

Duke and Harris Do Some Surfing In the Atlantic

Duke P. Kahanamoku and "Wild Bill" Harris actually did some surfing on the Atlantic coast during their stay near New York and prior to their departure on the transport for Antwerp for the Olympic games, according to a letter which arrived yesterday from Harris.

"Duke and I went to Long Beach today (July 25) and SURFED!" The word is underlined and capitalized by Harris, intimating that he did not expect to find surf anywhere in the world except at Waikiki.

"The waves were big when we arrived at the beach, and we rushed to the dressing rooms and got our suits on and got the board. Yes' there's one there, and then we went outside. Duke caught three and I caught three, and we stood up and did some sliding too and just nearly knocked 'em dead. There must have been 20,000 people standing on the beach, watching us. While Duke used the board I body-surfed, and vice versa. The manager gave us a free lunch and we had our pictures taken by about 60000000000 (Harris' figures) times. Will tell you more about it later. How's the surf at Waikiki? We are all excitement about leaving tomorrow. The name of the boat we go on is "Princess Matoika." It will take 12 days to Antwerp. Aloha. BILL."

The board which Duke and Harris used is believed to be the one which Duke made on the occasion of his visit to the same beach some years ago. The board is not by any means as pretty a thing as the 12-footers that Duke or Harris use at Waikiki, but evidently it served the purpose. When the Duke left it there after his first visit it was kept as a curiosity and inquiring bathers were told long and wonderful tales about how Duke had surfed with this immense board. There is no doubt his sudden appearance again at the beach and his and Harris' work with the board gave the bathers a big thrill. Duke is regarded as the most graceful surfrider at Waikiki, while Harris specializes in comedy work on the board, some of his "stunts" getting a laugh out of even the veteran surfers of "first break."