

1975 & 1980s  
DR. ARCHIE CARR

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

January 3, 1975

Mr. A. Mence, Executive Officer  
SSC, IUCN Secretariat  
1110 Morges  
Switzerland

Dear Tony:

Many thanks for your letter with the list of general principles agreed upon at the Task Force meetings. As nearly as I can recall these seem to cover all group decisions that had been made as of the time I left Cayman.

By far the most important achievement of the meetings was the agreement that the green turtle is endangered. I am happy that this point comes first in the list, as the basic premise of all subsequent propositions.

I could suggest minor modifications of some of the points that pertain especially to Mariculture, Ltd.; but since the main stipulation of our terms of reference was to weigh the defects and merits of turtle culture as such, an exhaustive documentation of the particular faults of Mariculture, Ltd. would perhaps be superfluous. As I said (no doubt ad nauseum) during the meetings, "if the green turtle is indeed endangered, then I believe that market-extension can be identified as the most insidious effect to be expected from farming for international trade. I am not completely sure what the consensus of the group on that point was, however; so I won't suggest change of emphasis in that regard.

One thing that I do miss, though, is a succinct generalization of the burden-of-proof idea. The obligation for a claimant for endorsement to prove his merit is plain and quintessential. I wish that this could be said very clearly, as a general proposition, perhaps something like this:

To expect endorsement by individuals or groups concerned over the survival status of natural species, an enterprise engaging in or proposing to engage in international commerce in marine turtle products will be obliged to submit, in the form of a careful predictive analysis, a "survival impact statement," which clearly

Continued. . . .

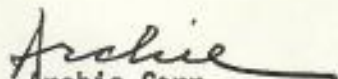
Mr. A. Mence  
January 3, 1975  
Page 2

illustrates how, and on what schedule, the enterprise proposes to become a demonstrably favorable factor in the survival outlook of the species to be sold. Responsibility for mobilizing this proof rests with the claimant for endorsement.

I hope that you find IUCN officials receptive to our recommendations. I'm sure you and Tom will do all you can to explain how far-reaching a rejection or bowdlerization of the Coral Gables principles might be.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

  
Archie Carr  
Graduate Research Professor

AC:dg

xc: Tom Harrisson  
Task Force Members

June 13, 1980

Mr. Robert F. Scott  
Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission  
IUCN  
Avenue du Mont-Blanc  
CH-1196 Gland  
Switzerland

Dear Bob:

Many thanks for your letter of 5 June. I think the plan for accelerating the screening of sea turtle projects by using the priority ratings in our strategy document is sound--providing decisions wouldn't set up irrevocably ~~strategie~~ of us here had at least read through the proposal. In other words, acceptance or rejection for funding could be quickly done there, but our recommendations for modification could still be taken into consideration. Does this sound feasible? If it would work it ought to improve the system materially.

Please tell Pat Chable that I have not been able to locate the letter from the chap in Los Angeles who wants to join the Turtle Group. I don't know how to tell him politely, but he seems to have none of the diverse set of qualifications that would justify the invitation to join. You can't just up and join a group because it sounds interesting. Or can you?

I get homesick for Samburu from time to time--how about you?

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Archie Carr  
Graduate Research Professor  
Chairman, Marine Turtle Specialist Group

AC/lw

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

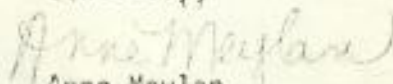
12 August 1980

Dr. Ismu Sutanto Suwelo  
University of Indonesia  
Jakarta  
Indonesia

Dear Dr. Suwelo:

Some months ago we sent you an invitation to become a member of the newly reconstituted Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the IUCN. The letter of invitation was sent out by Dr. Archie Carr, Group Chairman. To date we have not heard from you in response. So that we may complete the record of our membership here and at IUCN headquarters, we hope that you will advise us of your decision at your earliest convenience. If we have had no response by 15 September we will assume that your response is negative.

Sincerely,



Anne Meylan  
Agenda Officer  
Marine Turtle Specialist Group

Bogor, August 25, 1980.

Dr. Archie Carr.  
Chairman Marine Turtle Specialist  
Group, IUCN.  
University of Florida.  
Gainesville, 32611.

Dear Dr. Carr.

Thank you very much for your letter of February 9, 1980. I recently received your letter on August 18, 1980. I have greatly valued that you invited me to become a member of the newly constituted IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group. I am sorry that since Oct. 1, 1979 I lived in Japan until March 30, 1981. Dr Itaru Uchida and I together, studied of dynamic population of Caretta caretta in Japan.

The recent conservation strategy of sea turtle population in Indonesia, was given explanation in the World Conference on Sea turtle at Washington last year. I conducted and guided some artificial hatcheries of sea turtles in Indonesia. The Bali Government, to built a Marine Turtle Park and I served it. In Indonesia from August 11, 1980 - Oct. 2, 1980 we could study the ecology of Eretmochelys imbricata. The papers of mine, I would send from Japan after I return on October 15, 1980.

Finally through this occasion I would like to express many thanks for your cooperation.

Address in Japan.  
c/o Dr. I. Uchida  
Himeji Aquarium.  
Tagarayama, Himeji.  
South Japan.

Sincerely yours,

*I Njoman Sumertha*  
I Njoman Sumertha Naitja.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

August 26, 1980

Mr. Harvey Abrams  
Tropical Audubon  
166 N.W. 100th Street  
Miami Shores  
Miami, FL 33150

Dear Harvey:

In a recent telephone conversation Kathy told me of the apparent increased nesting by loggerheads, and perhaps by green turtles and leatherbacks as well, on Key Biscayne. She expressed concern over the fate of the new nesting colony, on a beach so heavily used by humans, and asked what I thought could be done to protect it. This is a recurrent problem nowadays, and there is no easy way to provide immunity for a nesting colony on a populous beach. The main danger at Key Biscayne is, I judge, compaction of the sand above late-stage nests by human feet or by vehicles. Keeping people and cars off the beach is the obvious cure, but in this case it is not a practicable one. The only alternative is to go into the hatchery business--to patrol the shore daily (or nightly), collect all eggs laid, and hatch them in a protected place. This can be done successfully, but it takes a lot of work and careful adherence to a few principles, which are mainly matters of common sense. Whether the eggs are hatched in styrofoam boxes of sand or in artificial nests in a fenced area of beach, they have to be protected from flooding, dessication, and straying departures from natural beach-sand temperatures. You will encounter differences of opinion among turtle folk regarding the choice between immediate release of hatchlings, and "head-starting" them--that is, pen-rearing them to sizes at which the hatchling predators are no longer a threat. I lean toward immediate release, but there is evidence that head starting may under some circumstances be a valid conservation procedure. So you-all will have to decide which you favor, and can afford.

Needless to say, you ought to oppose all "beach-nourishment" and mechanical sand-cleaning operations throughout the hatching season. If you include the fate of the leatherback hatchling this closed season ought to extend from say June 15 to November. If a hatching-lot is used it has to be fenced, and each nest must be surrounded by its own little fence of wire mesh, so that every morning the young can be collected before the sun gets hot. Release should take place on the beach, preferably about dawn.

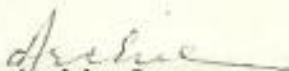
To be effective all this requires whole-hearted effort and constant attention. Perhaps you can mobilize volunteers to carry it out. You obviously will need permits from DNR, and you might want to communicate with Ross Witham about hatchery practice. He has been hatching turtles

Mr. Harvey Abrams  
August 26, 1980  
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successfully for a long time.

I hope these comments give you a preliminary idea of the job Tropical Audubon would face if you want to intervene helpfully in the predicament of the Key Biscayne turtles. Certainly the problems deserve your careful attention, and I wish you all success in solving them.

Sincerely yours,



Archie Carr

Graduate Research Professor

AC/lw

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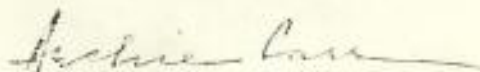
August 26, 1980

Mr. David Thompson  
Minister for Science and Environment  
Canberra  
Australia

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I am writing to express the concern of the Marine Turtle Specialists Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature over the expansion of the saucer-scallop fishery in the Capricornia Section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in Queensland. According to a recent article by Mike Dredge in *Australian Fisheries*, there are 100-120 boats in the present fleet. Each of these tows two or three trawls with head-rope lengths of from five to 12 feet. A high incidental take of sea turtles by the fleet seems inevitable. In the past the stewardship of Queensland for its remarkably diverse sea turtle fauna has been an example for the world, and this threat to the classic Capricorn turtle area will be widely deplored. I realize that the fishermen of the region have rights and needs, but I very strongly believe that every effort should be made to meet these needs with minimal harm to the Queensland sea turtles. I suspect that your government shares this conviction, and I sincerely hope that you will take every step possible to provide permanent immunity for the marine turtles of the Park and all of Queensland.

Sincerely yours,



Archie Carr  
Chairman, Marine Turtle Specialists Group  
IUCN/SSC

AC/lw



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
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August 26, 1980

Mr. Robert F. Scott  
Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission/IUCN  
CH-1196 Gland  
Switzerland

Dear Bob:

This is in reference to Mrs. Mittag's letter of August 5 to you, asking whether the IUCN would advise her to release excess green turtle hatchlings at Grand Cayman. This exemplifies the kind of problem that farming wild species generates. The present one may appear trivial, but to those of us who are concerned over the elementary state of sea turtle taxonomy it does not seem so. If the Cayman release were successful it would add to the difficulty of determining affinities and differences among the green turtle populations of the western Atlantic. If the hatchlings to be released are from captive-reared females, they could be hybrids of the three Atlantic breeding colonies: those of Ascension Island, Surinam, and Costa Rica, all of which, at one time or another, have been present in the Cayman breeding crawl. The release might thus involve turtles that would either fail to breed, or would modify the natural West Atlantic strains, and thus exacerbate the troubles facing any effort to use modern, fine-scale taxonomic procedures in the systematic study of the group. Nevertheless, if the release were certain to be a single isolated exercise I, personally, would say go ahead with it--believing that so few of the hatchlings would grow to maturity that even the most discriminating biochemical tests of affinity would not be biased by their presence in the population. But there is also the precedent to consider. There are aspirant turtle farmers all over the world, and the kind of zoogeographic disarray that they could produce by indiscriminately releasing farm-bred hatchlings could completely block any effort to sort out the green turtle stocks of the world.


If I were you I would answer Mrs. Mittag by asking whether the genetic background of the stock to be released is known, how many turtles are involved, and what their age is. A few hundred very young hatchlings might not be worth worrying about. A few hundred yearlings of mixed origin probably would be. Situations in between those extremes would require more pondering.

I am sorry if I seem evasive, but when there is no real answer, there's no virtue in inventing one. The most nearly Solomonesque solution I think of at the moment would be to require Mrs. Mittag to rear the hatchlings to flourishing maturity, then to package and freeze their flesh and send it about to hungry people. The cost of the operation would be met by suing Mr. Fisher and Mr. Naylor, who were the real instigators of the mess.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

cc: Wayne King  
George Balazs

  
Archie Carr



NATIONAL PARKS  
AND WILDLIFE  
SERVICE

Office Northern Regional Centre.

Address Marlow Street, Pallarenda,  
Townsville. QLD. 4810.

Telephone 74 1411.

Our reference  
Your reference

Date 10th September, 1980.

Archie Carr,  
Chairman, Marine Turtle  
Specialists Group,  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville. 32611.

Dear Archie,

I have received a copy of your letter, 28 August 1980, re A possible threat to turtles from the scallop fishery in the region of the southern Great Barrier Reef.

I have had close contact with fishermen and scallop fisheries research personnel including Mike Dredge for many years. I have tried on occasions to use these scallop trawlers as a source of turtles for tagging and more recently I've attempted to investigate the Caretta/saucer scallop/Sulcascaris nematode life cycle in conjunction with scallop research of my Caretta rookeries. However these efforts have been fruitless because turtles are almost never caught in these scallop trawls. This industry has been operating in the area for about 20 years and there is no indication that turtles have ever been a regular part of the catch.

I cannot support you in your assumptions regarding the effects of this industry on our sea turtle populations and am disappointed that the local Turtle Specialist Committee members were not asked to comment on this issue before approaches were made to the Australian Government.

Yours faithfully,

C.J. Limpus,  
Senior Zoologist.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARTRAM HALL  
304-332-1107

September 22, 1980

Sr. Jorge Jenkins  
Director  
Instituto Nicaraguense de Recursos  
Naturales del Ambiente  
Apartado 5123  
Managua, Nicaragua

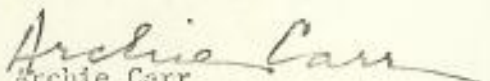
Estimado señor:

I am writing to thank you for the hospitality and cooperation you and your staff showed Barney Nietschmann, Nancy Foster, Archie Carr III and me during our recent visit to Managua, Puerto Cabezas and the Miskito Cays. Our meetings and expedition to the area under consideration as a national marine sanctuary were very instructive, and were important background for defining aims and setting limits of the projected sanctuary. It was extremely helpful to be able to visit the Miskito Cays in company with your two able colleagues, Wladimir Perez and Reynaldo Arostegui, to discuss with them the values innate in the area and to consider ways of guarding those values as a permanent Nicaraguan asset. I was sorry that my early departure flight made it impossible for me to join in your final discussion of logical next moves for developing the Miskito sanctuary idea.

Barney Nietschmann and Chuck Carr are now preparing a draft account of our group observations and deliberations. When you receive this I hope you will let us know your reactions and will indicate what additional steps you believe should be taken.

I wish you could have been present at the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation in Washington last November, and could have seen the enthusiasm that greeted Reynaldo Arostegui's suggestion that a Miskito Cays park might be looked on favorably by the new Nicaraguan government. Now, that concept appears to be acquiring substance, and if there is any way in which outside support will further its development I hope you will let me know. Meanwhile, please accept my felicitations for the constructive foresight your office has shown in setting out to preserve a unique and world-renowned portion of the natural heritage of your country.

Sincerely yours,

  
Archie Carr  
Chairman, Marine Turtle Specialists  
Group, IUCN  
Technical Director, Caribbean Conservation  
Corporation

AC/lw

October 6, 1980

Dr. Archie Carr  
Dept. of Zoology  
College of Arts and Sciences  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida 32601

Dear Archie:

We share your concern about the depletion of hawksbill sea turtles, and we agree that the enforcement of CITES may be the only hope for the survival of the species.

As you know, Japan took a reservation on the hawksbill, green and olive ridley sea turtles when they ratified the Convention in August of this year. This will allow Japan to continue its tortoiseshell imports. A strong letter writing campaign to the Japanese government, loaded with facts and figures on the depleting numbers of hawksbills in the wild+increased imports into Japan, may have some effect.

Enclosed are the latest 1979 tortoiseshell (Beikko) statistics by Japan, an incredible 20,000 kg increase from 1978 imports. Table 15 (pg. 20) of TRAFFIC'S Sea Turtle Trade Report will provide you with Japan tortoiseshell import figures from previous years, and Table 3 (pg. 8) will show you the amounts other countries are importing. It is hard to believe, but both Hong Kong and Taiwan imported more raw tortoiseshell in 1978 than Japan! Please circulate the enclosed tables to Anne Meylan for use in her research.

Good luck in the battle ahead. If we can be of any help, please let us know.

Best,

Encls.

David Mack  
Assistant Director

cc: Mr. George Balazs  
Mr. Jose Ottenwalder



輸入品別国別表 IMPORTS OF COMMODITY BY COUNTRY

12月 Dec. 1976

(単位: 千円 UNIT: 1,000 Yen)

品名・国名 COMMODITY & COUNTRY	単位 UNIT	当月 CURRENT MONTH		累計 COMBATIVE YEAR TO DATE		品名・国名 COMMODITY & COUNTRY	単位 UNIT	当月 CURRENT MONTH		累計 COMBATIVE YEAR TO DATE	
		数量 QUANTITY	価額 VALUE	数量 QUANTITY	価額 VALUE			数量 QUANTITY	価額 VALUE		
INDIA K.G.	-	-	-	611012	24800	Elephants' tusks	-	-	-	-	-
PAKISTAN K.G.	-	-	-	2807697	99919	HK KONG K.G.	68	338	2949	3295	-
BANGLA K.G.	114135	3343	-	129300	3280	THAILND K.G.	-	-	100	99	-
USSR K.G.	-	-	-	272970	18180	SIAM K.G.	-	-	300	2184	-
USA K.G.	630	328	-	994	322	SUDAN K.G.	-	-	790	9581	-
URUGUAY K.G.	-	-	-	300001	14575	CELEBA K.G.	-	-	191	1583	-
NEWZEAL K.G.	-	-	-	403074	25184	CAMBODJ K.G.	-	-	295	4157	-
TOTAL K.G.	2311979	67260	-	3037567	84285	CHAD K.G.	-	-	-	1718	22325
05.08-220 オヤイン	-	-	-	-	-	C AFRICA K.G.	-	-	18416	21784	-
Oneskin	-	-	-	-	-	GAMB K.G.	511	4096	-	2845	4033
THAILND K.G.	140000	71700	-	2060190	528560	CONGO K.G.	-	-	-	4164	35235
INDIA K.G.	68387	15236	-	2489734	732320	ZAMB K.G.	10780	176224	220664	343334	-
TOTAL K.G.	208387	46936	-	4569924	1247182	KENYA K.G.	2980	37183	4776	60835	-
05.08-290 骨及びホーンコア類にこれらの骨(その他のもの)	-	-	-	-	-	TANZANIA K.G.	1377	2570	1095	15413	-
Hones and horn-cores and their waste, n.s.s.	-	-	-	-	-	S AFRICA K.G.	185	1276	380	6378	-
R KOREA K.G.	4199	215	-	10772	523	ZAMBIA K.G.	-	-	6219	8891	-
N KOREA K.G.	300000	8701	-	663120	28711	BOTSWAN K.G.	-	-	3850	24186	-
CHINA K.G.	99542	4910	-	2048184	82422	UNSWDN K.G.	-	-	34	53	-
TAIWAN K.G.	-	-	-	152084	853	TOTAL K.G.	14346	24918	28877	56099	-
HK KONG K.G.	-	-	-	35060	15462	05.10-200 さい角	-	-	-	-	-
VIETNAM K.G.	-	-	-	466190	46753	Rhinoceros horn	-	-	-	-	-
THAILND K.G.	1707807	68028	-	6721611	394944	HK KONG K.G.	-	-	120	829	-
INDONESIA K.G.	189017	4340	-	5411682	242727	SINGAPO K.G.	-	-	18	137	-
SIAM K.G.	182284	3820	-	206265	8748	KENYA K.G.	-	-	167	2587	-
INDIA K.G.	761521	34645	-	16125123	832993	S AFRICA K.G.	-	-	150	2176	-
PAKISTAN K.G.	186451	7727	-	160721	34890	TOTAL K.G.	-	-	652	5389	-
SIAM K.G.	-	-	-	301330	11035	05.10-300 アイボリー及びその粉及び骨(その他のもの)	-	-	-	-	-
BANGLA K.G.	-	-	-	56301	2267	Ivory, powder and waste of ivory, n.s.s.	-	-	-	-	-
USA K.G.	-	-	-	58312	4316	NORWAY K.G.	35	2312	61	4674	-
PANAMA K.G.	-	-	-	725008	31287	DENMARK K.G.	-	-	49	2340	-
PANAMA K.G.	-	-	-	107774	6839	PERU K.G.	-	-	1500	2850	-
ARGENT K.G.	218835	9473	-	3475976	148116	TANZANIA K.G.	-	-	330	3340	-
TOTAL K.G.	3782346	146811	-	41447546	1932980	AUSTRAL K.G.	-	-	399	1792	-
05.09-010 角(粉及び骨を含む)	-	-	-	-	-	TOTAL K.G.	36	2314	2557	13225	-
Horns including waste and powder of these products	-	-	-	-	-	E. C.	-	-	43	2249	-
CHINA K.G.	1530	180211	-	852589	370481	05.11-100 ベッコウ	-	-	-	-	-
TAIWAN K.G.	9000	3222	-	15493	9445	Becco	-	-	-	-	-
MINNDO K.G.	-	-	-	275	20388	TAIWAN K.G.	-	-	155	1100	-
THAILND K.G.	4880	3112	-	35315	97245	HK KONG K.G.	-	-	89	3994	-
SINGAPO K.G.	-	-	-	1274	1177	SIAM K.G.	-	-	1799	1677	-
MALAYA K.G.	-	-	-	3070	1177	SINGAPO K.G.	-	-	146	1691	-
PHILPIN K.G.	3039	244	-	1740	1271	INDONESIA K.G.	1016	8848	5033	54376	-
INDONESIA K.G.	-	-	-	29175	647	INDIA K.G.	-	-	29	373	-
INDIA K.G.	11000	3254	-	377280	107429	MALDIVE K.G.	91	233	289	2342	-
PAKISTAN K.G.	20993	187	-	1333775	40512	NETHLDG K.G.	-	-	114	4126	-
SIAM K.G.	-	-	-	8450	210	HONGKNG K.G.	9	114	22	114	-
BANGLA K.G.	-	-	-	178049	7029	NICARAG K.G.	209	3226	1014	1779	-
E KING K.G.	-	-	-	393	499	CST RUA K.G.	-	-	47	808	-
FRANCE K.G.	2483	2188	-	7036	6679	PANAMA K.G.	1087	23075	3213	11174	-
USSR K.G.	7479	84209	-	25288	1482148	BAHAMA K.G.	-	-	1018	4402	-
AUSTRIA K.G.	-	-	-	393	462	JAMAICA K.G.	-	-	124	732	-
USA K.G.	-	-	-	200	10040	BARBAD K.G.	12	183	23	437	-
MEXICO K.G.	-	-	-	52	162	CUBA K.G.	-	-	6099	21677	-
COLOMBIA K.G.	3000	478	-	3000	608	HAITI K.G.	80	1984	959	26121	-
BRAZE K.G.	10000	2425	-	93793	12075	P W IND K.G.	-	-	376	449	-
PARAGUA K.G.	-	-	-	2500	1798	QYMAN K.G.	639	14139	6221	121534	-
ARGENT K.G.	-	-	-	1000	432	ST LUCI K.G.	-	-	349	3918	-
MALI K.G.	-	-	-	1900	1019	ST VINT K.G.	-	-	144	2348	-
NIJERIA K.G.	-	-	-	22101	3682	KENYA K.G.	-	-	2890	21879	-
ZAMB K.G.	-	-	-	86	814	TANZANIA K.G.	31	1245	1410	15881	-
UGANDA K.G.	-	-	-	2030	2647	SIYDNE K.G.	150	3198	910	21275	-
NAMIBIA K.G.	-	-	-	580	1105	PIR K.G.	21	933	399	4785	-
S AFRICA K.G.	-	-	-	93940	17429	SOLOMON K.G.	-	-	528	4071	-
BOTSWAN K.G.	-	-	-	17518	2781	TOTAL K.G.	3294	36793	40344	141440	-
AUSTRAL K.G.	8565	1918	-	85080	19299	E. C.	-	-	1288	17540	-
NEWZEAL K.G.	-	-	-	340	8826	05.11-200 かめの甲及びつめ並びにかめの甲のくず(ベッコウを除く)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL K.G.	75103	35244	-	4918895	2170467	Tortoise-shell claws and waste of tortoise-shell, excluding Becco	-	-	-	-	-
E. C.	2480	2188	-	7336	7185	CHINA K.G.	-	-	380	499	-
05.09-020 ひまめ(粉及び骨を含む)	-	-	-	-	-	THAILND K.G.	-	-	1500	1780	-
Hooes including waste and powder of these products	-	-	-	-	-	SINGAPO K.G.	-	-	40	39	-
CHINA K.G.	-	-	-	37180	29844	PHILPIN K.G.	-	-	25	74	-
HK KONG K.G.	-	-	-	1	367	INDONESIA K.G.	-	-	70	737	-
INDONESIA K.G.	-	-	-	2800	799	USA K.G.	48	403	14	699	-
INDIA K.G.	-	-	-	310139	11811	HAITI K.G.	-	-	67	264	-
PAKISTAN K.G.	89240	420	-	258021	32796	PANAMA K.G.	-	-	47	536	-
BANGLA K.G.	-	-	-	15488	3198	QYMAN K.G.	-	-	35	367	-
CUBA K.G.	-	-	-	11341	2358	ST LUCI K.G.	-	-	110	9467	-
TOTAL K.G.	10740	473	-	1424642	35846	HONGKNG K.G.	-	-	96	216	-
05.09-090 つめ及びくちばし並びにかめの甲のくず(ベッコウを除く)	-	-	-	-	-	AUSTRAL K.G.	-	-	1	55	-
Hooes, nails, claws and beaks of animals, whalebone and the like, and hair and waste of these products	-	-	-	-	-	A SAMOA K.G.	-	-	47	191	-
R KOREA K.G.	-	-	-	2	630	TOTAL K.G.	44	609	2476	25479	-
CHINA K.G.	-	-	-	398154	89300	05.12-100 さんご	-	-	-	-	-
THAILND K.G.	-	-	-	67718	4480	Coral	-	-	-	-	-
INDONESIA K.G.	-	-	-	21844	3614	TAIWAN K.G.	1	758	14704	8178	-
INDIA K.G.	99994	5127	-	448923	83204	PHILPIN K.G.	-	-	89	371	-
E KING K.G.	-	-	-	55	230	SPAIN K.G.	41	1810	14	251	-
BRAZE K.G.	-	-	-	148421	9330	USA K.G.	-	-	24	251	-
KENYA K.G.	149	981	-	231	1220	TOTAL K.G.	44	2146	14614	68933	-
TOTAL K.G.	188894	6060	-	1388288	29198	05.12-210 白ちまじいの殻	-	-	-	-	-
E. C.	-	-	-	53	230	Shells of pinctada maxima	-	-	-	-	-
05.10-100 せうけ	-	-	-	-	-	HK KONG K.G.	-	-	150	280	-

1976 - 004751 X ? Yen = 0.5 \$

24,772



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

September 3, 1980

Dr. Archie Carr  
Chairman  
Marine Turtle Specialist Group, IUCN  
University of Florida  
Department of Zoology  
Gainesville, FL 32611

Dear Dr. Carr:

Thank you very much for the invitation to become a member of the newly constituted Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

I discussed this opportunity earlier with my superiors, and, as I related to you last month, they agreed that I should accept your invitation. Therefore, please let this letter formally acknowledge your invitation and my consent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Larry H. Ogren", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Larry H. Ogren  
Fishery Biologist (Research)

LHO/bbp  
cc: P/Secx4 (Berry)





NATIONAL PARKS  
AND WILDLIFE  
SERVICE

Our reference  
Your reference

Office Northern Regional Centre.

Address Marlow Street, Pallarenda,  
Townsville. QLD. 4810.

Date 10th September, 1980.

Telephone 74 1411.

Archie Carr,  
Chairman, Marine Turtle  
Specialists Group,  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville. 32611.

Dear Archie,

I have received a copy of your letter, 28 August 1980, re A possible threat to turtles from the scallop fishery in the region of the southern Great Barrier Reef.

I have had close contact with fishermen and scallop fisheries research personnel including Mike Dredge for many years. I have tried on occasions to use these scallop trawlers as a source of turtles for tagging and more recently I've attempted to investigate the Caretta/saucer scallop/Sulcascaris nematode life cycle in conjunction with scallop research of my Caretta rookeries. However these efforts have been fruitless because turtles are almost never caught in these scallop trawls. This industry has been operating in the area for about 20 years and there is no indication that turtles have ever been a regular part of the catch.

I cannot support you in your assumptions regarding the effects of this industry on our sea turtle populations and am disappointed that the local Turtle Specialist Committee members were not asked to comment on this issue before approaches were made to the Australian Government.

Yours faithfully,

C.J. Limpus,  
Senior Zoologist.



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARNHAM HALL  
904-292-1107

October 7, 1980

Mr. Colin Phipps  
President, Caribbean Conservation  
Corporation  
P.O. Box 3048  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Dear Colin:

I note in your letter of September 22 your reference to a copy of the Frick film to be sent to Boza in Costa Rica. Actually, the film has already gone to Boza. He was so anxious to have it that I sent him my copy. Now I am anxious to learn how I can get a replacement, if that is at all possible.

The Survival Service Commission held its meetings here last week. The CCC was well represented; Wayne King, Jeanne Mortimer, Karen Bjorndal, Anne Meylan, Chuck Carr and the undersigned all were there.

The first important theft at Tortuguero in 25 years has occurred. Two boys from up in Nicaragua, related to families in the village, waited for a perfectly calm moonlit night and took our brand new boat and motor, stole another motor from Axel Mehnert across the river, stole 40 gallons of gas from Roberto Rankin, sank Axel's boat, and turned loose all the village boats down at the Boca to keep people from chasing them and then streaked out of the Boca and presumably home to Nicaragua.

We've got people looking for them in Nicaragua, but have had no word yet, even though between us and Axel we have offered a \$500.00 reward.

Sorry to tell of sad happenings,

Sincerely yours,



Archie Carr  
Technical Director  
Caribbean Conservation Corporation

AC/lw

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
273 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

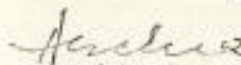
October 10, 1980

Mr. Robert Scott  
IUCN  
Avenue du Mont Blanc  
CH-1196 Gland  
Switzerland

Dear Bob:

It has occurred to me that I never answered your question concerning a final reaction to Dr. Mittag's letter concerning the release of hybrid green turtle yearlings. I believe an appropriate answer could be taken from our lively little discussion during the last minutes of the SSC meeting. Why not just tell her that captive breeding and possible genetic contamination of natural stocks was discussed at a recent meeting of the Commission, and that the subject evoked enough interest to justify organizing a workshop to ponder its implications in detail. Results of those deliberations will bear directly on her problem, and will be communicated to her immediately after the meetings. If you want to soften it all you might say you hope she understands that the attitude of the SSC in this matter is not based on snap judgments and subjective bias but on a genuine concern for natural species.

Sincerely yours,



Archie Carr  
Chairman, Marine Turtle Specialists Group

AC/lw

cc: Wayne King  
George Balazs



NMH:PD

# Queensland Fisheries Service

Please refer to: 9 F 6

28th October, 1980.

Transport House  
The Valley Centre  
230 Brunswick Street  
Fortitude Valley

P.O. Box 344  
Fortitude Valley 4006

Dear Sir,

I understand from several sources that you have recently expressed concern over the possible threat to turtles from the scallop fishery in the southern Barrier Reef region.

This Service is responsible for the management of Queensland fisheries and it is under our legislation that turtles are a protected animal. I would seem a pity, therefore, that your Group did not seek our comment.

It is our general experience that the capture of a turtle in scallop trawls is a rare event, probably because of the depth in which these vessels operate.

The capture of turtles in prawn trawls is not unknown in shallower inshore grounds, but apart from one or two localised areas the incidence of capture is very low. I have had personal experience of trawling in many locations along the entire Queensland coast over the past thirty years and doubt whether I have seen more than a dozen turtles brought aboard in that time, and most of these were still alive and released back into the water.

Probably if trawling were carried out at night between the reefs of the Great Barrier Reef a lot more would be captured, but the navigational hazards are such that there is very little in the way of vessel movement at night in reef regions.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. A. Carr,  
Chairman,  
Marine Turtle Specialists Group,  
Department of Zoology,  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville. 32611

*Neil A. Kaye*  
Director



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

October 28, 1980

Mr. Colin Limpus  
National Parks & Wildlife Service  
Pallarenda  
Townsville QLD 4810  
Australia

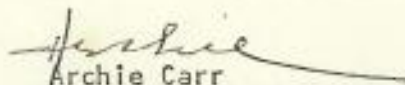
Dear Colin:

I regret that a reverse in communication between George and you may somehow have caused me to put you in an awkward position with the Park Service there. I refer to the letter I wrote to Mr. David Thompson, Minister for Science and Environment, concerning the saucer-scallop trawlers working in the Capricornia Section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in Queensland. I first heard of this when George wrote me saying that letters to you and Parmenter about the problem had gone unanswered, and that the Turtle Group ought to support the efforts that you were no doubt making to stop the trawling. Being by nature and experience against trawlers operating in marine sanctuaries, I wrote the ministry.

I'm sorry this surprised you. However, I am myself surprised that you-all are not trying to get the trawlers out of the park. Whether or not you see evidence that they kill significant numbers of turtles, unless scallop trawlers are gentler than others, they must be messing up the benthic habitats of the area. Doesn't this grieve you?

This clearly is a problem of communications. I actually had gathered that you were against the trawlers in the park.

Sincerely yours,



Archie Carr  
Chairman, Marine Turtle Specialists Group

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

October 29, 1980

Mr. Colin Limpus  
National Parks & Wildlife Service  
Pallarenda  
Townsville QLD 4810  
Australia

Dear Colin:

Many thanks for letting me see your hawkbill manuscript. Your accompanying letter is dated 4 August, but only arrived a short while ago. This paper will make a solid contribution to the biology of a species that in other parts of the world has become increasingly hard to study.

As to your specific query whether you come on too strong in your disapproval of predecessors' views on Torres Strait hawkbills--you obviously have the right to express any disagreement that your own work generates. However, I was surprised at the somewhat indignant tone with which you conjure up what seems like a conspiracy by Bob Bustard, Bert Main and me to feed Pritchard erroneous information and thereby establish a dangerous "dogma." The facts in that case are as follows:

After being told in advance by various people that some of the islands have hawkbills with recognizeably different shell patterns, and that the Japanese buyers urged the farmers to raise those "strains," Bert Main and I ourselves saw hundreds of young turtles hatched from eggs from those islands, and sure enough, they were remarkably and homogeneously distinct for the alleged locality.

After looking at numerous tanks of these distinctive turtles, in lots of ten to fifty or more, from teacup size to dinnerplate size, we were so impressed that Bert suggested that he ought to get government funding for a couple of graduate students to go up there to investigate the situation. If you now had the same opportunity that we had to see large numbers of turtles from different islands, and saw no evidence of what we were shown, it can only mean that the tanks of distinctively marked yearlings were not, as the farmers alleged, representative of the island populations they came from but rather of specific paternal genotypes. If you are convinced that the latter is so, then obviously you ought to say so.

From there on you seem to imply that because you believe that Carr and Main were wrong about the distinctive island demes, there is no genetic divergence among island populations; and from that you conclude that something you call the "Carr-Stancyk model" is wrong, and thus dangerous. First of all, no "model" was proposed by Carr and Stancyk. If what you refer to

Colin Limpus  
Page 2  
October 29, 1980

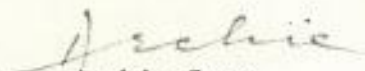
is our conviction that saving one breeding colony of any sea turtle is not sufficient to avert genetic loss, then you are obviously mistaken. If you are convinced that Australian hawksbills, unlike other sea turtle colonies, show no home-island philopatry and are genetically homogeneous, then I think you would have to prove this by some means other than by just discounting the reality of the Torres Strait pattern demes. You say there is no evidence that turtles tend to remigrate to specific islands. This is not true. As John Hendrickson showed long ago, even in close clusters of small islands green turtles show site specificity, and at Ascension Island, philopatry appears to be absolute. So if the aim of conservation is to avert genome loss, island populations should obviously be saved. And until you have proved that insular nesting doesn't restrict gene flow in Australian hawksbills, to say that this is so only encourages the fallacy that if a colony on a single island is kept, no genetic loss is suffered.

I may have misread your comments about all this. I hope so. If it was something else you were complaining about please let me know.

Meanwhile, be assured that if you and your statistical colleague there have techniques by which world sea turtle populations can be distinguished, we would happily collaborate in any feasible way. We can't produce material in a hurry from anywhere but Costa Rica, but with a little time we could furnish specimens from several other places.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

  
Archie Carr  
Graduate Research Professor

AC/lw

# MUSEO NACIONAL DE HISTORIA NATURAL

PLAZA DE LA CULTURA

César Nicolás Penson  
Santo Domingo, Rep. Dominicana  
Teléfonos: 639-0106/09

November 8, 1980

TO: Technical Team for SSTRWCA  
IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group  
IUCN/Survival Service Commission  
USFWS/Office of Endangered Species  
World Wildlife Fund - US  
Traffic - USA

FROM: National Sea Turtle Research  
Coordinator - J.A. Ottenwalder

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: The creation of an awareness among government officials and agencies of the need for marine turtle conservation and to urge them to exert their influence to promote research and encourage current conservation efforts.

## Background

Current project March-December 1980. Research to be undertaken includes beach surveys during nesting season, tagging and nest protection, at Playa San Luis. Also an aerial survey of the entire Dominican coast, recording shore characteristics, turtle tracks and nests, and interviews of local inhabitants for historical and current data. The project is supported by IOCARIBE/SSTRWCA, and the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural. We hope this will be the beginning of a long term sea turtle research and conservation program (for at least ten years).

After several meetings during the past four months with the Director of the Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros, our fisheries agency, discussing different aspects concerning sea turtle conservation, we have finally agreed upon the following:

- a Up-to-date regulations protecting sea turtles. Amendments will propose the inclusion of the leatherback, the loggerhead and the Atlantic ridley, which are not protected; clarify forbidden fishing techniques, poaching of eggs, killing of juveniles and nesting females, extension of ban during nesting season, etc.

Note: We will write and propose new regulations, and present them to the head of Recursos Pesqueros. After that, the proposed decree would pass through the Sub-secretario de Recursos Naturales, Secretario de Agricultura and finally to the Presidente for his approval and signature.

- b) The Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros will request all fishery inspectors to enforce the present legislation on sea turtles, and asking for penalization of infractors. Negligence to accede to this directive could supposedly end with the termination of their contracts.
- c) More public education concerning marine turtles status and protection. This includes a poster warning Dominicans of the legal status and situation of sea turtles, and requesting their cooperation. It will be used jointly by the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural and the Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros.
- d) Recursos Pesqueros, on a mutual basis, will cooperate and support our program with the National Museum and Zoological Park on behalf of sea turtle conservation and research.

Action

We are requesting those of you, interested in sea turtle conservation, to write letters of support urging Dominican officials and agencies to improve the present situation of marine turtles in the Dominican Republic.

In order to coordinate the correspondence, we are suggesting to each one of you whom to write to (the name and address will be encircled). This is also to avoid creating unnecessary resentment among lower officials such as the Director of Recursos Pesqueros, who is the one we will be working with directly.

Please, feel free to make this request available to anyone else with similar concerns and who should write to the address numbered 5, of attached list.

We would appreciate if copies of your letters could be sent to me at one of the addresses below:

- 1) Departamento de Zoología  
Museo Nacional de Historia Natural  
Plaza de la Cultura
- 2) Depto. de Zoología, Investigación y Conservación  
Parque Zoológico Nacional  
P.O. Box 2449



Box in Santo Domingo, D.N., República Dominicana.

In expressing your concern, if you wish to indicate your interest in the local situation please don't hesitate to use either my name or the institutions cited above.

SUGGESTED IDEAS TO BE DEVELOPED IN CORRESPONDENCE

- The critical status of sea turtle population in the world/ Caribbean area; the importance for conservation measures in the Dominican Republic.
- Encourage legal enforcement of present regulations, specially egg poaching and killing of nesting females.
- Stimulate the "new interest" of the Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros and it's Director for nesting beaches protection, law enforcement, hatcheries program (not head-starting), sea turtle conservation, etc.
- Offer your/our support and advice to the Departamento/country for any eventual sea turtle research and conservation program.
- Suggest the authorities in question that the only means to protect the marine turtles is through cooperation of the interested agencies, i.e. the Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros, the National Museum of Natural History and the Zoological Park.
- Feel free to express any other comments you would like to include.

Brief personal data of Mayor Narciso Almonte, Director of the Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros.

In the Marina de Guerra Dominicana he has been head of the section of Oceanography, Dept. of Hydrography and professor at the Naval School of Sans-Souci; studied marine biology at the University Jorge Tadeo Lozano, Colombia. Has written some publications, including one on the flora and fauna of Bahía de las Calderas, in which he made recommendations for its conservation and the need for legal enforcement of the regulations on fishing activities and forestry management.

Comments: I believe Almonte could be a potential ally for marine turtle conservation in the Dominican Republic. As a navy official there is the possibility that the marines could get involved in protection and enforcement duties, as the Navy controls the entire D.R. coasts (fisheries inspectors are retired marines). As a marine biologist, his scientific

interest in nature could be channeled or directed to conservation rather than exploitation. Finally as the head of fisheries, he has the power to change the bureaucratic face of this agency, from which other endangered species like manatees and freshwater turtles depend for their protection.

Note: Please be aware of nationalistic feelings that might be offended if in your letter(s) a paternalistic tone is taken. What we are hoping for will be better achieved if the authorities believe that it was more at their instigation that measures for conservation are introduced, rather than as a result of being told what to do by "foreigners".

THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION

*J. A. Ottenwalder*  
José Alberto Ottenwalder

JAO/ps

cc: A. Carr	I. Uchida
W. King	G. de Silva
G. Balazs	K. Siow
H. Kumpf	S. Spring
T. Lovejoy	N. Sumertha
K. Dod	I. Sutanto
A. Meylan	N. Mrosovsky
S. Bhaskar	J. Parmenter
K. Bjorndal	J. Schulz
L. Brongersma	
D. Ehrenfeld	
J. Fretey	
H. Hirth	
H. Chu-chien	
G. Hughes	
C. Limpus	
R. Marquez	
E. Moll	
J. Mortimer	
N. Polunin	
P. Pritchard	
J. Ross	
N. Duplaix	

PLEASE WRITE TO:

- 1) Don Antonio Guzmán Fernández,  
Presidente de la República Dominicana  
Palacio Nacional  
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana.
- 2) Vice-Almirante Francisco Amiana C.  
Jefe de Estado Mayor, Marina de Guerra Dominicana  
Base Naval 27 de Febrero  
Sans Souci, Ave. España  
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana.
- 3) Dr. Hipólito Mejía,  
Secretario de Estado  
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura  
Centro de los Héroes  
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana.
- 4) Dr. Angel Félix Deñó,  
Sub-Secretario de Recursos Naturales  
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura  
Centro de los Héroes  
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana.
- 5) Mayor Narciso Almonte, M. de G.  
Director,  
Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros  
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura  
Centro de los Héroes  
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana.

Please cc to: 1 2 3 4 5 (only when marked)

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARTRAM HALL  
804-392-1107

November 7, 1980

Mr. George H. Balazs  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744


Dear George:

I enclose a copy of an admirable proposal from the Australian government to CITES, requesting the transfer of Chelonia depressa and Australian populations of C. mydas from Appendix II to Appendix I. This welcome overture came to light at the recent Survival Service Commission meeting in Gainesville.

Also enclosed is a list of current members of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group. I hope we will soon be able to submit dates for a meeting of the Group for your consideration. No meeting is planned during the New Delhi session of SSC and CITES.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Archie Carr  
Chairman  
Marine Turtle Specialist Group  
IUCN

*George; This went all around. A.*

A. PROPOSAL Transfer Chelonia depressa and Chelonia mydas (Australian population) to Appendix I with annotations indicating that these listings have been made to facilitate regulation of trade in marine turtles.

B. PROPOSER Commonwealth of Australia.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENTS.

1. TAXONOMY

- 1.1 Class : Reptilia
- 1.2 Order: Testudinata
- 1.3 Family: Cheloniidae
- 1.4 Scientific Names: Chelonia depressa - Flatback Turtle  
Chelonia mydas - Green Turtle

2. BIOLOGICAL DATA - Chelonia depressa

- 2.1 Distribution: C. depressa is endemic to Australian waters and occurs along the coast of northern Australia, Gulf of Carpentaria, subtropical coast of eastern Queensland and islands of the Great Barrier Reef. The extent of its occurrence off the coast of north-eastern Queensland is uncertain.
- 2.2 Population: Common throughout its range. C. depressa nests extensively on beaches in northern Australia, islands in the Arafura Sea and Gulf of Carpentaria. C. depressa nests regularly at Mon Repos Beach near Bundaberg, Queensland and on certain islands of the Great Barrier Reef.
- 2.3 Habitat: C. depressa is a marine species which appears to be restricted to coastal Australian waters.

2. BIOLOGICAL DATA - Chelonia mydas

- 2.1 Distribution: Pan-tropical, worldwide distribution. Australian distribution of C. mydas is confined to tropical and warm temperate waters of the Australian coast and the Great Barrier Reef (Cogger, 1975). Species also occurs on Australian External Territories

2.2

Population: Abundant. In 1974/5 C.mydas nesting on Raine Island northern Great Barrier Reef was estimated at 75,000-100,000 turtles at an estimated intensity of 10,000 turtles per night (Limpus - pers.comm., 1978). Intensity of nesting is not constant and appears to fluctuate in response to as yet unknown environmental parameters. In the 1976/77 season nesting density was estimated at 1000 per night but during the 1977/78 season a total of only 1000 turtles nested on Raine Island. C.mydas also nests extensively on Bramble Cay and other islands in the Torres Strait and to a lesser extent on Christmas, Cocos-Keeling, Ashmore and Cartier Islands in the Indian Ocean.

2.3

Habitat: C.mydas is a large marine species which occurs commonly in shallow coastal waters.

### 3. TRADE DATA

#### 3.1 National utilization

Species of marine turtle occurring in Australian waters are used to some degree as subsistence food by Aboriginals, Torres Strait Islanders and Cocos-Malays. Eggs, sub adults and adults of most species are taken. The level of subsistence harvesting is considered insignificant in terms of the impact on overall populations. There is no legal commercial exportation of turtle products from Australia.

#### 3.2 Legal International trade

Legal international trade in marine turtles is extensive, and has played a significant part in the decline of most species.

Figures compiled from published government statistics (Wells, 1980) and presented at the World Conference on Marine Turtles, Washington D.C. November 1979, estimated that a total of 395,219kg of raw tortoiseshell was exported during 1979 from 31 countries. In 1978 329,688 kg were estimated to be exported from 36 countries and in 1976 249,172 kg from 38 countries.

The three species most seriously threatened by trade are C.mydas, Lepidochelys kempii and Eretmochelys imbricata. E.imbricata and C.mydas are taken for tortoise shell and both C.mydas and L.kempii are taken for leather and meat. It is possible that between 100,000 and 500,000 specimens of E.imbricata were involved in trade during 1978. (Wells, 1980).

The trade in skins and meat derived principally from C.mydas and L.kempii is also large. There are two countries exporting the majority of turtle skins and leather. One exported over 160,000 kg of L.kempii skins in 1978 and the other exported 24,000 kg of leather in 1976. (Wells 1980).

As noted in 3.1 there is no legal exportation of any sea turtles taken in Australian waters. This precludes legal trade in Australian populations of C.mydas and C.depressa, the latter being confined to Australian coastal waters.

### 3.3. Illegal trade

There is almost certainly illegal trade in most species of marine turtles with the possible exception of C.depressa. Such trade may account for a proportion of the discrepancies between published statistics of importing and exporting countries. Shipments of turtle products have been incorrectly labelled C.depressa (Appendix II) to avoid CITES controls on Appendix I species (Wells 1980) and several such instances have come to the attention of the Australian Management Authority following applications for importation of turtle products into Australia.

### 3.4 Potential trade threats

All species of Cheloniidae currently included in Appendix I are clearly threatened by trade.

C.depressa and Australian populations of C.mydas, while not under trade pressure currently, would be threatened by any relaxation of the present strict control on exportation.

## 4. PROTECTION STATUS

### 4.1 National

All sea turtles are protected in Australian waters.

### 4.2 International

No information.

### 4.3 Additional protection needs.

All marine turtles would benefit from increased control on international trade. Increased protection to check illegal catches and a reduction in the incidental catch resulting from the fishing industry are also desirable.

## 5. INFORMATION ON SIMILAR SPECIES

## 6. COMMENTS FROM COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Not applicable.

## 7. ADDITIONAL REMARKS

This proposal only affects the listings of C. depressa and Australian populations of C. mydas, both of which are proposed to be removed from Appendix II and included in Appendix I. Neither change in status is warranted on biological grounds. C.depressa and Australian populations of C.mydas are both abundant and have an extensive geographic range off the tropical Australian coastline, and are protected in Australian waters.



Appendix I listed species and the evidence that documentation accompanying Appendix I listed turtle products have falsely described specimens as C.depressa. Australia feels that it is essential that both C.depressa and the Australian population of C.mydas be included in Appendix I to facilitate control in trade of Appendix I listed species. This view has been supported by a recommendation to this effect made at the World Conference on Marine Turtles Washington D.C. 1979.

The listing of the family Cheloniidae on Appendix I, with the annotation that C.depressa and Australian populations of C.mydas are listed in this appendix in order to facilitate control of trade in other Appendix I listed species, is recommended.

#### References

- Wells, S (1980) Turtle Conference Report  
Traffic International Bulletin Vol. II No. I  
February 1980.
- Cogger, H.G. (1979) Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia.  
Rev.ed. A.H. & A.W. Reed, Sydney.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
225 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

November 7, 1980

Mr. George H. Balazs  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

don Jorge:

Enclosed is a photo of "Man" (survivor of the batch from the eggs you brought from Marauata Bay) at about 40 weeks of age. Quite different pattern from that of yours (for which many thanks), but maybe difference will diminish as yours approaches 40 weeks old.

In any case why don't we seek firm support for a turtle farming project. No crap. To be set up in Honolulu. To hatch eggs from type localities of *agassizi* (Guatemala); *carrinegra* (Mexico); the Philippines (*japonica*); French Frigate; Galapagos; Heron Island and Rose Atoll. Get samples from several nests at each locality. Raise them comparably and very systematically measure and photograph at the same ages (and sizes) as they develop.

George, old chap, this is a very damn important thing to do, and I think it ought to be done there, and unless you insist on doing it all alone I'd like to try to help get funding.

Jeanne got the Seychelles job. I will charge her to plan, immediately after finding her way around out there, to duplicate our taxonomic farm project using Indian Ocean turtles. In a couple of years we will all be heroes and rational red data book treatment and CITES designations for *Chelonia* will be possible. I am so happy.

Do you see anything wrong with the idea? Do you see the implications--for turtle taxonomy and turtle conservation? Please answer immediately.

Abrazos,

  
Archie

AC/lw

P.S. Even on a partial basis —  
say just Marauata, Guatemala, and  
French Frigate this would be  
a useful contribution. No sheet.

# FAUNA PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Patron Her Majesty the Queen

c/o ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON REGENT'S PARK LONDON NW1 4RY Tel 01-586 0872  
Cables: Faunsoc LondonNW1

President Professor Lord Zuckerman OM, KCB, DSc, FRS  
Chairman of Council Sir Peter Scott, CBE, DSC

Honorary Secretary R S R Fitter  
Editor of *Oryx* Mrs M S Fitter

RSRF/PS/S7a

25th November 1980

Dr. Archie Carr,  
Dept. of Zoology,  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville,  
Florida 32601,  
U.S.A.

Dear Archie,

I do not know whether you ever see the British Herpetological Society publications. If not, I am sure you will be interested by the two enclosed articles by Simon Townson, at the end of the second number of which is your name taken in vain. We obviously have a long way to go before we get this turtle business right.

Yours ever,

R S R Fitter

cc: Wayne King

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
223 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

December 9, 1980

Vice-Almirante Francisco Amiana C.  
Jefe de Estado Mayor, Marina de  
Guerra Dominicana  
Base Naval 27 de Febrero  
Sans Souci, Ave. España  
Santo Domingo  
The Dominican Republic

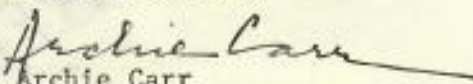
Estimado Señor Vice-Almirante:

During the past two years we here at the University of Florida have been conducting a survey of the population levels of marine turtles in the Caribbean. We are finding that the losses are even more drastic than has been suspected. As you know, the Dominican Republic was in colonial times an important center of sea turtle nesting and exploitation. Today, however, as in all parts of the Caribbean, the species have dwindled alarmingly in the Republic, and the need for a program of research and management is urgent.

It has been gratifying to learn that the Departamento de Recursos Pesqueros of the Dominican Republic has recently been taking a lively interest in the predicament of the marine turtles. Other agencies of the Republic that appear to be in a position to collaborate effectively with Recursos Pesqueros are the National Museum of Natural History and the Zoological Park, which by both official role, and the special abilities and concern of certain of their people, would make effective allies in a strong program of marine turtle research, protection, and management. The chief aim of this letter is to express the hope of both the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of IUCN and the Caribbean Conservation Corporation that the Dominican Marina de Guerra will give Recursos Pesqueros all possible help and encouragement.

One of the obstacles to any effort to rehabilitate depleted sea turtle stocks is the difficulty of enforcing protective legislation. Our surveys have shown this to be a major factor all around the Caribbean. At present rates, the poaching and illegal taking of turtles and their eggs not only kills any hope of restoring the species as an exploitable marine resource, but even promises to extirpate many of the populations over extensive areas. The extensive coastline and littoral habitats of your country provide enormous territory for sea turtle occupancy at all stages of the life cycle. A systematic program of research, conservation and management could be counted on to restore the species in numbers. The cooperation of your office would be an important asset in a campaign of constructive enforcement and sea turtle management for the Dominican Republic. I sincerely hope that you will be inclined to contribute your support to such a program, and if there are ways in which we outside your country can further your efforts, I hope that you will let me know.

Sincerely yours,



Archie Carr  
Chairman, Marine Turtle Specialist Group/IUCN  
Technical Director, Caribbean Conservation  
Corporation

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY  
222 BARTRAM HALL  
904-392-1107

November 26, 1980

Mr. George Balazs  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

Thanks for your letter. I never thought I'd become an agent of seduction to the farming vice, but I welcome your broadminded flexibility. I know it's a good venture if we can get eggs and a little financial support.

Thanks and congratulations also for the beautifully illustrated calendar.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

  
Archie Carr  
Graduate Research Professor

encl.: "Some Problems of Sea Turtle Ecology"