

FIBERGLAS BOARD INTRODUCED TO WAIKIKI BEACH

Several weeks ago, Charles Yara brought out the first Fiberglas hull outrigger canoe.

Tom Blake introduced his all Fiberglas hollow surfboard about September 1st.

Both the board and canoe are lighter, faster, more durable and easier to paddle than their wooden counterparts.

Right now, they're also more expensive.

Blake said his 10½-foot surfboard is primarily a "working" board for beach boys to teach lessons. The board is wide and stable on a wave and easy for the beginner to paddle because of its lightness and buoyancy.

Blake claims the board won't be harmed much from hot sun and salt water. Even the stabilizer fin, or skeg, used for steering, is made of Fiberglas.

He said the board, lacquered black with red and yellow stripes, is workable

for persons of all weights and can be used for tandem surfing.

The advantages of both board and canoe, aside from their lightness and buoyancy, include greater tensile strength and less trouble to repair, especially after bumps or cracks develop.
