Activity, which could only be residual courtship activity, was also observed among the adults as late as October 15, 1954. Usually three adults took part at once, but occasionally only two birds participated. These terns would run along side by side for a few feet, with their wings extended down and away from the body anteriorly, but with the tips still crossed over the back. The neck was stretched upward as far as possible during the performance and the bill alternately raised and lowered from the horizontal up to an angle of about 75° and back to the horizontal. Each time the bill was elevated to the high angle, the peeping sound was given. It should be pointed out that the two or three birds taking part in each activity normally raised and lowered their bills in unison, or very nearly so.

I noticed that the Elegant Terns would sleep, or at least close their eyes, while in a position of rest commonly observed in other terns. That is, they would rest on their bellies with their heads stretched forward and their bills lying flush with the ground.

Bathing by Elegant Terns in shallow water was also observed at the Training Center.

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