

Shooting of birds should be reported

DEAR MS. FIXIT: At around 6 a.m. Thursday, I saw a man shooting a pistol at pigeons in a tree from the terrace of the Outrigger Canoe Club. The shooting was in the direction of the Colony Surf. As other people were around, there must be witnesses to the incident, which I reported to the club and to the Colony Surf front desk.

Besides the obvious danger involved, isn't there some kind of law against shooting at birds or just shooting a pistol in a heavily populated urban area such as Waikiki?

A — Outrigger Canoe Club manager Norman Riede checked with the security guard on duty at the time. The report he obtained was that the person involved was a "youngster" (not a club member) shooting a "pellet gun" at pigeons in a coconut tree. The guard reportedly stopped the shooting as soon as he became aware of it.

In a case such as this, the Police Department should have been the first place to call. Any of several laws could have been invoked for police to take action. Among them are one regarding shooting birds, another dealing with "cruelty to animals" and another which says it's illegal for a person to fire an air gun on private property in such a way that the pellet or BB shot might reasonably be expected to cross into another parcel of land or in such a way that persons or property might be endangered.