

VOYAGE IN PRINCIPITO

PART-4a Golfo de Nicoya to Golfo Dulce, Costa Rica

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Golfo de Nicoya CR to Golfo Dulce, Costa Rica



Golfito, Costa Rica

EXCERPT fr. LETTER to KATHY N. fr. PUNTARENAS COSTA RICA

Well, finally did something worth writing about. We left Puntarenas.

The provisioning of the boat went fairly smoothly. In San Jose where we went with another couple, Charles and Dianne, from San Francisco. They are the ones I bought all the fittings for in Santa Barbara.

While we're in San Jose, the Capital of Costa Rica, the currency exchange reached 40 colones to the US dollar a 300% drop in value from the time we first landed in June. This was the exchange rate on the street. People were clamoring to buy US dollars. The official bank rate remained at 13 colones to the dollar. This made our time in Costa Rica really affordable.

IDEA!!!

It was at a time when coffee was pushing \$10.00 a pound in the US. Costa Rican coffee is fabulous. So I eyed a 75 foot Schooner that was for sale and I would fill it up to the gunwales with un-roasted beans, grab a crew of college travelers and sail back to the states. But I could only think of all the troubles we might have: Beans could get wet, crew could mutiny, Customs could get testy and who would buy the beans?

With that in mind I ran into a Honda dealer and purchased a new generator for 6,000 colones about \$150 which I stowed with the intention of selling it on our way, possibly in Panama.

The money you wired arrived within 2 days and worked out perfectly for us. Hope it wasn't too much hassle for you. Thank you again

Leaving Puntarenas was almost as difficult as leaving Santa Barbara.

It, obviously, is not the wonders and beauty of the environ-