

# OUTRIGGER MAIDEN RESCUES SOLDIER

## Swimmer Collapses and Was In Dire Plight When Mermaid Takes Notice

Prompt action on the part of little Miss Margaret McCabe, of the Outrigger swimming team, saved the life of Private Robert Gunn of the Medical Corps at Fort Kamehameha, when he was overcome by the waves far out from the shore at about eleven o'clock yesterday morning.

Over exertion in a swim from Brown's raft near the Hau Tree to opposite the Outrigger Club is believed to have been responsible for the soldier collapsing and nearly losing his life by drowning. Fortunately, just before Private Gunn lost entire consciousness and the total control of his body, little Miss McCabe perceived his difficulty and heard his feeble calls for assistance.

### Girl Hears Calls

She had started out to the big surf running a half mile off shore and was near the diving stand when she first noticed the soldier, who appeared to be struggling to keep his head above the water. At first, she says, she thought the soldier was "just playing," but as she approached nearer she heard his cries for help.

When Miss McCabe realized the soldier's distress she brought her board alongside of him as quickly as possible, but her hardest task was in getting him onto it, unaided, due to his weakened condition, and because he was succumbing to unconsciousness. With all the grit and strength at her call she managed to keep his head above the water and work the board beneath the soldier until it fully sustained his body above the water.

To other than such an experienced swimmer as is Miss McCabe the effort of propelling the board ashore would have been almost impossible, but she feared to desert the stricken man long enough to get help and so gamely started shoreward. She had returned to within seventy-five yards of the shore when she was relieved of her burden by "Steamboat Bill" of the beach life guard and two soldier companions of Private Gunn who failed to notice his difficulties on the long swim.

### Ambulance

First efforts to resuscitate Private Gunn proved unsuccessful and a call was turned in for the city ambulance. In the meantime Maj. C. B. Cooper happened to come to the beach and was able to bring the young man back to consciousness. Private Gunn was taken to the department hospital at Fort Shafter, where he fully recovered later in the day.

Heart failure was reported at the time of the accident to have caused the plight of the soldier, who would doubtless have drowned if little Miss McCabe had not proved the heroine she did.

The officer of the day at the Fort Shafter hospital said yesterday afternoon that the cause of the soldier's trouble in the water was not due to heart failure, as an examination made of his heart revealed it was in perfect condition. The officer of the day at the hospital attributed Private Gunn's weakness and loss of consciousness to his having struck a piece of coral in diving or to over exertion in the long swim.