

Capt. Daley's Sea Stories MV ART CARLSON Fish & Birds

11 November 2011



During October and November, Baker Hughes assembled a frac plant on the main deck of the MV Art Carlson in Luba, Equatorial Guinea. An oil or gas well is frac'd by pumping tons of small ceramic balls (proppant) under high pressure to open up the reservoir for better drainage and higher flow rates. The proppant keeps the fracture "propped" open.

Fishing is one of the main stays of the natives of Equatorial Guinea. Fishing from their canoes looks most uncomfortable, yet seems very effective.



Fishing near the MV Art Carlson is always good, however, my crew is not allowed to fish.



The natives, on the other hand, make a very good haul fishing near us. It is a bit nerve racking at night, because you always wonder who might be a thief or worse, a pirate.



No machine made these canoes or their paddles. They are all hand made. The hydrostatic properties of the canoe are pretty amazing when you think about the weight and height of the occupant and the other gear aboard relative to the size of the canoe.



The birds circled our fishermen friends for hours, but surprisingly, they didn't try to haul off any of their catch.



Bombs away



Sneak attack



This looks like a very close fly by, but in reality it is a fly over.



The fishermen sit for hours in these cramped canoes.



I plan to look up what type of bird this is when I return. If you know, please write me.



Even though it is not a dove, this looks almost religious to me.



Of course, to him it is just another meal as he dives to capture a fish.



And now there is a pair of them.



Capturing the true color scheme of their feathers is quite a challenge.





They are so elegant in flight.



Now our friend has double company.











Not a bad haul for a couple hours of rowing a canoe and fishing with a hand line.



What a great location for meditating. I wonder what he is pondering.