Seas project of the United States Department of the Interior, the following skeleton Log covering the Seventh Expedition to the American Equatorial Islands of Jarvis, Baker and Howland, is here presented. Lt.



RICHARD B. BLACK FLANKED
BY THE LUM BOYS

Com. Frank T. Kenner was in command of the U. S. Coast Guard Cutter *Itasca* and the writer, as field representative of the Department of the Interior, was in charge of the expeditionary activities.

October 16, 1936: *Itasca* sailed for Equatorial Islands of Baker, Howland and Jarvis carrying, personnel to relieve men on Islands, water, stores, equipment and 100 Ironwood, 100 Hala, 100 Milo Trees.

October 20, 1936: Anchored off Palmyra

Atoll (Mr. L. Fullard Leo, owner). Fifty-three Islands around lagoon. Collected in slings made of burlap and poles, 375 young cocoanut seedlings.

October 22: Jarvis Island at 4:50 a.m. Heavy cross swells. Unable to land with safety to stores, boats, and men.

October 23: Lull at noon. Completely unloaded at 6 p.m. Lost two drums of water, pounded on reef.

Replacements as follows: Harold Chin Lum, student aerologist, for Yau Fai Lum and Charles Ahia for Manuel Sproat.

October 26: Arrived Howland Island 6 a.m. Swell running but length of Howland gives excellent lee. Completely unloaded at 10:30 a.m.

Replacements as follows: James Kamakaiwi for Killarney Opiopio, leader; Paul Yat Lum for Ah Kin Leong (student aerologist) and William Tavares for William Yomes.

Sailed for Baker Island, arriving 1 p.m., same date.

Heavy surf made landing difficult. No serious accidents, but one seaman unconscious awhile after being thrown length of surf boat by sea.

Necessary to land supplies on South beach rather than as usual on West beach, using running boat on line between launch and shore. Finished at dark.

Replacements for Baker Island as follows: Albert Akana, leader, for Abraham Piianaia; Eugene Burke for William Kaina; Ah Kin Leong for Edward Young, and Gabriel Victor for Joseph Kim.

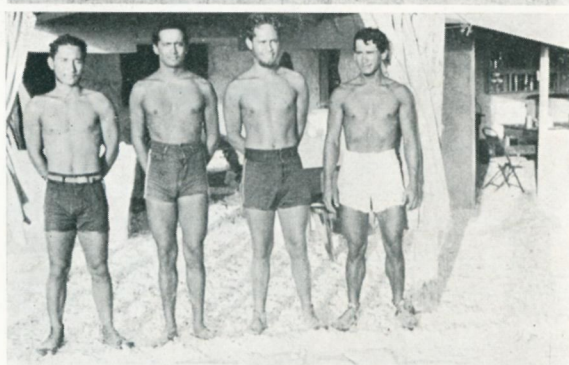
Folinga Faukata was carried as a replacement member, but was not needed this trip.

Cocoanut seedling distribution was as follows: Jarvis Island, 75 seedlings, 5 feet average height; Howland Island, 150 seedlings, 5 feet average height and one 15-foot tree, and Baker Island, 150 seedlings, 5 feet average height and one 15-foot tree.

At this writing, December 16, 1936, other developments have taken place as follows:

Due to strike conditions and the lack of meteorological data from ships at sea, the astrological stations on Jarvis and Howland Islands have been furnishing daily pilot balloon results to the Pan American Airways at Honolulu, and the Pacific service has been materially aided. It had not been intended to inaugurate this service until January, when this data will probably be incorporated in the daily Pacific weather chart.

Recent radio messages from Howland Island state that forty-five drums of water have been collected from the eaves-troughs of the Government House during recent rains. Word from Baker Island tells of similar rains with considerable water saved. This news is very encouraging and should mean that the 350 cocoanut trees planted last trip should do very well.



HAWAIIAN BOYS ON BAKER ISLAND (Upper)
AND ON HOWLAND ISLAND (Lower)