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## LESSON FOUR

# Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo: The Final Journey

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### OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ To apply historical analysis skills to readings from the “Summary Log” of Cabrillo’s journey up the California coast
- ❖ To interpret and map geographic representations in a travel narrative, including latitude, longitude, and distance
- ❖ To understand various perspectives from details in the log
- ❖ To translate visual descriptions in the log

## LESSON ACTIVITIES

## Activity One: Voyage Preparation

- A. Review the selection for Groups Six and Seven in **Document Set 2-B** with students. What did Fray Marcos Niza say he found? What happened when Coronado tried to go to the same place? If they had received both reports which would they want to believe? Explain to students that it seems that Mendoza preferred to believe that Coronado had just failed to find riches that were certainly there. De Niza continued to plan other expeditions, including the one that Cabrillo would lead.
- B. Give students **Document 4-A** “Cabrillo, The Admiral.” These are additional excerpts from the “Merits and Services” trial that they worked with in Lesson One. Have the students figure out what Cabrillo was sent to discover as well as the rank he held on that expedition. Then share the following background information with the class.

**Background**

Despite Coronado’s disappointing reports, Viceroy Mendoza continued to plan other explorations north of Mexico. One was to go up the west coast of Mexico into the northern territory. Pedro de Alvarado, then governor of Guatemala, was to head the expedition. In 1541, though, Alvarado died. His wife died shortly thereafter in the earthquake at Santiago, Guatemala. Therefore, his estate, including the ships, had to be put in order. In time Viceroy Mendoza acquired control of the fleet, including the use of Cabrillo’s *San Salvador*. On June 27th of that same year Cabrillo headed north. His vessel was the *San Salvador*, which he captained. Two other ships went: *Victoria*, commanded by pilot Bartolome Ferre (a pilot ranked just below a captain and was far more than a mere guide); and *San Miguel*, a small brigantine used as a launch and service vessel. It was commanded by Antonio Correa, and experienced shipmaster. It is estimated that more than 200 persons were crowded aboard the three vessels.

[For details see Harry Kelsey’s biography, *Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (1986), and the Cabrillo Historical Association’s 1982 publication, *The Cabrillo Era and His Voyage of Discovery*, especially articles by Harry Kelsey and James R. Moriarty III.]

- C. Give students **Document 4-B**, “Exploration Instructions.” Explorers like Cabrillo, as agents of the Spanish Crown, were given detailed instructions to carry out on their voyage. No copy of the actual instructions Cabrillo received seems to have survived, but there are other contemporary examples. The document provided here is a modern adaptation of actual instructions given by the Viceroy Antonio Mendoza. Review the document with students as a class reading to make sure they understand the purpose of the voyage from the point of view of Viceroy Mendoza and the Spanish Crown.
- D. Lastly, in preparation for their reading of the “Summary Log” of Cabrillo’s journey, review with students the handout “Cabrillo’s Crews,” **Document**

**4-C** as prepared by the staff of the Cabrillo National Monument. Explain to students that this is the result of examining contextual evidence (as they did in Lesson Two). By looking at documents which show the general orders by the Spanish Crown (*Reglamento*, 1522) and other evidence about Cabrillo's journey, the authors have come up with a possible list of who would be on the ship, including their duties, as well as the ordnance the ships might have carried.

## Activity Two: The Summary Log

### Background

There is little information about the last voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo. One surviving document is called the "Summary Log," and gives details about the expedition Cabrillo and others made up the northern coast to what the Spanish called California. It is so titled because it is not the exact journal kept by Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, but is instead a compilation put together after Cabrillo's unexpected death on the voyage.

Cabrillo's notes that he wrote for Viceroy Antonio Mendoza document four to five months of the expedition. After Cabrillo died, the other members of the expedition returned Cabrillo's notes to the Viceroy and the Viceroy's secretary, Juan León, compiled these and other details given by the remaining crew members. Although León's compilation has never been found, there was at least one copy written which is attributed to Andrés de Urdaneta. However, it appears to have been transcribed from oral accounts of the first log versus transcribed directly from León's writing. This presents issues for the historian wanting to use the "Summary Log" as historical evidence since it has now been shown to have many flaws and errors. Despite this, it still offers details that can be culled to piece together the last expedition that Cabrillo took.

The log begins as a first person account, but the majority of the document reads in third person, occasionally switching back to first person. You may wish to discuss with your students how a story of their own travels would look if it were based on notes given by different family members (or travel companions), and the difficulty of combining both written and oral accounts.

### Options:

*Subject*—This section of the unit can be taught with your social studies units or taught as an integrated unit as it combines literature (the written log), geography and math (mapping and distances), and art (map embellishments) with the history skills they have practiced during the unit.

*Timing*—The entire log is included. You can do one section each week or choose one section as a culminating activity. If you use the log as a weekly integrated subject activity, you could have students take on one of the roles in the "Cabrillo's Crews" list and keep a class "calendar" of the journey and a class map of "Where are we?"

*Vocabulary*—A glossary is included on page 139 which has many of the words that students may not know. You can provide copies or, as a literacy skill you can also guide students to try to define words they do not know using context clues.

*Activities*—Four activity approaches are included: *Following Orders*; *Big Question*; *Map It!*; *Draw It!*

- A. Discuss with the students the information in the “Background” section above. Ask “Is the ‘Summary Log’ a primary source?” Inform students that they will be practicing their skills as historians as they read and use this document.
- B. **Following Orders** Using the “Following Orders” worksheet, students should note which activities for that log section follow the voyage orders.
- C. **Big Question** Each log section has one or more “Big Question” to answer. These address Common Core Reading standards, including:
  - Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it.
  - Cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
- D. **Map It!** The log sections present a way to use inquiry to have students try to map Cabrillo’s journey based on the narrative. You can use the provided outline map to have students try to map places discussed in the log. They should rely on references to latitude and distance as well as weather conditions. Students should start near modern-day Manzanillo, Mexico for the “Port of Navidad Juan Rodriguez.” You can instruct them to create small ship cutouts to move on the map along with the reading. After the starting point, they will use the distance and latitude clues in the log to move their ship. Note that during the journey they often had to reverse their route in order to look for sister ships or lost crewmen. Students should also note the weather conditions. The table “Cabrillo’s Route” is provided to record details of the journey that can then be used in the mapping exercise. They should draw the coastline and/or islands as described in the log and label the places that are named in the log.
- E. **Draw It!** Have students identify descriptive language in the log and make a sketch (sketches) based on the description. These can be separate drawings or added to their maps. You can remind students of maps from Lesson Three that added decorative items. Possible descriptive topics include: animals, food, landscape features, people (including appearance, clothing, actions).

## **Cabrillo the Admiral**

### ***Testimony of Reverend Señor Bishop Don Francisco Marroquín***

To the 25th question he said that concerning Governor Pedro de Alvarado and Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza on the coast of the Southern Sea at Colima, New Spain, they sent Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo so he might discover the port of Navidad which he did (the testifier being there with the said Viceroy and Governor). It is true that the discovery of the port has been super abundant, a good gain since many fleets have been there.

### ***Testimony of Pedro de Ovide***

To the 17th question he said he heard it said and also it was public knowledge in these parts that Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo was admiral of the fleet was with Governor Pedro de Alvarado who sent him to New Spain in order to look for the land discovery that the governor wished. He heard it said that there he served His Majesty very well in what he was ordered to do by the Viceroy and the Governor, as among the rest. How well and loyal he served His Majesty until his death.

### ***Testimony of Cristobal Salvatierra***

To the 17th question he said that he knows, as it was public and generally-known, that Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo was with Governor Alvarado as the question states. This he responds to this question.

### ***Testimony of Luis Gonzalez***

To the 17th question he said that the testifier remained in the port of Acapulco in order to return the said ship to Guatulco. The fleet went onward toward the discovery on the coast of New Spain having for admiral of it the said Juan Rodríguez. The testifier returned to this province and never saw him again, and this is the truth by the oath that he made and signed.

### ***Testimony of Lazaro de Cardenas***

To the 17th question he said that from what he knows and experienced about the case, the fleet reached the port of Santiago de Colima. There Antonio de Mendoza, the Viceroy of New Spain . . . made Juan Rodríguez Captain-General of the discovery of the coast with a ship and two other ships of the fleet. The testifier saw the giving of provisions, arms, soldiers, and a priest to those who went with him on the discovery of the coast. Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo was navigating the ships up the coast, and arrived at 45

degrees (according to the latitude that the ships reached), and putting names and landmarks in the name of His Majesty to every island, cape, and point that they discovered.

***Testimony of Francisco de Vargas***

To the 17th question he said that he knows that he reached the port of Navidad with the said fleet where the testifier was, and he saw how the Governor, after he made agreements with the Viceroy about the said discovery, Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo as captain of the fleet, and ordered the captains and crews to support and obey him as such. He saw that Juan Rodríguez dispatched two fleets with crews in which there went as captains, Bolaños and Alarcon, on the said discovery, one discovered the coast ahead. They left on the day of St. Maria of the month of September about 19 years ago. Juan Rodríguez remained in the guard of this other fleet, preparing to go when Villalobos would go on the discovery of the islands.

***Testimony of Juan del Pinar***

To the 14th question he said that he knows that the said Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo was with the said Governor Pedro de Alvarado at the discovery, as the question says, where he heard it said that Cabrillo served very well, at his own cost, until his death. He heard it said that he went as admiral of that fleet.

***Testimony of Alvaro de Paz***

To the 17th question he said that it is as in the question before this one. Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo had the emblem of authority for justice and order for peace among the crews that were in the port of Iztapa where they built the said fleets.

## Exploration Instructions

This is a modernized version of a typical instructional list issued by the Spanish Crown for lieutenant-governors or captain-generals to follow before an exploration could be officially launched. The list was made of up compliances that dictated strict rules and regulations as to how to go about exploring new lands and taking possession of those that suited their needs. The compliance included detailed instructions as to what types of landscapes and resources to look for, as well as how to deal with indigenous peoples, whether friend or foe. By the time that Cabrillo was readying himself and his crewmen to journey up the California coast, he, too, would have had such a list to complete before his discovery and conquest could be officially launched.

1. You will begin at the new port of Navidad and check the ships that have been readied for the journey. Once you have done this, you will take on board the supplies which we, the Spanish Crown, have supplied for you.
2. You will make a list of the seamen (crew) going on the ships, and of the artillery, arms, and ammunition which go with them.
3. You will include trading articles to be carried in the fleet, but do not dispose of any of them nor trade them with the natives of the countries you may discover, nor in those already discovered, unless you are physically there to present the items.
4. Once the above instructions have been completed, you will set sail from Navidad, and follow the coast closely. From here, you will continue up the coast, making stops at each place found, and take possession of it in order to determine its value.
5. Before you decide to settle an area, make sure to look it over to find out thoroughly what is there, and continue on if it is not satisfactory. When you discover land, make sure there is enough light to anchor safely so as to prevent being attacked by the natives and possible shipwreck. If you do arrive in the dark, remain at sea, and do not go to land except in full day.
6. When you do land, make sure to see if it is inhabited, and observe anyone on the beach and in the fields; also look for settlements. You want to be on the lookout for types of ships or boats or other things they might have to navigate. If possible, make signs with flags to those on shore, letting them know that they are to come to you and that you cannot go to them. You are to see what kind of people they are, including how they worship.
7. You will take note of what types of ornaments the natives wear, and see which they value the most. Also take note if on any part of their dress they wear gold, pearls or precious stones, and of what quality.

8. If the natives do not have ships with which they can attack you at sea, go to land in a port or place where your ships can be safe, and stay there a few days. Find out about the land's resources, the people's customs and language, what types of warfare is used, what kind of houses they have, and all other matters which will give you information as to whether the country is an island or mainland. This must be done with great care in order to keep your ships and people safe.
  
9. In every place you reach, you will always try to find out about previous Spanish explorers who remain missing in action. Wherever possible you should leave buried in the watering-places, ports, and points, some letters in a pot or jar underneath a tree on which you will mark a cross. By doing this, you will have left a record of the coast you have seen, so that other ships (or men) will be aware of this. If you hear any news about surviving men, you will use every method possible to help them.

Source: Adapted from "Instructions to Diego López de Zuñiga and Gonzalo de Valle" In Henry R. Wagner, *Spanish Voyages to the Northwest Coast of America* (Los Angeles: Cortéz Society, 1941).

## Cabrillo's Crews

The following are estimates of the crew make-up of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo's three ships in 1542. These are based on the Reglamento of 1522 regarding complement requirements stipulated by the Crown for ships in Nueva España and the Carrera de las Indias. These are also based on data and parameters established by Harry Kelsey in his book *Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo*.

### **SAN SALVADOR (also known as the *Juan Rodríguez* or the *Capitana*)**

A proto-galleon. Estimate approximately 100 souls embarked.

#### **CREW**

Capitan  
 Maestre (Sailing Master)  
 Piloto (Pilot or Navigator)  
 Contra maestre (Boatswain)  
 Guardian (Boatswain's Mate)  
 Cirujano/barbero (Surgeon/Barber)  
 Despensero (Supply Officer)  
 Tonelero (Cooper)  
 Calafate (Caulker)  
 Carpintero (Carpenter)  
 Escribero (Scribe, a secretary)  
 Escribiente (Scrivener, record keeper)  
 15 Marineros (Seamen) (one would be a qualified Lombardero or gunner)  
 8 Grumetes (Apprentice Seamen)  
 3 Pajes (Pages, ship's boys)

**38 total**

#### **SUPERNUMERARIES**

Procurador (Royal agent/a lawyer)  
 Escribero del Procurador  
 Chronista (Chronicler)  
 Sacerdote (Priest)  
 Fray (Fraile, a Lay Brother)  
 about 25 Soldados (Soldiers)  
 about 24 Esclavos (Slaves) (Black & Indian)  
 Escafandrista (diver, usually Indian slave)  
 Possibly there were some gentlemen & merchants  
 The presence of Llovidos (female stow-aways) cannot be verified.  
**55** (not including gentlemen, merchants, servants and Llovidos)

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**TOTAL 93**

#### **Authorized Ordnance:**

4 large iron cannons with 36 balls each (144 balls)  
 16 Bercos (swivels) with 72 balls each (1142 balls)  
 8 Arquebus (muskets) with lead and mold  
 2 hundred weight of gunpowder  
 10 Ballestas (crossbows) with a total of 96 quarrels  
 48 Jabalinas (javelins)  
 8 quarter pikes  
 20 Rodeos (bucklers)

**LA VICTORIA** (named after Santa María de la Victoria, the seaman's shrine in the Triana district of Seville). She was also occasionally known as Figuero, Alvar Núñez, Hernández Antón, and Santa María de Buena Esperanza the patron saint of sailors)

She was a Nao Gruesa, although is sometimes referred to as a Carrack. Estimate 50 to 60 souls embarked.

**CREW**

Capitan  
Maestre (Sailing Master)  
Piloto (Pilot or Navigator)  
Contramaestre (Boatswain)  
Despensero (Supply Officer)  
Tonelero (Cooper)  
Calafate (Caulker)  
Carpintero (Carpenter)  
12 Marineros (Seamen) (one would be a qualified Lombardero or gunner)  
6 Grumetes (Apprentice Seamen)  
3 Pajes (Pages, ship's boys)

**SUPERNUMERARIES**

about 12 Soldados (soldiers)  
about 12 Esclavos (slaves) (Black & Indian)  
Escafandrista (diver, usually an Indian slave)  
Sacerdote (Priest) ?

**Authorized Ordnance:**

12 Bercos (72 balls each)  
5 Arquebus (muskets)  
8 Ballestas (crossbows)  
40 Jabalinas (javelins)  
5 quarter pikes  
16 Rodelos (bucklers)

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**TOTAL 55**

**SAN MIGUEL**

She was probably a Bergantine, Fragata, or Chalupa.

**CREW**

Maestre (Sailing Master)  
Piloto (Pilot or Navigator)  
5 Marineros.(Seamen)  
3 Grumetes (Apprentice Seamen)  
1 Paje (Page, ship's boy)

**SUPERUMERARIES**

about 10 oarsmen: these would be  
Esclavos (Slaves, Black or Indian) and/  
or sailors undergoing punishment

**11 Total**

**10 Total**

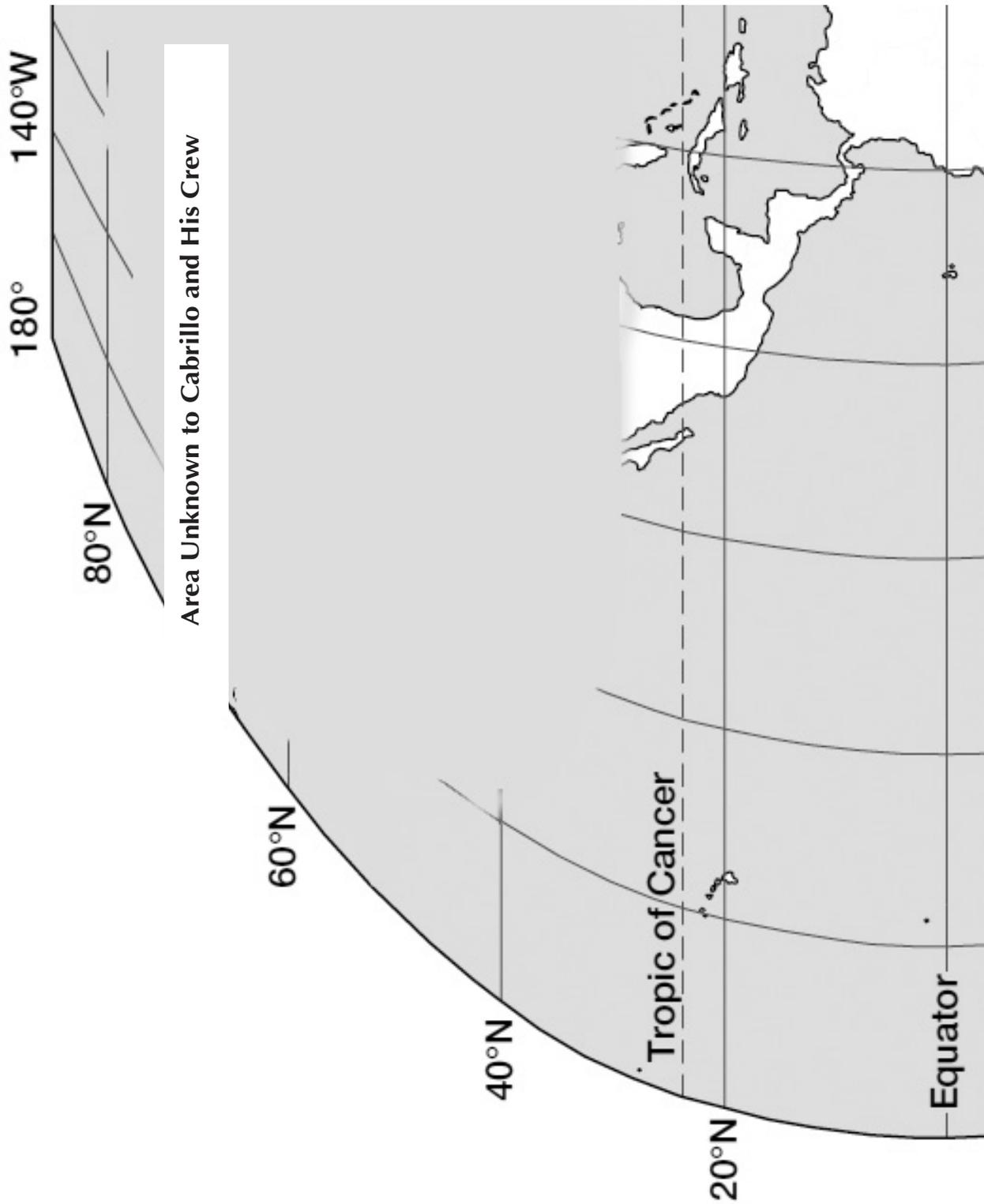
**Authorized Ordnance:**

Bergantines carried a Lombard (cannon in the bow)  
6 Bercos (Swivels) 72 balls each. 432 balls.  
2 Arquebus (muskets)

4 Ballestas (crossbows)  
18 Jabalinas (javelins)  
2 quarter pikes  
7 Rodelos (bucklers)

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**TOTAL 55**



**Mapping Cabrillo's Route**

For each date in the log with an entry, identify the name given to the place they saw or visited, the latitude, the longitude, and the weather conditions. Use the "NOTES" column for any other information you want to put on your map.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Log Name</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Weather Conditions</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1542				
<b>LOG SECTION ONE</b>				
June 27	Port of Navidad			
July 2, 3				
July 6 (Th)				
July 8				
July 12				
July 13 (Th)				
July 19				
July 20				
July 25				
<b>LOG SECTION TWO</b>				
July 27				
July 31				
August 1				
August 2 (W)				
August 5				
August 11 (Th)				
August 13				

Date	Log Name	Latitude	Weather Conditions	Notes
<b>LOG SECTION THREE</b>				
August 18 (F)				
August 19 (Sat)				
August 20				
August 22 (T)				
August 27				
Sept. 1 (F)				
<b>LOG SECTION FOUR</b>				
August 27				Log section repeats date.
Sept. 3				
Sept. 7				
Sept. 8				
Sept. 11				
<b>LOG SECTION FIVE</b>				
Sept. 17				
Sept. 23				
Sept. 26, 27 (T, W)				
Sept. 28				
<b>LOG SECTION SIX</b>				
Oct. 3				
Oct. 7				
Oct. 8				
Oct. 9				
Oct. 13				

Date	Log Name	Latitude	Weather Conditions	Notes
Oct. 13	LOG SECTION SEVEN			
Oct. 14				
Oct. 16				
Oct. 17				
Oct. 18				
	LOG SECTION EIGHT			
Oct. 25				
Oct. 27, 28, 29				
Oct. 31				
Nov. 1	LOG SECTION NINE			
Nov. 6				
Nov. 11				
Nov. 13				
Nov. 14				
Nov. 15	LOG SECTION TEN			
Nov. 16				
Nov. 18				
Nov. 23 (Winter)				
Jan. 19				
Jan. 27				

Date	Log Name	Latitude	Weather Conditions	Notes
	<b>LOG SECTION ELEVEN</b>			
Jan. 29				
Feb. 12				
Feb. 14				
Feb. 18				
Feb. 19				
Feb. 22				
Feb. 25				
Feb. 27				
Feb. 28				
	<b>LOG SECTION TWELVE</b>			
Feb. 28				
March 3				
March 5				
March 8				
March 9				
March 9				
March 11				
March 17				
March 18				
March 21				
March 23				
March 26				
April 2				
April 14				

### Following Orders

For each section of the log, note which activities follow the voyage instructions.

Log # \_\_\_\_\_

1. Did they trade anything? If so, what articles were given? What articles were received? Did they follow instruction #3 from the "Exploration Instructions?"
2. Did they note the value of areas they visited? Did they stay or go? Did they follow instruction #4 from the "Exploration Instructions?"
3. Did they look over land that they saw according to "Exploration Instruction" #5? Did they note about the land that would tell whether it was satisfactory? (For example, by listing resources, whether the land was good to live on, etc.)
4. Did they observe any people they saw as per "Exploration Instruction" #6? What observations did they make about people they saw?
5. If they saw natives, did they obey "Exploration Instruction" #7 and note what they wore, including items of value?
6. If they saw natives, did they note any of the items in "Exploration Instruction" #8 such as customs, languages, weapons used, and houses?
7. Did they note or try to get evidence of other European ("white") explorers? (Exploration Instruction #9)

**LOG SECTION ONE**

Juan Rodríguez left the Port of Navidad to explore the coast of New Spain the 27th day of June of 1542.

It took him a day and a night, forty leagues, to go from Navidad to Cabo de Corriente, with a southeastern breeze. From Wednesday to the following Thursday they skirted the coast 35 leagues.

On Sunday the second of July they caught sight of California. They were held up almost four days not making any headway because of crosswinds. On the following Monday, the 3rd of the same month, they dropped anchor off the tip of California. They spent two days there, and from there they went to the port of San Lucas on the following Thursday and took on water. They saw no Indians during these days. They say that this port is at 23° [latitude] and from the tip to the port is clear and suitable for anchorage, and the land is bare and uneven.

They left the port of San Lucas on Thursday night and on the following Saturday, on the eighth of the same month, they anchored on Trinidad Point, which is at 25°, five leagues from San Lucas. The coast is smooth and unchallenging. Inland appear high mountains, uneven with no vegetation. They remained at anchor here until the following Wednesday because the weather was stormy, blowing in from the west-northwest.

On Wednesday the 12th of the same month they left from there. In the port of Trinidad there is an island which makes a fine harbor because it is protected from the west-northwesterly winds. The harbor is at the head of the island on the southeast strip and is clean and suitable for anchorage. It has no water nor firewood. The island measures about ten leagues long and about two wide. They anchored that night.

They departed on the following Thursday and went by the port of San Pedro, which is at 25 ½°. In this port there is neither water nor firewood. Its passage is south-eastward, and it provides good shelter against westerly winds. They continued sailing along the coast, which forms a large bay, the tip of which is at 26°. This tip is formed of low land and some banks of clean, white sand. They skirted along the sand with mild winds up to 27°, and on Wednesday the 19th of the same month they went ashore at a harbor they found and once on land, they found a path the Indians followed and they went on it for the distance of an arquebus shot to a place inland where they found a spring on a flat piece of land, very dry and without vegetation. They named it Puerto

de la Madalena. There is a distance of about 40 leagues from the bay of San Martín to this port.

The following Thursday, on the 20th of the month, they left this port and continued to sail up the coast with disastrous winds. About six leagues further they ran across an anchorage behind a point they called Punta de la Santa Catalina, and in such a manner they continued to sail. On the following Tuesday, on the 25th of the same month of July, they discovered a large bay at  $27\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . They made little headway these days because of the terrible weather. They anchored in this port and named it Puerto de Santiago. The distance between this port and that of Madalena is about 23 leagues. Five leagues from the Point of Santiago lie some very dangerous shallows and reefs which are unnoticeable except when the waves crash on them. They are a league from the shore and at  $27\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  and then some, and are called Abre Ojo. They continued traveling along the coast as far as  $28^{\circ}$ , and there they anchored in the shelter of a point. Here there are wooded areas such as they had not seen since the tip of California. The distance between this point to the port of Santiago, to the northwest side of the point, is about twenty-three leagues. The mountains are high and rugged with occasional wooded areas. We named the place Santa Ana. It has a small island about a league from the shore.

### **Big Question**

Compare their journey so far to the exploration myths, legends, and reports you read in Lesson Two. Does it seem like an interesting adventure so far? Why? or Why not? Give examples from the log.

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

This volume contains the most recent translation of the Summary Log.

**LOG SECTION TWO**

On Thursday, the 27th of the same month, they departed from the port of Santa Ana and anchored about six leagues from there at a port they named Puerto Fondo because of the depth of the harbor, for next to land the water was thirty fathoms deep and it is clear. They left this harbor the next day and had to turn back to the harbor three times because of contrary winds, and they remained in this harbor until the following Monday.

On Monday, the 31st of the same month, they left Puerto Fondo and anchored some eight leagues from there that night and on the next day continued their voyage.

On Tuesday the first day of August they left that place and moved up the coast some ten leagues, where they anchored in a port they named San Pedro Víncula. This port is within view of the Isla de Cedros. This port is just a bit over  $28\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . The land is high, rugged and scrubby. We have not seen any Indians since we reached California.

On Wednesday, the second of the month, they left this port and encountered contrary winds, and they tacked back and forth until they lay anchor at an island on the southeast side of Isla de Cedros, and four leagues from it. This island, which they named San Esteban, runs east-west with the tip of the mainland and is about a league distant from it. Its coast runs northwest to southeast. From this point the coast curves toward the east-northeast to form a large bay, so that there appears to be no land between the islands and the mainland. It forms a good channel but it is necessary to hug the island because of an underwater shoal which runs from the point a quarter of a league out. There is much seaweed on the surface, which grows on the bottom and is fastened to it. This island runs northwest-southeast with San Pedro Víncula and is approximately three leagues around. Contrary winds kept us on this island until the following Saturday, the fifth of August. It has a fine harbor on the southeast strip. Fishing is very good and there are many birds.

They left the island of San Esteban on Saturday the 5th of August and they anchored off Isla de Cedros, where they remained until Thursday the tenth of the month taking on fresh water and firewood. They found no Indians, although they found evidence of their having been there. This island is at  $29^{\circ}$ . The leeward point lies on the south strip, and this south strip has good harbors, fresh water, and firewood. In general, the area is bare of vegetation except for some small shrubs; it is a large and high island and it runs almost east and west and must be about twelve leagues long, starting from this south strip.

They departed from Isla de Cedros on Thursday, the tenth of the month of August, to continue their voyage, and they followed the mainland sailing northward. This day they covered something like ten leagues. On the following Friday they dropped anchor in a harbor they named Puerto de Santa Clara. It is a fine harbor. They went ashore and found four Indians, who fled. This port is barely at  $30^{\circ}$ . With Isla de Cedros it runs northeast to southwest, and the coast from the harbor to the cove trends north-northwest to south-southeast. It is a clear coast suitable for anchoring. The land is bare, but not rugged. It has plains and valleys. They remained in this harbor until Sunday the 13th of this month because of the disastrous winds.

On Sunday, the 13th of this month, they left this harbor and sailed along the coast with slight winds, anchoring every night, and on the following Tuesday, they dropped anchor on a point which forms a bay on  $30\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . Because it affords so little protection they named it Punta de Mal Abrigo.

### **Big Questions**

How would you feel if you kept getting delayed because something was too difficult?

Can you think of a time this happened to you?

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

This volume contains the most recent translation of the Summary Log.

**LOG SECTION THREE**

The following Wednesday they sailed along the coast against a strong northwest wind, and they took shelter at night without making any progress, and on Thursday they traveled in showers and sudden shifts in the wind and letups, and they did not take land. This following night they received a strong west-northwest wind and took shelter, and on the following Friday they moved along with favorable winds, and they found themselves six leagues to the windward of Mal Abrigo, and in such a manner they moved along until the following Saturday, the 19th of the month, when they anchored at a small island which is a half league from the mainland and about ten leagues from Mal Abrigo. Its location is  $30 \frac{2}{3}^{\circ}$  and it has good anchorage and good shelter. They named it San Bernardo, and it must measure a league from north to south. The coast of the mainland runs from north-northwest to south-southeast, and it is clean coast. Inland it is of fine appearance, flat, and there are good valleys and here and there a grove of trees. The rest is bare. In these days they found no sign of Indians.

On Sunday, the 20th of August, they departed from Isla de San Bernardo, and they approached Punta del Engaño, which is about seven leagues from this island, at about  $31^{\circ}$ . The coast of this point runs north-northwest to south-southeast, facing the island. The land is not high and by itself seems good and flat land. The mountains are bare. We saw no sign of Indians. In such a manner they sailed until the next Monday, going up the coast toward the north and northeast, about ten leagues from Punta del Engaño. They discovered a good harbor where they dropped anchor and took on fresh water and firewood. It is at  $31 \frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . It is a harbor suitable for any ship repair and dry dock.

On the following Tuesday, Captain Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo went ashore and took possession of it in the name of His Majesty, and of that of the most illustrious Señor don Antonio de Mendoza, and he named it Puerto de la Posesión. He found a lake which has three large arms, and some Indian fishermen, who then ran away. They seized one of them, to whom they gave some articles suitable for trade and then let him go, and he went away. Inland, it is high ground and uneven, has fine valleys and seems to be good land, although without vegetation. They stayed on this land until Sunday, the 27th of the month, repairing the sails and storing fresh water. On Thursday, they saw certain clouds of smoke and went there in a skiff and found about thirty Indian fishermen, who remained where they were. They brought to the ship a boy and two Indian women, to whom they gave articles of clothing and gifts. They let them go after not understanding anything from them, not even through sign language.

On the following Friday, while looking for fresh water, they met at the water hole certain Indians who remained there and showed them a reservoir of water and a salt marsh with a good supply of salt, and indicated by sign language that they did not live there but inland, and that there were many people. The afternoon of this same day five Indians came down to the beach, and they took them to the ships. They appeared to be intelligent Indians. Once on board, they made signs and related things to the Spaniards there, and through sign language pointed out that they had seen other men similar to them who wore beards and had dogs and crossbows and swords. The Indians were smeared with a white bitumen on their thighs, torso and arms. Because of the way they painted themselves with this bitumen, they looked like men wearing trousers and coats with ornamental slashes. They indicated that the Spaniards were at a five-day journey from there. They indicated that there were many Indians and that they had a lot of maize and parrots. They wore deer skins, and some wore the deer skins tanned the way the Mexicans tan the skins they use for their boots. They bear bows and arrows like those in New Spain, and the arrows have flint heads. The captain gave them a letter to take to the Spaniards they said were inland.

### **Big Questions**

What does it mean the Spaniards took possession of the land? Did someone already live there?

How do you think the Indians (natives) felt?

Have you ever had something taken from you? How did you feel?

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

This volume contains the most recent translation of the Summary Log.

**LOG SECTION FOUR**

They left this Puerto de la Posesión on Sunday the 27th of the month of August, and sailing on course they found an island two leagues distant from the mainland. It is unpopulated and has a fine harbor. They named it San Agustín. It is about two leagues all around. They went along the coast in this manner with light winds, turning to windward until the following Wednesday, on the 30th of the same month. They ran into strong winds from the northwest which forced them back to San Agustín. On this island they found signs of people having been there and two cow's horns, and some very large trees which the ocean had cast ashore, which were more than sixty feet long and so wide that two men stretching their arms could not gird them. They resembled cypresses. They were cedars, and there was a very large quantity of this wood. The harbor is the only thing here. They stayed on this island until the following Sunday.

On Sunday, the third day of September, they left the Isla de San Agustín and followed their course and on the following Monday anchored on land about seven leagues windward on a coast running north to south. They then continued on course sailing with favorable but light breezes along a coast running north and south until Thursday, the seventh day of the month of September. They anchored in a bay which the land makes, and at this point the north-south coast ends and turns to the northwest. In this bay there is a valley, and the earth is flat right down to the coast. Inland there are high mountains and uneven land which appears to be good. The whole coast is rough and shallow, so they remained anchored a half league out in ten fathoms. On the surface of the water there is a lot of vegetation in this area.

On the following Friday, the eighth of the month, they traveled with slight winds, tacking to windward, and they met at this point countercurrents. They anchored on a point which forms a cape and gives good shelter from the west-northwest. They named it Cabo Santa María. The cape forms the end of land on one side, and on the other it is formed by some high mountains which are in back, and other small mountains begin and form a large valley, and apparently many others. The land is good and is at  $32 \frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . The harbor is clear and suitable for anchoring. It runs north to south with Isla de San Agustín.

While staying at this Cabo de Santa María, they went ashore for water and found a small lake of fresh water, from which they took some. To this watering place forty Indians came with their bows and arrows. They were unable to communicate with them.

They were naked and brought roasted maguey and fish to eat. They are large people. Here they set up a post and stayed at the cape until the following Monday.

On Monday, the eleventh of the month, they left Cabo de Santa María and sailed something like four leagues along the north-northeast to southwest coast. From that point the coast curves toward the northwest. The land is high and bare. The next day they sailed along the northwest-southeast coast about six leagues. The whole coast is rough and clean, and the following day they also sailed with very bad weather about four leagues along a northwest to southeast coast. On land there are high and rough mountains. On the following Thursday they anchored about three leagues further up the coast on a point which juts out to sea and forms a cape from one strip of land and with another. It is called Cabo de la Cruz, and it is situated at 33°. There is neither fresh water nor firewood nor any sign of Indians.

### **Big Questions**

Have you ever had trouble getting someone to understand you? Describe the situation.

What problems are caused by poor communication?

**LOG SECTION FIVE**

Having left Cabo de la Cruz on the following Saturday, they found themselves two leagues from Cabo de la Cruz because of very bad winds on a north-northwest to south-southeast coast. They saw on land some Indians with very small canoes. The land is very high and bare and dry. Since they first sighted California to this point the land has been sandy on the shore, and from this point on the land is reddish and of a more pleasant appearance.

On Sunday the 17th of the month they sailed on to continue their voyage about six leagues from Cabo de la Cruz. They found a good enclosed harbor and, to reach that place, they passed by a small island which was near the mainland. In this harbor they took on water from a lake of rainwater. There are groves of what look like ceibas [silk-cotton trees], except that they are of hard wood. They found large and thick timbers which the sea brought in. This harbor is called San Mateo, and it looks like good land. There are savannas, and the grass is like that in Spain. The land is high and uneven. They saw some herds of animals which resembled cattle, and they went about in groups of about a hundred and more when they appeared. Their manner of roaming about seems to be like that of the Peruvian sheep, and they have long wool. They have small horns of a span in length and the thickness of a thumb. Its tail is wide and round and a palm long. This place is at  $33 \frac{1}{3}^{\circ}$ . They set up camp here and remained until the following Saturday.

On Saturday, the 23rd of the month, they left said port and sailed along the coast until the following Monday, and they must have traveled some eighteen leagues. They saw many beautiful valleys and groves. The land is flat and uneven. No Indians were seen.

On the following Tuesday and Wednesday they sailed along the coast some eight leagues and they passed by three uninhabited islands landward from them. One is larger than the others and must be a full two leagues long and provides good shelter from the west winds. They are three leagues from the mainland and are located at  $34^{\circ}$ . On this day they spotted on land large clouds of smoke. The land looks good and has extensive valleys, and inland there are high mountains. They named the islands *Islas Desiertas*.

On the following Thursday they traveled about six leagues along the north-northwest coast and discovered an enclosed harbor which was very good. They named

it San Miguel. It is located at  $34 \frac{1}{3}^{\circ}$ , and after laying anchor in it they went ashore. There were some people, and three waited around and the others ran away. They gave them some articles for barter. They said through signs that further inland people like the Spaniards had passed by there. They indicated that they were very frightened. On that same day at nightfall they went from their ship in a small craft to fish on land. And it appears that there were some Indians there and they began to shoot arrows at them, and they wounded three men.

On the morning of the next day they entered further into the harbor, which is large, in a skiff, and they brought back two boys whom they tried to understand using signs, but were unsuccessful. They gave each one a shirt and then sent them off.

On the following morning three large Indians came to the ships; they said through signs that further inland men like us moved about, bearded and in similar dress, armed like the men in the ships, and they pointed out they bore crossbows and swords, and they gestured with their right arms like they were spearing something, and they moved about as on a horse. They indicated that they killed many Indians and that is why they were afraid. These people are large and well proportioned, and they wear animal skins. While they were in this harbor a very large storm came by; however, because the harbor was good, they felt no ill effects. This storm went west-southwest to south-southwest. This is the first storm they have experienced. They remained in this harbor until the following Tuesday. Here they call white men Guacamal.

### **Big Questions**

These Indians indicate that they had seen white men before.

Where had they seen white men? (Bonus: What group of explorers might they have seen?)

What happened with the other white men? How did that influence the Indians' perception about Cabrillo and his crew?

Have you ever been pre-judged based upon people who came before you?

**LOG SECTION SIX**

On the following Tuesday, on the third of October, they left this port of San Miguel, and on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday traveled their course about eighteen leagues on the coast along which they saw many valleys and plains, and many clouds of smoke, and further inland mountain ranges. They spent the night next to some islands, which are about seven leagues from the mainland. Because the wind died down, they could not this night reach them.

On Saturday, the seventh of October, at dawn they spotted the islands they named San Salvador and La Victoria, and they cast anchor at one of them and went ashore in a skiff to see whether there were people living there. And as the skiff drew near, a large number of Indians came out from behind the bushes and grass, barelegged and shouting and indicating to them to reach land. They saw how the women were fleeing, and from the skiffs they made signs for them not to be afraid. And then, they [the Indians], feeling safe, put down their bows and arrows and launched a good canoe, which had room for eight or ten Indians. They came to the ships. They [the Spaniards] gave them barter items, which they liked very much. They then went back, and afterwards the Spaniards went ashore. Everyone—Indians and their women—felt very secure. At this point, an old Indian pointed out to them that on the mainland there were men like the Spaniards in their dress and beards. They remained on this island no more than half a day.

On the following Sunday, the eighth of the month, they approached the mainland at a large bay they named Bahía de los Fumos, because of the many clouds of smoke they saw in it. Here they communicated with some Indians whom they picked up from a canoe. These Indians indicated that toward the north there were Spaniards like they. This bay is situated at 35° and is a good port, and the land is good with many valleys, plains, and wooded areas.

On the following Monday, the ninth of October, they left Bahía de los Fuegos [Fumos] and traveled that day about six leagues, and anchored in a large inlet, and from that place they continued the next day Tuesday and traveled about eight leagues along the northwest-southeast coast. We saw on land a village of Indians next to the sea. The houses were large like those in New Spain, and they lay anchor facing a large valley on the coast. Here many very good canoes, which in each one there is room for twelve or thirteen Indians, came to the ships, and they informed them of white men who

were further inland. The coast runs northwest to southeast. Here they were given some articles for barter, which made them very happy. They indicated that in seven days of travel they could reach the place where other Spaniards were, and Juan Rodríguez decided to send two Spaniards inland. They also pointed out that there was a large river. They sent with these Indians a letter, if by chance they ran into white men. They named this village Pueblo de las Canoas. They [the people here] are covered in animal skins and are fishermen. They eat raw fish, and they also eat maguey. This village is located at 35 1/3°. Inland there is a beautiful valley. They indicated that inland in that valley there was a large quantity of maize and lots of food; it appears that further inland from this valley there are some very high mountains and rough terrain. They call white men Taquimine. They set up a post here and stayed here until Friday the 13th of the month.

### **Big Question**

Describe the interactions with Indians during these encounters. Were the interactions friendly? Give specific examples to support your answer.

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

This volume contains the most recent translation of the Summary Log.

**LOG SECTION SEVEN**

On Friday, the 13th of the month of October, they departed from Pueblo de las Canoas and stayed their course this day six or seven leagues, and they passed by two islands which are about four leagues long each one and about four leagues from the mainland. They are uninhabited because they have no water, and they have good harbors. The coast of the mainland stretches to the west-northwest and has many savannas and wooded areas.

On the following Saturday they stayed on their course and traveled only two leagues and anchored facing a very pretty and quite populated valley. The land is flat and there are many wooded areas. Here many [Indians in] canoes came with fish to trade, and they became great friends. On the following Sunday, on the fifteenth of the month, they sailed on their way up the coast some ten leagues, and there were always many canoes because the whole coast is very populated and many of the Indians came to the ships and indicated to us the villages and called them by their names, which are Xuco, Bis, Sopono, Alloc, Xabaagua, Xocotoc, Poltohtuc, Nacbuc, Quelqueme, Misinagua, Miseropano, Elquis, Coloc, Mugu, Xagua, Anacbuc, Partocac, Susuquei, Quam, Gua, Asimu, Aguin, Casalic, Tucumu, Yncpupu. All these villages are those seen since leaving Pueblo de las Canoas, which is called Xucu. To this point they occupy good land, very good plains, and many groves and savannas. They wear skins, and they said that further inland, about three days journey, there are many villages and a lot of maize, which they call oep, and many cows, which they call cae. They also informed us of people with beards and clothes.

On this day, they went, on the land side, by a large island about fifteen leagues long. They told us many people live there and had the following villages: Niquipos, Maxul, Xugua, Nitel, Macamo, Nimitapal; they named the island San Lucas. From here to Puerto de las Canoas it must be 18 leagues. The island is located about six leagues from the mainland.

On Monday, the 16th of the month, they sailed four leagues along the coast, and they anchored in the afternoon facing two villages. Also on this day, there were always canoes with the ships, and they indicated that further on there were much bigger canoes.

The following Tuesday, the 17th of the month, they traveled three leagues with fine weather, and from dawn on many canoes accompanied the ships, and the captain

always gave them articles suitable for barter. The whole coast along which they sailed is very populated. They brought them a lot of good fresh sardines, and they say that inland there are many villages and much food. These Indians do not eat any maize, and they wear animal skins. They have very long hair, and they keep it twisted up with some very long pieces of twine, and sticking through the hair and twine are many very long flint, bone, and wooden daggers. The land appears to be very excellent.

On Wednesday, the 18th of the month, they ran along the coast until ten o'clock, seeing the whole coast inhabited and because there was a cool wind, no canoes came up to them, and they came close to a point which forms a cape in the shape of a galley, and they called it Cabo de Galera, and it is situated at full  $36^{\circ}$ , and because they hit a cool northwest breeze, they had to tack. They discovered two islands, the larger one about eight leagues long with coastline stretching east to west, and the other is about four leagues long. And in this small one there is a good harbor. They are inhabited and located ten leagues from the mainland. Their name is Islas de San Lucas. From the mainland to Cabo de Galera, the coast runs from the northeast to the west, and from Pueblo de las Canoas to Cabo de Galera it is a very populated province, and they call it Xéxu. The many languages are different from one another, and they also have great wars with each other. A distance of thirty leagues separates Pueblo de las Canoas and Cabo de Galera. They remained on these islands until the following Wednesday, because of the stormy weather.

### **Big Questions**

This excerpt mentions many Indian villages. Research one or more of the village names. Does it still exist?

The log indicates that in the province Xéxu there are many wars among the Indians. Why do you think that happened? Try to use evidence from the log in your answer.

**LOG SECTION EIGHT**

On Wednesday, the 25th day of the month, they left these islands, departing from the one more on the windward side. It has a very fine port, which in all kinds of ocean weather provides a perfectly safe haven. They named it Posesión. On this day they made little headway because the wind was not blowing. On the following mid-night, a south-southwest and a west-southwest wind with rain blew up, and they saw themselves in peril because it was blowing onshore and they were near land. They were unable to round the cape, tacking in both directions. On the following Thursday, in late afternoon, they caught a breeze from the south in which they continued their journey some ten leagues up the coast, which ran north-northwest to south-southeast. The whole coast is inhabited and appears to be good land. This night they stayed at sea because the wind was blowing crosswise. On the following Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, they sailed with contrary winds, going back and forth without being able to make headway. They were at  $36\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ , ten leagues from Cabo de Galera. In this fashion, they sailed Monday and Tuesday, the 31st of the month, on the eve of All Saints' Day, turning one way and another. They attempted to approach the mainland in search of a large river which their sources said was on the other side of Cabo de Galera. The land gave an indication of rivers. They found no river. Neither did they anchor here, because the coast was very rough. They found in this month on this coast weather similar to that in Spain, from  $34^{\circ}$  on up, with very cold weather in the mornings and in the afternoons, with big storms, dark skies, and heavy air.

On Wednesday at midnight, the first day of November, tacking along they encountered a strong wind from the north-northwest, which did not allow them any sail, and at first light it cooled down so much that they could not help but seek shelter, and they went to the protection of Cabo de Galera. They anchored there and went ashore. Because there was a large village they call Xexo, and it did not appear there was firewood at hand, they decided to go to Pueblo de las Sardinias, because there was water and firewood quite nearby and at hand. They named this shelter of Galera Puerto de Todos Santos, and on the following Thursday, they went to the Pueblo de las Sardinias, where they remained for three days taking on water and firewood. The natives of the land helped them and brought the firewood and the water to the ships. The [Indian] name of this village of the Puerto de Sardinias is Cicacut. The others located from there to Cabo de Galera are: Ciucut, Anacot, Maquinanoa, Paltatre, Anacoac, Olesino, Caa-cac, Paltocac, Tocane, Opia, Opistopia, Nocos, Yutum, Quiman, Micoma, Garomiso-

pona. An old Indian woman is ruler of these villages. She came to the ships and slept two nights in the flagship, and many Indians did the same. The village of Ciucut seemed to be the capital of the other villages because they came there from other villages at the call from that woman. The town on the cape is called Xexo, and from this port to Pueblo de las Canoas is another province they call Xuca. Their houses are round and covered very well right down to the ground. Their clothes are animal hides of many species, and they eat acorns and a seed which is as thick as maize and white, which they use to make tamales. Their food is very good, and they say that inland there is much maize and there are men like us. This port is located at 35 2/3°.

### **Big Questions**

The list of instructions Cabrillo likely received did not include how to deal with women, especially as leaders. In this time, in Europe did any women serve as rulers?

How do they respond when they find that the ruler of several villages is a woman?

Do you think they treat her the same way they would have if the ruler had been a man?

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

This volume contains the most recent translation of the Summary Log.

**LOG SECTION NINE**

On Monday the sixth of November, they left Puerto de Sardinias, and that day they made almost no headway, and until the following Friday they sailed with very little wind. On that day we reached Cabo de Galera. During this whole trek they were unable to make use of the Indians, who came on board with water and fish, and they showed great affection. In their villages they have large market squares, and they have a circle like a fence running around it and around the circle they place many stone slabs upright on the earth, which stick up about three hand breadths. In the middle of the fences they have many very thick wooden beams erected like ships' masts. These wooden shafts have paintings which we believe they worship, because when they perform their dances they dance around the fence.

On the following Saturday, St. Martin's day, the eleventh day of said month, they sailed along the coast. This morning they were twelve leagues from the cape at the same spot where they first arrived. All day long they had good wind. They traveled along a northwest-southeast coast. They sailed a good twenty leagues along the length of the coast this day. It is rugged coastline with no shelter. A range of very high mountains lines the whole stretch of the coast, as high as the mountains inland, and the sea breaks on them. They did not see any villages nor smoke. Along the whole coast there is no shelter against the north wind. It is uninhabited. They named these mountains Sierra de San Martín. They are located at  $37\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ , where they come to an end. The mountains on the northwest form a cape which juts out in the sea. Its location is  $38^{\circ}$ . They named the cape Cabo Martín.

This Saturday night, four hours after nightfall, at sea about six leagues from the coast, while on watch waiting for daybreak with a southeast breeze, there arose such a storm from the south-southeast, with rain and dark clouds in the southwest, that they could not even have a palm [hand breadth] of sail, and it made them move along with but a pocket of sail on the foremast, with great effort all night. The following Sunday, the bad weather became even more violent, lasting all day and all night until the following Monday at noon. The storm was as severe as any would be in Spain. On Saturday night the ships lost sight of each other.

On Monday, the thirteenth of November, at the hour of vespers, the wind died down and shifted to the west, and they set sail in search of the other ship around the bend of hind, praying to God that He would return them to them, for they greatly feared

the ship was lost. They ran northward and north-northwest with a westerly wind, and west-northwest. On the following Tuesday at dawn, they caught sight of land. They had to sail until the afternoon, and they went to reconnoiter on a very high point of land and sailed along the coastline to see if there was some port where they could stop. The ocean swells were such that they were a sight to see, and the coast was rugged and the mountain ranges very high. In the afternoon, they took shelter. The coast runs northwest to southeast. They reconnoitered the land on a point which projects into the ocean and forms a cape. The point is covered with wooded areas. It is located at 40°.

On Wednesday, the 15th of the month, they caught sight of the companion ship, for which they gave many thanks to God, for they had considered her lost. They approached her, and the two were joined by the afternoon. The men in the other ship had a worse time and underwent more peril than those in the flagship, because it was smaller and was open with no planking. The land where they were traveling seemed very good, although they saw neither Indians nor smoke from fires. There are high mountain ranges with snowcapped peaks. There are many wooded areas. At nighttime they lowered the sails, and they took shelter.

### **Big Question**

During the storm, they lose sight of their sister ship. If that happened today, how could the crew find the other ship?

Think about the differences in methods of communication during Cabrillo's time and today. How would lack of communication make the trip more difficult?

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

This volume contains the most recent translation of the Summary Log.

**LOG SECTION TEN**

The following Thursday, the 16th of the month of November, as the sun came up they were in a large bay which curved around and appeared to have a harbor and river. They tacked this day and night and on the following Friday until they saw there was no river nor any shelter. With the purpose of taking possession, they dropped anchor in forty-five fathoms of water. They did not dare to go on land because of the high seas. This bay is located at full 39°, and it is lined with pine trees which come right down to the shore. They named it Bahía de los Pinos. The following night they remained in shelter until the next day.

The following Saturday they ran along the coast and at nightfall were at Cabo de San Martín. The whole coast this day was very rough, and there were big swells. The land is very high. There are mountains which reach up to the sky, and the sea breaks on them, and sailing near the land it looks as though they are about to fall on the ships. They are covered with snow at the top, and they named them the Sierras Nevadas. At the point where they begin there is a cape which juts out to sea, which they named Cabo de Nieve. The coast runs north-northwest to south-southeast. It appears that Indians do not live on this coast. Cabo de Nieve is at 38 2/3°. Whenever the northeast winds blow, the sky is clear and bright.

On Thursday, the 23rd of the month, they approached again the Islas de San Lucas at the one named Posesión, and they ran along the whole coast point by point, from Cabo de Pinos to the islands. They found no place to put into. Out of necessity, they had to return to this island because in the past few days the wind blew very hard from the west-northwest and the swells were very large, from Cabo de [San] Martín as far as Cabo de Pinos. We saw no Indians at all, the cause of which is the rugged, unprotected and uneven coast. Fifteen leagues from the southeast strip of Cabo Martín they found the land inhabited and many smokes, because it is good land. Nevertheless, from Cabo de [San] Martín as far as 40°, we saw no sign of Indians. Cabo de San Martín is located at 37½°.

While wintering on this Isla de Posesión, on the third day of January, 1543, Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, captain of the expedition, died from a fall he had the previous time they were on the same island, in which he broke his arm close to the shoulder. Replacing him as captain was a certain Bartolomé Ferrelo, the chief pilot, a native of the Levant [Mediterranean Coast of Spain]. At the time of his death, he left them with orders not to fail to discover all they could along that whole coast. They named the island la Isla de Juan Rodríguez. The Indians call this island Ciquimuymu, and the other Nicalque, and the third Limu. On this Isla de la Posesión there are two villages; one is called Cico

and the other Nimollollo. On the other island, there are three villages: one is Nichochi, the other Coycoy, and the third Estocoloco. On the third island, there are eight villages, which are Niquesesquelua, Poele, Pisqueno, Pualnacatup, Patiquiu, Patiquilid, Nimemu, Muoc, Pilidquay, Lilibequé. The Indians on these islands are very poor. They are fishers and only eat fish. They do not sleep on the ground. Their only livelihood and activity is fishing. In each house they say there live fifty souls. They live in very poor conditions, and go naked. They [the Spaniards] stayed on these islands from the 23rd of November to the nineteenth of January. In all this time, which was almost two months, the weather was very blustery and rainy. The winds generally were from the west-southwest, south-southwest, and west-northwest. There was some very stormy weather.

On Friday, the 19th of January, 1543, they set sail from Isla de Juan Rodríguez, which they [the Indians] call Ciquimuymu, to go to the mainland in search of supplies for their voyage. After they left the port, they ran into strong weather from the west-northwest, which forced them to reach the other islands of San Lucas. They anchored on the island of Limu, which they named San Sebastián. They had to weigh anchor there because there was no other port in the shelter of the islands. The wind shifted crosswise, and they sailed around these islands for eight days with very treacherous winds, taking refuge in the same islands with the treacherous winds. On the 27th of the month, they entered the same port of Isla de Juan Rodríguez, where they were when they started out. The greatest difficulty they had was that the winds were not steady and would change constantly from one direction to another. The most constant are those which blow from the west-northwest to the west-southwest.

### **Big Question**

The testimony of Lazaro Decardenas describes Cabrillo's death like this:

Juan Rodríguez agreed to Winter there [an island]. Setting out for land with a small boat and several soldiers, he took a fall (when stepping ashore) among some rocks in which he broke a leg which resulted in his death. He died there within 12 days and he was buried there.

Why do you think the two accounts of how he died are different?

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

This volume contains the most recent translation of the Summary Log.

**LOG SECTION ELEVEN**

On Tuesday, the 29th of January, they left Isla de Juan Rodríguez to go to Isla de San Lucas, which is in the middle of the other islands, in order to recover some anchors they had left during a storm and could not take along. They picked them up and took on water.

They left Isla de San Lucas on Monday, the twelfth of February. They were unable to do this sooner, because of the wretched weather that consisted of high winds and snow. It is inhabited and the people resemble those on the other island. The Indians call it Nicalque. There are three villages on it, whose names are Nicochi, Coycoí, and Coloco. On this day they went to Puerto de las Sardinias to take on firewood and other things necessary for their voyage which were not available on the islands.

On Wednesday, the 14th of the month, they departed from Puerto de Sardinias after taking on a boat load of firewood. They did not dare stay more time there because of the rough seas. They did not find so many Indians as before nor any fishing because of the winter weather. The natives ate acorns and some other seed and uncooked grass. From there they went to Isla de San Sebastián because there was more safety from the storms until they were able to set sail and travel the sea route.

On Sunday, the 18th of February, they left Isla de San Sebastián with the mild northeast wind and sailed to the southwest, because they told them there were other islands toward the southwest. They settled in for the night on this day about twelve leagues from Isla de San Sebastián. They saw some six islands, some of them large and some small. On this day, one of the sailors died. On the following Monday, at daybreak, they found themselves to the windward of the islands by at most ten leagues and with the wind west-northwest, and they sailed on a long tack five days to the southwest and traveled perhaps one hundred leagues. They ran into harsh gales and high seas.

On Thursday, the 22nd of February, they turned toward land to seek out Cabo de Pinos, with the wind blowing south-southeast, which lasted three days, and it grew stronger each day. On the following Sunday, after daybreak, they caught sight of Cabo de Pinos and on that day to dusk traveled twenty leagues windward on the northwest-southeast coast. It is rough and without shelter. No smoke was visible on land. They saw a point which formed a sort of cape, where the coast turns to the north-northwest. At midnight, the wind came up suddenly to the south-southwest, and they sailed to the

west-northwest until the following day. In the morning the wind shifted very strongly to the west-southwest, which lasted until the next Tuesday. They sailed to the northwest.

On Tuesday, the 27th, the wind shifted to the south-southwest and lasted all day long. They sailed to the west-northwest with the foremast sail lowered, because of the strong winds. After sunset, the wind shifted to the west. They sailed south all night long with little sail. There were great swells which devoured them.

On the following Wednesday, on the 28th of the month, after daybreak, the wind to the southwest came up, and it did not blow hard. On this day, they measured their latitude at 43°. Toward nightfall, the wind freshened and switched to the south-southwest. They ran this night to the west-northwest with great difficulty, and on Thursday, after dawn, the wind picked up to the southwest with great fury and the waves came in all directions so that they were making everyone very exhausted, and they crashed over the ships, and if they did not have planking and if God did not come to their aid, they would not have escaped. And not being able to secure a safe haven, they sailed with the wind aft to the northeast back to land.

Considering themselves now without hope, they entrusted themselves to Our Lady of Guadalupe and made their final vows.

### **Big Questions**

What was the goal of the crew once Cabrillo had died? Cite evidence in this log to defend your answer. You may want to refer to your mapping of the log to help you with this question.

Compare this log section to previous sections. How are they different?

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

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**LOG SECTION TWELVE**

They sailed in this manner until three in the afternoon with great fear and effort, because they saw that they were going to be lost. They now saw many signs of land being near, of birds as well as very fresh pieces of wood which were brought down from some rivers, although because of the dark sky the land did not come into view. At this hour the Mother of God, with the grace of her Son, came to their aid. A very heavy shower came down from the north that kept them on the move all night and the next day until sunset to the south with the foresails lowered, and because there were high seas from the south which broke each time over the bow and washed over them like over crags on the shore. The wind shifted to the northwest and to the north-northwest with such a fury that it forced them to sail on until Saturday, the third of March, to the southeast and east-southeast, with such a rough sea that it was driving them crazy. If God and his Blessed Mother did not miraculously save them, they could not escape. On Saturday, at noon, the weather became less rough and remained in the northwest, for which they gave many thanks to Our Lord. They also underwent hardship with their food, for they only had spoiled biscuit.

It seems to them that there is a large river of which they had much evidence, between 41° and 43°, because they saw many signs of it. In the afternoon of that day, they recognized Cabo de Pinos. Because of the high seas, they could not help but run back along the coast in search of a port. They suffered very much from the cold.

On Monday, the fifth of March, 1543, after daybreak, they found themselves on Isla de Juan Rodríguez, and they did not dare enter the harbor because of the big storm that was blowing, which was crashing in fifteen fathoms of water at the entrance. The weather was coming from the north-northwest, and the entrance is narrow. They sailed to the shelter of the southeast strip of Isla de San Sebastián. The night before, coming along in a big storm with only a little pocket of air in each of the foresails, they lost sight of the other ship. And they suspected that the sea had swallowed it up. They could not find any of it, even after the sun rose. They believe they probably were at 44° when they caught the last storm, which forced them to fall to leeward.

On Thursday, the eighth of the month, they departed from Isla de San Sebastián to go to the mainland in search of the other ship, and they went to Pueblo de las Canoas. They found no news of the other ship. Here they took on four Indians.

On the following Friday, the ninth, they left the Pueblo de las Canoas and went to Isla San Salvador, but did not find their companions here either.

On Sunday, the eleventh of the month, they drew near the port of San Miguel and neither here did they find their companions nor any news of them. They waited here six days, and here they took on two boys for the purpose of learning their language to take back to New Spain, and they left certain signs, should the other ship go near there.

On Saturday, the 17th of the month, they left the port of San Miguel. On the following Sunday, they reached Bahía de San Mateo, and they did not find a trace of the other ship here either.

On Sunday, the 18th, in the afternoon, they departed from this Bahía de San Mateo, and on the following Wednesday, the 21st, they reached Puerto de la Posesión. They did not find news of their escort. They waited two days without entering the harbor, because they did not dare go in because of the strong northwest wind which was blowing. Because the mooring cable cut loose, they weighed anchor.

On Friday, the 23rd, they left Puerto de la Posesión, and on the following Saturday at midnight they reached Isla de Cedros. And while they were there, the following Monday, the 26th day of the month, the other ship approached Isla de Cedros, which caused them great joy, and they gave many thanks to God. This latter ship passed by Isla de Juan Rodríguez at night, running into some shallows, and they thought they would sink, and the sailors promised to go to their church naked, and Our Lady delivered them.

On Monday, the second of the month of April, they left Isla de Cedros, on their way back to New Spain, because they did not have supplies to undertake again the exploration of the coast. They arrived in the port of Navidad on Saturday, the 14th of April. As captain of the ships came Bartolomé Ferrel, chief pilot of the said ships in the absence of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, who died on Isla de la Posesión. Men came in these ships.

### **Big Questions**

What does it mean that they “took on four Indians” and “took on two boys?” Why do you think they did this?

In your opinion, was this a successful exploration?

Source: James D. Nauman, *An Account of the Voyage of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* (Cabrillo National Monument Foundation: San Diego, 1999).

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