

SPC Fiji

BALAZS

2 of 2

SATELLITE TAG WORKSHOP

SPREP TANOA INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

FEBRUARY 1-5, 2010

p. 26-

GEORGE BALAZS

FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 10, 1977

SPC/CONSULTANCY - FIJI, RAROTONGA,  
AITUKAKI, APIA W. SAMOA

1977

SUVA 59

2/24

Thursday

Raj is a native born local. Agreed with my comment <sup>of need</sup> for a standard type research proposal.

End assessment is that no check, controls or guidance has been exercised over Raj by USP administration.

Back to marketplace to inspect vendors, shells. Later in afternoon/evening visited library; spoke with Edward David; gave him copy of BioCons and WU publication. He called Marietta - doesn't specifically remember; now works for Head Agriculture Office, across from Soap factory - last name Richmond - they can give me informant on Rotuman turtles - they also call turtles.

2/25

FRIDAY

9:00am visit with Raj - He was with USP in 1969, but left to do degree in N.Z., returned 1973.

First question - Tell me about project?

Former school Director McInerney - more or less pressured him into accepting, as they thought involvement with SPC would be good. From beginning he understood from Baird that this was to be village level farming - he was to do basic turtle biology work - However,

2/25  
Friday  
\* →

no project proposal written up. Indicated that he has a letter from Baird outlining goals/objectives - electrolyte; etc. He will send me letter. Confusion: exists about objectives - <sup>kept mentioning to</sup> refer to his report.

2/25

little effort expended

ye

I inquired about Turtle Handbook - a long way from completion - nothing that she can give me now.

Concerning questionnaire - mostly from marketing of turtles in Suva - about 1/2 green 1/2 hawk ~ 100 such reports he will compile - Stone has copies.

Comment made about whirlwind tour consultants - this not needed [like my comment about Hirth Hendrickson]

set up peacemat?

In January 1976 Baird/RAJ visited Rarotonga for 10 days - went to Aitutaki.

In January 1977 after fisheries meeting Brandon came to FIJI for 3 days.

RAJ didn't go to last fisheries meeting <sup>1975</sup> in (Tonga) <sub>1974</sub> thought it was a

Baird died shortly  
after March/April 1976 (?)

2/25 SUVA  
Friday 1977

61

2/25

waste of time - even though apparently  
money was provided to go.

little  
effort  
expended

year  
1

Concerning funding - he didn't know off  
hand how much he was getting -  
Got \$1000. to Squires in beginning -  
Says that he doesn't need much  
money. year 2 used \$1000 for  
caretaker of turtles; year 3 asked  
for \$5,000 - \$3,500 spent for hut  
construction.

Said that last year had \$5000  
left over - year before \$10,000 left  
over never used - \$15,000 total.

For coming year he needs ~ \$2,000  
for caretaker, already promised &  
and approved by Guldperin.

Concerning focus on hawks - ① could  
only get hawks, but also ② he was  
interested in hawks; few studies  
done; ③ Baird said both were o.k.

He calculates that about \$1000.00  
total has been put in fund by  
USP - but he hasn't used it  
all - only draws upon funds  
when needed.

Met Lillian from Pennsylvania in Cafeteria - extension

2/25  
SUVA  
Friday

Saw <sup>13 months +</sup> turtle facility - ~ 8 greens <sup>176</sup> <sup>cooks</sup>  
photos - and 1 subgreen / sub  
hawk <sup>source</sup> Fijian from the wild.

2/25/77  
Friday

Carotid

Greens have many parts of hind  
flippers missing.

asked about Dolphin Island turtles - he  
said operation folded - some problems -  
beautiful stone wall enclosures ~ 100 years old.

Insistence that rearing turtles in  
Pacific is widespread, and that much  
interest exists - many people (from Fiji)  
write him letters (gave me a copy) -  
Papua-Nugini has asked for assistance -  
he calls himself their consultant.

Told about island 2-3 <sup>miles</sup> off of  
facility where he visited over  
23 year period - hawks nest there  
but poaching (eggs and adults) is heavy.  
Said he ~~found~~ (bathed) eggs and  
released.

Poaching discussion arose from  
his comment about international meetings  
not being useful (particularly IUCN) -  
doesn't agree with Paul R (about poaching -  
says that it can't be controlled -  
no way to enforce.

FRP or  
out of part

2/25/77  
Friday

Concerning lake/breeding assemblage - reports that long ago turtles were stocked there - now live permanently in enclosed lake (may be an entrance) - mostly mangrove - report that they bask on shore -

Comment - office a mess - difficult time finding anything. Mentioned IUCN folder containing mention of funding turtle work in Solomons to \$20,000. Also \$100,000 to USP for coral reefs - he is in project  
Comment - doesn't seem conceivable that with instruction load he could successfully carry out research on all this plus turtles.

Concerning Astrolab lagoon - number turtles resting per ~~month~~ night on each islet - small islands - 0 - 12 per night. ??

Didn't know that Travis ran W. Samoa hatchery - Travis only been here 6 months - fishing ~~in~~ in Hawaii for 33 years - EASY RIDER  
Lowest grade fish in market is 10¢ pound - Chicken feed compounded in FIJI is (70¢) pound (too expensive) - according to him -  
He has fed banana, fish, seaweed,

ERROR  
ON HIS PART!

64 2/25 Friday Samoa

2/25 separately - but not together -  
FRIDAY

Brandon's problem is "what to feed"

Raj's research problem (and can document) was "find out what can be utilized" perhaps not beneficial to COOKS per se, but could have been to region - This would have been ok. To COOKS (MASTERS); SHIP FEED TO COOKS.

same quarters

Didn't spend money because he  
① didn't know what to do, ② how to spend it. ③ no time

Couldn't do much on preparing diets because he didn't know how to bind ingredients together -  
Said he has asked for help from Al Michel. CREXO Tahiti

Also note that he said he wrote to W. Samoa - but no response.

Research associate by last name of Polivica <sup>Jeffery</sup> (sp?) recently wrote letter outlining joint work (which also included HMB) in aquaculture, specifically Cyprina, and Evchemia - from School of Medicine.

2/25 Friday

No sure thing as on telephone to Hirt 6 APR

630h

1977

2/25 Friday 65  
SUVA

2/25  
Friday

Back to Nandi on 8th - at 2:25 via AIR NEW ZEALAND -  
POLYNESIAN AIR leaves 11AM 10th, arrives W, SAMOA  
11:30 P.M. 9th

No such  
thing as  
per  
Telephone  
to Hirth  
6 April

(Hendrickson, J.R. (1972) Report of a visit  
to Mariakung, Ltd. turtle farm on Grand  
Cayman Island, BWI, SPI/FDA, FAO UN  
33p?

Mr. J.E. Rigamoto (Marietta Eather in law)  
tel 25781

sent booklet  
mid March

Mrs. Mariak Rigamoto  
% Agriculture Dept.  
SUVA - FIJI

6:30 PM Met Jan & Rob Stone at Hotel - had  
drink then went to Steak House for  
dinner -

She seemed critical of his work - didn't  
think he had done anything - killed a lot  
of turtles -

He mentioned about not having a feeling  
for turtles -

Also mentioned of beach on Kadawa  
where loggerheads nest - June. Also  
periodic articles in paper about someone  
raising a turtle - He didn't agree  
about raising in Pacific widespread (I say  
most all for fun)



2/25 Whales teeth traditional in Fiji and  
FRIDAY a gift - supply short. TA(m) BUA

My comment - If no project proposal in  
beginning, then one should have been  
developed at later date in order to  
definite objectives/research problems.  
Raj responsibilities -

## PRIORITIES IN FISHERY DEVELOPMENT

2/26

61. Bibliography of marine turtle literature
62. Reco - Close contact should be  
maintained with U-H/mo -  
leacesat - only (or one of few) full  
time marine turtle researchers in  
the Pacific.
63. SPC is poaching turtles (as per RS)

2/26

Saturday As per 1976<sub>2</sub> report; waters  
of Laucala Bay are unsuited for  
experimentation - poor site

What experiment now in progress?

Nothing with GREENS - Hold - Give to Aquaculture - LAKE - RAISE  
FOR BREEDING STOCK -

for reading  
1974/75

Project never got off the ground

Approx 180

1977

SUVA  
100lbs \$7.00 67  
Layer pellets - 16% P  
#3.00  
100g Kraver pellets - 17% P

2/26  
Saturday

1. Crest Feed Mills (Ltd.) Fiji  
King's Road  
Tel 188

2. Island Industries copra meal - \$6.80 140 lbs (BAG)  
Einburgh Drive Tel 23041 ← office  
Meal Store - Queens Tel 25246  
\$108.80 TON (16 BAGS)

Approx 18 cent \$116

3. Fish processing (?) IN LEVUKA (JAPANESE CONTRACTED)  
#6.00 per 1% per TON } 60% protein rated Pacific Fishing Company (Pateo)

2/26 11:30 AM

Lunch with RAJ and Bob Willette (visitor)  
from National Institute of Drug Abuse  
Rockville

Drove to airport - discussions on  
return -

Raj has ~99 hawksbill hatchlings  
being held for him at Nanau (island  
near Dolphin Island).

I asked him to get copies of all  
reports + SPC seagrass special papers +  
Herdrickson "Coyman" report + draft  
papers on turtle growth. (said he has about  
"12 papers in for publication")  
"Questionnaire" for villages (extracted  
sketches) is same as Marketing  
survey - National Marketing Authority - Buttered  
turtles.

He is interested in electrolyte balance - energy  
needed for salt excretion. Sea water from

Send copies of reports/material to RS <sup>RAVIRAY (and also to Brandon)</sup>

cell B  
on P

by lab varies significantly 9 ppt to 40 ppt (2).

No report ever written on trip to Rarotonga

Political - If Cook Islands is cut off from SPC funds, then he would not want funds because of bad feelings - one of rotations at USF - also between Jim and Brandon; and Marsters who he labeled as a very good friend.

2/26

Little evidence of results - He asked for list of my references.

Would like to have copy of questionnaire

Recommended at Tonga meeting

Form a turtle data bank - never happened - only Tonga responded - "Raj definition <sup>of DATABANK</sup> have all information at one place"

little effort expended to establish

Not enough time available/allowed - symptomatic of overall problem of project - If you can't do it ~~the~~ right / or no time to do it right don't undertake

Lacks understanding of feed comp-nutrition diet studies

Written in such a way so as to not accurately reflect status

1977

" as per stone - ?  
( Much lively discussion at 9th meeting - everyone  
had something to say - many wanted continuation  
of SPC involvement with turtles.

Photo of <sup>in market</sup> man - Kilioni R. Macvuku  
NUBUKALUKA

~~sent~~  
A/30/77

WAIMARO, NAITASIRI  
P.A. Pagali, FIJI

2/26

Talk with hawkbill jewelry vendors -  
Two kinds of turtles - TAKU (HAWK)  
but told that only males are good  
for shell jewelry - other turtle - Vouva  
shell not good.

UDAY PRAKASH  
P.O. Box 914  
SUVA, FIJI

Vendor at market

No. PRASAD  
Box 111  
SUVA

Person by the name of Kide buys  
jewelry for shop in Hawaii.  
Vendor said "shell comes from Tailera -  
catch hawks at GUMA?"

Rappart

2/26 NAMA - seen in marketplace (Calappa  
Saturday racemosa)

2/26  
Saturday

1030AM Visit with Bill Evans - SCUBA HIRE

I dove in pass at (called)  
Ndaveta (passage) Nukulan -  
Coral see goes to Nukulan IS -  
intermost; outermost Makuluwa IS -  
RAJ's hawk nesting island.

As per Tui - turtle catchers<sup>ive</sup> on  
NASOATA IS.

Further down is tourist resort  
island TOBERUA - near that  
is bird<sup>nesting</sup> island of MUBALAU

He showed me photos of red-footed  
boobies on NUKUM BASANGA  
in Lau Group -

Also saw photo of green in water  
which he called "Brown back".

Had small hawk shell which  
he called TAKU (w/ridge) -

2 large hawk shells they called  
green backs - "Brown back has  
"square" plates".

By  
5:20

5:30

MASTER  
FISHERMAN

1977

71  
SUVANAME OF NEW  
COUNTRY -2/26  
Saturday

Photo of Ellie Island girl - roll 4, 33-36

EMA SOA

RAHNAGA HOUSE sent 5/3/77

NO 43

YUNIDAWA LANE, SUVA

Earlier on same roll - 2 in row

Maraiia Vaneij

Suvaou Village, SUVA

Taina R. Mudunavosa

(same) address

Pacific Fishing Company - \$6.00 per % per ton

There's - 60% protein  
\$360 ton (2000 lbs) or \$180-1000 or 18¢/lb

They can Bumblebee, etc.

Turtle bones from Market -

By  
size

Investigate possibility of obtaining hawk stomachs

Visit Raviravi ponds -

5:30 PM During evening I had dinner at

MASTER  
FISHERMANR. Stone's house (3 months in August) - met Reg  
EGINTON

SPC outer reefs project man -

and wife. Vessel about 175'

chartered by SPC is in port "Xyfer" -

He lived in Cooks for 6 months -

Aitutaki - everything political. Stone said

he suggested chickens at meeting.

2/26 Saturday Discussion that dynamite is widespread problem throughout Pacific - PWP and in Fiji, gold mining. Unions prevent inspection by police.

2/27 Sunday

72. Consider fencing and pasturing!
73. Handbook should be prepared by someone else  
(consistent with IVCN PIR)
74. Hirth - to study growth rates in captivity on different foods
75. Involvement of Carr, IVCN Specialist group
76. I remain in Pacific
77. Formation of advisory committee

2/27 Sunday Met Lynn and Joe for breakfast - Called Lynn, went to FAIRSTAR - saw Erickson's off; Went to Isa ki hotel; Returned to town and went to Aquarium - 50¢ and few fish - looked like concrete dungon!! Two hawks - about 17-18" carapace - extremely emaciated, sunken flaps, no vent area; man on duty indicated he feed ~ 1 lb meat (beef) per day.

4PM

Print sent 5/3/77

Photos of Lynn and Joe - send prints to

MRS. J.R. McGRIF

4501 ARLINGTON BLVD. APT 618  
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

\*Call Bilkouse

on per job - Lynn

Jerry McDonald owner of Pineapple Hill Restaurant

73 SUVA.

2/27  
Sunday

Talked to Chris Saumaiwai at Museum about caved turtle commission gave her booklet

78. Any <sup>SPC supported</sup> turtles released should have been tagged - Stone has tags.

at Isatui saw full size Chelonia shell, other 75-80% black pigment - same for 2-3 turtles seen in Market place.

However, all juveniles seen were gold.  
NO Informed that 127 passenger ships have come in since January 1.

79. Activities too extensive to be principal Council body needed for review advise.  
80. Quote - Raj said if they (SPC) were looking for leadership, they picked the wrong person.

4PM Called Stone in LAMI <sup>store work - 361-122</sup> TEL 361-130 or 361-650 <sup>this number</sup>  
50-60 turtles were seen in March - no nesting observed - Addition to previous

I asked him to check on price of Copra - Also encouraged him on hawkbill stomachs

Call Raj - <sup>Home - 26 VARANI Street - Tel 27-602</sup> turtles released in 00's - no tags -

Letter 3-4 months ago - pers. comm. Marlin Simon (9th fish report) official in Trinidad at meeting - also talked to government



2/27/77 FIJIANS Don't have tradition of fishing  
SUNDAY out beyond reef - even today, very  
much near shore - hardly any SCUBA

absence of clear cut applied results due  
in part to failure to communicate

2/28/77  
MONDAY

MuHAMMAD'S Birthday -  
Up about 6 AM to Bus station at 7 AM; to  
Nausori airport; to Nadi on air Pacific;  
From Nadi, <sup>International</sup> took bus to Nadi town  
and walked around - returned to airport  
and met SPC employee in MEDIA  
PROJECT (from <sup>a former</sup> <sup>coop</sup> Nue) - indicated that  
he had done an interview with  
Raj about 18 months ago - had small  
turtles - many were <sup>"left and right"</sup> <sup>dead</sup>. He is going  
to Cooks to instruct in radio broadcasting -  
Also will take photos for SPC exhibit in Noumea.  
He will check to see if taped interview still  
exists - will send to me. NAME - HEMA DOUGLAS

DON  
BRANDON  
NEVER  
HEARD  
OF  
PROGRAM  
OPPORTUNITIES,  
BUT MASTER  
HEARD IT ON  
COOK RADIO -  
INTERVIEW  
WITH RAJ -  
~ 12 months  
AGO -  
AFTER RAJ - BIRD  
VISIT

Notes - Caleraufa is major food of greens; <sup>INFIJI</sup> as  
per Stone.

Turtle = VONU, also IKABULA

RECO

Notes - If title of paper listed in annual report, then  
data/information contained should be made available to  
sponsor. (useable?)

2/27  
Send  
BOROTON  
Time

SLVA

Schedule of activities?

1977 75

MONDAY

2/28

Consider manner/alternatives available for best "developing" resource. Turtle culture may be one alternative - but how realistic, effort, suitable, acceptable?

Notes - on <sup>commerce</sup> sale of hawksbill products in Fiji - Mostly all by Indians, perhaps 10-15 booth in marketplace - items include bracelets (sectioned or solid); key rings; necklaces (pearls); baretts (for hair); traditional style combs; rings; many items are inlaid with silver. other goods seller is pearl shell -

Number of passenger ships per year?

Informed by one person that 127 since January 1  
ERRONEOUS - see other page

2/27  
Sunday  
ROTORUA  
Time

Arrived in Rotorua - met by Don Brandon: AROKANGI Hotel  
Gas of Wed run by Doctor (Steve) and nurse wife - as Gov Doc for 22 years he made \$6000. year.

Morning talk with <sup>P.O. Box 121 Rotorua</sup> Steve indicates that Palmerston probably has most number of nesting turtles (~80 people); he lived <sup>at Perry</sup> for some time (toxic fish on parts of reef) Perhaps this island is second. Turtle called "ONU" - hawksbill also known, one called smooth shell, other rough shell. He knows of 3 methods to catch turtle - ① at Perry in smooth sand extends out into lagoon, then

KAVKANA - WIFE TAI

PROBABLE

2/28  
MONDAY

drops off abruptly to blue water. Three to five days after full moon, incoming tide, water is knee deep over sand area. Native force themselves out from shore to blue (at ~30' intervals) (and quietly no lights) walk along until turtle is sighted. This is made easy because turtle is frightened and takes off like a "submarine" for deeper water. Position of turtle is told to people in or out, and chase is given - caught by hand, all sizes are caught. It is said that turtles come up to feed - seaweed found in stomach; but also some people say that they feed on sea slugs. (2) Group of people swim in water ~50' deep and encircle a turtle; keep it in circle and try to keep it from surfacing for as long as possible - when it does surface it takes one breath and goes straight to bottom and lies still - it is then grabbed by hand, or gaffed behind neck. (3) A mating pair of turtles has as many as 10 males (around) waiting for their turn. The female is captured and a rope noosed around her <sup>front</sup> wing - subsequent males that mount are then captured. At Penryhn Steve saw old tiger, who was said to be wise, look at turtle egg and state when turtle will come back.

- Inquiry about foreign fishing boats -

2/28  
MONDAY

2/28  
MONDAY

Good MAP - Central Portion  
Pacific Ocean 526 77

(Korean, Japanese, Chinese) indicated that they do go in to Northern islands to trade tobacco, fish, etc. Famine is considered absence of tobacco.

REMAINED OF DAY - met with Brandon, visited site facility - met T. MARSTERS briefly.

Notes -

- Baird died March, 1976
- after Brandon arrived, 3 meetings of cabinet took place to decide if and where to have project.
- Minister of Fisheries from Aitutaki, other ministers from other places.
- Tapui Henry - Minister of Interior - Expect on conservation, objects - doesn't like any experimentation in Cooks.
- Plan (of Paris?) population study at Palmerston 3 months of year.
- a small experiment - grow - show if viable or non-viable
- Baird - continued to show optimism
- Brandon had lack of experience with funds, year 1 got ~ \$12000
- Paris contract ends in August - he told Grandpepin (who's been on job 6 months) in November that he wants out.
- Ill conceived project
- Don didn't know state of art when hired - assumed information existed at SPC
- Don's counterpart - cultural interaction  
problem - COMMUNICATIONS Difficulties

MONDAY VSP/RAJ did ID on disease - sent medication chlormyphen

MONDAY 2/28

- Palmerston - 15 turtles raised from eggs by each family, held 1-3 months and released <sup>or reserved</sup> - 4-5 turtles each year are brought to Raro market.
- Bardon doesn't either believe widespread tradition of raising turtles - when occurs, just a few in large volume, fed when felt like it <sup>or pet</sup>
- at project conception, state of the art should have been known - travel should have been carried out to other areas that have involvement.
- MARINE TURTLE LIT. Composite should be just Specific IS, all cross referenced.
- RAJ doesn't answer anyone e.g. McLoy <sup>INQUIRES BY</sup>
- Long Term studies at each area, <sup>DISCUSSION</sup> as per Don's
- Counterpart TEOKOTAI PAITAI (age 17) in Torres Strait - just hired before leaving for Aust. (Sterling Project)
- Penryn and Manihiki - Theft problems
- Project in Cooks can not be ~~cut~~ off sharply - transition needs to be made.
- Lot of time and effort in Don's project/facilities
- PRYOR - consultant to government for TOTAL MARINE ATOLL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY also more recently oysters at Penryn

Recs -  
MUS +  
fund  
correspond

PROPOSAL end of 1976

Facility is left over from Pryor's Atoll

1977

708  
RAEO

Monday  
2/28

- Penryn is an opposition island - less boat service, very little development
- SPC apparently jumped into something without second opinion/review.
- - Ron Paul - SPC Fisheries Adviser, <sup>also in 11 years in</sup> for 0 cooks
- The review <sup>NOW LIVES IN COOKS</sup> I am doing now should have been made 2 years ago.
- Cook islands don't understand what is involved in farming
- Visit by Roy Baird didn't accomplish anything - just looked at Titubaki site
- - NO respect for animals
- no interest in turtles
- at conception, Baird said review would be carried out at 1 year - <sup>it didn't happen</sup>
- Saw Don's turtles - photos taken; nearly all have very severe bites, sections missing of hind limbs, tails, front limbs; several <sup>also impacted in testing</sup> are so emaciated that I predict death soon - 58 turtles when he left for leave, fisheries meeting, 48 alive upon return <sup>of which</sup> 5 barely hanging on.
- No support for Don from SPC, USP, RAJ, or Fisheries Dept Cooks -
- Don has tried numerous foodstuffs, they eat (sometimes), but even on fish they do not grow well -
- Turtles are two years old in smaller containers - big containers -

Fidelity is left  
over from Pryor's  
Atoll project -

2/28 80 water in tanks dirty - must be drained - flushed -  
filled - sometimes turtle left dry,

- Move to Aitutaki held up by uncertainty of lease

- Freezing not possible because of theft - Don thought possibly people at Aitutaki could be taught not to steal.

Some fed on petals on bottom  
Expert Guidance FOR VOLUNTEER

They eat coconut - he fed koa Holo which I was there. They eat bananas, <sup>(now dried) must pay</sup> pumpkins, cabbage, donated, SPC just told him to feed what he could find - no money allotted for food

\* → Turtles are now starving.  
- Note Brandon contract notes USP

\* → food research  
For Cooks, continue small scale growing and include <sup>base line</sup> research assessment.

Offer Brandon - Hawksbill should never have been worked on - no good for farming.

3/1 RAROTONGA  
Tuesday

[Governmental opposition]

- Note that many houses have goats, as well as chickens.

- Brandon never heard of Henderson Cayman report
- Did Brandon speak out / make his feelings known on various issues - 1. working on hawksbills 2. Food problems 3. No budget money for food

3/1 Tue  
RARO

Reco

Reco

Reco

Reco

need

Provide opto

PLANET etc

3/1 Tues  
RARO

Shell seen at restaurant across from hotel - near first size - report wing tangled in long line with float - drifting here - report good eating; also 1 in AROANKO - 30-31" <sup>near</sup> <sup>60% HIK</sup> <sup>Blck</sup>

4. lack of success at earlier date 5. lack of communication 6. lack of review at year one.

- EMERGENCY SITUATION - turtles need to be fed - given adequate nutrition.

Reco

78. <sup>Reco</sup>

turtles need food from outside

Reco

79. <sup>Reco</sup>

Redirect project in Cooks - collect management data

Reco

80. <sup>Reco</sup>

concur, do not concur, with various portions of

Reco

81. <sup>Reco</sup>

Extensive list of foods tried -

need

82. <sup>Reco</sup>

Send/include reference in report binding article

83. <sup>Reco</sup>

Point out feed/nutrition point in Braden contract.

84. <sup>Reco</sup>

I am concerned that project did not get best effort possible; FJI, FND, money not all spent,

85. <sup>Reco</sup>

SPC should not have expected Don to readily be able to manage funds, direct project, carry on all activities in a foreign environment (culturally different) - indeed - difficult job for even a field researcher with much experience - Don should be commended for accomplishments made i.e.

provide options

PLAN A etc.

His <sup>developed</sup> talents should, if possible, and he is agreeable, continue to be used in Cooks Islands in a reconstituted SPC turtle project - under guidance of outside knowledgeable advisors. <sup>AND FISHERIES WANT HIM</sup>

Dessie Watts - Parasitologist, as per Steve U.H.?



3/1 82 RAO  
Tuesday

pearl shell - main

Suvarou; (Penyhn; Manihiki)

- 86. No ecological advantage - consider chicken, pigs, goats
- 87. Commend fisheries Department

9:00 AM Call to Marsters resulted in appointment at

1:30 PM - spent morning walking up back road, motoring around this side of island - photos of some people. <sup>went to MARKET</sup> Visited Don's girl friend's store, Nave indicated that last year about 6 turtles were bought to RAO from North - meat sold for 20 \$/lb. Just a few weeks ago meat brought 40 \$/lb - shell of big ones brought \$ 50.00

Note: contact health department about whereabouts of Dr. Bourre, SPE nutrition-based in Aitutaki - also note that Nave says people don't eat chickens in yard - rather buy - already prepared. Check out use of home grown poultry products, + swine goats etc.

Last year report that PENYHN took 50 turtles for shells alone - very few got to RAO - apparently sold to ships

TAKEN ALL DAY ABOUT THE SAME TIME

1:30 PM Meeting with <sup>TOO</sup> MARSTERS - I told him what'd was hee for - what I'm all about - 1st "NOTHING EXISTS IN WHATING ON PROJECT" - said verbally told him "level on emphasis of conservation" <sup>initially</sup> He asked for project here because there was no SPE fisheries project - want to give island world attention, prestige,

\* PROJECT HAS BEEN GOING TWO YEARS PLUS \*

3/1 Tuesday

\* perhaps enter comm by val out c

3/1  
Tuesday

Report of MARAES AT NGATINGUA

83

Bea leaders. (Chief is Mr. PAON KAINUKU)  
and ABONANGI  
Advertise project to world; wanted something  
of significance; He asked for review -  
claimed all credit for my being there;  
outside review/evaluation - he wanted;  
Archie Carr had met him (apparently) at  
Tones Strait;

\* Perhaps  
earlier comments  
by val & others

Baird was instigator/planner of exercise.  
Evaluate to determine if (1) benefit to  
Cooks/Region; (2) if not, why is SPC  
funding it.

→ Masters has not seen Don Braddon's  
terms of reference. Does not know how  
Don Braddon is responsible in chain of  
Command SPC - also is he responsible to  
Don; Can he ask Don to provide assist-  
ance on matters he can not handle.

MARSTERS SHOWED ME FOLDER OF  
CORRESPONDENCE WHICH CONTAINED

1. CARR-MAIN Report
2. Letter from Bustard (1971) suggesting bank  
was easiest to raise; complimenting him  
for getting SPC project; stating that it  
was easier to start a new project  
than to resuscitate an old one. +  
transcript of radio talk (copy requested)
3. Letter from Minister of AG,  
Fisheries, Marine Research (?) to  
THE SECRETARY SPC, saying, as I recall,  
that he did not understand earlier  
letter - stated in one of points that

Difficulties in obtaining base on (A/D) 1st stroke and others

RARE 84  
3/1 Tuesday

Accountability

Don Brandon had changed project from one of "conservation" to "meat on the table" - also referred to possibility of being involved in business <sup>(other activities)</sup>; Fairly strong letter outlining displeasure with SRC and Communication - said he <sup>Minister</sup> knew more about project than Secretary -

Appointment made with Minister for 1:30 PM Discussion ensued about T. Pryor - visit by Shiada; Glude; well-know man from Philippines; How project ended bad - oysters brought from Oregon or Washington - Seemed to think that Pryor was President of O.I. - recently; MARSTERS has no respect for Aquaculture; Showed me article by Pryor in NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT(?) (copy requested) - Pryor brought in by DR. Barry White, former Director of Fisheries (a Chiopractor) - left shortly after fall of project - Such failures in Marine Projects are used by opposition as criticism.

MARSTERS KNOWS OF NO RESULTS OF VISIT BY RAJ AND BAIRD - (WHEN ASKED WHAT CONTACT HE HAS HAD WITH RAJ - RESPONSE WAS QUICK "NONE")

after meeting I drove around island - in town photo of

fol 2  
rare

TUNGANI PARAKOTI <sup>sent 3/26/77</sup> (white uniform)  
TUTAKIMOA, AVARUA  
COOK ISLANDS

As per 1972  
MANIFESTO (COOK  
ISLANDS PARTY)  
CIMADA  
COOK ISLANDS  
MARINE AND ATOLL  
DEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY

3/1  
Tues

3/2/77  
WEDNES

1:30 PM  
IN

3/1  
Tuesday

Roll 2 PAREO  
#20-23

85

1977

Miss and baby - MATA VAHUA  
Box 531 sent 3/26/77  
AVARUA

3/2/77

WEDNESDAY

tried to call Dr. George Koteka <sup>Head of Dept. Health & a one the job out</sup>  
(2065-405) (2065-492) about SPC

Nutrition - A (yes, Dr.) Bourree is connected with it but left last week - Report that project is based in Aitutaki

86. Note that fish/shell fish are fine for hatchery operation when turtles are held only for 1-3 months - volume of food not all that great - whoever, longer for farming no good - considerable labor involved.

87. Some degree of flexibility is needed in any reconstituted project.

88. Note - problems of feeding garbage, food scraps - dissolution - low in protein - high in moisture -

89. Combine proposed Trocha study with underwater location and census of turtles

3/1 Evening dinner at restaurant across street - RUSS KNOWLES  
Mitapo has about 300 people; brackish water lake with eels - different looking stones and mud.

1:30 PM

Informal

Meeting with William Estall, Minister - late last year during Secretary-General's visit he was informed that project was not conservation/restocking such as in Western Samoa. Not an extension

3/2 wed.

of W. Samoa's efforts. Raise for a while and release; also mention of land at new site acquired on Don Brandon's recommendations. Asked if I was in any way connected with Tap Pryor -

ask questions ① Is it economically feasible for Cook Islands ② Is it biologically feasible - Do the Cook Islanders want it? is it good for them?

<sup>MET BRIEFLY</sup> Dr. TOM DAVIS, Leader of opposition, departed from his office.

Roll 2 Raro <sup>TWO GIRLS</sup> Brown dress/green dress ~ 32-36 <sup>Both</sup> TO - LOUISA NOOROA <sup>sent</sup> TEACHERS COLLEGE 3/26/77 RAROTONGA

FIJI Turtle LAW - PROVISION FOR SCIENCE?

Name of Secondary school Principal - Island to visit - turtles?

- 90. Hirth's report made no mention of Rarotonga, <sup>Cooks</sup>
- 91. Interest in turtles in Cooks - before, but stimulated now
- 92. Focus on one area instead of all-encompassing
- 93. Reference article about island given to U.N.
- 94. Key people lack pertinent papers
- 95. Both Mr. Brandon & Fisheries <sup>Sho. Fisheries</sup> Dept are connected

- 3/2 Visited Peacesat <sup>seriously BITTEN out of</sup>
- 96. Don't bring back greens from FIJI - disease
  - 97. Bring juveniles to proper nutritional state.

3/2 RAROTONGA,  
C.I.  
wed 98.

● Pam Pryor - studied Palmerston - 87  
1 month there.

- Hatchery programs should only come after assessment of problem -
99. Brandon <sup>should be</sup> asked to stay on for definite dates, finish in an acceptable manner. Return turtles to North; assessment situation; consider aerial work; interview, etc.
100. Terminate FIJI

→ Don indicates that <sup>SPC</sup> Salatto came at end of year - didn't have anything to say about questions posed by MINISTER. Consider, since project initiated, <sup>NEW Sec/General, NEW program, MANAGER, NEW Fisheries Advisor</sup>

101. Thoughtful review by outside independent authorities before any project is initiated - realistic, in light of available evidence? Also, an outside review at later date, preferably halfway point.

102. Don Brandon didn't know any different when called into project. Trusted SPC - innocent party -; Baird told him "meat on the table".

103. In order to be creditable, all items, findings, recommendations should be listed in order of importance.

104. Break down ~~and~~ pertinent reference list into two or more sub-sections.

105. Cook Islands first in relation to FIJI - FINDINGS

106. Only small amount of funds spent at each site

107. No provision for standby food

88  
3/3 Aitutaki

1977

108. Recommend Ross

3/3 Thursday 7:30 AM. Steve drove me to airport in morning at 7:30 AM. Masters was there, said dinner engagement is now for Sunday.

George Dr. Kotecha also to depart - seemed to know little, if anything, about SPC nutrition project. Flight on Norman Islander to Aitutaki.

7000 Prop - 65 gal each side - 349 to Aitutaki

RAPPE Hotel MANAGERS LAST NAME - BROWN, WIFE IS A HENRY

70 Hotel, talked to NZ liason man. Talked to school teacher man about role of chicken, goats, pigs. He rated Aitutaki nutrition medium - poor. Cyclic as reflected in school children - season for fruits, etc. Chicken very seldom used - they don't want to be bothered catching, cleaning.

Goats & Pigs used, - pigs have alot of fat from feeding them coconuts. Very few goats are ever milked. Export of island is oranges, bananas and a little coffee.

MISS GERALDINE came for a brief time late in the afternoon.

Talked to Don Brandon about property problem/acquisition on Aitutaki - He indicated that (1) Move from fisheries to former RYGE site (name: NGATANGILA) was TEMPORARY while waiting for site selection and lease.

BIRD came to Cooks twice, once in December 1974, again with Rog January 1976. I cont'd that as experiment progressed it should have been noted that turtles

Aitutaki Thurs 3/3

10

10

110

Thursday 3/3 were not doing well, results were not encouraging and Don should have sought out a halt to land lease acquisition. Don says this is probably correct, however he didn't feel he was in such a position - didn't have authority - just a volunteer. After all, Baird and Raj came to Aitutaki and saw selected site, didn't have much to say.

Plan for Aitutaki was to make cages in sheltered area, do everything on a village level basis. However, <sup>the</sup> quantity of fish needed would have been very large for anything but a few turtles. No other local food - plus no natural growth on sand flat of selected site.

108.

Lease negotiations should have been terminated at Baird/Raj visit at the earliest - Brandon possibly should have sought a halt at an earlier date through SFO channels.

109.

With good nutrition, turtles should be brought to good health gradually, deprogrammed to people, tagged with appropriate tags, transported to Makae (on island) and released. Cook Island government can make good P.R. out of this - help them save face.

110.

Possibly summary statement - what project set out to do and accomplished.

111.

Use trainee in Torres Strait with Don, to study survey of ~~the~~ Palmerston



3/3  
Thursday  
AITUTAKI

Levyhn (?), VN. Island, Lukaluka  
for nesting season. Interview, gather  
information - incorporate aerial spotting,  
Charter? <sup>COOK</sup> airline (new to Niteu); NZ  
airforce (?) <sup>(5-10) in 2 years</sup> or aids to navigation;  
increase his salary.

- 112. In confidential sector - SPC<sup>1</sup> <sup>principally</sup> at fault, should rectify.
- 113. Write myself in as an adviser.
- 114. Establish sea turtle panel of advisers - use PeaceSat.

115. Stomachs, photos, use SCUBA if possible  
sent 3/26 booklet on photos of children @ 2nd year in T-shirt  
A.B. DONALD

Technology of  
AITUTAKI  
and LUKALUKA

Evening talk with Desmond Clark  
and Yuyife (1/2 Luba Luba & 1/2 Aitutaki)  
Lukaluka has island that is  
conservation - turtles taken here must  
be shared by all - people can tell  
when turtle will return by looking  
at egg, turtle will dig several holes  
to fool, but eggs are at smooth area.  
Some turtles are still taken at  
Aitutaki - before they used harpoon  
spear w/ head like crochet needle,  
piling canoe to sneak up on  
turtle floating on surface. a  
clutch of eggs laid in recent  
times - but all were broken by  
people - reason unknown.  
Japanese - Korean - Taiwan ships

3/4  
Friday  
AITUTAKI

1977

91

no stigma - like <sup>1/2</sup> coster  
 have been stopping at RUFALUKA since ~1954,  
 some babies produced - people given  
 rice, sugar, line, fishhooks. When  
 they see white people ship goes  
 away fast. People are now scared  
 to deal with them due to threats  
 of government. Gov. ship 3x a year.  
 Check out Friisbie's books on Cooks -  
 he died 1947 in Karoonga - I heard  
 long description of genealogy -  
 everyone on Aitutaki knows their  
 basis of local claim - also know  
 European end point name.

3/4  
 Friday  
 AITUTAKI

People from AITUTAKI were recruited for work at Makatea by THE French  
 phosphate company - hard, slave type work. MANY ARE STILL ON AITUTAKI.

Spent morning taking photos in town -  
 at 1:30 pm went out in lagoon (photos), snorkeled  
 and collected 2 types of algae, 1 coral - very  
 little live coral, - patches of dead - some  
 fakua. Informed by guide that edible  
 sime is on other side (deeper water?) of  
 atoll - denser growths occur in May-June.  
 (colder season?)

116. Islands with air strip include ATIU;  
 Penryn (built by Americans) Aitutaki, and Karo.  
 a Ministry of Transportation, Civil Aviation, (N.Z.)  
 flies a Fokker Friendship (twin prop) to Penryn  
 every 2 months to check a radio beacon.  
 Takes ~30 people, demand for space. Since  
 Pop has been here the N.Z. air force  
 has come 5-10 times - C-130 direct from  
 AUKLAND - (AND RETURN?)

3/4 Friday > Drove and walked around in afternoon -  
Aitutaki photos -

3/5 SATURDAY Depart Aitutaki at ~9:20 AM - very calm seas - could see Manuaea ~50 miles from Aitutaki - photos of RARO 27mm WA; Arrive back at beach motel ~10:45 AM

117. Eggs of various development (UNK) were obtained at Penryhn in 1976 season, (as per report mortality of specifics) 125 hatchlings went down to 50; static water system during cold period, resulted in 19°C water - ocean estimated to be 22-23°C. Turtles died - (wouldn't eat given as cause).

118. Standby food supply (imported) should have been provided.

119. Backoff on giving island to U.N. appears to have taken place because company that held Copra lease threatened to sue government (ONLY MARINE sanctuary?)

Saturday > interviewed <sup>sent 3/23 photo of daughter w/ turtle shell</sup> TOM WICHMAN  
former Principal Fisheries Biologist  
(part time - now apparently full time with Department of Health.)  
Box 129 RAROTONGA (HEMETANI STORE LTD,  
Diving trips, etc) ON very bad terms  
with Don Brandon - no respect. Told him

3/5 SAT.

a long time ago, that it was not a good idea. Estimates that over 700 turtles brought, he feels sorry about remainer - if not cared for properly, they should kill. He brought first batch back from Palmerston - has Aunt there. Many turtles that died had growth in throat - feels this caused starvation. He has spent 4 months total in northern Islands - longest time at Manihiki (in connection with lead spell) (Trochus we planted only at Aitutaki) =

Concerning - Manihiki = Turtles nest there - but people kill and take eggs and hatchlings. Turtles are raised to small size, gutted and injected with formalin - sent to N.Z. for gifts - (trade?)

Concerning Palmerston = also inject partially reared turtles with formalin. Estimated that "within last five years" people have seen decline in the number of turtles - Island Council has passed a law that spearguns cannot be used - turtles only taken by hand. On both Islands, apparently they let them nest a few times - can predict when female will return to lay. Island Council has also banned taking (certain) crustaceans.

Palmerston -  
floating cage for turtles  
made of bamboo -  
rafts around lagoon

3/5  
SATURDAY

People at Palmerston have many turtle shells - used for covering covers. <sup>However,</sup> When not cured properly it rots.

Tom has several green shells at shop - I photographed some with daughter Ariya. He also has one ~24" hawksbill - said that they are found in North Islands but not known to what extent, or if they nest. Not too long ago many came to there with ~24" green to sell - speared here in Rarotonga - they did not buy - last time they had turtle meat they experienced difficult time selling it at 30¢. People not familiar - didn't want

Saturday  
N16/11

Met MARII MAHU TAIKI - Editor of Weekender - wife part Tahitian - part German

Saturday afternoon - Visited Marae in Te Ora - ARORANGI - Photos of 2 children on horse - Naea (age 12) and Natemogana (age 13). Father's name Rubena Robaki - Horse's name - Jimmy  
Address - KAVERA  
ARORANGI, RAROTONGA, C.I.

3/6  
SUNDAY

Meeting with Don Brandon in morning at hotel - noted that at certain times of the year, very dirty water exists in harbor where turtles are.

12  
12  
12  
12  
12  
12  
12  
12  
12  
12

INSTANCE

3/6 RARO  
SUNDAY

"Weekender" at EWC

95

Shipping to outer islands - "MANUKAI" - to all islands;  
due to acquire another ship in 26 months.  
"Blue Water" - to Penryn - <sup>or run</sup> owned by Tom Davis  
actually American owned - now in North islands  
for Pearl Shell.

"Stella Maris" - 45' steel - fishing - operated  
by Catholic Mission for church. Goes to Niue -  
fishes at Beverage Reef - 1/2 way to Niue.

"Miss Geraldine"

"RAVAKAI" - Fisheries Dept. boat - 55'  
Rolled over in Oct 1976

120. Marine Turtle Research Survey

121. Puyos proposal for Cooks may have mentioned  
turtles. (Justification about Fiddling w/ turtles at Palmerston)

122. Val Hines - Fisheries Adviser before Baird may  
have mentioned turtles in a report (see, Brandon)

123. Roy Paul - lives in Cooks, but formerly was  
a fisheries adviser w/ SPC.

124. Note Shreffelt - turtle aquaculture controversial  
this not known by SPC - because of State of Art

125. Fish Farming - Sept 1976 p27 Japan Regulatory Status

126. No Solution to problems at present time

127. Integrity

INTERVIEW with Australian carpenter working  
on Rarotongan - he has seen sharksbill shell  
from Pukapuka. Turtle sighted at Avarua  
harbor on SCUBA. 2 1/2 - 3 months ago turtles  
were brought from Palmerston - 2 were kept at  
Rarotongan - presumably for tourists to

REFERENCE

3/6 RARO  
SUNDAY

eventually ~~seen~~ - kept tethered in ocean.  
Eventually killed.

128. Unrealistic economic expectations

I drove out to see <sup>daughter Terry</sup> Matapo Matapo - he <sup>VAI MA REPRESENTATIVE</sup> <sup>TI DISTRICT</sup>  
spent 4-5 days on Perryho - Brought back a few  
hatchlings on plane. (~18 months ago?) held in  
bath tub by house - water changed twice daily -  
fed with gilled netted fish and shellfish.  
Kept as pets - wouldn't consider killing -  
one turtle has one hind flipper 1/2 bitten away -  
some crusty scab present. other turtle  
has <sup>well</sup> healed bite marks - look good. Photos.  
Cabbage sometimes fed to turtles.

129. Shouldn't have taken 2+ years to  
determine that no local food exists

130. Little, if any, control/management by SPC  
exercised over project.

AT MANIHIKI - Stone wall fish pond arrangement  
used to hold 2-3 turtles

131. Because <sup>they</sup> hold/raise several turtles, you cannot  
therefore assume that they want to hold/raise  
several hundred.

Sun afternoon - Visited with <sup>BUSINESS</sup> <sup>CARDS on file</sup> Tony and Ruby Taylor - Stars Travel -  
organizing tour to Hawaii for group of 30  
on July 22 - July 30 13-14 doubles, a few  
singles.  
Learned out MANIFESTO - what government will do.

3/6

SUNDAY

check at Waikiki Marina - Visitors Bureau -  
Bus INFO, etc.

Evening dinner at Marsters house -  
Met Temu OKATA, Geography Dept, Canterbury  
UNIV, Christchurch, N.Z.  
Get his name on Coastal Zone Management Newsletter

3/7

MONDAY

Talked with receptionist at AKORANGI beach  
motel - JENI husband name Peter  
Colmore-Williams, P.O. Box 88, RAROTONGA -  
husband runs trading store in AVARUA, in  
competition with father's store. Married 10 years,  
she will be going to N.Z. for baby for 2 1/2 months.  
Was going to invite me over - very pleasant.

132.

Collected turtle information during the course  
of other projects/activities.


133.

Bronchus was aware of growth in  
throat - however, not tumor-like, but rather  
"fungal" thick layer of white material  
in throat.

12:30 PM DEPART AIR NEW ZEALAND flight TE 575 for

Nadi - Don and Tom Marsters saw me off.

134.

Remaining budget for 1977-78 is ~ 8,000   
only \$1,000 spent thus far. Funding initially in  
JAN 1974, calendar year basis - but volunteers  
backed out and further recruitment was necessary -  
this resulted in hiring Don in ~ Aug 1974. ∴  
contract year and budget year different.

135.

Project comes after other failures



"The Hawaiians" Book to several people, as a gift.  
Medium size aloha shirt for Steve  
SEND HoG Books for Tom

3/7  
MONDAY  
ON THE WAY  
TO NADI via  
AIR  
NEW ZEALAND

Tom gave me copies of ① Transcript by  
Bastard concerning farming - mentions INEXPERIENCED  
VOLUNTEER ② Article by Pryor, May 1976.

Don gave me copies of 1972 and 1974  
Cook Islands Party Manifesto. - No mention of  
turtles under 1974 Platform and Policies - FISHERIES  
National Geographic photographer <sup>BILL CURTAIGER</sup> was in Cooks  
for canoe story - is a marine animal photographer

From  
New Zealand

As per Tom Masters, several Ag-livestock  
specialists will be in Cooks soon - one is  
a Feed Specialist - I advised Don  
to see him - interact

Tom keeps pigs in fenced area - splits coconuts  
gives garbage food scraps, and frequently  
gathers "grass" (quick feasy) - Also at times  
gives a supplement.

Note -  
on 3/6 Don read letter from Estall  
to SECRETARY GENERAL SPC -  
Somewhat unethical - however file was  
lying on desk - he was looking for  
Pryor proposal - I indicated my  
displeasure that he read it - advised  
that he forgot it.

Note  
(Economic, social and cultural (needs) development)  
talked with Hema Douglas on plane - this was  
his 4th trip to Cooks. He remembered about obtaining  
RAJ turtle tape - write to various stations  
to see if anyone still has it. He knew about  
SPC Nutrition project - said only higher up  
knew - Knowledge being suppressed - It was  
a survey of school children on Aitutaki  
which apparently revealed that Protein was  
lacking in DIET - ALL FUSHED UP BY COOKS - NOT AT SPC END.

comes da  
3/9

3/9 Wed

Wednesday NADI  
3/9

Steve and Teri anniversary end of March 77 - 20 years 991

Arrived in Nadi <sup>Tuesday</sup> 3/8<sup>th</sup> FIJI Date at ~ 2:45 PM -  
Checked into Gateway Hotel directly across  
from airport - later in evening heavy rain  
and some wind started. Called through  
to Lin at ~ 8 PM.

INQUIRY AT FIJI VISITORS BUREAU INDICATED  
THAT -

1. <sup>all ports</sup> projection of number of Cruise ships 1977 (SUVA) = 111  
→ Cruise ship passengers (1976 thru Nov.)
- |        |        |
|--------|--------|
| 1975 - | 56,148 |
| 1974 - | 71,812 |
| 1973 - | 73,400 |
|        | 60,000 |

Agent seems to recall 96 total for SUVA 1976

- |    |                                                          |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Projection of number of Cruise ships 1977 (LAUTOKA) = 56 |
| 3. | " " " " " " (SAVUSAVU) = 10                              |
| 4. | " (BEQA) " " " " = 1                                     |
| 5. | " (DAUTOKA) " " " " = 1                                  |
| ∞  |                                                          |
| ∞  | Projected TOTAL = 179                                    |

3/9 Wed Letter sent to Grandpa in about food needed - will arrive  
Cable sent by air Pacific in morning. - no mea Friday.

NADI

3/9/77

WEDNESDAY

PM took bus to SUYUKA - about 30 drive.  
Walked around market - saw one vendor with  
pendants, hair holders and bracelets made  
of hawk's bill shell. Visited fish market  
section - noted sign on wall that showed  
~ 10 kinds of poisonous fish.

Asked about turtle, and was directed to  
man selling chopped up pieces of turtle  
(liver, lungs, flipper pieces and tail).  
Small barrocles on skin and scales -  
several taken for sample. Man named  
SUNIA, said he speared (GUN) turtles  
while snorkeling - was going to skin  
and keep shell - also had head at  
home for soup. Seemed to indicate that  
turtle had "grass" in stomach. Copy  
inspection of pieces by me revealed that  
turtle not green or hawk - but suggestion  
of hawk's bill. SUNIA said it was  
the turtle with a "big head", called  
TUVONU. No eggs were found - however  
short tail was noted. He said turtle  
was big. He was selling out all  
pieces (meat and everything) for .65 \$/lb.  
Started selling at 7 AM. Was officially called  
NATIONAL MARKETING AUTHORITY.

Later talk with young man

ROKETE VO LAVOLA

indicated that TUVONU turtles are the  
most common at NACULA ISLAND - both in

3/9/77

Wednesday

7:30 PM

BS.

8:30 PM

3/9/77  
Wednesday

Greens (VONS), one also there (nest? unknown)  
the water, and nesting on land (NOW).  
Turtles are caught both ways. He  
is from NAISILI village, (YASAWA Island).

Further discussions with <sup>MR. (UNCLE)</sup>  
EMMA WAQUA % APIMELEKI  
VUNISINU, BURNS PHILLIP, South Sea Co, LAUTOKA,  
VITI LEVU, Fiji, indicated that she is  
from the village REWA near Suva and  
that the large headed turtles also  
occur there and lay eggs and are also  
found in the sea.

note: that docking pier for cruise ships  
is a long ways from market - I was  
informed that many tourists from ships  
come to market, but that vendors also  
that their stands to dock. Walking  
around I saw one hawkbill shell  
prepared (~17"), and one green (~20")  
latter photographed with old woman holding.

7:30 PM

Called Stone at home - he hadn't gotten  
price of Gosra pearl pas yet - will send  
note. I told him about nesting loggerheads.

135.

Trace project history in order to place in  
proper perspective. <sup>He said he was aware of it.</sup> Inform him available  
to the consultant. Give relationship to other part

8:30 PM

Called Mr. J.E. Rigamoto (25781). He left  
Rotuma in 1914 - was raised in Suva.  
Turtle were there, and he ate turtle  
eggs before leaving - also ate in Suva in 1918

FROM OFFSHORE ISLANDS

3/10 Thursday  
NADI

136. List "other" projects <sup>in Pacific area?</sup> specifically, (i.e. W. Samoa, Tahiti, Torres Strait, Cayman, Hawaii, ~~for~~ <sup>(Solomons)</sup> - give pertinent references

137. In Introduction/Background, state my <sup>objectives</sup> goals of review/evaluation (how started, where been, where now, what course of action to take, how to prevent deficiencies next time)

RECO  
Reason

138. In addition to the above list, information was also obtained from <sup>other</sup> resident islanders who were familiar with the project - had knowledge/opinions.

139. Time spent writing/preparing report, preliminary preparations before trip, and my time U.H., RCUH, HUMB, MAC office.

140. Because there <sup>seem to be</sup> is essentially no defined project proposal, confusion among parties, lack of direction, the consultant took it upon himself (felt it would be valuable) to assemble (to whatever extent possible) statements <sup>relating to</sup> of Project objectives/goals. <sup>were</sup> Was there (a) document(s) outlining direction? (has)

141. Baird is dead (passed away) - therefore can't ask him.

3/10 Morning called Roy home last evening several times - no answer.

Called USP <sup>27131-218</sup> School of Natural Resources, talked to secretary, asked she give message - I called Royel regards, asked that if he hadn't already, please mail request <sup>papers.</sup>

3/10 ~  
Thursd

NADI  
3/10

at airport, met man from Solomon Islands, on way to W. Samoa. Indicated that natives of New Georgia wait quietly for turtle to lay eggs, then turn them over, dip in eggs. In language ROVIANA, the leatherback is called TAVATOLU - lays still on surface, and can be approached and touched. Not eaten much - coarse/tough. He also described periodic occurrence of massive school of fish and shark. Looks like a huge reef - in deep water - (New Georgia?) Natives are scared, to go near it - capsized boat and sharks will eat them.

142. Workers are needed at each island site that will actively seek out information (interviews, etc.) and communicate with other workers.

Before departing Nadi, I telephoned ISLAND INDUSTRIES 23041 in SUVA, spoke with managers, price of copra meal is \$FJ 6.80 per 140 lbs <sup>BAG</sup> or \$FJ 108.80 per ton (= 16 Bags)

1b. BAG price ~~\$1.85~~ cents

TON = 2240 lbs (?) = 16. ton price = 4.8 cent (same)

Managers indicated (pellets?) are sold to Crest feeds where they blend with other ingredients to make their own poultry, pig food. FIJI produces <sup>COPRA</sup> an excess, and it is exported.

3/10 ~ 1145 AM Depart Polynesian Airlines, twin prop (Hawker Siddeley?)  
Thursday for W. Samoa - flight PH 528.

From right side of plane observed "TIN CAN Island" in Tonga group - girl indicated that ~300 live there - no landing strip. photo taken.

3/9

WEDNESDAY

LAND at W. SAMOA ~ 4:20 local time. Flight time was ~ 3 1/2 hours. excellent, friendly service! Drove in taxi from airport to Apia ~ 22 miles. Very populated, clean villages all along the way. Shared cab with Rolph and Muriam from Sweden.

3/10

Thursday

Visited Department of Fisheries at 8 AM - met Mr. Alphonso Phillip, and FAO adviser ~~Gulbraun~~<sup>se by wind</sup> Gulbraunson. Met Gene Feldman, 3rd Term Peace Corps - started out on turtle project, but didn't think Bill TRAVIS "plan" for growing turtles for meat was feasible - scrapped it. Now working on baitfish. Nearly all shells/turtles reported have been word of mouth. Gene saw one shell ~ 1/4" in market, but because of unknown marketing system - original date not known. Notches may have been put on some marginal - records incomplete/unclear. Natural predation on small islets on hatchlings is unknown, hard to judge. Most common turtle in W. Samoa waters is green - but not known to nest. They have never had a <sup>distant</sup> tag recovery. Islands of nesting are NULULOA (A. Banner) ; Nuutele ; NANA (close to hatchery) ;

Thursday  
3/10

Thursday  
3/10

Went to Aleipata turtle hatchery. TUKU POUTOA;  
SALI, SIAKI; many photos;  
Village across the way - LOTOPU'E.  
Expert turtle fisherman down the way  
LUAMANU at MALAEFA village

Al Hansen was a Peace Corps - Janie his girlfriend.  
Report that Al took juvenile green turtle  
shell back with him.

I observed nests of eggs with NO. 92, 187  
105, 179, 77, 143, 165, 140, 137, 136,  
116, 175 (12)

JANUARY - 26, 26, 26, 24, 15, 1, 24, 17 (12)  
February - 11, 18, 10, 18

Tanks in facility include 8 rectangular small,  
2 rectangular larger.

Photo of girl on return: <sup>sent</sup>  
SINA F. 4/2/77  
Box 799  
General Post Office  
APIA, W. SAMOA

Group -  
Aleipata JUNIOR HIGH School N.O. 1  
group photos sent 4/1/77  
+ book



1977

3/10  
Thursday

From data book AT Hatchery

1972 - 3,200 released

1973 - eggs collected - 4,656  
Released 3,257 (+ 87 not released)1974 eggs collected 7,992  
hatched 5,447  
released 3,4911975 eggs collected 5,159  
hatched 2,460  
released 2,3501976 eggs collected 3,709  
hatched 2,3783/11  
FRIDAY

Got up about 6:45 AM, went to Reggie Greys for breakfast - Went to Tokelau administration office and talked to NEIL WALTON about turtles - There was a Tokelau man in office who spent time on Nukunonu - nesting area pointed out. Suggested that I write to Head Teachers

FAKAOFO - HOSEA KIRIFI  
 NUKUNONU - LUCIANO PEREZ  
 ATAFU - TENISE ATONI

MAPS  
 and 1976 Report  
 in file

Office for Tokelau Affairs  
 P.O. Box 865 APIA

Friday  
3/11look  
up

3/11 4 PM

Friday  
3/11

TO: Fisheries Office - saw Gene Feldman - looked through 3 file bundles of papers - apparently Hensens took one folder.

MR. SYVIND GULBRANDSON

Gene has seen 3 juveniles with scale missing (12-14" length).

NOTES:

In July or August 1971 Hendrickson was suppose to have visited W. SAMOA. Chart in file of Palmerston, with notes that nesting takes place mid-Aug. to mid-Oct. (chiefly). Islets - TOM'S (sw side); COOKS (sw side); BUD (SE side); North Island (S, SW)

look up

"Tracking the Green Sea Turtle" ~~1975~~  
Sept 1975

In book store - "legend of shark and turtle" noted - occurred at VAITOGI, TUTUILA, Am. SAMOA.

→ Note April 1971 NAT. FISHERMAN.

Guest House on SAVAI'I - ASAU

3/11 4 PM DEPART W. SAMOA

3/11 Friday arrive Pogo Pogo - photos of Upolu islets enroute.  
 West to American (RAINMAKER) Hotel  
 Met TONY BROWN - several turtle shells on wall of bar. sent back mid March

3/12 Sat TO Airport - inspected hawkbill jewelry in "CURIO SHOP" from FIJI - booklet \$8.00 - some have Indian type silver inlay saying SAMOA. Tongan girl reports they are from South Pacific Shell Company. adjacent shop had hawkbill jewelry clearly from W. SAMOA. talked to Reg. Agent at Dillon's office 3/23/77

~1 AM Depart PAN AM for Honolulu.  
 3/12 sat. Arrive HONO ~ 7:00 AM

Phillip requested letter of support/encouragement to:

THE SECRETARY  
 GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN SAMOA  
 APIA  
 WESTERN SAMOA

sent mid March

Notes after trip

1. Note similarities of SPIFDA (Crocker report) to SPC Turtle project
2. Acknowledgements Section - H.T.M.B. - J.H. contributions
3. Sections on other projects
4. Call Huith - enquire about Herdrikson Cayman report - need for W. Samoa.
5. Conservation Implications
6. Findings - first and foremost communications between one another - awareness of other projects - misinterpretation of results from other projects.
7. Paragraphing as per - Curry & Main
8. Trace History of turtle research in region.
9. Library review - in order to properly evaluate past, present, future - necessary to do historical review.
10. Complex - multiplicity - complexities necessitate lengthy reevaluation writing up.
11. Succinct turtle manual is HIRTH + perhaps several others.
12. little substance results in Raj reports.
13. "See sections of Curry-Main report"
14. My goal - leave a clear historical record - appropriate references.
15. only able to evaluate information facts available presented to me.
16. others provided information.

17. "SPC turtle project set against historical background"
18. ... judgement ...
19. actions/recommendations inconsistent with consultant's recommendations/results of other projects.
20. Cook Islands is a young country ...
21. <sup>Recd</sup> append at up-to-date Chelonia reference list in Hirth (1971)
22. Get everyone on IUCN Marine Turtle Mailig - get everyone copies of P&R
23. No biological considerations given to decision to locate field-trial in Cooks. ↓ 3
24. No apparent consideration given to areas of research in Fiji, for helping solve problems in Cooks.
25. The SPC Turtle Project, from inception to present is not a credit to SPC - therefore long report (taken it upon myself to write careful, complete)
26. <sup>FINDING</sup> Project suffers seriously from absence of formal agreements, written, etc.
27. Suffers from absence of review of literature - knowledge/awareness of results of other / invents wheel over again.
28. Stayed away from saying <sup>in my report</sup> what I told Baird

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- 29. Problems of the project predate inception, as shown by historical review.
- 30. Hirth and Hendrickson reports represent baseline material
- 31. Finding - project had way focus initially
- 32. Written so that uninformed/future administrators can understand what happened
- 33. No effort to have comms with other projects
- 34. Show mistakes that have been made, so hopefully they won't be repeated in the future.
- 35. Theft of turtles when penned <sup>also Banner</sup> - W. Samoa
- 36. Serious information gap <sup>no</sup> knowledge of Samoa handsill work - and Travis
- 37. Feasibility - "see if its feasible" - doesn't necessarily mean you want to go out and do it - instead you could talk, read, examine, inspect, reason, think, examine experiences of others
- 38. Justification for selecting these areas for emphasis
- 39. No reference citations to support contentions
- 40. CNEXO; need outside help; Acknowledgments
- 41. Took terms of reference to mean "outside, independent review"
- 42. "Fam" definition not in strict context in SPC usage
- 43. Species working on
- 44. Eat fish rather than feeding to turtles
- 46. Is there a protein deficiency amount Pacific Island people?

cont. notes of some notes/thoughts taken after  
return from California 3/11/77. went there 3/4/77

47. Based on Herdickson, Stone, <sup>Carry over,</sup> as a whole there is no real interest in culture - except low numbers of curiosity or play - more intensive - they don't know what's involved.
48. In need of a president, research trained science trained person. W. Samson
49. Turtle migration between Pacific territories is of importance and conservation factor. only known in Pacific for Hawaii (Balazs) Australia (Bustard) - some <sup>SPC region?</sup> recoveries from <sup>McLog?</sup> Scilly
50. Hawk and Green are two different animals
51. Project funded, or made possible, by grant to SPC from Aust, N.Z.?, etc.
52. Come to halt as soon as practicable - preferably immediately - no reason why it can't!
53. Make all draft reports available

Some references for recommendations Section

- ✓ 1. Allen (1975)
- ✓ 2. Balazs (1976b)
- ✓ 3. ANON. (1976b) APIA
- ✓ 4. Feslier (1977)
- ✓ 5. Murphy (1973)
- ✓ 6. Pritchard (1971)

- Thoughts for RECO during  
 "Review of MS report (mine)
- Survey of marine turtle resources should be "instituted"
  - assessment studies (as per Hirth)
  - Fiji - turtle gress postures (as per Hirth)
  - Maintain contact with "outsiders"
  - marine symposium
  - initiate <sup>comprehensive</sup> turtle tagging program
  - compile circulate turtle info
  - No Aquaculture
  - No handbook
  - Enthusiastic individuals - local actions
  - NOT successful <sup>comprehensive</sup> (farm) too experimental
  - system of Review outside SPC
  - doesn't produce high protein food - doesn't contribute substantially
  - gain data on state of stocks
  - Enough money has been spent unjust.
  - Watch W. Samoa - Volunteer?
  - Watch T. Strait
  - tag everything
  - "submit an appraisal of the above two projects or otherwise continuation of the projects"
  - see (i) of terms of reference
  - careful inventory - techniques developed elsewhere (SPC has limited funds - priorities - culture low)
  - little background material available for wise management. - SP/FDA
  - Basic handbook on Turtle Management (no)



1977

- Hatchery scheme is experimental - need to keep close eye on Samoa
- Sections of Carr and Main very informative
- Request info through IUCN/SSC Carr on status of farming (and Johnson?)
- "previously recommended studies of naturally occurring turtle stocks"
- Raj; release reports
- tag everything - INCONEL

FEBRUARY 2010

From p. 39

## Boarding Pass

Carrier

AIR PACIFIC

Name

BALAZS/GEORGE MR

Flight

FJ 853

Date

05FEB

Seat

32C

From

HI

To

HONOLULU

Service Information

AA710C7M2

Boarding Time

2020

Gate

8

ETKT SEQ NBR

79

Class

ECONOMY

◀ Insert Please be at the boarding gate well ahead of departure time

TO FALEOLO, SAMOA -  
W/ 1 hour  
LAY OVER

Notes:

000324  
01/26/2010



Notes:

000324  
01/26/2010



ECHIDNA



FIJI has been identified as an important foraging ground for turtles in the South Pacific.

The revelation was made at a workshop on satellite tagging of turtles in Nadi yesterday.

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program marine species officer Lui Bell said the finding was based on the results of a flipper and satellite tagging.

Government representatives from Kiribati, Tuvalu, Tonga, Vanuatu and Fiji gathered to discuss ways to build national capacities to enable the satellite tagging of turtles and learn more about their behaviours. The workshop was also supported by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration and the Marine Conservation Action Fund.

Mr Bell said green turtle nesters mounted with satellite tags on Rose Island, American Samoa migrated to Fiji afterwards.

"Similarly, a hawksbill nester mounted with a satellite tag in Samoa, migrated to the EEZs of seven Pacific island countries and territories and ended up in the Fiji waters. Another green nester tagged in Cook Islands also found its way to Fiji waters," he said.

Monitoring has revealed dramatic declines in marine turtle populations over the last 20 years across much of South East Asia and the Pacific. Tagging has allowed scientists to understand better the feeding, nesting and migratory behaviours of these cultural icons.

WWF marine species co-ordinator Penina Solomona said with the turtle's traversing nature between wide oceans, regional co-operation ensured that establishing the management and protection of turtle population must go beyond the national level to the cross-border level.

"By working with communities, governments, scientists and other partners, WWF aims to save these ancient mariners for the benefit of future generations," he said.

"Strong partnerships are, and will continue to be essential to achieving shared goals," Ms Solomona said.

The workshop ends today.

NEWS

Migra

FUJI TIMES — THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010



Strong partnerships are, and will continue to be essential ... WWF marine species co-ordinator — PENINA SOLOMONA

tory cultural icons



A Turtle Satellite Tagging workshop participant, Kolinio Musudroka, releasing a tagged turtle.

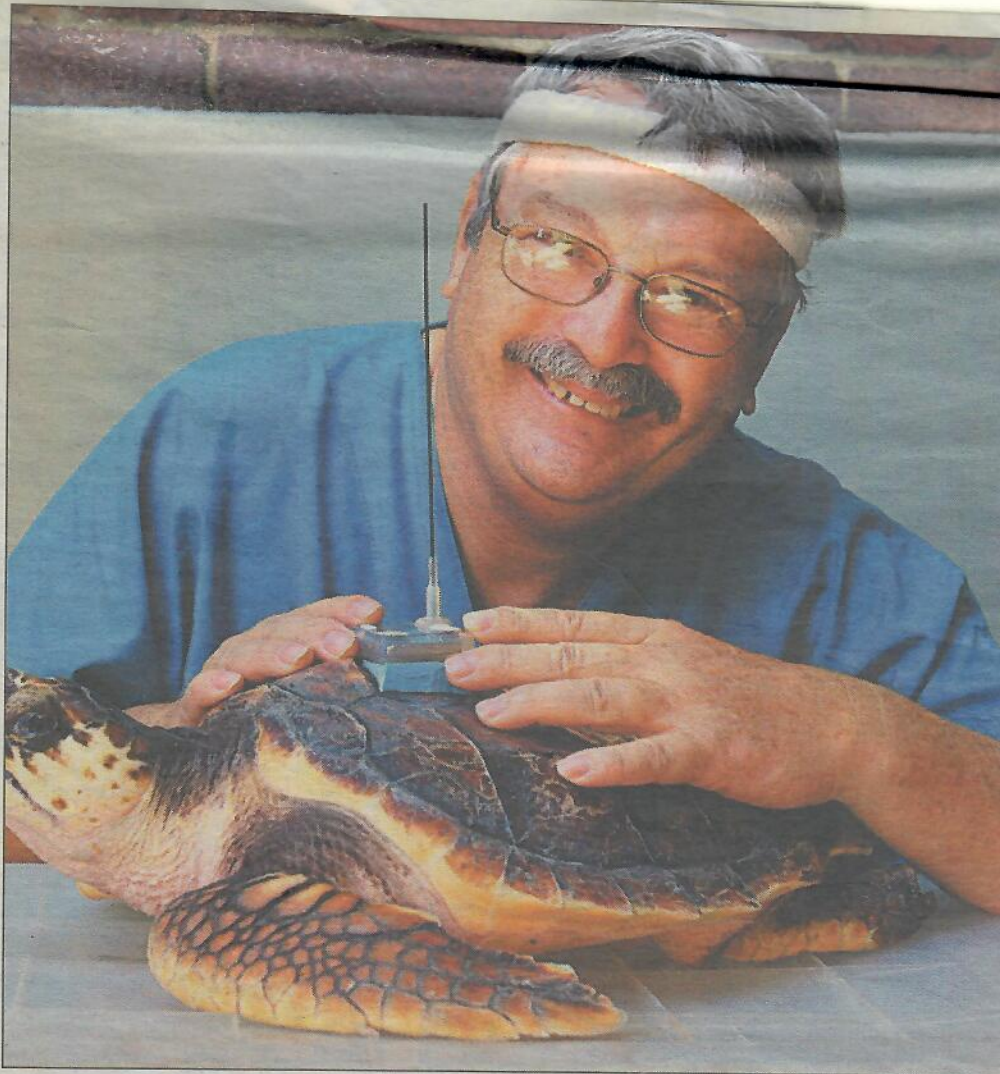
Picture: MARGARET WISE

118 FEBRUARY 2010

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Mystery tour: Biologist George H. Balazs fixes a tracker to a turtle yesterday

Picture: Craig Greenhill

## Hunt on for turtles' lost years

**Malcolm Holland**  
Science Reporter

WE KNOW where they are born and where they return as giants to start a new generation, but in between are the loggerhead turtles' lost years.

Two of the marine reptiles were enlisted yesterday in an innovative Australian-US experiment to solve their ocean migration mystery. Satellite tracking devices were fitted to a pair at Taronga Zoo and they'll be flown to Lord Howe Island for release.

"Very little is known about the journey of loggerhead turtles once they leave Australia," Libby Hall, manager of Taronga's Wildlife Hospital, said yesterday.

"They hatch on beaches in Queensland and

make their way into the ocean spending more than 30 years at sea before returning to the same beach to lay their eggs.

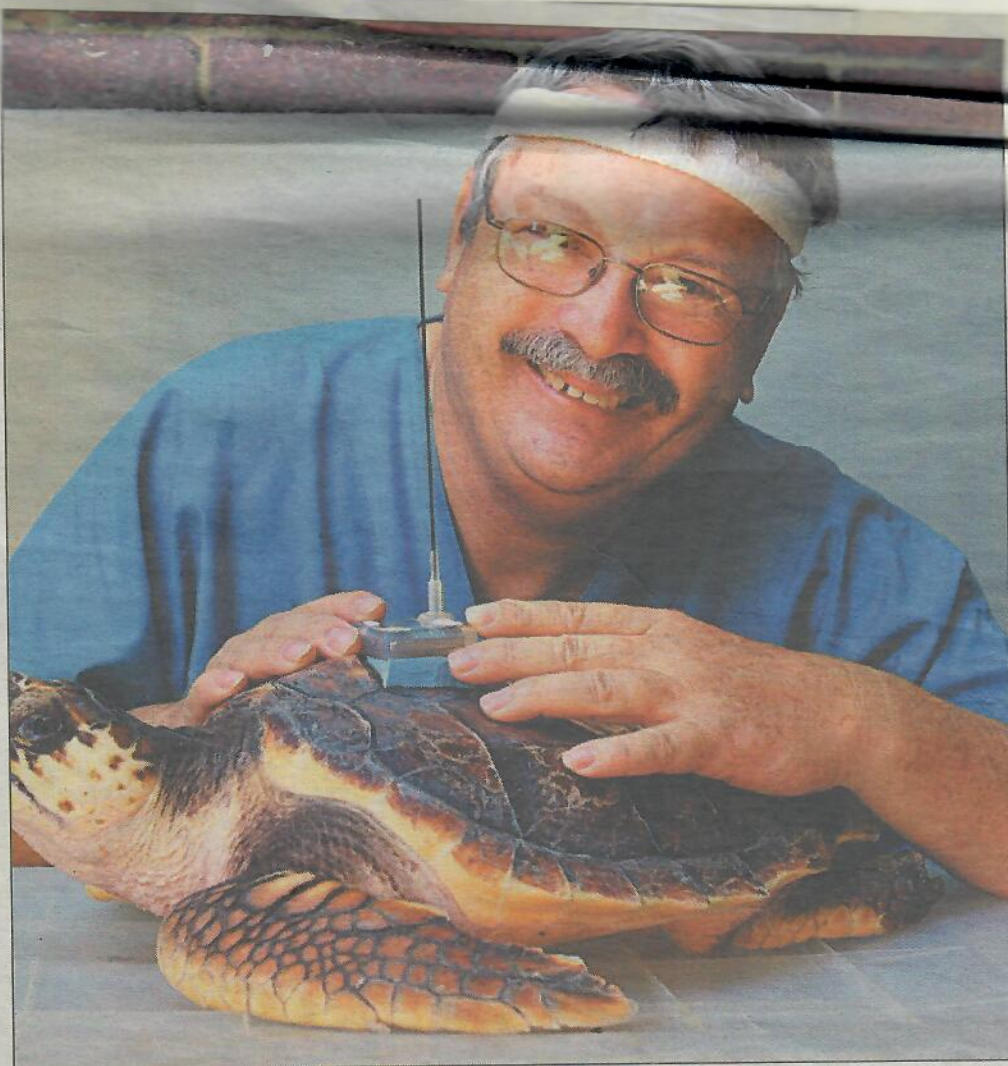
"Where they go, and what they do during those years is somewhat of a mystery."

The result could result in loggerhead-specific "turtle maps", such as those created for other turtle species in the North Pacific.

The maps are given to commercial fishermen so they can avoid certain areas full of turtles — which are threatened by entanglements in fishing nets and being hooked accidentally by long-line fishing.

"If we knew how the turtles used the ocean currents and where they swim there is a much greater chance of protecting dwindling populations," Ms Hall said.

ally  
rillon's  
w Zealand



Mystery tour: Biologist George H. Balazs fixes a tracker to a turtle yesterday Picture: Craig Greenhill

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# People

By Theresa Ralogaivau

E: editor@fijitir

## A change of heart

FOR 30 years he dived and captured turtles. He mastered the art of nabbing these ancient creatures and soon became the authority to call when turtle meat was needed for traditional functions or feasts.

Recently Ravulolo Tuikubulau, 52, had a change of heart. so much so that it pained him to even see the slaughter of this meek reptile.

"They just lie there when you kill them - they don't put up a fight," he said.

"They'll just flap around their flippers but you'd barely hear them utter a cry."

"I decided I didn't want to have anything to do with that kind of violence anymore."

The Nakalou villager in Macuata was bred on turtle meat, to love its taste and go hunting for it whenever the craving for it overtook him.

"I'd go out and catch them even if there was no traditional need to do so," he said.

"I regretted that attitude when I finally realized that their numbers had seriously gone down."

A skilled diver, Mr Tuikubulau usually foraged Nabekavu waters, which is the traditional fishing grounds of Nakalou villagers.

The usual methods employed to capture a turtle either included hooking the turtle shell collar, spearing them or sneaking in the dead of night while they were sound asleep.

And then there are specific days to go out diving.

"During high tides when the new moon is in the sky they are really easy to catch then," he said.

"I usually find them sleeping in small caves in the reef."

He reckoned he has probably captured more than 100 turtles over the years - mostly green turtles and the Hawksbill - and not one he released back into the sea.

However, last week when he went out diving it proved to be a different night.

He dived for two nights before he captured a large green, swimming towards him.

"When I saw it swimming towards my boat I dived low and met it halfway, stuck a hook into the collar of its shell and swam back to the boat," he said.

This green was lucky, for Mr Tuikubulau would release it back into the sea.

The green turtle was captured for conservation purposes, to be satellite tagged and released as part of a program undertaken by the World Wide Fund for Nature and the Secretariat of the Regional Environment Program.

Standing near the sea, for first time in his diving life, Mr Tuikubulau said he was a proud man.

"I'm happy to become a conservationist, no longer a turtle predator but a friend," he said.

"I'm calling on everyone to lose the taste for turtle meat, and stop killing turtles."

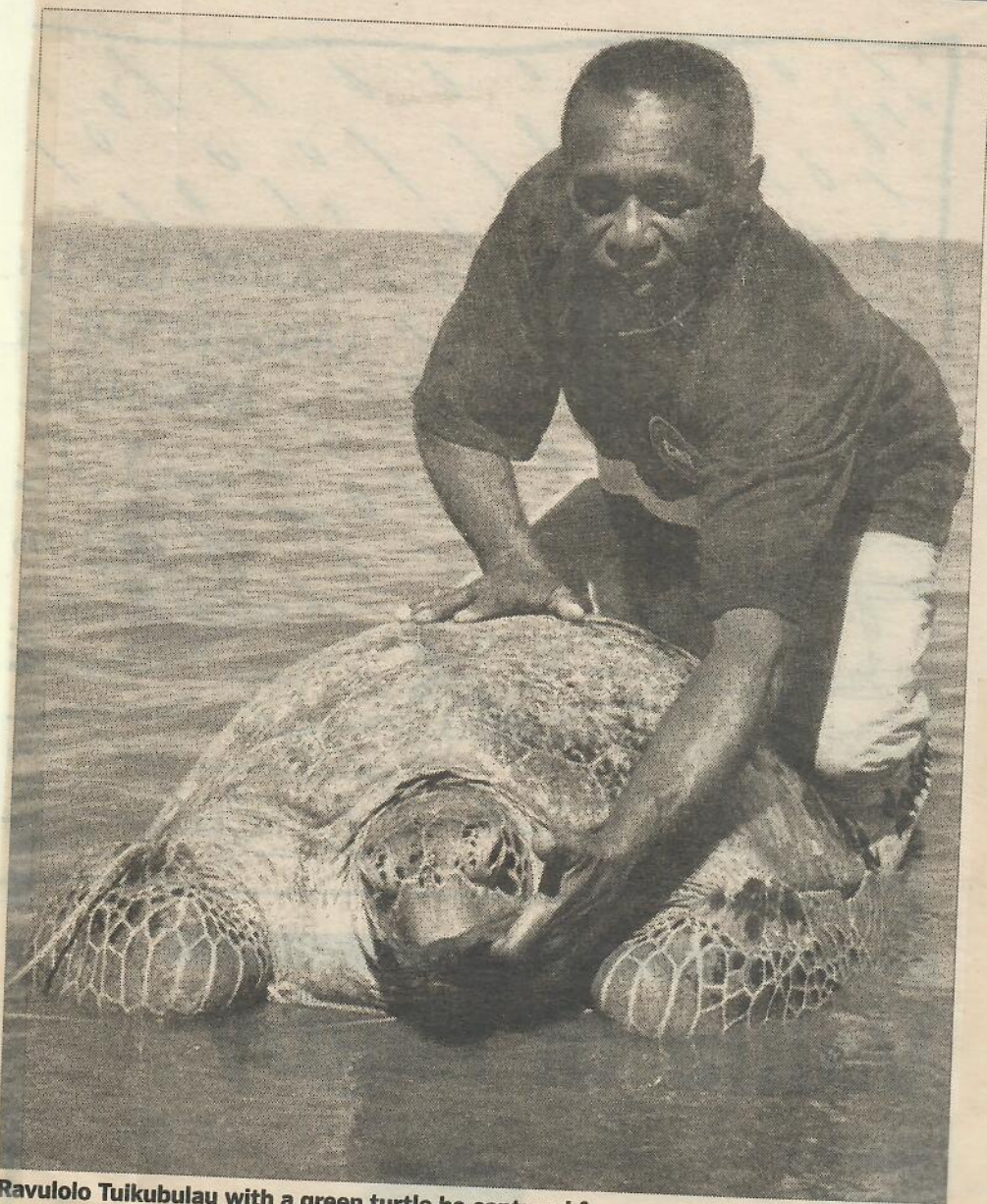
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**Ravulolo Tuikubulau with a green turtle he captured for conservation purposes.**

Picture: THERESA RALOGAIVAU.

VISION STATEMENT of the Strategic Plan for Marine Turtles of the South Pacific (drafted by participants of the Strategic Planning Meeting of the Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Project, June 1996, Apia, Western Samoa) -

"We see a future where generations of Pacific Island people will have choices about how they use and interact with sea turtles. This dream will come true if we take action now to ensure that sea turtle populations recover to become healthy, robust and stable. Sea turtles will be fulfilling their ecological role and be harvested by Pacific Islander people on a sustainable basis to meet their cultural, economic and nutritional needs."

If you translate the above to Pacific Island languages, then translate back to English, this is what generally results: (Very powerful, yes?)

"It's not here yet, but we see a time when people in the Pacific and turtles are living together in harmony. The turtles will live to support the people in their needs; also turtles will have their place in the Pacific."

# THE JET

EDITORIAL

## Money has no memory

Money has no memory. Experience has. You will never know what was the total cost of your education, but for a lifetime you will recall and relive the memories of schools and colleges.

Few years from now, you will forget the amount you paid to settle the hospitalization bill, but will ever cherish having saved your mother's life or the life you get to live with the just born. You won't remember the cost of your honeymoon, but to the last breath remember the experiences of the bliss of togetherness.

Money has no memory. Experience has. Good times and bad times, times of prosperity and times of poverty, times when the future looked so secure and times when you didn't know from where the tomorrow will come.

Life has been in one way or the other a roller-coaster ride for everyone. Beyond all that abundance and beyond all that deprivation, what remains is the memory of experiences. Sometimes the wallet was full, sometimes even the pocket was empty. There was enough and you still had reasons to frown. There wasn't enough and you still had reasons to smile.

Today, you can look back with tears of gratitude for all the times you had laughed together, and also look back with a smile at all the times you cried alone. All in all, life filled you with experiences to create a history of your own self, and you alone can remember them all. The first time you balanced yourself on your cycle without support.

The first gift you bought for your parents and the first gift your sibling gave you. The first award, the first public appreciation and the first stage speech.

The first day in college, the first day at work, the first adventure. And the list is endless experiences, with timeless memory.

No denying that anything that's material costs money; still the fact remains the cost of the experience will be forgotten, but the experience will never be. So, what if it's economic recession? Let it be, but let there not be a recession to the quality of your life.

You can still take your parents & grand parents, if not on a pilgrimage, at least to the local temple. You can still play with your children, if not on an international holiday, at least in the local park. It doesn't cost money to lie down or to take a loved one onto your lap. Nice time to train the employees, create leadership availability and be ready for the wonderful times when they arrive. Hey! Aspects like your health, knowledge development and spiritual growth are not economy dependent.

Time will pass economy will revive currency will soon be in current and in all this, I don't want you to look back and realize you did nothing but stayed in gloom.

Recession can make you lose out on money.

Let it not make you lose out on experiences. If you are not happy with what you have, no matter how much more you have, you will still not be happy.

Make a statement with the way you live your life: How I feel has nothing to do with how much I have.

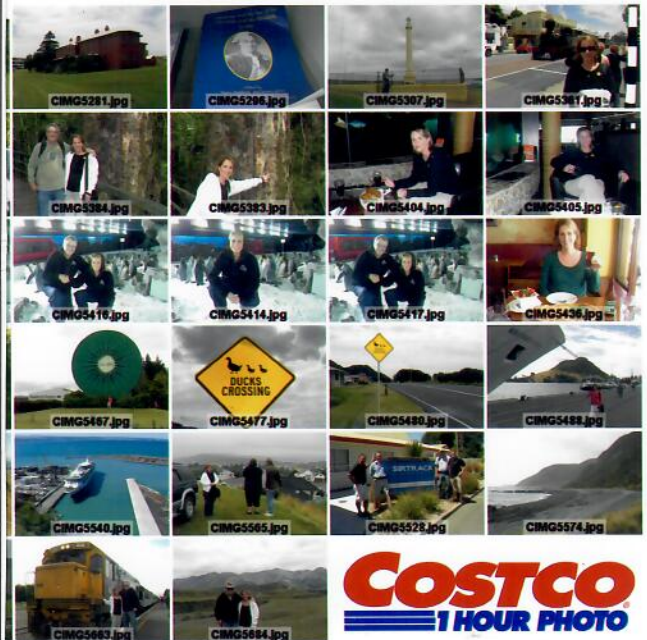
**Contributed by Sarojini Harris**  
*Soroptimist International*

**THE JET** is Nadi's own community newspaper published monthly for the people and visitors of the Jet-Set Town. Articles and pictures published in **THE JET** is allowed

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000324

01/26/2010



...and colleges.

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BOOK

01/26/2010



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