

CATANDUANES



LAT. 13° 59' N LONG. 124° 19' E

Catanduanes Loran Station is located on Catanduanes Island on the western side of Luzon Island and belongs to the Republic of the Philippines. Of all the islands the KUKUI visits Catanduanes is unique in that the natives turn out in their BANCA boats (a local form of canoe) to meet the ship. Although their arrival is something to watch it is not motivated by good will as much as by good deals. Many of the boats are laden with locally made or found items and the natives are more than willing to bargain for old clothes or other items of exchange. The trading is hot and heavy, in between cargo runs, with both sides swearing that they got the best deal. The cargo for Catanduanes was relatively small -- four empty generator cocoons weighing about 2,100 pounds each and two generators weighing about 3,550 pounds each. To be back loaded was one broken generator and two cocoons. Six hours after dropping the anchor the KUKUI was underway for Manila Bay.