



U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

U.S. Coast Guard Historic Documents



Barbers Point Light Station
10 December 1941

The action as seen from Barbers Point.

At 8:00 a.m. many planes were seen overhead, both Japanese and ours. Dog fighting continued for twenty minutes, bullets hitting the ground in bursts. Then all planes headed south, our planes chasing them. Seemed to have come from the windward side, and left the Island on Barbers Point side.

Two parachutists were dropped close to the station; they were confused in the kiwi trees and prowled around the station all Sunday night, the Fort Kam. 55th C.A. boys firing at them with rifles and machine guns. One was wounded, and was later found on the beach, buried by his mate. His feet were sticking out of the sand. The other was later shot by an officer.

Monday night was bad; the boys were nervous and had to go with them to the top of the tower two times. First they thought a green light was on top of the tower. It proved to be the reflection of the moon on the glass. The next time they thought parachutists were on top of the tower. It proved to be nothing. They escorted me to the house and warned me not to go outside as they would shoot at anything.

When we got the word that the two Japs were located, we felt easy, and Tuesday night was the first night anybody slept.

Respectfully,

/s/ John M. Sweeney, Keeper
Barbers Point Light Station.



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(P.S.) Tuesday morning received orders from the Army to leave station open twenty four hours a day for the full use of the Army, as machine gun emplacements are installed inside the reservation.

