

Explanatory Notes

Most of the diaries were transcribed onto typescript by the secretaries hired by William T. Miller and Richard Black in Honolulu upon return of the Coast Guard resupply ships. Copies of these diaries were sent to the Department of the Interior, US Coast Guard, and Bureau of Air Commerce, Civil Aeronautics Administration. This manuscript is thus a third-hand transcription, almost assuredly containing errors in spelling, grammar, syntax from all sources, including this particular transcription. A check-list of items, missing from mis-copying paper records, continual mis-spelling of words, etc., were intended to be re-examined if original hand-written diaries were found. Only the very first hand-written diaries were provided to the Bishop Museum. Transcripts of diaries from late 1937 through very early 1942 have been sought for, but except for one or two excerpts, have not been found. Panala'au Memoirs, a book by E. F. Bryan, Jr. (1974), published by the Bishop Museum, contains abundant information about the colonization scheme and the various islands themselves.

The author takes full responsibility for any errors between the second-hand typescripts and this version, as well as any errors in fact in the introductory sections.

The following checklist contains those known items that need to be re-examined to clarify this transcript.

R. S. Jacobson, September, 2023.

Things to check:

Howland missing diary June 19 1935 bottom
Howland missing diary June 20 1935 bottom
Howland missing diary June 24 1935 bottom
Howland missing diaries September 16, 17 1935 complete
Howland Sept – Jan 1935/36 Use of Ferns instead of Terns, transcriber error?
Howland Sept – Jan 1935/35 tomatoe juice spelled originally in hand-written diary?
Howland Sept – Jan 1935/35 Goonie birds or Boobies?
Baker Jan-March 35/36 Use of Ferns instead of Terns, transcriber error?
Jarvis, June-Aug, 1936 June 23 wik lima? End of second paragraph
Baker July – August, 1936: missing August 4, 5 logs?
Jarvis, October – January 36/37: Missing December 3?
Howland Island, Jan – March, 37, missing (3/18-19) Need to examine original cursive logs
Howland Island, April 4, 1937, tide 286”???
Baker Island, March -June, 1937, Semaphone or semaphore?? Also elsewhere
Jarvis Island, September 18 1937, “We the [sic] throw nets and spears”
Jarvis Island, October 11, 1937 “certain formation that [sic] we can add”