

SURF RIPS 7 MARINE

Wreckage Is Strewn On Beach

By GORDON MORSE

PAPOHAKU BEACH, Molokai—Seven U.S. Marines and Navy men were injured yesterday as the first assault waves of "Operation Dull Knife" ran into pounding surf that demolished 15 of 21 small landing craft.

The injured men were airlifted by helicopter to ships of the operation's task force for medical treatment. Some were treated and released at Tripler Army Hospital. A Marine Corps spokesman said the injuries all were "minor."

The 15 smashed boats lit-

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tered the beach late yesterday, reduced to wooden wreckage. Pieces of shattered wood and strips of metal spread over a mile of beach. Keels supporting the 250-horsepower engines washed back and forth in the surf.

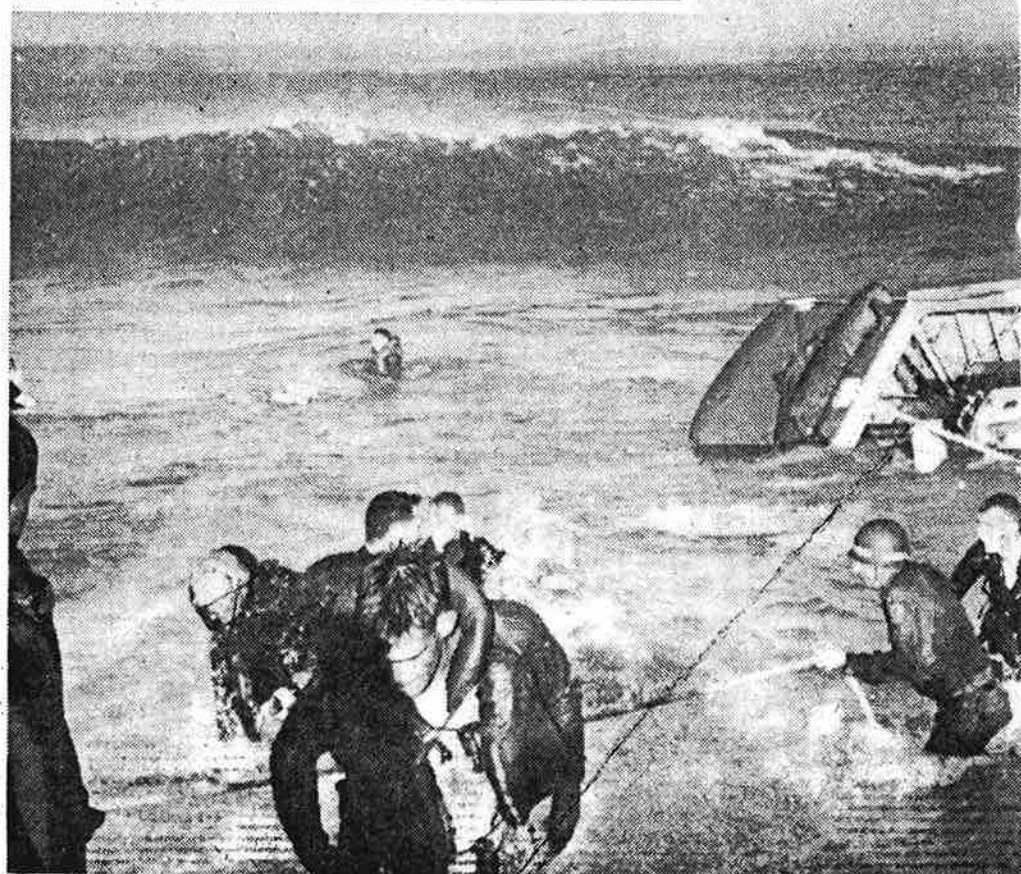
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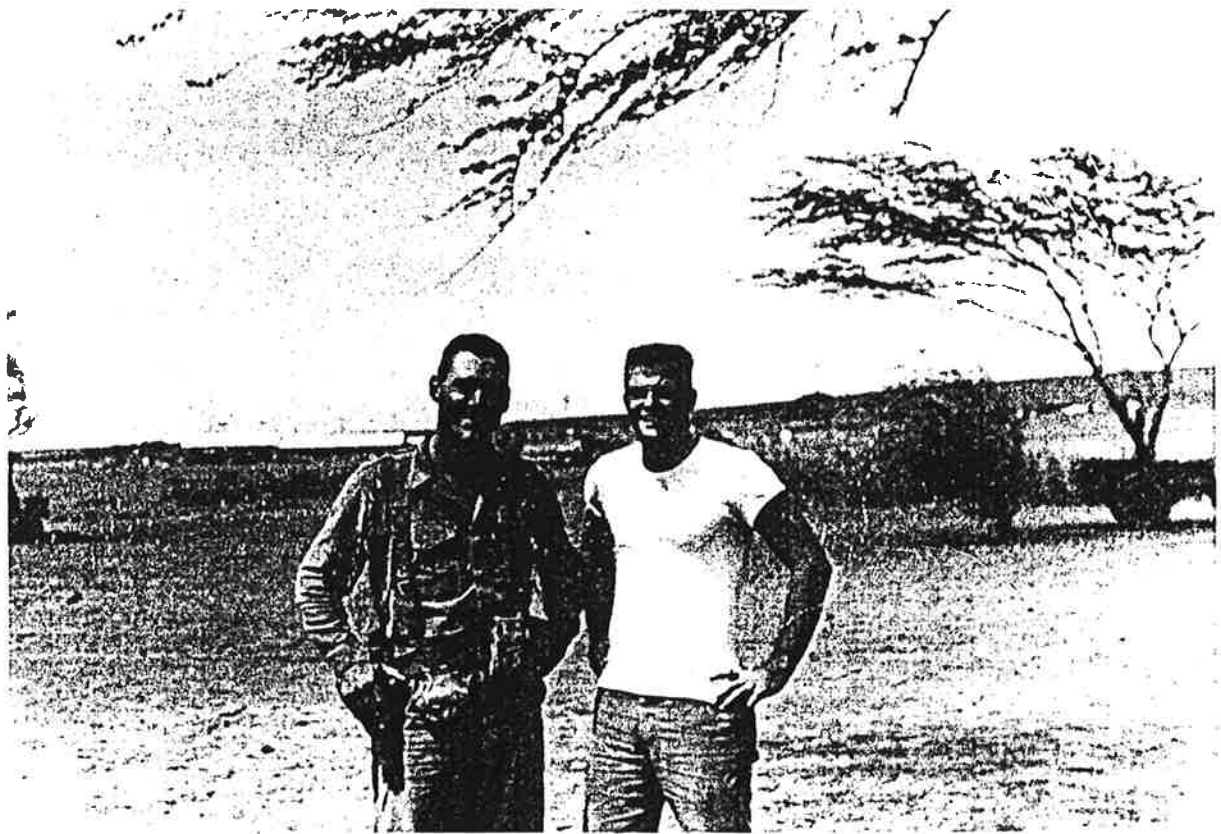
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Kaneohe-based Marines struggle to Molokai beach



Red Blackburn

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