

Thousands See Surfers On Lighted Seas At Waikiki

By D. BILLAM-VALKER

"Let's do it again," said Duke Kahanamoku at the completion of the unique surfing spectacle staged at Waikiki Thursday night under the auspices of the Outrigger Canoe club.

Between 200 and 300 of some of Hawaii's best surfmen (Dad Center was one of them) and surfgirls took part in the thrilling display of night surfing carried out in the rays of two powerful army searchlights, whose brilliant beams were thrown on the reef waters from the general direction of Diamond Head.

Had Kamehameha the Great returned from the heavens to his former Waikiki haunts Thursday night he probably would have rubbed his spectral, royal pate and exclaimed, "Well, what in a bowl of poi is all this that's going on around here?"

For it really was something unique. It was the first time in island history that such a stunt had been tried. Night surfing, with or without a moon, had been done before, but until the Outriggers staged their show, never had surfing been carried on under the rays of searchlights.

Majority Rode Boards

Approximately 5,000 Honolulu residents and visitors lined the beach at Waikiki to witness the daring, light silhouetted riders of the waves come hurtling shoreward from the reef on the crests of imperious breakers. Some of the surfers were in canoes, but the majority used boards.

Surfing under such unusual conditions, it was no wonder that many a surfer lost his board and had to swim to shore. Furthermore, many of the canoes got swamped.

After losing his board, Duke Kahanamoku paddled around for some 45 minutes trying to locate it. Eventually he found his board lying on the beach, it having been carried there by the intumescing waves.

Outside of cuts by coral and bumps by boards, there were no injuries, although one of Duke's brothers, Bill, got a slight clip on the leg from a meandering board which had gotten itself separated from its owner.

The trade winds picked up the spray formed by the combers crashing on the reef and carried it along in the shape of billowing clouds of

mist. These seemingly ethereal drifts of wind blown spray, lit by the greenish white rays of the searchlights, presented an intriguing and beautiful sight.

Like Niagara Falls

Some of the spectators were reminded by this sight of the mists which billow up from the base of Niagara falls.

To others, the wind tossed spray brought memories of a mainland northwoods lake, when, after a hot summer's day night has fallen and the moon rises, ghostly, low hanging, steaming mists form as the vapors rising from the lake's warmer surface condense in the chill air of the night.

Indeed, one man, a professor of English at the University of Hawaii) remarked that he was reminded of Wordsworth's description of the rising from the sea of Proteus, the sea deity of classic mythology.

The bodies of the surfers, as they waited on the reef to catch the rushing combes, caught up and reflected the searchlight rays, making them appear as many fireflies bobbing around in the dark.

Arrangements for the actual surfing operations were under the di-

rection of Duke Kahanamoku, Sally Hale and members of the Waikiki beach patrol.

Chowder Supper Served

The exhibition was staged by the Outrigger club for the entertainment of the visiting personnel of the fleet. Preceding the surfing spectacle, which began shortly after 9 p. m., more than 400 members and guests, including many naval officers, enjoyed an old fashioned fish chowder, beach supper, served on the lanai of the Outrigger club under the general supervision of L. E. (Pop) Hechlen, club manager. During and after supper, a Hawaiian orchestra furnished music.

General arrangements were in charge of the entertainment committee headed by George P. Perry and his assistants, Leslie B. Osberg, Earl Kraft, Milo Vanek, Mark Westgate, Benjamin H. Stevens, George Dinger and Samuel M. Fuller.

Hostesses were Mesdames Doris Stevens, E. W. Stenburg, Milo Vanek, Leslie B. Osberg, R. G. Smith, J. K. Powell and Miss May Armitage.

Trespass Case—Appeal of a trespass case from the police court was being heard today before Judge H. E. Stafford. Sam Leitch is the defendant, charged with criminal trespass May 9 on property of Eaton Magoon, Makanae lane. He was fined \$25 in police court.

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