

SURF RIPS 15 BOATS, 7 MARINES INJURED

**Wreckage
Is Strewn
On Beach**

By GORDON MORSE
PAPOHAKU BEACH, Mo-
lokai—Seven U.S. Marine
and Navy men were injured
yesterday as the first assault
waves of "Operation Duh
Knife" ran into pounding
surf that demolished 16 of
21 small landing craft.

The injured men were air-
lifted 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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Marines, A-4**

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

The Honolulu Advertiser

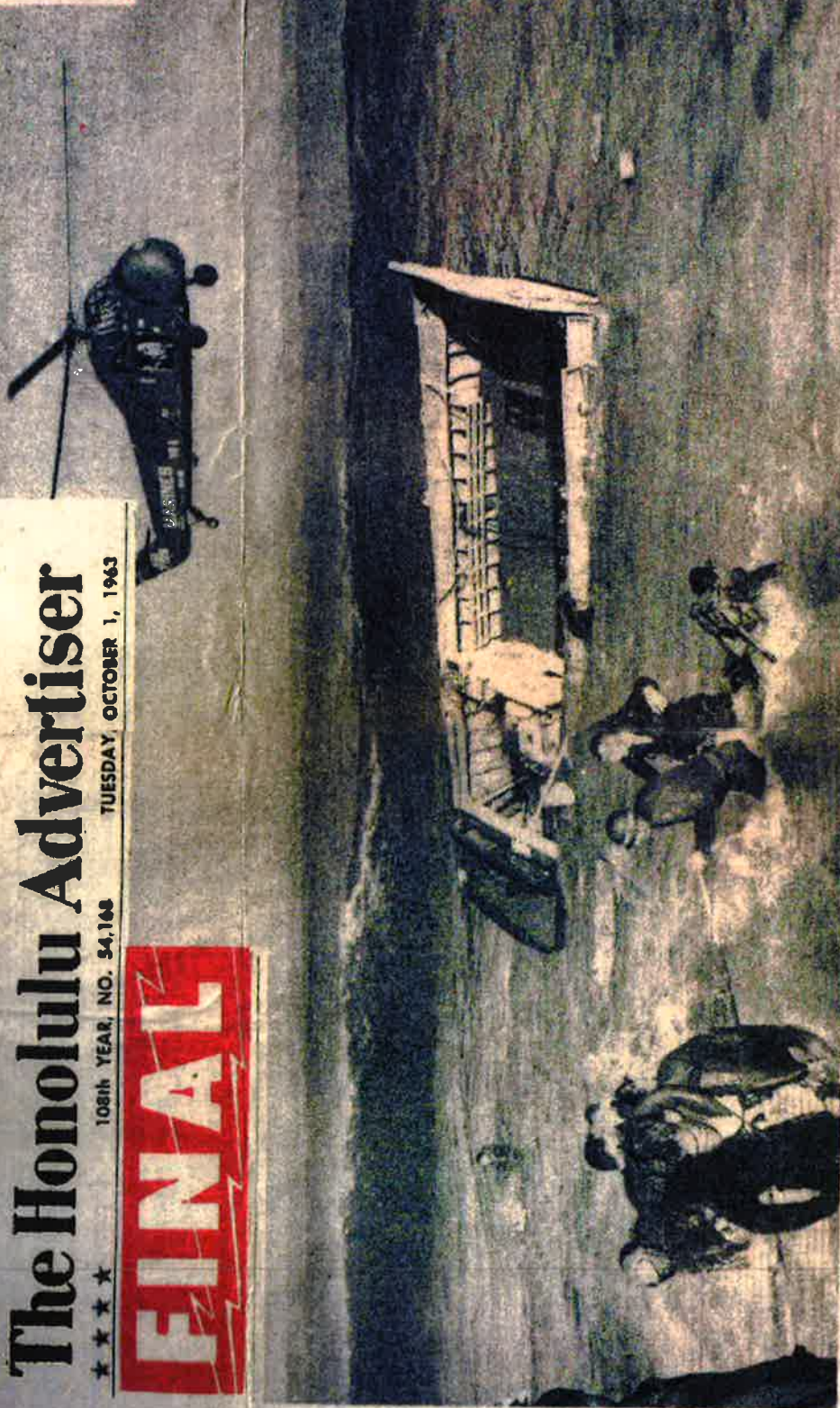
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Kaneohe-based Marines struggle to Molokai beach as surf tears at swamped landing craft and shortly reduces it to debris.

Advertiser Photo by Gordon Morse