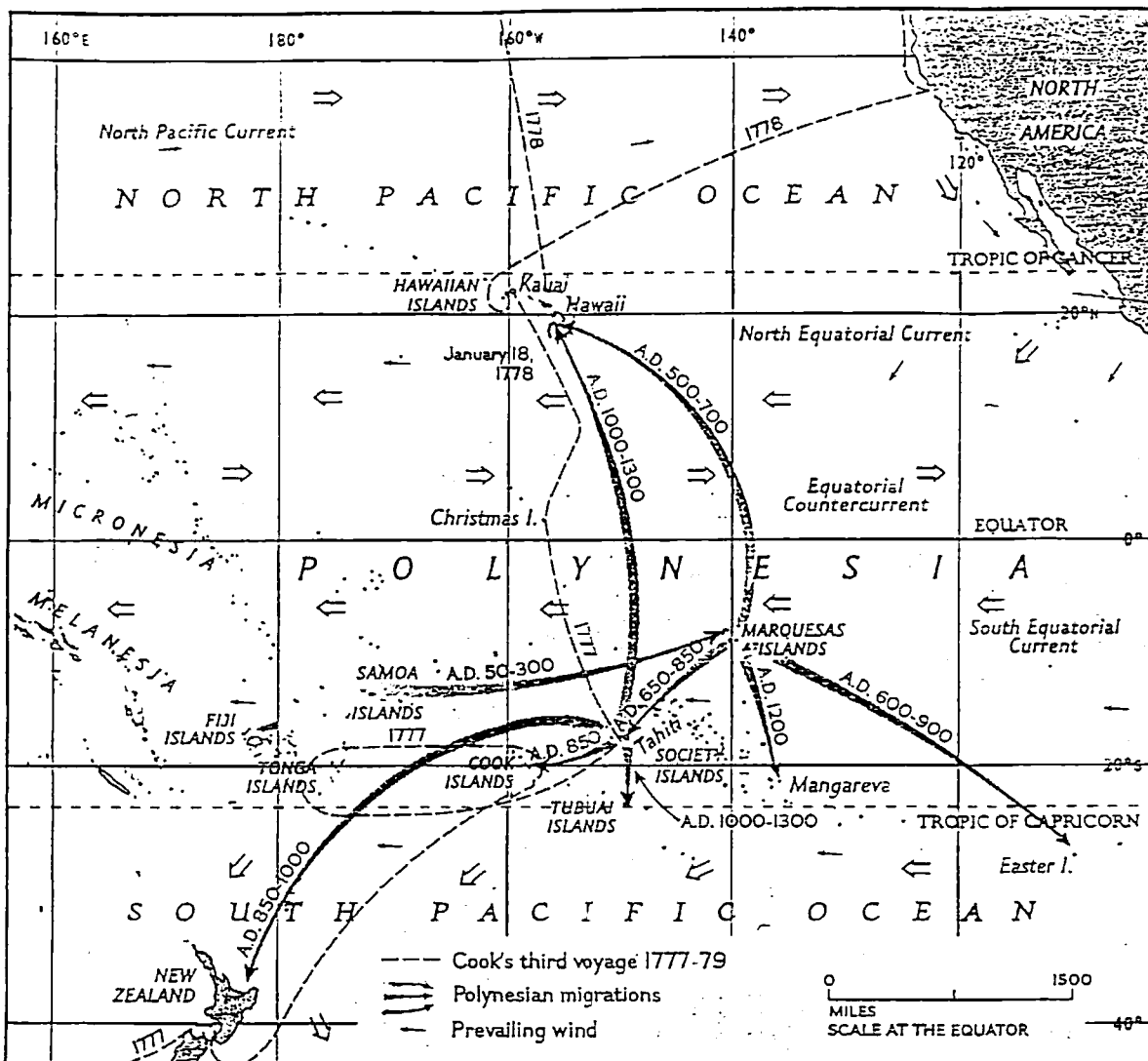


POLYNESIAN MIGRATION ポリネシア人の移住経路

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Polynesian discovery and settlement 500 to 1778

Without compass or chart, guided solely by their senses and their keen knowledge of stars, currents, winds, and the flight of birds, Polynesian mariners became masters of a realm spanning 18 million square miles of ocean stippled with islands. During 12 centuries of seafaring they ventured from Samoa to the Marquesas Islands, then struck out in all directions: southwest as far as New Zealand, southeast to Easter Island, and north to the Pacific's farthest outpost, Hawaii.

Departing the Marquesas 1,300 to 1,500 years ago, Hawaii's first inhabitants arrived in double-hulled canoes laden with staples

that included breadfruit, sweet potatoes, pigs, fowl, and barkless, vegetarian dogs bred for food. The first Hawaiians were well established on the islands when, about 700 to 1,000 years ago, wariike Tahitians made landfall and subjugated the earlier migrants. The newcomers built a highly stratified society that reached its apex under Kamehameha the Great, the famed warrior-king who consolidated the islands' warring, feudal-like chiefdoms into a single monarchy in 1810. Polynesian Hawaii's golden era would be shortlived, however, for the next wave of newcomers had already begun.