

OUT GOING -
LETTERS > JUNE 9, 1977
G.H. BALAZS H I M B

C
O
P
Y

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

November 25, 1977

Director, Customer Relations
United Airlines
P. O. Box 66100
Chicago, Illinois 60666

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have recently been informed by a colleague that "turtle soup" was included with the meal served on United Airlines flight 121 of November 10th enroute from Philadelphia via Chicago to San Francisco. The impression received was that the soup was made from the green sea turtle, Chelonia mydas. I would be most appreciative if you would verify this point, and inform me of the scope and magnitude of using such soup throughout the United Airlines meal system.

I am making this inquiry as a member of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

cc: Dr. N. Mrosovsky

~~BALAZS~~

BALAZS

December 15, 1977

Mr. Charles Weiss
354 West Lancaster Avenue
Haverford, Pennsylvania 19041

Dear Mr. Weiss:

I received the attached letter from our executive offices in Chicago. I do not wish to reply to the question regarding green sea turtle "Chelonia mydas" simply because it is not our product. We only serve "snapper soup". I found it interesting and thought you would be delighted to respond to Mr. Balazs.

We do use Bookbinder's snapper soup out of Philadelphia, exclusively on United Airlines, and it's served on approximately five flights daily. No other station serves snapper soup.

If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to call - 492-3822.

Sincerely,

John Stepek
Manager of Food Services

JS:ths

Attachment

cc: EXOPW - Ann Cavanaugh

Your letter 12-06 and telemeter 12-30.

J. S.

COPY



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

January 13, 1978

Chief Council
Rules Docket No. 15376
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D. C. 20591

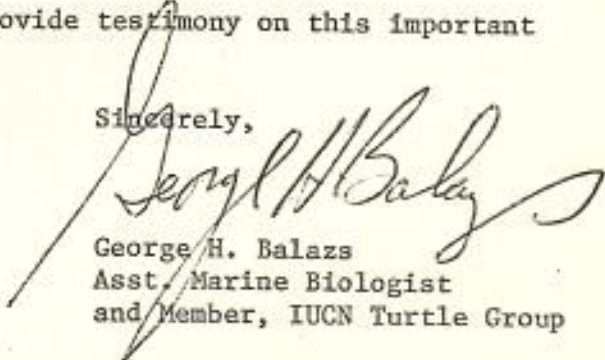
Dear Sirs:

The purpose of this correspondence is to submit testimony relevant to proposed controls by your agency on the operation of the Concorde supersonic transport (SST) in and over the United States. Public hearings on this matter were recently held in Honolulu, and I have been informed by the Pacific-Asia Region Office of the FAA that written comments will continue to be accepted until January 31, 1978. I therefore anticipate that my testimony will become part of the permanent official record.

My concern over the possible operation of the Concorde SST in Hawaii centers on the adverse impact sonic blasts would have on Hawaiian monk seals, green turtles, endemic land birds, and the numerous species of seabirds that breed and reside in the remote Northwestern (Leeward) Hawaiian Islands. As you may be aware, in this portion of our 1,600 mile-long Archipelago the island and reef areas of Nihoa, Necker, French Frigate Shoals, Gardner Pinnacles, Maro, Laysan, Lisianski, and Pearl and Hermes are all part of the National Wildlife Refuge System administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. In addition, Green and Sand Islands at Kure Atoll are Hawaii State Wildlife Refuges. The survival and well-being of the abundant wildlife in these areas is dependent in part upon protection against the adverse influences by man. Adequate safeguards should therefore be taken to prevent the operation of any aircraft, either civilian or military, at supersonic speeds which result in sonic blasts to these areas.

I appreciate having the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.

Sincerely,


George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist
and Member, IUCN Turtle Group

mk

cc: FAA Pacific-Asia Region Office, Repr. C. Heftel, Governor's Marine Affairs Coord.
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

ESL
DRED consultant



Electromagnetic Systems Laboratories

Gary GNAUCK
(408) 734-2244
Lorry Chimes

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

May 19, 1976

Mr. Hideto Kono, Director
Department of Planning
and Economic Development
250 So. King Street
Kamamalu Building
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Kono:

Through the courtesy of Mr. John Corbin of our Institute, Dr. Art Reed, Department of Zoology, and Mr. Chris Christoffels, I have been informed of the remote sensing program incorporating U-2 aircraft. Further, it is my understanding that requests are presently being accepted and coordinated by your Department for specific flight paths to be carried out during July of this year. Aerial photography work of this nature using thermal infrared film would seem to be particularly suited for providing valuable data to my studies of the green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas agassizi*) in the Northwestern Hawaiian chain. A paper covering some of the results of my previous research on this native marine reptile has been enclosed for your information. On behalf of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, I propose that the U-2 aircraft conduct a photographic survey of the following islands, atolls and adjacent shoal waters of the Northwestern chain:

1. Kaula Island, including shoal waters extending approximately 3 miles to the northwest;
2. Nihoa Island;
3. Necker Island, including shoal waters extending approximately 20 miles to the southeast;
4. French Frigate Shoals, including all islets and lagoon waters;
5. Gardner Pinnacles;

COPY

Mr. Hideto Kono, Director
May 19, 1976

-2-

6. Laysan Island;
7. Maro Reef, including all shoal waters in the 5 by 12 mile area;
8. Lisianski Island, including all of Neva Shoal which extends approximately 15 miles to the southeast;
9. Pearl and Hermes Reef, including all islets and lagoon waters;
10. Kure Atoll.

Charts of these areas have been enclosed for reference purposes.

Should such a survey be conducted, I would use the results for two purposes. First, the material would be analyzed in order to obtain census information on the adult green turtle population. In addition, an effort would be made to locate specific aggregations indicative of algal feeding sites. Using thermal infrared film, a detection difference of 0.1°C should be more than adequate to distinguish green turtles from monk seals (*Monachus schauinslandi*), both while they are basking ashore and swimming in adjacent waters. The second use would be for processing the photographic material into 35mm transparencies for incorporation into lectures on my studies of the green turtle and other public education purposes.

I would appreciate learning of your Department's thoughts on this proposal. If there are questions that I have left unanswered, please feel free to contact me here at the Institute.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec
Enclosures

cc: Dr. J. Bardach
Dr. S. Smith

March 14, 1978

Ms. Patricia Kellogg
Research Staff -
National Geographic Magazine
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Ms. Kellogg:

Hopefully the Leeward Hawaiian Islands story is going along well, and you were able to correct the few inaccuracies which I pointed out over the telephone and on the draft manuscript. Many of us here in Hawaii are anxiously looking forward to the article's publication. Greater public awareness of the area's rich wildlife should increase the desire for continued preservation.

I may be approaching the wrong person, however I wonder if it would be possible for you to see that I receive five copies of the issue in which the article appears. If necessary, I am willing to pay for whatever costs that may be involved.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:md

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Coconut Island • P. O. Box 1246 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96741

February 12, 1978

Dr. Stanley Swerdloff
MAC Office
1136 Union Mall
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Stan:

Last October at a meeting of the Sea Grant Advisory Panel Mr. Crank Goto asked me if it would be possible to conduct some studies of monk seals concomitant with my green turtle work, considering that both species frequently use the same habitat in certain areas of our Northwestern chain. I responded that such an idea could have merit, provided that the additional seal work was kept at a level that would not interfere with my primary turtle research. During the following months, it occurred to me that not only do Hawaiian seals and turtles often share the same habitat, but they also appear together in a great deal of the published and unpublished literature. In view of the fact that I already have an extensive reference library focused on turtles, it seemed to me that it would be a comparatively easy matter to assemble a comprehensive bibliography on the Hawaiian monk seal. In collaboration with one of our local monk seal authorities, Dr. G. Causey Whitton, I proceeded to carry out this task as time permitted. The bibliography is now completed in manuscript form, and will be published as a Technical Report of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology within the next 4-6 weeks. I am sending you a prepublication copy at this time, realizing that there is now considerable interest in the seal within the State. When completed, I will send you a supply of the published copies.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosure

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Coconut Island • P. O. Box 1346 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

November 8, 1977

Dr. David B. Marshall
Senior Staff Biologist
Endangered Species Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1500 N.E. Irving Street
Portland, Oregon 97208

Dear Dr. Marshall:

In a recent issue of the Atoll Research Bulletin (No. 206, May 1977) dealing with the natural history of Necker Island, reference is made to a report which you authored on 5 July 1962 entitled Inspection Trip, Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, June 6-26, 1962. Unfortunately, this report is not on file at the local offices of the Fish and Wildlife Service or State Division of Fish and Game. I would therefore be most appreciative if you would send me a xerox of your own personal copy when time permits.

Enclosed are two articles dealing with my research of green turtles in Hawaii which you may find interesting.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Encls.

January 6, 1978

Mr. David Pellegrin
Honolulu Magazine
Suite 410
735 Bishop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Pellegrin:

Before Vic Lipman left for the mainland, I asked him to send me sections of his story which contained statements that I made during the interview. He was kind enough to do this, thereby giving me the opportunity to look over the material and suggest corrections which may be appropriate. In general, I think what he has written is excellent. I have, however, made several minor additions and changes in order to correct grammar and clarify concepts. I hope that you will incorporate these into the final draft.

Concerning the transparencies which I submitted for your consideration, as soon as you have decided which ones you would like to use please contact me so I can designate the material as committed to your publication. This will allow me to disseminate the remaining transparencies to other potential users.

Best regards for the New Year.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

C
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P
Y

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

November 25, 1977

Director, Customer Relations
United Airlines
P. O. Box 66100
Chicago, Illinois 60666

Dear Sir or Madam:

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I am making this inquiry as a member of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

cc: Dr. N. Mrosovsky



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

January 13, 1978

Chief Council
Rules Docket No. 15376
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D. C. 20591

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I appreciate having the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist
and Member, IUCN Turtle Group

mk

cc: FAA Pacific-Asia Region Office, Repr. C. Heftel, Governor's Marine Affairs Coord
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

January 13, 1978

Mr. John Prescott
Executive Director
New England Aquarium
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Prescott:

Enclosed is a copy of a news article from Los Angeles concerning the repair work which will be undertaken at your facility. I am presently involved in ecological studies of Hawaiian sea turtles, and I was particularly interested to read about your 800 pound turtle captured off Cape Cod. This sounds like a leatherback or possibly a very large loggerhead. I would be interested to learn more about this specimen, and would be most appreciative for any information that you can provide.

Also enclosed is a copy of a color booklet on Hawaiian wildlife which you may find interesting.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosures

January 13, 1978

Mr. J. Brent Glezentanner
Refuge Manager
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P. O. Box 50167
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

Dear Brent:

Enclosed is a reprint of the "Disturbance to Wildlife" section of the U.S.C.G. Air Operations Manual which I previously mentioned. This is certainly commendable, and superior to the restrictions in Title 50, 27.34, Code of Federal Regulations.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosure

26 October 1977
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, HI 96744

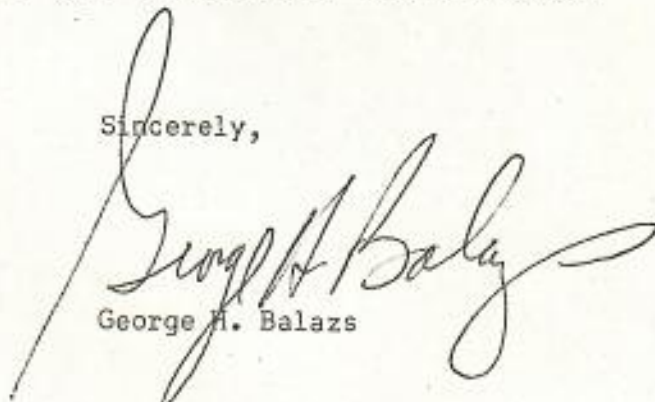
Mr. Alfred Meyer, Editor
NATURAL HISTORY
Central Park West at 79th ST.
New York, N.Y. 10024

Dear Mr. Meyer:

During the course of field studies at the remote islands of the Leeward Hawaiian chain I have had the opportunity to photograph extensively the seabirds, marine turtles and monk seals resident to the area. Recently some of my material was incorporated into a short color booklet for sale on our local market. A copy has been enclosed for your inspection. With the goal of promoting understanding and appreciation for these animals, I would like to have some of my best photos used on covers (with inside captions) in nationally distributed quality magazines. If you would be interested in such subject material for your publication, please contact me at your earliest convenience so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



George H. Balazs



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

December 13, 1977

Dr. Gerald D. Schmidt
Professor of Zoology-Parasitology
The University of Northern Colorado
Department of Biological Sciences
Greeley, Colorado 80639

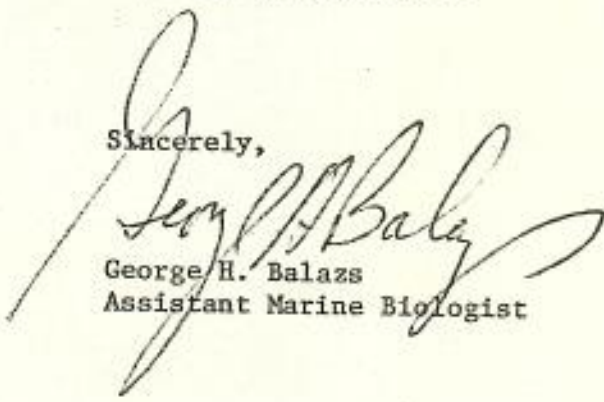
Dear Dr. Schmidt:

Hawaiian monk seals are in the news again. During a recent field trip to French Frigate Shoals, Dr. Causey Whittow (UH Physiology Dept.) and I observed a juvenile seal that hauled out on the beach one evening, but was found dead the next morning. There were no external signs that suggested a cause of death. In order to determine what the animal had been eating, we conducted a brief dissection which resulted in finding the stomach devoid of food. However, moderate numbers of nematodes were present, presumably Contracaecum turgidum which I sent to you for examination in November, 1974. The worms were attached to the stomach wall in several aggregations, and the attachment sites were deeply ulcerated. A close-up color transparency has been enclosed for your information and files. On the outside of the stomach we noted several reddish discolored areas which seemed to suggest chronic blood loss from perforations. Dr. Whittow speculated that this may have been the cause of death, while at the same time noting that this was a very young animal for such an affliction. The seal, a male, measured 57 inches in total length and probably was not over two years old.

I have a preserved sample of the stomach tissue with an attached aggregation of the worms. I would be pleased to send you this material for inspection if it would be of interest.

Best regards for the Holiday Season.

Sincerely,


George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

cc: G. Causey Whittow

December 13, 1976
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Tel. (808) 247-6631

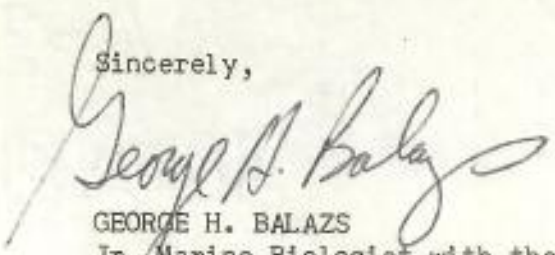
Executive Editor
Sierra Club Books
1050 Mills Tower
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Sir or Madame:

This is a preliminary inquiry to determine if your organization would have interests in financially backing and publishing a hardbound, color pictorial book on the unique wildlife of the uninhabited Hawaiian Islands. With financial backing from a Hawaii-based company, I have recently completed a booklet on this subject which is designed primarily for the tourist souvenir market. A copy of this booklet has been enclosed for your inspection. The scope and quality of the 35mm photographs used in this short booklet are representative of the extensive collection I have assembled (and continue to assemble) during the course of field research here in Hawaii. I therefore feel confident that I have the resources to prepare a pictorial book of superior quality.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience if you would like to further explore such a project.

Sincerely,



GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr., Marine Biologist with the
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

January 9, 1978

TO: Bill Coops
Interim Director, HMB

FROM: George Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

SUBJECT: Request to Issue HMB Technical Report

In collaboration with Dr. Whittow of the Physiology Department, I have recently completed a comprehensive bibliography of the Hawaiian monk seal, *Monachus schauinslandi*. Considerable interest presently exists in this species, and such a bibliography can provide valuable information to a broad spectrum of individuals in Hawaii. It is therefore our feeling that the material should be distributed at an early date in the form of an HMB Technical Report.

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

GB:ec

January 9, 1978

Mr. Harold Hansen
Hawaii Administrator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 50167
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

Dear Mr. Hansen:

Enclosed is a report dealing with the Hawaiian hawksbill for addition to your agency's files. I am sure that some of your staff members, particularly Gene, Kimberly, Brent and Ric, will be interested in reading this account.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosure

January 9, 1978

Mr. Kenji Ego
Division of Fish and Game
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Kenji:

Enclosed is a report dealing with the Hawaiian hawksbill turtle for addition to Fish and Game files. Noah Pekelo, in particular, will probably be interested in reading through this account, in that I previously made a report to him by telephone a few months ago.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosure

January 9, 1978

Mr. Richard Showura, Director
Honolulu Laboratory
National Marine Fisheries Service
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear Richard:

Enclosed is a report dealing with the Hawaiian hawksbill turtle for addition to your laboratory's files.

Many thanks for your assistance in helping me secure space on the CROMWELL to conduct shark sampling. The attached, copied memo relates to this work.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosures

January 6, 1978

Dr. Wayne Gagne
Wau Ecology Institute
P.O. Box 77
Wau, Papua-New Guinea

Dear Wayne and Betsy:

I want to thank you for having Steve Montgomery bring me the sea turtle observation poster from New Caledonia. It is a most effective portrayal, and demonstrates that other people besides Americans are interested in the conservation of resources. Do you have the mailing address of the organization that printed the poster?

It is my understanding that a Sylvia Spring in the Department of Natural Resources in Konedobu (P-NG) is soon to become involved in sea turtle research. I wrote to her several weeks ago, but as yet have not received a reply.

I hope that your work is going well, and that the New Year is good to both of you. Your presence is missed in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

January 6, 1978

Dr. C. Kenneth Dodd, Jr.
Staff Herpetologist
Office of Endangered Species
Fish and Wildlife Service
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Dodd:

Thank you for your letter of 27 December requesting information on terrestrial critical habitat for sea turtles in Hawaii and other Pacific areas under U. S. jurisdiction. I am presently preparing to depart for several weeks of field studies, however, shortly after my return I will compile the necessary material and forward it to your office. In the meantime, I have enclosed a recently completed manuscript dealing with the Hawaiian hawksbill which you may find interesting and informative.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist and
Member, IUCN Turtle Group

GHB:md

Encl.

January 6, 1978

Mr. G. S. deSilva
The Park Warden
Turtle Islands National Parks
P. O. Box 768
Sandakan, Sabah
East Malaysia

Dear Stanley:

Hopefully the remainder of your trip was enjoyable and you had a pleasant and worthwhile visit with Wayne King in New York. As he probably told you, I sent your developed photos care of his office. However, unfortunately one of his secretaries looked up your Sabah address, placed it on the package, and remailed it. Instead of going to Sabah it was returned to me here in Hawaii for additional postage. I rewrapped it the other day and sent it off air mail, so hopefully safe arrival will take place within a week or two.

While you were here you mentioned a paper prepared by an assistant of Tom Harrison's which you offered to copy and forward to me. This will certainly be most appreciated, as it would represent a valuable addition to my personal reference library.

Linda and I had a very pleasant Holidays. We wish you and family a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

January 6, 1978

Dr. Robert R. Fleet
Department of Wildlife Sciences
College of Agriculture
Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas 77840

Dear Dr. Fleet:

Last year one of the Coast Guard men at Kure Atoll observed a basking turtle with tag number B26 and the inscription "University of Florida." I subsequently contacted Archie Carr who informed me that some of his tags had been given to personnel on the Pacific Project, however, all had been returned unused except for B26. He had no information for this number. I have recently been in telephone contact with Bill Wirtz who indicated that you may have used tag B26 at Kure.

Any information that you can provide in this case would certainly be most appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

January 6, 1978

Mr. Alex Irving
31396 West Nine Drive
Laguna Niguel, California 92677

Dear Mr. Irving:

Thank you very much for your letter of January 1, 1978 which inquired about Hawaiian sea turtles. Your observations of turtles feeding close to shore at Poipu Beach, Kauai were most interesting and of potential value to my research program. I have enclosed a xeroxed chart of the area which I hope you will be kind enough to return to me with the exact observation site indicated. This would be greatly appreciated.

I have also enclosed a complementary copy of my booklet "Hawaii's Seabirds, Turtles and Seals." This contains general information which hopefully will answer your questions.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

CHB:md

Encl.

January 6, 1978

Mr. Brent Giezentanner
Refuge Manager
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
300 Ala Moana Blvd.
P. O. Box 50167
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

Dear Brent:

Enclosed is a copy of the cruise instructions for the TOWNSEND CROMWELL during January, February and March. As I mentioned over the telephone, landing on the Refuge Units was never a part of my research plan for this particular phase of my field studies.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosures

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Coconut Island • P. O. Box 1346 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96741

January 4, 1978

Cordova Museum
Cordova, Alaska 99574

Dear Sir or Madame:

I am interested in learning as much as possible about the history of the mounted leatherback turtle (Dermochelys coriacea) which your facility has on display. Although I have not personally visited Cordova, an associate who recently traveled to your area told me of the existence of the specimen.

My research here in Hawaii deals with ecological aspects of marine turtles. Comparatively little information exists for North Pacific leatherbacks, therefore any information that you can send me relating to your specimen would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

January 4, 1978

Mr. Jaap H. Kuper
Acting Regional Wildlife and National
Parks Management Officer
TIGERPAPER
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the
Far East
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 2, Thailand

Dear Mr. Kuper:

I would greatly appreciate having my name added to the
distribution list for your excellent publication,
TIGERPAPER.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

December 28, 1977

Bird Banding Laboratory
Office of Migratory Bird Management
Laurel, Maryland 20811

Dear Sir:

At your earliest convenience, I would appreciate receiving a copy of your laboratory's publication "Birds and Aircraft on Midway Island, 1959-1963 Investigations" by Dr. C. S. Robbins. This is listed as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Special Scientific Report No. 85 (1966) consisting of 63 pages. Please send this publication by first class mail and I will reimburse you for any additional costs involved.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

The recognition and recovery of turtle parts should be enhanced by the following appended material:

- 1) Photograph of a live hatchling green turtle (weight-one ounce, upper shell length-two inches);
- 2) Plastic bag containing a dried and intact hatchling green turtle;
- 3) Plastic bag containing the dried fragments of a hatchling green turtle, representative of how partially digested pieces may appear in the stomachs of predators;
- 4) Plastic bag containing the dried fragments of a juvenile green turtle, representative of how partially digested pieces may appear in the stomachs of predators.

When parts are recovered, it will be important to record the species and size of the predator, and the location of capture. The entire stomach and intestinal contents of the predator should be preserved in formalin for my subsequent examination.

Any assistance that can be provided in this work will be greatly appreciated. If there are any questions, please feel free to telephone me at 247-6631.

GHB:ec

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

December 12, 1977

To: Brent Giezentanner, Refuge Manager
From: George H. Balazs, Assistant Marine Biologist
Subject: USFWS BOAT AND MOTOR AT FRENCH FRIGATE SHOALS

As you are probably aware, the Fish and Wildlife boat and outboard motor at French Frigate Shoals have served me safely and successfully during the course of periodic study visits conducted since June of 1973. This equipment continues to be entirely adequate for my purposes, provided that certain maintenance procedures are regularly carried out. As the principal user of this equipment, I am of course the one most familiar with these requirements. In order to make you fully aware of this information, I thought it would be desirable to set it forth in writing at this time.

1. Prior to launching the boat, spark plugs should be checked externally for excessive corrosion, and internally for carbon/oil buildup. If replacement is called for, use Champion number L4J. Also, a silicon lubricant (i.e. WD-40) should be used on all electrical connections in the motor, under the dash panel, and in the throttle, shifter and steering mechanisms (including shifting linkage in motor). Corrosion on battery terminals and contacts should be removed with sand paper. The specific gravity of the batteries (one in use, one spare) should be checked and, if needed, the USCG charger should be used on the low amp output for six hours or more.
2. When the engine is not running, the battery cables must be disconnected to prevent a slow discharge from occurring. This takes place apparently due to a small short somewhere in the motor's wiring. The battery cables are held on with two nuts, therefore removal is an easy procedure. In order to prevent receiving a small shock while standing in the wet bottom of the boat, the positive cable (red) should be connected first, and disconnected last.
3. The steering linkage where the cable joins the motor should be regularly inspected. Be careful not to excessively tighten associated bolts as the pot metal housing (built into the motor) could break. It is a good idea to join this fitting with wire as a backup safety precaution.

Memo: Brent Giesentanner
Page Two
December 12, 1977

4. I recommend that the boat not be tied directly along side Tern Island (i.e. under the hoist) for anything more than a brief period. It is best to use the ground tackle and anchor the boat (using both anchors) in a suitable partially protected area, such as in front of the club or off the small cove on ^{the} north side of the island. My reason for this suggestion is due to the fact that during the early spring of 1977 an eight inch hole was banded into the port stern portion of the boat as a result of tying up along side the island under the hoist.

5. After a study visit is completed, I recommend that several gallons of fresh water be used to wash down the boat, motor and gas cans. The fuel line should be disconnected and the motor started and run dry of gasoline. The battery cables should be left disconnected. Silicon lubricant should again be sprayed over susceptible parts as was carried out before launching. The large FWS tarp should then be placed over the boat and motor and tied securely to prevent flapping in the frequently strong, salty winds. Cement blocks should be placed under the axle of the trailer in case the tires (which now contain tubes) go flat.

It seems worthwhile to state, as I have on a number of previous occasions, that the reefs and weather at French Frigate Shoals can at times be very dangerous, even to a person well-experienced in boat handling. Caution should therefore always be exercised by anyone working in the area.

When the decision is reached at some point in the future to replace the existing equipment, I would be happy to give you the benefit of my experience as an aid to selecting new equipment.

mk
cc: Causey Whittow



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

December 27, 1977

Captain D. H. Fischer
Commanding Officer
U. S. Naval Station
Midway Islands
FPO San Francisco 96614

Dear Captain Fischer:

The purpose of this letter is to request your assistance in facilitating further studies of green turtles which I plan to conduct at Kure and Midway. I am presently scheduled to travel to Kure aboard the Coast Guard C-130 on January 10, 1978 for two weeks of work involving diving surveys. During this period, I would like to visit Midway for three or four days in order to capture and tag turtles with members of Koral Kings Diving Club. In order to do this, I will need a continuation of approval to travel on your station's helicopters. A copy of my earlier authorization has been enclosed for reference purposes. It should be noted that to date I have only used this authorization on one occasion.

On February 15 I am scheduled to board the NOAA research vessel TOWNSEND CROMWELL at Midway to conduct green turtle studies throughout the Northwestern Hawaiian chain. In order to meet the vessel, I will need orders issued from your command to travel via MAC from Honolulu to Midway, preferably on the flight of February 14.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in these matters. If there are any questions, please telephone me at 247-6631.

Best regards for the Holidays.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec
Enclosure

December 27, 1977

Captain D. H. Fischer
Commanding Officer
U. S. Naval Station
Midway Islands
FPO San Francisco 96614

Dear Captain Fischer:

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Thank you for your consideration and assistance in these matters. If there are any questions, please telephone me at 247-6631.

Best regards for the Holidays.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec
Enclosure



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

December 22, 1977

Ms. Kay Ahearn
Public Relations
Kahala Hilton Hotel
5000 Kahala Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Dear Ms. Ahearn:

Thank you for your letter of 12 November 1977 relating to our telephone conversation of 9 November, as well as to my earlier letter to Mr. William Weinberg dated 14 September.

As I briefly outlined over the telephone, my specific interest at this time in the Kahala Hilton's captive green turtles would be to record body measures and permanently identify each animal. The objective of these activities would be to gather information on rates of growth and longevity under captive conditions. Individual identification would be achieved by affixing a small corrosion-resistant tag to the trailing edge of the front flippers. The entire procedure, including recording measurements, would probably not take over two hours. Thereafter it would be desirable to remeasure the animals at approximately six month intervals. It would also be beneficial if I could look over any records which exist for the animals on the lengths of time in captivity, locations of original capture, or other significant information.

It would be of value to my research program, and I would be most appreciative to the Kahala Hilton, if the tagging and measuring I have described would be permitted. However, the conduction of these activities would not be representative of an endorsement or approval of the Hotel's display facility by either myself or the University of Hawaii. I am sure you can understand the need for such a condition.

Thank you in advance for your continuing consideration of this matter.

Best regards for the Holidays.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

December 19, 1977

Dr. Kenneth P. Emory
Bernice P. Bishop Museum
P. O. Box 6037
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

Dear Dr. Emory:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you and your associates in the Archaeology Department for inviting me back to the Museum to give a second presentation on my study visits to Necker Island. Your personal encouragement after my first presentation on September 19th prompted me to gather further photographic material during my November visit to Necker. As a result, I now appear to have a reasonably comprehensive record of the status of the island's archaeological remains. In concordance with your earlier suggestion, within the next few months I will be preparing a concise report on my findings. I will of course send you a copy for evaluation and comments.

It seems to me that Necker and the mysteries surrounding its former inhabitants are of considerable interest to most people once they become aware of the island's existence and known history. Given this premise, I wonder if it would be worthwhile to explore the possibilities of preparing and publishing a booklet on the island which is designed to appeal to the general public. Such a booklet could be fully illustrated with both past and present photographs and, in essence, briefly tell the story of Necker from an ecological and archaeological standpoint. What I have in mind is perhaps something patterned after my color booklet, Hawaii's Seabirds, Turtles and Seals, but with more text. If you believe that such a publication may have merit, let us meet at some time in the near future to discuss the subject in detail.

You may be interested to learn that I am tentatively scheduled to give a lecture presentation on Necker to the general public on February 10th at the Waikiki Aquarium. It is my understanding that the time and other details will appear in the daily newspapers several weeks in advance.

Best regards for the Holiday season.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist

GHB:md
cc: Dr. Radovsky
Mr. Bryan

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

December 19, 1977

Dr. Ancel Johnson
National Fish and Wildlife Laboratory
Anchorage Field Station
4454 Business Park Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

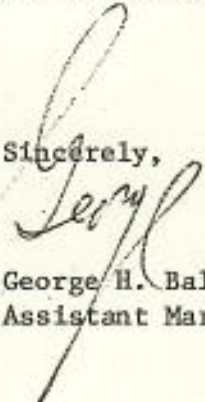
Dear Ancel:

Many thanks for your letter of 8 December. I look forward to receiving copies of the final reports you mentioned. Please understand that I do have considerable interest in the findings of monk seal research, and that my earlier letter was not referring specifically to turtle observations which your workers may make from time to time.

I would like to extend to you a personal invitation to visit our laboratory and meet with me during your next trip to Hawaii. There are several matters of common interest that I believe it would be worthwhile to discuss.

Best regards for the Holidays.

Sincerely,



George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:md



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

December 19, 1977

Mr. Eugene Kridler
Endangered Species Coordinator
Fish and Wildlife Service
P. O. Box 50167
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

Dear Gene:

Thank you for your letter of 21 November which affords me the opportunity to comment on data accounts for three species of sea turtles which are being prepared by the Fish and Wildlife Service. In response to a request received in December 1976 from W. S. Lippincott of the FWS Gainesville Station, I have already been able to provide some information for this project.

As originally described to me, these accounts were to deal specifically with sea turtles of the United States. However, in reading through the three draft compilations which you forwarded, it would appear that the concept has been somewhat expanded. In certain respects, the accounts are now similar to the IUCN Red Data Book sheets, which are presently in the process of being revised. Condensing multifaceted and extensive biological information into a meaningful form is a difficult task, and it is commendable that FWS workers have undertaken such a project.

Without getting too lengthy or detailed in my comments, the one general constructive suggestion that I would offer is that additional information be included for representatives of the three species for the State of Hawaii. For the green turtle, no mention is made of the protection afforded by the State of Hawaii, or the fact that feeding aggregations of adults, subadults and juveniles occur around the major islands of the Hawaiian chain. For the hawksbill, no mention is made of the small population which feeds and nests in the major islands of the Hawaiian chain, and the protection afforded by the State of Hawaii. For the leatherback, no mention is made of the itinerant subadults which regularly occur in Hawaiian waters, and the protection afforded by the State of Hawaii. Also noticeably absent is the presence of Hawaii on the range maps given for each species. I suspect that somewhere along

Mr. Eugene Kridler
December 19, 1977
Page 2

the line these important points were simply overlooked. Hopefully the proper additions can now be made.

Best regards for the Holiday season.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:md

cc: W. S. Lippincott
(w/copy State Reg. 36)

December 19, 1977

Dr. Ancel Johnson
National Fish and Wildlife Laboratory
Anchorage Field Station
4454 Business Park Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Ancel:

Many thanks for your letter of 8 December. I look forward to receiving copies of the final reports you mentioned. Please understand that I do have considerable interest in the findings of monk seal research, and that my earlier letter was not referring specifically to turtle observations which your workers may make from time to time.

I would like to extend to you a personal invitation to visit our laboratory and meet with me during your next trip to Hawaii. There are several matters of common interest that I believe it would be worthwhile to discuss.

Best regards for the Holidays.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:md

December 19, 1977

Ms. Rebecca Bell
Little Cumberland Island
Box 3127
Jekyll Island, Georgia 31520

Dear Ms. Bell:

Thank you very much for the prepublication copy of your interesting and informative paper on loggerhead tag recoveries. I greatly appreciate not having to wait a year or more for the proceedings to be published.

In reading through your paper, I had several questions which hopefully you will be kind enough to answer for me.

1. You indicated that 41 of the 44 recoveries could be assigned to three categories. What were the circumstances of the other three recoveries (44-41 = 3)?
2. What were the circumstances of the "bizarre recovery from Tampa Bay, Florida" mentioned on page seven?
3. How many recoveries have been made on Little Cumberland Island which involved the renesting of females tagged during previous seasons? What is your percent recovery rate involving just this important segment?

In answer to the question raised in your letter, I am sorry to report that we do not have loggerheads in the Hawaiian chain. I am only aware of one documented report of a loggerhead, and this was made during the 1930/s involving an extremely emaciated individual picked up several miles offshore by a fishing boat. However, you may be interested to learn that loggerheads occur in some of the Fiji Islands. During a trip to the area last February, I saw them being sold in one of the outdoor markets in Lautoka.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

December 19, 1977

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
United States Senate
Room 442, Russell Senate Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

Thank you for your letter of 7 December which replies to my correspondence of 30 November about pending federal rulemaking for sea turtles.

As you have indicated, the State of Hawaii will still have jurisdiction to enact greater regulatory measures, for conservation or management reasons, should the green turtle be designated a threatened species under Public Law 93-205. However, the concern which I previously expressed over jurisdiction relates to the fact that Hawaii will apparently not have the option to enact *less* stringent regulatory measures, should there be justifiable reasons for doing so at some time in the future. This would seem to me to be an important point in view of the State's commitment to a research program.

I appreciate having the opportunity to clarify this point.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

December 15, 1977

Dr. Ralph W. Schreiber
Natural History Museum
900 Exposition Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90007

Dear Dr. Schreiber:

Thank you very much for the reprint of your most informative article on the diets of seabirds at Christmas Island. I was particularly interested in the prey of Fregata, as these birds have been reported to feed on hatchling sea turtles at certain locations. I have not found this to be the case at French Frigate Shoals where I have been conducting research on nesting Hawaiian green turtles (Chelonia) since 1973. During the course of your field studies, I wonder if you have identified hatchling turtles in the diets of Pacific island Fregata or any other seabirds. I would be interested in such findings, and would greatly appreciate any assistance that you can provide on this subject.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

December 15, 1977

Mr. Robert A. Childers
3040 Alder Circle
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Dear Mr. Childers:

Thank you for your informative letter of 6 December, and the translation copy of the 1974 Japanese article.

The observations of your sailor acquaintance are indeed interesting, however, I'm afraid that I cannot provide any additional information on the subject. My only thought is that this sounds like a ridley aggregation, but I have not heard of mass nestings in the Uvea area.

Best regards for the holiday season.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

December 15, 1977

Mr. R. Stone
Chief Fisheries Officer
Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries
Lami, Suva, Fiji

Dear Rob:

Enclosed is a translation of a short 1974 Japanese article which I recently received. I thought that you might find it interesting in view of the fact that Fiji is included.

Best regards for the holiday season to you and your family.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosure

MEMORANDUM

December 15, 1977

To: Ia Ora te Natura
B. P. 2542
Papeete, Tahiti
French Polynesia

From: George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

It has recently been brought to my attention that your organization is vigorously working for the rational conservation of Tahiti's natural resources. As a researcher of Hawaiian sea turtles and a member of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group, I would be greatly interested in learning of your involvement in the conservation of Tahitian sea turtles.

Enclosed are three publications which you may find interesting. If there is any way I can be of assistance to your organization, please feel free to contact me.

mk

December 13, 1977

Dr. Archie Carr
University of Florida
Department of Zoology
233 Bartram Hall
Gainesville, Florida 32611

Dear Archie:

Thank you for the prepublication copy of your extensive paper on green turtles. This is very much appreciated, and I wish that more workers would share their information at an early date.

I have enclosed copies of two reports which you may find interesting. The information will eventually be prepared for publication, however, for the foreseeable future I will be spending more time in field than in my office.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

December 13, 1977

Dr. F. Wayne King
New York Zoological Society
185th Street and Southern Blvd
Bronx, New York 10460

Dear Wayne:

Many thanks for your recent telephone call, and for thinking of me in relation to the job opening in Washington, D. C.

If a turtle group meeting is indeed held before June of 1978, as suggested as a possibility by Nicholas, this would seem to be the appropriate time for multiple input and updating of the Red Data Book pages that you previously sent to me. This is really what is needed, and presumably some sort of agreement could be reached for each species. If a meeting is not held, I suggest that the pages be distributed to each member for input. If it comes to this, I will start the ball rolling.

I still don't know who the other members of the Turtle Group are. As of last month, I don't believe that Nicholas has this information either.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Coconut Island • P. O. Box 1346 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96741

December 13, 1977

Mr. David L. Arnold
Assistant Illustrations Editor
National Geographic Magazine
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Arnold:

Thank you very much for having your secretary return the transparencies which I sent to you for consideration. They arrived in good condition during late August.

In case it has not been brought to your attention, you may be interested to learn that Dr. G. Causey Whitton and I were awarded a small National Geographic grant in June 1977 to place some research emphasis on the thermal ecology of basking green turtles in the Leeward Hawaiian Islands. It is my understanding that these turtles in general will receive coverage in the story scheduled to appear in March, 1978.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist
and
Member IUCN Marine Turtle
Specialist Group

mk

December 13, 1977

Dr. Stephen E. Cornelius
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Dear Dr. Cornelius:

If copies are still available, I would greatly appreciate a reprint of your article entitled "Marine Turtle Nesting Activity at Playa Naranjo, Costa Rica" (Brenesia, 8, 1:1-27).

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

December 13, 1977

Dr. Peter C. H. Pritchard
Florida Audubon Society
P. O. Drawer 7
Maitland, Florida 32751

Dear Peter:

Thank you for your note of 23 November. I look forward to receiving your Chelonia publication, which I assume should be automatic as I am a subscriber to Chelonia.

The findings of your trip to Oaxaca are indeed depressing. However, in view of Herbert Eder's 1969 dismal predictions for the area at a time when they were "only" killing 50-75 per day, it is astonishing that they are presently able to find 700 turtles a day. It seems highly unlikely that this level of exploitation can continue without a major crash.

I recently noted with interest that there are some photos and captions depicting the Oaxaco operations in the August 1976 issue of MAR Y PESCA. They indicated that 1,000 turtles (ridleys and hawksbills) a day were being processed during the 45 day period of greatest capture.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

December 13, 1977

Dr. Gerald D. Schmidt
Professor of Zoology-Parasitology
The University of Northern Colorado
Department of Biological Sciences
Greeley, Colorado 80639

Dear Dr. Schmidt:

Hawaiian monk seals are in the news again. During a recent field trip to French Frigate Shoals, Dr. Causey Whittow (UH Physiology Dept.) and I observed a juvenile seal that hauled out on the beach one evening, but was found dead the next morning. There were no external signs that suggested a cause of death. In order to determine what the animal had been eating, we conducted a brief dissection which resulted in finding the stomach devoid of food. However, moderate numbers of nematodes were present, presumably Contracecum turgidum which I sent to you for examination in November, 1974. The worms were attached to the stomach wall in several aggregations, and the attachment sites were deeply ulcerated. A close-up color transparency has been enclosed for your information and files. On the outside of the stomach we noted several reddish discolored areas which seemed to suggest chronic blood loss from perforations. Dr. Whittow speculated that this may have been the cause of death, while at the same time noting that this was a very young animal for such an affliction. The seal, a male, measured 57 inches in total length and probably was not over two years old.

I have a preserved sample of the stomach tissue with an attached aggregation of the worms. I would be pleased to send you this material for inspection if it would be of interest.

Best regards for the Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

cc: G. Causey Whittow



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

November 28, 1977

Dr. Ancel M. Johnson
National Fish and Wildlife Laboratory
Anchorage Field Station
4454 Business Park Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Dr. Johnson:

As you are probably aware, my principal research effort deals with the Hawaiian population of green turtles. I am particularly interested in the role of our Northwestern islands and adjacent waters in this animal's life history and ecology. The results of research on other species inhabiting these areas is of interest and potential value to my own work. I would therefore be most appreciative if you would send me copies of reports which may result from Hawaiian monk seal studies under your direction. At the present time I am particularly interested in the findings your workers have made at the Kure State Refuge.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. In order to keep you informed on aspects of my own research, I have enclosed a copy of a report covering a recent study visit to Necker Island.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

November 28, 1977

Dr. Sheila Conant, Chairperson
Animal Species Advisory Commission
General Sciences Department
University of Hawaii

Dear Dr. Conant:

Pursuant to our discussion on 21 November concerning my interest in serving on the Animal Species Advisory Commission, I have enclosed pertinent biographical information for your consideration. Most of this material has been taken directly from my University promotion application which recently resulted in advancement to Assistant Marine Biologist (R3-4Z). You will note that a number of my publications involve aspects of aquaculture research.

I would greatly appreciate your personal appraisal of this matter before any steps are taken toward my possible nomination.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encls.

November 28, 1977

Dr. Charles Birkeland
General Editor, MICRONESICA
University of Guam
Marine Laboratory
P. O. Box EK
Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Dr. Birkeland:

Many thanks for your letter of 17 November
concerning the Witzell manuscript.

Please feel free to call upon me at any
time for assistance concerning the review of
manuscripts on Pacific marine turtles.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Asst. Marine Biologist
and
Member, IUCN Marine
Turtle Specialist Group

GHB:md



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

November 25, 1977

Dr. G. Brent Dabrymple
U. S. Department of Interior
Geological Survey
Branch of Isotope Geology (MS 18)
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, California 94025

Dear Dr. Dabrymple:

Many thanks for your most informative and interesting letter of November 7th. I had the opportunity to read it immediately upon my return from a second trip to Necker which involved three successful days and nights on the island. In addition to gaining a better understanding of the turtle situation, during this time period I was also able to photograph each remaining marae. On my last day a Northwest swell came up which resulted in huge surf breaking across Shark Bay into the bases of Siever's Peak and Bowl Hill. It was a spectacular sight, and interesting to note the salt mist reaching the summits.

Hopefully we will have occasion in the future to discuss in person the various aspects of Necker Island. However, during the interim, I would like to mention a few points which may be of importance.

For some time now I have been interested in this apparent 1955 volcanic eruption in the Necker area. It has always seemed to me that if a pilot, crew and passengers all actually saw smoke rising from ocean, there can be little doubt of authenticity. The stated position seems to be the problem, as you indicated. On the enclosed xeroxed chart (C&G.S. 4181) I have marked a 10 fathom spot approximately 20 miles Northeast of Necker. When the original map surveys were made this pinnacle was presumably absolutely verified, as it is not listed as "reported." However, in recent years both the vessels TOWNSEND CROMWELL (NOAA) and EASY RIDER have searched for but failed to find this spot. The captain of the EASY RIDER (Gary "Skip" Naftel) is absolutely convinced that it does not presently exist. Using Loran A and a depth finder, he has surveyed the area on several

Dr. G. Brent Dabrymple
Page Two
November 25, 1977

occasions. He is very familiar with the Necker Bank, having made in excess of 45 fishing and chartered research expeditions to the area over the past three years. Perhaps this was the site of volcanic activity. Would it therefore be worthwhile to collect a bottom sample for your evaluation?

In Dr. Emory's 1928 publication the opinion was expressed that the marae uprights are insecurely fastened. My observations indicate that most of the remaining uprights are very well fastened. Of course, this may very well be due to their more secure original positioning. That is, all of the ones that were insecurely fastened have now fallen down.

The question of fresh water for use by early Polynesian visitors or inhabitants is another perplexing problem. Palmer (1927) located two seeps which he estimated were producing about five gallons each per day. However, the water tasted strongly of acrid salts and was apparently unfit to sustain human life. During my most recent trip I found a seep on the south slope of the saddle between Annexation and Flagpole Hills. Although there was little rain during our total of five days at the Necker Bank, the seep was flowing considerably, producing perhaps as much as 20 gallons a day of crystal clear water. I also found the water to be very strong tasting, such as that produced by an alum. If this contamination results from bird dropping, the condition may not have existed during earlier years when bird populations were possibly exploited by natives for food or just naturally at far lower numbers. However, if the contamination is the sole result of minerals in the island, it is difficult to understand how it could have been utilized. Perhaps the dissolved material in the water is not as physiologically unacceptable as speculated. Or perhaps palatability could be improved by boiling, as Captain Naftel suggested to me during a discussion of the subject. Do you have any thoughts on the subject? To your knowledge, has a chemical analysis ever been conducted on this water to determine exactly what it contains?

In the event that you have not seen it, I have also enclosed a copy of the Carr and Coleman article dealing with seafloor spreading theory and the evolution of migrations by Ascension Island green turtles. I made reference to this work in my Biological Conservation publication which I previously sent to you. As my knowledge of Hawaiian green turtles is enhanced, perhaps a stage will be reached where we can formally collaborate on this aspect.

You may be interested to learn that Gene Kridler has not been involved directly with the Refuge since late 1973. The present Refuge Manager's name is Brent Giezantner.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosures
cc: Captain Naftel

November 25, 1977

Dr. John Bardach
Resource Systems Institute
Burns Hall
East-West Center
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Dr. Bardach:

It is with considerable pleasure that I take this opportunity to inform you that the outcome of reconsiderations by the University administration has resulted in my promotion to Assistant Marine Biologist (R3-4Z) retroactive to last July.

Your support and encouragement of my various professional endeavors over the years played a significant role in making this accomplishment possible. I both acknowledge and greatly appreciate your assistance.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

November 25, 1977

Dr. John Craven
Marine Affairs Coordinator
1136 Union Mall
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Dr. Craven:

It is with considerable pleasure that I take this opportunity to inform you of two recent events that have occurred in conjunction with my research of Hawaiian sea turtles. First, I have been appointed to full membership in the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Drs. Archie Carr and Nicholas Mrosovsky are the co-chairmen of this small advisory group of turtle researchers. Secondly, on November 17th the University Board of Regents voted final approval of my promotion to Assistant Marine Biologist (R3-4Z).

The State of Hawaii's support of my work, as directed through your office, has played a substantial role in making it possible for me to achieve such accomplishments. Your support is both appreciated and acknowledged.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Corcoran Island • P. O. Box 1346 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96741

November 3, 1977

Dr. Frank Radovsky
Acting Director
Bishop Museum
Box 6037
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

Dear Frank:

After giving a talk on Necker Island to the Museum staff on September 19, Dr. Emory asked if I would duplicate some of my color transparencies for the Museum's records. I am therefore sending you 17 slides portraying views of the island, marae and bomb damage. A brief description of each slide appears on the attached sheet.

Please consider this as a donation in that reimbursement for the duplicating costs will not be necessary.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

November 8, 1977

Mr. Gordon Chapman
Ralph M. Parsons Company
P. O. Box 29909
Honolulu, Hawaii 96820

Dear Mr. Chapman:

Enclosed are the seven color transparencies which you kindly loaned to me for duplication on October 31st. Your company's assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

During our discussions, you mentioned the possibility of some funds being available to specifically monitor or determine the status of the green turtle aggregation adjacent to the reef runway. I am interested in pursuing this matter further and will be calling you in several weeks after my present field study commitments are accomplished.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosures

November 4, 1977

Mr. Ed Ewen
Headquarters SAMTEC/PMS
Vandenberg Air Force Base
California 93437

Dear Ed:

As requested, I have enclosed four of my better color transparencies showing aspects of green sea turtle reproduction, such as it takes place at Canton Island. I am sure that these views can be used quite effectively in the DOD film production you described.

If I can assist the Air Force further in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

COLOR TRANSPARENCIES OF NECKER ISLAND BY GEORGE H. BALAZS,
19-26 AUGUST 1977

<u>Slide No.</u>	<u>Brief Description</u>
1 ;	Map of Necker
2	Aerial view of Necker from the Northeast
3	Shoreline at West Cove
4	Shark Bay from Annexation Hill
5	Northwest Cape
6	Marae 10 located on top of Northwest Cape
7	Bomb on Northwest Cape
8	Bomb crater on east slope of Annexation Hill
9	Marae 16 located on Flagpole Hill
10	Bomb crater in marae 12, Flagpole Hill - looking to the West
11	Bomb crater near marae 18, Flagpole Hill - looking to the East
12	Uprights of marae 18
13	Marae 18, Flagpole Hill
14	Marae 31, Bowl Hill
15	Site I (pavement), bomb crater, west slope of Bowl Hill
16	Shelter cave on top of Siever's Peak
17	Bowl Hill and Northwest Cape - looking to the West

November 2, 1977

Superintendent
Airport Mail Facility
International Airport
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

10/30/77
This letter is in reference to your notice no. 524126 (attached) which was received in today's mail. My parcel to Mr. de Silva was originally mailed CARE OF Dr. Wayne King at the New York Zoological Society, N. Y. (10460). Mr. de Silva was to be visiting that organization during the course of a world tour. Apparent persons at that address were not aware of this fact, and remailed the parcel after indicating Mr. de Silva's East Malaysian address.

The postage cost to Malaysia is excessive in view of the fact that some items in the parcel can be removed. I therefore request that the parcel be returned to me for repackaging. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

mk

November 2, 1977

Dr. A. Le Toquin
C.R.B.P.O.
Museum d'Histoire Naturelle
55, rue Buffon
75005 Paris

Dear Dr. Le Toquin:

Thank you for your recent letter of inquiry concerning marine turtle research and publication. As requested, I have enclosed some of the articles which have thus far resulted from my program.

If I can be of further assistance to you as your project develops, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosures

October 31, 1977

Dr. G. Brent Dalrymple
U. S. Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, California 94025

Dear Dr. Dalrymple:

This past August I spent seven days and nights on Necker Island in conjunction with studies of Hawaiian green turtles. It will probably be of interest for you to learn that during this visit I "rediscovered" the presence of bombs, bomb fragments and machine gun bullets on the island, as well as the destruction which had occurred to the archeological sites. You will of course recall your own similar observations in 1968 which were communicated by letter to Mr. Bryan at the Bishop Museum (copy enclosed). Your letter was also "rediscovered" after I gave a lecture on my Necker trip to the staff of the Bishop Museum and made inquiries as to existing knowledge of the bombing.

For reference purposes, I have also enclosed a copy of my manuscript report entitled, Ecological Aspects of Green Turtles at Necker Island.

Based principally on my photographic records, I am now in the process of preparing a report specifically on the bombing and other disturbances which have taken place on the island since Dr. Emory collected archaeological data in 1923 and 1924. This report will probably be entitled, Status of the Archaeological Remains on Necker Island. Although certainly not my field of expertise, I am nevertheless undertaking this work due to considerable encouragement from Dr. Emory (who will be 80 on Nov. 23).

One of my reasons for writing to you at this time is to present certain observations which I have made, and ask for your assistance with interpretation. In Dr. Emory's 1928 publication on Necker, it was stated on page 53 that:

"No evidence of faulting was found on Necker, nor other signs of disturbance which would have resulted from any marked and sudden recent upheavals or sinkings in the neighborhood. Any violent shock to Necker

Dr. G. Brent Dalrymple
October 31, 1977
Page 2

subsequent to the erection of the rows of uprights on platforms would certainly have toppled over most of the uprights, which are very insecurely fixed, yet more than half are standing, and a third of the fallen ones were evidently (my emphasis) knocked down and moved by human agency."

I had a copy of Dr. Emory's publication with me while on Necker and, consequently, in evaluating the extent of bomb damage I initially thought that the entire northeast side of Flagpole Hill had been impacted. This interpretation was based on the lighter colored rock exposed on the cliff face and the large volume of rubble at the base of the cliff. Additionally, crawling up and down over this slide area I found shrapnel, though not as much as I thought should have been present. After returning to Honolulu I was able to find a photograph of Flagpole Hill which was taken in 1923. This was, of course, before any bombing would have been possible. The photo clearly showed that the same condition was previously present in the cliff face. Can we now say that Dr. Emory was in error about there being no evidence of faulting, and that this break in the continuity of the rock formation could have been caused by earth tremors? I have xeroxed several photos to show you the area in question. Hopefully you will be able to provide some insight on this matter.

I look forward to hearing from you when your time permits.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encls.

October 31, 1977

Dr. George Harry
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northwest Fisheries Center
Marine Mammal Division
Naval Support Activity, Bldg. 32
Seattle, Washington 98115

Dear Dr. Harry:

Enclosed is a copy of my recent report on a study visit at Necker Island. Please disseminate this to Bob DeLong, Cliff Fiscus and other appropriate members of your staff.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

October 31, 1977

Dr. Robert L. Pyle
President
Hawaii Audubon Society
P. O. Box 22832
Honolulu, HI. 96822

Dear Bob:

It was certainly nice to meet you in person last Friday evening over dinner. It was a very pleasant get-together and Mr. Bryan is a gentleman and scholar for having invited us all.

You expressed some interest in my recent report covering turtle research activities at Necker Island, therefore I have enclosed a copy for your information. If you think it is appropriate, I would consider having the report published in 'ELEPIO in its entirety. I believe, however, that it would be valuable to incorporate at least two photos, an aerial of Necker, and turtles basking on the rock ledge.

Hopefully I will be in town for the next meeting.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

September 13, 1977

The Honorable Cecil Heftel
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Heftel:

On May 29 1975, a notice appeared in the FEDERAL REGISTER (Vol. 40, 21974) which proposed regulations listing three species of sea turtles as "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. On 16 June 1976, a notice appeared in the FEDERAL REGISTER (Vol. 41, 24378) proposing regulations treating the same three species of sea turtles as "Threatened" under the similarity of appearance clause of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Both of these notices of proposed rulemaking were authored jointly by the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. In view of the fact that 28 and 15 months, respectively, have now passed without final resolution, I would like to ask for your assistance in determining the status and problems of these cases.

Thank you in advance for whatever help you are able to provide in this matter.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist
Principal Investigator
Hawaiian Green Turtle Management Study

GHB:md

October 27, 1977

Datuk Yap Pak Leong
Minister of Manpower and Environment
Secretariat
Kota Kinabalu
State of Sabah
East Malaysia

Dear Minister Yap Pak Leong:

Mr. deSilva and Mr. Jenkins of the Sabah National Parks have recently visited Hawaii in conjunction with a comprehensive study tour they are presently undertaking. I met with these gentlemen on several occasions and was informed of the establishment of Sabah's turtle islands and the surrounding seas into a new national park. This is certainly a commendable action and one that will undoubtedly serve as an example to other countries where marine turtle still exist.

If I can in any way be of assistance to your government, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

George H. Balaza
Jr. Marine Biologist
Principal Investigator,
Hawaiian Marine Turtle
Management Study

GHB:md

October 27, 1977

Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky
Department of Zoology
University of Toronto
Ramsay Wright Lab
25 Harbord Street
Toronto M5S 1A1 Canada

Dear Nicholas:

Your letter requesting that congratulations be sent to the Minister in Sabah came at a very opportune time. Stanley and I had just been discussing the new Turtle Islands Park over dinner the previous day, and he mentioned his request to you for assistance. I subsequently showed him your letter and he was very pleased that action had been taken on your part. Stanley and an associate in the Sabah Park's Service, Dai Jenkins, visited here in Honolulu between 14-18 October in conjunction with a study tour of zoos and parks. They went on to the Island of Hawaii to spend two days at the Volcanoes National Park which I had previously arranged with officials. From there they went to San Francisco, and right now should be at the San Diego Zoo. Eventually they will see Wayne in New York. I encouraged them to go through Toronto, but it would mean "back tracking" on their air ticket and that would mean additional money which they don't have.

We had some very nice discussions during their stay. I mentioned the possibility of a turtle meeting and we talked about how it could be made better than the Miami gathering. I promised him that I would write you of our agreed conclusions in the matter, which are listed as follows:

1. At least five days should be allotted for a meeting, ideally with a field trip or two breaking the sessions up. Three days is just too brief a period, particularly when one travels long distances to get to the meeting site.
2. It is very unfortunate that a turtle conservation brochure was not produced, as was agreed upon in the P and R's of the Miami meeting. Could some action be taken in this matter before the next meeting so that it can be listed as an accomplishment?

Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky
October 27, 1977
Page 2

3. As Stanley said, "long-winded" people should not be allowed to dominate the meeting. Policies need to be set up on how discussions will take place. However, as an opening presentation, each person needs far more than ten minutes to tell what they have been doing (apparently ten minutes is about all each of us got in Miami for this sort of thing).
4. Appropriate press releases and other public relations should be carried out at the meeting site to promote conservation information to the general public. This sort of thing has good potential for being picked by international wire services (i.e. UPI, AP).

Although I did not agree, Stanley felt that John Hendrickson should be in the Turtle Group. He asked me to mention this to you in the letter. He wrote to Hendrickson several months ago in Tucson, Arizona and his letter was returned undelivered. If time permits, he will go to Tucson and try to look him up.

I asked Stanley where he thought would be a good meeting site and his response was one of the Arabian countries.

Just yesterday we had a Dr. Yousif Abu-Gideiri visit the lab from the University of Khartoum, Sudan. He informed me that Harold Hirth arrived in his country last month on a one year Hayes-Fulbright fellowship to study turtles and train personnel.

This business about periodic absences of funds for the Newsletter is fairly discouraging. May I ask how much it has been costing to put out each issue? Would it help to get money pried loose from WWF/IUCN if we wrote tactful letters expressing concern over the matter. Something needs to be done, and hopefully you can tell us the most effective course of action, if one exists.

Best regards,

George H. Balass
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

October 27, 1977

Dr. Wayne King
New York Zoological Society
Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460

Dear Wayne:

By this time you should have received the package which I addressed to Stanley care of you. Stanley and the Assistant to the Director of Parks, Dai Jenkins, visited here in Honolulu between 14-18 October during the course of a study tour which by now should have them at the San Diego Zoo. You may already be familiar with their trip, so it is sufficient to say that they will eventually be seeing you in New York.

During their stay they both expressed considerable concern about the absence of response from IUCN to their requests for action. Apparently Marcos was in Sabah recently and the two governments came to some tentative agreement about an international park encompassing both the Philippine and the Sabah turtle islands. However, IUCN's help is needed to serve as an outside, independent organizer. Stanley tells me that he has written of the urgency of the matter to Chew Wee-Lak, and Dai to a Mr. Grimsell. No response was received from either party. I thought it might be valuable to give you a rough outline of this situation so possibly the difficulties could be traced before they arrive in New York.

Many thanks for the recent literature. I put this material to good local use.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

October 27, 1977

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of Audio-Visual Services
400 Maryland Ave., S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20546

Dear Sir:

I am returning the satellite photo negatives which you sent to me on loan several weeks ago. Unfortunately, the views are only of the major inhabited Hawaiian Islands. As I described in my earlier letter (copy attached), I am interested in satellite views of the Northwestern or "Leeward" Hawaiian Islands. Because they were used in a 1969 PACIFIC SCIENCE article, I know that at least Kure and Midway Atolls are in your files. Your assistance in locating this material would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

George H. Balass
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encls.



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

October 25, 1977

Mr. Richard Shomura, Director
Honolulu Laboratory
National Marine Fisheries Service
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear Mr. Shomura:

Enclosed is a copy of my recently completed report on a study visit to Necker Island. I am sending this report out to various agencies and workers involved in research in our Leeward chain in an effort to disseminate preliminary findings at an early date. The periodic exchange of reports would seem to be a good way to keep up to date on each others activities and findings. It would therefore be greatly appreciated if copies of such written materials which result from your staff's work in the Leewards would be sent to me as they become available. I am, of course, particularly interested in any observations relating to turtles.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosure

October 25, 1977

Mr. Michio Takata, Director
Division of Fish and Game
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Takata:

Enclosed is a copy of my recently completed report on a study visit to Necker Island. I am sending this report out to various agencies and workers involved in research in our Leeward chain in an effort to disseminate preliminary findings at an early date. The periodic exchange of reports would seem to be a good way to keep up to date on each others activities and findings. It would therefore be greatly appreciated if copies of such written materials which result from your staff's work in the Leewards would be sent to me as they become available. I am, of course, particularly interested in any observations relating to turtles.

I would also like to request your assistance in another matter. During my literature research, I have come across three references to manuscript reports that were previously prepared by your Division. The authors and titles are listed on the attached sheet, and it would be very much appreciated if the reports could be located in your files and copies sent to me when time permits.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHb:ec

Encls.

Kramer, R. J. and J. W. Beardsley. (MS). A report on a survey trip,
and an entomological report, to Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife
Refuge, June, 1962. Hawaii Dept. of Fish and Game, Honolulu.
iii and 17 p.

Kramer, R. J. (MS). Report on trip to Nihoa Island. December 1961.
Hawaii Dept. of Fish and Game, Honolulu. 20 pp.

Marshall, D. B. (MS). Report of July 5, 1962 on inspection trip,
Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, June 6-26, 1962.
Hawaii Dept. of Fish and Game, Honolulu. 9 p.

October 25, 1977

Mr. Richard Shomura, Director
Honolulu Laboratory
National Marine Fisheries Service
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear Mr. Shomura:

Enclosed is a copy of my recently completed report on a study visit to Necker Island. I am sending this report out to various agencies and workers involved in research in our Leeward chain in an effort to disseminate preliminary findings at an early date. The periodic exchange of reports would seem to be a good way to keep up to date on each others activities and findings. It would therefore be greatly appreciated if copies of such written materials which result from your staff's work in the Leewards would be sent to me as they become available. I am, of course, particularly interested in any observations relating to turtles.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosure

October 24, 1977

Mr. Robert D. Barbee
Superintendent
National Park Service
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
Hawaii 96718

Dear Mr. Barbee:

I would greatly appreciate receiving a copy of the Park's Master Plan and Resources Reports for inclusion in my reference library.

Thank you very much for the assistance that you and your staff gave to my friends and associates, Stanley deSilva and Dai Jenkins.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

October 19, 1977

Dr. John Craven
Marine Affairs Coordinator
1136 Union Mall
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Dr. Craven:

During our meeting at Mr. Linsky's office on May 24th concerning my Sea Grant proposal, it was indicated that you would be able to persuade the MAC office to restore the one month of overload salary which I voluntarily deleted from my budget at your request. I mentioned the matter to Dr. Swerdloff during our meeting on October 18th, and he suggested that I bring this to your attention in writing. One month of overload salary, including, fringe benefits, amounts to \$1,550. Your consideration of adding this amount to my 1977-1978 RCUH award would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

October 25, 1977

Mr. Wil VanCampen
Executive Director
Western Pac. Reg. Fishery Mgm. Council
1164 Bishop Street, Room 1506
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. VanCampen:

I appreciate your attendance at my brief Sea Grant presentation this morning. With respect to your comment about trawl nets and sea turtles, I thought that you might be interested in the attached sheet which was received in today's mail. My associate in New York tells me that copies are now being distributed throughout the Southeastern seaboard. This could certainly be very beneficial to solving the problem.

Sincerely,

George H. Balass
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

September 9, 1977

Sir Peter Scott, Chairman
Survival Service Commission
The New Grounds
Slimbridge
Gloucester GL2 7BT
ENGLAND

Dear Sir Peter:

Thank you for your letter of 6 August which I only had the opportunity to read this morning upon my return from field studies in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. It is with honor and pleasure that I accept your invitation to serve as a member of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group under Drs. Carr and Mrosovsky. I look forward to furthering the Commission's goals in whatever way that may be necessary and appropriate.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Dr. Carr
Dr. Mrosovsky



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

October 5, 1977

The Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
C Street, between 18th and 19th Streets
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Secretary Andrus:

You may recall the letter which you wrote to me on 14 January 1977 in response to my inquiry of 29 December 1976. Copies of these earlier letters are enclosed for reference purposes.

Although nine more months have now passed, to my knowledge no action has yet been taken by the Departments of Commerce and Interior in settling the pending proposals dealing with the green sea turtle. In your letter of 14 January it was indicated that this was one of the issues identified for careful consideration pending your confirmation as Secretary of the Interior. I would be most appreciative if you would inform me what findings have been made in this case.

Thank you for your assistance and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encls.

September 30, 1977

Dr. Charles Birkeland
General Editor, Micronesica
University of Guam
P. O. Box EK
Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Dr. Birkeland:

Thank you for your letter of 20 September along with the manuscript by W. N. Witzell. I would be happy to review the article for your journal, however, my present schedule for field studies will prevent me from working on it until mid-October. I hope that this will be satisfactory.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

September 20, 1977

Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky
University of Toronto
Ramsay Wright Zoological Laboratories
25 Harbord Street
Toronto M5S 1A1
Ontario, Canada

Dear Nicholas:

As you have seen from my acceptance letter to Sir Peter Scott, I was indeed officially asked by IUCN to serve on the turtle group. It is sufficient to say that I am quite pleased about this occurrence, and hope to be a more effective, constructive voice in world turtle conservation matters.

My reaction to your inquiry about the possibility of holding the next meeting in Hawaii is favorable, with cautious optimism. My reservations mainly concern the responsibilities that would undoubtedly rest with me in organizing much of the local ground work and serving as resident host. As a newly appointed member, I would, of course, want everything to turn out well. I am, however, willing to accept these responsibilities should Hawaii be the site chosen. The important questions to ask at this time are: 1) what is the anticipated month and year; 2) would you prefer a quiet country setting on one of the outer islands, or the big city atmosphere of Honolulu; and 3) how soon will a final decision be made. If the group is small (12 or less), I may be able to arrange some interesting side trips, after the conservation business is completed.

Wayne's recent memos have shaken me up again, just when I was beginning to relax due to the California veto. We certainly can't let the mariculture issue dominate our thoughts and activities, however, we obviously must continue to recognize it as a potentially damaging factor that will not go away soon. Incidentally, I assume you received my letter of 16 July 1977. Did you ever go to the IUCN meeting which you previously mentioned?

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec
Encl.

September 20, 1977

Mrs. Margaret Titcomb
3653 Tantalus Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Dear Mrs. Titcomb:

Dr. Leighton Taylor of the Waikiki Aquarium has told me of your interest in writing a book on the use of marine organisms by early Hawaiians. I have accumulated some information on this subject relating to sea turtles. Please call me at 247-6631 when you have the opportunity and we can discuss this topic further.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

August 9, 1977

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of Audio-Visual Services
400 Maryland Ave., S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20546

Dear Sir:

I am interested in obtaining satellite view color transparencies of each island and shoal area of the Northwestern Hawaiian chain. This material would be used in my research of the migrations of Hawaiian green turtles (Chelonia mydas). I am aware of at least two such views in your files, involving the atolls of Kure and Midway. Black and white photographs of these areas made from color transparencies were published with an article entitled, Marine Geology of Kure and Midway Atolls, Hawaii: A Preliminary Report by M. Grant Gross et al. (Pacific Science, January 1969).

Your assistance in this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

September 20, 1977

Mr. Ed Ewen
Headquarters SAMTEC/PMS
Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA 93437

Dear Ed:

As requested, within the near future I will be sending you an assortment of turtle nesting slides for use in the DOD environmental film. There will be no charge, however, I would appreciate photo credit where appropriate.

I am interested in the periodic overflights of the Phoenix group which you mentioned departs from Hickam. This would be a very quick and effective way to assess the status and activities of turtles in such a remote section of the Pacific. I would appreciate your help in getting me on one of these flights for such purposes.

You may be interested to learn that I have recently been appointed to the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This will increase considerably my involvement and effectiveness in international activities.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

September 20, 1977

Dr. Wayne King
New York Zoological Society
Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460

Dear Wayne:

Your last two letters concerning "tortoise shell" furniture and turtle investment opportunities in Thailand again point out that this whole culture business continues to be a formidable issue warranting our attention.

I have enclosed a copy of the publication referenced in the BANKOK POST BUSINESSWEEKLY. After reading through it, I am sure you will agree that it really presents nothing new. In fact, it looks as if they may be preparing to invent the wheel over again. Perhaps someone should contact official/researchers in Thailand and tactfully bring them up to date on recent events.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Dr. Carr
Dr. Mrosovsky



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

September 14, 1977

Mr. William Weinberg
Owner
Kahala Hilton Hotel
5000 Kahala Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816

Dear Mr. Weinberg:

The purpose of this letter is to introduce myself and, at the same time, ask for your personal assistance in establishing a working relationship between my research program and the staff of the Kahala Hilton Hotel. My name is George Balazs and I am the Principal Investigator of ecological studies of sea turtles in the Hawaiian Islands. Financial support for this management-oriented work is derived from a special appropriation of the State Legislature (administered through the Governor's Marine Affairs Coordinator) and a Federal grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Additionally, in collaboration with Dr. Causey Whittow of the University's Physiology Department, a small grant has recently been received from the National Geographic Society to specifically investigate the thermal ecology of basking Hawaiian green sea turtles. In conjunction with these research activities, I also serve as a member of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) based in Switzerland.

There are presently only four organizations on Oahu which maintain sea turtles in captivity. Included are: 1) myself and Dr. Whittow as faculty members of the University of Hawaii; 2) the Waikiki Aquarium; 3) Sea Life Park, Inc.; and 4) the Kahala Hilton Hotel. Worthwhile advisory and cooperative research programs have already been established with Dr. Taylor at the Waikiki Aquarium and Dr. Shallenberger at Sea Life Park. I therefore believe it would be beneficial to both of us to discuss the Kahala Hilton's possible role with respect to maintaining captive sea turtles. At your convenience, I would very much like to meet with you in person, either at the Kahala Hilton or here at the Institute.

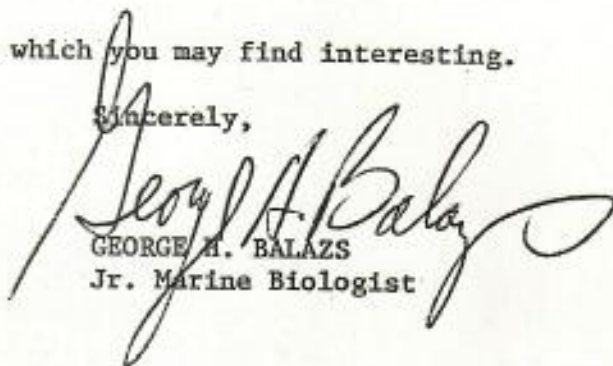
Mr. William Weinberg

-2-

September 14, 1977

I have enclosed three publications which you may find interesting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George H. Balazs". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosures

September 14, 1977

Mr. Mark Rausson
Division of Cooperative Research
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4454 Business Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Mark:

Several months have now passed since your departure from French Frigate Shoals, and I am wondering if you have had the opportunity to compile the green turtle data which you and Karl consented to collect for me during the course of the seal study. I would greatly appreciate receiving this information.

Hopefully you received in good condition the silk screened sea turtle T-shirt which you requested during our March 31st meeting on Tern Island.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

September 13, 1977

Dr. Mary Anne Pettibone
Curator
Division of Worms
U. S. National Museum
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Dr. Pettibone:

During a recent visit to Laysan Island in the Northwestern Hawaiian chain I collected worms from soil adjacent to the hypersaline lagoon. It seems to me that it is usual to find earth worms at such a location. Unfortunately, there does not appear to be anyone in Hawaii interested in these specimens. It would therefore be most appreciated if you or a member of your staff would examine this material for identification. The specimens do not need to be returned.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

September 13, 1977

Mr. W. Craig Van Note
Executive Vice President
MONITOR, INC.
1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Suite 506
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Van Note:

I am sorry to say that the last MONITOR package once again contained a permit application approval relevant to Hawaii that was not brought to my attention at an early enough date to enable evaluation and comment. An earlier and more important case took place with respect to our Hawaiian monk seal several months ago (see enclosed copied letter).

I certainly understand the magnitude of keeping tabs on all permit applications that must appear. However, perhaps a special note could be put in your files so that all Hawaii-related matters would be sent to me as early as possible.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

September 13, 1977

To: Dr. Maxwell Doty
From: George Balazs
Subject: Algae collected from Necker Bank and Maro Reef, Northwestern
Hawaiian Islands

During a recent trip to the Leewards I made algae collections at Necker Bank and Maro Reef in an effort to determine what food sources may be available to green turtles inhabiting such submerged areas. Your assistance in identifying the various species obtained (specimens enclosed) would once again be very much appreciated and acknowledged. The samples from Necker Bank were obtained at a depth of 24 fathoms, and those from Maro Reef at a depth of 18 fathoms.

I wonder if you or your staff have had the opportunity to look over the algae collection which I made earlier this year at Kure Atoll. As previously indicated, there is no great hurry in this matter as I realize you have a busy schedule.

GB:md

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

MEMORANDUM

September 13, 1977

To: Dr. Maxwell Doty

From: George Balazs

Subject: Algae collected from Necker Bank and Maro Reef, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

During a recent trip to the Leewards I made algae collections at Necker Bank and Maro Reef in an effort to determine what food sources may be available to green turtles inhabiting such submerged areas. Your assistance in identifying the various species obtained (specimens enclosed) would once again be very much appreciated and acknowledged. The samples from Necker Bank were obtained at a depth of 24 fathoms, and those from Maro Reef at a depth of 18 fathoms.

I wonder if you or your staff have had the opportunity to look over the algae collection which I made earlier this year at Kure Atoll. As previously indicated, there is no great hurry in this matter as I realize you have a busy schedule.

GB:md



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

September 13, 1977

Dr. R. W. Davies
Associate Professor
Department of Biology
The University of Calgary
2920 24 Ave., N.W.
Calgary, T2N 1N4
Canada

Dear Dr. Davies:

Thank you for your letter of August 18th concerning my earlier inquiry about leeches collected from a green sea turtle. The specimens in question are enclosed for your inspection and, hopefully, identification. The full details of their collections are as follows. On July 6, 1977, an adult male *Chelonia mydas* (straight carapace length 89.5 cm) was captured by personnel of the Naval Undersea Center in Kaneohe Bay here on the Island of Oahu. The animal had become entangled in a buoy line, but showed no external signs of injury. Navy personnel subsequently delivered the turtle to me for inspection, measurements, tagging and release. At this time the leeches were found in association with the cloaca. They were not initially visible, but were discovered when a portion of the internal structure was made to protrude. The specimens were immediately preserved in dilute formalin and later transferred to alcohol.

If these particular leeches are confined to the cloacal area of sea turtles, it seems likely that sexual contact would be the sole means of transmission. A social disease of turtle?

I look forward to hearing from you on this case when your time permits.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

September 13, 1977

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
442 Russell Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

On 20 May 1975, a notice appeared in the FEDERAL REGISTER (Vol. 40, 21974) which proposed regulations listing three species of sea turtles as "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. On 16 June 1976, a notice appeared in the FEDERAL REGISTER (Vol. 41, 24378) proposing regulations treating the same three species of sea turtles as "Threatened" under the similarity of appearance clause of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Both of these notices of proposed rulemaking were authored jointly by the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. In view of the fact that 28 and 15 months, respectively, have now passed without final resolution, I would like to ask for your assistance in determining the status and problems of these cases.

Thank you in advance for whatever help you are able to provide in this matter.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist
Principal Investigator
Hawaiian Green Turtle Management Study

GHB:md

September 13, 1977

Dr. R. W. Davies
Associate Professor
Department of Biology
The University of Calgary
2920 24 Ave., N.W.
Walgary, T2N 1N4
Canada

Dear Dr. Davies:

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I look forward to hearing from you on this case when your time permits.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

September 9, 1977

Sir Peter Scott, Chairman
Survival Service Commission
The New Grounds
Slimbridge
Gloucester GL2 7BT
ENGLAND

Dear Sir Peter:

Thank you for your letter of 6 August which I only had the opportunity to read this morning upon my return from field studies in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. It is with honor and pleasure that I accept your invitation to serve as a member of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group under Drs. Carr and Mrosovsky. I look forward to furthering the Commission's goals in whatever way that may be necessary and appropriate.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Dr. Carr
Dr. Mrosovsky



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

September 9, 1977

Sir Peter Scott, Chairman
Survival Service Commission
The New Grounds
Slimbridge
Gloucester GL2 7BT
ENGLAND

Dear Sir Peter:

Thank you for your letter of 6 August which I only had the opportunity to read this morning upon my return from field studies in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. It is with honor and pleasure that I accept your invitation to serve as a member of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group under Drs. Carr and Mrosovsky. I look forward to furthering the Commission's goals in whatever way that may be necessary and appropriate.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Dr. Carr
Dr. Mrosovsky

Ref: TINP/23/1/5
Tel:



Office of the Park Warden,.....
P.O. Box 768,.....
Sandakan,.....
Sabah, East Malaysia,.....
Date 13th August, 1976.

Mr. George Belasz,
University of Hawaii at Manoa,
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,
P.O. Box 1346, Coconut Island,
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744.

Dear George,

Many thanks for your last letter and sincerely apologise for not replying. I trust that you and Linda are both doing well and enjoying the sun.

I have been recently informed by the Permanent Secretary to the State Minister with Special Functions who is also the Minister for the Environment that he (Minister) is interested in persuing the possibilities of opening up a Safari Park for conservation purposes in Sabah. The Assistant Director of the Sabah National Parks and I have been given the task of undertaking a feasibility survey. As it has been suggested that a team of about 3 persons visit several conservation projects in North America and elsewhere with a view to submitting a report, I write to inquire whether it would be possible to visit the various conservation projects in Hawaii and study them in some detail. I will be grateful if you could please list out some of the most interesting projects so that the persons in authority could be contacted. If necessary, an official application could be made through the United States Ambassador. This, presumably, is better than a departmental one.

With all good wishes and kind regards to both of you.

Yours sincerely,

Stanley
G. S. de Silva.

Department of Land and Natural Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Nat. Parks < Maui
Hawaii



Office of the State Engineer
P.O. Box 100
Honolulu, Hawaii
Date

- HINWR - Havalei Refuge and other Refuge acreage
- Volcanoes Nat. Park
- Hanauma Bay
- Haleakala Nat. Park
- offshore islets/bird sanctuaries
- Kaneohe Marine Corps air station (?)
→ persons in authority

Mr. Robert Barrell
State Director
NP Service

677 Ala Moana
Suite 512
Honolulu 96813

Mr. R. Kahler Martinson
Regional Director

[Signature]
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

September 13, 1976

Mr. G. S. de Silva
Office of the Park Warden
P. O. Box 768
Sandakan, Sabah
East Malaysia

Dear Stanley:

This is in response to your inquiry of August 13th concerning the possibility of visiting various conservation projects in Hawaii for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study. I have discussed this matter with Dr. John Bardach, Director of our Institute, and we are in agreement that Hawaii offers several such opportunities. However, the nature, number and locations of the projects throughout the State would necessitate travel in which several days would need to be spent at each site.

The names and addresses of the persons in authority for some of the more interesting conservation projects are listed as follows:

Mr. Robert Barrel
State Director
National Park Service
677 Ala Moana Blvd.
Suite 512
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA 96813

Projects - Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
Haleakala National Park
City of Refuge National Historical Park

Mr. R. Kahler Martinson
Regional Director
1500 N.E. Irving St.
P. O. Box 3737
Portland, Oregon, USA 97208

Projects - Hawaiian and Pacific Islands
National Wildlife Refuges

September 13, 1976

Mr. Christopher Cobb
Chairman of the Board
Department of Land and Natural Resources
465 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA 96813

Projects - Hanauma Bay Marine Conservation District
Kealakekua Bay Marine Conservation District
Hawaii State Forest Reserve System
Offshore Island Seabird Sanctuaries

In addition to writing to each of these authorities, I believe that it would be beneficial to make an official application through the U.S. Ambassador, as you suggested. I will, of course, assist you in whatever way possible. If the proper diplomatic and financial arrangements can be made, I may even be able to serve as your guide and host on behalf of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology.

Hopefully, your important conservation work on Sabah's turtle islands is going well. Linda sends her best regards to you and your family.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GEB:ec

Ref: TINP/22/1/53

Tel: 2188.

Cables: "NATAPARK"
Sandakan.



Office of the Park Warden,.....

..... Turtle Islands National Park,.....

..... P.O.Box 768,.....

..... Sandakan, Sabah.....

Date 26th July, 1977.

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

Dear George,

Sometime ago I wrote you regarding a visit by Mr. D.V. Jenkins, Assistant Director, Sabah National Parks and myself to Hawaii. It now appears likely that government may agree to our proposal. In your letter of 13th September, 1976 you listed several projects - can you recommend the most interesting of these as our time will be limited. Your project is a must and should be included in the itinerary.

Also, can you please let me know the approximate time necessary to visit the projects recommended by you. What accommodation do you recommend and what is the cost?

On hearing from you, I will write to the authorities concerned for permission to visit and study the project. When our government agrees to our proposal, we will certainly write to the U.S. Ambassador in Malaysia for the purpose of obtaining official sanction and I hope that you would be our guide.

An early reply will be appreciated.

With all good wishes to you and Linda.

Yours sincerely,

Stanley
G.S. de Silva.



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

August 9, 1977

Mr. G. S. deSilva
Office of the Park Warden
Turtle Islands National Park
P. O. Box 768
Sandakan, Sabah

Dear Stanley:

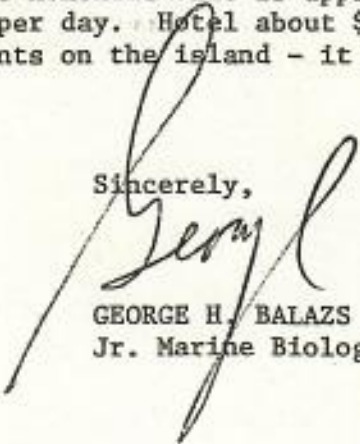
Thank you for your letter of 26 July inquiring further about visiting conservation or national park projects in Hawaii. I certainly hope that such a trip will be possible, and also that I will be in Honolulu at the time of your visit. Approximately 50% of my time is now spent doing field research in the remote Northwestern Hawaiian chain.

I would recommend a two to three day visit to the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on the Island of Hawaii, which is about 200 miles from Honolulu. There are two scheduled airlines making several flights each day. Also, there are excellent hotel accommodations in the Park at the Volcano House. A car could be rented in the city of Hilo right at the destination airport. Of course you must understand that wildlife is not all that abundant in the Hawaiian Islands. The Volcanoes National Park deals mostly with active volcanoes. It is a very large preserve area of great beauty and interest. I think you will find such a trip to be very rewarding.

Concerning costs, round trip air fare Honolulu-Hilo is approximately US\$65 per person. Car rental would be \$20-25 per day. Hotel about \$20 per person per night. There are many good restaurants on the island - it is all quite modern.

Keep me informed of your plans.

Sincerely,



GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

MEMORANDUM

August 10, 1977

To: Mr. Eric Onizuka
Aquatic Biologist
Division of Fish and Game

From: George H. Balazs

Some time ago my former employee, Randal Chau, contacted you to obtain information on Hawaiian green turtles taken under permit, as allowed by Regulation 36. A data summary for the period July 1974 to August 1975 was subsequently provided (copy enclosed for reference purposes). At your convenience, I would be most appreciative if you would provide me with an up-date of this information.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

mk
Enclosure

August 9, 1977

Mr. G. S. deSilva
Office of the Park Warden
Turtle Islands National Park
P. O. Box 768
Sandakan, Sabah

Dear Stanley:

Thank you for your letter of 26 July inquiring further about visiting conservation or national park projects in Hawaii. I certainly hope that such a trip will be possible, and also that I will be in Honolulu at the time of your visit. Approximately 50% of my time is now spent doing field research in the remote Northwestern Hawaiian chain.

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Concerning costs, round trip air fare Honolulu-Hilo is approximately US\$65 per person. Car rental would be \$20-25 per day. Hotel about \$20 per person per night. There are many good restaurants on the island - it is all quite modern.

Keep me informed of your plans.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

August 9, 1977

Dr. Ronald W. Davies
Department of Biology
University of Calgary
Calgary T2N 1N4
Alberta, CANADA

Dear Dr. Davies:

Some time ago you responded to my request for a reprint of your interesting article entitled, 'First Record from North America of the Piscicolid Leech, Ozobrachus margo, a Parasite of Marine Turtles.

Recently I was able to collect two small leech-like parasites from the internal cloacal area of an adult male green turtle. To my knowledge, there is presently no one in Hawaii capable of identifying these specimens. I wonder if you or one of your colleagues would be interested in examining this material. Any assistance that you can provide in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

August 9, 1977

Bird Banding Laboratory
Laurel
Maryland 20810

Dear Sir:

Band number 767-93035 was recovered from an albatross at Midway on June 2, 1977. The bird had been hit by a vehicle and subsequently died.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

MEMORANDUM

August 5, 1977

TO: Philip Helfrich
Associate Dean, Research Admin.

FROM: George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist, HIMB



As discussed during our recent telephone conversation, I would like to inform you that Dr. Whittow (Physiology Dept.) and I have recently received a \$3,660 two year grant from the National Geographic Society. Our topic of investigation is the thermal ecology of land basking green sea turtles. This work represents a valuable component addition to my ongoing Marine Affairs Coordinator project (RCUH 5431) dealing with management studies of Hawaiian green turtles.

Although your office will not be directly administering the National Geographic Society funds, we of course will give the University full recognition and acknowledgement in the resulting reports and publications.

GHB:ec

cc Dr. Whittow



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

August 5, 1977

Ms. Nancy E. Bray
Department of Zoology
Biological Sciences Building
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

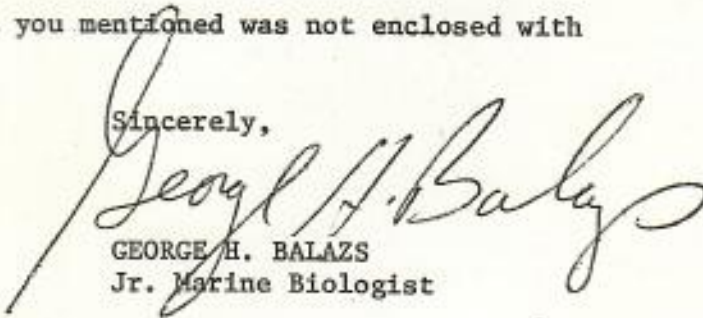
Dear Ms. Bray:

In response to your letter of 28 July, I am sending you information on the sizes of adult Chelonia at French Frigate Shoals, as well as a summary of my tag and recovery data for this breeding site. The fecundity of females is 104 ± 23.4 eggs per clutch ($N = 56$), which was determined for the 1974 season. Within season renesting data are presented in the attached pages.

I am sure you realize that Dr. Carr has been collecting data in Costa Rica for over 20 years now, while I just started in 1973 with a comparatively low level of emphasis. Also, unlike Dr. Carr's data, my data are mostly unpublished at this time. I therefore request that no further distribution or reproduction of the material be made without my specific approval.

Incidentally, the thesis abstract you mentioned was not enclosed with your letter.

Sincerely,


GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Encl.



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

August 9, 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chew Wee-Lek
Program Officer for Asia and Oceania

FROM: George H. Balazs *George H. Balazs*

SUBJECT: Screening Comments on Solomon Islands Turtle Status Survey
(Project Proposal 1452)

As requested in your memorandum of 26 July, I have reviewed the above proposal and arrived at the following conclusions.

1. I concur, in principle, with the contention that continued surveys are needed of marine turtles in the Solomon Islands.
2. However, I am concerned about the objectives and methods that have been set forth for this research. Although numerous statements are made in the proposal, there is, in fact, very little information given as to how the program would actually be carried out.
3. If the proposal or preferably a revised proposal is funded, IUCN/WWF should stipulate that the Principal Investigator be an experienced individual with previous and proven research in marine turtles. The individual should not be a new graduate or inexperienced volunteer. It would be highly desirable to employ in this position Mr. Andrew McKeown, as he already has three years of experience with turtles in the Solomon Islands; I have been exposed to Mr. McKeown's research results and have found them to be of high calibre.

GHB:ec



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

August 4, 1977

CWO Dick Biers
Commanding Officer
USCG LORAN Station
Upolu Point
Box 2, Hawaii 96719

Dear Mr. Biers:

Tim Harris of the French Frigate Shoals LORAN Station has suggested that I contact you for possible assistance in obtaining information on sea turtles which frequent your coastline. Any assistance that you can provide to my work would certainly be most appreciated. I have enclosed some literature on turtles, as well as identification sheets and sighting report forms. Hopefully your men will have the opportunity to make observations during recreational diving, etc.

Within the next few months I plan to get over to the "Big Island" for some field work. I look forward to meeting you at that time.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Encls.



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

August 1, 1977

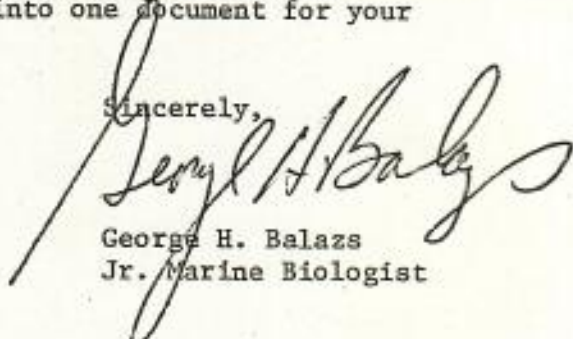
Mr. Hideto Kono
Interim State Marine Affairs Coordinator
Office of the Governor
P. O. Box 2840
Honolulu, Hawaii 96803

Dear Mr. Kono:

Enclosed is a copy of my special report to the South Pacific Commission as requested by your office. It is important to point out that much of the information contained is confidential and sensitive in nature, as the report was prepared primarily for the South Pacific Commission's internal use. To date it has not been circulated outside of the agency, and I doubt very much if it ever will be. If you would like to permanently retain the enclosed copy for your personal files, you are certainly welcome to do so. However, perhaps further dissemination or reproduction should not take place at this time as it might be considered a breach of trust by the South Pacific Commission.

I have also enclosed the Project Activities Report for my MAC funded Green Sea Turtle Management Study. You are already familiar with a portion of the information and material contained, however, I thought it would be desirable to bring the relevant points together into one document for your convenience and thorough understanding.

Sincerely,



George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosures

August 1, 1977

Mr. Hideto Kono
Interim State Marine Affairs Coordinator
Office of the Governor
P. O. Box 2840
Honolulu, Hawaii 96803

Dear Mr. Kono:

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Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

mk
Enclosures

July 29, 1977

Lic. Marta Acevede
Instituto Nacional de la Pesca
Centro de Investigaciones Pesqueras
Avenida Ira. y26
Miramar, Marianao
La Habana, Cuba

Dear Lic. Acevede:

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of 29 June which was received today. I am very pleased to establish professional contact with a researcher of turtles in Cuba. In this respect, I look forward to corresponding with you on matters of common interest.

Please feel free to call upon me for whatever assistance that is necessary.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist and
Principal Investigator
Hawaii Marine Turtle
Management Study

mk



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

March 14, 1977

The Secretary
Government of Western Samoa
Apia, Western Samoa

Dear Sir:

On March 10 and 11 I was able to visit Western Samoa on my way home from a consultancy assignment for the South Pacific Commission in Fiji and the Cook Islands. My sole purpose for routing a return through your country was to meet with staff of your Fisheries Department to discuss the hawksbill turtle hatchery project at Aleipata. I have followed the progress of this experimental restocking project since its initiation in 1971. It was therefore with great pleasure that I finally had the opportunity to personally visit the facility and view the work being carried out.

I would like to commend the Government of Western Samoa for its support of this worthwhile endeavor in turtle resource management. The results that have been obtained thus far, while not conclusive, are nevertheless certainly most encouraging. The project is well conceived, and unique with respect to its involvement with the hawksbill turtle. Internationally, the project is a credit to your country, and hopefully you will be able to continue in its support during coming years.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist &
Principal Investigator,
Hawaiian Green Turtle Mgmt. Study

CHB:ec

cc: Western Samoa Fisheries Department

May 12, 1977

Mr. D. L. Arnold
Assistant Illustrations Editor
National Geographic Magazine
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Arnold:

You will probably recall that last July I sent you 29 duplicate color transparencies for possible use in a feature article on the Leeward Hawaiian Islands. It is my understanding that the planned article has now been postponed for an undetermined period of time. I would therefore be most appreciative if you would return the transparencies at your earliest convenience. I will of course be most happy to reimburse the National Geographic Society for whatever postage costs that may be involved.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

July 21, 1977

Mr. Chandra Sekhara Kor
Crocodile and Sea Turtle Breeding Project
Biological Park, NANDANKANAN
P. O. Barang District: Cuttack (Orissa)
INDIA 754005

Dear Mr. Kor:

Thank you for your most interesting and informative letter of 23 June. I am pleased to make your acquaintance, and I hope that we will continue to correspond on matters of common interest related to marine turtle research and conservation.

As requested, I am providing you with the following current addresses:

Dr. David Khenfeld

Dr. F. Wayne King
New York Zoological Society
185th Street and Southern Blvd.
New York, N.Y.

Dr. G. Carleton Ray

Mr. G. S. deSilva

Mr. Ross Witham

Mr. Chandra Sekhora Kor
July 21, 1977
Page 2

Mr. A. J. Mence

Miss Karen Bjorndal

It is presently my understanding from Dr. Carr that the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group is in abeyance.

The only turtle "farm" which I am aware of at this time is

Cayman Turtle Farm, Ltd.
Grand Cayman Island, B.W.I.

This is the reconstituted Mariculture, Ltd. which went bankrupt. I discussed this case in one of my articles. All of the articles which you requested have been enclosed.

Again, I appreciate hearing from you and I hope that you will send me copies of your project's reports and publications. Also I would be interested to learn in what way your 10,000 Monel metal tags have been "specially prepared."

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Principal Investigator
Hawaiian Marine Turtle Management
Study

GHB:md

Encls.

P.S. Have you read the publication by Drs. Carr and Mann entitled, Turtle Farming Project in Northern Australia: Report on an inquiry into ecological implications of a turtle farming project (1973). This would be a valuable document in the event that your organization would be interested in turtle farming on a large scale.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Coconut Island • P. O. Box 1346 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96747

July 6, 1977

The Honorable Edmund Brown Jr.
Governor
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

I want to take this opportunity to commend you for the wise decision you have made in vetoing the bill that would have allowed continued importation of green turtle products into California. I firmly believe you have followed the proper course of action in this matter.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

mk



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW
8 July 1977

TO: Division of Fish and Game

FROM: George H. Balazs

It is requested that further sampling trials with large mesh nets be permitted at the following locations.

- Kaneohe Bay, Ahu O Laka Island
- Mokuleia
- Barbers Point (adjacent to USCG Air Station)
- Bellows Beach
- Kawela Bay
- Kaalualu Bay } Island of Hawaii
- Punaluu Bay }

Additional locations will be supplied for your consideration at a later date. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Permit No. 78-09
Date of Issue: 07/01/77
Expiration Date: 06/30/78

Issued under the authority of applicable laws, to: (name, title,

designated assistant
shown on Attachment No. 1,
(of this permit)

for the purpose of conducting life history
research on the Hawaiian monk seal (Eretmochelys sp.)

Permit	Collection Location
to be used by the permittee(s) in accordance with the conditions, of this permit	State waters, except as prohibited in Special Conditions section, page 3 of this permit

subject to the following conditions:

I. GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- A. 1. This permit is non-transferable or assignable; a copy must be carried by the permittee(s) while engaged in activities permitted under this permit.

July 7, 1977

Mr. Don Brandon
Department of Fisheries
Box 96, Rarotonga
Cook Islands

Dear Don:

Enclosed are 45 of the Inconel alloy tags which you requested for use on the captive reared turtles. The tag numbers are consecutive from 2281 through 2325. Please return to me at your earliest convenience any tags that are not used. Also please return the applicator pliers upon completion.

I have indicated on the enclosed diagram the site on the turtle's front limb that has given us the best tagging results. Please note that the tag should extend at least three quarters of its distance onto the limb. A lesser distance will greatly increase the possibility of it being torn off, and a greater distance will cause excessive scar tissue to form as the animal grows.

In order for the tags to self-pierce and lock properly, the tag should be inserted into the pliers with the hole side flush against the plier's lower jaw. I have taped a tag in the pliers to show you the correct positioning. When applying the tags, have the turtle held firmly while you slowly and firmly squeeze the plier handles together as far as they will go. If for some reason proper tag locking does not take place, you can always use a pair of needle nose pliers to bend the point over adequately.

Our Institute's mailing address is on the tags and I will of course notify SPC and the Cook Island's government when any future returns are received. For my files, I would appreciate having a copy of the measurement data for each tagged turtle, as well as the plate(s), site(s) and condition(s) of release.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Tom Marsters

bcc: Dr. R. Grandperrin



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

July 6, 1977

Mr. Don Brandon
Department of Fisheries
Box 96
Rarotonga
Cook Islands

Dear Don:

Thank you for your letters dated June 14 and 23, which I only received today after returning from field work in the Leeward chain.

It should be noted that my final report to SPC included some 54 pages and was, in my opinion, considerably in-depth. Above all, I was entirely satisfied that it was a fair and objective report. I had therefore certainly hoped that the full text would be made available by SPC to both the Fiji and Cook Islands' governments, as well as anyone else interested enough to read it.

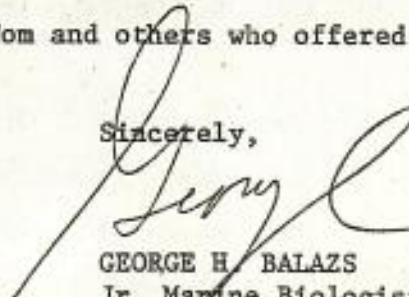
Your request for tags and pliers can be easily met. As I previously indicated, I am willing to make available some of my Inconel tags. Within the next week I will send them off to you by air post.

Concerning the frozen material, we would be interested in examining several (3-4) specimens, but I'm not sure what information will result. Ideally they should be packed in dry ice in a thick styrofoam container. Check with the Air New Zealand office first to determine what shipping restrictions may exist. We may find out that the easier thing to do is pickle the animals in formalin.

You have asked for a fairly large number of copied reprints and it will take me a while to get them all together. We have a minimum of clerical staff and I will have to do most of it myself. I'll do my best, but this is a bad time of the year as it is the breeding season at French Frigate Shoals and I am out in the field a lot.

Please give my best regards to Tom and others who offered me hospitality during my visit.

Sincerely,


GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

18 June 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO: Palmer Sekora
Ed Shallenberger

FROM: George Balazs

As you are aware, our meeting of 6 June unfortunately had to be cancelled. Although it would be ideal for us to meet as soon as possible, I am afraid that postponement will have to be made until early August. This should not present any great problems, as no eggs have as yet been deposited at Sea Life Park this season.

I want you to know that I have taken some steps in preparation for hatchling production. A special order has now been placed for 1000 miniature sized tags that can appropriately be placed on hatchling turtles. Of course it is problematic just how long they will remain on the animal. This and other related topics will be discussed when the three of us finally get together.

University of Hawaii at Manoa

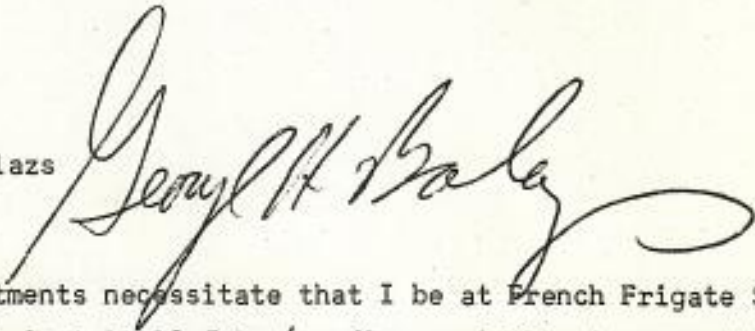
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

17 June 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Craven
Mr. Linsky

FROM: George H. Balazs



Field research commitments necessitate that I be at French Frigate Shoals from 20 June to Approximately 10 July (pending available transportation for return to Honolulu). I thought that it would be best to inform you of this schedule in the event that you try to contact me concerning the sea grant project.

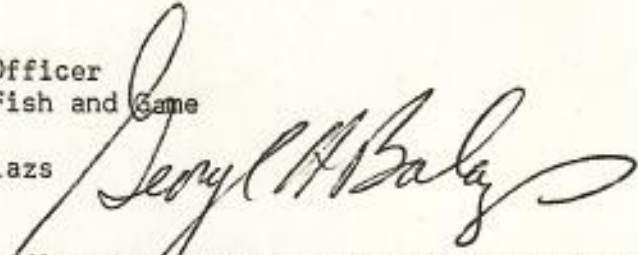
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
22 June 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO: Al Stevens
Enforcement Officer
Division of Fish and Game

FROM: George H. Balazs


As requested, I am sending you photos of the confiscated green turtle which was measured, tagged and released at Sand Island on 17 May 1977. I am pleased to be of assistance to the Division in this matter.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you and your fellow officers for notifying me when turtles are confiscated by the Division. The biological information being accumulated from such cases is significantly contributing to our knowledge of Hawaiian turtles.

GHB:lb

cc
Mr. Takata



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW
16 June 1977

Dr. R. Grandperrin
Fisheries Adviser
South Pacific Commission
Post Box D.5
Noumea Cedex, New Caledonia

Dear Rene:

Many thanks for your complimentary letter of 16 May concerning my report to the South Pacific Commission. I am pleased to learn that the information which I presented will be beneficial in the determination of future policy.

I would like to ask for your assistance in a matter that would be most helpful to me in terms of appropriately justifying the time and effort which I spent on the SPC assignment. Would you please communicate, in short letters to the Director of this laboratory and the Governor's Marine Affairs Coordinator, the appreciation and value of my report to SPC which you expressed in your letter to me? The names and addresses of these gentlemen are as follows:

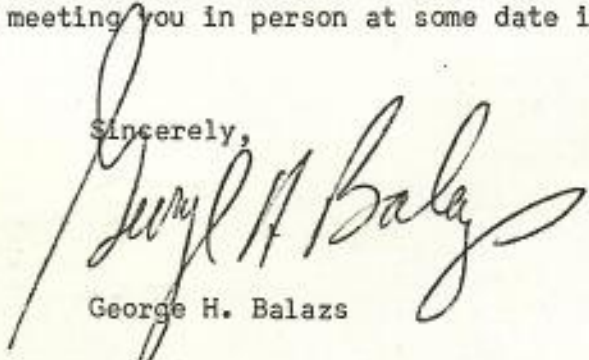
Dr. J. Bardach, Director
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
(address on this letterhead)

Mr. H. Kono
Governor's Marine Affairs Coordinator
1136 Union Mall
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Thank you in advance for your help in this request.

I look forward to meeting you in person at some date in the future.

Sincerely,


George H. Balazs

GHB:lb

15 June

Mr. G. Mitcham
General Manager
Maui Mall
Box 156
Kahului, Maui 96732

Dear Mr. Mitcham:

It is my understanding that you are interested in obtaining quality photographs for use in a permanent display dealing with Hawaii's ocean-oriented animals. For a reasonable fee, I will allow use of any the photographs contained in my enclosed booklet.

Please contact me at your earliest opportunity if you wish to further discuss such a transaction.

Sincerely,
G.H. Baley

June 9, 1977

Captain D. H. Fischer
Commanding Officer
U.S. Naval Station Midway
FPO San Francisco, California 96614

Dear Captain Fischer:

I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Navy for allowing me to conduct field studies of sea turtles at Midway from May 24 to June 6. This ongoing research, in cooperation with Koral Kings Diving Club, is viewed as an extremely valuable component program that can make significant contributions to our knowledge of the Hawaiian green turtle population. Your support of this work on a mission congruent basis is commendable.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Office of the Governor's Marine
Affairs Coordinator
Koral Kings Diving Club

June 9, 1977

Ms. Nancy Butowski-Casey
Box 14, U.S. Naval Station
FPO San Francisco, California 96614

Dear Nancy:

Pursuant to our recent discussions, I have recommended that you be designated as the new Hawaii Audubon Society Representative at Midway. You will note from the enclosed recent copy of 'Elapaio that Dr. Robert Pyle is the Society's President. I suggest that you write to Dr. Pyle at an early date enclosing \$3.00 for 1977 membership dues and expressing your desire to periodically provide bird and other wildlife information as the Midway Representative. The Society's mailing address is: P. O. Box 22832, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

I want to thank you once again for all of your valuable assistance during my recent study visit. I look forward to working with you on matters of common interest during the course of your two year residency.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: Dr. Pyle

June 9, 1977

Mr. Milton C. Searle
Executive Director
The American Humane Association
P.O. Box 1266
Denver, Colorado 80201

Dear Mr. Searle:

I am pleased to accept your invitation to participate in the General Session of the 101st Annual Meeting of the American Humane Association. I will be looking forward to receiving details of the meeting and the format to be established for the various presentations.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

MEMORANDUM

June 9, 1977

To: Kent W. Bridges, Assistant Professor
Botany Department

From: George H. Balazs
HIMB

Subject: Occurrence of *Halophila* sp. at Midway

From 25 May to 6 June, 1977 I conducted a series of underwater surveys in the lagoon at Midway for the primary purpose of locating, censusing and tagging green turtles. During the course of this activity, the sea grass *Halophila* was found to occur at two locations. A preserved sample of this material has been enclosed for your inspection and identification. To my knowledge, *Halophila* has not previously been reported from Midway.

The specific sites of occurrence are listed as A and B on the attached chart. Site A consists of a sand and silt bottom with a water depth ranging from 10 to 20 feet. The plants are found in random patches varying from sparse to moderate coverage. Site B comprises a portion of the Navy's inner harbor facility. The bottom substrate is principally silt with a water depth ranging from 20 to 40 feet. I would consider the plant coverage to be very sparse and irregular.

It is interesting to note that no evidence presently exists which indicates that the green turtles at Midway utilize *Halophila* as a food source, such as takes place around Oahu. I will be making additional study visits to Midway during the coming months and will pass on to you any new information which arises on this subject.

GHB:ec

Encls.

LIS-10,100
REG1

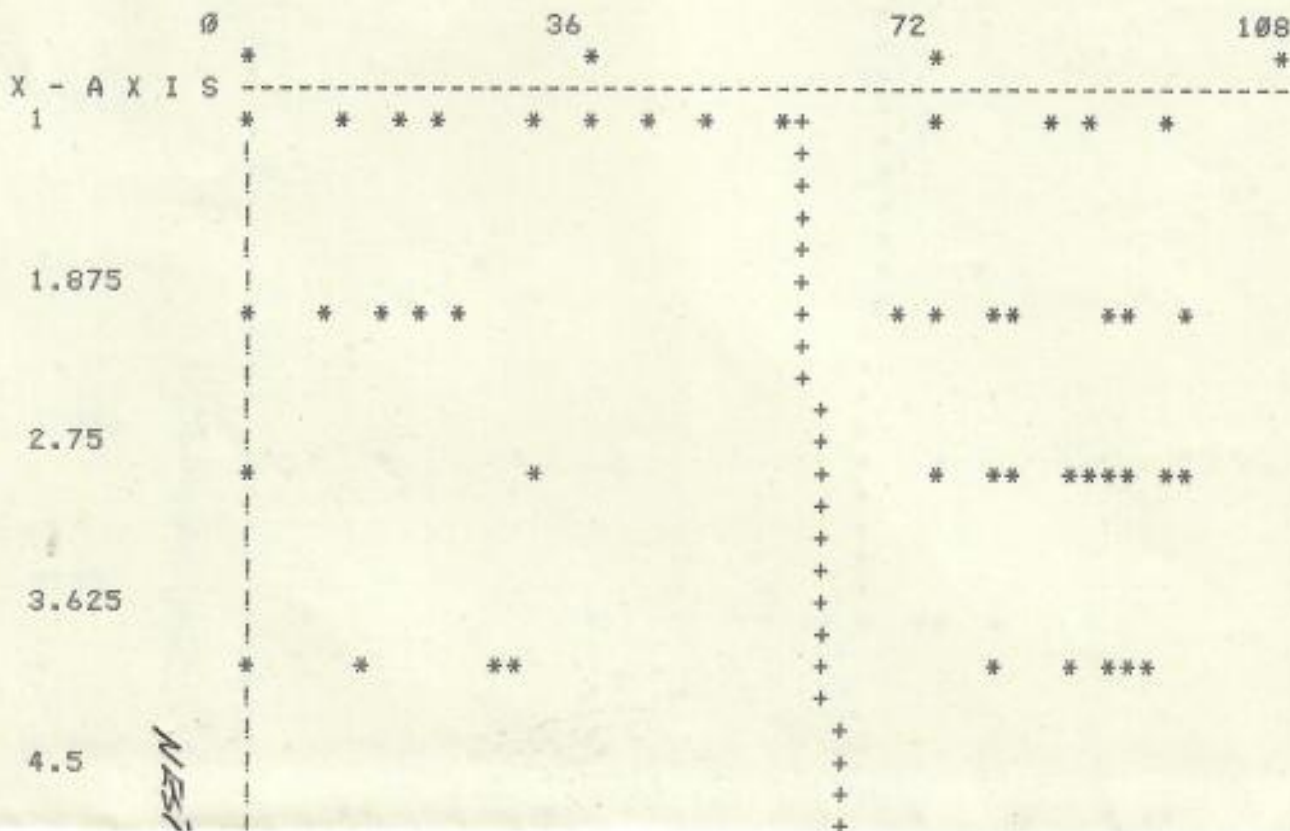
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RUN
REG1

REG1: VERSION 2.4, 11 MAY 1976

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Y - A X I S PERCENT HATCH



TNG SEQUENCE

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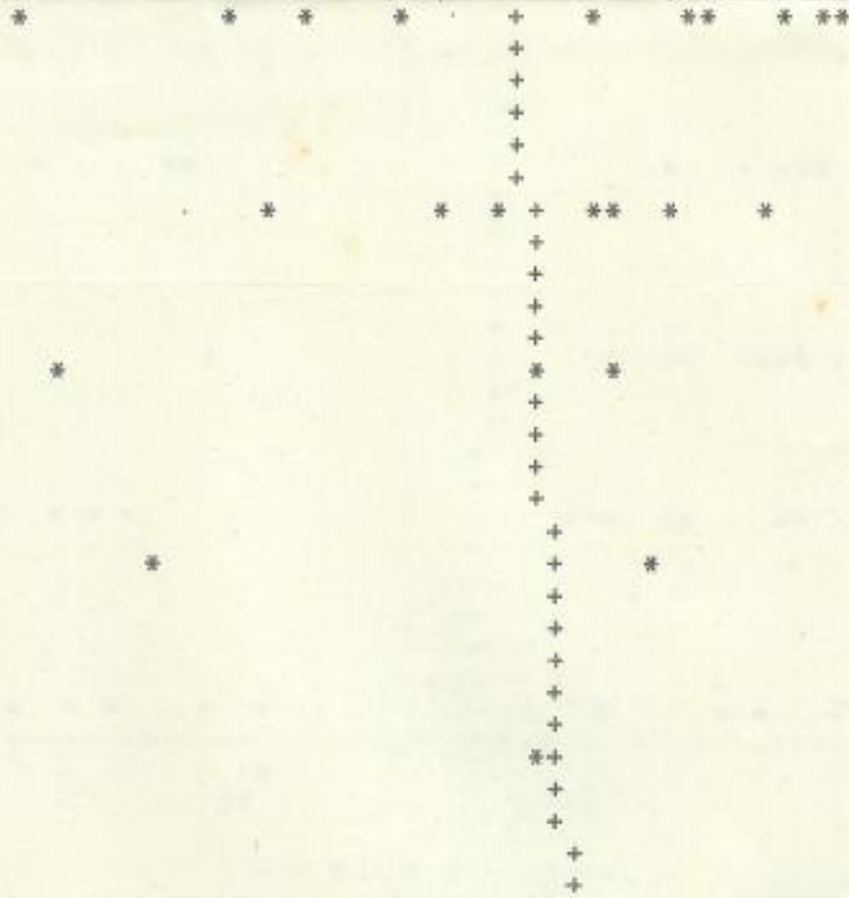
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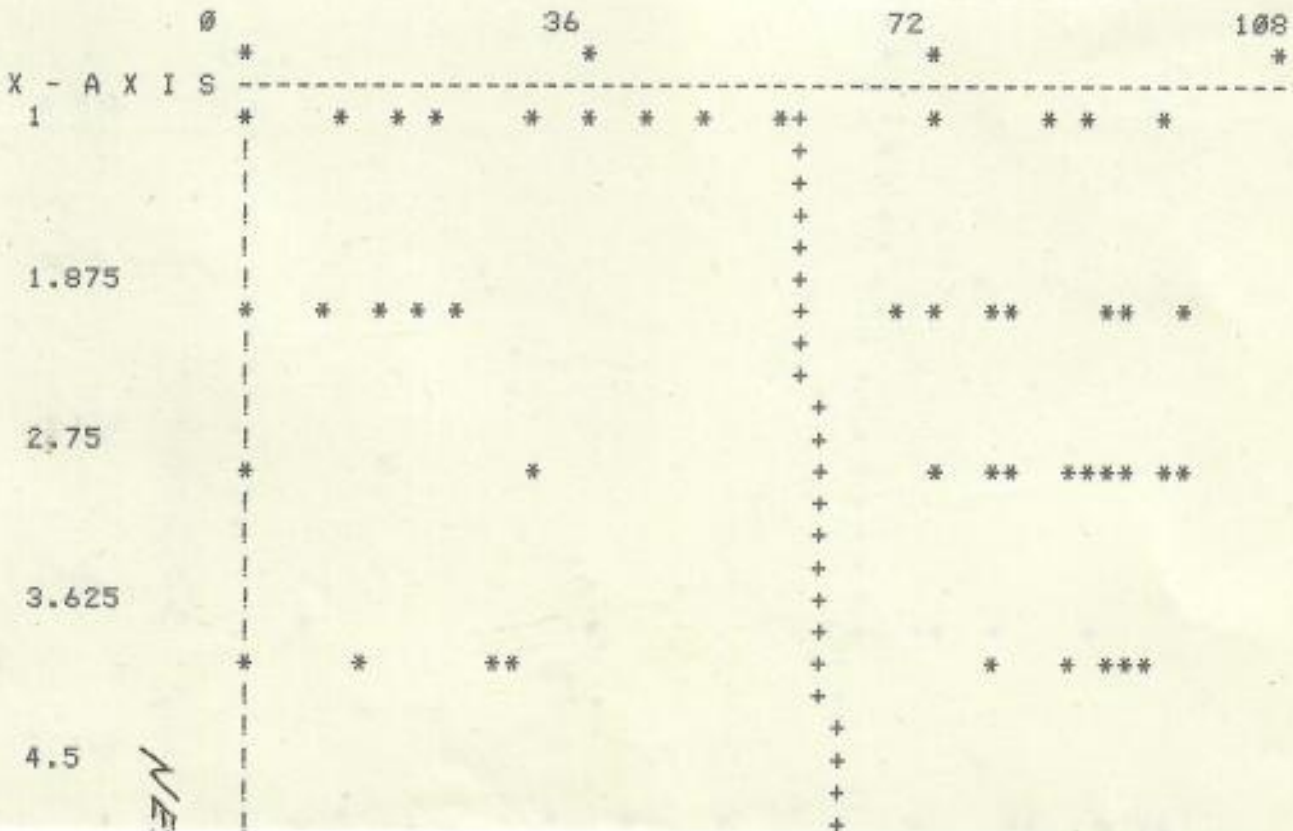
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60 DATA 1,71.4,2,79.3,3,87.1,4,91.2,5,81.8,6,87.2,1,35.1,2,22.5
70 DATA 3,71.4,4,94.5,5,96.2,6,71.7,1,95.4,2,91.4,3,97.1,4,94.7
80 DATA 5,90.7,1,55.1,2,0,3,79.3,1,20.4,2,18.8,3,30.8,4,27.4
90 DATA 5,49,6,70,7,72.5,8,75.6,9,63.9,1,87.9,2,91.8,3,91,4,85.7
100 DATA 5,69.1,6,60.7

RUN
REG1

REG1: VERSION 2.4, 11 MAY 1976

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Y - A X I S PERCENT HATCH



5.375

6.25

7.125

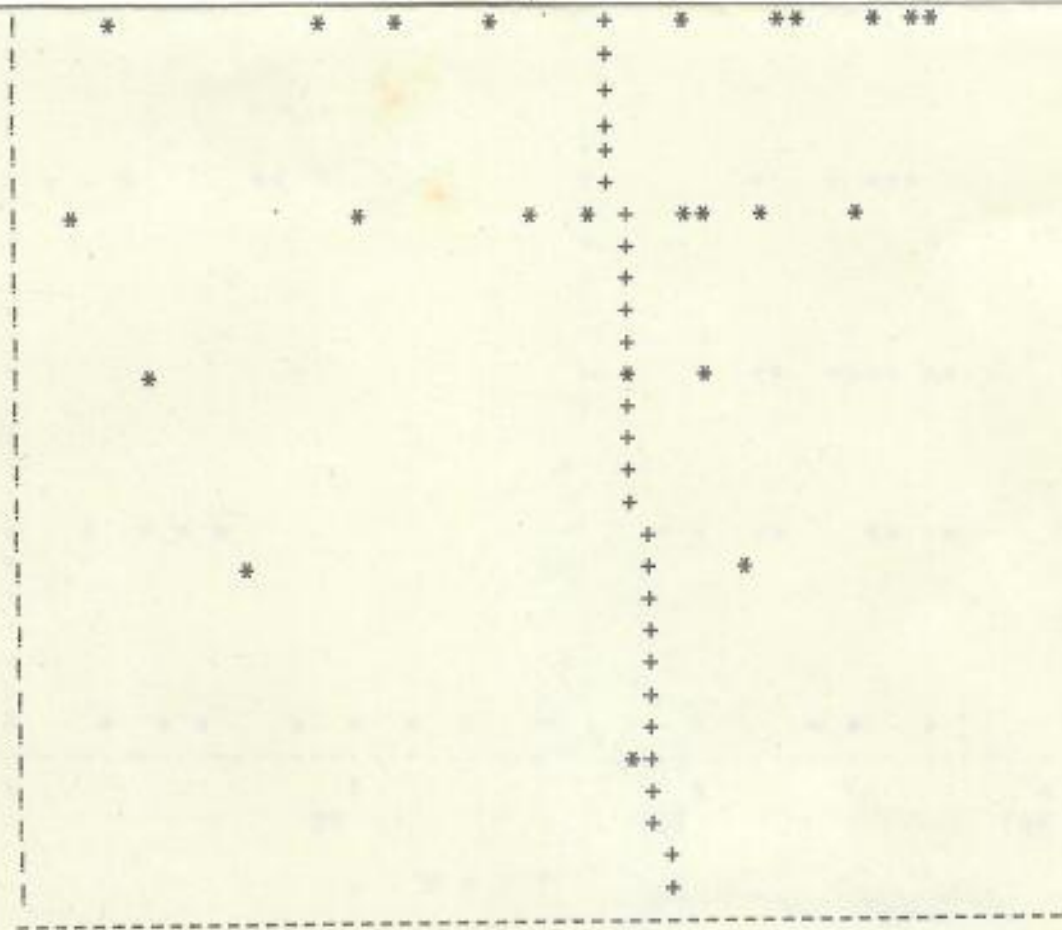
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REC:
 110-10-100

COPY



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW
10 July 1977

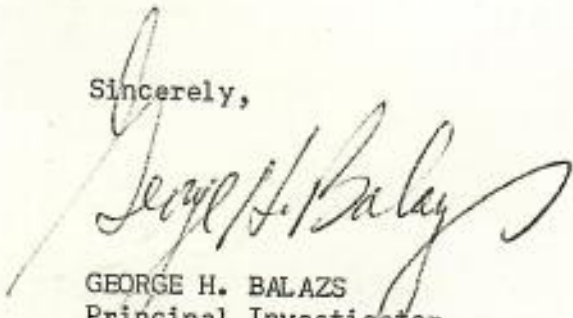
Dr. J. Carranza F.
Director
Instituto Nacional de Pesca
Chiapas 121
Mexico D.F., Mexico

Dear Dr. Carranza:

The purpose of this letter is to respectfully bring to your attention the serious survival situation which now exists for the Atlantic ridley turtle, Lepidochelys kempfi. At the recent 57th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (19-25 June), a paper authored by Drs. A. Mevlan, Rene Marquez M., and A. Carr was presented on this subject. Based on the scientific data made available, it appears certain that the Atlantic ridley turtle will become extinct within the next few years unless special conservation measures are taken in the very near future. The loss of this unique marine turtle would indeed be most unfortunate, particularly to Mexico as nearly all members of the species breed at the beach of Rancho Nuevo, Tamaulipas.

From the information which I have reviewed, it would appear that two steps need to be taken in order to help protect further the Atlantic ridley turtle. These steps include implementation of greater controls on shrimp trawlers operating near the Rancho Nuevo beach, and sanctuary status for the beach itself to lessen human intrusion. I sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to such measures.

Sincerely,



GEORGE H. BALAZS
Principal Investigator
Hawaiian Marine Turtle Management Study

GHB:le



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

July 16, 1977

Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky
Departments of Zoology and Psychology
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

Dear Nicholas:

Thanks for your letters of June 20th and July 11th with the enclosures. I am certainly encouraged by your comments about a new turtle group. Hopefully it will all take place, as I believe some very positive things could be accomplished. If I am included, as I hope I will be, I am sure that diplomacy will prevail.

I've taken some time to review the Cayman material which you sent. Several observations resulted and I will present them to you for consideration, action, or whatever you feel may be justified. First, there are a couple of errors in Table 1 (addendum to 1976 report to IUCN). I've reworked the sections involved and written in the correct values. This is of course nothing serious, but it seems to suggest poor data handling or proof reading.

The calculations reveal that of the 27 captive wild stock turtles that nested, 13 (or 48.1%) laid completely infertile eggs. If you consider all 27 turtles, their overall percent hatch was about 36% (as they listed). Only one of their farm reared stock turtles produced fertile eggs, and then only with a 15.7% hatch rate. In my opinion, all of this looks like very poor results for realistically expecting self-sufficiency within the foreseeable future. I'm sure that the company realizes this fact, hence the statement in no.4 under Research Activities referring to purchase of 100 greens from the Mexican government. I consider such activities unacceptable. It is no real solution, as their own data to date show. This merely represents a further drain on a wild population. The argument about 'would be slaughtered anyway' is reminiscent of the statements which I sometimes hear about 'why not buy stuffed turtles, they're already dead!'

Concerning another point of far less importance (probably), I would like to mention that perhaps some formal objection or at least mention should have been made when the company reincorporated and named itself Cayman Turtle Farm Ltd. The use of the word Farm is clearly not consistent with the IUCN Principals and Recommendations, at least at this time.

Nicholas
University of Toronto
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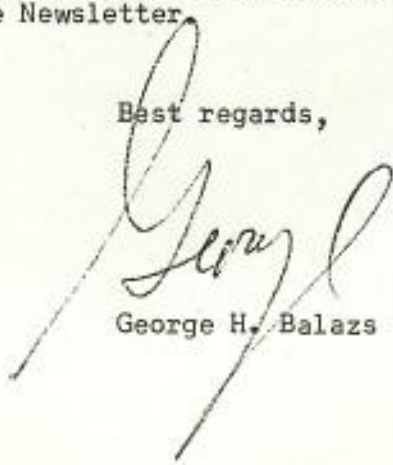
Oh yes, in going over their data I ran a regression analysis to see if percent hatch was dependent on nesting sequence of the 14 captive wild stock turtles (i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. nestings). The enclosed printout shows that it wasn't. It would have been more valuable to do this with percent fertility, however the values were not given. I seem to recall that Wayne found some evidence for decreased fertility with time.

I now have a modest, but firm, amount of funding for at least the next three years. However, this is to be used for work throughout the entire Hawaiian chain- a very large area as I'm sure you are aware. I've applied for some supplemental WWF money to be used specifically for my juvenile growth work (proposal enclosed). I still haven't heard anything one way or the other as to the granting of funds.

I have no immediate plans to travel East, however, should there be an important enough topic/plans to discuss, I might be able to make a special trip.

You will be interested and pleased to learn that the addition of the green to Appendix 1 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) has started to do some good in Honolulu. Recently an order was placed by a local tourist curio shop for 500 stuffed juvenile greens from the Philippines. They are sold for \$150-\$200 each in Waikiki. Apparently the shop wanted to stock up good before prohibitions went into effect (his existing stock would then be "grandfathered". Anyway, before the order was filled, our local Federal Fish and Wildlife enforcement agents started enforcing CITES and the shop was notified that all would be confiscated if the order was shipped. If you think it would be appropriate and worthwhile, I can write a short note on this case for the Newsletter.

Best regards,



George H. Balazs

July 5, 1977
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Ms. Pat Loui, Editor
Honolulu Magazine
735 Bishop, Suite 410
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Ms. Loui:

On Sunday, July 3rd I had the opportunity to briefly speak with two of your staff members at French Frigate Shoals who are preparing an article on the Coast Guard and the Leeward Hawaiian Islands. During the course of field research, I have accumulated a large collection of quality color and black and white 35mm photographs dealing with seabirds, turtles and seals of the Leeward Islands. In the event that you have use for such material, perhaps for a cover photo, please contact me at 247-6631 or 946-1760.

Sincerely,



George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist with the
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

May 18, 1977

Captain R. P. Nystedt
CEC, District Civil Engineer
Headquarters
Fourteenth Naval District
Box 110
FPO San Francisco 96610

Dear Captain Nystedt:

This letter is in reference to your correspondence dated 17 November 1976 (48A:FWD:cdg, Ser 2679) concerning my appointment by the Governor's Marine Affairs Coordinator to conduct a management study of the Hawaiian green sea turtle.

At this time, I would like to respectfully request the Navy's support and assistance in the conduction of aerial surveys to locate and census aggregations of green turtles in the near shore waters of the Island of Kahoolawe. Additionally, I would like to survey on land as many of the island's sand beaches as possible to identify any possible nesting activity which may be taking place.

I believe it would be advantageous for me to meet with you in person in order to fully discuss this request. When your schedule permits, I would be most appreciative if you would telephone me at 247-6631 to arrange for a meeting date and time convenient to both of us.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

cc: Mr. Michio Takata, Director
Division of Fish and Game

May 18, 1977

Mrs. Zahida Whitaker
Editor
Madras Snake Park
Guindy Deer Park
Madras 600022
INDIA

Dear Mrs. Whitaker:

I would greatly appreciate receiving issue number one of the Newsletter of the Madras Snake Park Trust. Enclosed is a small donation to cover foreign air postage mailing costs.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md

Encl.

April 25, 1977

Mr. R. D. Cooper
Secretary
Applied Ecology Pty. Ltd.
P. O. Box 26
Woden, A.C.T. 2606
Australia

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your prompt letter of 7 April (102/30/OPS) in response to my enquiry about Mr. Teokotal Baital of the Cook Islands. The information provided has been most useful in preparing my report for the South Pacific Commission.

I continue to have considerable interest in your resource assessment and farming research activities, and would appreciate receiving copies of publications or reports that may become available.

On a separate but related matter, I wonder if you can verify some observations that were recently passed on to me concerning Raine Island. Apparently in early December 1975 a Dr. Veron visited the island and observed what he estimated to be 13,000 nesting turtles on the beaches. Although I did not speak directly to Dr. Veron, the impression was given that this was a daytime occurrence. The species of turtle was not stated, but from such a description this certainly sounds like a mass nesting of olive ridleys. Any information that you can provide on the subject would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Jr. Marine Biologist

GHB:md