NOTES ON FAUNAL REMAINS FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS
ON PÔNAPE, CAROLINE IS., MICRONESIA

Brian Hesse
Smithsonian Institution
14 August 1979

This report describes the results of the preliminary sorting of a small collection of faunal remains that were recovered by archaeological investigations carried out by S. Riesenbergs, C. Evans and B. Meggers on PÔnape, Caroline Is., Micronesia in 1963. Preliminary observations include:

1) Species identified in the collection include dog, chicken, a small rodent, and probably pig. Also present are large quantities of several kinds of fish, considerable turtle carapace from a large species or species, a few seashells and several crab claws.

2) Since the turtle remains are mostly carapace, does this imply that the remains derive from food preparation rather than meal garbage discard? How do the people of Pônape process their turtles?

3) The chicken remains are entirely from Unit J, Fireplace 1, and belonged to a small individual.

4) Many of the dog bones are mandibles or teeth, again not typical meal bones.

5) The pig is tentatively identified on the basis of one burned immature second phalanx.

6) The rodent is approximately rat sized.
CATALOG OF THE PANKATERA FAUNAL SAMPLE

Unit I, Fireplace 1.

0-10 cm: Cat. #8 -- 1 left mandible, Canis familiaris
10-20 cm: Cat. #9 -- 1 right mandible, Canis familiaris
20-30 cm: Cat. #10 -- 10 fish fragments; 4 turtle fragments.

Fireplace 2.

20-30 cm: Cat. #18 -- 11 fish fragments; 1 turtle femur; 1 seashell;
1 lower third molar, Canis familiaris; 1 mammal rib fragment
(dog?); 1 rodent tibia.

Fireplace 3.

0-10 cm: Cat. #36 -- 3 fish fragments; 7 turtle fragments.
10-30 cm: Cat. #37 -- 23 fish fragments, 5 turtle fragments, 1 lower
third molar, Canis familiaris; 1 unidentified object.

Unit J, Fireplace 1.

0-10 cm: Cat. #21 -- 10 fish fragments; 13 turtle fragments; 1 femur
shaft (probably Gallus gallus); 2 mandible fragments, Canis
familiaris.
20-30 cm: Cat. #23 -- 12 fish fragments; 10 turtle fragments; 1 humerus,
Gallus gallus.
30-40 cm: Cat. #24 -- 36 fish fragments; 5 turtle fragments.
40-50 cm: Cat. #25 -- 36 fish fragments; 2 seashells; 1 crab claw;
1 coracoid, Gallus gallus; 1 mammal second phalanx (pig?);
1 mammal shaft fragment; 1 stone? tube; 12 unidentified
specimens.
50-60 cm: Cat. #26 -- 29 fish fragments; 1 turtle fragment; 1 proximal
tibia, rodent; 1 tibia shaft (dog?).
60-70 cm: Cat. #27 -- 9 fish fragments; 2 turtle fragments; 1 worked stone? tube.

Fireplace 2.
0-10 cm: Cat. #28 -- 1 fish fragment.
20-30 cm: Cat. #30 -- 6 fish fragments; 1 turtle fragment; 1 glass fragment; 5 unidentified objects.
30-50 cm: Cat. #31 -- 14 fish fragments; 1 turtle fragment.
50-60 cm: Cat. #32 -- 16 fish fragments; 2 turtle fragments.

Fireplace 3.
0-10 cm: Cat. #33 -- 12 fish fragments; 1 crab claw; 50 turtle fragments; 1 left scapula fragment, Canis familiaris; 1 stone.
10-20 cm: Cat. #34 -- 5 fish fragments, 1 seashell, 13 turtle fragments.
20-30 cm: Cat. #35 -- 31 fish fragments; 1 seashell; 46 turtle fragments; 1 axis, Canis familiaris; 1 humerus shaft fragment (dog?);
1 rodent tibia; 5 unidentified objects.

Unit B, Fireplace 1.
0-10 cm: Cat. #38 -- 1 fish fragment; 1 turtle fragment.

Fireplace 2.
0-10 cm: Cat. #40 -- 14 fish fragments; 15 turtle fragments; 1 scapula, a innominate, and 1 lower third molar, Canis familiaris:
1 mammal bone shaft fragment; 1 stone; 1 unidentified object.
10-20 cm: Cat. #41 -- 10 fish fragments; 4 mammal bone shaft fragments;
3 unidentified objects.