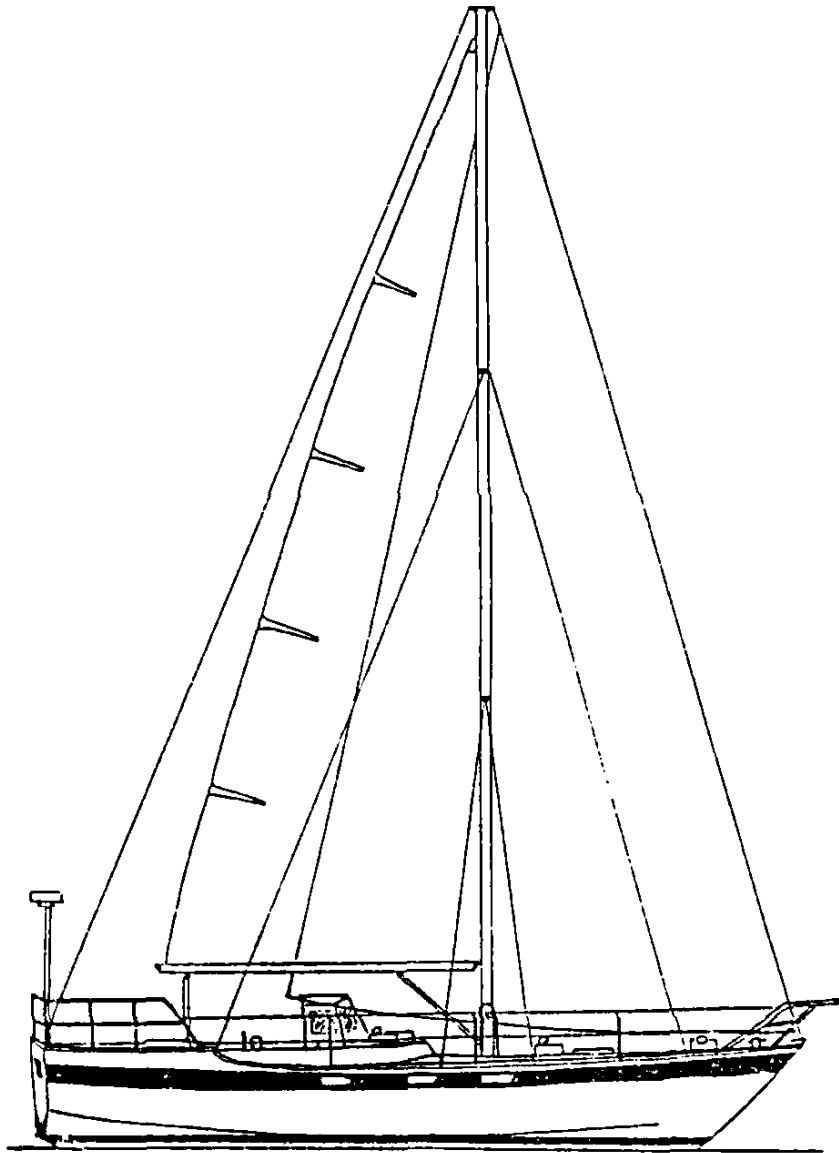


A Yachtsman's Guide to Ha'apai



A CRUISING YACHTSMAN'S VIEW OF THE HA'APAI GROUP
THE KINGDOM OF TONGA
BY
PHIL CREGEEN

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FIRST EDITION
July 1992

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BY THE AUTHOR

Due to reasons beyond my control publication of this book has been delayed. In order to meet the needs of the cruising community I have produced this limited edition myself. The text and chartlets are unchanged, but the illustrations are omitted and cover, binding and layout may differ from the published version.

Phil Cregeen

AVON MIGRANT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In my research for this book I received much help and encouragement from people in Tonga. In particular I would like to express my thanks to the following for their freely given help and advice:

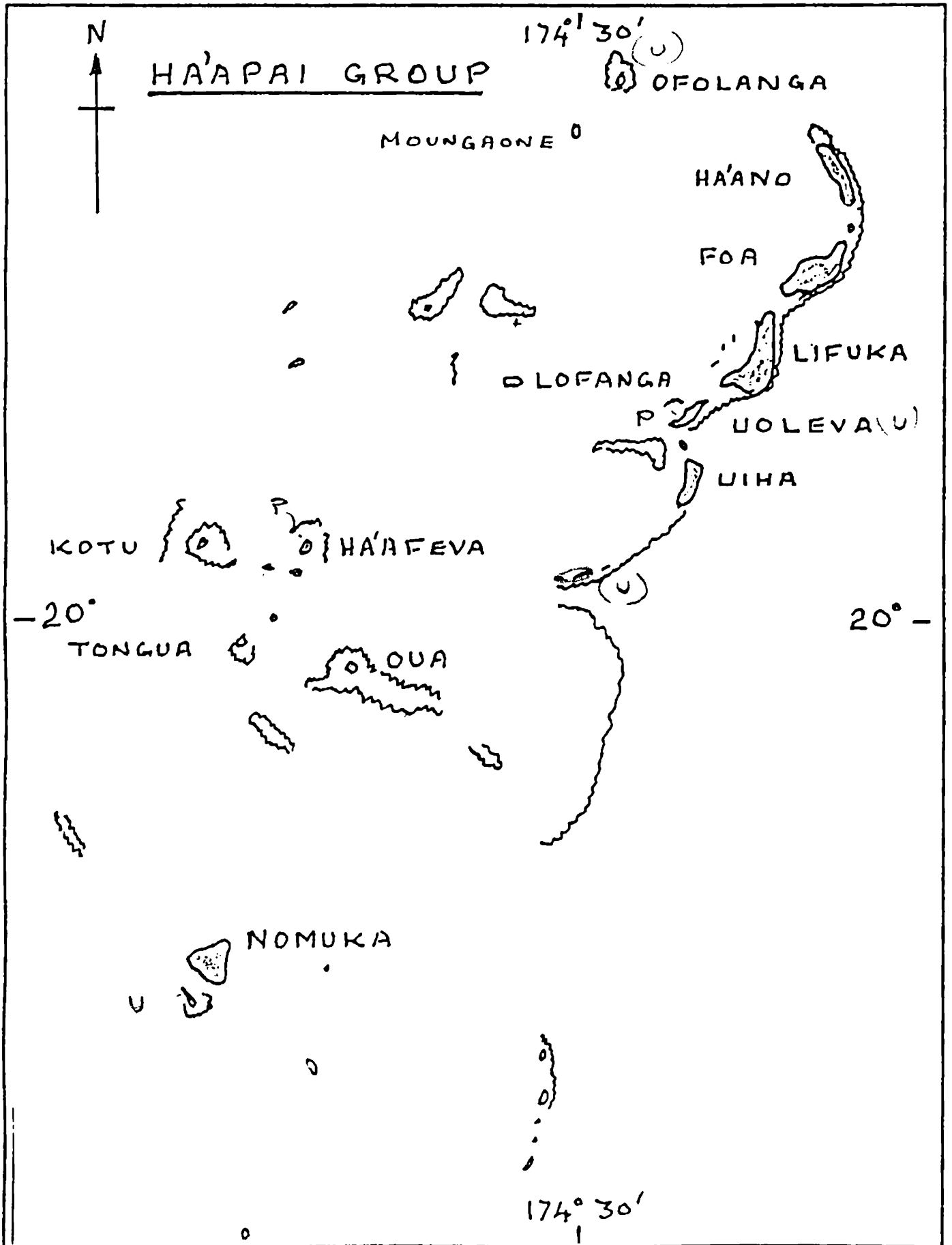
Chris Cocker
Rod Davies
Brother Christopher

Tonga Visitors Bureau
Chief Hydrographic Surveyor
St Joseph's Catholic School, Pangai

Throughout I have been encouraged and assisted by my family and crew, wife Pam who did all the proof reading, and daughter Michelle.

Data obtained from British Admiralty Charts and Pilots is used by kind permission of the Hydrographer of the Navy, Taunton, United Kingdom.

PHIL CREGEEN
'AVON MIGRANT'
17 JULY 1992



HA'APAI GROUP

PREFACE

The Ha'apai group is midway between the Vava'u Group and Tongatapu and is characterised by low, palm covered islands, long sandy beaches, beautiful coral reefs, clear water and small rural communities.

Although hundreds of cruising yachts visit Vava'u each year relatively few stop in the Ha'apai Group, perhaps due in some part to the lack of knowledge available to yachtsmen on this area. This guide is based on our experience and observations during cruises through the group in our 36 ft sloop AVON MIGRANT, in November 1991 and June 1992.

The sketch plans and information contained in this guide are not intended to be used for navigation but to serve as an aid to selecting suitable and interesting anchorages. The appropriate Hydrographic Department chart should be used at all times. However, recognising that this guide may be more up to date than charts carried by some yachts, navigation and pilotage information has been included where considered appropriate. Sketch plans have not been made from detailed surveys but are based on BA Charts, study of recent aerial photographs and our own observations.

In preparing this guide we have attempted to include all those anchorages where the average cruising yacht may reasonably expect to remain overnight. A few daytime only anchorages have also been included. For convenience the anchorages have been described in two groups: Eastern Group - Ha'ano to Uanukuhahaki, Western Group - Ofolanga to Nomuka.

The spelling of many place names on the BA charts are incorrect. To avoid confusion the same spelling has been used in this guide.

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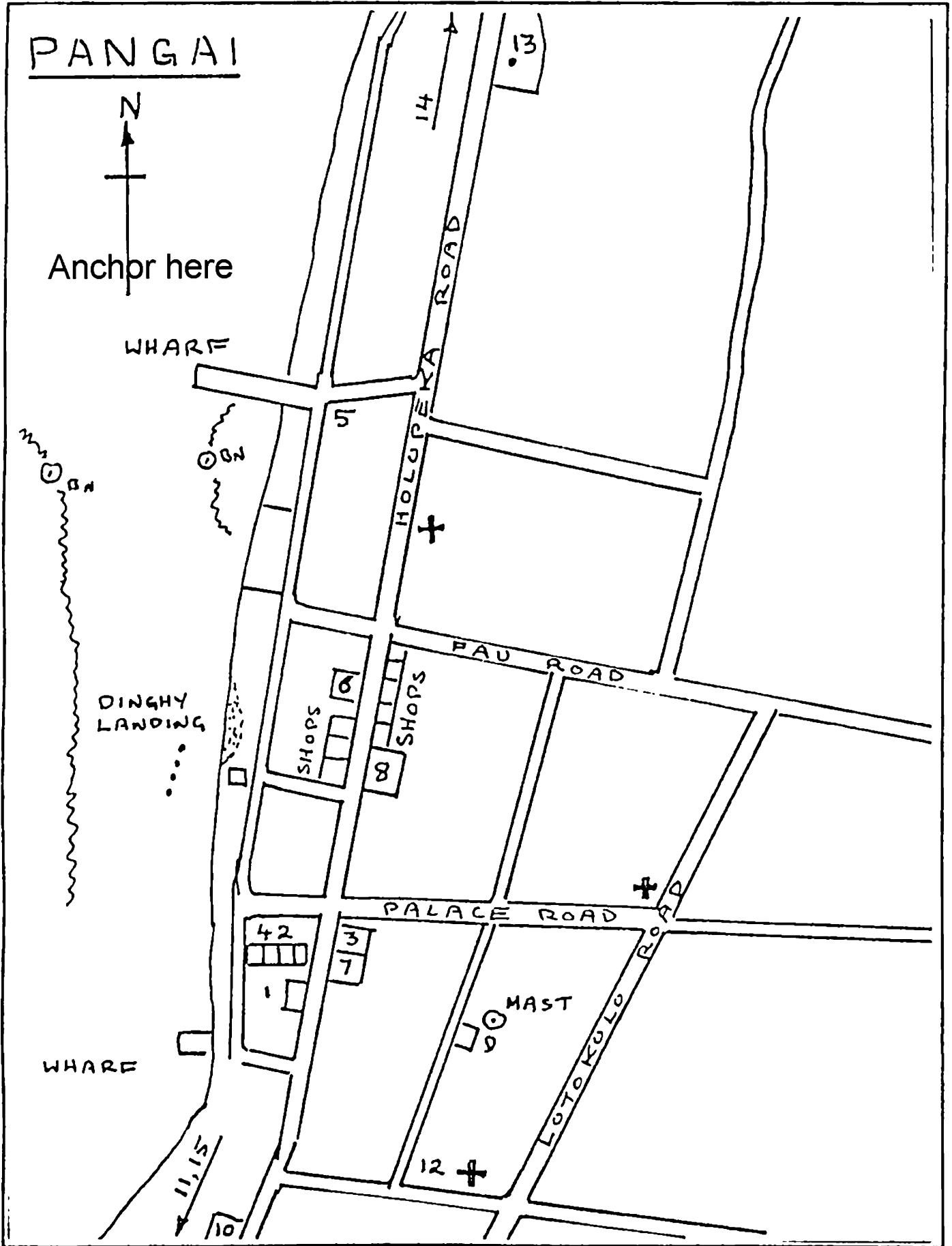
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PANGAI TOWN PLAN

Chapter 1

THE HA'APAI ISLANDS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

An estimated 10000 people live in the Ha'apai Group on some 57 islands with a total land area of 109 sq Km. Most of the larger islands are inhabited but many of the smaller ones are not. Pangai on the island of Lifuka is the administrative centre for the whole group.

Yachts arriving at Lifuka should present their Clearance from Nuku'alofa or Nelafo together with ship's papers to Customs at the Post office and Immigration at the Police station.

The following facilities are available in Pangai:

Police, Hospital and Dentist, Post and Telecommunications, Tonga Visitors' Bureau, Royal Tongan Airlines, Banks and Guest Houses.

Provisions: there are a number of small stores and two bakeries. The latter also supply bread to the adjacent islands.

Water: is not normally available.

Fuel: petrol and diesel at pumps near the wharf.

Airport: twice daily flights to Tongatapu and Vava'u (except Sunday).

PANGAI - TOWN PLAN - KEY

1. POLICE STATION
 2. POST OFFICE
 3. TONGA VISITORS' BUREAU.
 4. ROYAL TONGAN AIRLINES
 5. FUEL
 6. BANK OF TONGA
 7. TONGA DEVELOPMENT BANK
 8. MORRIS HEDSTROM STORE
 9. TONGA TELECOM
 10. ROYAL RESIDENCE
 11. HOSPITAL (HIHIFO 1 Km)
 12. MIRACULOUS CROSS
 13. SHIRLEY BAKER'S GRAVE
 14. AIRPORT (3Km)
 15. VELATA ANCIENT FORTRESS (HIHIFO 1.4 Km)
- + CHURCH

2. HISTORICAL NOTES

The first European to visit the Ha'apai Group was the Dutch navigator Abel Tasman in 1643.

In 1774 and 1777, during his second and third Pacific voyages, James Cook in Resolution called at Nomuka to trade for fresh provisions. In May 1777 he anchored at Lifuka for twelve days where he received such good hospitality that he named the island The Friendly Island. He didn't know that local chiefs were conspiring to kill him and his men, the plot being abandoned when the chiefs could not agree amongst themselves how to implement their plan.

William Bligh stopped at Nomuka in Bounty, in April 1789, five days before the famous mutiny. He also put in to Tofua in the open boat but was attacked by natives and John Norton was killed.

Local people sacked and destroyed the British Privateer Port au Prince at Lifuka in 1806 in order to obtain guns and iron. One of the survivors Will Mariner the 15 year old captain's clerk was adopted by the local warrior king Finau and remained in Tonga for four years. On his return to England he collaborated with Dr J Martin in writing a book of his experiences.

In 1826 Taufa'ahau secured his position as chief of Ha'apai by defeating Laufilitonga, last of the Tu'i Tonga dynasty, at the fortress of Velata.. Wesleyan Missionaries converted Taufa'ahau, to Christianity in 1831. After defeating two more rival dynasties he became King George Tupou I of united Tonga in 1845.

Wesleyan Missionary Reverent Shirley Baker who acted as adviser to King George Tupou 1 and helped prepare the 1875 Constitution, retired in Ha'apai towards the end of the 19th Century and is buried in Pangai.

3. SIGHTS OF INTEREST

The island communities of Ha'apai provide a good opportunity to experience Tongan village life. With a courteous approach you will find the people good-natured and friendly. You may be invited into their homes or to sit and talk. As they see few foreigners (Papalangi) they are as curious about us as we them. The children especially are fascinated by visitors and the young people like to make contact with their own age group. Unlike people of other parts of the world Tongans love to be photographed, but be polite and ask first. Occasionally you may be offered fruit, fish or

handicrafts in trade and corned beef, medications, magazines and clothing are often requested in exchange. Trade in such goods should not be relied upon as a source of provisions. On Sunday work is strictly "tapu", so be unobtrusive. You will be welcome at church.

The many reefs and coralheads provide excellent snorkelling sites at most anchorages, with multi-coloured coral gardens and a wide variety of tropical fish. Humpback whales may be seen in deep water between the months of July and November.

On Lifuka Island, at the north end of Pangai, is the grave and monument of Shirley Baker (1836-1903).

In 1975 a miraculous cross appeared burnt in the grass outside the Methodist Church at Pangai, the spot is now outlined in concrete. Not far from this church, opposite the football pitch, is a large white house, which is the Royal Residence.

At 'Uiha village on 'Uiha Island there are two fairytale churches with pink spires. Also in this village is the ancient Royal Burial Ground and at the Wesleyan church a cannon from 'Port au Prince'. On the NE side of the island is an ancient monument of eight connected stones, called Makahokovalu.

To the west of the group lie the high volcanic islands of Tofua and Kao. Sometimes smoke or steam can be seen rising from the former.

There are a number of archaeological sites which include defensive structures, wells, middens, pigeon mounds, burial mounds and coral block quarries. The largest fortification is Velata near the village of Hihifo on Lifuka. Pigeon mounds, where chiefs and nobles snared pigeons with nets on long poles while concealed inside small hides, can be found at the north end of Uoleva.

Chapter 2

NAVIGATION IN THE HA'APAI GROUP

1. CHARTS AND PILOTS

The most detailed charts covering the Ha'apai Group are:

CHARTS:	BA 2421	Tonga or Friendly Islands
	BA 3099	Ha'apai Group Northern Portion
	BA 3100	Ha'apai Group Southern Portion
	BA 473	Lifuka Anchorages and Approaches
	BA 1385	Anchorages in Tonga -Nomuka Harbour
	BA 3097	Anchorages in the Friendly Islands - Ofolanga
	BA 474	Nomuka Group

There are no metric charts. It is anticipated that a new series of metric charts will be issued in the next 10-15 years.

PILOTS: Pacific Island Pilot, Vol. II

NOTE: In this guide all headings given are degrees True, all soundings are in fathoms. Wherever possible we confirmed the soundings with our own measurements.

2. HAZARDS

The Ha'apai Group is an area of many reefs and isolated coral patches. Navigation should only be undertaken by day and in conditions of good light. Even when sailing in open water the helmsman should keep a good lookout for isolated coral heads. It is advisable to have a lookout in the rigging or bow when navigating in confined waters. We found a pair of polarised sunglasses a valuable aid to spotting coral.

Most of the anchorages visited during our cruises provided good shelter from the prevailing easterly sector winds, but nearly all are exposed to winds from the SW to NW.

In spite of these hazards the Ha'apai Group is an interesting cruising area and should present no problem to the cruising yachtsman provided reasonable precautions are observed.

3. NAVIGATION AIDS

A new set of lights and beacons was installed in 1991.

a. Light:

A list of lights is at Appendix A

b. Buoyage System:

Red or square buoys and beacons are left to port approaching harbour. Green or cone buoys and beacons are left to starboard approaching harbour.

c. Beacons:

PORT hand	pile with red light
	pile with red rectangle
	pile with red cone point down.
STARBOARD hand	pile with green light
	pile with green cone point up

d. Satellite Derived Positions:

Corrections for satellite derived positions are contained in Appendix B.

4. TIDES AND TIDAL STREAMS

The Tidal range in the Ha'apai Group is 3.6 ft Springs and 2.8 ft Neaps. On average the time of high and low water is 4 minutes later than Nuku'alofa. However this may be altered by wind conditions which may cause unpredictable variations of +/- 40 minutes.

Tide Tables may be obtained from the Friendly Island Bookshop, Nuku'alofa.

Tidal streams generally set eastward on the flood and westward on the ebb with rates up to about 1 knot between the islands. In Ava 'Auhangamea the rate is 3 to 4 knots and in Ava Mata Mata Vika 3 knots on the ebb and up to 5 knots on the flood.

5. WEATHER

There are two main seasons, Wet (which embraces the cyclone season) and Dry. The typical weather patterns are as follows:

On our first cruise we island hopped down the chain of main eastern islands and entered the southern part of the group by way of Ava Vaha'afonua. In 1992 we used Ava 'Auhangamea and the narrow pass west of Tatafa Island to reach 'Uiha Island. From 'Uiha Island we sailed to Ha'afeva in the southwest.

We took our departure from Ha'apai between Tongva Island (Tungva Island) and Kito Island and sailed direct to Nuku'alofa, an overnight passage of about 70 miles. Some yachts choose to break up this passage with a stop at Nomuka Island.

If you experience a SE wind, as we did, you may be pushed to the southwest. Keep a good look-out for Hakaufisi, a 2 mile long reef that lies 11 miles southwest of Tongva Island.

Tongatapu is a low featureless island with reefs that extend about 8 miles to the north. You will probably see 'Eua Island, which lies to the southeast first. you can use it and Hunga Tonga Island to the west to obtain a visual fix (but note correction to its position in Appendix B). In any event careful attention to navigation is necessary approaching Nuku'alofa. If possible avoid a night approach as there have been changes to the lights.

South to North:

Departing Nuku'alofa in the late afternoon we allowed enough time to clear the reefs before sunset and arrived off Nomuka at first light. The light on Muifuiva Island (Gp F1 2 W 5 sec) was clearly visible at 10 miles. From Nomuka a route may be taken west of Tokula Island and between Tongva and Kito Islands to Ha'afeva or through Ava Fonua Iki to 'O'ua Island.

From Ha'apai to Vava'u it is normal to make an overnight passage in order to arrive at Neiafu in daylight. There is a light on Fo'eata (QKF1 3 W 10 miles).

Chapter 3

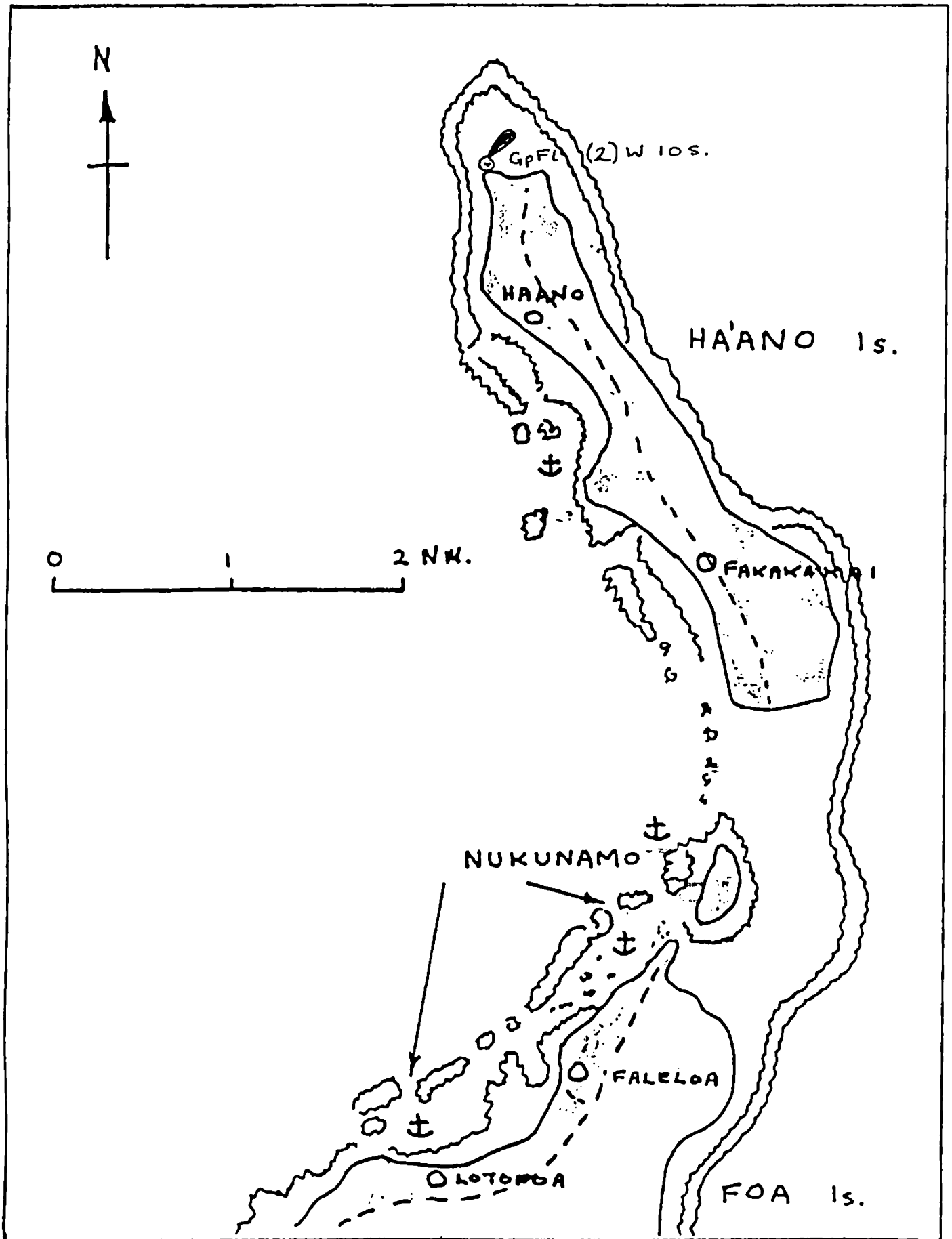
ANCHORAGES – EASTERN GROUP

SKETCH CHARTS:

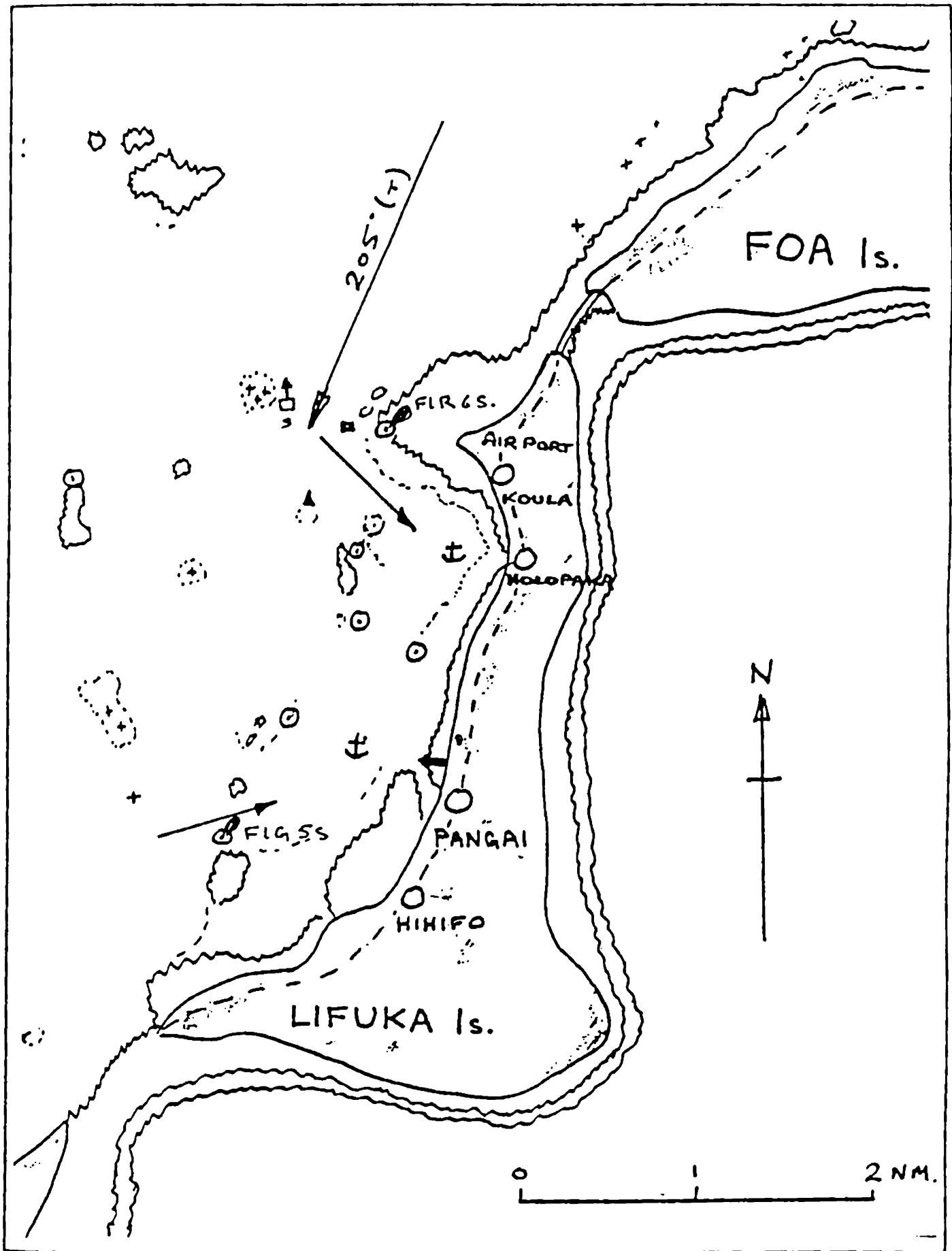
1. HA'ANO ISLAND TO FOA ISLAND
2. FOA ISLAND TO LIFUKA ISLAND
3. LIFUKA ISLAND TO 'UIHA ISLAND
4. 'UIHA ISLAND TO UANUKUHAHAKI ISLAND

ANCHORAGES AND PLANS:

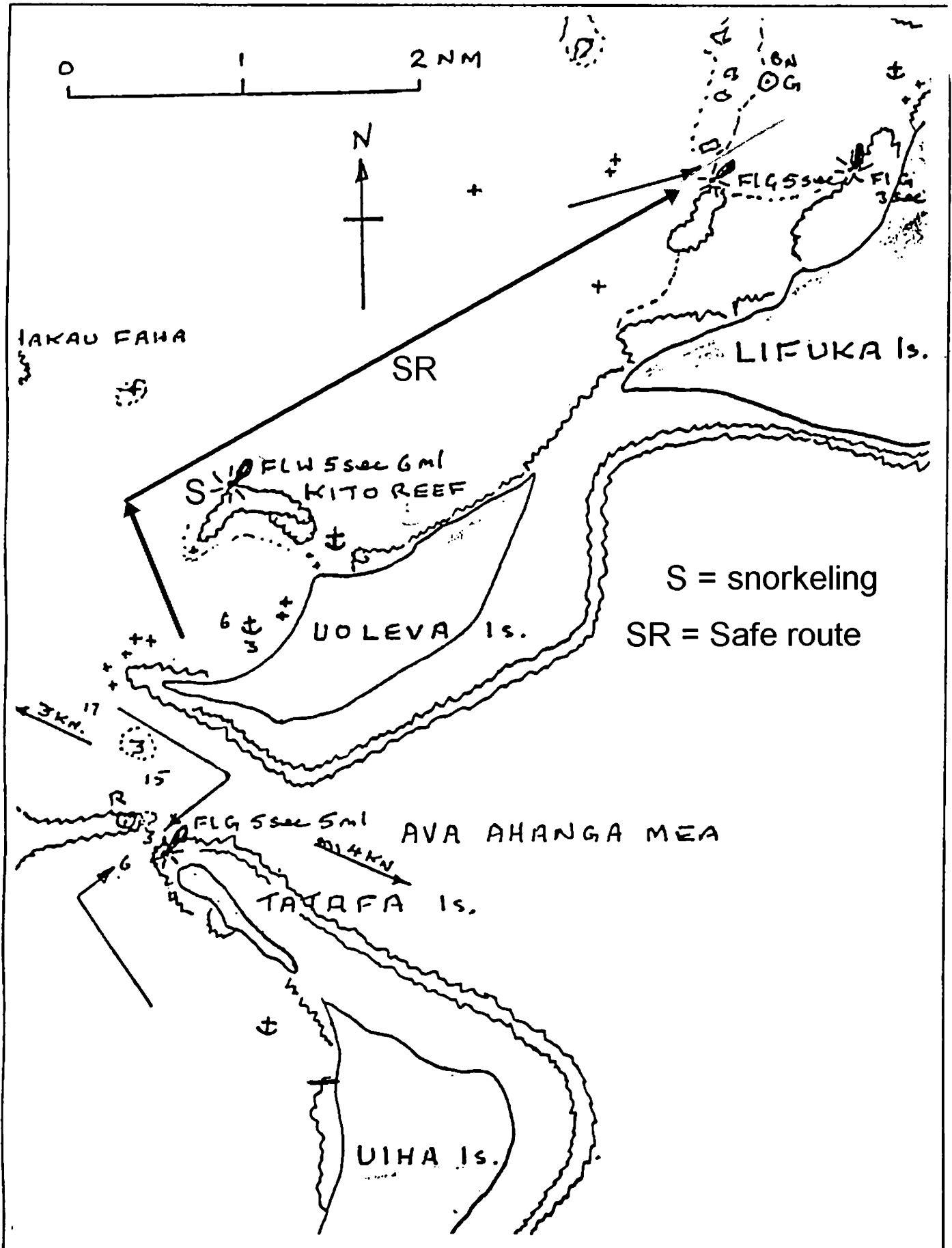
- A. HA'ANO ISLAND
- B. FOA ISLAND - NORTH BEACH
- C. FOA ISLAND - LOTOFOA VILLAGE
- D. LIFUKA ISLAND - HOLOPEKA VILLAGE
- E. LIFUKA ISLAND - PANGAI OUTER
- F. LIFUKA ISLAND - PANGAI INNER
- G. UOLEVA ISLAND - NORTH BAY
- H. UOLEVA ISLAND - SOUTH BAY
- I. 'UIHA ISLAND - 'UIHA VILLAGE
- J. 'UIHA ISLAND - FELEMEA VILLAGE
- K. UANUKUHAHAKI ISLAND



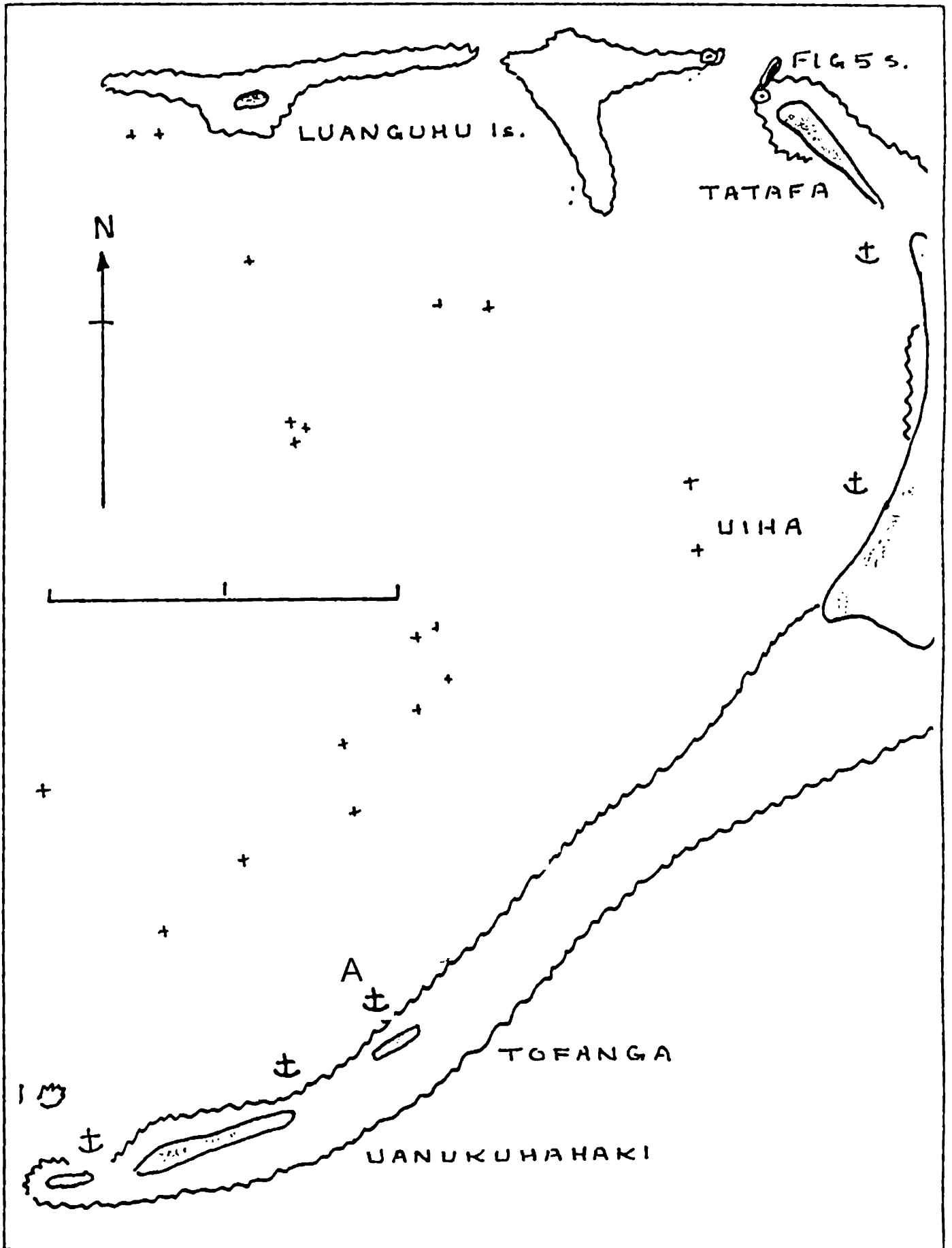
HA'ANO ISLAND TO FOA ISLAND



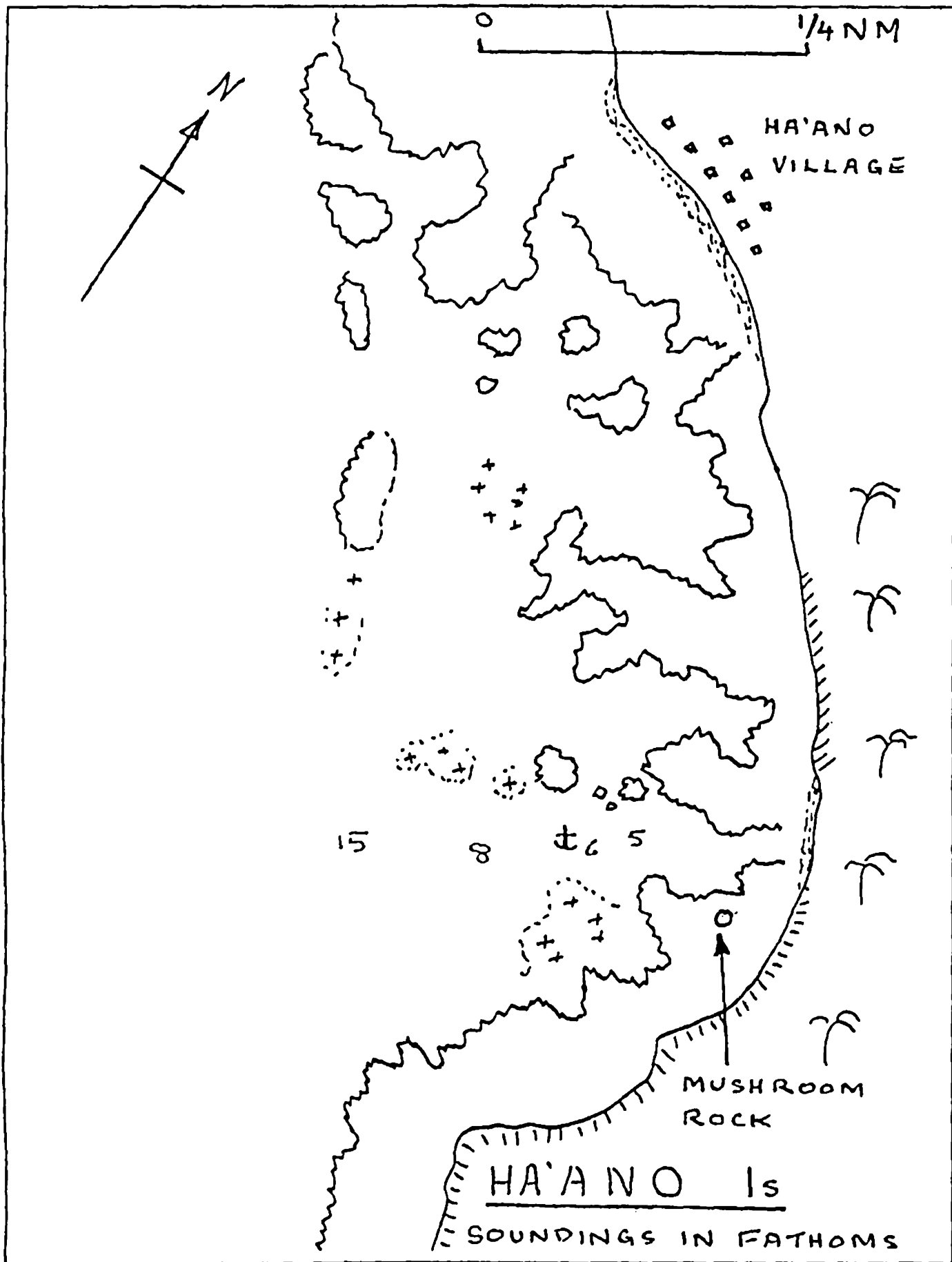
FOA ISLAND TO LIFUKA ISLAND



LIFUKA ISLAND TO 'UIHA ISLAND



'UIHA ISLAND TO UANUKUHAHAKI ISLAND



HA'ANO ISLAND

A. HA'ANO ISLAND

Approaching from the north we followed the barrier reef down the west side of the island passing the village of Ha'ano. Just before the headland halfway along the island we entered the bay and anchored off the mushroom shaped rock in 6 fathoms with sand bottom. We found this bay to be smaller than indicated on the chart with large coral formations in the northern part which provided excellent snorkelling. This anchorage is exposed to southerly and westerly winds.

FOA Is.

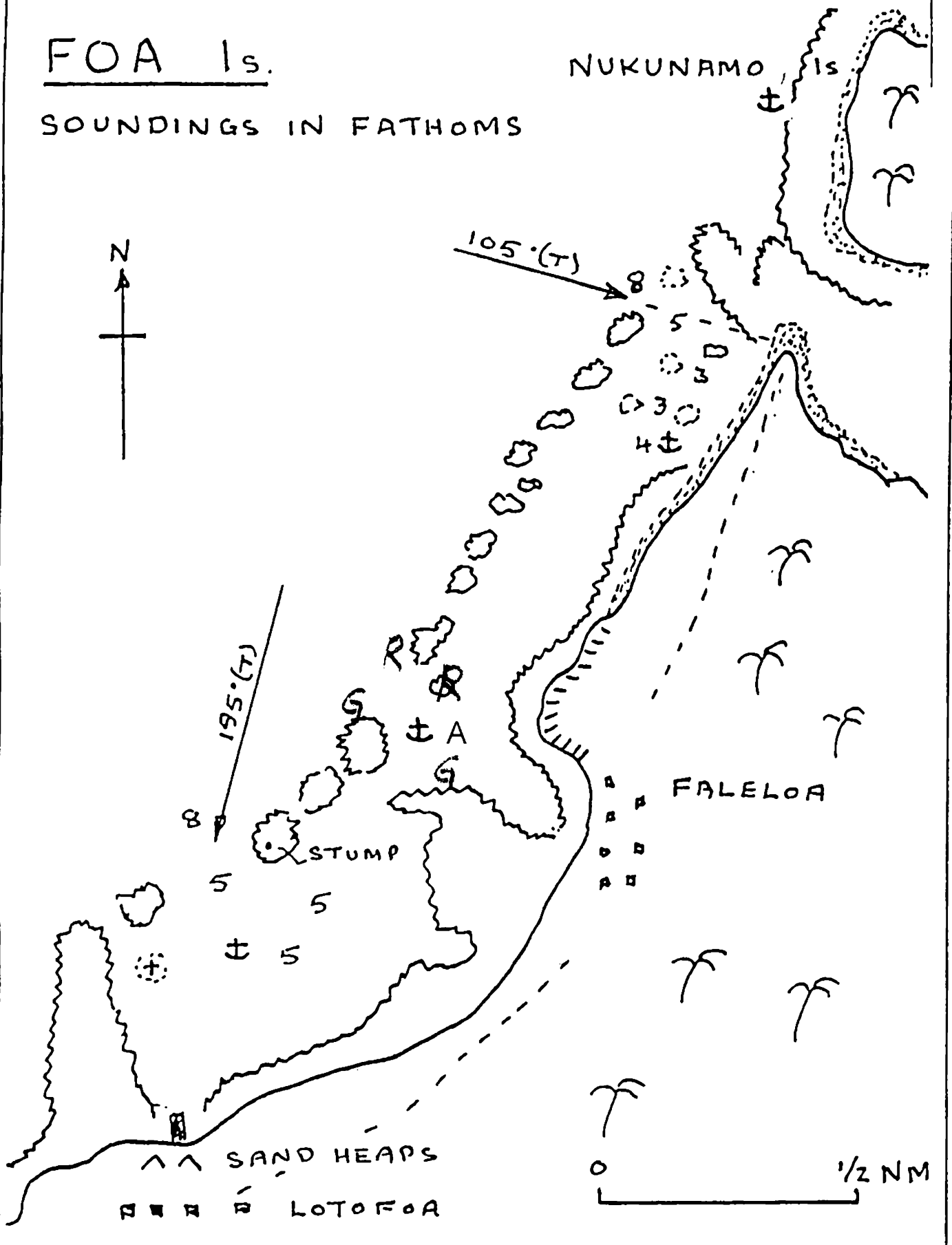
SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

NUKUNAMO Is



105°(T) →

195°(T) →



FOA ISLAND

Very corally entrance

B. FOA ISLAND - NORTH BEACH

This anchorage requires eyeball navigation in conditions of good light. We made our approach on a heading of 105 True, on the northern point of Foa Island. As we closed the barrier reef we found a gap in the coral with a depth of about 6 fathoms and were able to pass into the lagoon. Once inside it was necessary to thread a path around the coral patches to anchor off the beach in 3 to 4 fathoms, sand bottom.

C. FOA ISLAND - LOTOFOA VILLAGE

Approaching from the north we found a heading of 195 True, taken on the sand heaps behind the small wharf, lead through the pass. On the port side of the pass is the stump of an old beacon but it is covered at high water. The depth in the pass and inside the lagoon is 5 fathoms, with sand bottom. A small boat pass to a new wharf at the village of Faleloa is marked by beacons.

Too narrow ?

Anchorage at A - looked too small

D. LIFUKA ISLAND - HOLOPEKA VILLAGE

BA CHART 473

Approaching Lifuka Island from the north the brick beacon on the reef was clearly visible. A course of 205 True to pass west of the brick beacon brought us to a green can buoy with cone topmark and a red can buoy (the red buoy was missing in June 92). From here a heading of 135 True took us into the bay. In the middle of the fairway is a coral patch with a red porthand beacon which can be passed on either side. We anchored in 3 fathoms, sand bottom, about 0.3 NM offshore. There are coral patches closer in.

E. LIFUKA ISLAND - PANGAI VILLAGE

We entered this anchorage from the north. The average depth is 4 fathoms with sand and coral patches. Anchoring 0.25 NM north of the main wharf we found a clear sand bottom in 3 fathoms. The best dinghy landing is on the beach beside the piles of an old jetty 300 yds south of the wharf.

We left via the pass to the southwest. Leaving the green pile beacon close to port we found a depth of 3 fathoms in the pass. To enter through this pass a heading of 075 True should be taken on the large silver building at the northern end of Pangai, leaving the green pile beacon to starboard.

1993 - 2 markers at 2 locations marked M were missing.

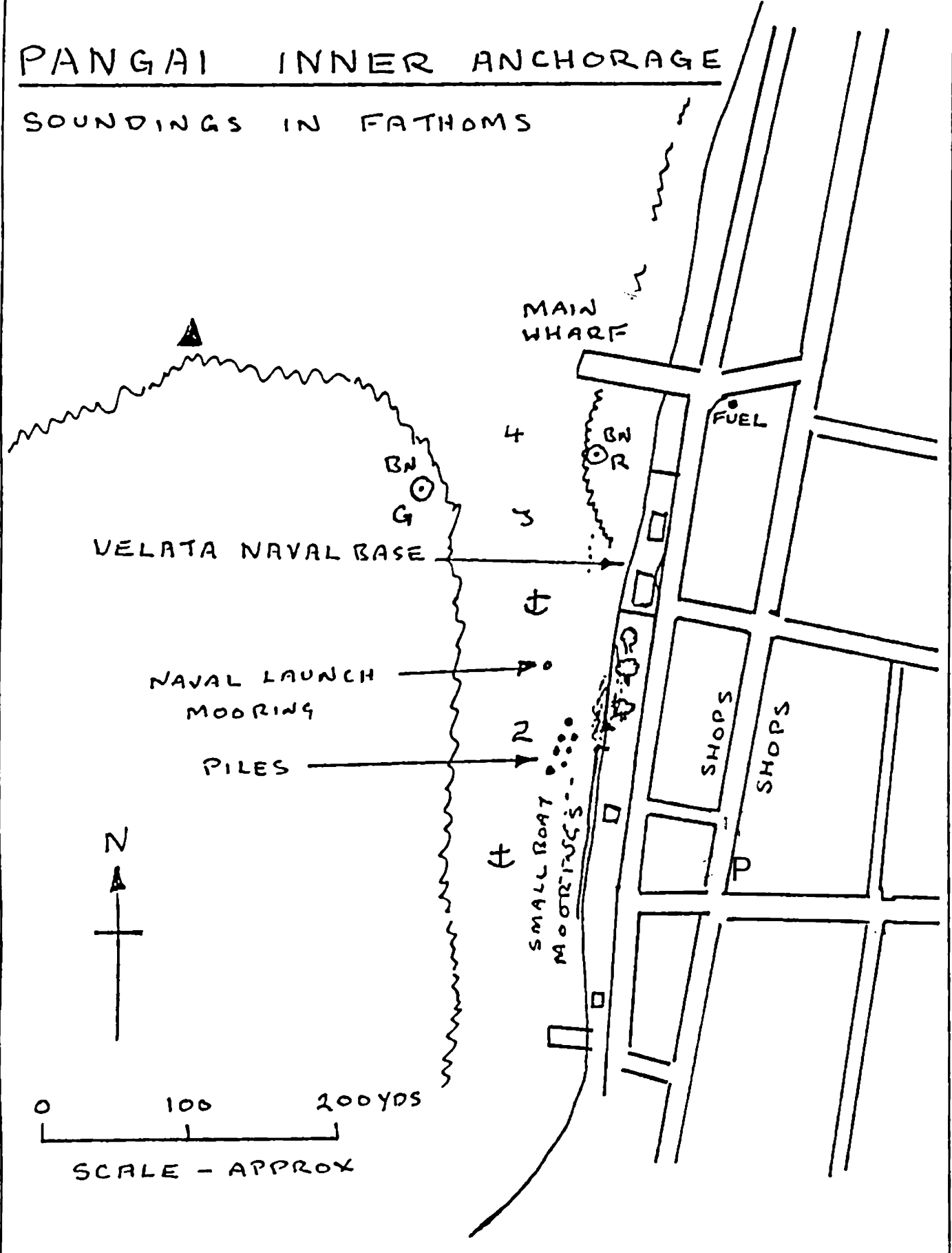
GPS fix at F anchor = 19 deg 47.96 S

174 deg 21.21 W

Entrance from South - keep green light about 100 ft on
starboard side - clear pass to anchor north of wharf

PANGAI INNER ANCHORAGE

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS



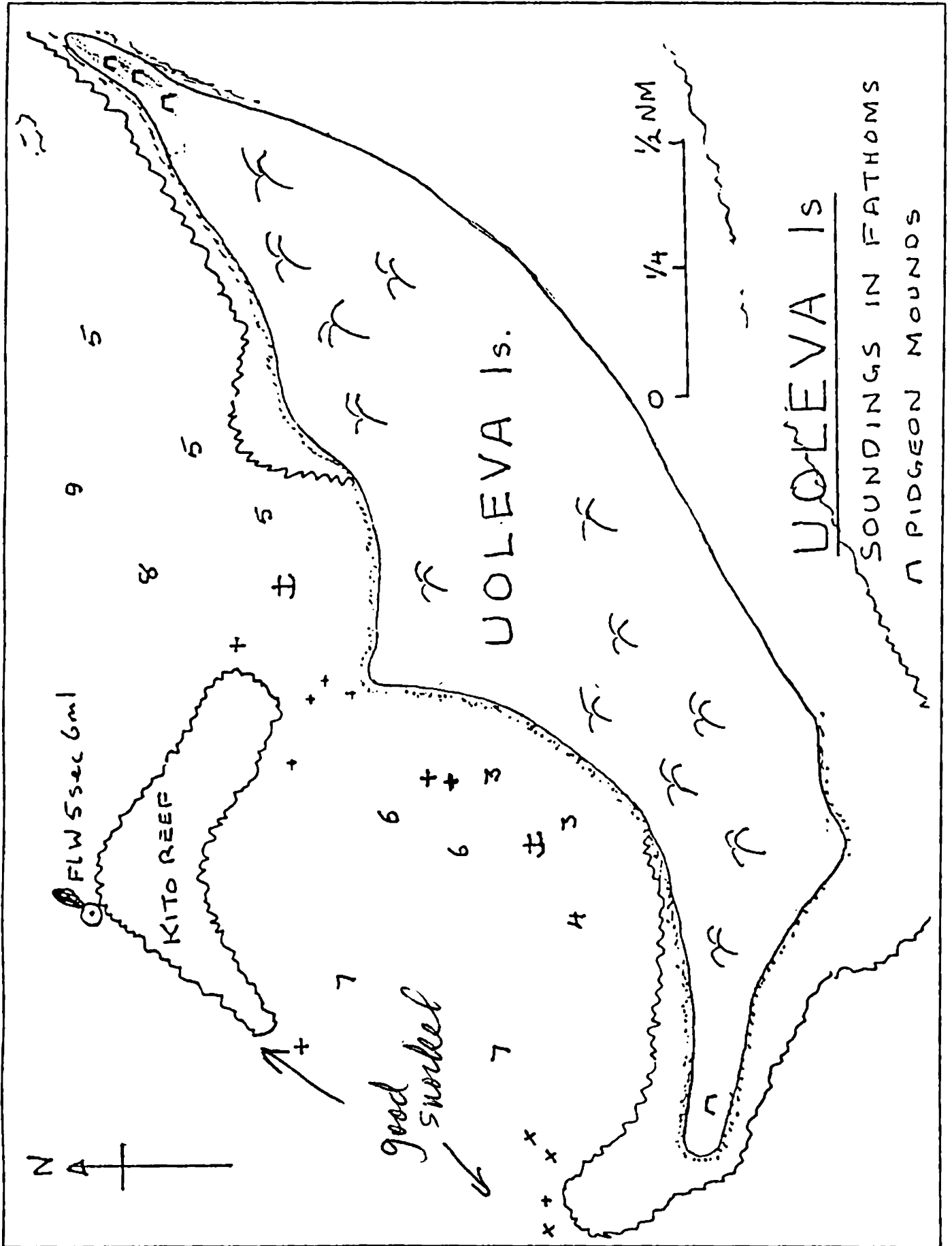
PANGAI INNER ANCHORAGE

F. LIFUKA ISLAND - PANGAI INNER

This anchorage is in a narrow passage behind the reef to the south of the main wharf. Pass between the red and green beacons and anchor near the old jetty piles 300 yds south of the wharf. We found good holding in 9 feet with sand bottom. Swinging room is restricted, so it is advisable to set two anchors or take lines to the piles. We experienced strong winds backing from north to west but the reef provided reasonable shelter.

Anchorage is quite small and narrow

Police at P



UOLEVA IS

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS
 r RIDGGEON MOUNDS

UOLEVA ISLAND

G. UOLEVA ISLAND – NORTH BAY

This anchorage is at the inner end of Kito Reef which extends to the west from midway along the western shore of Uoleva. To the north of the sand point that extends towards the reef we anchored in 5 fathoms, sand bottom. The pass between the reef and the sand spit has a depth of about 9 feet but many coral heads, some within 3 feet of the surface. Use this anchorage only in SE to S winds, as the wind comes around the north end of the island when from the east.

Very good.

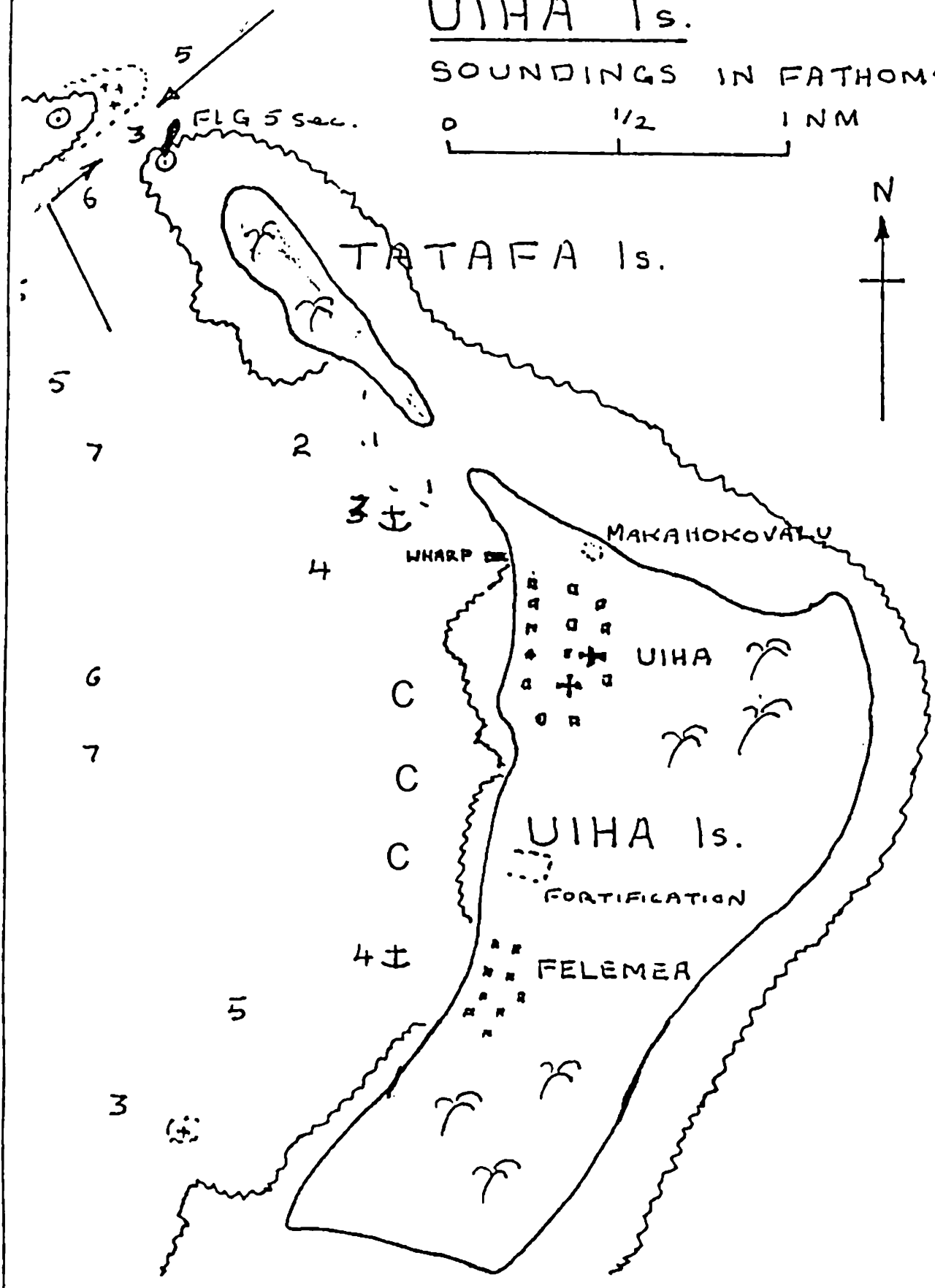
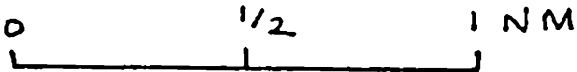
H. UOLEVA ISLAND – SOUTH BAY

The northwest end of the reef is marked by a pile beacon from which it extends a further 0.5 NM to the southwest. Once past the reef the entrance to the bay is open and anchorage may be found near the beach in depths of 4 to 6 fathoms.

WARNING: there are two large coral heads 0.25 NM south of the sand point about 300 yds off the beach, which have a depth over them of 3 and 4 feet. Sharks have been reported in Ava 'Auhangamea, but they are not aggressive.

UIHA Is.

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS



'UIHA ISLAND

I. 'UIHA ISLAND - 'UIHA VILLAGE

WARNING: there are a large number of isolated and unmarked coral heads to the west and southwest of 'Uiha Island, keep a good look out.

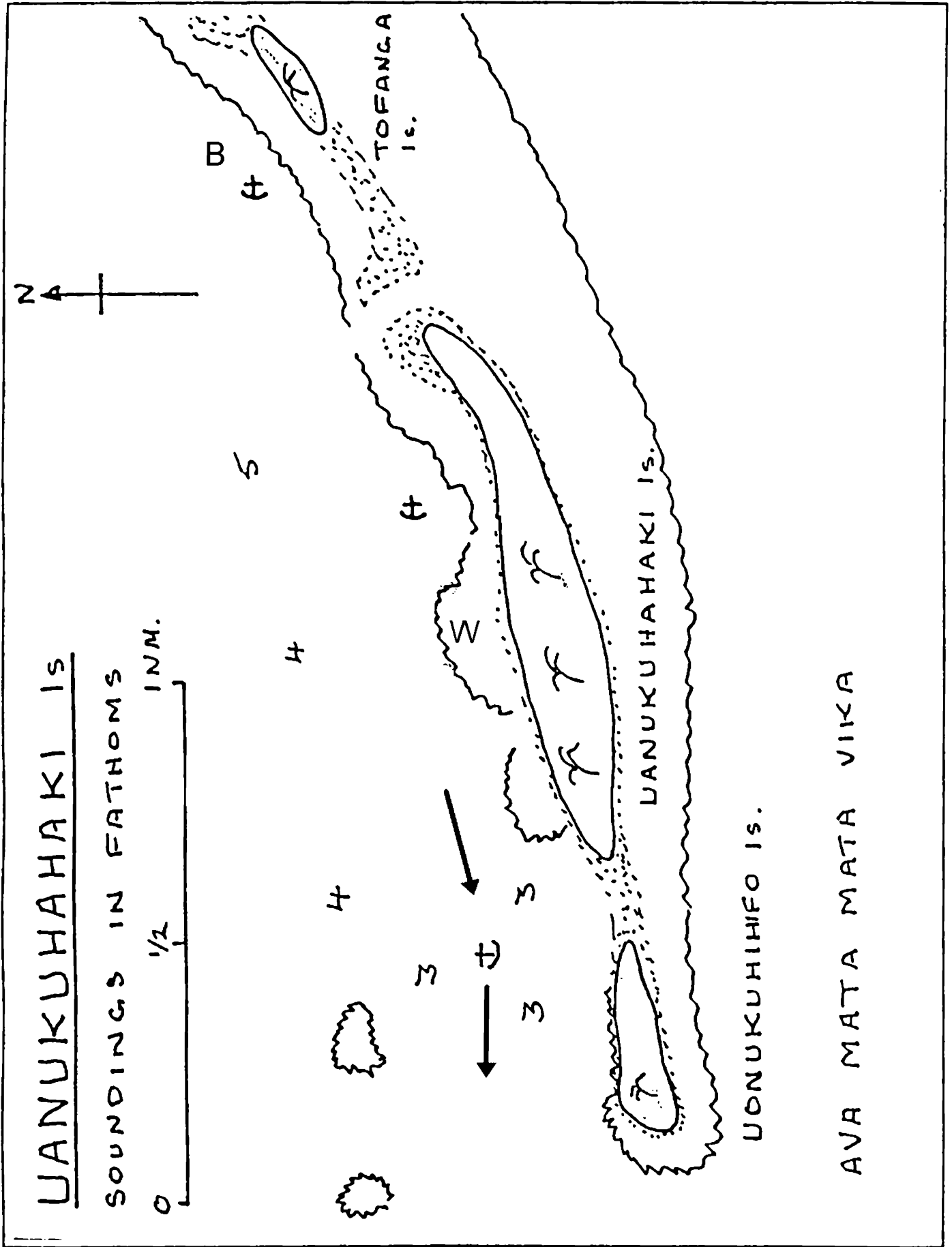
We entered the southern portion of the Ha'apai Group by way of Ava Vaha'afonua on our first cruise. Note that the reef extends about 1 mile to the west of Luangahu Island. In 1992 we approached from Ava 'Auhangamea through a narrow pass west of Tatafa Island. The pass is marked by a green pile beacon on the reef on Tatafa and a red beacon on the reef to the west. The reef extends beyond both beacons. Passing midway between these two beacons on a heading of 235/055 True on a line with the east side of Uoleva we found a least depth of 3 fathoms.

Anchoring in 3 fathoms, about 0.3 NM due west of the northern point of 'Uiha Island, we found sand bottom with grass patches.

J. 'UIHA ISLAND - FELEMEA VILLAGE

In front of the village on the southern half of the island there is a clear sand bottom with a depth of 4 fathoms.

C = lots of coral heads



UANUKUHAKI ISLAND

K. UANUKUHAHAKI ISLAND (UONUKUHAHAKE ISLAND)

Approaching this anchorage from the north we spotted several coral heads between 1 and 2 miles from the island. Two reefs lie about half a mile to the north and northwest of tiny Uonukuhihifo Island to the west of Uanukuhahaki Island. We passed to the east of these and anchored in 3 fathoms, sand bottom, 0.2 NM off the sand spit joining Uanukuhahaki to its tiny neighbour to the west.

B = Best anchorage good shelling on beach

↓
1 to 1.5 knot current

W = white cowries

B = clear sand, no coral, other places have coral or current

Chapter 4

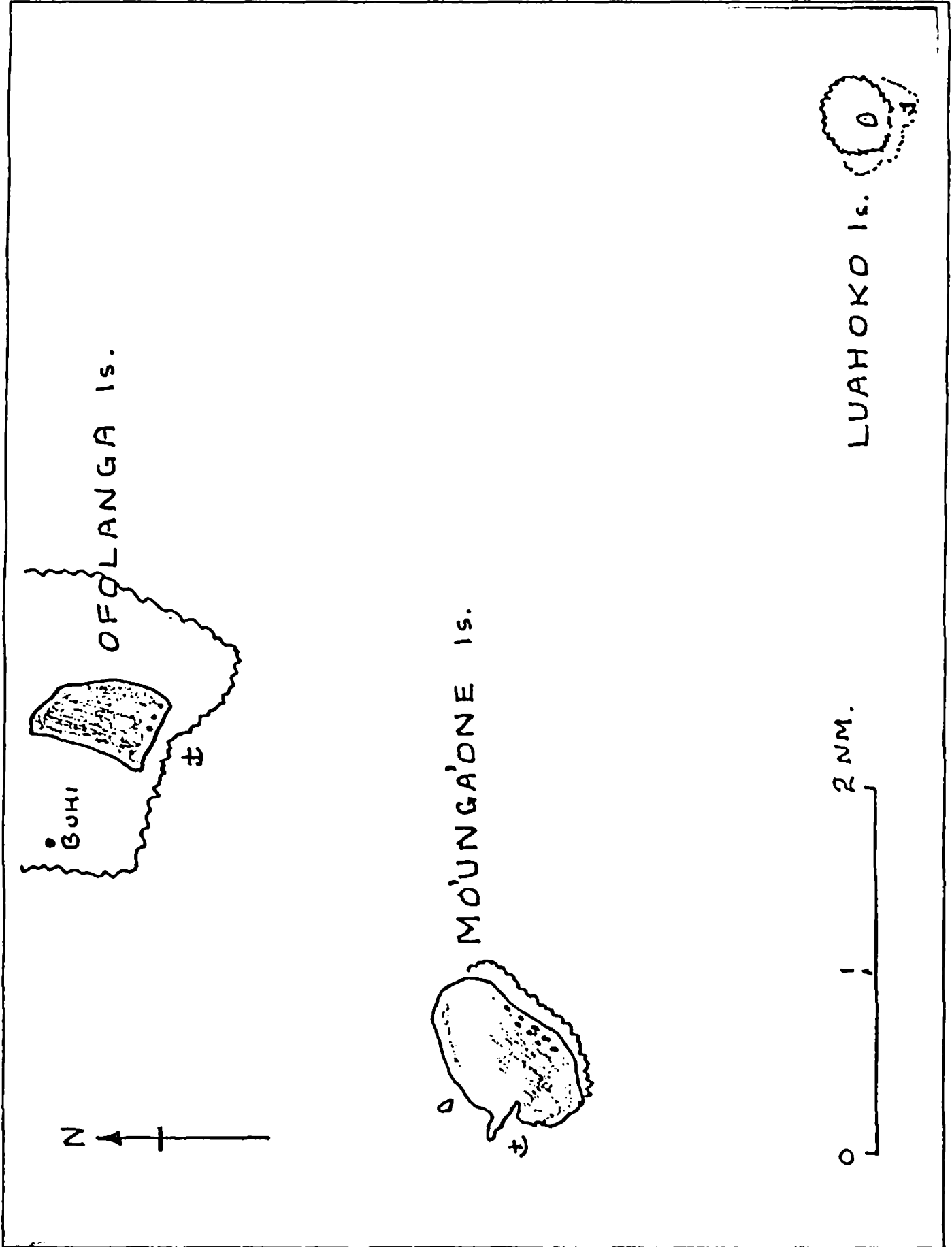
ANCHORAGES – WESTERN GROUP

SKETCH CHARTS:

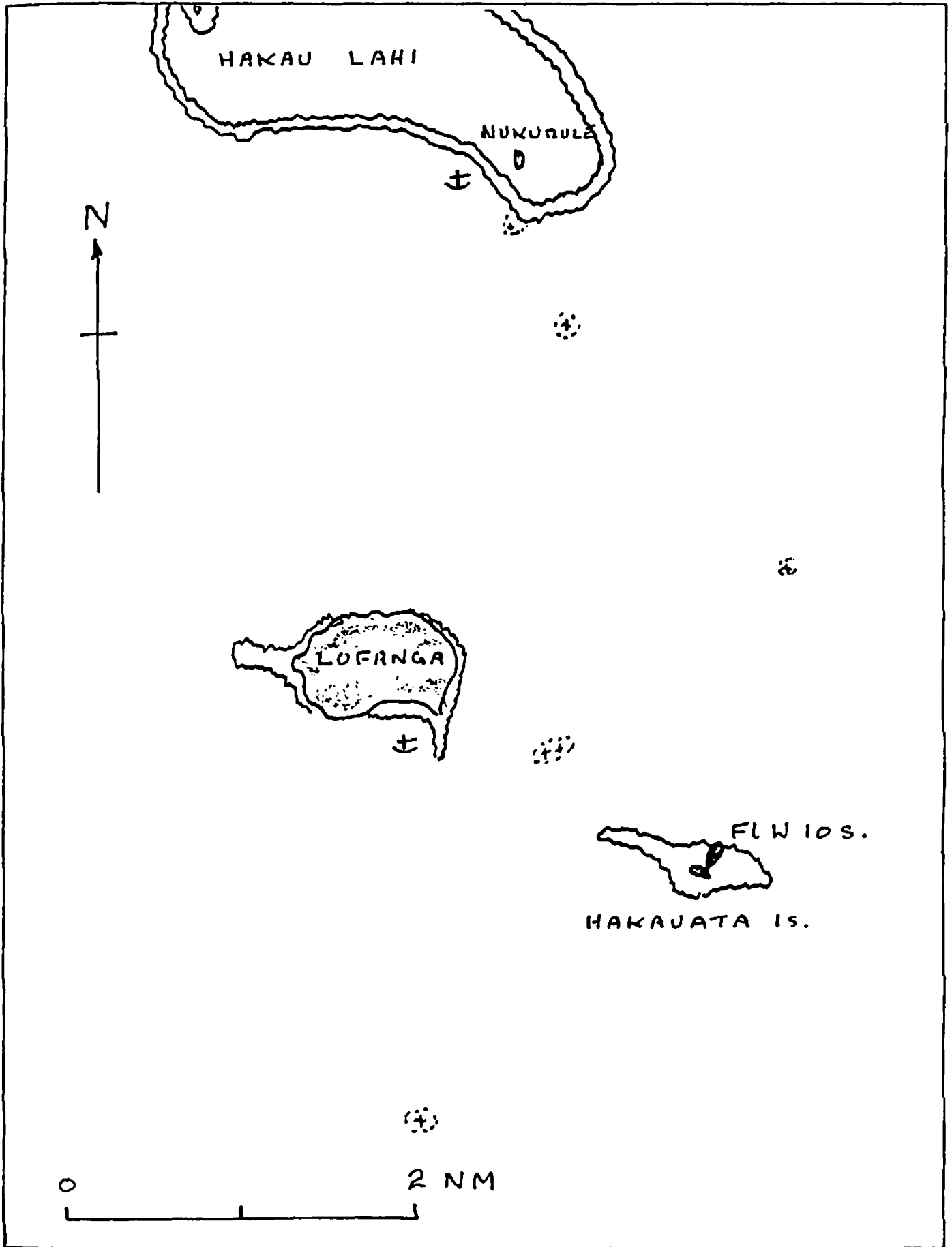
1. OFOLANGA ISLAND TO LUAHOKO ISLAND
2. HAKAU LAHI TO LOFANGA ISLAND
3. HA'AFEVA ISLAND TO TONGUA ISLAND
4. HA'AFEVA ISLAND TO 'O'UA ISLAND

ANCHORAGES AND PLANS:

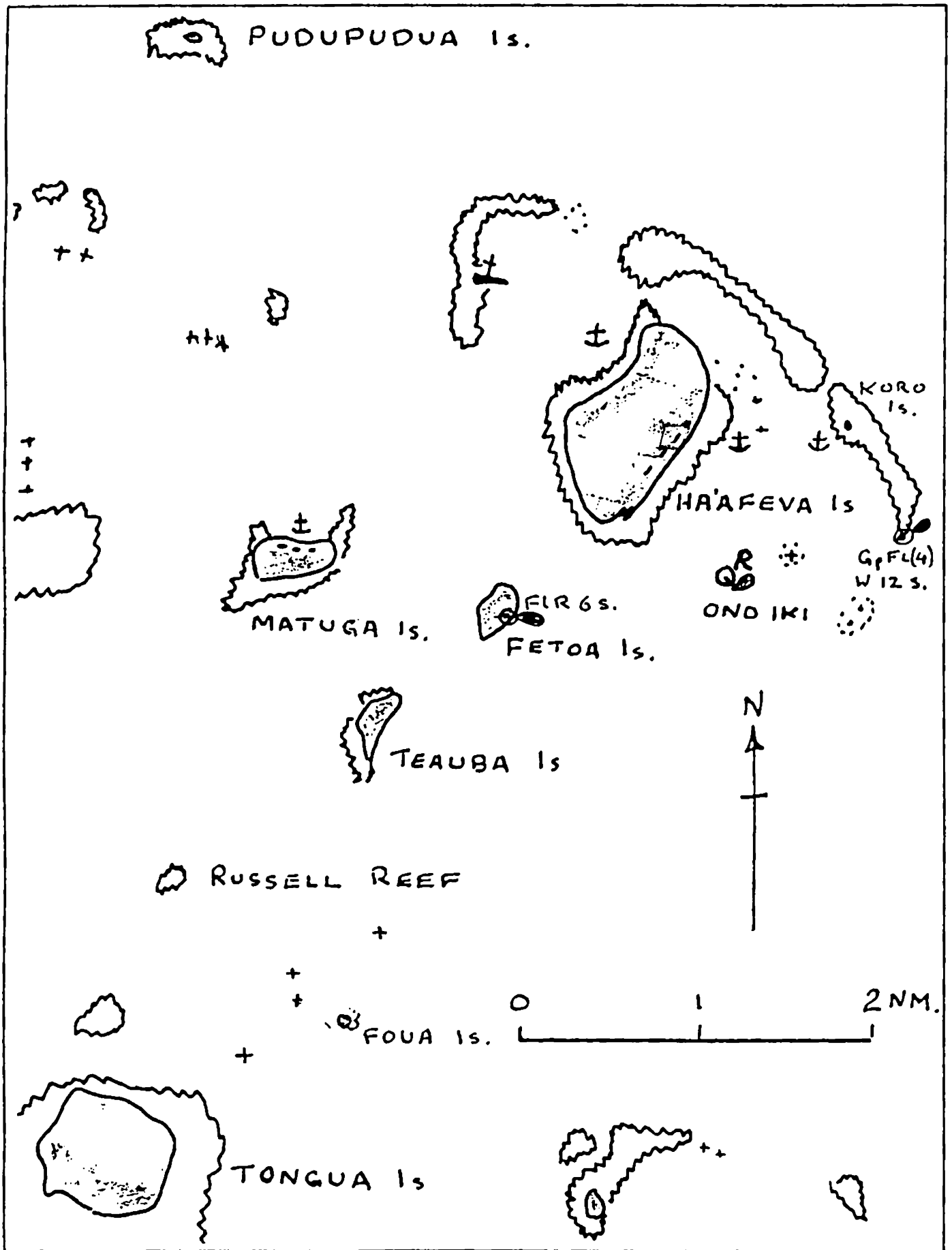
- L. OFOLANGA ISLAND
- M. MO'UNGA'ONE ISLAND
- N. LUAHOKO ISLAND
- O. HAKAU LAHI
- P. LOFANGA ISLAND
- Q. HA'AFEVA ISLAND – WEST
- R. HA'AFEVA ISLAND – EAST
- S. MATUGA ISLAND
- T. 'O'UA ISLAND – NORTH
- U. 'O'UA ISLAND – WEST (BEABEA ISLAND)
- V. 'O'UA ISLAND – SOUTH
- W. NOMUKA ISLAND
- X. NOMUKA IKI
- Y *Kelelesia*
- Z *Tofua, Kao*



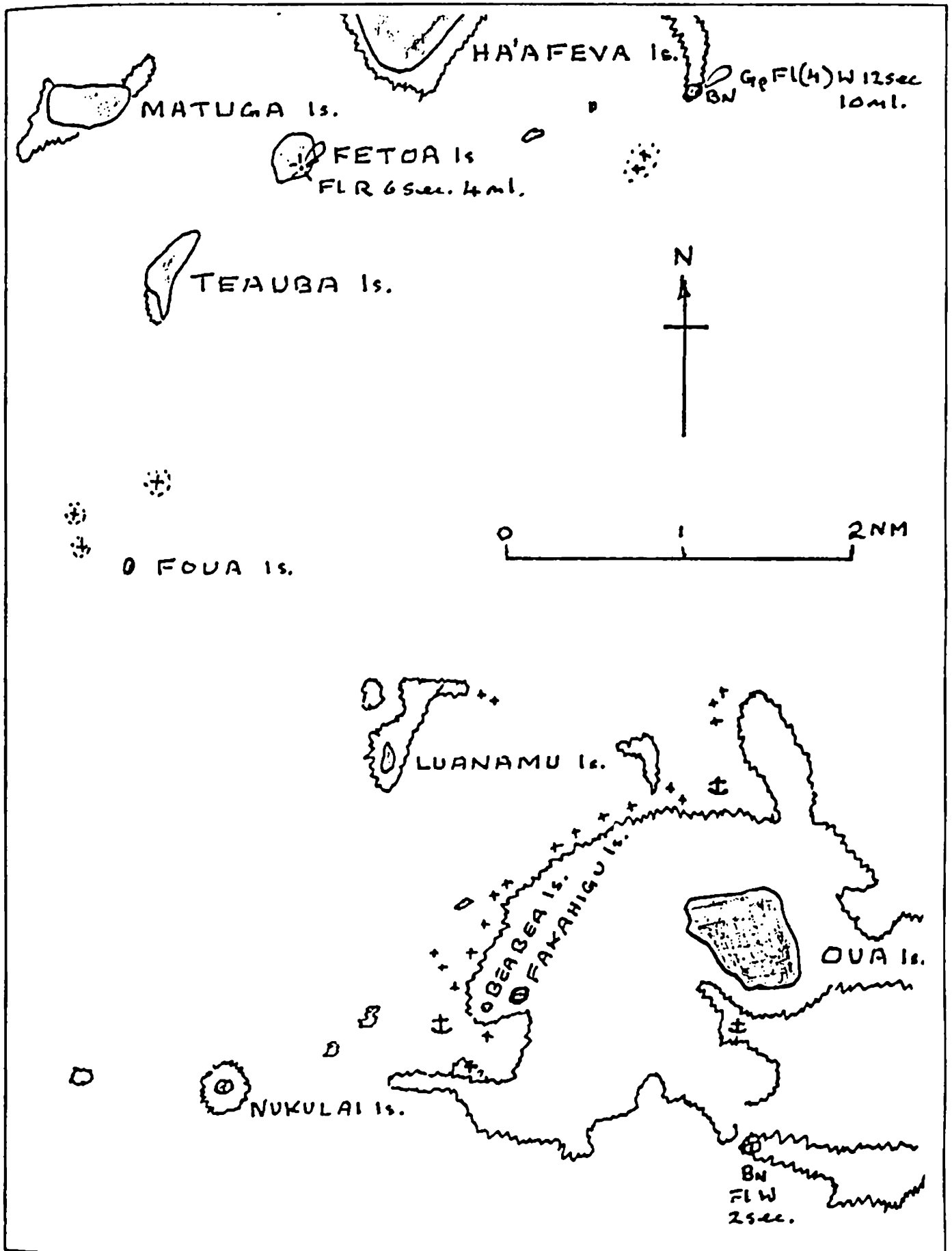
OFOLANGA ISLAND TO LUAHOKO ISLAND



HAKAU LAHI TO LOFANGA ISLAND



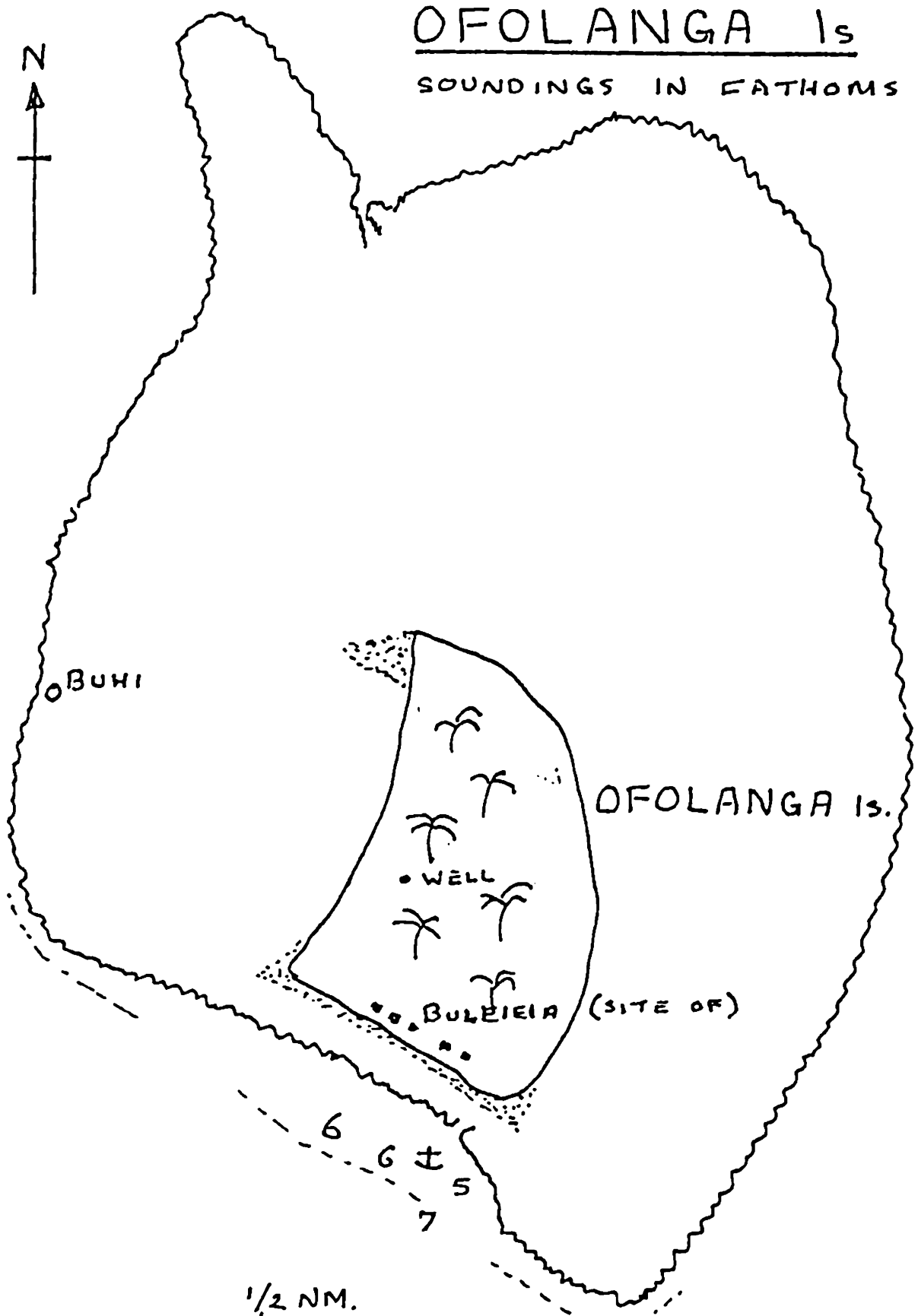
HA'AFEVA ISLAND TO TONGVA ISLAND



HA'AFEVA ISLAND TO 'O'UA ISLAND

OFOLANGA Is

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS



0 1/2 NM.

OFOLANGA ISLAND

L. OFOLANGA ISLAND

BA CHART 3097

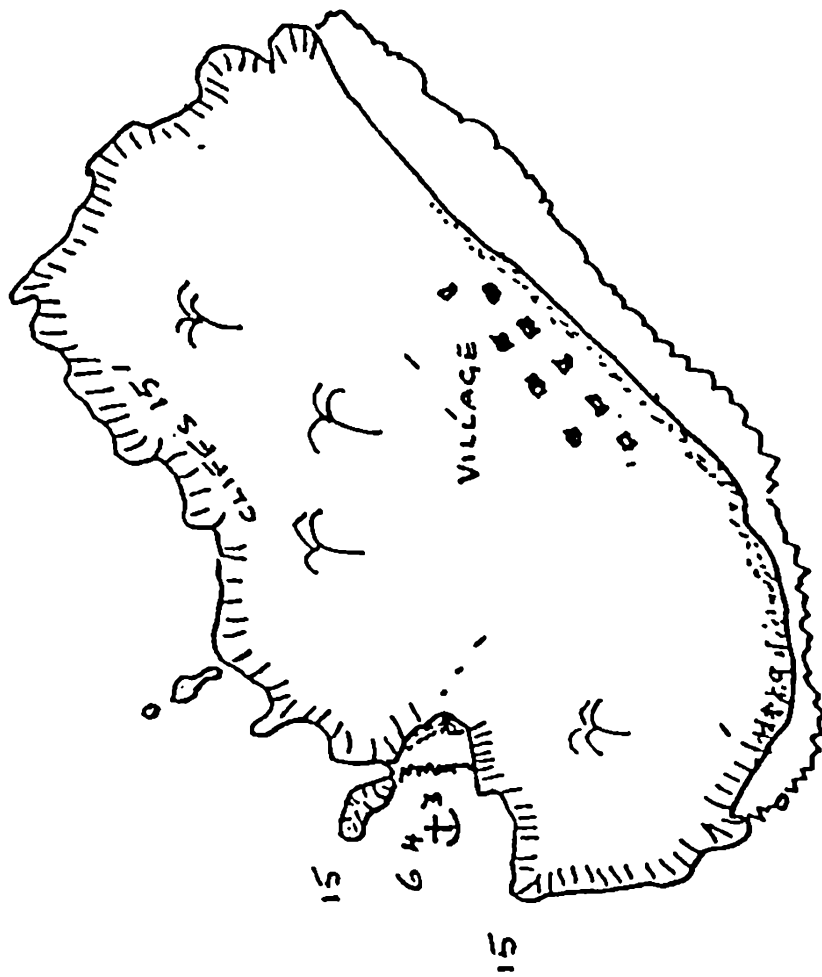
We found a good anchorage off the southern shore of the island in 5 to 6 fathoms, sand bottom. The island and reef provides protection from NW to NE winds. A dinghy pass through the reef is situated towards the eastern end of the beach. There is no longer a permanent village on this island, although we found a temporary camp on the west shore.

Lots of shells, flies and mosquitoes

1 NM

1/2

0



MO'UNGA'ONE IS.
SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

MO'UNGA'ONE ISLAND

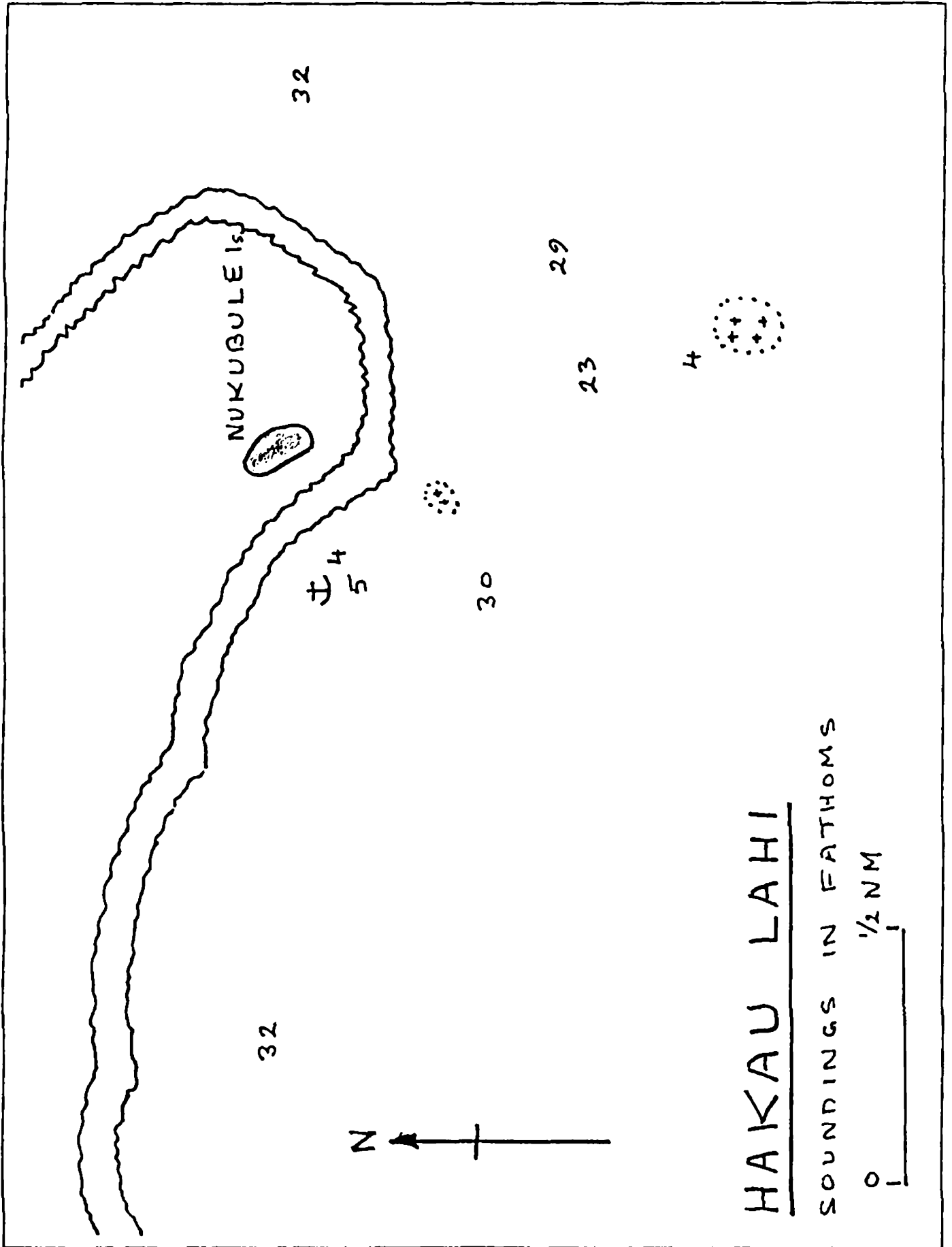
M. MO'UNGA'ONE ISLAND No - even in ESE winds

At the west end of the island there is a small cove which would afford an anchorage with the wind from the east. The depth is 3 to 4 fathoms with mainly rock or coral bottom. At the head of the cove is a small beach behind a fringing reef. When we visited this island the wind was out of the north and the swell made anchoring unsafe.

Too much surge - too small - needs flat calm

N. LUAHOKO ISLAND

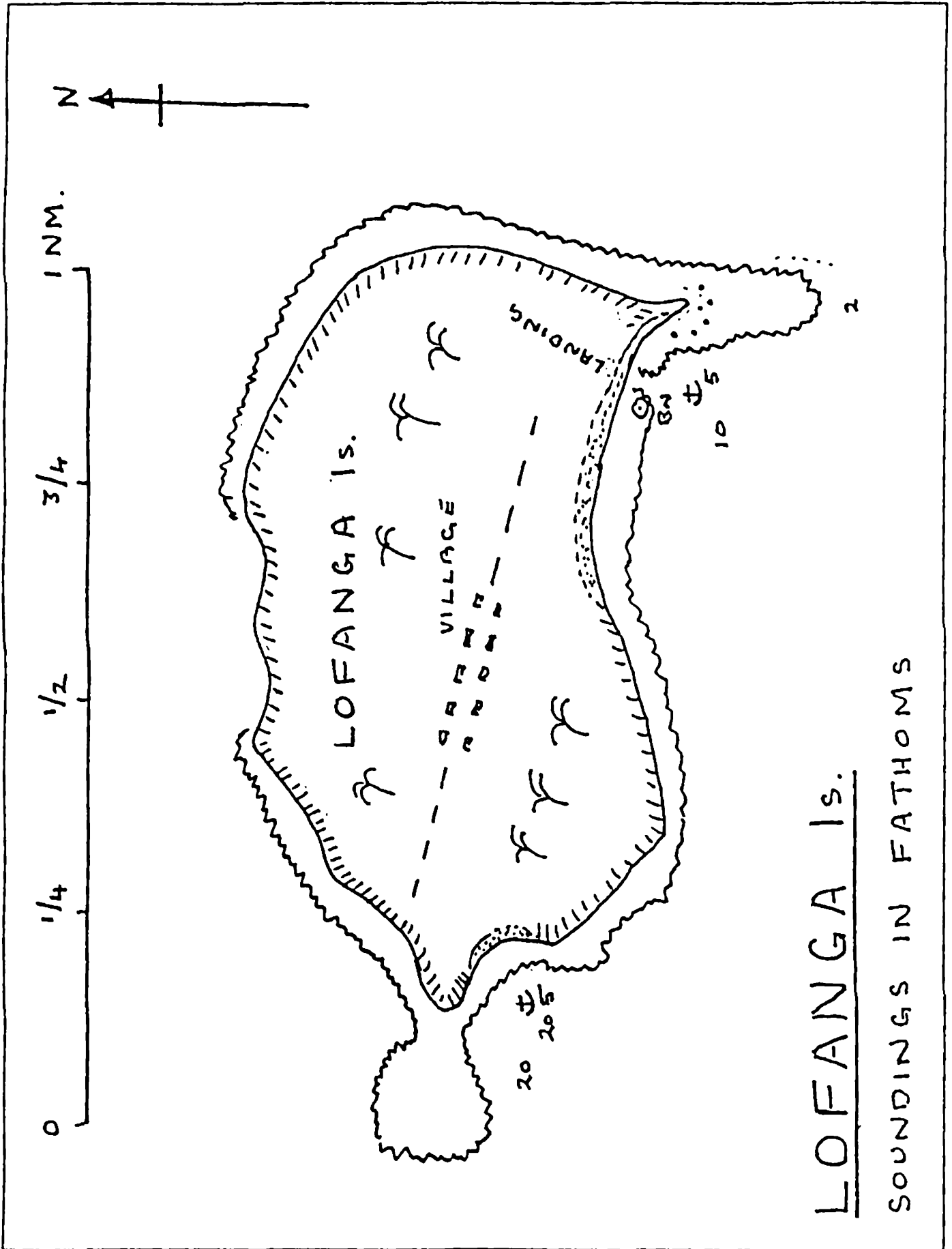
In calm conditions, about 5 miles southeast of Mo'unga'one this tiny uninhabited island offers a daytime anchorage at its southern end in 5 fathoms.



HAKAU LAHI ISLAND

O. HAKAU LAHI

Two and a quarter miles north of Lofanga Island the atoll of Hakau Lahi encircles a large shallow lagoon with two tiny islands. In settled weather an anchorage may be found outside the barrier reef on its southern side, to the west of Nukubule Island (Nukupule Island), in 4 to 5 fathoms, sand bottom.



LOFANGA ISLAND

LOFANGA IS.

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

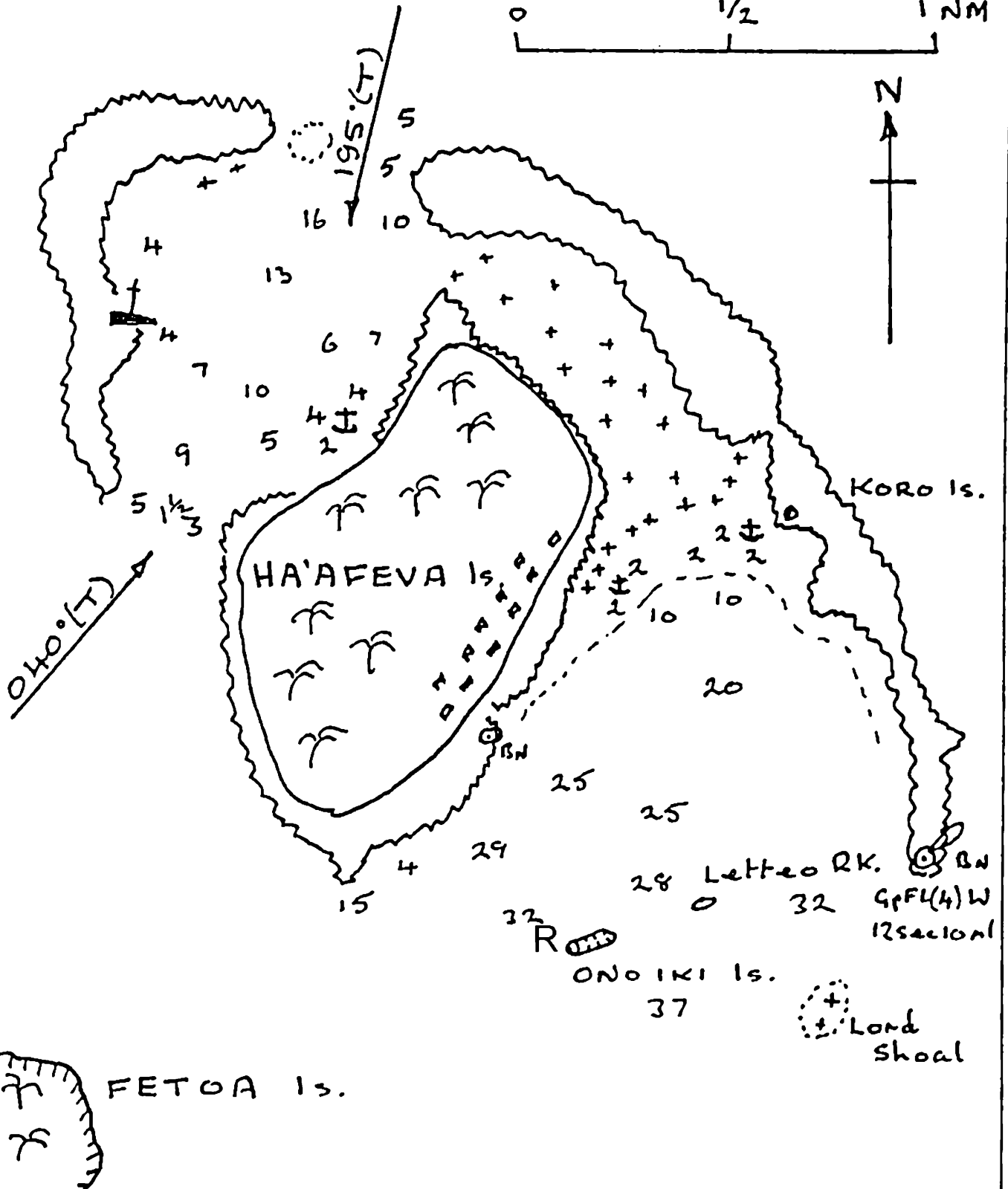
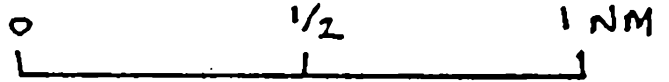
P. LOFANGA ISLAND

The anchorage is at the SE corner of the island, off the eastern end of the beach close to the reef. There is a clear sand bottom in 5 fathoms. The reef extending nearly 0.2 NM. to the south provides good shelter in easterly winds. The dinghy pass to the beach is marked by a red beacon.

An alternative anchorage may be found at the west end of the island, off a small beach with coral and sand bottom in 5 fathoms. However this should be regarded as a daytime only stop.

HA'AFEVA Is.

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS



HA'AFEVA ISLAND

Q. HA'AFEVA ISLAND - WEST

We approached this island from the east passing around the southern end, between Fetoa Island and Ono Iki. Watch out for Lord Shoal about half a mile SE of Ono Iki, a tiny tree covered island with a flat topped rock lying 0.2 miles NE of it. Rounding the western end of Ha'afeva the entrance to the lagoon is open with a depth of 3 to 5 fathoms but has a shallow patch of 9 ft. in the middle. Anchor along the NW shore of the island, about 0.2 NM off in 3 to 4 fathoms, sand bottom with some coral patches.

An alternative approach to this anchorage is through the break in the reef to the north. A heading of 195 True with the LHE of Fetoa Island and the RHE of Ha'afeva in line leads through, with an average depth of 5 fathoms.

The wreck of "EKI AKI" a Korean-type fishing vessel lies on the reef half a mile NW of the anchorage.

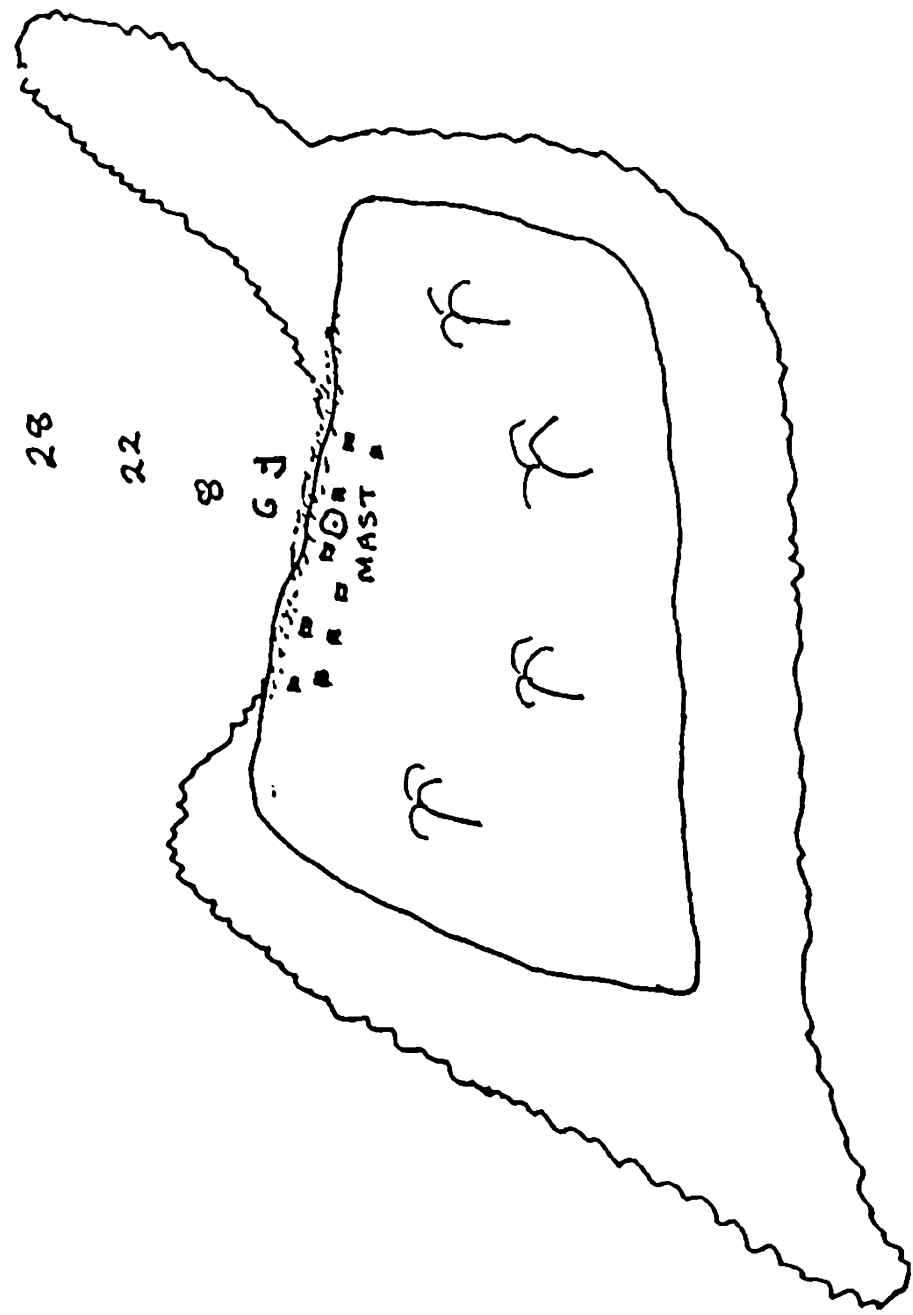
The best landing place is at the centre of the beach from where a path leads across the island to the village. There is a small store at the village and a young lad named Peter was keen to trade fruit.

R. HA'AFEVA ISLAND - EAST

Approach this anchorage from the south. There is deep water (30 fathoms) between Ha'afeva, Ono Iki, Letteo Rock and the southern end of the reef, which is marked by a beacon. There are two possible anchorages: SW of tiny Koro (Kolo) Island on the outer reef in 2 fathoms sand bottom, or off the northern end of the village about 0.2 NM from the shore in 2 fathoms sand bottom. There are many coral heads closer inshore. The dinghy passage to the beach is marked by a beacon near the south end of the village.

MATUGA IS.

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS



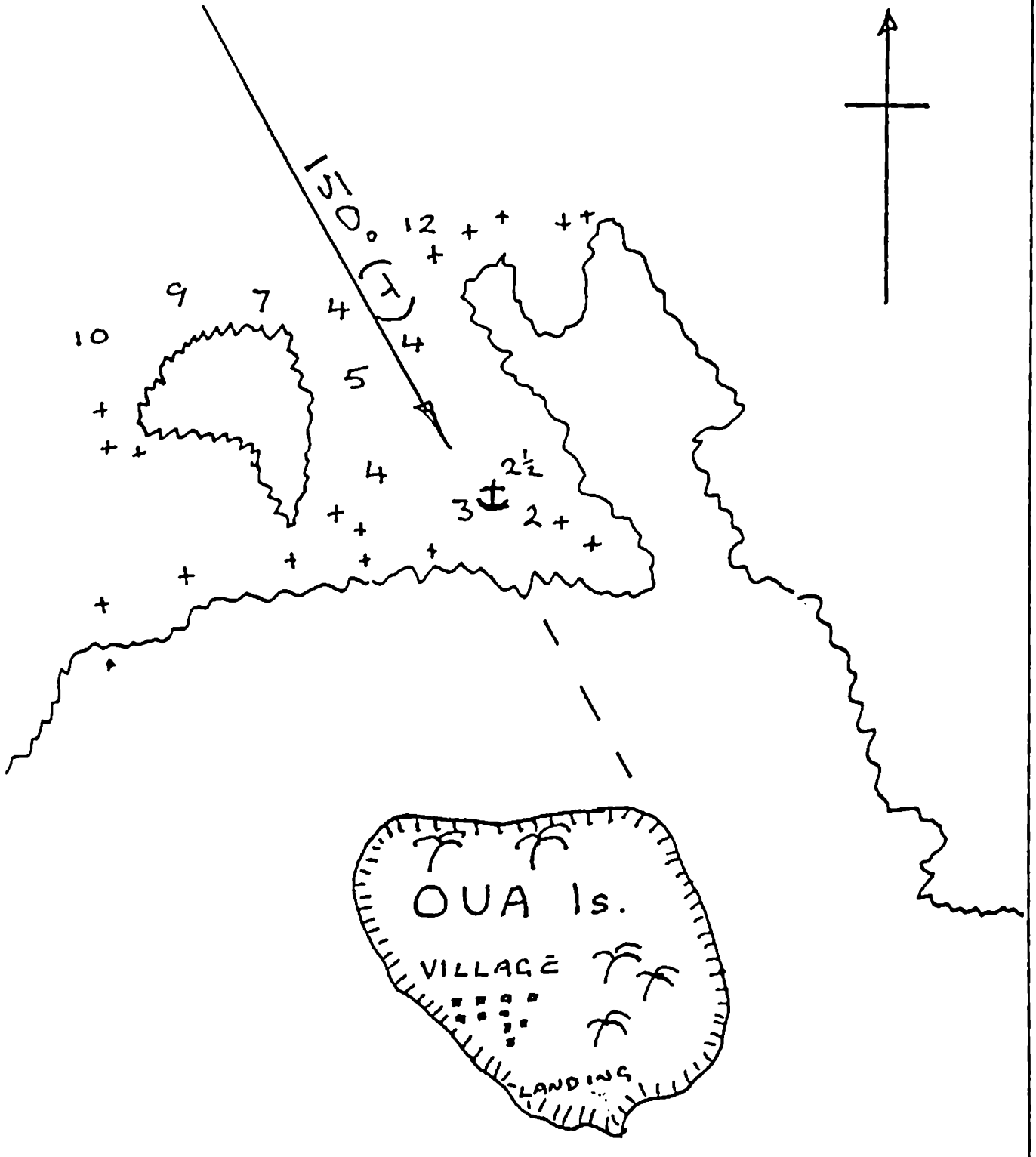
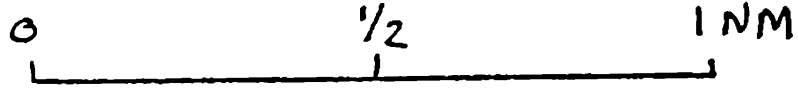
MATUGA ISLAND

5. MATUGA (MATUKA) ISLAND

We did not anchor here. Approaching from the north there is a bay formed by the north shore and the reef extending from the east end of the island. A short stay anchorage may be found in 6 fathoms, about 100 yards off the beach in front of the village.

OUA Is. NORTH

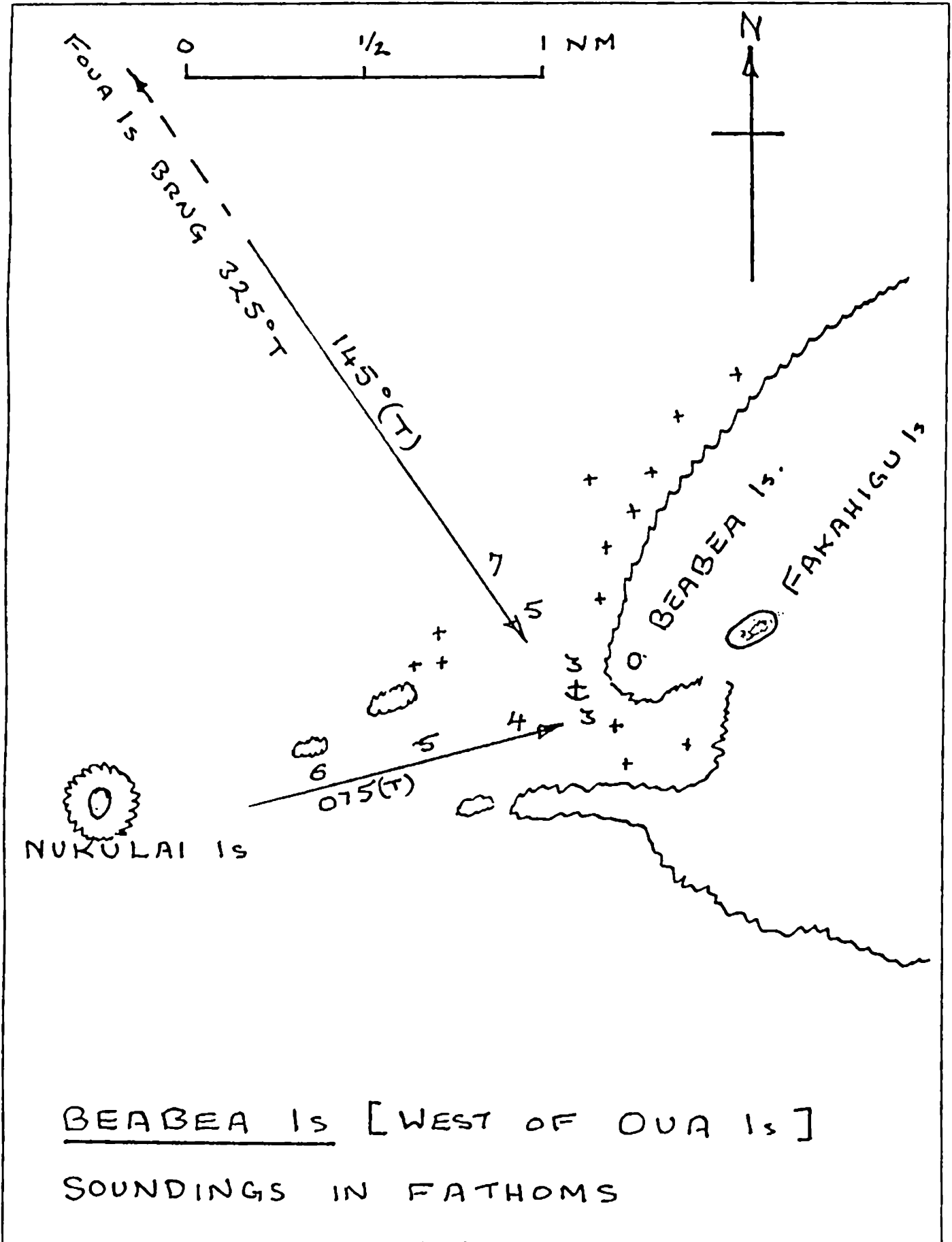
SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS



'O'UA ISLAND - NORTH

T. 'O'UA ISLAND - NORTH

This anchorage is in a bay formed by the reef north of 'O'ua Island. We approached on a heading of 150 True taken on the LHE of 'O'ua Island, with the RHE of Ha'afeva just open on the RHE of Ono Iki astern. At the inner end of the bay we found sand bottom with some coral in 2 to 3 fathoms. The reef provided good shelter from the waves generated by the prevailing easterly wind.



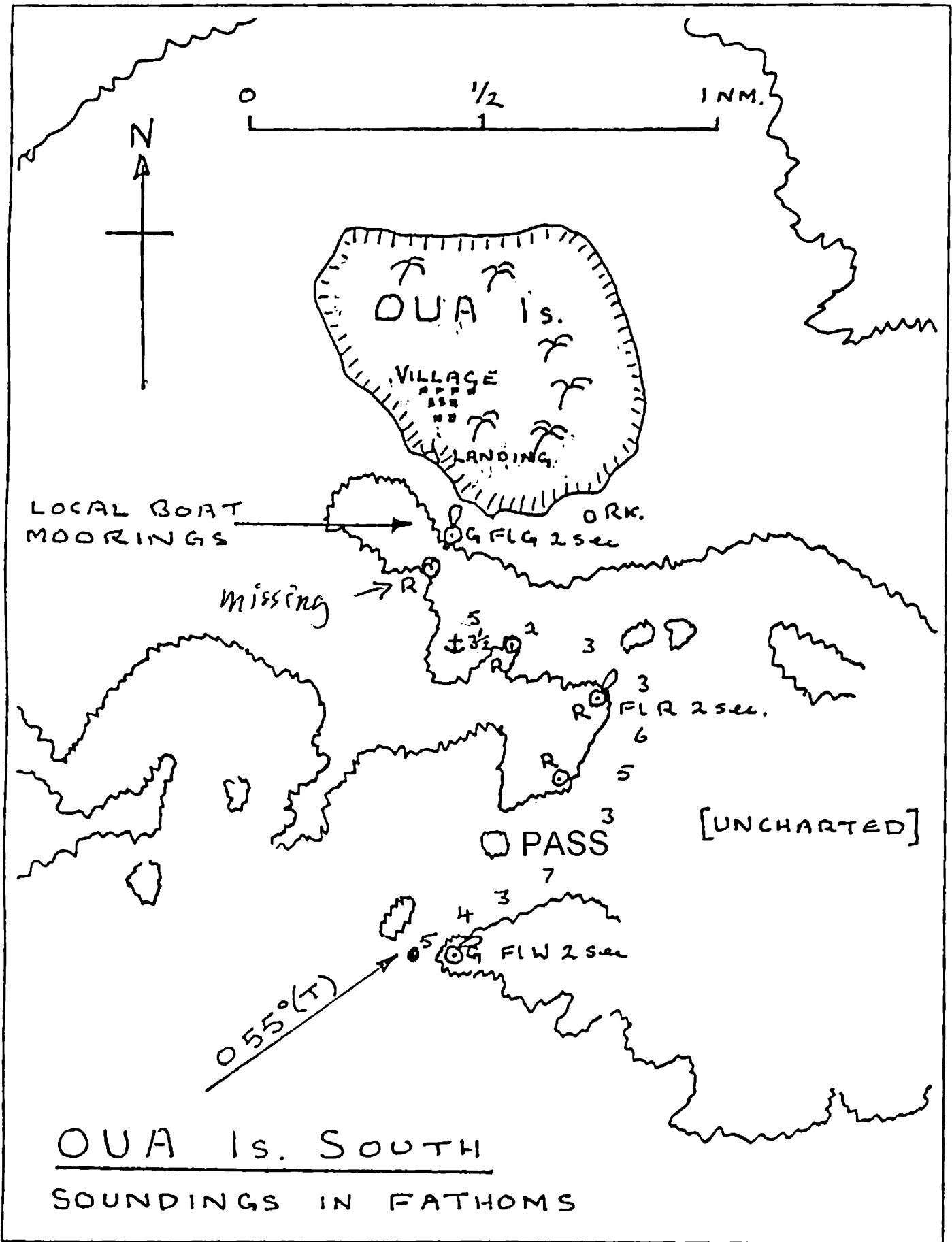
BEABEA IS [WEST OF OUA IS]

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

BEABEA ISLAND [WEST OF 'O'UA ISLAND]

U. 'O'UA ISLAND - WEST (BEABEA ISLAND (PEAPEA ISLAND))

This anchorage lies in a bight in the reef 1.25 miles west of 'O'ua Island. There are two approaches. From the north, with Foua Island bearing 325 True astern a heading of 145 True leads into the anchorage. From the south or west, with Nukulai Island astern a heading of 075 True and the RHE of Beabea and Fakahigu Islands open ahead. In both approaches keep a good lookout for the reefs that lie midway between Beabea and Nukulai Island . Anchor on the SW side of Beabea Island in 3 fathoms, sand and coral patches.



'O'UA ISLAND - SOUTH

V. 'O'UA ISLAND - SOUTH

This is the best anchorage for visiting the village on 'O'ua Island. It is not shown on BA Chart 3100, but is clearly marked by beacons and is easy to enter.

Approaching along the south side of the reef, watch out for the three shoal patches that lie up to half a mile off. The entrance is marked by a starboard hand beacon about a mile due south of the island. A heading of 055 True leads through the pass to the second (port hand) beacon. It is then a simple matter to follow the remaining port hand beacons to the anchorage. We anchored in a bight in the reef to port of the channel, before reaching the final port and starboard beacons, with sand bottom in 3.5 fathoms. This anchorage was perfectly calm with 20 knots of wind.

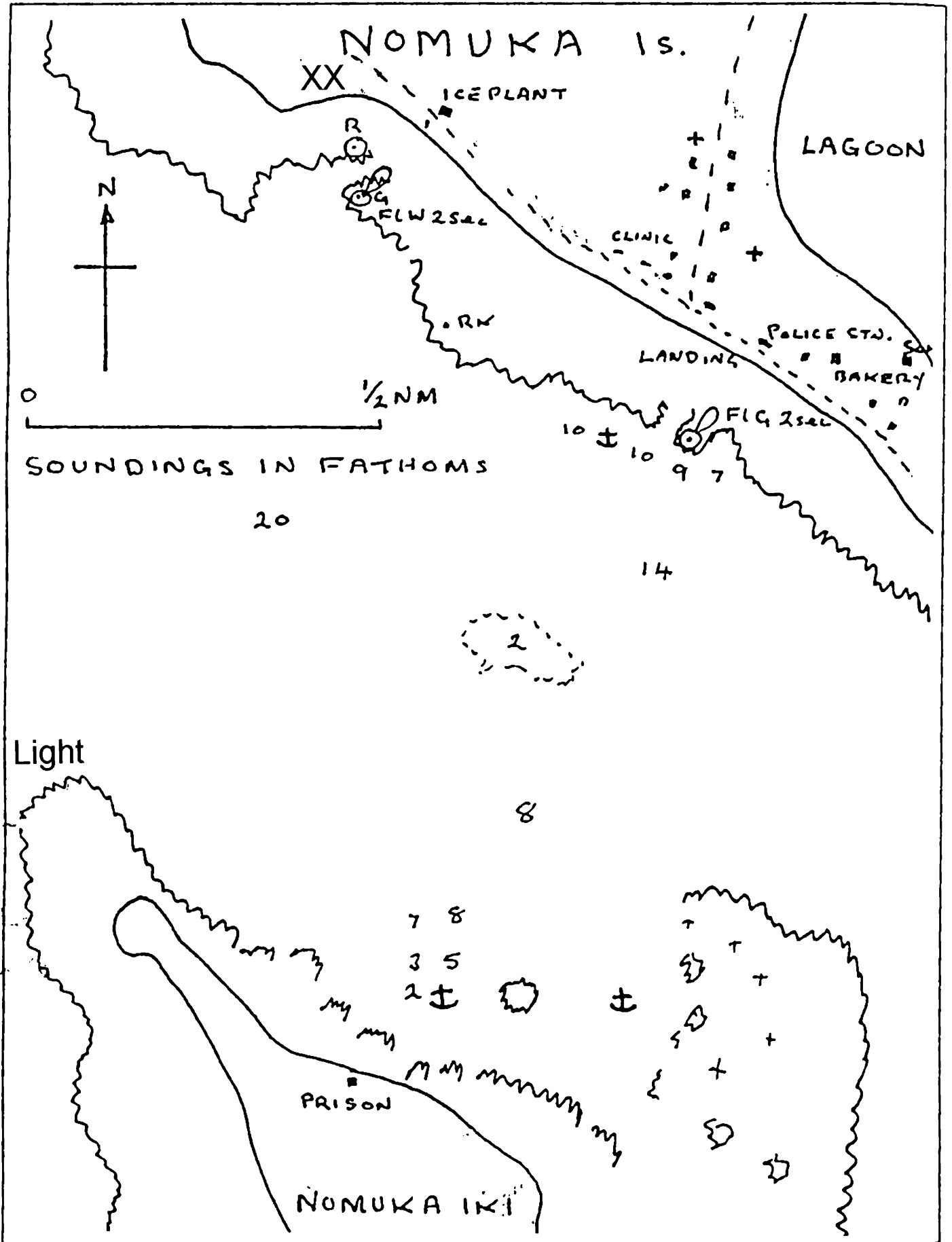
The landing place is on the SW corner of the island from where it is a short walk to the neat and tidy village. 120 people live here in 40 houses and the whole village is surrounded by a fence to prevent the pigs from wandering into the bush.

Nice anchorage. Nice people.

The pass was blown open in Sept/92 and the beacons and lights put in at that time.

GPS fix at pass = 20 deg 03.39 S, 174 deg 40.98 W

GPS anchorage = 20 deg 02.80 S, 174 deg 40.91 W



NOMUKA ISLAND

W. NOMUKA ISLAND

BA Chart 1385

After an over-night passage from Nuku'alofa the light on Muifuiva Island (Gp F1 2 W 5 sec) was clearly visible at 10 miles. In the pre-dawn light the silhouette of this island was like a sleek warship complete with lattice mast. We sailed past to the west and entered the channel between Nomuka and Nomuka Iki. We anchored about halfway along the SW shore of Nomuka close to the starboard had a beacon that marks the boat pass to the landing place. Here the depth is 7 to 10 fathoms with sand and coral patches.

Onshore there is a large village with a bakery (get there early), several small stores, a clinic, police station, school and churches. Close to the landing is an old cannon stuck in the ground as a fence post. While we were here all the yachts were visited by the local policeman who noted details in his Yacht Register.

X. NOMUKA IKI

We anchored 0.175 NM. off the north shore of this island in 4 fathoms with sand bottom. There are coral patches closer in. This anchorage was more comfortable than that at Nomuka as the reef to the east breaks up the swell.

This island is a prison plantation. There were only two young offenders in residence during our visit. Before walking ashore obtain permission from the prison officers.

XX - Spring used by Cook

Light - shoal dangerous inside

Y Kelelesia - told good anchorage between reefs.

Z. Tofua, Kao - lee anchorage possible N end of Tofua

Appendix A

LIGHTS IN THE HA'APAI GROUP

The following list of amendments and additions to lights in the Nomuka and Ha'apai Groups was kindly provided by the Chief Hydrographic Surveyor, Nuku'alofa, May 1992.

1. MUIFUIVA Is. 20° 15. 06`S 174° 49.26`W Gp F1 (2) W, 5 sec
10 miles, on 9 metre lattice tower.
2. TOKULA Is. 20° 06. 00`S 174° 47.62`W F1 W, 3 sec
10 miles, on 9 metre lattice tower.
3. KITO REEF, West
of Uoleva, 19° 50. 10`S 174° 25. 44`W F1 W, 5 sec
6 miles, on 6 metre pile beacon
4. PUKEFEO
REEF 19° 47.40`S 174° 21.60`W F1 W, 3 sec
4 miles, on 6 metre pile beacon.
5. HA'ANO Is. 19° 38.78`S 174° 18.10`W Gp F1 (2)W, 10 sec
10 miles, on 9 metre lattice tower.
6. HAKAUATA Is. 19° 50. 66`S 174° 31.36`W F1 W, 10 sec
10 miles, on 9 metre lattice tower. Obscured 280 - 320
7. HA'AFEVA Is.
Eastern reef 19° 57.46`S 174° 41.43`W Gp F1 (4)W, 12 sec
10 miles, on 6 metre pile beacon.
8. KITO Is. 19° 59. 62`S 174° 47 38`W Qk F1 (3) W, 10 sec
10 miles, on 9 metre lattice tower. Obscured 060-170.
9. HAKAULOA
REEF 19° 48.46`S 174° 22.58`W F1 G, 5 sec
4 miles, on 6 metre pile beacon.

10. TATAFA Is. 19° 52.06'S 174° 25.90'W F1 G, 5 sec
5 miles, on 6 metre pile beacon.
11. HAKAU VONU 19° 48.16'S 174° 21.58'W F1 G, 3 sec
4 miles, on 6 metre pile beacon
12. HAKAU MATA-
LEINGALE 19° 47.03'S 174° 21.64'W Qk F1(3)G, 6 sec
4 miles, on 6 metre pile beacon.
13. HAKAU
MUIKUKU 19° 46.28'S 174° 21.66'W F1 R, 6 sec
4 miles, on old light tower.
14. FETOA Is. 19° 58.00'S 174° 43.80'W F1 R, 6 sec
4 miles, on 6 metre lattice tower, elevation 15 metres AMHWS.
Obscured 270 - 080.
15. FOUA Is. Light Extinguished.
16. NUKULAI Is. Light Extinguished.

NOTE: obscured sectors are given clockwise from the light looking outwards.

Appendix B

SATELLITE DERIVED POSITIONS - CHARTS IN TONGA

The following data was kindly provided by the Chief Hydrographic Surveyor, Nuku'alofa, June 92. Positions derived by satellite should be corrected before plotting as follows:

1. BA chart 2363: add 0.13 minutes to Latitude
 subtract 0.08 minutes from Longitude
2. BA chart 1385 Nomuka: subtract 0.90 minutes from Latitude
 add 0.195 minutes to Longitude.
3. BA chart 474: subtract 0.08 minutes from Latitude
 add 0.22 minutes to Longitude.
4. BA chart 3100 subtract 0.08 minutes from Latitude
 add 0.12 minutes to Longitude.
5. BA chart 3099 subtract 0.07 minutes from Latitude
 add 0.20 minutes to Longitude.
6. BA chart 2421 Hunga Hapai (Ha'apai), Hunga Tonga, Tofua, Late, Mo'unga'one and Tokulu Islands are reported to lie 0.33 miles east of their charted position. Ata Island lies approximately 207deg T 0.75 miles from its charted position.
7. BA chart 1829 Niuatoputapu: the highest point on the SW end of the ridge running central through the island is positioned 15 deg 57' 22.85"S 173 deg 47' 07.85" W.

WARNING: The above corrections are averages for the area of the chart and other inaccuracies may still exist. In coastal waters terrestrial fixing methods should be employed to ensure safe navigation.