764-Pound Turtle Caught

HILO — One of the largest turtles ever caught here was brought in yesterday by the fishing sampan Mona H.

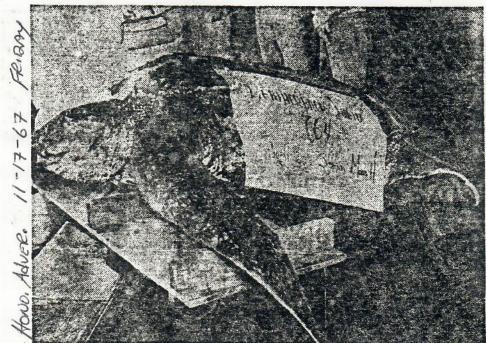
The turtle, a Pacific Leatherback, weighed 764 pounds.

The turtle was caught on one of the Mona H's flaglines off the Big Island.

A 300-pound turtle is considered large.

The Leatherback species of turtle gets as big as a 1,000 pounds and is found only in warm waters. It deposits its eggs almost exclusively on one beach in Malaysia and has never been raised in captivity.

The Sumida Restaurant here bought the turtle. It was auctioned yesterday morning by the Suisan Co., Ltd.



Advertiser Photo by Walt Southward

Next stop: Pots and pots of turtle soup and piles of cutlets.