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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Top. Sheet No. *3442*

LOCALITY:

191

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3442

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

To accompany sheet "K", Kahuku Lava flow of 1887 to sta. Kipaepae,
Island of Hawaii.

Eoline R. Hand, Asst., Chief of Party.

The country embraced within these limits comprises the most southerly portion of the island. There is a great cliff which starts at South Point and trends North, becoming more and more high as it leaves the point: it divides the land in two parts greatly diversified in character: on the West side it is low, of very gentle and even slope and composed of lava flows comparatively recent, and though the greater part is barren, here and there are spots of sparse vegetation. The shoreline is irregular and low, the cliffs not rising much over 10 ft. At and near Puu Hou (hill) there are long stretches of sand.

Puu Hou was formerly a trig. station but erosion has carried away the mark, but tests show that the point of the hill may, for hydrographic purposes, be used as the original mark: it was originally 273 ft. but is now 260.

From shore I could not see a sign of the Kailikii Shoal as shown on chart 4115.

There is a small fishing village, Waiahuakini, at the sea near the base of the great cliffs, and a landing as shown nearby, in the line of trees is a trail leading to the top of the pali: there is said to be no other for several miles North. There is no such place as Kaulu at top of the cliffs, and there is no local authority for the name Mamalu as applied to Molilele Pali.

A dangerous shoal makes off South Point at the Light: it appears to be about 200 m. wide and more. Through the courtesy of the captain of the Mauna Loa I took two vertical angles on the Light en route to Honouliuli. This put us 0.4 mi. off the light, when bearing N15W (mag) and N6E (mag) deviation negligible. In these positions there was more discolored water to the South, and I estimated the depth at between 4 and 5 fms. when bearings were taken: in rough weather it is said to break even outside of these positions. This vessel, and others, do not usually round the point so close in.

An interesting narrative was given me concerning this shoal: it was said that in olden times parties of natives would proceed in large canoes to South Point when starting for TAHITI and would keep the course by following the line of discolored water, which, it was claimed, extended that far.

East of the cliffs and extending as far as Kaalualu is a beautiful grassy plain: the soil is bright yellow and about three feet deep, and along the coast it has been washed back, exposing the bare, black lava: here and there on the plains are frequent outcroppings of ancient lava flows. A wagon can cross this plain from Waiohinu directly to the Light at South Point.

N.E. of Kaalualu is another area of low, even sloping lava, with scant vegetation, but not so barren as the area West of the great Pali. At the extreme N.E. corner of sheet is another geologic faultlike Molilele Pali, but not so large and steep: North of this the land is high, more steep, and covered with sparse weeds and grass, while at the sea are high cliffs which extend as far as Honuapo Landing.

There is but little at Kaalualu: a large ranch house, the home of the foreman of the Waiohinu Agricultural and Grazing Co. A private road, practicable for autos runs up to the main road, joining it about a mile East of centre of Waiohinu. The bay appears rather shoal, and steamers no longer stop there for cattle: the inner lagoon can accommodate small boats, though the entrance is dry at low water.

On chart 4115 is shown a hill at sta. Kipaepae: there is no hill: station is marked with a terraced cairn about 12 ft. high, painted white.

The S.E. coast is the weather side because of the N.E. trade which is blowing more or less steadily the greater part of the year: in consequence considerable swell is encountered, and the surf makes landing a matter of much difficulty, if possible at all. South Point, however, offers a lee, and smooth water. I do not know the nature of the anchorage below the cliffs, but it is certainly not shoal.

Between December and March there is liable to be heavy weather from the S. and S.W. Though the wind does not often reach the coast, enormous swells roll in, to the discomfiture of the hundreds of fishermen and the disarrangement of steamer schedules, all along the West coast, but for by far the greater part of the time the ocean is smooth and landings can be made with ease from South Point to Mahukona.

Eoline R. Hand
Asst., U.S.C. & G.S.

ISLAND of HAWAII.
Sheet "K", Kahuku Lava Flow
of 1887 to Sta. Kipaepae.
Surveyed March, 1914
Top'y and inking by Eoline R. Hand
Eoline R. Hand, Asst. Chief of Party.
Contour interval, 50 ft.
Scale, 1:20000

Eoline R. Hand, Asst. Chief of Party.

Eoline R. Hand, Asst. Chief of Party.

cliff. } it was intended that print be placed at
" } foot of cliffs directly below sticks, and
" } the plotted positions shifted down to H.W.M.