

A

CHICAGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM—ETHNOLOGY

50-17

252559

**Provenience:** Western Caroline Islands ; Palau**Field No.****People or Culture:** Palauan**Object:** lamp

56-64

**Material:** pottery

**Description:** Reproduction of an aboriginal lamp made for the collector by an old woman who remembered the process. Pottery is no longer made in Palau. For an example of an aboriginal pottery lamp see 252487. Small lamps such as this one were used by the poor; larger lamps were used by

**Neg. No.**

**Dimensions:** the wealthy who could afford the co-  
(in cm.)

diameter: 8.5

Acc. 2574

**Collection:** Presented by Roland W. Force; Collector, 1956. Tri-Institutional Pacific Program Ethnological Expedition to Palau, 1954-1956.

conut oil which was the fuel burned. Adjustable rear cord allowed the lamp to be tipped so that it would burn brighter due to the increased flow of oil into the spout and the wick area. A small lamp would burn about two hours on one fill of oil. Hung from the rafters of the house. Kapok from the Ceiba pentandra tree was used as a wick. Later, after the introduction of trade goods, cloth was substituted. Before coconut oil served as fuel the sap of the bror tree (?) was used. The cord is made of hibiscus (Hibiscus tiliaceus) fiber. For a double spouted lamp see 252560. Native name: oldbidel.

