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The following is a brief account of Te Vega cruise 19 to the eastern tropical Pacific, summer 1968, by Ron Karlson (Pomona College, Class of 1969). My participation was made possible by the efforts of Dr. Mike Hadfield and some of his contacts at Stanford University. Funding was provided by NSF.

The chief scientist for this cruise was Dr. W. Jan Newhouse, other senior scientists included Dr. Harold Marshall, Dr. Malvern Gilmartin, Dr. Peter Wiebe, Dr. Margaret Bradbury. Junior scientists included Margie Berry, Jim Cox, John Ensminger, George Knauer, Chris Mathewson, Lynn Stafford, Paul Stofan, Nancy Toye, and myself. Our teaching assistant was Tom Malone. Marine technicians included Peter Davoll and Ray Chesbrough from Humboldt State. Our ship's captain was Jerzy Chylinski. The crew included a Swedish first mate and a Swedish bosun (Ole). On moonless nights, their chatter on deck was melodically mesmerizing.

June 28, 1968, 0200 - We have a 0600 departure scheduled from Monterey, California. Over the last few days, I've met Dr. Malvern Gilmartin, Dr. Peter Wiebe, Dr. Margaret Bradbury, and Dana Pierce (friend of Dr. Mike Hadfield).

July 1, 1968, 0120 - Yesterday was relatively calm and I got over being sea sick. We passed San Clemente Island on our way south to San Diego. We towed for plankton (e.g., salps) and did an otter trawl for some interesting fish and invertebrates.

July 3, 1968, 0715 - I was sea sick again on July first. July second we visited San Diego and Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Met Mary Silver, a graduate student working on salps. Thinking about applying to do graduate work at Scripps. The ship is rolling gently on our way to Cabo San Lucas.

July 8, 1968 - We left Cabo San Lucas last night. The sea is warm (25.8 °C), the air humid. I've experienced mood swings lately. Been out of sight of land for a while and feeling the solitude of ship travel. We hardly ever see another ship. Heading to Acapulco.

July 10, 1968, 1245 - The last two nights, we sampled plankton with Bongo nets. Using a parachute drogue with radar reflector and a blinking light as aids, we attempted to sample within the same water mass. Unfortunately, we lost the drogue and managed only to recover the blinking light. Doing an otter trawl right now. We're still heading to Acapulco and have had the coast in sight all day.

July 10, 1968, 2222 - Interesting collection of fish and invertebrates from the otter trawl (1.5-2.5 hours down). Managed to land a 25' tree, several bat fish, and a ton of invertebrates.

July 18, 1968, 2230 - We've been busy today with the Tucker trawl, Bongo nets, and a 1-meter net. Passed through an enormous salp swarm today; 10 minutes with a 1-meter net yielded a gallon of salps. The stars are beautiful here; heat lightening on the horizon. We see dolphin and flying fish almost every day now. Dr. Malvern Gilmartin came aboard in Acapulco and our cruise plans have shifted so much that Chris Mathewson, a grad student planning a benthic project on forams, was asked to leave the ship in Acapulco. We spent four days

in port due to some mechanical problems. We're now headed for the Costa Rica dome area. Then plans are to stop at Tower Island (Isla Genovesa) in the Galapagos, then go to Guayaquil, out again to the Galapagos, and finish the cruise in Salinas or Guayaquil.

July 21, 1968, 1100 - The morning is passing slowly as we attempt to locate the center of the Costa Rica dome. We have a torn fore staysail on the deck being repaired by the Swedish bosun. The ship is going through a constant pitch and roll motion even in this calm sea.

July 29, 1968 - The sky is overcast and the sea is choppy. I've been working on all the plankton samples from a 30-hour station where we collected stratified Bongo net samples. There were only 7 salps in all these samples. With all the work and long hours at the scope, I'm getting cranky.

August 1, 1968, 1605 - Yesterday at 1030, we landed on a small sandy beach in Darwin Bay on Tower Island. Nancy, George and I went for a hike. I went to the crater lake near Darwin Bay; the walls and slope of the crater serve as a massive nesting area, so guano is everywhere; mangroves completely surround the lake. The bird life is fantastic including frigate birds, tropic birds, blue-footed boobies, doves, finches, gulls, herons, and pelicans. Also saw sea lions, marine iguanas, crabs on the intertidal rocky shore, millions of grasshoppers, and lots of spiders.

August 7, 1968, 1230 - We have been in Guayaquil for a couple of days now. Seven of us (Paul, George, Tom, Lynn, Nancy, Margie, and I) got caught in a large riot on Avenida Nueve de Octubre, a large road in the central city, with an overturned burning car, rioters, tear gas, and armed troops. We had to spend a night in a hotel room for three before returning to the ship.

August 16, 1968, 1230 - We are behind schedule and low on fuel. Cruise plans have shifted again to now focus on Tagus Cove on Isla Isabella, just east of Isla Fernandina. A 54-hour station is planned. My salp project continues, with low priority, using small plankton nets from Te Vega and small skiffs.

August 20, 1968, 2130 - After sampling Tagus Cove water for about 30 hours, we were given the next three days to analyze data, write papers, and give seminars. We are now moored off Isla Fernandina. Several of us hiked from Tagus Cove on Isabella earlier today (John, Nancy, George, Tom, Lynn, Paul, Margie, and myself), while Te Vega crossed the channel to pick up Dr. Peter Wiebe, Peter Davoll, and Jim Cox after their failed over-night attempt to ascend Fernandina. Apparently, they did not find the only trail up and managed to penetrate the very sharp rocks only a few hundred yards. On Fernandina, there are "hundreds" of sea lions; some of the more aggressive ones forced us to leave our late afternoon/early evening beach party for the safety of the ship.

August 31, 1968, 1207 - The cruise is over; most have left the ship in Salinas for Guayaquil. Dr. Newhouse made a batch of reservation changes on the 29th to fly all of us out of Ecuador as quickly as possible. Some of us stayed aboard ship to extend our stay a little longer.

September 7, 1968, 1835 - In Quito with Ray; short of funds, but Ray and Dr. Bradbury helped me out.

September 10, 1968, 2030 - In Mexico City, staying at the Romfel Hotel for the weekend, then flying back to Pomona College in Claremont, California.