TUVALU WAVE ENERGY PROGRAMME
TRIP REPORT 19-22 November 1991
by
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Prepared for: South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)
Tuesday 16 November

AM Left Nausori Airport at 10.00 am. Arrived Funafuti 1.10 p.m. Met the Director of Meteorological Station and Melton (trainee). Melton and I attended the same Electronics Trade Certificate Course at FIT.

PM I went to the hotel to check-in and then discovered that someone else had been given my room. I left it to the manager to sort something out for me while I set up equipment and finalise details for the trip the following day.

Called into the Fisheries Office to check on ropes and the inflatable buoy; couldn't find the following:

1. 120 m Kevlar rope
2. Inflatable buoy
3. 220 m of nylon rope

There was only one 220 m nylon rope in the Fisheries Store. I then asked Ian if I could use one of their half inch ropes so that it could fit the half inch S /S thimble that I brought from Fiji. Found some thinner rope but think it should be ok. Asked Melton if there was anywhere else we could get an inflatable buoy. He arranged to borrow one from his uncle.

Returned to the hotel and was told that I would have to stay at one of the government quarters. Went back to the Meteorological Station workshop and fitted safety inch and thimble and got the rubber cable ready. Checked on buoy; it looked a bit small but should do.

Went to the Captain's house and confirmed arrangements for departure the next day at 9.00 am.

Wednesday 20 November

AM Fakavai picked me up at 8.45 a.m. Checked that everything had been loaded and found that we did not have the silicone grease. Went back to the Meteorological Station and picked up grease. Due to a delay by the crew we did not leave until 10.15. I bought soft drinks, bread and corned beef for our lunch; cost A$41.40.

PM Arrived at the location at 12.00 noon. Retrieved buoy and checked on voltage.

\[
\text{Batt + Bat} = 18.4V \\
\text{Batt + A} = 18.41V \\
\text{Batt + B} = 18.43V
\]
Batt + C = 18.42V
Batt + D = 18.42V

Checked with manual. It could last another 11 months so I didn't change batteries. Cleaned hatch and O ring and greased both sides and 'O' ring. Changed rubber cable, assembled and then put it out to sea.

Packed everything and left for shore at 1.10 pm. Arrived at port 3.00 pm. I asked Vakavai to store all mooring equipment and ropes at the Meteorological Station. He agreed so we dropped off the equipment at the Meteorological Station.

Thursday 21 November

AM  Went to the Met Station, cleaned rubber cable, stored it in the blue drum filled with water. Asked Fakavai to store batteries inside the air conditioned room.

PM  Went to Fisheries Department to check on Ian Kayes laptop but couldn't do much as there was no power supply.

Friday 22 November

AM  Waited for Jim Eade's telephone call. Checked on Wave Visual Measurement site with Hilia. Found out that one post is missing and the other looks like it will break very soon because of the rust. I told Hilia I would bring this to the attention of Mr Eade and suggest that an aluminium or wooden post be used to replace the current one.

Returned to Suva.