

From: Commanding Officer, USCG LORAN Station Kure Island

To: Station Guests

Subj: General Information

- 1. Kure Island, more accurately Kure Atoll, is an oval-shaped atoll, five miles wide at its maximum diameter. Located 50 miles west-northwest of the Midway Islands, Kure is at the extreme northwest end of the Hawaiian Archipelago, and while it is 1200 miles from Honolulu, Kure is part of the State of Hawaii.
- 2. The Coast Guard station is located on Green Island, the only permanently-dry land. Crescent-shaped, the island is about 1½ miles long and ½ mile wide. For the twenty-four Coast Guard people who live here (each on a one-year tour) their efforts provide an accurate and continuous LORAN (Long Range Aid to Navigation) signal for ships and aircraft in the Central Pacific.
- 3. Upon arrival at Kure all items are made available for examination by an inspection officer. Prohibited items include firearms, alcohol, illegal contraband (i.e., drugs) and live plants or animals. All visitors are welcome to the mess deck where coffee, fruit drinks, and head facilities are available. If you are planning to catch a departing flight, be aware of the departure time, and please advise a flightcrewmember of your whereabouts if you leave the station area. If you are remaining onboard overnight or for an isolated period of time you will be assigned berthing by the Master-at-Arms.
- 4. Visitors are always welcome to our isolated island. Please feel free to ask directions or inquire about points of interest. If you desire particular arrangements or have special requirements, please make them known. All hands at Kure will gladly assist you.
- 5. While onboard Kure please observe the following guidelines:
- a. All fresh water is obtained through a catchment system and is therefore a guarded resource. Personal conservation of fresh water is mandatory; showers and laundry services may be restricted.
- b. Water activities are very enjoyable at Kure. and water safety is emphasized. Before swimming, diving, or riding in any station boat please check out with the Commanding Officer.
- c. Living and working spaces are off limits to unauthorized visitors, but accompanied tours can easily be arranged.
- 6. A copy of the Station regulations will be made available to you. All personnel are expected to comply with the applicable provisions of them during their stay on Kure.
- 7. Because Kure is relatively-isolated from the acts of man, it is an important habitat for many plants and animals. The atoll is a State of Hawaii Wildlife Refuge, and as such, all personnel while on the island are expected to respect the wildlife.

- a. Feel free to walk the beaches. You may collect any man-made articles you find washed up on the beach (glass balls, floats, etc.). Please do not remove any shells, coral or other natural resource.
- b. NORTH POINT (see attached map) is posted as an 'Off Limits' area and shall not be traversed without the express permission of the Commanding Officer.
- c. While on the beach, please do not approach the monk seals or harass them in any way. When it is necessary to pass monk seals hauled out on the beach near the water's edge, walking near or behind the vegetation line is recommended. The reverse would hold true for passing seals hauled out high on the beach or into the vegetation. Try to remain out of sight of the seals while passing by. The monk seal is an endangered species; only through our individual efforts can we provide these marine mammals with the most secure and healthy environment possible.
- d. As Kure is a Seabird Sanctuary also, all birds should be given wide berths when possible. Don't feed the birds.

8. We hope your stay is a pleasant one!

D. C. ELY

