

during the week prior to the show

FEBRUARY 29, 1976

Honolulu, Hawaii

Neal S. Blaisdell Memorial Center Arena

Opening Act: Booga Booga

Capacity: 8,500

Promoter: Third Eye Productions

■ This was KISS's first and only appearance in Hawaii.

Security chief Rick Stuart: "Paul, Zero [pyrotechnician Mark Stinner], and I had an interesting experience in Hawaii. The first time Paul introduced me to his parents, I was introduced as 'This is the guy who saved my life,' and it was a result of Honolulu. The day after the Honolulu gig, I was out on the beach and ran into Zero, and we decided to rent a catamaran. We went out, and the guide told us that as long as we stayed within the lagoon area that we'd be fine, but neither of us knew what we were doing. We took it out and were getting the hang of it when we noticed Paul standing out on the end of this pier waving to us, 'C'mon over!' We managed to make our way over and we picked him up.

"When we went back out, we saw some other guys from our crew, [roadies] Bob Davies and Tony Canal, on the other side of the reef, heading towards the break coming in. We're running parallel with them and thought we'd meet them at the opening. We shot out through the opening while they came in, and we got sucked

right out to sea. We were less than two miles out, but we figured we had to do something about this.

“Suddenly, we got caught in these really big swells that were breaking in these giant Hawaiian waves. We’re thinking, ‘Do we dive off the boat, or what?’ We decided to stay on, ride it out, and try to gain control. Paul panicked and dove off the catamaran, and he’s in this turbulent water yelling ‘Help!’ We threw him a life preserver, which was gone in a second. I said to Zero, ‘See ya later’ and dove in.

“Paul and I managed to get to where the waves were breaking down over us. We were both a little numb and pretty scared. My foot hit the bottom, and it felt like I’d stepped on a razor, and I knew I was bleeding. We got through the waves into this dark murky water. I’m thinking my foot is bleeding really badly, and I’m waiting for the shark attack to happen. Paul was doing OK, but we were both pretty tired at this point. Turned out that Paul and I had both stepped on sea urchins. My foot was cut, but not as badly as I’d thought. What was really hurting were these sea urchins’ spines.

“We got the catamaran guy to go out after Zero because Zero was floating further out to sea and he towed him in. Later on, Paul and I went to the hospital. They said there was really nothing that they can do about it. The only thing they could recommend for the pain was to pee in the sink and soak our feet in it. Paul and I looked at each other like: ‘Yeah, OK . . . right.’

“We went back to the hotel and I unsuccessfully tried to remove the spines from my foot, when Paul calls and said, ‘I tried peeing in the sink and soaking my foot in it and it works.’ There we were in Hawaii, pissing in sinks.”