

all, most operators insist on BCs, alternative air supplies, and so forth, and most of us are okay with that. Dive operators will probably sell, loan, or rent tubes and flashers to visiting divers who arrive without them.

We must all learn from the Palau disaster. Ever since I floated away in New Guinea, I've carried a Safety Sausage

and a little Helix flasher on every dive. There's nothing like a few very long minutes adrift to humble you. As for the rest of you who are pretty sure you won't ever need to use emergency devices, kindly send me your octopus, pony bottle, knife, regulator tools, and bicycle tire patch kit c/o the publisher. . . .



Flotsam & Jetsam

Cayman Diving Lodge

Dear Editor:

Thank you for the accurate description of CDL. The lodge is quiet and peaceful, and the diving was good, but I too was exceedingly disappointed in the dive format. I was treated like a novice diver even after diving with them all week. I felt cheated on every dive because I always had over 1,100 psi at the end of the dive with plenty of time left on my computer. Most of the staff had a negative attitude about my using my own computer, even though they all used a computer. Be sure and check your own surface interval to be safe. The staff use *their* computers to determine everyone's surface interval before the second dive. I had the feeling we were all on a *nice* cattle boat. Unless the dive program changes, I don't plan to go back. — Mark Berger, San Diego, CA

Dear Contributing Editor Shark:

Your review didn't quite get the flavor. East End and CDL have been advertised as the

"best diving on Cayman," a no-frills lodge for experienced divers. Not true. The North Wall is just as good and you don't have to fool with the currents.

This operation is the most regimented I've dived with (Kona Coast is #1). Captain Bligh (Dan) has a love affair with himself. He thinks he's funny. This is not an advanced diving lodge. Unless you are honeymooning, like to read a lot, or can spend most of the day B.S.ing, this is a boring place. — Louis Blas, M.D., P.S., Lewiston, ID

Monitoring the *Monitor*

Want a job monitoring the *Monitor*? The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration says it's looking for a company to manage recreational diving at the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary off the coast of North Carolina. NOAA wants to receive proposals from anyone interested in overseeing the diving and ensuring that the wreck is not damaged by divers. Keep in mind that it's a 230-foot dive known for its tricky currents.

In Depth

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