



Coach Rabbit Kekai directs his crew in Operation Canoe Hapai at Kawakin Beach parking area where bus ride from airport ended.



That steep hill behind the canoe bearing crew was a tricky one to negotiate while carrying more than 400 pounds of boat on your back.



Rabbit, with the help of Scotty Gaffney and moral support of Tommy Fearon lashes the taku to the ama of the Leilani.

OCC Earns 4th Place in Molokai Canoe Race

Outrigger Crew Rabbit Kekai, Coach Doug Carr, Steersman Mike Sheehan Dodd Balock Tom Replogle Randy Piersig Scotty Gaffney Peter Guard Mark Buck Richard Sylva Tom Fearon Results of Race 1st-Waikiki Surf 2nd—Lanikai 3rd-Kai-Oni 4th—OUTRIGGER 5th-Santa Monica 6th-Balboa 7th—Healani

And they really earned it the hard way when they fought turbulent waters with swells up to 20 feet, rain squalls, wind, fog and seasickness during their more than nine hour paddle from Kawakiu Beach to Duke Kahanamoku Beach. Of the nine paddlers participating in the race for the Club only two, Doug Carr and Dodd Balock, had paddled the channel before. There were times when the Leilani had only six paddlers in the boat due



This is the main reason the start of the race was delayed for an hour. Crews had to wait for lulls between sets of high and strong waves which smashed onto the beach with a thunderous roor

to the seasickness of some of our crew. Doug Carr steered the whole course without relief and we think that he and the other crew members deserve a whale of a lot of credit for displaying such pluck, endurance and determination during a real grueling race.

Many of the official boats had escorted crews in the Molokai-Oahu race since its start in 1952 and all agreed that this year's weather was the worst they had ever encountered. And in that relentless ocean our crew, whose age averaged 17, kept paddling, paddling, paddling, paddling. For many of the canoes the direction they were paddling in was sometimes in doubt, what with the rain and no island to use for a bearing since both Molokai and Oahu were "socked in" for quite a while.

OCC's escort boat was the Lei Malia from which coach Rabbit Kekai watched his team plow on towards Honolulu. He had the good fortune not to get seasick but there were recording officials aboard who never touched a pencil from Molokai to Honolulu. So the "on deck" passengers were pressed into service.

When the Outrigger's canoe hit the beach the crew members were a mighty tired lot . . . as were all the other paddlers that day.



Portion of the Crowd "up before the crack of dawn" to watch the start of the race. Some of the beach lights are still on. Can you spot them?





Our crew gets set to launch its canne.

Abbb! In the water at last. Note the lack of turbulent wave action during the lull. But it wasn't like this for long!