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Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey Topographic Field No. E-43 Office No. T-6919
LOCALITY
State Alaska - Aleutian Islands
General locality Atka Island
Locality Salt Island to Island Point
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CHIEF OF PARTY
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Casper M. Durgin
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
DATE October 10,1944

B-1870-1 (1)

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. E-43

REGISTER NO. T-6919

State. ALASKA
General locality. Aleutian Islands - Atka Island
Locality Atka Island, North Shore
Scale 1:20,000 Date of survey May, June, July , 19 43
Vessel Surveyor
Chief of party CASPER M. DURGIN
Surveyed by Emerson E. Jones
Inked by Emerson E. Jones
Heights in feet above
Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval 100 feet
Instructions dated April 15, revised April 16 , 19 43
Remarks:

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany

TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET T-6919

SALT ISLAND to ISLAND POINT

ATKA ISLAND, ALASKA

Project CS 218

Instructions dated: April 15, 1943

Revised: April 16, 1943

U.S.C. & G.S.S. SURVEYOR

C. M. Durgin, Commanding

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

From well offshore Atka Island appears to be a long string of rugged islets which, upon closing with the island, merge into a ragged ridge, the backbone of Atka. Salt Island first appears as a low, double-topped hill gently sloping to the south or southwest and dropping steeply to the north or northeast. Upon closer approach, the cliffs along the shore begin to appear over the horizon. From the northeast or southwest jagged reefs can be seen extending northward from the island. The south shore is not so rugged, but a largely submerged reef extends from the southeast corner of Salt Island across to the shore of Atka Island at the point between Banner Bay and Deep Bay. The reef is kelp-covered and marked by a prominent group of rocks about one-third of the way (1/2 mile) from Salt island to the point of Atka. A small-boat passage crosses the reef near the south shore. The point of Atka is low (about 100 to 300 feet in elevation) compared to the surrounding mountains, and appears as a flat plateau edged by cliffs, although it is made up of small hills and lakes.

Deep Bay is inconspicuous until almost directly in its entrance. There are several rocks in the middle of the entrance, but the rest of the bay, except for its small "side pocket", is deep and its shores generally run steeply up to mountains. At the head of the small "side pocket" is a large, shallow lake running far back into a valley. Near the end of Deep Bay is a waterfall dropping from a comparatively large valley.

A little less than a mile west of Deep Bay is an indentation in the coast, at the head end of which is a small "end pocket". The "end pocket" is too small to be of much use; and the outer bay has visible rocks almost in its middle as have most of the bays and indentations of the north shore of Atka Island.

Southeast from Island Point is a bight in the shore which has rocks in its center, a sloping, gravel beach at its head, and is backed by rolling hills.

Generally the shores within the limits of this sheet are cliffs backed by hills and ridges running steeply up to the "back bone" of Atka Island. Many lakes exist among the small valleys.

LANDMARKS

The most prominent landmark for offshore navigation is the highest point of Salt Island (546 feet elevation). This is triangulation station "SALT". For navigation east of Salt Island, station Gra is an aid, it being the highest point of the reef, (57 feet), 2 miles east by south from Salt Island.

About 1/2 mile southeast of Salt Island is a prominent pinnacle (38 feet) which rises out of the rocks of "Salt Reef". This pinnacle is station Thum.

About halfway between Deep Bay and Island Point, and 1/2 mile back from shore is a prominent, cone-shaped peak (1405 feet) which can often be used. In entering Deep Bay, the rock in its entrance, station FA, can be used.

To anchor southeast and behind Island Point the highest points of the groups of rocks, which are stations Off, Ten, and Hay may be used as well as the top of the waterfall, which is station Wat.

CONTROL

The control used for this sheet is triangulation. The line between triangulation stations SALT and GALE is the basic control of the sheet, and the supplementary, computed stations Thum, Cas, Bar, Wil, and Ne were used in their respective localities.

CLOSING ERROR

A traverse was run from Ne to End and closed 15 meters too far to the southeast. This error was adjusted on the sheet by the straight line method.

AUXILIARY SURVEYING METHODS

Station Thum was located by theodolite and its position computed. All other offlying features were located by intersection.

FORM LINES

Form lines of Salt Island were verified by offshore observations.

INCOMPLETE WORK

From lines are incomplete because of the limited number of days that the peaks were visible. However, many elevations were taken in order to control form lines which may be taken from aerial photographs.

DEVIATION FROM STANDARD PRACTICE

No deviation from standard practice was made.

JUNCTION OF SHEETS

Proper junction was made with adjoining sheets. In joining with the sheet to the west, the shoreline south of signal Mush should be taken from this sheet, and offlying rocks south and west of Mush should be taken from the other sheet, T-6917b.

NEW NAMES

The following list of new names used by field officers are suggested. No old names not appearing on the charts are available, since the small population of Atka Island has been evacuated.

GEOGRAPHIC NAME

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

Island Point

From offshore the point appears as an island.

Salt Reef

Proximity to Salt Island.

Salt Bight Ho

Proximity to Salt Island.

CHANGES OF CAOST LINE

No changes in the coast line were observed, the rugged rock appearing to be quite resistant to change.

MARSHES

Only one small marsh exists in this area. It is near but separated from high water at the head of the small "side pocket" in Deep Bay.

MAGNETIC DEVIATION

From Declinatoire observations and from Compass Declinometer observations taken by R.M. Stone, M.V. E. LESTER JONES, it appears that local magnetic attraction exists in the area of this survey. When navigation inshore by magnetic compass, caution should be exercised.

Sue Rev., par 3 B

Samples of rock taken from triangulation station SALT became magnetic when fused. Outcroppings of a blue-green, copper mineral were noticed in a bluff at the southeast corner of Salt Island. Also, iron pyrite was seen in veins of quartz along the portion of shore of Atka Island within the limits of this survey.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany

° TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET T-6919

SALT ISLAND to ISLAND POINT

ATKA ISLAND, ALASKA

Project CS 218

Instructions dated: April 15, 1943 Revised: April 16, 1943

. U.S.C. & G.S.S. SURVEYOR

L.C. WILDER, Commanding

Respectfully submitted:

EMERSON E. JONES Jr. H. & G. Engr.

Approved and forwarded: Date

Commanding Ship SURVEYOR

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DIVISION OF CHARTS

REVIEW SECTION - NAUTICAL CHART BRANCH

REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY

REGISTRY NO. T-6919

FIELD NO. A-43

Alaska-Aleutian Ids., Atka I., Salt Id. to Island Pt. Surveyed in May - July 1943 Scale 1:20,000 Instructions dated Feb. 3, 1938 - April 16, 1943

Plane Table Survey

: Aluminum Mounted

Chief of Party - C. M. Durgin Surveyed-by E. E. Jones Inked by-E. E. Jones Reviewed by - R. H. Carstens, April 15, 1947 Inspected by - H. W. Murray

1. Adjoining Surveys

The present survey adequately joins T-6918b (1943) on the east and T-6917b (1943) on the west.

2. Comparison with Prior Surveys

No prior surveys of this area have been made by this Bureau.

3. Comparison with Chart 9136 (Latest print date 7/7/45)

A. Topography

The charted topography originates with advance information of the present survey on Bps. 37488 and 37491 (1943), together with corrections from the present survey before review. When the chart is reconstructed the present survey should completely supersede the topographic information charted from the blueprints.

B. Magnetic Observations

The observed values of magnetic variation range from about 2 degrees greater to 3 degrees less than the charted values. No index correction was applied to declinations observations.

4. Condition of Survey

The survey was inked neatly and conforms to the requirements of the Topographic Manual except that descriptive notes were inked in red instead of black. The color of the notes was corrected in the Washington Office.

The Descriptive Report covers all matters of importance except for an account of the standardization of the declinatoires.

5. Compliance with Project Instructions

The present survey adequately complies with the Instructions.

6. Additional Work Recommended

This is an excellent survey and no additional work is recommended.

I. E. Rittenburg

Chief, Nautical Chart Branch

K. G. Crosby

K. G. Prosby

Chief, Section of Hydrography

Examined and approved:

C. M. Durgin

Chief, Division of Charts

C. K. Green

Chief, Division of Coastal Surveys

applied to chart 8862 2. m. a. 3-3-45

Partially applied to chart 9136 perintructions 3. m. a. 4-10-45

Fully applied to abort 9136 11-13-69 21.m.S.

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