

HURRICANE INIKI

JARVIS TOOK HURRICANE INIKI BY STORM BY BEING THE FIRST RELIEF VESSEL ON SCENE IN KAUAI AFTER INIKI RIPPED THROUGH THE ISLAND ON FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER.

JARVIS DEPARTED COAST GUARD BASE SAND ISLAND, HAWAII THAT DAY AT 0700 LOCAL TIME AND ASSUMED DUTIES AS COMMANDER, COAST GUARD DISPERSAL UNIT, HONOLULU. THE PLAN CALLED FOR JARVIS, USCGC MALLOW (WLB 396), USCGC SASSAFRAS (WLB 401), USCGC WASHINGTON (WPB 1331) AND USCGC ASSATEAGUE (WPB 1337) TO RIDE OUT THE SEA AND ASSIST IN THE WAKE OF THE HURRICANE.

ALONG THE WAY, JARVIS INVESTIGATED SEVERAL REPORTS OF DISTRESSED CRAFT, INCLUDING THE 63 FOOT SAILING VESSEL "RAVEN." JARVIS AND ASSATEAGUE DIVERTED THROUGH PAILOLO CHANNEL BETWEEN MOLOKAI AND MAUI TO AID THE VESSEL "RAVEN" WHICH HAD BEEN BATTERED BY THE WINDS AND REQUIRED A TOW. ENROUTE TO "RAVEN", CUTTER JARVIS DISCOVERED THE 30 FOOT SAILING VESSEL "NEW LIFE" ADRIFT IN THE CHANNEL WITH NO ONE ON BOARD. WHILE ASSATEAGUE PASSED A LINE TO "RAVEN", JARVIS TOWED "NEW LIFE" AND BOTH VESSELS WERE TAKEN TO SAFETY AT KAHULUI HARBOR, MAUI.

BY SATURDAY MORNING 12 SEPTEMBER AT 0800, INIKI WAS NORTH OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS. THE EYE OF THE STORM HAD PASSED DIRECTLY OVER KAUAI CAUSING WIDE-SPREAD DEVASTATION. COAST GUARD DISPERSAL UNIT, HONOLULU WAS RELEASED FOR INDIVIDUAL TASKING. JARVIS RECEIVED THE CALL FROM JOINT RESCUE COORDINATION CENTER (JRCC) HONOLULU TO DIVERT TO THE VICINITY OF NAWALIWILI HARBOR, KAUAI, AT BEST SPEED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE.

