



MINISTÈRE  
DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE.

TAHITI - SCILLY  
GEORGE H. BALAZS  
OCTOBER 1991

2 of 2



L  
LOU

LOUIS CONNICK  
Box 855  
OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT 06371-0855

3 April 1992

TOBOREU ISLAND

Box 567

SUVA, FIJI

TEL FU 23550  
SUVA 26357

Dear George -

I was delighted to talk with you while I was in Honolulu and to realize the information I had about S19 was helpful. The material you sent me on the program and the turtles themselves was fascinating. The tumor problem must be a real worry.

It was a coincidence that one of the staff in the office of my Hawaiian host was to go boating with you. I gave her the photo I had taken of S19. I still have the negative if you should want it.

Good luck with the valuable work you are doing. Increasingly the support is building to save endangered species and habitats. Hope it isn't too late

3/23/92

CAUGHT IN NET

S19 RH

FRONT,

S18

(10/18/91  
MOTU DIA Scilly  
S17, S18, S19)

UAP, le 26<sup>th</sup> April 1994.

Monsieur,

I must apologise for being so late with my answer. Following that phone call for the 5<sup>th</sup> April 1994, Her some informations concerning a captured turtle in Islandic pines. It was caught in Baie d'UPE at UAO in Island of Pines on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1994. There are 2 marks on the front legs: Side 1 S. 197 Side 2 1975  
1976  
1977



Enfile Patine = 8 @ cm  
= 2.1 cm

Longueur totale Patine: 77 cm

Tête + Carapace = 17 cm each

Front leg, nageoire ventrale: 52 cm

Back leg, nageoire arrière: 4

Longueur totale, face ventrale: 1

Escalade des = 92 cm longeur  
97 cm longeur  
: 2 m 60 perimètre

See Page 60

I hope you will understand all these measurements... we can weigh it. Please can you send me no book on the turtles. I would know about the age of that one we caught. In the Pacific is there any breeding ground for turtles?

I thank you for being in contact with me.  
With my best regards.

Douglas Marie. SOUTHERN.

shiti  
book

Vao, 26/07/1994.

To Sir Georges H. Dalazs.

I was very surprised of your answer.  
I send you my thanks for the green tee shirt.  
I am thinking of the Green Peace ship for  
the protection of the animals.

May I know something about your work  
on the marine Turtle research?

Do you use Turtle like a food or only in  
laboratory? Do you allowed some visitors in  
your laboratory?

Please, have you another free tee shirt sent  
for a man, the same size like mine?  
With my thanks -again.

Yours sincerely,

DOUCERE MAREE

BP 58 VAO

ILE DES PINES

MOTU-ONE Recovery

700 467079

Rotuma Police Station  
Rotuma.

29th August 1994.

Sir/Madam,

On 26.8.94 I came to know that a turtle, presumably a Green turtle was caught off the western coast of Rotuma on 20.8.94 by local fishermen; VAPOU SOSERO and NIKA MATELESI. On the turtle were four (4) tags with the numbers S-463 and S-464 - HIGI UNIVERSITY HAWAII 96744. The other two tags have the numbers R 1088 and R1089 SFC/REP EPD5 NOUMEA CEREX NEW CALEDONIA.

Rotuma is about 400kilometres North North West of Fiji and is a dependency of Fiji.

In one of the issues of National Geographic magazine, in 1993, an article on the growing fears of the turtle going extinct was highlighted. I believe that studies are being carried out by institutions such as yours and although we may not have access to data and information collected in regards to the turtle, we would like to know as to the place and date of tagging. As in Fiji the turtles were hunted for its meat from the month of March till October. During these months the turtle do breed. We would be grateful if you could furnish us with more information as to the breeding season of the turtle. If there is a period that the turtles will not breed then I believe that reputed institutions such as yours may lobby for legislation to be enacted to safeguard the turtle breeding season. Not many people here are aware of the danger faced by the turtles.

Your reply on the date and place the turtle was tagged with the above numbers and any other information concerning the turtle will be received with appreciation.

Yours faithfully

Receipts 8/20/94  
Rotuma

ORIGINALLY TAGGED  
10/21/92 MOTU OIA  
R1088, R1089 SALLY  
S463, S464 CP 6-97



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southwest Fisheries Science Center Honolulu Laboratory  
2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2336  
(808)943-1221 • Fax: (808)943-1290

November 7, 1994 F/SWC2:gbb

Constable Arthur Paulino  
Rotuma Police Station  
Rotuma Island  
FIJI

Dear Constable Paulino:

I apologize for my delay in being able to answer your letter reporting the capture of a tagged sea turtle (S463, S463, R1088, & R1089) at Rotuma on August 20, 1994. We sincerely appreciate your taking the time to write to us about such a valuable and interesting event.

The turtle you reported was an adult female green turtle, *Chelonia mydas*. The turtle had been tagged while nesting ashore and laying eggs at Scilly Atoll (north of Tahiti) October 21, 1992. This tagging study was conducted by Mr. Philippe Siu and Mr. Jean-Pierre Landret in French Polynesia as part of a Pacific-wide conservation and research program by the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP). The distance that turtle S463 traveled to take up residency at Rotuma when not nesting once again demonstrates the shared nature of sea turtle resources in the Pacific islands. Numerous other sea turtle migrations of this nature have been documented by tagging studies. I have enclosed an assortment of articles on the SPREP conservation program, as well as other aspects of sea turtle biology.

Please extend my sincere appreciation to fishermen Mr. Vafoou Sosefo and Mr. Etika Matelesi for turning in the tags to your office so they could be properly reported. Some additional information on the capture of the turtle would be very helpful. What method was used to capture the turtle? Are turtles of this large size commonly caught at Rotuma? Approximately how many per year? Is a special area visited to catch turtles, or do they occur all around the island? Are other species, besides the green turtle, found at Rotuma? Has any other turtle ever been captured that had a tag on it? Do turtles ever lay their eggs at Rotuma? And lastly, are turtles shared and eaten in any special traditional manner (feasts or special occasions) at Rotuma?

I am sorry to ask you so many questions, but we have almost no knowledge at all about sea turtles at Rotuma. Your writing to us offers an excellent opportunity to correspond with someone who can supply important information. Thank you for any assistance that you can offer in trying to answer these questions.

Copies of my letter, and the letter you sent to me, are being sent to SPREP headquarters in Apia, Western Samoa. SPREP will send you three turtle-design t-shirts as a token of appreciation for reporting the tagged turtle. Please share these with Mr. Sosefo and Mr. Matelesi.

I look forward to receiving a letter from you again at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs  
Zoologist and Leader,  
Marine Turtle Research Program  
(Sea Turtle Technical Advisor to SPREP)

cc

Sue Miller, SPREP  
P. Siu & J.-P. Landret, EVAAM

See p. 92

Gloombidge & Luxmoor 36'

POPULATION: Chelonia mydas

**Nesting sites** The most important known site is Scilly (Manuae) atoll, situated at 16°40'S, 154°40'W, in the Leeward Islands sector of the Society Islands group (Anon., 1979; Lebeau, 1985; Hirth, 1971). Mopelia, Tupai and Bellinghausen, also in the Leeward Islands, appear to be of lesser importance, and there is reportedly some sparse nesting in the Marquesas and on most atolls in the north of the Tuamotu group (Lebeau in litt., 1986). Nesting on Scilly is concentrated on the three islets in the south-east of the atoll; Motu Papai (Rahi), Motu Otue Oia and Motu Honu (Anon., 1979).

**Nesting numbers** Department of Fisheries staff recorded 8-13 sets of tracks per night along about 3.5 km of beach on Motu Papai (= Rahi) and Motu Otue Oia, and 8-10 tracks/night on Motu Honu decreasing to 1-3 tracks/night (Anon., 1979). Surveys were made in 1972, 1973 and 1979, but the length and timing of each visit is not clear, nor is the percentage of tracks that ended in nesting.

Lebeau (1985) reported on three visits to Scilly in 1983-1984. Total number of tracks observed and mean number of emergences per night on the three south-east islets are shown in Table 66. Table 67 shows the estimated total for the three south-east islets, estimated total for all of Scilly, and the mean emergences per night on Scilly.

Lebeau (1985) concluded that around 400 females were nesting annually on Scilly at the time of his visits, with a total of around 800 nests and 80 000 hatchlings a season. There are suspected to be 10-15 nests annually at several sites in the northern Tuamotu group and the Marquesas (Lebeau 1986, in litt.), and the total nesting number in the Tuamotu and Marquesas groups combined is suspected to be approximately equal to the number on Scilly alone.

I don't believe this

**Trends in nesting numbers** Local informants, reported in Anon. (1979), stated that in 1940-1950 it was not unusual to be able to turn 100-150 females a night on the Scilly nesting beaches; if correct, this indicates a very substantial decline in nesting numbers. Such decline appears to have continued into recent years (although it is unknown to what extent this is an artefact of natural seasonal fluctuations); Anon. (1979) recorded 8-13 emergences a night on Motu Papai (= Rahi), while Lebeau in 1983-84 recorded three at most. There are similar figures for the remaining two of the three south-east islets, which between them hold most nesting in Scilly. Decline is attributed by Anon. (1979) to excess harvest of adults for food.

X HARVEST IN FORAGING PASTURES!

**Nesting season** According to Anon. (1979) there is some nesting throughout the year, but with a well-defined peak season between September and December. Lebeau (1985), however, found most signs of nesting during his October visit, fewer signs in February, but least in December-January.

**Foraging sites** Little specific information is available. Lebeau (1986, in litt.) reports that juvenile C. mydas, greater than 1-2 years of age, are frequently seen over the outer reef slope of many atolls in Polynesia.

**Migration** While some C. mydas appear to be present throughout the year at Scilly, long distance movements to possible foraging grounds, mainly in the Melanesian region of western Oceania, have been demonstrated by tag returns (summarised in Table 68).

Table 66. Total tracks observed and mean emergences per night, on the three south-east islets of Scilly Atoll during three surveys (data from Lebeau, 1985).

	Motu Papai	Motu Otue Oia	Motu Honu	Total
4-18 February 1983				
Tracks	40	13	16	69
Mean/night	2.8	0.9	1.1	4.9
15 October-3 November 1983				
Tracks	49	25	26	100
Mean/night	2.9	1.5	1.5	5.9
20 December-7 January 1983-1984				
Tracks	10	13	15	38
Mean/night	0.59	0.8	0.9	2.2

Table 67. Estimated total number of emergences on Motu Papai, Motu Otue Oia and Motu Honu; estimated total for all of Scilly; estimated mean nightly emergences for all of Scilly (data from Lebeau, 1985).

	February 1983	October 1983	December 1983- January 1984
Estimated total emergences on 3 SE islets	84	100	52
Estimated total for all Scilly	107	133	87
Estimated mean nightly emergence	7.6	7.8	5.8

Table 68. Recovery sites of turtles tagged at Scilly, French Polynesia (data from Anon., 1979; Lebeau 1985).

Date tagged	Date recovered	Place recovered
30 April 1972	9 August 1972	Tonga (Vavau Is)
"	26 July 1972	Fiji (Rabi)
"	14 September 1973	Vanuatu (Maskeline Is)
5 December 1972	15 January 1975	New Caledonia
"	July 1974	Vanuatu (Malekula)
"	15 May 1975	New Caledonia (Baie de Gomen)
"	October 1973	Vanuatu (Anatom)
"	3 October 1974	Fiji (Kandavu Is)
"	15 October 1974	Fiji (Kandavu Is)
"	1 August 1974	Fiji
31 December 1983	March 1984	Cook Islands

MARCH 1984  
Cook Is.

66  
68  
70

Gloombridge  
& Luxmire  
Hawksbill

POPULATION: Eretmochelys imbricata

Although E. imbricata is known to occur in French Polynesian waters, it is seen less frequently than C. mydas, and has been cited as very uncommon (Anon./SPC, 1980). While the species may be suspected to nest in the area, no information is available on nesting sites or numbers, or on favoured foraging sites.

EXPLOITATION

**Commodity** Tahitans are said to be very fond of turtle meat and to eat it regularly (Anon., 1979). Eggs are also said to be collected on a subsistence basis (A. Lebeau in litt., 1986).

**Hunting intensity** The current intensity of exploitation is not known. P. Galenon (in litt., 15 September 1986) claimed that it had now ceased, but A. Lebeau (in litt., 1986) implied that it still continues on a subsistence basis.

**Hunting methods** The only hunting method that has been documented for French Polynesia is the turning of nesting females on the beaches (Anon., 1979).

**Historical trends** Harvests on Scilly were said to have declined over the 20-30 years preceding 1979; formerly, 100-150 turtles could be turned on the nesting beach in a single night (Anon., 1979).

**Domestic trade** There is some local trade in turtle meat. Trade in carapace is said to be very limited as it is now illegal (A. Lebeau in litt., 1986).

**International trade** CITES Annual Reports contain no records of commercial exports of sea turtle products from French Polynesia. However, three countries have reported importing small numbers of "shells" and "bodies" from French Polynesia, mostly for personal purposes or seized on entry. These are shown in Table 69.

Table 69. All trade in C. mydas, E. imbricata or unspecified sea turtle products involving French Polynesia recorded in CITES Annual Reports since 1976. The numbers refer to shells or bodies reported as imports to the countries given.

Year	<u>E. imbricata</u>	<u>C. mydas</u>	Cheloniidae
1984	2 Switzerland		1 Canada
1983	1 USA	2 USA	
1982	2 USA		
1981		3 USA	
1980		1 USA	1 USA
1978	2 Switzerland		

No evidence was found in Customs reports of any exports of tortoiseshell products from French Polynesia. However the Philippines Customs reports



show exports of 425 kg, 352 kg and 150 kg of raw tortoiseshell to "French Pacific Islands" in 1976, 1977 and 1978 respectively (Wells, 1979).

LEGISLATION

ENACTED 1971

French Polynesia is an Overseas Territory of France, however it is not included in the French acceptance of CITES. It does not form part of the European Economic Community.

Délibération No 71-209 du 23 décembre 1971 réglementant la pêche de la tortue de mer (C. mydas) dans le territoire de la Polynésie française.

Prohibits the capture of sea turtles (C. mydas) with shells of less than 65 cm in length.

Prohibits the capture on land of turtles from 1 November to 31 January.

Prohibits the capture at sea of turtles from 1 June to 31 January.

Prohibits the sale of sea turtles for commercial purposes.

Prohibits the collection of turtle eggs on land.

The capture of sea turtles of all sizes may be permitted for purposes of scientific research.

Some turtles may be taken in accordance with quotas set by the Government.

Turtles must not be held longer than 10 days in containers which are not sheltered from the sun.

During transportation turtles must be handled in a way which causes no unnecessary suffering and must in particular be shielded from the sun.

The slaughter of turtles must be performed under the strictest hygienic conditions.

Proposed Legislation. (Supplied by the Ministère du Tourisme et de la mer).

Extension of legislation to include E. imbricata and D. coriacea.

Prohibition of the capture of sea turtles at all times except for scientific research and subsistence use on certain islands.

Prohibition of the collection of turtle eggs at all times except for scientific research and breeding purposes.

The possession and transportation of sea turtles to become illegal except for scientific research, breeding purposes and subsistence use.

The sale of all sea turtles to become illegal except for breeding purposes.

The import of all sea turtles and the export of breeding turtles to be prohibited.

RANCHING

A small-scale Green Turtle rearing trial was undertaken by the Fisheries Department at Rangiroa from 1971 to 1972. About 50 hatchlings were reared experimentally for a year. They were fed mainly on fish scraps, but as no suitable plant material could be found, they developed deficiency symptoms and had to be released. Over the year they grew rapidly, and attained an average weight of 5.6 kg (Anon., 1979).

A family on Scilly Atoll was said to have been experimenting with rearing hatchling C. mydas in floating cages before releasing them after 9-12 months. This trial was still in progress in October 1979 (Anon., 1979).

ENACTED 1990?

NEW CLOSED SEASON - 2 MONTHS AUG - MARCH

Mme DOUPEPERE Mme Jacynthe

BP 58

98 832 Vao, Ile des Pins  
New Caledonia.

Vao, September 13, 1994.

TO:

Dear Sir Gerge H. BALAZS

Zoologist and Leader

marine Turtle Research Program.

I sincerely apologize for being late in answering your letter. First of all, I thank you for the second white tee shirt of the SPREP. Both tee shirts arrived safely to me. I am wearing my green one, it fits me nicely. Also, thank you very much for the literature with information about biology and history of sea turtles. I understand that their life are very important to you and me too, now that you brought me some light on that subject. When I was young Turtle meat was blessed food - from God, in some of our islands only people of high rank can use this and the traditional fisherman family, the second one is the owner of the <sup>sea</sup> and a sea creatures.

In old time, it was forbidden to kill turtles with spears or harpoons, to hunt and to make bleeding in the sea too. The ancient people used to catch them with turtle net, a special net made with coconut fibres, only the big sizes were allowed. You have some samples of turtle net in the museum in Noumea City. It's only with a chief permit that people can hunt.

Nowadays, only the commerce of meat and eggs is prohibited. For the traditional feasts, meat turtle is one main source of fresh protein and was sold. There is no limited captured number. And what about the other predators like sharks, birds, etc. It will be good to protect them against sharks: see the book Awake of Jehovah Witness (8 September 1992) they said there is a

electromagnetic device against sharks (page 28). I found in the new Testament of the Bible that God doesn't permit to eat reptiles speaking about pure and impure animals (Leviticus 11:20-47.) Can you help me to find another version in the New Testament? I'll be grateful. The ancient ones, what about the modern ones, are they allowed

Responding to your questions in the first letter about eating turtles, here people are very fond of eggs turtles. They eat: 1° the green one, Honu, called *de'o*, 2° the Hawksbill, Honu'ea called *o'ne'ya* - 3° the loggerhead *peau rouge* called *Khu'uye* - 4° that one called *waye*, the eggs only. To capture, S. 197 the fishermen used a motorboat, after pursuing it they swam and caught it, it wasn't hurt. I don't find much about another tag, people aren't aware about that problem. It will be good to enforce the laws, American laws are good samples. A major problem here is pollution coming from the ships (tourists!) there are many plastic and glass bottles, nylon papers along the beaches. Bad weathers like cyclones can kill these creatures.

All the living nature needs protection and man's respect. Making something now shows us that our future will be optimistic. I agreed to stop harvesting like said the SRFP programme. The enforcement of laws of protection (fishing nets, pollution traditional feasts.)


Your photos of Hawaiian turtles are very beautiful: n° 2-11-13-14. Perhaps one day, I'll admire one leatherback the giant one in the ocean. It's very interesting about scientific belief on returning females to nesting place they were born - I leave you for a while, but we keep in touch.

Sincerely Yours.

DOUEN M.

I have enclosed some additional literature about the Pacific-wide campaign for "1995 Year of the Sea Turtle." I look forward to hearing from you again when you come across additional valuable information about Fijian sea turtles. Please give my best regards to Alice who participated in my sea turtle research project on the Kona Coast while she attended the Hawaii Preparatory Academy.

Shacezely,



George H. Balazs  
Zoologist and Leader  
Marine Turtle Research Program

Enclosure

cc: Sue Miller, SPREP (w/o enclosure)  
Philippe Siu and J.-P. Landret (w/o enclosure)  
C. Limpus (w/o enclosure)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone  
P.O. Box 271, Pacific Harbour, Fiji Islands  
Fax No. (679) 450 426

6 November, 1994

H.I.M.B.  
University of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96744  
U.S.A.

Dear Sir/Madame:

This tag came to us by way of a friend who took it off the necklace of John Ahkee. Supposedly this tag was recovered off of a turtle that was eaten in a village. That is the story but the fact remains that it was recovered in Savusavu on the island of Vanua Levu, Fiji.

Yours faithfully,

*L.A. Stone*

Lisa Stone

TAG  
S-24 enclosed



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Honolulu Laboratory  
2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396  
(808)943-1221 • Fax: (808)943-1290

November 25, 1994 F/SWC2:GHB:DHY  
STONE-13.GHB

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone  
P.O. Box 271  
Pacific Harbour  
Fiji Islands

Dear Lisa and Robert:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 11th with tag S-24 enclosed that was mailed to the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (University of Hawaii). We appreciate your taking the time to once again communicate valuable information on behalf of sea turtle conservation in the Pacific Islands.

Tag S-24, along with tags S-23 and S-25, were attached to a 103 cm nesting green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) at Motu Oia, Scilly Atoll, in French Polynesia on October 18, 1991. I participated in that expedition in collaboration with Philippe Siu and Jean-Pierre Landret of EVAAM Tahiti. The expedition to Scilly was sponsored in part by the Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Program of the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) based in Apia, Western Samoa. A number of other nesting green turtles tagged on that trip to Scilly (as well as earlier and later ones) have subsequently been reported as taken by fishermen in the Fiji Islands. In addition, three nesting green turtles that I equipped with satellite transmitters at Rose Atoll, American Samoa, during 1993 all migrated to Fiji (see enclosed article).

Our records show that turtle S-24 was previously reported from Savusavu on 10/9/93 where it was sold to a Chinese restaurant. The turtle, said to weigh 261.8 kg when sold, had been caught in a net. This information was verbally relayed to me by a Hawaii resident that happened to be visiting Vanua Levu. However, until receiving your letter, we did not previously know the name of any of the fishermen that caught the turtle. At present, I am in regular contact with an expert fisherman living in Labasa on Vanua Levu who has also caught turtles tagged at Scilly Atoll. I hope to spend some time with him to learn more about Fijian turtles during the coming year, but at present the funding for such a trip remains uncertain.

Needs see also p. 2

75

- ✓ - Letter to Environment Minister
- ✓ RAIN jacket West Catalog (Gel Cell)
- ✓ and ✓ AES ham radio catalog to SIU
- ✓ - Stamp list/article to head of Philatelic bureau, LINDA CHAVEZ (DANIO; NOBLE)
- ✓ - Stuff to Thomas PIANOTA
- Xerox HATCHLING Flipper Tracings



Born Born 6/1/97

Dear George

I hope that the next time, you stay more  
time. Thanks for document and photo  
factory

Sorry  
from [unclear]

Needs see also p. 2

75

- ✓ - Letter to ENVIRONMENT MINISTER
- RAIN jacket West Catalog (Gel Cell)
- ✓ and AES ham radio catalog to SIU
- ✓ - Stamp list/article to head of Philatelic bureau, LINDA CHAVEZ (DANIO; NOBLE)
- ✓ - Stuff to Thomas PIANOTA
- Xerox HATCHLING Flipper Trainers

Sorry that I'm not at home when you came from Topai. I hope that you're with us soon.  
Maui

Jacky BRYANT - Jan. 1988

MOTU OIA, SCILLY (VILLAGE #2)  
CONTINUED  
GREEN TURTLES  
OCTOBER 23, 1991

CL = CURVED LENGTH

NUMBER	RIGHT HIND FLIPPER TRACINGS			AVERAGE OF EACH FLIPPER	SQUARE ROOT OF AVERAGE	CL (mm)	SL (mm)	WEIGHT (kg)	$\sqrt{\text{AREA}}$
	LEFT HIND FLIPPER TRACINGS								CL
1	3.59389	3.48587	3.56832	3.54936	1.862359	48	---	---	0.038798
	3.39403	3.37554	3.39264	3.387403					
2	3.57293	3.53326	3.58055	3.562246	1.901519	50	---	---	0.038030
	3.70036	3.67383	3.63373	3.669306					
3	3.43531	3.3163	3.3289	3.36017	1.855988	48	---	---	0.038668
	3.49262	3.56441	3.53063	3.52922					
4	3.48785	3.36782	3.3549	3.403523	1.822228	49	---	---	0.037188
	3.30343	3.1835	3.22559	3.237506					
5	3.56366	3.42851	3.47885	3.49034	1.853443	50	---	---	0.037068
	3.34503	3.35849	3.43698	3.380166					
6	3.64895	3.80812	3.67485	3.71064	1.876201	50	---	---	0.037524
	3.39939	3.24022	3.34927	3.329626					
7	3.4796	3.27588	3.47456	3.410013	1.830030	49	---	---	0.037347
	3.30429	3.35522	3.20452	3.28801					
8	3.97464	3.93373	4.05028	3.986216	1.874541	50	---	---	0.037490
	3.05221	3.07987	2.9927	3.041593					
9	3.63871	3.58966	3.73618	3.65485	1.839615	50	---	---	0.036792
	3.11488	3.10287	3.12282	3.113523					
10	3.78196	3.77939	3.79863	3.78666	1.862045	47	---	---	0.039617
	3.10861	3.18163	3.15305	3.147763					

MEAN AVERAGE RHF = 3.591402  
MEAN AVERAGE LHF = 3.312412

AVE. = 49.1



MOTU OIA, SCILLY (VILLAGE #2)  
GREEN TURTLES  
OCTOBER 23, 1991

CL = CURVED LENGTH

NUMBER	RIGHT HIND FLIPPER TRACINGS			AVERAGE OF EACH FLIPPER	SQUARE ROOT OF AVERAGE	CL (mm)	SL (mm)	WEIGHT (kg)	$\sqrt{\text{AREA}}$
	LEFT HIND FLIPPER TRACINGS								CL
1	3.6942	3.72176	3.78405	3.733336	1.884119	50	---	---	0.037682
	3.35656	3.39071	3.35216	3.366476					
2	3.86307	3.78829	3.7863	3.812553	1.938223	50	---	---	0.038764
	3.71913	3.70299	3.68048	3.700866					
3	3.43312	3.32461	3.48346	3.41373	1.863453	49	---	---	0.038029
	3.5932	3.48496	3.51541	3.53119					
4	3.30375	3.2814	3.27244	3.285863	1.771025	49	---	---	0.036143
	3.00889	2.98279	2.96992	2.9872					
5	2.95175	2.99152	2.90848	2.950583	1.673167	45	---	---	0.037181
	2.69463	2.61823	2.63233	2.648396					
6	3.00493	2.92478	2.87117	2.933626	1.661120	47	---	---	0.035342
	2.62113	2.61126	2.52265	2.585013					
7	3.11799	3.22323	3.08486	3.142026	1.826894	49	---	---	0.037283
	3.5079	3.53771	3.55358	3.533063					
8	3.5881	3.62279	3.70364	3.638176	1.874472	49	---	---	0.038254
	3.3564	3.38642	3.42454	3.38912					
9	3.56323	3.44271	3.40497	3.470303	1.893321	49	---	---	0.038639
	3.77027	3.61738	3.70943	3.699026					
10	3.48882	3.61427	3.69141	3.598166	1.856449	50	---	---	0.037128
	3.22923	3.30515	3.34954	3.29464					

MEAN AVERAGE RHF = 3.397836  
MEAN AVERAGE LHF = 3.273499

AVE. = 48.7

RANGE = 95 - 112 cm CCL length  
 $\bar{X} = 102.6 \text{ cm}$

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present		Species? and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle	Curved carapace length
Left front flipper AVG X651LFL	Right front flipper H RMTP 476 (STREP TITANIUM)	F NESTING- ADULT	10/14/91 9am	MOTU HONU Scilly (16°S, 154°40W)	NESTING AT WEST END OF ISLAND 3 barnacles on carapace (C.t.) (photos)	100cm Yellow PAINT #1
RMTP 477LFL	X653RFL	F NESTING ADULT	10/14/91 11am	Scilly MOTU HONU	NESTING AT WEST END - ALL EGGS J-P COLLECTED L. (photos)	104cm Yellow PAINT #2
X654LH	X655	F NESTING ADULT	10/15/91 10am	MOTU OIA Scilly ocean side	NEST 10/15/91 AM TURNED OVER By Rene's Boys	104 x 94 #3
RMTP 479	X657	F NESTING ADULT	10/15/91 10am	MOTU OIA Scilly OCEAN SIDE	NEST 10/15/91 AM TURNED BY RENE'S BOYS	104x 97 #4
X658	X659					

BALAZS

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④

**SPREP**  
Secretariat of the Pacific  
Regional  
Environment Programme  
**PROE**  
Programme régional  
occésanien de  
l'environnement

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present		Species and sex (if known)
Left front flipper	Right front flipper	
RMTP 480	X660	F
X661	X662	NE AI
RMTP 481	X663	F
X664	X665	NE AI
RMTP 482	X666	F
X667	X668	NE AI
RMTP 484	RMI 485	NE AI
X558		F

PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa

**Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme (RMTCP)**

21 July 2005

Miri Tatata  
Direction de l'environnement, quartier de la Mission  
Lailine De Putiaoro,  
B.P. 4562, Papeete  
French Polynesia  
Fax: +689 41 92 52

*POT IN TAHITI*  
*MOTUBOU*  
*10/15/91*  
*X558*

RE: Tag Recovery R

Dear Ms. Tatata,

I would like to report the recovery of the turtle R484 tagged in French Polynesia:

Tag number: RMTP484  
Species: Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)  
Sex: female  
Carapace length: 97 cm  
Age-class: unknown

Date: 15 October 1991  
Locality: Honu, Scilly Atoll, French Polynesia

Date: 19 July 2005  
Locality: Nairai Island, East of Viti Levu, Fiji

Turtle activity and dates:  
CCL = 97cm. Also tagged RMTP485 (RFP) and X558 (LH) *(LH?)*

Reported to be hurt when seen by villagers. Approx. CL = 5ft, CW = 3ft.

Turtle's fate: unknown  
Tags: not returned  
Capture method: found hurt but unclear where it was hurt  
Captured by: Reported by Tim Adams and Peter Manuelli - SPC

*Survive?*

Yours sincerely,

*Anne Trevor*  
Anne Trevor  
Assistant Turtle Database Officer

Cc: Dr. George Balazs  
Marine Turtle Research Program  
NOAA, NMFS, PIFSC Hawaii  
F-11 (808) 983 2902

Curved carapace length	Other markings
105x93 #5	
105x95 #6	
100x96 #7	
97x90 (by J-P and Phil)	

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front Flipper	Right front flipper					
RMTF 480	X660	F	10/15/91 10am	MOTU OIA " Scully	NEST - Turned over by Rene's Boyz	105x 93 #5
X661	X662	NESTING ADULT			"	
RMTF 481	X663	F	10/15/91 10am	MOTU OIA "	"	105x 95 #6
X664	X665	NESTING ADULT			"	
RMTF 482	X666	F	10/15/91 10am	MOTU OIA "	Healed INDEENT IN MAGGINS	100x96 #7
X667	X668	NESTING ADULT			False nesting -	
RMTF 484	RMTF 485	NESTING ADULT	10/15/91 11pm	MOTU HONO west end lagoon side		97x90 (by J-P and Phil, 1992)
X558		F				

5

6

7

8

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front Flipper	Right front Flipper					
RMTP 486	RMTP 487	F NESTING ADULT	10/16/91 Am WED.	SEILLY MOTU OIA ocean side	<del>NESTING</del> TURNED OVER IN THE WATER	97x86
X559H	X560H					
RMTP 488	RMTP 489	F NESTING ADULT	10/16/91 Am WED.	MOTU OIA ocean side	NESTING - TURNED OVER by Rene's boys	101x 92
X561	X562					
RMTP 490	RMTP 491	NESTING ADULT F	10/16/91 Am WED.	MOTU OIA ocean side	) )	101x 87
X563	X564					
RMTP 492	RMTP 493	NESTING ADULT F	10/17/91 9 Am THURS.	<del>ANNUATOR</del> CAPTURE Between MOTU OIA and MOTU HONU	STUCK ON mud flap <del>Swimming</del> 5 c. on platform 1 " " on carapace	104x 593
X565LH	X566RH					

BALAZS

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X696 - X700  
 X570 - X575  
 X776 - X800

TASS BROUGHT  
 BACK TO HONOLULU  
 WITH ME FROM SEILLY/MOTU ONE TRIP.

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper RMTMP 495	Right front flipper X684	NESTING ADULT F	10-17-91 AM Thurs	SEILLY MOTU OIA VERY SOUTH END. (1 c.t. on plastron)	Turned over by Reno's boys while nesting	112x 103
Left front flipper RMTMP 496	Right front flipper X687	NESTING ADULT F	10-17-91 AM Thurs	MOTU OIA ocean side	9 a.m. plastron & carapace	99x87
Left front flipper RMTMP 497	Right front flipper X691	NESTING ADULT F	10/17/91 AM Thurs	MOTU OIA	9 c.t. plastron / c.t. carapace	108x 99
Left front flipper RMTMP 498	Right front flipper X567	NESTING ADULT F	10/17/91 AM Thurs	MOTU OIA	Black Pigmon circles - Plastron - PHOTOS	112x 103
Left front flipper X569	Right front flipper X568					

DEPART SEILLY FOR BECCINGSIAUSEN  
 DESTROYED  
 DISCARDED

\*X669 thru X683 used on captive released juveniles.  
 \*X595  
 \*X690, X692, X694 NOT USED - NEG. 00 D - PLASTR AN AL FUNCTION ✓  
 \*RMTMP 494 NOT USED - TIP BROKE OFF.

PHOTO  
Plastron is orange  
yellowish with  
blackish streak  
in keel area of  
each side. Right side of  
carapace has healed cracks  
with yellow pigment.

Some gray pigment  
in Plastron.  
Bore-Deep gouges in  
CARAPACE

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
(17) S126 S128 LH	S127 S129 RH	F ADULT FEMALE	10-19-91 AM	BELLINGSHAUSEN (MOTU-ONE) MOTU POROMUTOU	NESTING - TURNED OVER 10/18/91 PM by WORKERS	109.5x 97
S131 S132 LH	S130 S133 RH	F ADULT	10-19-91 AM	BELLINGSHAUSEN (MOTU ONE) MOTU POROMUTOU	NESTING - TURNED OVER 10/18/91 PM by WORKERS	98x 91
S134 S137 LH	S136 S138 RH	F ADULT	10-20-91 AM	Bellinghausen MOTU ONE	TURNED OVER 10/19 PM by WORKERS	109.5x 97
EM 499	<del>S138</del>		10/17- 10/18/91	SCICCY HOND	NESTING PUSH	101x 96
85						

ABOVE #20 AND FOLLOWING TWENTIES TAGGED AT  
SCICCY BY JEAN-PIERRE WITIG WE WENT TO BELLINGSHAUSEN  
TAGS LEFT WITH JEAN-PIERRE AT SCICCY WHILE WE WENT TO MOTU-ONE

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
RMT500	S9	C.m	10/17- 10/18.	OIA	Nesting	102x 90
S10						
S11	S12	C.m	10/17- 10/18	OIA	nesting	105x 95
S13						
S14	S15	C.m	10/17 10/18	OIA	nesting	101x 93
S16						
S17	S18	C.m	10/17 10/18	OIA	nesting	101x 91
S19						

21

22

23

24

Recovered  
3/23/19  
P. J. H.

DESTROYED IS CAPTURED

\*S135 not use on turtle - reject <sup>not</sup> it's questionable



ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
(25) S20	S21	C.m	10/17-10/18	OIA	Nesting	99x 88
(26) S23	S24	C.m	10/17-10/18	OIA	Nesting	103x 91
(27) S26	S27	C.m	10/18-10/19	Honu	Nesting	99x 88
(28) S30	S31	C.m	"	Honu	Nesting	103x 96
S22	S29					
S25	S33					

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>	Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)		Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>	
	Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
29	S34	S35	C.m	10/18-10/19	OIA	Nesting	99x 88
30	S36	S37	C.m	10/18-10/19	OIA	Nesting	99x 87
31	S38	S39	C.m	10/18-10/19	OIA	Nesting	103x
	S40	S41					
	S42	S43					
	S44	S45					
32	S46	S47	C.m.	10/18-10/19	OIA	Nesting	104x
	S48	S49					

Very domed carapace 101

IN WATER BETWEEN 10/18-10/19

Seen nesting  
by DOMINGUEZ  
~ 3 weeks ago

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>	Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)		Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
	Left front flipper	Right front flipper				
550	—	C.m.	10/18 - 10/19	OIA	IN WATER BETWEEN RIFLE AND BEACH	106x 97
551 553	552 554	C.m.	10/19 - 10/20	OIA	Nesting	99x 93
555 557	556 558	C.m.	" 10/20	" OIA	Nesting	104x 96
559 561	560 562	C.m.	" 10/20	" OIA	Nesting	106 x 101

BALAZS

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36

# BALAZS

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
563	564	C.m	10/19- 10/20	" OIA	nesting	107 x 99
565	566					
567	568	" C.m	10/19- 10/20	" OIA	Nesting	108x 99.5
569	570					
571	572	C.m	10/20 10/21	HONU	Nesting	106x 97
573	574					
575	576	C.m.	10/20- 10/21/91	OIA	Nesting	103 x96
577	578					

37

38

39

40

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
579	580	C.m.	10/20- 10/21	O1A <sup>PTV</sup>	Nesting	99x 86.5
581	582	C.m.	10/20 - 10/21/91	O1A	Nesting	111x 104
583	585	C.m.	10/21/91	O1A	Nesting	95x 94
586	587	C.m.	10/21/91	O1A	Nesting	101x 92
584	588	C.m.	10/21/91	O1A	Nesting	101x 92
589	590	C.m.	10/21	O1A	Nesting	101x 92
591	592	C.m.	10/21	O1A	Nesting	101x 92
593	594*	C.m.	10/21	O1A	Nesting	101x 92

(41)

(42)

(43)

(44)

All 4 tags present  
 Present in Island  
 151 and  
 10/2/194  
 See P. 44

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
5111*	5112	C.m.	10/21- 10/22	MOTU HONO	NESTING - TURNED AXEZ VIDEO 10/22AM	106X 94.5
5113	5114					
5115	5116	C.m.	10/21- 10/22	MOTU HONO	NESTING - TURNED AXEZ VIDEO 10/22AM	103X 95.5
5117	5118					
5119	5120	C.m.	10/22/91	Silly Renes Pen near Village #1	Reported caught ~3 weeks ago. nesting. many clutches.	98X 90.5
5121						
5122	5123	C.m.	10/22/91	Silly Renes Pen #1 near Village #1	Reported caught nesting 3 weeks ago. MUSH Bik Spots	97X 89
5124						

(45) (46) (47) (48)

\* S95 - S110 NOT ACCOUNTED FOR  
 \* S125 - TAG PUT ON PATILAPPE'S SACK,  
 IN PLASTIC - PHOTO w/ BERTHO

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front Flipper	Right front Flipper					
S251	S252	C.m.	10/22/91 <del>10/23/91</del>	OIA	Nesting RIGHT PCB BROKEN	104 X 91
S254	S255	C.m.	10/22- 10/23	OIA	NESTING ON THE BEACH UPSIDE DOWN ALL DAY	99 X 92
S257	S258	C.m.	10/22- 10/23/91	OIA	NESTING PHOTO ON ROCKS	108 X 95
S260	S261	C.m.	10/22- 10/23/91	OIA	NESTING BROWN COLOR - DORMED CARAPACE 16 PL BARN'S	100 X 95
S262						

3 CARAPACE BARN'S

(49)

(50)

(51)

(52)

ID numbers of new tags attached and any old tags already present <sup>1</sup>		Species <sup>2</sup> and sex (if known)	Date and time	Place-name location (or latitude and longitude)	Activity of the turtle <sup>3</sup>	Curved carapace length <sup>4</sup>
Left front flipper	Right front flipper					
S263	S264	C.m.	10/22 - 10/23/91	OIA	NESTING TURNED UNTIL 10/23 am	107 x 94
S265						
S266	S267	C.m.	10/23/91 12:15pm	MOTU HONO	Nesting - TURNED AS COMING UP ON NORTH SAND POINT	NOT MEASURED 5100cm
S268	S269					
S270	S271	C.m.	10/23/91 9 AM!	MOTU OIA near Village #2	NESTING	95 x 81.5
S272						
END						

(53)

(54)

(55)

(56)



Police Station  
Rotuma

November 13, 1994

George H. Balazs  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southwest Fisheries Science Center  
Honolulu Laboratory  
2570 Dole Street  
Honolulu  
HAWAII 96822-2396

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Thanks for your letter of November 7, which I received on 15.11.94. I have gone through the material and am very excited.

In regards to the questions you asked, I have conducted verbal interviews with fishermen around the island and I hope that your questions are answered fully.

Fishermen use spearguns and spears to hunt the turtle. In the western side of Rotuma (Maka Bay) there is a weed that grows in the bay that the turtle feeds on. This weed is only found at Maka Bay. During the change of the tide from high to low, the weeds are swept into the open sea by the currents. The turtles wait outside the reef to feed although some turtles come into the bay. The fishermen use primitive outrigger canoes to hunt the turtle because of its stealth. Sometimes the canoes come alongside the floating weeds and the weeds acts as a camouflage. The unsuspecting turtle comes up to feed on the floating weeds and were harpooned. The canoes used have a length of about 8 to 10 feet.

In the southern side of Rotuma (Noatau Lagoon) the turtles are speared with spearguns. Fishermen work in pairs. One controls the engine of the small fibreglass outboard boat and the other stands in front and searches for the turtle. In Noatau Lagoon because it is

slightly deeper than Maka Bay, the turtles come at high tide to feed on a type of seaweed that grows near the shore. When a turtle is sighted the boat mounts a chase to exhaust the fleeing turtle or to come within spearing distance. The fleeing turtle makes for the passage but sometimes it is no match for a Kamaha 25 hp. Since the depth of the lagoon is only about 3 metres the fleeing turtle has a little chance of escape.

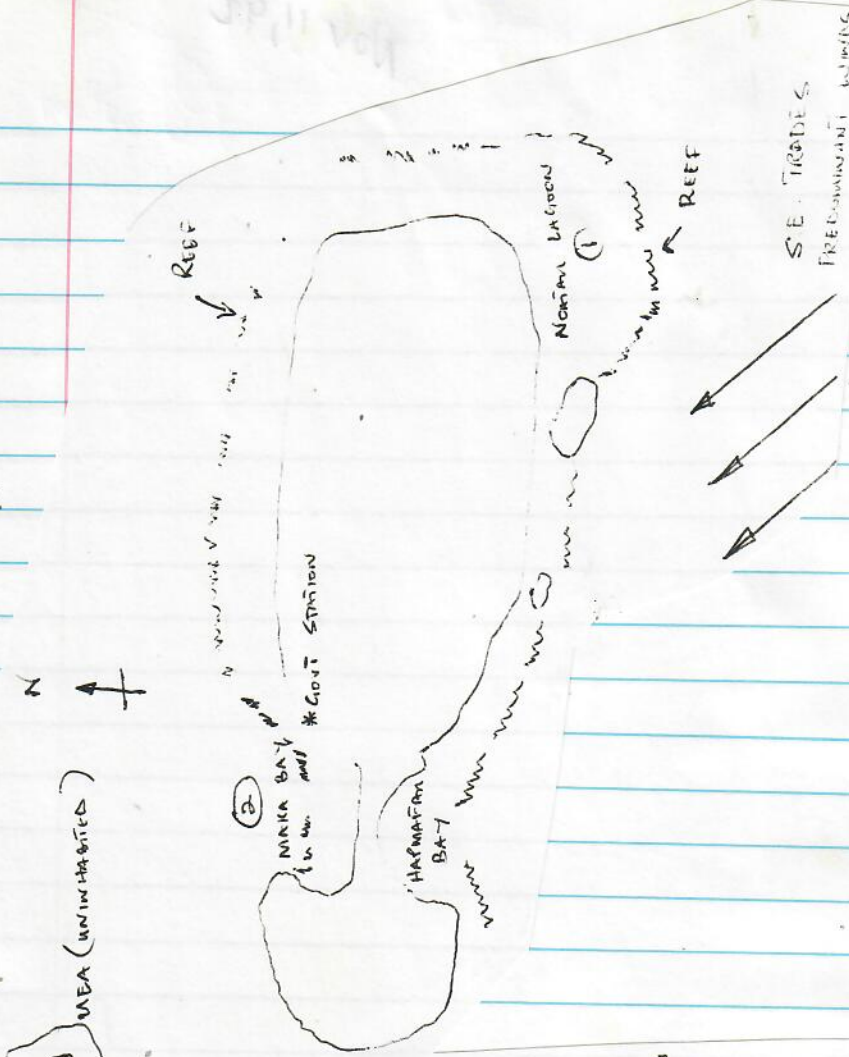
There are turtles caught that are bigger in size than that of S463. Fishermen hunt only the bigger size and S463 is the average size caught in Rotuma. I have estimated it to be around 50, the number of turtles caught last season. This number varies from season to season. Because of its size it is easy to monitor the number of turtles caught each season in Rotuma.

The most common species found in Rotuma is the green turtle and the hawksbill. I cannot distinguish a green turtle from a loggerhead, but one fisherman told me that there is another type of turtle that is found here in Rotuma. According to the fisherman there are two turtles that look alike but but have distinguishing features like the shape of the shell and the head. I therefore cannot say whether the loggerhead is or is not in Rotuma. None of the fishermen I spoke to mentioned anything about the leatherback. However, I am very certain about the green turtle and the hawksbills presence in Rotuma. The hawksbill is avoided by fishermen because of its inferior meat and the belief that it is sometimes poisonous.

I spoke to a villager who informed me that sometimes in the 1970's a turtle with a brass tag on it was caught at Oinafa Bay. The turtle was eaten by the villagers who thought that the turtle belonged to the government and the fear of prosecution made them throw away the tags.

I am told that turtles nest on remote beaches in Rotuma. There are miles of sandy beaches in Rotuma. It was on 1.9.92 that I witnessed a turtle killed whilst nesting on Hatana Islet. This date was logged in our Station Report Book because it was on that date that I took two boats to rescue seven villagers stranded on Hatana. The turtle eggs were eaten by the villagers. Hatana is about 6 kilometres north north west of Rotuma, and is a well known nesting spot in Rotuma. The islet is also a seabird rookery. Its treacherous passage and the swift current renders the islet almost inaccessible.

# ROTUMA



The incident on 1.9.92 proves that the turtle do nest during the hunting season. Hunting turtles are only prohibited during the months of January, February, November and December. In this case the turtle killed whilst nesting might have been saved if the prohibition period includes the month of September. Villagers also stated that the turtles also nest during the month of March.

Turtle meat is the 'Chiefly Meat' in Rotuma. The turtle or 'HOI' as it is known in Rotuman, is given to Chiefs during feasts and ceremonies. It is a taboo to hide or steal turtle meat. Villagers believe that the meat is sacred and anyone who hides it will have an abnormal growth or tumor on the part of the body the meat is hidden. It is also forbidden to ask inquisitively about turtle meat.

Most of the turtle caught are sold to villagers. There are quite a number who do not touch turtle meat.

Attached is a crude map of Rotuma showing the turtle hunting grounds and Hatana islet.

Sincerely,

*Arthur Paulino*  
 Constable Arthur Paulino  
 .....

Nov 11, 92

P.O. Box 1451

Debusa  
Fiji Island  
17. 11. 92George H. Balays,  
Honolulu,  
Hawaii.530  
531  
532 533

Dear Sir,

cula Vinaka! greetings once again. Aloha! Sir I would like to thank you so much for the t-shirt (from Aussie) and the valuable information about turtle. I have given some to our fisheries department here and they're really glad. The bad news is that I can't wear the t-shirt because I will be a hanging stock of our town. His people know that I'm the only one who is responsible for catching of many turtles around here.

So sir we are two opposite people but I'm so very glad that you and your associates are preserving turtles because at times I just want to stop on all this. I really feel pity about them but I really have no choice. I'm hoping to find another job and to work with you to preserve the turtle and to be on the same side as you are. Only then I can happily wear my t-shirt.

I'm glad that we're having ~~that~~ ~~take~~ season for turtle, it will only last 4 months.

MONTHS =

P.O. Box 1451

Debasia  
Fiji Islands  
17 11 92

Now, regarding the turtle. It was a really healthy one. I think it was sleeping when I saw it. That place alone, if I can recall well, I think I've killed more than 20 turtles here. It is sandy at the bottom with plenty sea weeds, it will be better if you come and see it for yourself. There are plenty turtles caught around here. Sir, I have special hook made to catch turtle.

Here we have 3 common turtle, Green turtle, Loggerhead + Hawksbill. Only a few years ago one Leatherback was caught. It is a rare species here. Most of us saw it for the first time in their whole life if not all. From the information I gathered only one was caught long time ago in Viti Levu, a few hundred miles from here. The most common turtle is the green turtle. The Olive Ridley + Flatback are not so many like other three.

Sir, I want to thank you for the chat about turtle and the information as well. I gave some to our local fisheries and they're so glad. I'm just wondering if I have to write to Ingrid Greomans of SPREP, may you can help me with this Sir.

This is where I have to say Ni sa moce Sir, believe me, I'm so glad that you cared about turtles and I will be always glad to help you. If you need more information, Sir, you can always count on me. God bless!

Peni Wagabulabalavu

PENI WAGABULABALAVU

OMERI = Rene's Brother  
 (Pierre) Came on AORCA! 324,000 kids  
 with US.  
 other crew member = Rueben

Again, thank you for taking the time to write to me. I look forward to hearing from you again when more information becomes available.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs  
 Zoologist and Leader,  
 Marine Turtle Research Program

CC  
 S. Miller, SPREP  
 P. Siu/J.-P. Landret, Tahiti  
 C. Limpus  
 H. Anderson

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
 Southwest Fisheries Science Center Honolulu Laboratory  
 2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2398  
 (808)943-1231 • Fax: (808)943-1290



March 28, 1995 F/SWC2:ghb

Mr. Richard Nemei  
 Agriculture Department  
 P.M.B. OHO  
 Tagabe  
 Vila, Vanuatu  
 South Pacific

S111-S114

Dear Mr. Nemei:

Thank you very much for your recent letter reporting the capture of a tagged sea turtle (S111-S114) on 10 February 1995 at the island of Ancityum in Vanuatu. As with the tag resighting you relayed to us last year, we are most appreciative to receive this valuable information. I understand from your letter that Analaqauhat villagers captured S111 while she was sleeping at night underwater with other smaller turtles.

Turtle S111, an adult female green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), was originally tagged at Scilly Atoll, northwest of Tahiti in French Polynesia, on 22 October 1991. The turtle was laying eggs on the uninhabited islet of Motu Honu within the atoll. At that time, turtle S111 measured 106 cm in curved length along the back of her upper shell. Your report represents the first time this turtle has been resighted since she was tagged 4.5 years ago.

As we have known for some time, Scilly Atoll is a very important nesting site for green turtles living at foraging sites (such as Ancityum) throughout the entire South Pacific region. Unfortunately, the number of turtles nesting each year at Scilly has declined considerably over the past 50 years. The knowledge that there are now fewer sea turtles is the major reason that SPREP (South Pacific Regional Environment Programme) has declared 1995 as the "year of the Sea Turtle in the Pacific." I have enclosed some literature describing this educational and public awareness campaign. Perhaps there are some activities mentioned that you may want to undertake in your own area. Please feel free to contact SPREP (Box 240, Apia, Western Samoa) for further assistance. I am sure they will be pleased to help you. SPREP will also be sending you another t-shirt to thank you for telling us about tagged turtle S111.

A video about the problems of conserving sea turtles in the Pacific is being distributed by SPREP, as part of their Year of the Sea Turtle campaign. In the video there are scenes taken on Motu Honu on 21 October 1991 showing turtle S111 crawling back to the water after laying eggs. You can obtain a copy of this excellent video by contacting SPREP.

see page 44

Small turtles held by  
 Rene (children) in plastic tray  
 under house at Village #2  
 Released 12 noon to 1 pm in lagoon  
 10/15/91 TUESDAY - MANY photos

RMT#483    X 669    51 x 47 <sup>ism</sup> TAGGED BY LEANE 6 y.o.  
 (THIS TURTLE CAUGHT IN RENE'S FISH TRAP - HELD FOR = 2 MONTHS OR LESS ORANGE/BROWN)

But were they raised here?

Turtles raised from hatchlings - ~ 1 year old (fed fish, clams, coral)  
 Saw turtle carapace bones in tray  
 Very dense in tray, but very, very few bites/scrabs. Tortoise pt. hind flippers missing, but healed

14 TOTAL

ALL RIGHTS (RFL)	name	CL x W
X 670	DIANA (MAMA)	18.7 x 16.3
X 671	RENE	19.2 x 17.5
X 672	JANVIER	20.0 x 16.7
X 673	OMERI	18.2 x 16.0
X 674	<sup>ism</sup> <del>LEANE</del>	19.7 x 18.0
X 675	TAVITA	17.2 x 14.8
X 676	<sup>LIGHT</sup> <del>changed</del> BERTHO	16.8 x 14.6
X 677	TEVA	18.4 x 16.7
X 678	TEHEIKI	15.9 x 14.3
X 679	<sup>LIGHT</sup> JDJK	14.0 x 12.2
X 680	<sup>LIGHT</sup> EDY	18.2 x 15.7
X 681	GHB	18.1 x 15.7
X 682	<sup>LIGHT</sup> Jean-Pierre	16.7 x 14.8
X 683	AXEL	18.8 x 17.5

132624

4.1 Synopsis of Activity

The following people were instructed in turtle biology and management: Mr. P. Angeli, Mr. L. Lenoir, Mr. S. Stein, Mr. J. Tapu and Mr. J. Drollet. The consultant carried out diving operations off beaches near Pirae and Papeete to check for turtle grass/algae. The main market in Papeete was checked alternate mornings for the abundance and price of turtle meat. Tourist shops were checked for stuffed specimens and shells. Many local fishermen were interviewed. Ten green turtles caught by fishermen near Motu-Honu were measured and Mr. Tapu was instructed in tagging and measuring techniques. Several stomach contents were analysed. The consultant saw a French T.V. film on sea turtles. Aerial surveys of nesting beaches and localities around Mopelia, Scilly and Tupai were made. Manihi Atoll in the Tuamotu Archipelago was visited and turtles and turtle kraal were inspected there.

4.2 Findings

As everywhere else in the world the numbers of green turtles in French Polynesia are decreasing rapidly. The consultant however believes that reasonably large populations still exist around some of the more inaccessible atolls. Whether these are resident or migratory populations is unknown.

The most common sea turtle in the area is the green turtle (French: tortue; Tahitian: honu). One of the principal nesting grounds is Scilly. Other important nesting sites are Mopelia, Bellinghausen, Tupai and some of the Tuamotu atolls. The peak nesting season in Scilly, Mopelia, Bellinghausen and Tupai is October through December. Reports indicate that some turtles can be found throughout the year off Scilly. The hawksbill turtle is sometimes taken by fishermen. There is one authentic record of a leatherback caught in a seine. On 24 September, the consultant counted 20 green turtles in the water around Mopelia (but there were no tracks on the beach), and 42 around Scilly, including 12 in a village kraal. He also noticed fresh tracks and nests on Motu Honu (islet of Scilly).

AERIAL  
SURVEYS  
WORTHLESS!

Local inhabitants of Manihi collect green turtle eggs, hatch out the turtles and raise them in village kraals for local consumption. They are fed on coconut meat and fish and between 3-3½ years of age they grow to carapace length of 20 to 28 inches.

Many males and some gravid females are speared as they mate off the nesting beaches on the atolls. Tahitian fishermen report a sex ratio in favour of males. The turtles sold in Papeete market in September were mostly males. Green turtle meat is considered a delicacy and sells for about \$3 per kg in the Papeete market but there is no market for eggs. A few cured shells are sold in tourist shops at \$25 but the demand is insignificant.

There are no regulations in French Polynesia concerning marine turtles.

Stomachs examined by the consultant were chiefly empty but a few contained a little green algae and one harboured a long piece of plastic. In the limited survey carried out by the consultant he did not find any extensive algae beds or grass flats.

Fisheries Department records indicate that between 1953 and 1967 from 24 (1954) to 262 (1962) turtles caught at Scilly were sold annually in the Papeete Market.

The consultant believes that he was able to build up a "turtle consciousness" in Tahiti as when he left, including the Governor and several Assemblymen.

#### 4.3 Recommendations

- severe under reporting*
- (i) A thorough four-month study (October-January) should be centred on Scilly Atoll. Emphasis should be placed on training a local counterpart in stock assessment, tagging, and if predation on eggs and hatchlings is high, then training is necessary in the establishment of an egg hatchery. This would ensure that the maximum number of hatchlings reach the sea. A boat would be needed in order to check nesting densities on Mopelia and Bellinghausen during the same period. (The World Wildlife Fund might be interested in supporting a project such as this, at least in part).
  - (ii) It would be best to prohibit the commercial sale of green turtles until a study can be made of local stocks. However, people on atolls who depend upon turtles and their eggs for their source of protein should be allowed to take a moderate number for local consumption.

to next page



- (iii) The Fisheries Department should map out all the nesting beaches in its territory with special emphasis placed on the seasonality of nesting.
- (iv) The Government should show the T.V. film on sea turtles to school children. This film depicts nesting behaviour as well as predation on hatchlings.

↑ HIRTH FAO 1971

Cousteau  
1971  
"The  
Green  
Turtles"

#### 2.1 Les missions. Matériel et méthodes

Trois séjours de 14 à 18 jours ont été effectués dans l'atoll de Scilly :

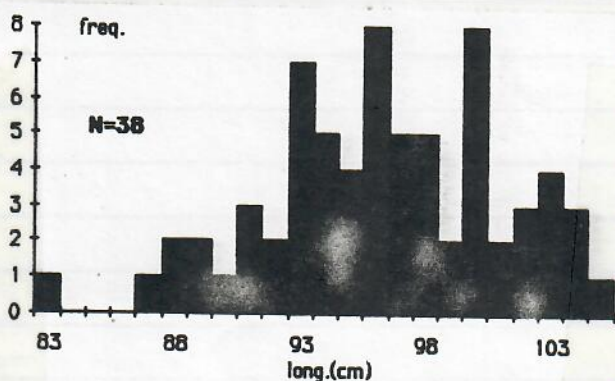
- . du 04/02/83 au 18/02/83
- . du 15/10/83 au 03/11/83
- . du 20/12/83 au 07/01/84

au cours desquels 40 femelles ont été marquées et mesurées. Les marques utilisées sont du type MONEL TAG, taille 49, fabriquées par "THE KENTUCKY BAND & TAG Mg", et portant la mention "RET SERVICE PECHE TAHITI". Elles ont été posées sur le bord postérieur de la patte antérieure droite, dans la plupart des cas au moment de la ponte ou après celle-ci. Les mensurations relevées sur chaque animal marqué ont été la longueur et la largeur de la dossière mesurées au compas ; étaient également notés le lieu de la rencontre et le nombre d'oeufs pondus lorsque cette observation était possible (Tableau N°1 Figure n°1).

TAG  
NOS.

N°	Sexe	Date	Lieu: motu océan/lagon	Long	Larg	Dates de remontées	Nbre d'œufs
2201	F	06/02/83	OTUE OIA	L 96	75.5	07/02	118
2202	F	10/02/83	.	L -	-		
2203	F	11/02/83	.	0 96	76		
2204	F	.	.	0 97.5	78		
2210	F	12/02/83	PAPAI	0 94	74.5		
2211	F	12/02/83	.	0 98	69		
2212	F	.	.	0 96	73		
2213	F	.	.	0 89.5	68.5		
2214	F	13/02/83	.	0 93	77.5		
2215	F	.	.	0 100	75		86
2216	F	14/02/83	HONU	L 93	68		
2217	F	16/02/83	OTUE OIA	0 93	69		95
2218	F	17/02/83	HONU	0 100	69		
-	F	17/02/83	HONU	-	-	(non marquée)	90
<hr/>							
2301	F	17/10/83	OTUE OIA	0 96	74		
2302	F	.	.	L 99.5	77.5		
2303	F	.	HONU	0 96	75.5	30/10	111/105
2304	F	18/10/83	OTUE OIA	0 95	74.8	20/10 01/11	
2305	F	20/10/83	HONU	0 91	71.2	21/10 21/12 04/01	98
2306	F	21/10/83	.	0 90.2	79.5		114
2307	F	.	.	0 95.5	75.5		
2308	F	22/10/83	.	0 97	76		
2309	F	.	.	0 94	75		
2310	F	.	OTUE OIA	0 103	80.5	23/10	
2312	F	24/10/83	.	L 102.5	74.5	05/11	152
2313	F	25/10/83	HONU	L 100.5	86		80
2315	F	.	.	0 97	75		
2318	F	.	.	0 100.5	75	26/10	
2319	F	.	.	- 97	73.5	26/10	
2320	F	.	OTUE OIA	0 92	72		37
2323	F	26/10/83	HONU	0 104	78		
2325	F	.	.	0 99.5	76.5		
2326	F	.	.	L 101.5	78.5		
2327	F	01/11/83	OTUE OIA	0 105	73		
<hr/>							
2328	F	26/12/83	HONU	- 102	79		89
2329	F	28/12/83	.	0 96	75	29/12	
2330	F	31/12/83	.	0 83	67	mars 84 - Has Cook	
2331	F	02/01/84	OTUE OIA	L 96	73		
2332	F	06/01/84	HONU	0 96	74		
2333	F	04/01/84	.	L -	-		
2334	F	05/01/84	OTUE OIA	0 87	64		

40



CALIPER?

Figure n° 1 :

Répartition des longueurs des dossières  
des femelles mesurées à Scilly en 1983  
et 1984.

~~11/15/93~~ ~~Need~~ ~~828-1426~~  
~~Call From DALLAS GRADY - Hawaii~~  
~~Need TO~~ ~~(TAG)~~ ~~S23~~ ~~10/9/93~~  
~~Send TO~~ ~~Caught in net in Savu Savu~~ ~~[Fiji]~~  
~~PHILLIP~~ ~~weighed 261.8 lbs.~~  
~~Bought by Chinese Restaurant.~~

TAG returned  
 to me 11/6/94  
 by Lisa & Robert  
 Stone in letter

~~10/18/91~~ ~~Sally ATOR~~  
~~S23, S24, S25<sup>LT</sup>~~ ~~10/18/91~~ ~~Motu OIA~~  
~~CCL = 103<sub>cm</sub> x 91<sub>cm</sub>~~  
~~S19-519 also via 10/18/91 ccl 101<sub>cm</sub>~~  
~~Caught Toberwa IS. near Suva~~  
~~3/23/92.~~  
~~photos~~

Article 1. All fishing of marine turtles (Chelonia mydas) whose carapace is under 65 cm in length is prohibited in the whole territory of French Polynesia.

Article 2. The capture, on land, of regulation size turtles is prohibited between 1 November and 31 January.

Article 3. The capture, at sea, of regulation size turtles is prohibited between 1 June and 31 January.

Article 4. Turtle concentration grounds are open to fishing according to a quota allotted to each zone and fixed by Council of Government decree on proposal of the head of the Fisheries Department.

Article 5. The holding of live turtles for more than 10 days is only permitted in a fish pond fitted with a sun shade. Live turtles may only be transported if shaded from the sun and provided they are not ill-treated in such a way as to cause unnecessary suffering.

Article 6. The gathering of mature turtle eggs on land is prohibited.

Article 7. Permits for the capture of turtles of all sizes and for harvesting of mature eggs may be granted for scientific research purposes by the head of the Fisheries Department.

Article 8. Slaughtering of turtles shall be carried out in good, sanitary conditions and especially away from flies, dust and any polluting or infectious matter.

Article 9. The sale of sea turtles is prohibited throughout French Polynesia.

Article 10. Anyone found to have collected mature eggs on land without permission and anyone who sells live whole turtles or turtle flesh shall be punished in accordance with the scale of sentences provided in Decree No.2792/AA dated 24 October 1968 under the fifth category of offence.

Anyone who fishes turtles of non regulation size during the open fishing season or female turtles, on land, which have not finished laying their eggs will be punished according to the scale of sentences provided in Decree No.2792/AA dated 24 October 1968 under the fourth category of offence.

Anyone who fishes turtles during the closed fishing season will be punished according to the scale of sentences provided by Decree No.2792/AA under the third category of offence.

Anyone who fails to comply with any other provision covered by this Resolution shall be punished according to the scale of sentences provided by Decree No.2792/AA dated 24 October 1968 under the second category of offence.

Article 11. This Resolution is adopted for implementation by all concerned.



BELLINGSHAUSEN  
Motu ONE - Rene & GB  
(north shore of ATOLL) TUPUTU BALAZS  
OCTOBER 19, 1991

## Silly Atoll

**F**IFTY KILOMETERS west of Bora Bora lies Maupiti; beyond that, only crumbs of the Society archipelago—Maupihaa, Manuae, Motu One.

Maupiti is a rock inhabited by 700 people, and ringed by a reef with only one pass, a channel so dangerous that the freighter *Manuia* has wrecked twice in its violent currents, once with the loss of 15 lives.

For many years this island was left to the white seabirds that constantly circle its central massif, but an airstrip was opened in 1975. Still, few tourists have come to Maupiti. There are no hotels, no running water, nothing to buy. It takes only three hours to walk around the island, and people still wave and call "*Ia ora na*—Health to you!"

I remember simple pleasures from Maupiti: washing with buckets of rainwater in

Content with simpler things, young Tahitians ignore the TV sets and tape recorder that add prestige to a bamboo fare in Mataiea (above left). Thirteen people—two families—share the home. The head of one household is a mechanic for the French nuclear-testing agency; the other is a spear fisherman. But with only one station, why two TV's? "One is mine," explains the mechanic with a deep sense of propriety, "and the other is his."

On isolated Maupiti (above) a man prepares copra—dried coconut meat—a traditional source of income for islanders. Few Tahitians bother to do the work today. Says Papeete's copra-oil plant director Julien Siu, "They sell the coconuts to tourists for water and throw the meat away. More money."

*The Society Islands, Sisters of the Wind*

Nat. Geo. 6/79

867

Mopelia

Back at the "village," the eggs safely delivered to Etera, we turned our attention to Roo's turtle-conservation program. In the lagoon shallows more than a hundred baby turtles are kept in floating cages as part of a turtle-propagation idea begun by Roo several years before. The plan is roughly this: for every turtle a native raises to maturity and sets free, he is allowed to send another away to the Papeete market to be sold and credited to his account. As all natives participate in the scheme, all share equally in the sales.

At turtle time (only in November, Herr Luckner notwithstanding) men hide along the outer beach night after night and wait for mother turtles to clamber in over the reef. Sometimes they wait two weeks without seeing one, sometimes they spot a dozen in their first week's vigil. Always their job is to lie completely hidden until eggs have been laid, for the eggs are the important thing, and killing the female turtle is rarely attempted.

Eggleston - 1953  
Tahiti - Voyage thru  
Paradise

Proceedings of the Fifth International Coral Reef Congress, Tahiti, 1985, Vol. 2

**BREEDING EVALUATION TRIALS IN THE GREEN TURTLE  
CHELONIA MYDAS (LINNE) ON SCILLY ATOLL  
(Leeward Islands, French Polynesia)  
DURING THE BREEDING SEASONS 1982-1983 AND 1983-1984**

**ESSAI D'EVALUATION DES PONTES DE LA TORTUE VERTE  
CHELONIA MYDAS (LINNE) SUR L'ATOLL DE SCILLY  
(Iles-sous-le-Vent, Polynésie française)  
AU COURS DES SAISONS 1982-1983 ET 1983-1984**

A. LEBEAU

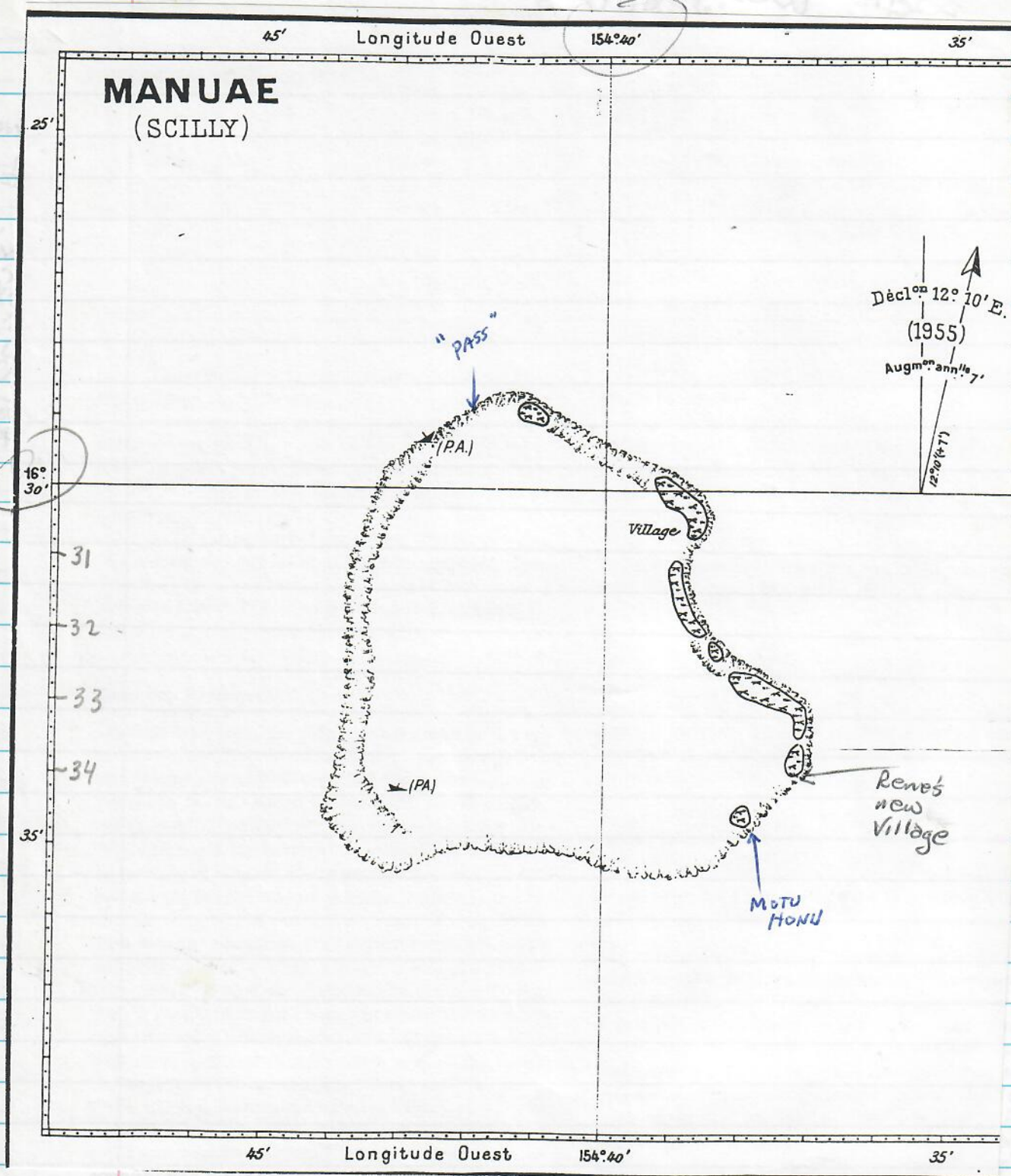
Centre Océanologique du Pacifique - BP 7004 Taravao, TAHITI, POLYNEsie FRANCAISE

**ABSTRACT**

Three field trips to Scilly Atoll (Leeward Islands, French Polynesia), allowed estimates to be made of the frequency of layings by Chelonia mydas during the breeding seasons of 1982-83 and 1983-84. These were calculated at 7/800; the number of eggs produced being in the order of 70-80,000, with a probable emergence rate approaching 80-90%. The number of females laying during these periods is evaluated at approximately 300/400 per season.

Other observations conducted on the green turtle at Scilly are similarly reported. The question of the status of Chelonia mydas and of other marine turtles frequenting Polynesian waters is tackled, particularly in terms of their conservation and protection. Finally, the emphasis is placed on the necessity to state precisely the figures put forward, and to extend the assessment and biological study to other French Polynesian islands.

Tahiti - Voyage de  
 collection - 1983  
 1983-1984



1 NM = 1852 meters

7 NAUTICAL MILES by 7 NAUTICAL MILES  
= 12.96 km



## French Polynesia

French Polynesia includes several far-flung archipelagoes, including the Society Islands (Isles de la Société), the Marquesas (Iles Marquises), the Tuamotu Islands (Archipel des Tuamotu-Gambier), the Austral Islands (Iles Austral), and Rapa. The most commonly encountered turtle in French Polynesia is the green; the hawksbill is reported to be almost extinct, and other species are unreported.

## Society Islands

Green turtles are reasonably plentiful in the Society Islands. The principal nesting islands, as in Micronesia, are uninhabited or only seasonably inhabited by man. One such island is Mopelia, locally renowned for turtle nesting. According to Eggleston (1953) and Legand (1950), the peak of the nesting season is around November. Nevertheless, by continental standards the nesting colony is small; it is considered a good week in which a dozen turtles nest. Parsons comments on some locally initiated conservation measures that have taken place, including a program of protection of the young turtles and their eggs. Regulations allow the local people to "head start" the turtles in corrals in the lagoon, and to send a turtle to the Papeete Market for each one they release.

Hirth (1971) gives the following information for turtles in the Society Islands: The most common sea turtle in the area is the green turtle (French: Tortue; Tahitian: Honu). One of the principal nesting grounds is Scilly. Other important nesting sites are Mopelia, Bellinghausen, Tupai, and some of the Tuamotu atolls. The peak nesting season in Scilly, Mopelia, Bellinghausen, and Tupai is October through December. Reports indicate that some turtles can be found throughout the year off Scilly. The hawksbill turtle is sometimes taken by fishermen. There is 1 authentic record of a leatherback caught in a seine. On 24 September, the consultant counted 20 green turtles in the water around Mopelia (but there were no tracks on the beach), and 42 around Scilly, including 12 in a village kraal. He also noticed fresh tracks and nests on Motu Honu (Islet of Scilly).

Many males and some gravid females are speared as they mate off the nesting beaches on the atolls. Tahitian fishermen report a sex ratio in favor of males. The turtles sold in Papeete market in September were mostly males. Green turtle meat is considered a delicacy and sells for about \$3 per kg in the Papeete market but there is no market for eggs. A few cured shells are sold in tourist shops at \$25 each but the demand is

insignificant.

There are no regulations in French Polynesia concerning marine turtles.

Stomachs examined by the consultant were chiefly empty but a few contained a little green algae and one harbored a long piece of plastic. During his limited survey, the consultant did not find any extensive algae beds or grass flats.

Fisheries Department records indicate that between 1953 and 1967 from 24 (1954) to 262 (1962) turtles caught at Scilly were sold annually in the Papeete market.

Further information on green turtles in the Society Islands was provided by Anon (1979). This paper reports that the principal nesting island, Scilly, was declared a "protected area" on 28 July 1971, with a family appointed to watch over the nesting turtles. Nesting takes place primarily from September to December, but with significant year-round nesting. There is significant predation of hatchlings by frigate birds (by day) and hermit crabs (by night).

The Scilly green turtle breeding colony was studied and tagged intensively in 1972 and 1973 and, after several years' hiatus, operations were resumed in 1979. 364 female turtles were tagged and measured in 1972, and 42 more in 1979. The population has dwindled considerably in recent decades; only 20 to 30 years ago, it was reported that 100 to 150 turtles could be turned in a single night. The fact that such numbers not only could be, but were, turned resulted in a decline to the point where today about 20 nest on a typical night on the islet of Motu Rahi, 5 to 6 on Motu Honu, and 8 or 9 throughout the rest of the atoll. It was also reported that, with the decline in numbers, average size of the turtles had declined, carapace lengths now typically lying between 93 and 97 cm, with the maximum 106 cm. Maximum weight was now 175 kg although a few years earlier, turtles weighing over 200 kg were supposed to have existed.

These weights, although not so mentioned in the report, are unusually high for Pacific green turtles, especially when remembering that the green turtles nesting on the mainland Pacific coast of Mexico at Colola, Michoacan, average only 77.32 cm and 57.36 kg (females) and 72.68 cm and 43.19 kg (males) (Cliff-ton, unpublished data). The rather large size may well correlate with the extensive transoceanic migrations of this population. In the Atlantic, the transoceanic migratory green turtles of the Brazil-Ascension Colony are among the largest known anywhere in the world. Similarly, some extensive migrations to points hundreds or thousands of kilometers to the west have recently been reported for the Scilly green turtles. These recaptures of tagged turtles (Anonymous 1979), are summarized in Table 2. It should be noted that the turtles were kept in captivity for up to 4 months before re-

35'

Longitude Ouest.

30' 15"

45'

# MOTU ONE (BELLINGSHAUSEN)

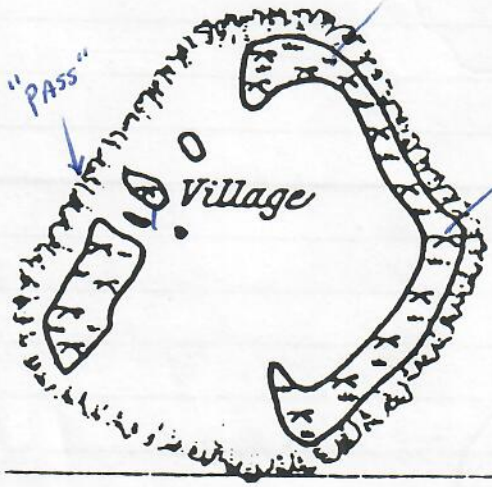
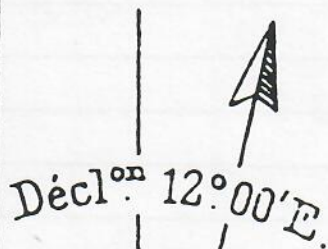
46'

47'

48'

49'

15° 50'



35'

34'

Longitude Ouest

31'

154'

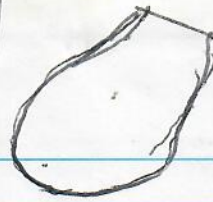
30'

1 NM = 1852 M

2 NAUTICAL MILES by 2 NAUTICAL MILES  
= 3.7 KM

110

LHF: 3.67785  
3.61625  
3.64461



RHF: 3.64659  
3.67887  
10407.1

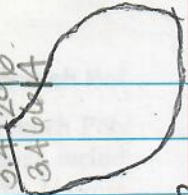
LHF: 3.67222  
3.67297  
3.68980

RHF: 3.20313  
3.20404  
3.10765

50mm

50mm

RHF: 3.30670  
3.41296  
3.46644



Good shape -  
Fully extended HFs  
to edge of  
chamber

50mm

(11)

(12)

(13)

ALL  
CCL

RHF: 3.09853  
3.07457  
3.02026



51mm

(10)

Dorsally -  
prominent sclerotization  
+ faint keel (4 splits)  
left and right.

LHF: 3.75484  
3.68001  
3.63458



all like this -  
white  
border  
50mm

(9)

LHF: 3.42009  
3.39441  
3.44561



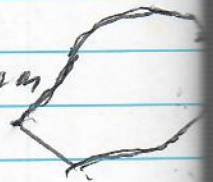
RHF: 3.37908  
3.33302  
3.34412



RHF: 3.57227  
3.56108  
3.55369

(8)

49mm



RHF: 3.33883  
3.18935  
3.20618



①  
 LHF: 3.21971  
 3.19953  
 3.19911

RHF: 3.46046  
 3.43623  
 3.46630

LHF: 3.43580  
 3.42792  
 3.55790

②  
 RHF: 3.59148  
 3.56280  
 3.56197  
 3.54289  
 3.39266

LHF: 3.21513  
 3.21513  
 3.34289  
 3.39266

SLATE GRAY w/ 1-2mm  
 white border showing  
 dorsally around  
 carapace.  
 pure white  
 plastron.

ALL  
 CCL 10/20/91  
 Sunday AM

MOTU ONE  
 (Bellingshausen)

← All from same nest →

Single Turtle spotted at surface -  
 and nest site excavated.

③  
 LHF: 3.47364  
 3.41178  
 3.40208

RHF: 3.47364  
 3.41178  
 3.40208

47mm

④  
 LHF: 3.20506  
 3.25566  
 3.19932

RHF: 3.20506  
 3.25566  
 3.19932

⑤  
 LHF: 3.38884  
 3.35710  
 3.28204

RHF: 3.38884  
 3.35710  
 3.28204

50mm

⑥  
 LHF: 3.21244  
 3.21540  
 3.28370

RHF: 3.21244  
 3.21540  
 3.28370

⑦  
 LHF: 3.22125  
 3.10271  
 3.14753

RHF: 3.22125  
 3.10271  
 3.14753

50mm

⑧  
 LHF: 3.43086  
 3.42942  
 3.40175

RHF: 3.43086  
 3.42942  
 3.40175

49mm

⑨  
 LHF: 2.94430  
 3.01399  
 2.97088

RHF: 2.94430  
 3.01399  
 2.97088

⑩  
 LHF: 3.94810  
 4.02348  
 4.01334

RHF: 3.94810  
 4.02348  
 4.01334

⑪  
 LHF: 3.14278  
 3.12089  
 3.02750

RHF: 3.14278  
 3.12089  
 3.02750

⑫  
 LHF: 3.43086  
 3.42942  
 3.40175

RHF: 3.43086  
 3.42942  
 3.40175

**Table 2. Recaptures of green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) tagged on Scilly Island, Society Islands, French Polynesia**

Number	Sex	Carapace length	Tagging date	Recapture date	Location of recapture
1 18	F	101 cm	30 Apr. 1972	9 Aug. 1972	Vavau Is., Tonga
2 26	F	102 cm	30 Apr. 1972	26 Jul. 1972	Rabi, Fiji
3 39	F	93 cm	30 Apr. 1972	14 Sept. 1973	Maskeline Is. (New-Hebrides) <sup>Vanuatu</sup>
4 103	F	99 cm	5 Dec. 1972	15 Jan. 1975	New Caledonia
5 138	F	88 cm	5 Dec. 1972	Jul. 1974	Malekula, New-Hebrides <sup>Vanuatu</sup>
6 151	F	86 cm	5 Dec. 1972	15 May 1975	Baie de Gomen, New Caledonia
7 173	F	98 cm	5 Dec. 1972	Oct. 1973	Anatom, New-Hebrides <sup>Vanuatu</sup>
8 180	M	103 cm	5 Dec. 1972	3 Oct. 1974	Kandavu Is., Fiji
9 181	F	102 cm	5 Dec. 1972	15 Oct. 1974	Kandavu Is., Fiji
10 1330	M	102 cm	5 Dec. 1972	1 Aug. 1974	Druadrua Is., Fiji

lease. They were fed on green plants during captivity and released in the lagoon.

The recapture of 2 male turtles at great distances is very interesting. These and D. Green's recaptures of male Galapagos green turtles in mainland South America are the only recorded instances of long-distance migrations by male turtles.

Similarly, the reports of a male and female, released on the same day and in the same place, and recaptured almost 2 years later within a few days of each other at Kandavu Island, Fiji, is of great interest, although no definitive interpretation can be given at this time.

F 95 FEB 1973 JUNE 73  
F 88 FEB 1973 JUNE 73 → Fiji (SUVA)  
Swallis IS.

NO! See BALAZS TM 1983. ALSO BALAZS 76 Bro. CONNS.

all single tagged - Monel

1972 - 4/72 = 67 females  
 12/72 = 181<sup>168</sup> females, 13 males = 181  
 248 ♀ + ♂, 13 ♂ = 248  
 TOTAL

49 TAG NOS. MISSING in 1972 data TAGS 1389-1436. 235 ♀ 13 ♂ = 248 of which there have been 12 recoveries (above)

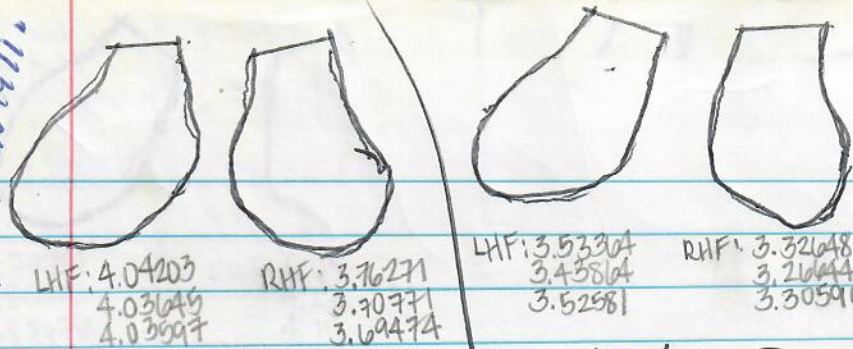
1973 - 2/73 = 58 females

1974 12/74 = 24 females  
 82 TOTAL ♀

Galena mistake?

379  
 but Galena text says "364 in 1972" + "42 very recently"  
 TOTAL - 248 + 82 = 330 + 49 MISSING

SCILLY ISLES = 140 SMALL ISLANDS OFF LANDS END SW ENGLAND. 6 sq. miles; 2428 population 1971. PIRATES & SMUGGLERS



mm/g

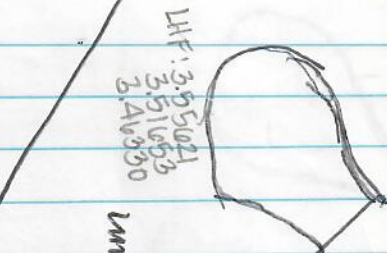
(20)

mm/g

ALL CCL  
10/20/91  
continued

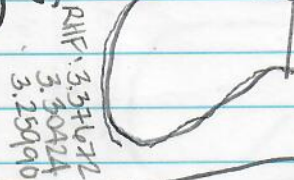
Scilly Isles ('sil-ē) or Scilly Islands or Isles of Scilly. 1 Group of 140 small islands off Lands End, SW England; 6 sq. m.; pop. (1971p) 2428; main town Hugh Town; administratively a part of Cornwall; tourism, market gardening, and flower growing; formerly a haunt of pirates, and later of smugglers.  
2 or Fr. Îles Scilly (ai-sē-lē). Group of islets forming atoll, W Society Is., S Pacific Ocean, ab. 150 m. W of Bora Bora.

new Geol  
journey



(8)

mm/g



(11)



mm/g

(16)



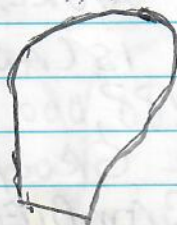
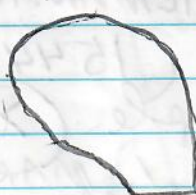
mm/g

(15)



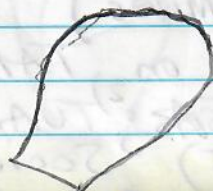
mm/g

RHF: 3.57111  
3.59100  
3.52482



mm/g

(7)



**Tuamotu Archipelago**

The scattered literature suggests that green turtles occur throughout the Tuamotu Archipelago. Beaglehole and Beaglehole (1938) reported on green turtles at Pukapuka Island (not to be confused with Pukapuka Island in the Cook Islands). The turtles there are commonly taken on the beaches or are seized in the lagoon by swimmers, who tie a rope around a foreflipper and pull the turtle ashore. At Pukapuka, a turtle is considered the property of the entire community, as is common in many unspoiled Pacific Island cultures, and a public feast is held when a turtle is brought ashore. One native offered the Beagleholes the observation that "it is only in recent times, since people have taken eggs of turtles from the nest, that turtles have been dying out," although in many other areas of the Pacific the eggs are sought even more assiduously than the turtle itself, and apparently always have been.

More recent information from Manihi atoll, also in the Tuamotus, by Hirth (1971), suggests that a fairly sophisticated turtle-ranching program has been developed by local people. Turtle eggs are collected and hatched, and the young turtles are raised in village kraals for later consumption. The turtles, fed on coconut meat and fish, reach a length of 50 to 71 cm in

*South Pacific*

3 to 3.5 years—a much more rapid rate of growth than seems to operate in the wild.

Very few data are available on turtles in other parts of French Polynesia. Turtles are apparently rare in the Marquesas, where capture of a turtle is now so infrequent that it is considered a special occasion. The Marquesas, Austral, and Gambier Islands all have rocky coasts with very few beaches, and turtle stocks appear to be very limited, although a hawksbill was reported from the southern Marquesas in 1978, and another in 1979.

"FRENCH POLYNESIA"  
 from 1992 WORLD ALMANAC  
 130 ISLANDS (1544 Sq. miles)  
 188,000 people (>50% on TAHITI)  
 5 ISLAND GROUPS = 1) MARQUESAS 2) TUAMOTU  
 3) GAMBIEE 4) AUSTRALS 5) SOCIETY



LHF: 3.77791  
3.83798  
3.87776



RHF: 4.04101  
4.27673  
4.11333



LHF: 3.79936  
3.99699  
3.82391



RHF: 3.40851  
3.46244  
3.39007



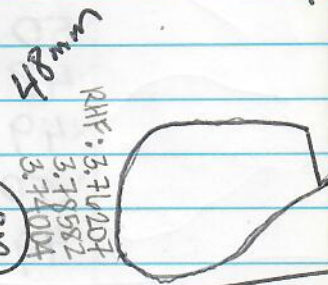
LHF: 4.00203  
4.00820  
3.94056

mm bh (68)

ALL  
CCL

10/20/91  
continued

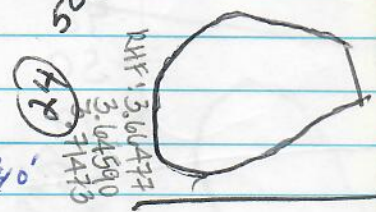
NOT ONE



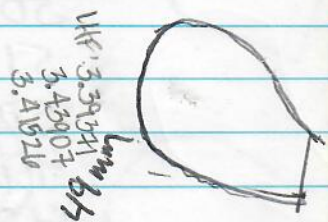
48mm  
RHF: 3.71007  
3.78582  
3.74004



LHF: 3.30945  
3.42864  
3.34091



50mm  
RHF: 3.60477  
3.64590  
3.44715



LHF: 3.39251  
3.43907  
3.41526



mm bh (22)



mm bh (21)



LHF: 3.43665  
3.43741  
3.46404



48mm  
RHF: 3.06519  
3.19852  
3.09433



LHF: 3.55212  
3.51686  
3.62500

RHF: 3.58285  
3.56178  
3.56018

AUSTRALS

**French Pol-y-ne-sia** \-,päl-ə-'ne-zhā, -shə\ or Fr. **Pol-y-né-sie fran-çaise** \päl-ə-na-ze-frā<sup>n</sup>-sez, -saz\; formerly **French Oce-an-ia** \-,ō-shē-'an-ē-ə, -'ā-ne-ə\ or Fr. **Éta-blisse-ments (fran-çais) de l'Océ-a-nie** \,ā-,lāb-lē-smā<sup>n</sup>-(frā<sup>n</sup>-se)-dā-lō-sā-ə-nē\. French overseas territory in South Pacific Ocean, comprising **Marquesas**, Society, Gambier, and Tubuai Is. and **Tuamotu Archipelago**; 1261 sq. m.; pop. (1977c) 137,382; \* Papeete on Tahiti, Society Is.; covers wide area, approx. from 7°S to 29°S and 132°W to 156°W; exports include phosphates, copra, vanilla.

**History:** Tahiti explored by Louis de Bougainville 1766 and Marquesas visited by French missionaries in late 18th cent.; Oceania visited by Dumont d'Urville 1837-40; annexation of Marquesas and protection of Society group accomplished by French in 1842 and remainder taken over by close of 19th cent.; placed under single administration 1903; administration reorganized 1946; French nuclear tests conducted in region 1966 and 1968.

RHF: 3.66198  
3.56215  
3.61700



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The scattered literature suggests that green turtles occur throughout the Tuamotu Archipelago. Beaglehole and Beaglehole (1938) reported on green turtles at Pukapuka Island (not to be confused with Pukapuka Island in the Cook Islands). The turtles there are commonly taken on the beaches or are seized in the lagoon by swimmers, who tie a rope around a foreflipper and pull the turtle ashore. At Pukapuka, a turtle is considered the property of the entire community, as is common in many unspoiled Pacific Island cultures, and a public feast is held when a turtle is brought ashore. One native offered the Beagleholes the observation that "it is only in recent times, since people have taken eggs of turtles from the nest, that turtles have been dying out," although in many other areas of the Pacific the eggs are sought even more assiduously than the turtle itself, and apparently always have been.

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4.27673  
4.11333



LHF: 3.79938  
3.99699  
3.82391



RHF: 3.40851  
3.46244  
3.39007



LHF: 4.00203  
4.00820  
3.97031

(68)

mm 67

ALL  
CCL

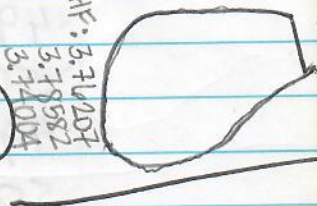
10/20/91  
continued

NOT ONE

48mm

RHF: 3.71407  
3.78582  
3.74004

(52)



LHF: 3.30945  
3.42264  
3.34001

50mm

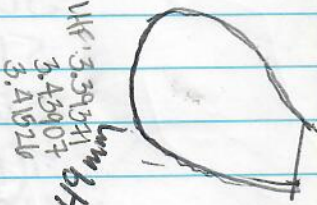
(42)

RHF: 3.60477  
3.64590  
3.71473

15440'

LHF: 3.39391  
3.43907  
3.41926

mm 67



(23)



RHF: 3.58285  
3.56178  
3.56618

48mm

(22)

RHF: 3.06519  
3.19852  
3.09433

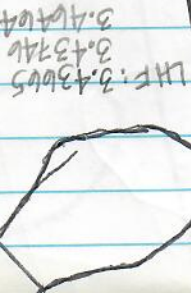
LHF: 3.55212  
3.51986  
3.62600



RHF: 3.66198  
3.68215  
3.61700

mm 67

(21)



LHF: 3.43665  
3.43746  
3.46464

AUSTRALS

**French Polynesia** \-,päl-ə-'ne-zhə, -shə\ or *Fr.* *Pol-y-né-sie fran-çaise* \päl-ə-nä-ze-frä<sup>n</sup>-sez, -səz\; formerly **French Oce-an-ia** \-,ō-shē-'an-ē-ə, -'ā-ne-ə\ or *Fr.* *Éta-blisse-ments (fran-çais) de l'Océ-a-nie* \,ä-,läb-lē-smä<sup>n</sup>-(frä<sup>n</sup>-se)-dä-lö-sä-ə-nē\. French overseas territory in South Pacific Ocean, comprising Marquesas, Society, Gambier, and Tubuai Is. and Tuamotu Archipelago; 1261 sq. m.; pop. (1977c) 137,382; \* Papeete on Tahiti, Society Is.; covers wide area, approx. from 7°S to 29°S and 132°W to 156°W; exports include phosphates, copra, vanilla.

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MOTU-ONE (Bellinghausen) 10/20/91

(50 caliper measurement  
would make them slightly  
smaller)  
w/measuring tape.

47 mm

50

47

50

48

49

50

49

50

51

50

50

50

48

50

49

48

50

51

50

49

48

49

50

48

50

49

48

49

48

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1475}{30} = 49.17 \text{ mm}$$

$$N = 30$$

RANGE 47 - 51 mm

re: TURTLE TAGS

- 1) Tag Nos - i) RMTP 483  
ii) X-669

- 2) i) The turtle was caught on Thursday 22/10/92 at about 2000Hrs.  
ii) The turtle was caught by hand when it was trapped in a crevice.  
iii) Cakau Sasi approximately Lat: 170° 25' Log: 177° 35'  
iv) Turtle will be eaten by the family members.

- 3) The turtle was caught by Mosese Sitivia of Sasa village, Ba

This letter received  
1/8/95 - POST MARKED  
1/95 from LISMORE  
AUSTRALIA

see also  
p.122

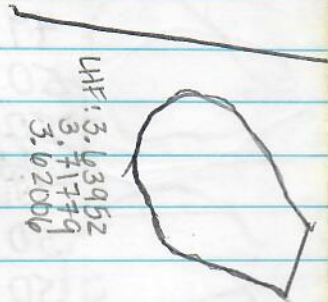
POSTAL ADDRESS:

Mosese Sitivia  
c/- Fisheries Department  
Box 194  
BA  
Fiji Island.

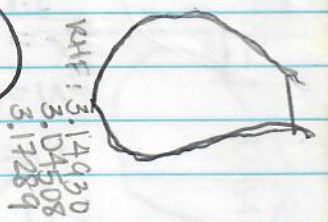
ALL CCL

10/20/91  
continued

MOTU  
ONE

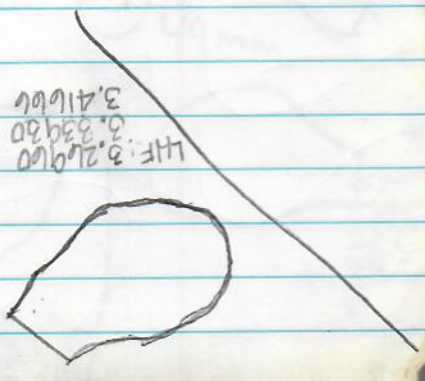


48mm  
30



49mm

29



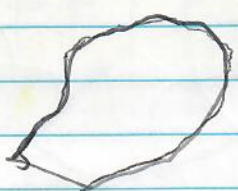
RHF: 3.41709, 3.45756, 3.41183

LHF: 3.58575, 3.78003, 3.63078

47mm

28

RHF: 4.02905, 3.82265, 3.99013



Taken with measuring tape  
 Scilly HATCHLINGS 10/23/91 motu oia

- ✓ 50 mm
- ✓ 50
- ✓ 49
- ✓ 49
- ✓ 45
- ✓ 47
- ✓ 49
- ✓ 49
- ✓ 49
- ✓ 50
- ✓ 48
- ✓ 50
- ✓ 48
- ✓ 49
- ✓ 50
- ✓ 50
- ✓ 49
- ✓ 50
- ✓ 50
- ✓ 47

978

$$\bar{X} = \underline{48.9 \text{ mm}}$$

$$N = 20$$

RANGE 45-50 mm

C. m. stomach contents from rubbish  
 pile at Scilly atoll, French Polynesia  
 10/16/91

Microdictyon japonicum

50%

Caulerpa serrulata

25

Tambinia ornata

25

Russell

2-1-92

ACL CCL

RHF: 3.58810  
3.62279  
3.70364



LHF: 3.50790  
3.53771  
3.55358

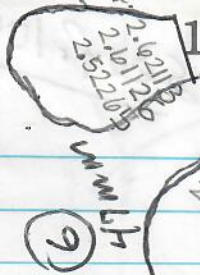


RHF: 3.11799  
3.22323  
3.08486



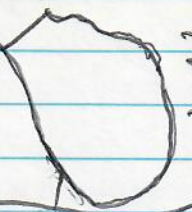
LHF: 2.62113  
2.61126  
2.52265

119



RHF: 3.00193  
2.92488  
2.87111

LHF: 3.75640  
3.38642  
3.42454



49mm (8)

mmhb

(7)

10/23/91 AM  
HATCH  
MOTU OIA, Scilly  
Village #2  
oviposited eggs  
planted

RHF: 3.56323  
3.44271  
3.40497



(9)

LHF: 3.77027  
3.61738  
3.70943



49mm (10)

RHF: 3.48881  
3.61427  
3.69141



(10)

LHF: 3.22925  
3.30515  
3.34954



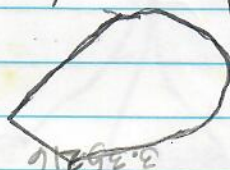
50mm (11)

RHF: 3.69410  
3.72176  
3.78405

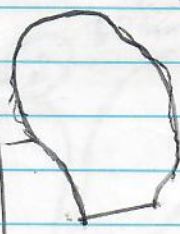


50mm (1)

LHF: 3.36656  
3.32931  
3.35216



RHF: 3.86307  
3.78829  
3.78650



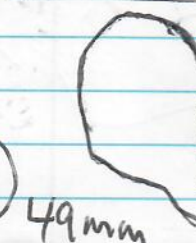
LHF: 3.71913  
3.70299  
3.68048



50mm (2)

(3)

LHF: 3.59320  
3.48401  
3.51541



49mm (3)

RHF: 3.45312  
3.32481  
3.48346



RHF: 3.30575  
3.31410  
3.21244



(7)

LHF: 3.00889  
2.98279  
2.96192



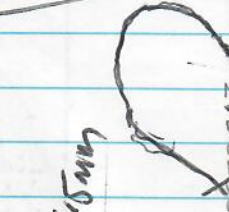
49mm (7)

RHF: 2.95175  
2.91152  
2.90848



(5)

LHF: 2.60463  
2.61823  
2.63233



49mm (5)

Mr. Krishna Swamy  
Ministry of Primary Industries  
Fisheries Division  
P.O. Box 358  
Suva, Fiji

tl/11/92

Dear Krishna,

Thank you for your recent fax reporting the recapture of *Chelonia mydas*, tags X669 and RMTP483, on October 22, 1992, at Cakau Tasi Reef, Western Viti Levu. I greatly appreciate receiving this important information.

This young turtle was tagged and released at Scilly Atoll, French Polynesia, on October 15, 1991. Philippe Siu, Jean-Pierre Landret, and I participated in the release. The turtle had been captured two months earlier in a fish trap maintained at Scilly by chief resident Mr. Rene Taputu. The turtle measured 51 cm over the curve (along the midline of the carapace) at the time of release. Fourteen other small turtles, reared from hatchlings at Scilly, were also tagged and released into the lagoon at the same time.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Siu and also SPREP so they will be aware of the contribution of information you have made. If you can provide me (or SPREP) with the mailing address of the person who caught the turtle, a T-shirt will be sent to him for reporting the tags. ~~Or~~, if you prefer, it can be forwarded through your office.

I will accept your kind offer to send me the six tags that have recently been recovered from the two turtles tagged at Scilly. It will be worthwhile for me to carefully examine them for signs of wear. I assume that the most recent turtle was captured for food and is now deceased.

With each new tag recovery, we seem to be learning that Fiji is a very important foraging area for sea turtles in the South Pacific region. Additional research in your area is definitely needed.

ALL  
CCL

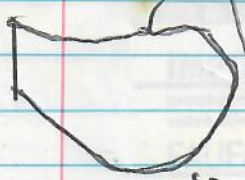
LHF: 3.05221  
3.07987  
2.99270

RHF: 3.97464  
3.93373  
4.057028

LHF: 3.30479  
3.35522  
3.20452

RHF: 3.47960  
3.27588  
3.47456

RHF: 3.63871  
3.58964  
3.73618



50mm

(8)

LHF: 3.11488  
3.10287  
3.12282



50mm

(9)

10/23/91

Scilly

MO TU OIA (CONTINUED)

LHF: 3.39159  
3.24022  
3.34927

50mm

(9)

RHF: 3.48915  
3.80812  
3.67485

50mm

(9)

RHF: 3.78196  
3.77939  
3.79863



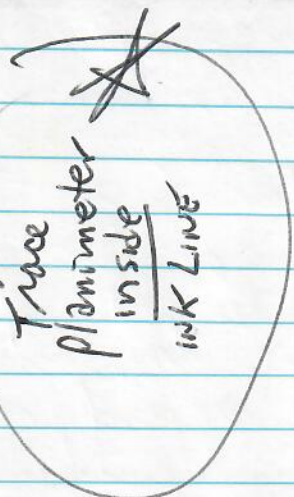
(10)

LHF: 3.10861  
3.15163  
3.15305



47mm

NOTE



Trace  
Planimeter  
inside  
INK LINE

LHF: 3.34503  
3.355844  
3.43698

50mm

(5)

RHF: 3.50366  
3.47851  
3.47865

50mm

(5)

LHF: 3.30343  
3.18350  
3.22559

50mm

(7)

RHF: 3.45885  
3.36182  
3.35490

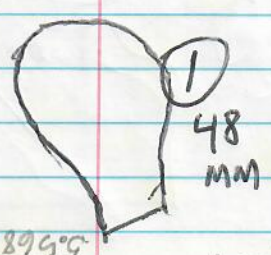
50mm

(7)

SKKM Meas. 12-17-06

48mm

(3)



48mm

(1)

RHF: 3.59389  
3.48587  
3.56882

LHF: 3.39403  
3.37554  
3.39267

RHF: 3.52293  
3.53526  
3.8055

(2)

50mm

LHF: 3.70036  
3.67383  
3.65373



RHF: 3.43531  
3.31650  
3.32870

LHF: 3.49262  
3.50441  
3.53065





Ministry of Primary Industries  
 Fisheries Division  
 P O Box 358  
 Suva, FIJI

Phone : (679)361122 362448 362449

Fax : (679)361184

From : KRISHNA SWAMY

To : George Balazs

Subject: Turtle tags

Date : 09.11.92

Page : 1

Dear Balazs

I have sent you the information on the turtle caught in Vanua Levu. The Fisheries Division have now in possession the 4 tags found on the turtle. Do you want me to send you the tags?

A fisherman also caught a turtle in the Western Vitilevu which has both Hawaii and SPREP address. The information is as follows:-

Tag no. **X669** Hawaii  
**RMTF 483** SPREP

Date caught 22/10/92, 2000 hrs by hand-diving on Cakau Tasi reef. (Western Vitilevu). Please let me know if I should send the tags to you? The fisherman did not measure the turtle. Please let me know if you require any other information?

See also  
 p.116

10/15/91 Sully CCL 51.0 cm  
 Caught 2 months EARLIER IN  
 BONES FISH TRAP

1991  
10/19/91

Tagged

Motu Honu by J-P Landret

Scilly

CCL = 103cm

123

Box 1451

debar

Fiji Islands

5<sup>th</sup> Oct, 1992

To whom it may concern,

enclosed is a cutting from Fiji Times Thursday issue. My name is Peni. Wagalabalawa and I'm the diver that caught your tagged turtle.

It was caught on Tuesday night (29<sup>th</sup> Sept) about 10.00pm in a passage near Labasa (Vanua Levu). It's about 58 inches long and 34 inches wide. The tags number S-30, S-31, S-32 and S-33 were on the turtle.

I'm sorry if I had done wrong in selling it ~~but~~ but the distance and time doesn't allow me to contact you first and also I was needing money.

So here Sir I'm writing as your tag said and believe me I'm sorry if I had done wrong in selling it before letting you know first.

Thank you Sir! Ni sa moce from Fiji. Hoping to <sup>hear</sup> from you again and the details of the turtle.

Sincerely yours,

Peni. Wagalabalawa

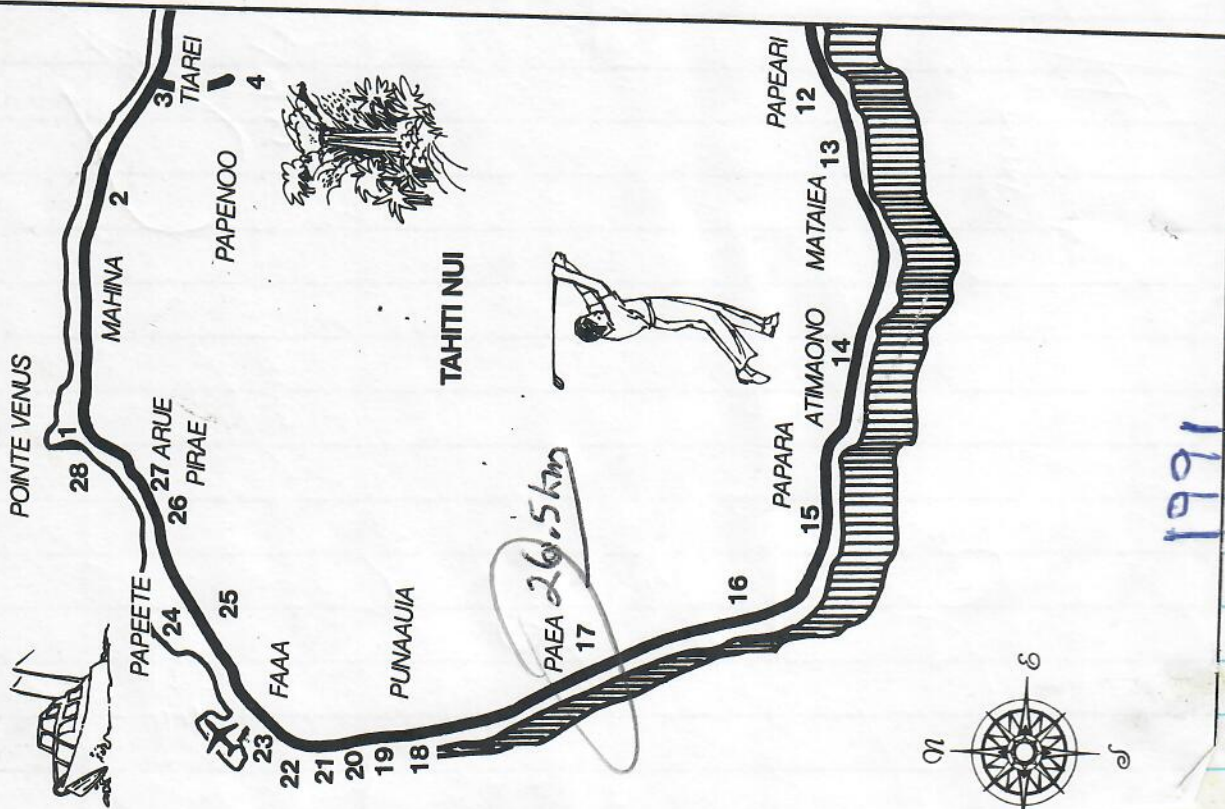
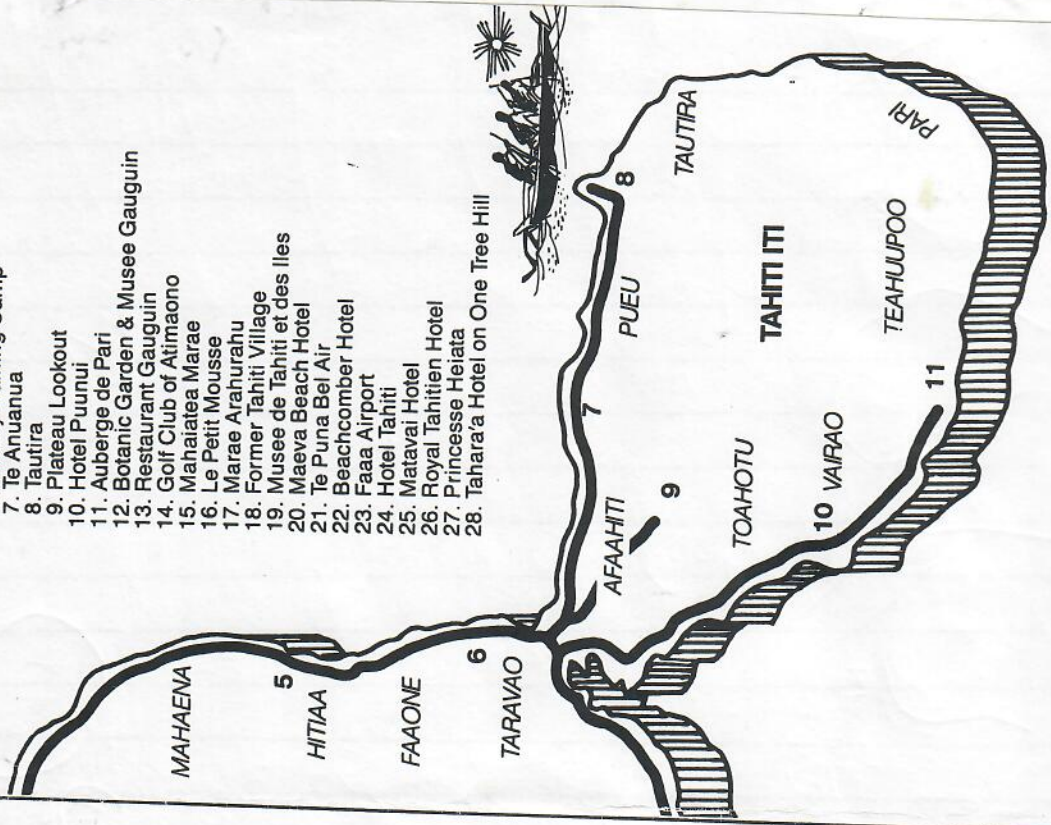
PENI WAGABULABALAWA

Closed Season  
(8 months) AUGUST - MARCH  
OPEN = APRIL - JULY

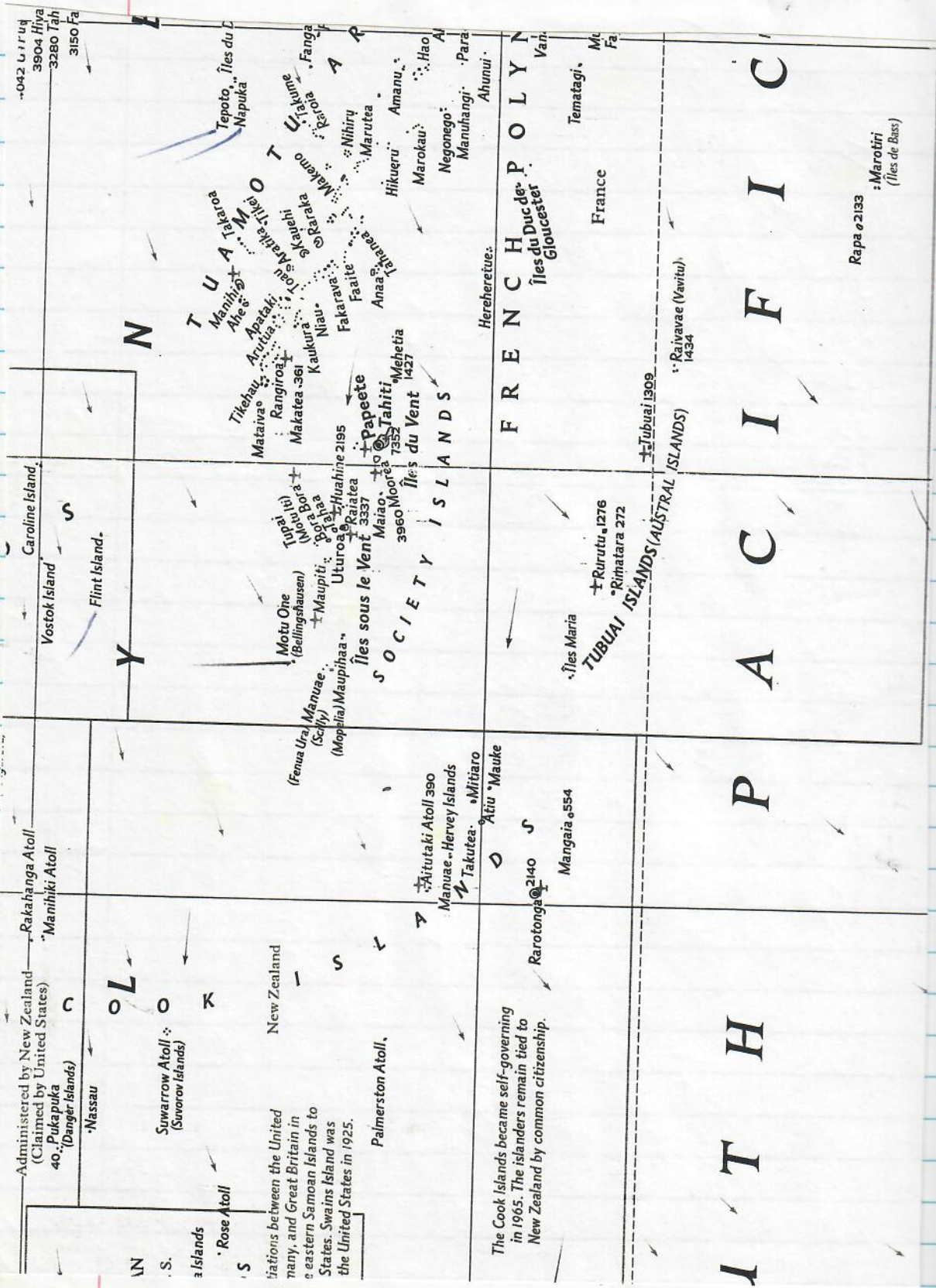
## SOME RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Control poaching. Strict fines/confiscation. Control market end -- make it illegal to sell. Give Rene a radio to report poaching. Protect turtles outside Fringing reef of Scilly. Scilly a Sanctuary but this just includes the lagoon and inside fringing reef and Motu -- not the open ocean where mating occurs (interesting habitat). Closed season (8 months) August to March; open April, May, June, July. Is it illegal to sell during closed season? I believe <sup>selling</sup> is illegal at all times.
2. Tag, organize residents at Scilly and Motu one to tag.
3. Satellite transmitter for route, speed, etc. Ideal site.
4. Recognize central role of Scilly, past declines, present status (near extinction of MOPelia, and low level of Motu-one).

1. Historic Site
2. Leper Village
3. Blowhole
4. Waterfalls (Cascade de Fafarumai)
5. Bougainville Camp
6. Military Training Camp
7. Te Anuanua
8. Tautira
9. Plateau Lookout
10. Hotel Puunui
11. Auberge de Pari
12. Botanic Garden & Musee Gauguin
13. Restaurant Gauguin
14. Golf Club of Atimaono
15. Maiaitea Marae
16. Le Petit Mousse
17. Marae Arahurahu
18. Former Tahiti Village
19. Musee de Tahiti et des Iles
20. Maeva Beach Hotel
21. Te Puna Bel Air
22. Beachcomber Hotel
23. Faaa Airport
24. Hotel Tahiti
25. Matavai Hotel
26. Royal Tahitien Hotel
27. Princesse Heiata
28. Taharara Hotel on One Tree Hill

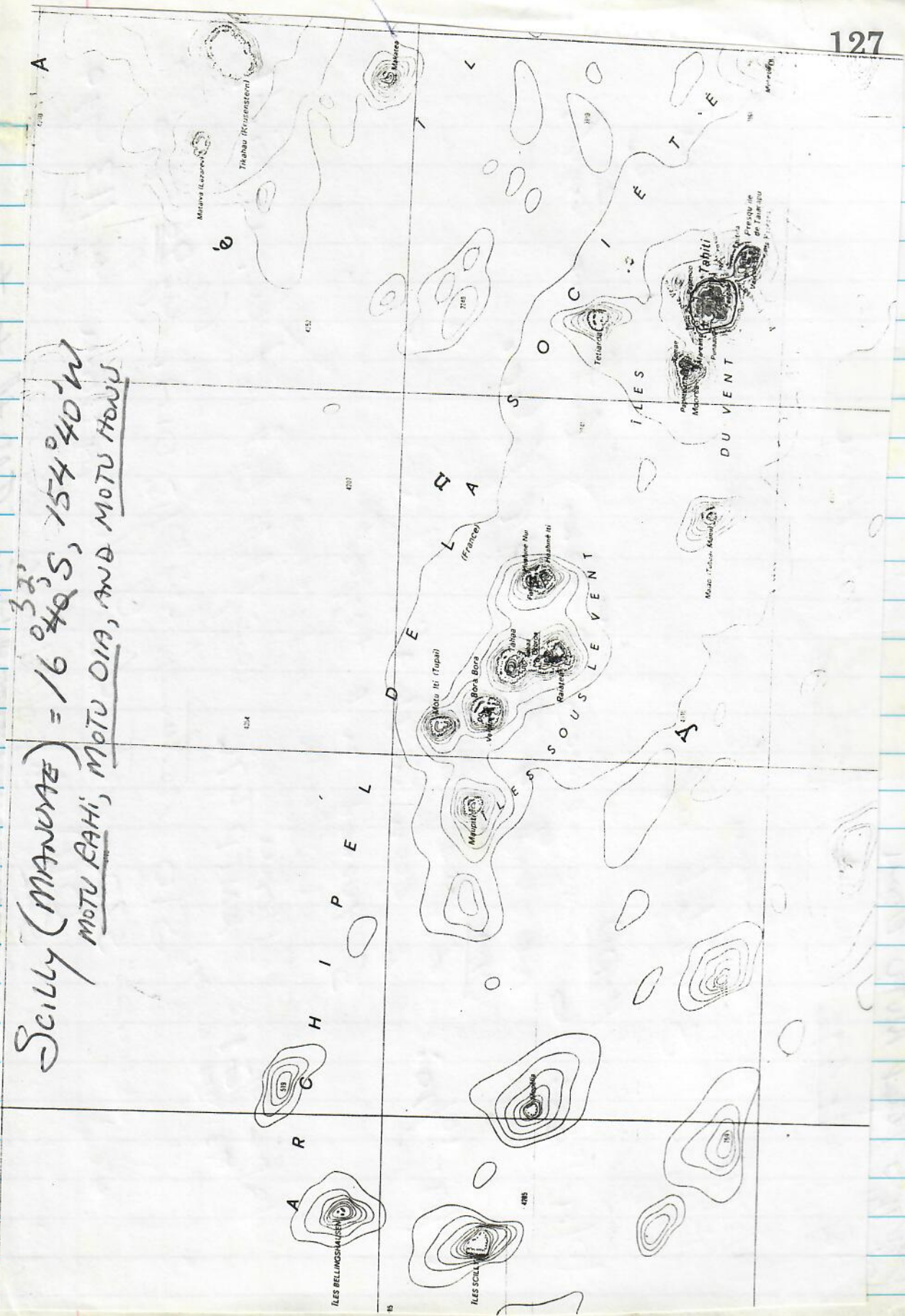


1991



Scilly (MANUAE) = 16° 40' S, 154° 40' W  
MOTU RAHI, MOTU OIA, AND MOTU HOUJ

30°



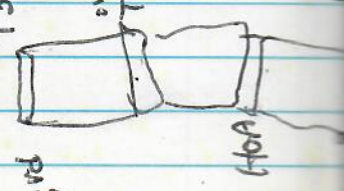
10/17 5 total Motu Horn  
10/18 RMT P 476 Return but not lay Motu Horn

10/18/91 Motu Horn  
10/19 3 total up

10/19-10/20: Horn 6 Emergences (2-3ms) but none tagged.  
we had 4 tags. All false.

10/19-10/20: 0112 2 resighting.  
2 seen in "HOA"  
5 turned and tagged

10/20-10/21 Horn 3 tagged this way.  
RMT P 476 resighted but not lay. no paint!  
S10 returned. orig 10/18 OIA. lay 26 eggs  
S32 returned. 10/18-10/19 Horn lay 113 eggs



OIA S42 returned (doomed) lay  
+ Another but they don't remember the tags.

ALBERT VARNEY (Vini collector)  
 Jean-Pierre Landret  
 Axel LICHTLE  
 (His grandfather LE BRONNER GUILLAUME  
 Marguerite plant named after him  
 at the turn of the Century - (BP Museum)  
 LE BRONNECCIA

METRIC SYSTEM WITH U.S. EQUIVALENTS

BALAZS 1991

METRIC UNIT	U.S. EQUIVALENT
millimeter	0.39 inches
centimeter	0.39 feet
decimeter	0.39 yards
meter	1.09 yards
decameter	
hectometer	
kilometer	
myriameter	
<b>AREA</b>	
square millimeter	0.00156 square inches
square centimeter	0.00156 square inches
square decimeter	0.00156 square inches
square meter	1.55 square feet
square decameter	15.5 square feet
square hectometer	155 square yards
square kilometer	
<b>WEIGHT</b>	
milligram	0.000035 ounces
centigram	0.00035 ounces
decigram	0.0035 ounces
gram	0.035 ounces
decagram	0.35 ounces
hectogram	3.5 ounces
kilogram	35 ounces
quintagram	350 ounces
metric ton	2200 pounds



**TE FAAITI**

1<sup>er</sup> PARC NATUREL DE TAHITI

18 JUNE 1767 SAMUEL WALLIS  
 HMS "DOLPHIN" DISCOVERED  
 'OTAHEITI'

S 89 seen nesting on OIA  
 MOTU HONO

10/22/91 -  
 10/23



1964  
4961

