

> APRIL 1979 6.
INCOMING HINB
LETTERS G.H. BALAZS

**National
WILDLIFE**

Editorial offices: 225 E. Michigan Milwaukee, Wis. 53202 Phone: 414/273-2486
Publications of the National Wildlife Federation

**International
WILDLIFE**


July 12, 1979

Dear George:

Thanks so much for the piece on KAULA. I can't believe what a thorough bibliography you put together on it. I haven't pursued doing an article on the controversy involving the island because I felt the other one relating to the future of the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge would have more national significance. Unfortunately, I never did get a reply to my letter from Brent Geizentanner. I assume that he's probably extremely busy and also that my visiting the refuge is just not feasible.

November seems to be the time when I can take a long trip for the magazine (at least three weeks) and I haven't ruled out Hawaii--just haven't gotten a handle on the right topic yet. I can tell that Kaula is a very hot topic in the islands but I'm not sure if I could interest the powers-that-be here in it as subject of a major feature. I'll keep you posted, and please keep sending me your materials. I appreciate it.

Best wishes,


Mark Wexler

IUCN

Unofficial translation of letter received from the Department of Fisheries of the Government of Mexico in reply to Dr. Munro's letter of 17 April 1979 on Marine Turtles (incoming dated 28.6.79)

Dear Dr. Munro,

With reference to your letter of 17 April to the President of the Republic in which you write about your concern for the situation of marine turtles in Mexico and about the specific recommendations for protecting these animals.

As you know in Mexico there is a National Fisheries Institute with a project on scientific research, which is studying these species within the economic possibilities of our country. As a result of these studies protection programmes have been developed for marine turtles as well as turtle fisheries management and the most important nesting areas have been determined and for them natural reserves will be established where total protection for the nests and for the animals will be enforced within a 4km limit of the coast.

With regard to the total moratorium which is requested, relevant studies are being undertaken in Mexico but they do not include all the species because there are areas as in the case of Oaxaca where an abundance of the resource permits restricted commercial exploitation under capture quotas. Other species like hawksbill and leatherback turtles are totally protected and their capture and trade are prohibited. If it is considered that the capture of other species should also be prohibited, legal measures will also be taken.

We have taken note of all the recommendations proposed in the appendix to your letter, however most of them are already in practice and others are being studied.

Dr. Jorge Carranza Fraser

FM/fh/17.7.79

13 JUL. 1979

DIRECCION GENERAL DEL
INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE PESCA
SUBDIRECCION DE ECOLOGIA APLICADA
DIVISION DE INVESTIGACION EN AGUAS
ESTUARINAS Y MARINO-LITORALES
PROYECTO DE TORTUGAS MARINAS.

cc: PA, PS, EBB, SG, FM

Sir Peter Scott
Dr. Wayne King
Prof. M. Kassas

ACA/PTM/130

1869

México, D.F., Junio 28, 1979.

DR. DAVID A. MUNRO
DIRECTOR GENERAL I.U.C.N.
1110 MORGES, SWITZERLAND
SUIZA.

Muy distinguido Dr. Munro:

En atención a su escrito de fecha 17 de abril pasado, dirigido al Sr. Presidente de la República, Lic. José López Portillo, y en el cual nos emite su preocupación sobre la situación actual de las tortugas marinas en México, así como las recomendaciones específicas para preservar estos animales.

Como es de su conocimiento, en México existe dentro de este Instituto Nacional de Pesca un Proyecto de Investigación Científica que se encarga del estudio de estas especies, dentro de las posibilidades económicas que nuestro país permite. Como resultado de estas investigaciones se han desarrollado programas de protección para tortugas marinas y administración de la pesquería y se han determinado las zonas más importantes de anidación y para las cuales se establecerán las Reservas Naturales correspondientes, donde se dará protección total a la anidación y los animales que ahí ocurran, abarcando una zona de 4 km frente a las playas de anidación.

En cuanto a la moratoria total que solicitan los estudios respectivos se llevan a cabo pero no comprenden a todas las especies ya que existen áreas, como Oaxaca, donde la abundancia del recurso permite una explotación comercial restringida mediante cuotas de captura. Otras especies como carey, lora o bastarda y laúd o de cuero están totalmente protegidas y prohibida su pesca y comercio.

##.-



DEPARTAMENTO DE PESCA



DEPARTAMENTO DE PESCA

En caso de que otras especies se considere que deban vedarse, se harán las legislaciones correspondientes.

Todas las recomendaciones que se proponen en el Apéndice de su carta han merecido nuestra consideración aún cuando la mayoría de ellas se están llevando a la práctica y otras están siendo estudiadas.



DEPARTAMENTO DE PESCA
DIREC. GRAL. DEL
INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE PESCA

ATENTAMENTE
SUFRAGIO EFECTIVO. NO REELECCION
EL DIRECTOR GENERAL

DR. JORGE CARRANZA FRASER.

DEPTO. DE PESCA
INSTITUTO NAL. DE PESCA
★ JUL 3 1979 ★
SECCION DE CORRESPONDENCIA
DESPACHADO

JCF/PMS/LPR/RMM/lasf.

SSC



THE NEW GROUNDS
SLIMBRIDGE
GLOUCESTER GL2 7BT

Tele: Cambridge (045-389) 333
Cables: Wildfowl Dunstable

20th July 1979

Mr. Earl Baysinger,
Executive Officer,
IUCN/SSC,
1110 Morges,
Switzerland.

Dear Earl,

SSC: Costa Rica
Resolutions

1. Gray whale: I presume you and Hal Eidsvik will handle from Morges.
2. Red Data Books: should this go any further.
3. Hawaiian Islands: letter from Giezentanner just received enclosed. Please advise follow-up action.
4. Otter pelts: presumably Nicole/John TRAFFIC Groups will deal with this.
5. Monarch butterfly: can you advise to whom letter should be sent.

Many thanks.

Yours ever,

Jane Fenton
Secretary to the Chairman
IUCN Survival Service Commission

cc: ✓ Dr. F. Wayne King
Richard Fitter

George — What is our next step on this? Letters were also sent to Director Wildlife, etc., but as yet no response



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

300 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD
P. O. BOX 50167
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96850

IN REPLY REFER TO:

(RF)
(808) 546-5609

June 8, 1979

Sir Peter Scott, Chairman
Survival Science Commission
IUCN
The New Grounds
Slimbridge, Gloucester, GL2 7BT

Dear Mr. Scott:

Thank you for your letter of May 25, 1979 expressing the concern of the IUCN Survival Science Commission over Tern Island, a part of the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. At the outset, I wish to advise you that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has not proposed that Tern Island be used as a fishery support station. We are in the early stages of studying the pros and cons of several management proposals for Tern Island. These include options of abandonment of the island; operation of a fisheries base; and all degrees of uses and combinations in between. However, no decision has been reached at this time.

We are strongly committed to protection of the fish and wildlife resources of the Hawaiian Islands NWR, including Tern Island. I can assure you that before any non-conservation uses of the Refuge are allowed, conflicts affecting the welfare of the resources will be resolved. We will not, and cannot, allow uses which adversely impact on the endangered species and migratory birds of the Refuge.

As you are probably aware, the U.S. Coast Guard plans to abandon Tern Island and its facilities on June 30, 1979. As you know, the State of Hawaii wants the use of Tern Island as a fisheries base. Complicating the matter is the fact that Hawaii disputes the Federal claim over Tern Island, as well as the submerged lands and waters on several Refuge units, including French Frigate Shoals. Several local fishermen have threatened to go to French Frigate Shoals when the Coast Guard leaves and fish illegally in the Refuge. We hope this will not occur, but we are prepared



Save Energy and You Serve America!

Sir Peter Scott
June 8, 1979
Page Two

to defend our position and make apprehensions, if necessary. We are confident of our claim over Tern Island and the water areas of the Refuge and feel that if/when the matter is adjudicated, we will prevail.

Our immediate plans are to station one or two employees on the island upon Coast Guard withdrawal in order to maintain an enforcement presence, maintain buildings, and support on-going research. Presently this research includes work on endangered Hawaiian monk seals, threatened green sea turtles, migratory seabirds, coral reef ecology, and reef community structure. French Frigate Shoals, of which Tern Island is a part, is designated as a Research Natural Area. As such, uses are presently restricted to scientific research only. My personal feeling is that preservation of this pristine condition for use for scientific research is the highest and best use of the Refuge. It must be preserved at all costs. By doing so, we also achieve strong protection for fish and wildlife resources.

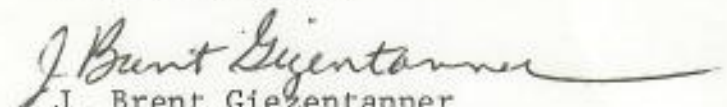
As we proceed in the decision-making process for Tern Island, we will be complying with the National Environmental Impact Assessment or Statement (EIA/EIS) as deemed necessary by NEPA. I will see that your committee is given a chance to review and comment on our document.

In the meantime, let me assure you that the Service has no intention of compromising the fish and wildlife resources of the Hawaiian Islands NWR.

On another matter, I would like to personally thank you for your strong statement of support for our Kealia Pond acquisition on Maui during last March's hearings on the Maui South Shore Harbor proposal. Dr. Kepler probably told you that the Corps of Engineers has or will undoubtedly drop the study due to almost unanimous opposition to the harbor voiced at the hearing.

I also wish to thank you and your committee for your continued support for the protection of our precious wildlife resources.

Sincerely yours,


J. Brent Giezantanner
Refuge Manager

MEMORANDUM

TO: I. U. C. N.
Survival Service Commission (Turtles).

FROM: Dr. Peter R. Bacon
Department of Zoology,
University of the West Indies,
St. Augustine, TRINIDAD.

Date: 28th June, 1979.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

*Please be informed that all future correspondence should
be addressed to me at:-*

THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY,
UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX,
WIVENHOE PARK,
ESSEX CO4 3SQ,
ENGLAND.

Peter R. Bacon

:99

*copied : A. Carr
Gr. Baker*

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
804-392-1107

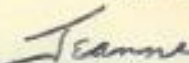
23 July 1979

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

Dear George:

I just received this from Janet Barber
today, and thought you might be interested.

Best regards,



Jeanne A. Mortimer

BALAZS

12th July, 1979

29 Greville Street, London EC1N 8AX
Telephone: 01-404 5691
Cables: Pandafund London EC1

Professor Archie Carr,
Graduate Research Professor,
Department of Zoology,
University of Florida,
223 Bartram Hall,
Gainesville, 32611,
Florida,
USA.

Dear Professor Carr,

As you can see from the attached letter, I have spoken to Hefferon at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, who will be going to Ascension and St. Helena at the end of this month.

He seemed to be fully aware of the swell of feeling about the implications tourism has for turtles, and, as I say in my letter, the unfortunate tourists likely to be going there. He certainly knew your name and that of Jeanne Mortimer's and was fairly reasonable on the telephone, saying he understood why there existed criticisms of the tourism project.

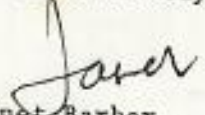
The reason why tourism cannot develop on St. Helena is of course because there is no air strip there, and Ascension is now formally a dependency of St. Helena. Apparently, the idea of tourism on both Islands was mooted as far back as 1972, and an initial report was received by HMG at the end of last year on the possibilities of tourism on Ascension. The whole process of initial report presentation, to anything approaching final decision on the development is going to take many months, and the new Conservative Government in Britain may decide to scrap the whole idea altogether.

I think it is wise to give the Foreign Office and the Overseas Development Administration a chance to decide on abandoning the tourist project, but if there are any signs of resistance, then I think much more pressure can be exerted and very quickly. Hefferon was impressed by all the letters he had received and I think therefore that we would have a fair chance of killing the project if we had to come to a public fight!

I will of course keep you posted, and those to whom I have copied this letter; thank you very much for yours of 25th April.

With very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



Janet Barber
Head of Information and Conservation

C. C. Miss Jeanne Mortimer
 Mr. Nils Halbertsma

Dr. Lee Talbot, Director of Conservation -
WWF International

29 Greville Street, London EC1N 8AX
Telephone: 01-404 5691
Cables: Pandafund London EC1

12th July, 1979

B. Hefferon Esq.,
West Indian and Atlantic Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
Great George Street,
London. SW1

Dear Mr. Hefferon,

Ascension Island

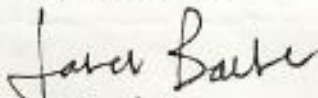
I am writing to confirm some points that were made in the conversation we had about Ascension Island some days ago.

I expressed concern about the possibility of tourist development on the Island and hoped very much that the greatest and most careful thought would be given to all the implications, not only for the very large and valuable green turtle colony, but also to the welfare of tourists likely to go there.

You said that you had had quite a lot of information already about the Island's potential for tourism from scientists like Jeanne Mortimer and Professor Archie Carr of the University of Florida. Miss Mortimer in particular, emphasised in the paper that I also have, that thorough investigation might show that Ascension is not a particularly attractive tourist destination, because of the lack of vegetation cover, the very deep and often turbulent sea immediately off the small and turtle frequented beaches - to name only a few of the drawbacks.

We agreed that after your return from Ascension Island in early September, we could meet and discuss what the future British Government view may be of this kind of development.

Yours sincerely,



Janet Barber
Head of Information and Conservation

C. C. Professor Archie Carr
 ✓ Miss Jeanne Mortimer
 Mr. Nils Halbertsma -
 WWF Netherlands

Dr. Lee Talbot, Director of Conservation -
WWF International



1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009
CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505
TELEPHONE: (202) 387-0800

July 17, 1979

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Enclosed are three copies of FOCUS, containing your photograph of the yawning turtle, on page 6. I regret I could not do it more justice as I had originally planned, but last minute copy changes (the rhino story suddenly pre-empted space) meant I had to reduce and relocate the turtle story, among others. I also enclose a copy of an earlier FOCUS, in case you have not seen it.

With regard to your offer of other Hawaii-related photographs: we are always interested in all things Hawaiian now, as Tom Lovejoy tells me he hopes to begin developing a comprehensive World Wildlife Fund-U.S. program there within a year or so. This would of course mean my needs will expand. For immediate purposes, anything graphic of forest destruction, feral animal activity, in fact, anything pointing up the extreme fragility of the Hawaiian environment, would be most welcome. Whales, marine habitat, and other cetacean shots would be equally appreciated. Anything of the iiwi, the palila, and other endangered birds and of endangered plants (particularly orchids) would be useful, too. In support of our TRAFFIC (U.S.A.) office, I need pictures of pristine coral reefs and shells. I am also always on the lookout for "people" shots - ones which tell the story of our programs, be it pro or con (i.e., a "slash and burner" in the forest or a scientist at work).

I regularly use black and white photographs (8 X 10 glossies preferred) for the newsletter, and for the Annual and Financial Reports. However, we are presently working on a World Wildlife Fund-U.S. case statement which will call for color shots (slides are best and most easily transportable). All pictures should have appropriate credit and details about the shot printed on the reverse. If there are credit restrictions, these should also be noted.

As you can see, any and all help will be most gratefully received.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Janet Bohlen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janet Trowbridge Bohlen
Publications

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

G. Balazs

July 18, 1979

Mr. Robert Redford
c/o Publicity Department
United Artists Corporation
166 North Robertson
Los Angeles, California 90048

Dear Mr. Redford:

I am writing in support of an earlier letter written to you by Mr. George Balazs concerning the hawksbill turtle. Mr. Balazs is, as you know, the Deputy Chairman of the IUCN/SSC (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources/Survival Service Commission) Marine Turtle Specialist Group. IUCN is scientific advisor to the World Wildlife Fund and we work together with them on many issues.

We fully support the efforts of Mr. Balazs and, in fact, consider them to be critical to the survival of the hawksbill turtle. Any assistance you can give him in regard to publicity in Japan, or in any other way, would be greatly appreciated. Use of turtle shell has a long tradition in Japanese culture but the amount that large nation consumes would soon exhaust the turtle populations, so we very much hope you can aid us in highlighting the problem.

With many thanks and all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas E. Lovejoy

TEL:snk



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southwest Region
Western Pacific Program Office
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

July 18, 1979

FSW1:WCS

Mr. George Balazs
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P. O. Box 1067
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

I spoke with Bob Iversen today regarding the new regulations you inquired about covering the importing and sale of commercially grown sea turtles. This office has not received any written policy or publications other than the one sent you. Should you have additional information regarding the new regulations you are referring to, we would appreciate you furnishing us with a copy.

Also, our Regional Law Enforcement Branch has decided to use the turtle identification material from Mexico. I'm requesting another copy as mine was sent to California. As we discussed over the phone, we'd also like one color photo of each turtle species for our identification guide. We could have them made from color slides.

Perhaps we could get together the week of August 6th so I can get additional comments and suggestions from you regarding our guide.


Thanks.

Sincerely yours,

William C. Streeter

William C. Streeter
Special Agent

TO: FEUER MATEOS, Project Case Officer

FROM: Earl B Baysinger, Executive Officer, Survival Service Commission 

SUBJECT: Review of Proposed Project, TITLE: Operation Headstart Surinam/Brazil Green Turtle Population, File #: R/22/11/3-78 submitted by: Dr. J.P. Schulz

Following is a summary of the comments and recommendations of IUCN/SSC reviewers relative to the subject proposed project.

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|--|
| A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | APPROVE proposal as submitted. | : | C <input type="checkbox"/> | APPROVE proposal if MODIFIED as indicated in "Comments" below. |
| B <input type="checkbox"/> | APPROVE proposal as submitted IN PRINCIPLE ONLY. | : | D <input type="checkbox"/> | DISAPPROVE proposal. |

II. RECOMMENDED FUNDING ACTION:


- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|--|
| A <input type="checkbox"/> | WWF should fund proposal. | : | D <input type="checkbox"/> | IUCN/WWF should NEITHER ENDORSE NOR FUND proposal. |
| B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | IUCN/WWF should ENDORSE, SUPPORT & PARTIALLY fund | : | E <input type="checkbox"/> | IUCN/WWF should OPPOSE FUNDING of proposal. |
| C <input type="checkbox"/> | IUCN/WWF should ENDORSE & SUPPORT but NOT FUND. | : | | |

III. RECOMMENDED PRIORITY:

- A URGENT - Among highest priority needs, immediate action necessary.
- B NECESSARY - Seriously needed, among highest priority "non-crash" needs.
- C NEEDED - Significant conservation benefits but less urgency than "A" or "B".
- D NEUTRAL - Slight or delayed conservation benefits. Should not be allowed to divert resources from more urgent needs.
- E LOW - Proposal is outside our area of interest, little conservation benefits.

IV. COMMENTS:

cc: Chairman; D/Chman.; Stng. Comm.; Spec. Gp. Chman.: MARINE MATEOS


 RDB Comp.: REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center
Crawford 317 • 2550 Campus Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Telephone (808) 948-7361

Office of the Director

July 12, 1979

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dennis Moore, Joint Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research
John Craven, Marine Programs
John Sorensen, Geography
George Balazs, HIMB
Louis Herman, Psychology, Kewalo Basin
Hank Banner, Zoology
Sheila Conant, General Science
Clifford Smith, Botany
John Caperon, HIMB
Art Reid, Zoology
Leighton Taylor, Waikiki Aquarium
Keith Chave, Oceanography

FROM: Jacquelin N. Miller *Jacquelin Miller*

SUBJECT: Public Notice PODCO-0
MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Oahu

The Environmental Center has received the enclosed document stating the Marine Corps intention to establish a danger zone in the waters adjacent to Mokuapee Peninsula, Kaneohe Bay, Oahu. The area would then be used by the Marine Corps for "weapons training."

We are extremely concerned about this proposed action both from the citizen safety aspect as well as from impacts on wildlife and the possible environmental degradation standpoint. Because of the magnitude of the potential environmental impacts that could result from the proposed action, we urgently request your review of the attached public notice particularly with respect to your own specific areas of expertise.

May we please have your comments by Friday, July 20 so we can prepare a coordinated review by the Corps deadline.

Thank you for your kokua.

JNM/dh

Enclosure

cc: Stan Margolis
Barbara Vogt

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Honolulu District, Corps of Engineers
Building 230
Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858

JUL 13 1979

PODCO-O

6 July 1979

PUBLIC NOTICE PODCO-O - MCAS KANEOHE BAY, OAHU

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

1. Notice is hereby given that the Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii 96863, has requested the Department of the Army to establish a danger zone in the navigable waters of the United States adjacent to Mokapu Peninsula, Island of Oahu, Hawaii. The proposed danger zone is required for use by the United States Marine Corps to establish a Controlled Firing Area for weapons training. Training requirements include the live-firing of the 7.62 mm M-60 machine gun, the 5.56 mm M-16 rifle, the .50 cal. machine gun, and 60 mm mortar.

2. Section 7 of the River and Harbor Act of 1917, Chapter XIX of the Army Act of 9 July 1918, and Executive Proclamation 2732 grant authority to the Secretary of the Army to establish such warning areas and to regulate navigation within them.

3. The proposed danger zone in the navigable waters of the United States, State of Hawaii, and the proposed regulations pertaining to its use are as follows: (Reference National Ocean Survey Chart 19357 for location).

a. The Danger Zone. The waters and airspace within an area beginning at the point where longitude $157^{\circ} 44' 12''$ W meets the northern coast of Mokapu Peninsula, thence due north to latitude $21^{\circ} 31' 00''$ N, thence due east to longitude $157^{\circ} 40' 30''$ W, thence due south to latitude $21^{\circ} 26' 06''$ N, thence due west to the eastern coast of Mokapu Peninsula, and thence along the shoreline to the point of beginning. The vertical limit of the Controlled Firing Area would be 3,000 feet above mean sea level.

b. The Regulations.

(1) Except for the 500-yard buffer zone currently depicted on navigational charts, the proposed danger zone would not be a prohibited area for either aircraft or civilian boaters. It will, however, act as a warning area and serve to alert both non-participating air and boat traffic to the potential hazards present. The warning would apply to

PUBLIC NOTICE PODCO-0
MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, Hawaii

all equipment and personnel (both civilian and military) who are not actively participating in authorized military training or operational commitments.

(2) Notices concerning the status of the danger zone and the schedule of operations will continue to be given by "Notice to Mariners" and "Notice to Airmen." Hours of operation shall be 0600-2300 hrs, Monday through Friday, and 0600-1800 hrs on Saturdays and Sundays, as required.

(3) A sufficient number of safety officers shall be utilized so as to visually clear the entire Controlled Firing Area. A range safety officer shall be present during all live-firing and shall have direct communication with the MCAS Kaneohe Bay airfield control tower.

c. The Enforcing Agency. The foregoing regulations shall be enforced by the Commanding Officer, MCAS Kaneohe Bay. Other applicable MCAS Kaneohe Bay contacts are:


(1) Weapons Range Officer, telephone 257-2067, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron.

(2) Airfield Operations Officer, telephone 257-3149 or 257-3603, Station Operations and Maintenance Squadron.

(3) MCAS Kaneohe Bay Officer of the Day, telephone 257-2378.

4. Interested parties may submit in writing any objections that they may have to the proposed danger zone. Objections should be forwarded so as to reach this District no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this notice.

1 Incl
Map


PETER D. STEARNS
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

WEAPONS RANGE DANGER AREA

21° 31' 10" N

157° 44' 12" W

157° 40' 30" W

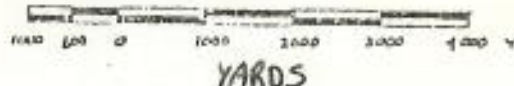
21° 30'

21° 26' 6" N

PERMANENT 04/22
POWER

Mokapu Peninsula
Puu Hauwaa

KALAMA





GREENPEACE FOUNDATION

913 Halekauwila Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814



July 11, 1979

Dr. Doak Cox
University of Hawaii
Environmental Center
Crawford 317, 2550 Campus Rd.
Hon., Hi. 96822

Dear Dr. Cox,

Thank you for sending a copy of your letter to Commander Utara concerning the effects of oil spills to the Leeward Hawaiian Islands. Enclosed is a copy of a proposal submitted to the Subcommittee on Safety of Navigation of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

I do not know what action the sub-committee has taken in regards to this proposal. It is possible that they have rejected a similar proposal in the past, but I have not been able to establish this for certain.

Of course, if the proposal is accepted, the amount of actual protection that will be afforded is unclear, as the IMCO does not in itself have any enforcement powers and the proposal only relates to ships of more than 1,000 gross tons. Additionally, no provision is made for protection of marine species based in the Leeward Islands whose migrations may take them close to the border of, or outside the "area to be avoided".

Sincerely,

Kelley Dobbs

Enclosure

cc: Keith Krueger
George Balazs



NAV XXI/4/6
14 June 1978

Original: ENGLISH

SUB-COMMITTEE ON SAFETY
OF NAVIGATION -
21st session
Agenda item 4

IMCO

MATTERS RELATED TO ROUTEING OF SHIPS

Proposed area to be avoided in the region of the Hawaiian
Islands Archipelago

Note by the Government of the United States of America

1. The United States proposes the establishment of an area to be avoided by ships of more than 1,000 gross tons carrying oil or hazardous cargoes. The proposed area is in the Central Pacific and surrounds that portion of the Hawaiian Archipelago which was established by the United States as a wildlife refuge in 1909. This area should be avoided by the specified class of ships in order to conserve the unique and endangered wildlife found there.
2. The Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge consists of a string of small islands, reefs, and atolls stretching out between 161° and 176° west longitude. The largest island in the group has an area of 71 hectares and a maximum elevation of 277 metres. Because of the extreme fragility of the Refuge ecosystems, entry to the Refuge is limited to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service scientists and Coast Guard personnel. General public use of the area is prohibited.
3. The substantial wildlife community supported by the Refuge would be severely threatened by an oil spill in the adjacent waters. A number of species endemic to the Refuge could be devastated or even destroyed by a marine casualty. There have been a number of such major marine casualties in the area of the Refuge recently, but because of favourable weather conditions, none resulted in environmental damage to the Refuge.

4. The proposed area to be avoided is bounded by a line connecting the following points:

- | | | |
|-----|------------|-------------|
| (1) | 24°30'0 N, | 161°00'0 W. |
| (2) | 30°05'0 N, | 176°52'0 W. |
| (3) | 26°00'0 N, | 176°52'0 W. |
| (4) | 22°49'0 N, | 166°33'0 W. |
| (5) | 22°05'0 N, | 161°00'0 W. |

This area provides for a minimum clearance beyond all the islands, reefs, and shoals of the Refuge of one hundred miles to the north and fifty miles to the south, east, and west. The greater margin to the north allows for the greater probability of heavy weather north of the chain, and for the prevailing easterly winds and westerly surface currents.

5. The proposed area should be avoided by ships of more than 1,000 gross tons carrying oil or hazardous cargoes, as this class of ship poses the most serious threat to the unique wildlife in the area.

6. The adoption of the proposed area to be avoided would cause little disruption to ships' traffic. The trans-Pacific trade routes pass well north of the area. The great circle from Panama to the San Bernardino, Makassar and Malacca Straits passes closest, about 100-300 miles north of Midway Island. The tanker route from the Straits to Honolulu clears the Refuge to the south by 40-100 miles. The rhumb line from Honolulu to Yokohama passes well south of the chain. The great circle from Honolulu to Japan and Korea runs roughly parallel to the island chain, about 50 miles to the north, initially clearing the eastern end of the Refuge by 25-50 miles. The great bulk of the traffic using this route would not be in the class designated to avoid the area and therefore would not be inconvenienced. A relatively small detour would be required for other vessels, but the risks imposed by the nature of their cargoes would justify the detour.

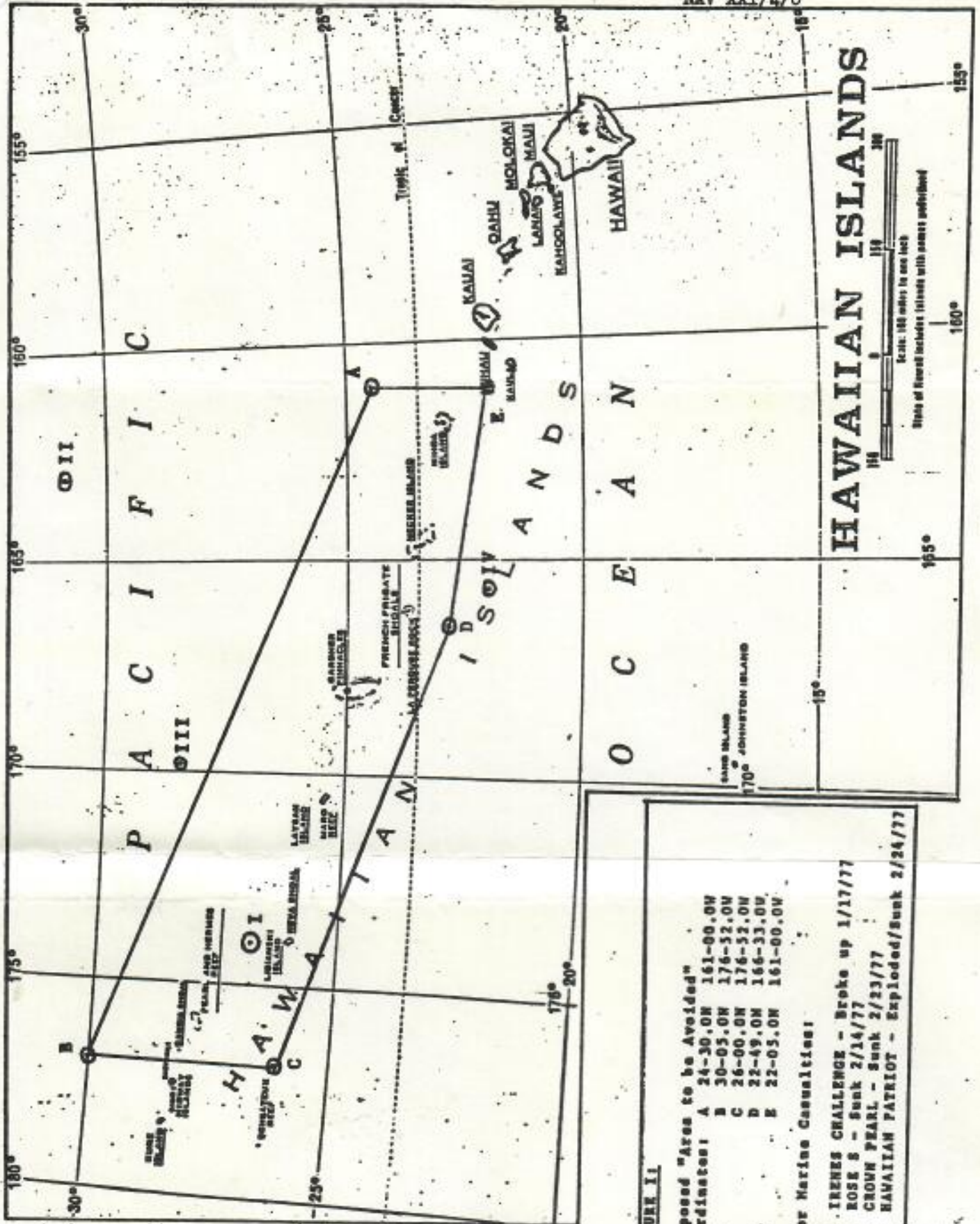


FIGURE I.

Proposed "Area to be Avoided"
 Coordinates: A 24-30.0N 161-00.0W
 B 30-05.0N 176-52.0W
 C 26-00.0N 176-52.0W
 D 22-49.0N 166-33.0W
 E 22-05.0N 161-00.0W

Major Marine Casualties:

- I IRENE CHALLENGE - Broke up 1/17/77
- II ROSE S - Sunk 2/14/77
- XII CROWN PEARL - Sunk 2/23/77
- IV HAWAIIAN PATRIOT - Exploded/Sunk 2/24/77

'ELEPAIO

*Journal of the
Hawaii Audubon Society*



*C. John Ralph, Editor
3467 Alani Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Phone (808) 988-6921*

7 July 1979

Dear George:

I have sent your MS out for review on the synthetic debris on Monk Seals. I just returned from an extended trip to the mainland, thus the delay.

I'll let you know when the reviews come back. I hope that you have heard from Bob with your reprints, if not, let me know.

Warmest regards,

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

June 27, 1979

Dr. Jose L. Villa
Head, Department Marine Biology & Oceanography
Charles Darwin Research Station
Casilla 58-39
Guayaquil, Ecuador
S.A.

Estimado doctor:

I am pleased to hear that the plans for Biol. Mario Hurtado's visit to our Station at Tortuguero are still in effect. As I have said, we will be glad to reimburse him for any travel expenses in Costa Rica, and quarters and meals at the camp will be provided. We are convinced that providing field experience for people who are likely to move into programs of sea turtle research and conservation in their own countries is a useful function of our Tortuguero project. Because of limited space and logistic facilities we have not been able to do as much of this as we would have liked, but the five people who have come to the camp from other countries have all subsequently moved into responsible positions at home. Your belief that Biol. Hurtado will probably do the same is reassuring, and I'm confident that he will find his stay at the camp, despite the rough accommodations and hard work, to be useful later on.

I suggest that on reaching San Jose in August, Biol. Hurtado go to Tala Inn (Calle 11, Av. 7 y 9, telephone 21-08-52). The proprietor of this is Alan Huper, who is a friend of ours and very helpful. Another important contact in San Jose is Sr. Guillermo Cruz B.: telephone: (home) 25-22-06, (office) 25-23-33. He can notify the Tortuguero turtle camp of Hurtado's arrival. Also, it is possible to telephone Alvin Bryan (tel. 011-506-71-81-44), a friend at whose house the only phone in the village of Tortuguero is located. Alvin can send word up to the Station, which is 2 miles away.

To travel to Tortuguero from San Jose, the best plan is to go by Puerto Limon, which can be reached by bus, train, or 45-minute commercial flights that leave twice daily. If a night is to be passed in Limon, a hotel reservation should be made by telephone from San Jose. The Miami Hotel or Hotel Caribe are conveniently located. From Limon to Tortuguero there are regular flights by small planes. A reservation for the itinerario flight should be booked in advance, from San Jose.

Let me repeat how pleased we are at the prospect of Biol. Hurtado's visit. If there are questions in your mind, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Archie Carr
Graduate Research Professor

AC/ljw

stop slimpers is
the answer!

SINCE NINETEEN-HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

Geo. Balazs
P.O. Box 1346
Konahe, Hawaii 96744

(PARIS; 24 JUNE '79).

Dear George:

Many thanks for your two letters. I'm looking forward greatly to seeing you end of next month, and perhaps we can work together on how to keep NMFs on the right lines with their turtle work.

My thoughts on your comments about my comments on vidleys are as follows:

i) The density 'experiments' at the Galveston lab were an essential response to the animal's aggressiveness towards each other. Essentially, they were efforts to find how low a density was necessary to prevent biting, not to see how high a density could be achieved. Hence, they started with big group tanks, with only a few isolation containers, not with one turtle per tank. You question 'intentionally curtaining such trials', but in fact Jim was making small (budget) isolation chambers as fast as he could when the problem became apparent.

I do not defend what happened in the Miami Seagrass, where turtles were taken against Jim's advice and housed together - and where they chewed each other up badly. And I must confess that I foresee that most marine oceanaria are not even as well equipped as Miami with expert staff and isolation facilities, which is why I remain skeptical of the wisdom of your plan for widespread dissemination of the young vidleys. But certainly I see no problem of sending them to institutions that are prepared to provide intensive curatorship and isolation of individual animals, though the duplication of effort still seems unnecessary to me. Incidentally,

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

the reason for my widely circulated memo on the Galveston program was mainly Sally Hopkins' letter, which went out to a lot of people and which could easily have cut off support for the whole ridley program if something had not been done fast.

ii) The young ridleys released in Florida Bay behaved well on release, as I have said. 1 or 2 ♀s had been recovered (last I heard) but only one individual was dead (apparently chopped by a propeller or something). The others were all released alive. Some had lost weight - not unexpected since they were probably unnaturally well-fed and (basking in exercise) in the captive state. Certainly the adult ridleys at the Miami Seaquarium are visibly much fatter than wild adults. I think one of the little ridleys was found walking in a parking lot, but have no idea who put it there. Was this the 'strange situation' you mentioned?

iii) Regarding head-starting generally: certainly it is unproven, but then so is almost everything we do to conserve turtles. (We have not demonstrated that even such obvious things as stopping people killing turtles, or protecting wild nests, actually enhances populations). It is simply a matter of conducting a mosaic of efforts which, together, will hopefully restore the species. If you rule out head-starting as 'unproven' and captive breeding because the Cayman farm is 'controversial', it is quite possible that such excessive caution would result in the extinction of the species. This is the time to be bold and forget prejudices, not to produce (many - tower) objections to everything people are trying to do.

iv). Regarding the Palau head-start program: all I meant was that I received informal information from several people who had been familiar with the Palau

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

↳ false hope problem - headstarting farm



even so
hawks
aren't
vidleys

Sheet 2

lagoon for years that hawksbills had been conspicuously more plentiful than after Jim's release of head-started individuals, and that the sizes of the turtles generally seemed right for having come from the head-start program. Since hawksbills in the Pelam lagoon are almost certainly non-migratory, I consider it very likely that the individuals that survived to maturity would find somewhere suitable to nest. Not 'proof' of success, I agree, but an indication, and certainly not something to dismiss with prejudice.

- v). My 'observer' status: I have a contract from FWS to patrol the beach and help operate the hatchery at Rancho Nuevo, but no formal connection with the NMFS head-start program. Hence 'observer' is an appropriate word.
- vi) Regarding the desirability of getting good PR for vidleys by having them in lots of facilities: a) whales generally achieved their current strong hold on the affection of mankind without being seen in ^{per se} oceanaria (small whales are sometimes seen, of course, but not the humpback or sperm whales that people are most impressed by). and b) the vidley has several PR problems, ^{"not known"} to the extent that it is against the law to catch them either in Mexican waters or in US waters (which,

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

apart from strays, constitutes the whole range. (What would happen if too many people got interested in keopi would be excessive number of unauthorized visitors to Rancho Nuevo during the season, which would get the Mexicans very pissed off)! Witness the whales in Scammon's lagoon being harassed by whale lovers - prob. in Hawaii too.

vii) Regarding our "theoretical document": I called it theoretical because there was (no intention of our doing what we planned to do until the lawsuit was over.) Now that the ~~former~~ judge has made his decision and the farm can no longer export to the United States, I assume we can ~~proceed~~ proceed. However, I only just heard about the judge's decision, so have not yet had a chance to seek advice on the legal situation.

viii) Please keep an open mind, George - (hope the exchanges at the CITES meeting opened your mind a little.) The Mittag's are really quite decent people and do not have it 'in' for turtles. They made the mistake of buying a bankrupt turtle farm without knowing anything about turtles or conservation, though they are learning fast. Call me 'excessively pragmatic' or worse if you wish, but I believe they can do a lot of good for turtles if we handle or guide them right. "curious narrow mindedness"
in exchange for ? US markets?

All best wishes to the family,

Peter

P.S. I had an 8-hour meeting with Swavez last month - will tell you all about it when we meet.

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Plan for future is to market turtle products - I believe this is bad - therefore opposed.

SINCE NINETEEN-HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

June 28, 1979

F. Wayne King, Ph.D.
Director
Florida State Museum
Gainesville, Fl

Dear Wayne:

Congratulations on your new position, and welcome back to Florida! I'll be seeing you at the July 12 meeting of the Turtle Meeting Steering Committee.

Since we last met, I have had an 8-hour meeting with Antonio Suarez, that proved to be extremely interesting. We hit him with a lot of hard questions and vigorous debate, but I think he was still rather surprised at being treated with courtesy. I understand from Felger that Suarez has since agreed to stop taking green turtles, and wants to put fairly substantial sums of money into beach protection patrols. This will need to be evaluated. However, I have persuaded him (I think) that he should try and be at the Washington meeting. My suggestion (and we can discuss this next month) is that we should have some sort of debate, with him having a chance to explain his point of view, and then someone presenting the case for the opposition. I should very much like to do the latter.

I also met the Mittags recently (just after the court decision went against them). They also are willing to come to the meeting (at their own expense), and I assured them that they would be treated with courtesy, even though they would certainly not be protected from vigorous debate. I would like to see them giving a statement about their operation, followed by a critique from you, and then open the session to questions and other opinions. What do you think? If we can have both the Suarez issue and turtle farming handled in depth in this way, we will have a hell of a valuable conference.

Regarding the points you have raised in your letter: you were completely frank, and I shall be also.

1) My position as co-leader of the Southeastern Region Sea Turtle Recovery Team in no way limits my civil rights. If I were

required to follow NMFS policy down the line in order to serve on their team I should of course decline to serve. However, while you may not believe this, my motives have been entirely to do something to avert the extinction of Kemp's ridley; and I believe the record shows that I have been active and constructive in this field for over a decade. The present patrols and enhanced beach protection are not only my responsibility, they were my idea when all the US wanted to do was a head-start program. I think also that the fact that the judge did not even mention the future ridley program at the Cayman Turtle Farm shows that the plan is likely to have little effect upon a judge's decision as to whether the import rules are justified. I am, as you know, on record (both in Chelonia magazine, in the record of the California hearings, and in the record of the Washington hearings) as being opposed to the importation of farmed turtle products into the US.

In Costa Rica, I told you that if the Cayman Farm people wanted an endorsement of their operation in exchange for raising the ridleys, it would not be forthcoming from me. Such endorsement, however, was neither requested nor received.

Nevertheless, the issue is an inordinately complicated one, and is worthy of far more intellectual honesty than you are apparently prepared to give it. I find it regrettable that your attitude to the farm - your dismissal of it as a totally evil organization - hardened about ten years ago when Irvin Naylor made some unsubstantiated or untrue statements under oath. That is totally irrelevant to today's situation, and I think it is our responsibility to meet with the farm people and undertake objective analysis of their operations rather than simply expressing our gut feelings.

My reasons for favoring the Turtle Farm rather than the Balazs plan are quite straightforward. Raising turtles in captivity and then breeding them successfully is difficult. It has taken the Cayman Turtle Farm several million dollars and ten years to achieve it even with the green turtle, which may be the easiest sea turtle to raise in captivity. No-one else has done it, although there have been occasional isolated cases of turtles that were caught as adults nesting successfully, such as at Sea Life Park. Ridleys are harder to raise than green turtles, loggerheads, or hawksbills, as the experience of all who have tried to raise them shows. Therefore, I believe a plan to distribute young ridleys to a variety of commercial oceanaria would do nothing to conserve the species unless the oceanaria were willing both to spend a lot of money in specialized set-ups, and also ensure that adequate competent man-power was available to look after the turtles. Simply to put the turtles into an existing pool, with or without other inmates, and expect them to prosper on their own is unreasonable. The Miami Seaquarium, for example, is perhaps the most respected of the various facilities that have been suggested; yet the ridleys that they received from Galveston were in lousy shape within a month.

Your remarks about the genetic problems that we would encounter at Cayman if we keep the ridleys there are unfounded for the following

reasons: 1) We are not limited to 1-2 dozen animals, and are already considering using about 40. This number can later be increased if deemed necessary and desirable, but it is a mistake to start too large.

not a full back program? watch them die

2) The breeding program would essentially be one in which the F1 generation would be liberated, either as eggs, hatchlings, or yearlings, on an annual basis; it would not be the plan to keep all turtles in stock for multiple generations. The parental generation, if we use 1978 hatchlings, would potentially be able to constitute the breeding stock for many decades to come. If they mature in ten years, they may well then have a 40 or 50 year reproductive life. The animals liberated would be free to mate with whatever wild or captive-hatched animals they could find. If the captive rearing program turns out to need to be continued beyond the reproductive life of the initial generation of breeders, it could be supplemented with wild stock from time to time (if any survives). If none survives, we could keep all animals in captivity, and by the F2 generation alone (i.e. long before any serious inbreeding problems should manifest themselves, we would potentially have literally millions of animals, since each female can potentially produce at least several thousand offspring in the course of her life.

Inbreeding therefore is unlikely to be a problem.

I agree that, from time to time, non-breeding individuals would not necessarily need to be housed in a facility with a nesting beach. Nevertheless, I see no obvious advantage to having to fly these animals expensively and at great trauma around the world (since you are now proposing facilities as far apart as Indonesia and South Africa) whenever the time comes for them to be bred. How much easier for them to be kept in backup tanks at Grand Cayman.

George Balazs argued that having Kemp's ridleys in many facilities would generate public support for the project. I replied to him that a) the great whales achieved a massive degree of public support without being seen in oceanaria. b) Kemp's ridley does not really need more public interest at this time, since all governments are already offering the species full legal protection. More people interested would probably have the result of more and more unauthorized visitors showing up at Rancho Nuevo during the nesting season, which would not please the Mexicans and would generally impede the efficiency of the protection effort.

*George Balazs
Physeter
dolphins!*

Incidentally, we have already abandoned the plan of using one-eyed animals from Miami for the potential breeding stock. Even though these animals were not genetically defective but were merely injured in the free-for-all fights over food that occurred when the animals were first taken to Miami, the proposal to use them was essentially one of public relations; such animals would represent the least drain upon the natural population, which generally would be a desirable

Page 4

motive in view of the experimental nature of what we are proposing to do.

By placing the management of the ridley breeding program in the hands of a separate legal entity, we could guard against the potential for mismanagement or indifference at the turtle farm. If the turtles were not being properly maintained, they could be removed at short notice and placed elsewhere.

Let's continue when we meet!

Best wishes,



Peter C.H. Pritchard, Ph.D.
Vice President - Science & Research

sep
c.c. Mrosovsky
Balazs



NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

June 7, 1979

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

Dear Peter:

You know I disagree strongly with the proposed use of the Cayman Turtle Farm (CTF) for the captive propagation of Kemp's ridley -- as I told you in Washington, D.C., I think it totally inappropriate that you as head of the U.S. government sea turtle recovery team in the southeastern states entered into an agreement with a litigant that is trying to get the federal regulations of sea turtle trade overturned in court; entered into that agreement without prior warning to the federal authorities that appointed you head of the recovery team; and entered into the agreement knowing that the litigant is certain to use the agreement in an appeal of their case to a higher federal court -- but I am even more concerned that you have dismissed as unsound George Balazs's proposal for the captive propagation of Kemp's ridley. I think a careful comparison of the two proposals indicates the Balazs is far superior to the Oviedo proposal.

Paragraph 3, page 1, of your 24 April letter to Archie is, I think, a good statement that most all of us support, "the plan of keeping a captive breeding group is one that will at least preserve a few of our options if in a few years we patrol the Rancho Nuevo beach and no turtles come ashore to nest. . . ." I certainly agree we should not just stand around and wring our hands.

Paragraph 1, page 2 of your letter reads, "If someone other than Cayman Turtle Farm were available, they would be my preference for obvious political reasons; but at the present time I don't see who else could do the job . . . and what I am afraid George Balazs is proposing . . . is akin to . . . keep[ing] some ridleys around in widely-separated facilities so people can see them and feel sorry for them as they gradually die off." That statement makes me wonder if you have carefully read George's proposal. What George offered is the "someone other than Cayman Turtle Farm" you say you would prefer, but do not propose to use. George did

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

-2-

not propose solely to exhibit the Kemp's ridleys in the various aquariums, he proposed to breed them in a number of those institutions.

You will recall that in Costa Rica you and I discussed your proposed meeting with the CTF people in Oviedo. You told me that if CTF did less than turn their entire farm over to the propagation of the Kemp's then you would have nothing to agree to. I told you those were unrealistic expectations. At that time I predicted the probable outcome of the meeting would be that CTF would agree to keep and breed a few Kemp's ridleys in return for an endorsement of their operation. The agreement signed in Oviedo actually provides that only 1-2 dozen adult and subadult ridleys will be kept by CTF. If you are serious about genetic banking of a species through captive propagation, then it is important to begin the effort with as large a breeding nucleus as possible in order to preserve as much genetic variability as possible. I invite you to calculate the increase in the coefficient of inbreeding that will occur in a few generations when your initial nucleus consists of 12 to 24 breeders. There are not too many examples of vertebrates that have survived a squeeze through a genetic funnel that severe -- it happened with the California elephant seal which was down to about 15-20 animals, and the recovered population of which is essentially homozygous, but many other examples can be found that demonstrate the progressive or sudden development of inbreeding problems that eventually result in a breakdown in the propagation program. The need to approach genetic banking through captive propagation on a more scientific basis was the reason zoos in North America established the Wild Animal Propagation Trust in the mid-1960s (it has since been absorbed into the programs of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA)); and also to the creation of the International Species Inventory System (a computerized census and studbook of zoo and aquarium vertebrates in North America, but also including a number of institutions in Europe); and also to the establishment of the IUCN/SSC Captive Breeding Specialist Group.

George Balazs proposed using qualified and interested aquariums in a program of captive breeding of Kemp's ridley. George's suggestion was a good one, as he has already demonstrated in getting the Sea Life Park in Hawaii to set up a successful breeding facility for Chelonia. If only Sea Life Park (Hawaii), Seaquarium (Florida), Sea World (California), Sea World (Florida), Marineland (Florida), Marineland (California), and Searama Marine World (Texas) set up breeding facilities for 10

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

-3-

ridleys each, a total of 70 breeders would be included in the initial nucleus, rather than the 12-24 proposed for CTF. Incidentally, while it might not be possible to get all these aquariums to build the needed facilities right away, I am sure the AAZPA could prevail on most of them to do so. And of course there are suitable aquariums in other countries which might agree to assist with the program, in Australia, India, Indonesia, Singapore, and South Africa.

Your 24 April letter disparages George's proposal because the aquariums might be "widely-separated." That has not proved to be a hinderance to zoos and other qualified institutions involved in captive propagation of most endangered species. Breeding stock in the form of adult breeders or captive produced offspring are regularly traded or loaned between institutions. The U.S. Endangered Species program even has special regulations that were put in place to encourage the exchange of specimens in order to keep the various individual units involved in the larger captive gene pool. They are entitled Endangered Species/Captive Self-Sustaining Population regulations.

You also seem to feel that all the captive Kemp's ridleys should be housed in a breeding facility at all times. You seem opposed to maintaining individuals even temporarily in facilities in which they are unlikely to reproduce, facilities such as exhibit tanks. In doing so, you ignore the fact that almost every breeding program (including natural ones) contain individuals which are not sexually active every breeding season. Extra males may be housed separately until they are needed or until sequentially or collectively introduced to the females. Immature animals may be housed separately until they are of breeding age. Breeders may be pulled out of the program seasonally in order to simulate what happens in nature. The most sexually active males may be isolated from the females from time to time in order to give subordinate males a chance to involve their genes in the next generation.

Any one of several reasons might warrant the keeping of non-breeding Kemp's ridleys in the exhibit tanks of still other aquariums until needed in the active program at the institutions with the breeding facilities. If this is done there is an even greater chance of preserving more of the genetic variability of the species.

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

-4-

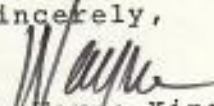
There is another important reason for not restricting your genetic banking efforts to one institution and that is to minimize the effects of epidemic and natural catastrophe. Outbreak of a contagious disease could endanger the entire population of a facility, or a hurricane or other natural catastrophe could endanger the facility and the animals. The same is true of equipment failure and mechanical breakdown. While the CTF is getting better in husbanding of their turtle population, they are not immune to problems, and they still lose turtles to a variety of calamities. It would be preferable to spread the breeders among a number of qualified participating institutions.

I also agree with George, that it would be foolhardy to use only one-eyed or other deformed though vigorous survivors of the NMFS Galveston operation. I suspect such deformities were caused by environmental factors within the incubating egg or within the rearing tank, but while we might be able to identify injuries inflicted post-hatching as being without genetic basis, the same is not true of deformities present at hatching. If at all possible, the individuals in the breeding nucleus should not be morphologically, behaviorally, or physiologically deformed.

In summary, I find George's proposal superior to the Oviedo agreement on every count. If you are serious about genetic banking of Kemp's ridley to preserve future options, I suggest you do a little more homework. You will have accomplished little if the breeding nucleus is lost in time because of inbreeding, disease, catastrophe, mismanagement, or indifference.

In November, the Third International Conference on Captive Propagation of Endangered Species will be held in San Diego, California. Participants will be there from all parts of the globe. The IUCN/SSC Captive Breeding Specialist Group will be holding concurrent meetings at the conference. And the International Species Inventory System people will be in attendance as well. If you want more than Wayne King's statement on the comparative desirability of the Balazs and Oviedo options, I suggest you explore the subject at the conference.

Sincerely,


F. Wayne King
Director of Conservation

FWK:dh

cc: Archie Carr
George Balazs
Nicholas Morsovsky

Himeji City Aquarium

Tegarayama, Himeji City
670, Japan

June 13, 1979

Mr. George H. Balazs
Deputy Chairman
IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346, Coconut Island,
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George H. Balazs :

Thank you very much indeed for your intimately letters.
I am very glad to see them.

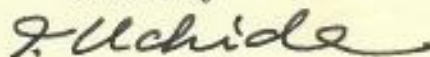
I would like to agree to prepare papers on the Present Status
of Japanese Trade in Sea Turtles and Sea Turtle Products ; and the
Status of Sea Turtle Populations in Japan and the Ryukyu Islands.

How many minutes can I have for this thema? I would like
to explain by 16 mm film and slides.

If possible, would you check my english manuscript befor
1st of October ? I am not english spesking nation , so I have not
great confidence in the success of my presentation by english.

Please sent my best regards to Mrs. Balazs . Many thanks .

Sincerely



Itaru Uchida

P.S : Thank you so much for your interesting loggerhead turtle's paper.
I am very glad to see it. In early July we will releas about 150
loggerhead turtles which reared 2 years in our aquarium.





Friends of the WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

June 15, 1979

Dear Friend of the Aquarium,

I am writing to you on behalf of Dr. Taylor who is presently on a trip aboard the R.V. Easy Rider as part of the University of Hawaii's Northwest Hawaiian Islands research project. His part of this study is on top carnivores of the reef community in the leewards. He will be in England during the month of July visiting various British museums as part of his research project on Hawaiian artifacts for our museum display, "Hawaiians and the Sea".

We originally intended this letter to inform the members of the Friends of the new admission policy at the Aquarium. However, since the Governor vetoed the bill, the admission remains the same for the present.

On the bright side, the Legislature did pass a resolution allocating \$25,000. for a study to investigate the feasibility of building a new aquarium at a different site. We felt that the Legislators were interested and most helpful this session. We owe special thanks to Representative Charles Toguchi, Senator Neil Abercrombie, Senator Stanley Hara, and their staff members who spent many hours working on our behalf.

Ad Club II, a group of young advertising people, has taken on the Aquarium (as a public service) as its project this year. They are planning an extensive advertising campaign for us, including a week end major celebration October 20th and 21st commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Waikiki Aquarium. It promises to be an exciting week end of special events, such as personal appearances of marine related personalities, demonstrations of cooking and ancient Hawaiian fishing techniques, special films, lectures, and entertainment. More on this later.

Thank you very much for your support. Please feel free to call us personally when you have questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Patricia Raines
Secretary, Board of Directors

PR/rn



NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium
Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

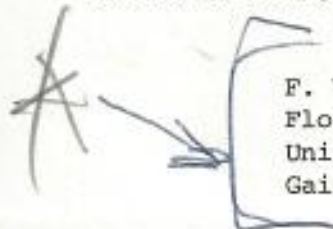
June 4, 1979

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

Dear George:

CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

I have accepted an appointment as Director of the Florida State Museum. However, it is important that my move not hinder the work of the Zoological Society, so effective 1 June 1979 personal correspondence and that related specifically to my work with the IUCN and the Survival Service Commission, with the American Committee for International Conservation, and with other programs should be addressed to:



F. Wayne King, Director
Florida State Museum
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

Correspondence related to the international conservation, field research, or granting programs of the New York Zoological Society should continue to be addressed to:

Director of Conservation
New York Zoological Society
185th Street and Southern Boulevard
Bronx, New York 10460

Sincerely,


F. Wayne King

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
228 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

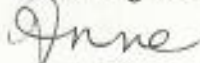
1 June 1979

Mr. George Balazs
Hawaii Inst. of Marine Biology
Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island, Kaneohe, Hawaii
96744

Dear George:

Dr. Carr recently received some interesting information on shark predation that I thought would be of interest to you. A pregnant tiger shark (365 cm length, 252 cm girth) was caught by a commercial fishing vessel 8 mi. west of New Pass, Sarasota, Florida. The shark was dissected and two intact loggerhead skulls were found. One measured 6.25 in. in width, 8 in. in greatest overall length. The other measured 4.5 in. in width, 6 in. in length. Several other bones were also recovered, but they were not described. The informant is a foreign fisheries officer, and he is holding the skulls for verification of the species designation. When we have had a chance to see them, I will let you know for sure if they are indeed loggerheads.

Best regards,



Anne Meylan



1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009
CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505
TELEPHONE: (202) 387-0800

June 13, 1979

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

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of May 31st concerning Marianne Riedman's inquiry on the possibility of WWF funding for research of green turtle breeding behavior.

I am sorry that I did not make it clear when I requested your comments that we would not consider funding on the basis of that letter, but only wanted to try and get a reading on whether or not a request for a full proposal was warranted.

I am requesting a detailed proposal from Ms. Riedman and I would like to forward a copy to you for review upon receipt.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy".

Nancy E. Hammond
Program Administrator

NEH/jld



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

Duval Building
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

June 11, 1979

FSE72:JRS

Mr. George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist
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 May 29, 1979 letter. I still believe that it's a good idea to establish a reservoir of captive Kemp's ridleys at different facilities. You've probably got the word by now that the court ruled against Cayman Farms, so the prospects appear dim that the Cayman facility will be used as a rearing station for ridleys, although the possibility still remains.

There were some problems with the completion of the contract for the bibliography on loggerhead turtles. Subsequently, the contract was extended and should be completed by the end of FY 79 (September 1979). When we receive a completion report, I'll send you a copy.

I hope things are going well for you. If you have any questions, please call or write.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph R. Sylvester
Turtle Program Manager



University of Toronto

TORONTO, CANADA

M5S 1A1

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

June 12, 1979

Mr. George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346, Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
U.S.A.

Dear George,

Thanks for your letter of May 29th 1979, covering a variety of issues.

1. Turtle group "organization." My previous letters on the subject have stressed 3 points: flow of information, status and financial support. Flow of information concerns Morges especially. I have always been explicitly grateful for your vigorous efforts to send things to me, and to others, and hope these will continue. I would still appreciate news on the items you mention (Suarez, Mancite, captive-bred definition) as no one else has told me what happened on these issues. Status: I have never talked of this in terms of ultimate rewards, but in terms of its usefulness in doing certain jobs. Ultimate rewards--those are deep waters which perhaps we need not get into. But I resent the implication (if it was one) of your homily on status. Financial: probably solved as mentioned previously.

2. Ridley genetic pool. Yes, I signed a "statement of intent" about this. I don't see this as a legal document, though perhaps Archie does, but simply as a statement that certain people think it a good idea to set up a genetic pool. That does not even mean I would be on the organizing group for such a pool. If the newsletter continues, I'm sure there will be something about this in it. But I would like to check with Peter on any developments and there seems no urgency. I have been unable to get through to Peter and now it seems he is away for a few weeks.

3. Anything about Peter's plan in a newsletter does not of course exclude other suggestions; but I still think it a good idea if you and Peter at least discuss it together. It is hard enough to keep up with what everyone is doing, but we should at least try not to cut across each other's bows. Of course Peter would not have a veto. Nobody is trying to suppress your suggestion. Nothing has yet been published in the newsletter about these schemes, and it is perfectly valid for an editor to have opinions about articles.

4. Are you against the idea of "Peter's" plan for a genetic pool at Cayman Turtle Farm?

Cont/...2

This is a real problem - Morges have been saying Archie stuff was not appropriate for Newsletter - Archie is 90% away, busy, I only find out by chance or a long time later - why have I been copying stuff to me?

June 12, 1979

5. Finance. Although WWF Canada would support the newsletter in the future, funds in hand are enough for only one or two more issues. We have had quite a lot of newsletters recently, there is no rush to get another out. I will probably hold back on these funds so that, if necessary, I can wind up my involvement in a satisfactory manner, publishing all the outstanding things, and if possible an index. If on the other hand we manage to get these difficulties resolved, then there is much that could be done. There might be an issue that had both plans for the ridley, with perhaps a comment from a third party. Archie and I have talked about covering head starting. I might be able to raise enough money to make some offer to send out back issues which are increasingly demanded.

6. Ascension Island. This is at least some good news in an increasingly disorganized group. I don't attribute it merely to Jeanne's efforts and the newsletter but also to some good luck with having reasonably sensitive people doing the assessments for the British. Of course the issue is not resolved, but the latest information I have from the UK is encouraging. When the pre-feasibility study comes out, this of course would have to be taken up by anyone running a newsletter. Some mention should be made of the Dutch effort--they probably wrote more letters than everyone else put together.

7. I see nothing that need impair a professional and personal relationship. It would be a poor one that could not withstand openness on any issue from philosophy to tag structure.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Nicholas Mrosovsky.

NM:blc

PS. It would of course be easier to talk these things over than work through it in letters. I had a note from Silverstein saying that a committee meeting for the Washington meeting was about now and they were going to ask me to come to coordinate with newsletter etc. However, I have heard nothing more. If that does come off, we can have a session together then.

send copy
of Redford letter
to MROS.



21 June 79

Dear George:

Well done! your initiative in contacting Robert Redford is great. I have taken the liberty of informing WWF US and Monitor international about your request in case they would like to support the idea. It might add to the credibility of the scheme if we get some 'heavy' support. I've asked them to contact you direct.

I just got a letter from a Peace Corps guy in El Salvador asking how to set up a hatchery. I've sent him a copy of Ker's booklet on turtle conservation, some background articles, and a salutary letter warning him of the uncertain success of hatcheries and about the dangers of a PLOSA like operation.

(over)

on Mexican turtles

I wrote an article [✓] (very mild and diplomatic -- really!) for the newsletter of the Sierra club wildlife section but I don't know if they will use it yet.

Things are going very well in Oman - my counterparts have done a great job - if only the minister and his minions were as enthusiastic.

I'm briefly back in the states but return to Oman for July - August.

I'm getting rather worried about job prospects after September of this year - nothing seems to be selling out in Nepal or New Guinea and WWF isn't being very helpful either - still something is bound to turn up! If you hear of anything let me know. Ralf and Elizabeth greatly appreciated your hospitality in Hawaii.

Regards,
Perron.

OPERATION "HEADSTART" SURINAME AND DEMOGRAPHY SURINAME-BRAZIL
GREEN TURTLE POPULATION.

PROPOSAL

Terms of reference:

- practically nothing is known about demography of sea turtles. The little that is known is either too theoretical (Márquez and Dol, 1973), or consists of an unsatisfactory population dynamics model (Hirth and Schaffer, 1974).
- information is lacking as to how and when natural juveniles join the population.
- it is not known if yearlings, or other age groups, released under a headstart program will become functional members of the population. If they do: how many and when?
- nothing is known about the growth of natural hatchlings to sexual maturity; estimates of age when reaching sexual maturity range from 6 to 40 years (growth of captive-raised turtles is no valid parameter).

How will these questions be answered by this project?

Justification:

Purpose of the proposal is to shed light on the items mentioned under "terms of reference" for the following reasons:

- to better direct and implement the management of natural populations which are to be exploited on a sustained-yield basis as a renewable natural resource.
- to determine if operation "headstart" is an additional means to build up natural sea turtle populations where necessary.

Project:

To obtain answers to these questions should be a combined effort

This cooperative effort between Suriname and Brazil would be very desirable for the following reasons:

- There is a distinct turtle population ranging between the feeding grounds off the coast of Brazil and the nesting beaches in Suriname (Schulz, 1974 page 109).
- Brazil, through their diplomatic mission, has already urged Suriname to provide consulting services regarding the green turtle population, and to initiate a program of cooperation between these two countries on research and management of this resource.
- the nesting beaches of Suriname are patrolled intensively and much observational data have already been accumulated continuously over the past 13 years.
- there is an already well-established hatchery in Suriname which can supply operation "headstart" with large numbers of animals hatched from eggs obtained from the Suriname-Brazil turtle population.

Project execution:

- during two (or more) years approximately 10,000 natural hatchlings of Chelonia mydas will be bilaterally notched, and released to the sea.
All work to be done on Suriname nesting beaches.
- as part of operation "headstart" the following release program of captive-raised turtles will be initiated for a period of three or more years: at least 250 half-year olds, 500 one-year olds, 250 one-and-a-half-year olds, and 100 two-year olds. all shall be marked with notch and/or tag prior to release. All work to be done on Suriname nesting beaches.
- if cooperation with Brazilian authorities is obtained, then part of the Suriname headstart turtles could be released on

Went
Produce
Answers

the Brazilian feeding grounds. This could provide "real-life" data on growth, mortality and population density. With this information life tables may be developed to reflect the dynamics of the Suriname-Brazil population.

NO

Project spin-offs:

- as part of the headstart program hatchlings of Lepidochelys olivacea and Dermochelys coriacea could be raised to a suitable age, marked and released to the sea, with minimal cost.
- as a result of this potential cooperation between Suriname and Brazil an increase of awareness for the preservation of this resource may be created among Brazilian authorities.
- the project will also provide a means for a survey of nesting beaches between Marajó Island down the Brazilian coast as far as necessary.

Cost: (calculated for a two-year period)

- Suriname beach personnel: 5 men for 10 months
is 1500 man-days at US \$ 6.- per day \$ 9,000.-
- Suriname transport: one open boat with 40 HP
outboard motor (this in addition to three such
boats which Suriname will provide for project)..... \$ 2,500.-
- travel: 4 times 2 roundtrip tickets
Suriname-Brazil..... \$ 1,200.-
- miscellaneous expenses: renting of local
transport and personnel in Brazil \$ *

Total\$ 12,700.-

* if a cooperative agreement is reached with Brazil on the project, then this expense may become a donation of that Government.

This contribution is not known but could amount to max.
\$ 5,000.- for the two-year period.

Suriname contribution: (for a two-year period)

in addition to the above costs the following costs for the project shall be borne by the Suriname Forest Service, Department of Nature Conservation (LBB), and the Suriname Foundation for Nature Preservation (STINASU):

--- <u>beach personnel:</u> 10 men for 10 months is 3000 man-days at US \$ 6.- per day	\$ 18,000.-
--- 1000 turtles from hatchery provided for operation "headstart" at US \$ 10.- each	\$ 10,000.- ?
--- local transport, including running costs of vehicles	\$ 2,000.-
	<hr/>
Expenses donated by LBB and STINASU	\$ 30,000.-

Dr. J.P. Schulz

Head Dept. of Nature
Conservation,

Director of STINASU

Juni, 1978.

Literature cited:

Hirth, Harold F. and William M. Schaffer, 1974. Survival rate of the green turtle (Chelonia mydas) necessary to maintain stable populations. Copeia 1974, no.2, June 13, pp. 544 - 546.

Marquez, Rene M. and Takeyuki Dol, 1973. A trial of theoretical analysis of population of pacific green turtle (Chelonia mydas carrinegra, Caldwell) in waters of Gulf of California, Mexico. March 1973 Bulletin of Tokai Regional Fisheries Research Laboratory no. 73.

Schulz, J.P.1975. Sea turtles nesting in Surinam. Stichting Natuurbehoud Suriname (STINASU) verhandeling nr.3.



1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

TELEPHONE: (202) 387-0800
CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505

May 22, 1979

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Thank you for letting us know so promptly
that a copy of Marianne Riedman's letter
was not enclosed with Nancy Hammond's
letter of May 1st.

That letter is now attached.

I apologize for the confusion!

Sincerely,

Julie Daniel
Julie Daniel
Program Assistant

Encls.



1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009
CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505
TELEPHONE: (202) 387-0800

Not enclosed

MAY 21 1979
MAY 23 1979

May 1, 1979

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

Dear George:

I just received the enclosed letter yesterday inquiring about World Wildlife Fund's interest in funding a research project on the breeding biology of the green sea turtle.

Before we invite submission of a full proposal we would like to get a reading as to how critical such research might be to conservation of green sea turtles. Vivian suggested that I seek your guidance on this.

I would appreciate any comments or suggestions you may have.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Nancy

Nancy E. Hammond
Program Administrator

NEH/jld

cc: Vivian Silverstein (fyi)

*5/15/79
Dear Nancy - Just returned to my office to find your letter. Unfortunately, the "enclosed letter" you mentioned was not enclosed. I will be sending it off to me and I will be happy to help in whatever way possible.
Best regards,
George Balazs*

APR 30 1979

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

CENTER FOR COASTAL MARINE STUDIES
DIVISION OF NATURAL SCIENCES
APPLIED SCIENCES BUILDING

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95064

24 April 1979

Dear Sirs,

I was told that the World Wildlife Fund might be willing to help finance my research project on the breeding biology of the green sea turtle, Chelonia mydas. I am in the process of preparing a primarily behavioral study which would involve marking male and female turtles and making underwater observations. I'm interested in the mating system and social structure during breeding, and reproductive strategies of individual males as well as females. (As far as I know, the only other study that has dealt specifically with mating behavior is that of Booth and Peters (1972) in Australia.) This research urgently needs to be completed while it is still possible to observe these vanishing animals, since they have been exploited for many years and are now considered a threatened and possibly endangered species.

Most of the study will take place during 1980-82, with a short pilot work commencing this summer in the French Frigate Shoals, Hawaii, or possibly Rose Atoll in the South Pacific. If you think that any funds might be available for this project or the pilot study, would you please send me information on application procedures? Thanks for your help!

Yours very truly,

Marianne Riedman

Marianne Riedman

Coastal Marine Lab, UCSC

*Hope it will
help conservation of Chelonia*

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM

May 24

TO: Archie Carr, George Balazs ✓

FROM: Wayne King

SUBJECT: Attached

It would seem a project proposal is needed at WWF International to get WWF Canada to support the Sea Turtle Newsletter. I would suggest that Nick rough out the proposal for the Chairman/Deputy Chairman to finalize and submit to Morges. I will then push it from the SSC Deputy Chairman position. If this is what you want.

Wayne King

MEMORANDUM

To: Earl Baysinger
From: Hartmut Jungius *H. Jungius*
cc: Wayne King Sir Peter Scott
Date: 14th May, 1979
File ref:
Subject: Status of Funding of SSC Marine Turtle Group Newsletter
Reference your memo of 10.5.79

The WWF did agree to cover costs of the Newsletter up to US\$2,000 as part of preparations for a turtle action plan under the overall development of the Marine Programme project (1400).

Dr. Mrosovsky was informed that the money for the Newsletter should cover costs during 1978 and that the matter of continued support for the Newsletter should be discussed again before the end of that year. Dr. Mrosovsky was also requested to send to WWF a financial report together with the necessary supporting receipts by 31st January, 1979. I have not seen such a report and do not know if it has been sent.

Dr. Mrosovsky was also informed that it would be much easier for WWF to raise funds for this Newsletter through WWF-Canada. Dr. Mrosovsky was asked and agreed to write up a brief project description to justify expenses for the turtle Newsletter which could be used by WWF International to get in touch with the Canadian organisation and request financial support. I have not seen such a project description until now and do not know if it has been prepared.

The project is an SSC one and does not fall under my responsibility. From the correspondence I understand that Mats had arranged everything and that the ball was in Mrosovsky's court. I therefore suggest that you check if he has complied with the different requests that were put to him.

My understanding of the situation is that there is no money earmarked for the continuation of the turtle Newsletter and that no provision has been made to continue funding. It seems therefore that a new project proposal is required for continuing funding of the Newsletter.



SHOCK AND VIBRATION INFORMATION CENTER

Naval Research Laboratory, Code 8404

Washington, D.C. ~~20390~~ 20375

23 May 1979

Tel. 202 767 2220

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

As a part of the normal process during development of US Navy ships and systems, the Navy requires that battle hardness be assured against certain weapon effects which may be encountered in a combat environment. Verification procedures require controlled testing using conventional explosives, both underwater and in the air, directed at these ships or components thereof.

While testing is most important to our national defense the Navy is also fully aware of the need to realistically evaluate the potential environmental impact of such testing and has performed numerous studies related to this subject. The Navy is also aware that other activities have studied certain aspects of such events, however no compilation of available information is known to exist. The Navy desires to compile the existing data and integrate its findings with those of other knowledgeable investigators.

Accordingly, (this activity) has embarked on a program to collect all information relative to the impact of such testing on humans, marine and bird life, geophysical and atmospheric phenomena, and general long term environmental effects.

Work at (your activity) may have provided information which will contribute to the overall understanding of the subject. Forwarding of any pertinent publications, suggesting additional sources of information, (or offering ideas based upon your personal knowledge) which may assist in this effort will be most useful.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

William T. Forehand
Project Manager



THE NEW GROUNDS
SLIMBRIDGE
GLOUCESTER GL2 7BT

Tele : Cambridge (045-389) 333
Cable : Wildfowl Dursley

17th May 1979

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

Dear Archie,

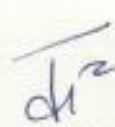
IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group

I enclose some correspondence re. the Seychelles from Christopher Cadbury to Jack Frazier which I feel you should know about. Is Jack on your Group? Wayne told me that you had all sat down with final plans for the group formation for the next three years, but do you want letters of invitation to go out from Peter? What we have been saying to 'old groups' is that the Chairman of each Group can reconfirm membership unless there are any changes. This, of course, applies to Dr. Mrosovsky (who did a great deal of work in putting the group together).

Anyway, no further action will be taken from here until we hear from you about how to proceed; in particular your views on how to handle the newsletter are rather vital. If it doesn't continue from Toronto then it will need a new source of funding.

With kind regards,

Yours ever,


Jane Fenton
Secretary to the Chairman
Survival Service Commission

cc: George Balazs ✓
Wayne King
Richard Fitter
Earl Baysinger

Office tel.no.
021 453 2234

Beaconwood,
Rednal,
Birmingham B45 9XP

23rd April 1979

Mr. Frasier,
C.C.32,
9121 Puerto Pirounds,
Chubut.

Dear Mr. Frasier,

Turtles in the Seychelles.

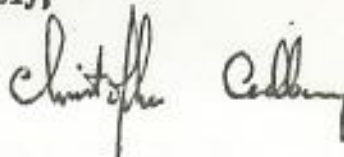
I wrote to the Ministry of Agriculture in the Seychelles to ask for the latest information regarding legislation on turtle protection.

I enclose copy of letter I received dated January 18th 1979.

The documents enclosed with the above letter were -

- (1) The laws of the Seychelles in force on 31st December 1971.
(Revised edition dated 1972) Chapter 141. Turtles.
- (2) The Turtles Act. Chapter 141. The Grey Turtles Protection
(Amendment Regulations 1977)
Copy enclosed.
- (3) Hawksbill Protection Regulations 1977.
Copy enclosed.
- (4) Hawksbill Protection (Amendment) Regulations 1978.
Copy enclosed.

Yours sincerely,



cc R.Fitter
R.Salm
Sir Peter Scott
T.Beamish

Miss Barclay Smith
Guy Lionnet

efu. 10.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND USE

P. O. Box 54, Botanical Gardens, Republic of Seychelles.
Telex : 2260 SEYGOV SZ Telegrams : AGRICULTURE, Seychelles Telephone : 22314/5.



Please address all correspondence to the

Your Ref: .
Our Ref: .
Enquiries To:
Telephone Ext:
Date: . 18th January, 1979.

Mr. Christopher Cadbury,
Beaconwood,
Rednal,
Birmingham B45 9XP,
Great Britain,

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for your letters commenting on the minutes of N.P.N.C.C. meeting and requesting the turtles legislations.

I had the turtles legislations ready at the last N.P.N.C.C. meeting unfortunately by the time I remembered about them you had left.

I'm enclosing all the turtle legislations that was available at the printing division appart from a couple which was concerned with the slaughtering arrangements and the amount of green turtle meat that can be sold to each individual person. If you are interested in these I can get them photocopied.

Regarding the Cousin and Aride reserve I beleive Mr. Roger Wilson has already written to you about the current situation.

Yours sincerely,

L. Chong Seng

L. Chong Seng

c.c. Mr. S. Savy.

of 10.

S. I. No. 106 of 1978.

TURTLES ACT
(Cap. 141)

**Hawksbill Turtles (Protection) (Amendment)
Regulations, 1978.**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 11 of the Turtles Act, the President hereby makes the following Regulations—

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. These Regulations may be cited as the Hawksbill Turtles (Protection) (Amendment) Regulations, 1978. | Citation |
| 2. Regulation 3(1) of the Hawksbill Turtles (Protection) Regulations, 1977, hereinafter referred to as "the principal Regulations", is amended by inserting immediately after the word "stuffed", which appears therein, the word "female". | Amendment of regulation 3 of S. I. 95 of 1977 |
| 3. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting immediately after regulation 3 thereof the new regulation and Schedule following— | Insertion of new regulation 4 and Schedule in principal Regulations |
| <p>"Protection for female turtles in certain areas</p> <p>4.—(1) No person shall catch, kill, harpoon or otherwise take possession of any female Hawksbill Turtle in the areas specified in the Schedule.</p> <p>(2) Any person who contravenes subregulation (1) shall be guilty of an offence and liable to the penalties provided in section 10(2) of the Act.</p> | |

SCHEDULE

(Reg. 4(1))

Aride
Cousin
Cousine
Curieuse

That part of Mahe lying to the east of the airport runway formerly forming South East Island.

Made on the 20th day of October, 1978.

F. A. RENE,
PRESIDENT.

cfy 10

S. I. No. 95 of 1977.

THE TURTLES ACT
(Chapter 141)

The Hawksbill Turtles (Protection) Regulations, 1977.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 11 of the Turtles Act, the Minister hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Hawksbill Turtles (Protection) Regulations, 1977. Citation.

2. In these Regulations—
"Hawksbill turtle" means the Hawksbill turtle or caret; Interpre-
tation.

"sell" includes to expose or offer for sale.

3.—(1) No person shall purchase, sell or export any preserved or stuffed Hawksbill turtle or any part thereof unless authorised by the Minister. Prohibition
on purchase,
sale, etc.,
of preserved
or stuffed
Hawksbill
turtles.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of sub-regulation (1) of this regulation shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to the penalty provided in section 11(2) of the Turtles Act.

(3) This regulation shall not apply to the purchase, sale or export of hawksbill turtle shells.

Made on the *twelfth* day of October, 1977.

J. D. M. FERRARI,
Minister.

copy 10

S. I. No. 51 of 1977.

THE TURTLES ACT
(Chapter 141)

The Green Turtles Protection (Amendment)
Regulations, 1977.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 11 of the Turtles Act, the Minister hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Green Turtles Protection (Amendment) Regulations, 1977. Citation.

2. Regulation 2 of the Green Turtles Protection Regulations, 1976 is amended as follows:— Amendment of Regulation 2 of the Green Turtles Protection Regulations (S. I. No. 43 of 1976).

(a) by the insertion immediately above "closed season" of the following:—

"Butcher's Licence" means a butcher's licence issued under the Licences Act, Chapter 106";

(b) by the insertion between "open season" and "sale" of the following:—

"Outlying Islands" means those islands set out in the First Schedule to the Outlying Islands (Employment of Servants) Act, Chapter 176";

(c) by the insertion after "turtle" of the following:—

"turtle meat" means any edible part of a slaughtered turtle (including livers, heads, flippers, hearts or kidneys) whether fresh, chilled, frozen or salted."

3. Regulation 6 of the Green Turtles Protection Regulations 1976 is revoked and the following regulation substituted therefor:— Revocation and replacement of Regulation 6 of the Green Turtles Protection Regulations (S. I. No. 43 of 1976).

"Prohibition on the slaughter of turtles and the sale, possession of turtle meat.

6.—(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to:—

- (a) slaughter any turtle; or
- (b) sell, offer for sale or expose for sale any turtle meat; or
- (c) have in his possession more than two kilograms of turtle meat;

unless he is in possession of either a valid Butcher's Licence or written authority from the Minister.

(2) No person shall sell to any other person, at any one time, more than two kilograms of turtle meat.

(3) No person on an Outlying Island shall have in his possession more than two kilograms of any edible part of a slaughtered turtle which has been preserved by salting.

(4) Subregulations (1) and (2) of this Regulation shall not apply to the Outlying Islands."

MADE by the Minister on the *fifteenth* day of July, 1977.

J. D. M. FERRARI,
Minister.



TRAFFIC (USA)
1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009
CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505
TELEPHONE: (202) ~~308-2000~~
797-7907

May 25, 1979

Dr. George Balazs
Hawaii Inst. of Marine Biology
Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George,

Thank you for your informative letter to Nicolé regarding imports of sea turtle skins into Japan. I gather most of this leather is from Pacific Ridelys harvested by the PIOSA in Mexico. I recently talked with Kim Clifton (working with Richard Felger) who is investigating the Pacific Ridley and Green Sea Turtle populations on the Pacific Coast of Mexico. He said PIOSA harvested 50,000 Pacific Ridelys in 1978 even though the Mexican government set a quota of 34,000.

I have also found annual reports on imports and exports of Japan from 1974-1978. They have imported ~5000kg/yr of tortoise shell over these years mainly from the Cayman Isl., Thailand, China, and the Phillipines. One interesting discrepancy I found: Japan reported importing 200 kg tortoise-shell from the Phillipines in 1975 while in the Phillipines, their annual report shows 21,363 kg tortoiseshell exported to Japan for that same year.

I have been able to extract bits and pieces of information of your Hawksbill Turtle Report in SE Asia (1978) from an upcoming Pritchard report (An analysis of the capture, marketing, and utilization of marine turtles), but it would be better yet to have our own copy. Would you please send me a copy soon, so I can incorporate the information in our report. We will be glad to pay the copying and postage costs.

Thank you;

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David Mack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent than the last name "Mack".

David Mack
Assistant Director
TRAFFIC (USA)

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
228 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

23 May 1979

Dear George:

Thank you for sending me the reply you received from the Administrator, which I received yesterday. Today I received the enclosed. This is a reply to the diatribe I wrote about the unattractiveness of Ascension Island as a tourist resort area. (I sent you a copy of the same a while back.) I was heartened to receive this reply. To my knowledge, this is the only personal letter (i.e. not a form letter) anyone has received from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Best regards,





Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01-233 5113

Jeanne A Mortimer
Doctoral Candidate
Department of Zoology
University of Florida
Gainesville 32611
USA

Your reference

Our reference HWS352/1

Date 15 May 1979

Dear Ms Mortimer

Thank you for your letter of 10 March which was received in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 8 May. The points which you have made about the alleged unattractive features of Ascension Island are well known to the writer following my visit to the Island earlier this year. They are all points which will be borne in mind by this Office and by the Government of St Helena as we consider the future. As we have said before we will also ensure that the Island's turtle population is protected should it be decided to develop a form of tourism on the Island.

Yours sincerely

B W Hefferon

B W Hefferon
West Indian & Atlantic Department



April 23, 1979

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

Dear George,

Thank you for your letter of 3rd April. Taking your points in reverse order:

- a) I would be happy to publish your plan to save the Atlantic ridley if you would first check out with Peter Pritchard if he thinks it would be constructive ... we don't want to confuse people with too many different plans. As you know, he is involved in organizing a plan that would make use of facilities at the Cayman Turtle Farm. Your last sentence about permits strikes me as much too optimistic. We have been going through incredible hassles to get permits for work that everyone seems to agree is much needed (sex-ratio and temperature).
- b) I have given you my opinions on running the newsletter via the copy of the letter to Peter Scott. On reading that again, I don't see it is unreasonable. I received no answer from you to the letter I sent alongside, asking that you pitch in with Peter Scott, on this matter, if you are happy with a 3-way system (which, if I interpret phone talks correctly, you are). Obviously these things were discussed by all the people present at SSC/CITES. I understand that Archie has written to Jane Fenton, I think saying that my requests to Peter Scott were not unreasonable (but I have not seen a copy of this). So you can see I am in the dark about what is going on, and was sorry your letter only said you would fill me in on what is happening at a later date. ←

Some other points of possible relevance:

- 1) Paradoxically, the financial situation for the newsletter, has never looked more rosy ... I have talked with WWF Canada, their new director; they are impressed by the fact that we now go to 70 countries, more than 500 people, and other things ... they think it good value for the money they spend. Although the new director cannot make a definite commitment, it looks as if this problem is solved. The catch is that WWF Canada's charter is different from its USA counterpart in that it does not allow the money to be spent outside the country. They could therefore only support the newsletter if edited in Canada.

- 2) There still has to be some good arrangement for exchanging information.
→ Morges must be asked to cooperate (see again my letter to Peter Scott).

If one of us were to get a set of labels made with the addresses of you, Archie and myself, and we each had a pile of these labels, it would make it that much easier to send around material.


→ Archie Carr has been receiving copies of many of the letters that I get/send over the last years, though some are too trivial to copy.

On a more general theme, a case could easily be made that the newsletter is more important than the group. Individual members of the turtle group have of course made great contributions towards conservation, but it is not clear that as a group they are, or ever have been, very effective. For example, on the Ascension Island issue, far more action has been generated by the newsletter, and its cooperative effort with Jeanne Mortimer, than by members of the group, many of whom did not bother to participate. The international community of concerned people brought into touch with each other through the newsletter, and made to feel part of something bigger than their own particular beach is more important.

Well then, here is one more letter, (full of justifications and turtle conservation politics) I still hope a 3-way compromise solution can be worked out, but there are times also, much as I enjoy running the newsletter, when I feel it would be a relief not to have to work with so frustrating and chaotic an organization as IUCN any more. The enormous amount of time I have put into all of this could then go toward my writing and other work, and ratio and temperature (which possibly the Cayman Turtle Farm will back ... IUCN have not even acknowledged my application after 11 months!) is really a most fascinating phenomenon to study. No, no, George, don't count on it that I am going on with all this ... it is up to you and Archie, if you want, to insist on conditions that make this an attractive and productive option. You have the leverage if you are prepared to use it. I don't expect any medals for the unspectacular work I have put into the group, but of course I am chagrined by being told I have not been activist enough and not being given proper reasons for the changes. Nevertheless, I have prepared to go ahead on a compromise arrangement that allows all of us to get on with various aspects of the work that needs to be done. Many people would have pulled out right away if they had received the shabby treatment I have. But everyone has their limits. If you want me to continue, it's up to you to push others towards a compromise.

With best wishes

NM/nm


Nicholas Mrosovsky

cc: A.Carr

April 27, 1979

Miss Jane Fenton
Secretary to the Chairman
Survival Service Commission
The New Grounds
Slinbridge
Gloucester GL2 7BT
England.

Dear Miss Fenton,

Thank you for your letter of 23rd April. However, I feel that the suggestions you make are not very satisfactory. As mentioned in my letter to Sir Peter (February 2nd) there has to be some clear instruction to Morges that material sent out to the Chairman and his Deputy is copied to me. (There is no reason to think that this would not be handled with discretion but of course copies could be omitted in a few cases of special confidentiality). Otherwise it introduces too great delays in getting material. Second, I do not feel that the title of editor is adequate. It may be regrettable, but we live in a very status conscious world, and things like this do help in conservation work along the lines indicated in my letter and in other ways. Fortunately they do not cost IUCN any money.

Over the past few years, I have put an enormous amount of work into the turtle group. After having been dismissed with no explanation, other than that they want someone more activist, I'm sure you must realize that to carry on at all represents something of a compromise. I am prepared to do so, but hope that others too will be able to compromise. I still feel that to run the newsletter in a creative way, the points I made in my letter to Sir Peter are not irrelevant.

The third problem I mentioned, funding, is probably solved. I have spoken with the new director of WWF Canada, and he is very favourably disposed towards it. The letter now goes out to more than 500 people in 70 countries, and they feel it is a good investment for the money they put into it. They have rapidly provided (a few hundred dollars) of interim funding until the (present uncertainty about who will be running it) is clarified. This will enable me to produce another issue or two and fulfill present obligations. But the terms of WWF Canada's charter are such that they could not support the newsletter unless it was edited from within Canada.

I fully agree that coordination is important; with marine turtles in so many different countries, and facing such diverse problems it is especially so. It was for this reason that (I) started the newsletter. One possibility is that Archie Carr and George Balazs

Cont/...2

Miss Jane Fenton

- 2 -

April 27, 1979

as people in charge of the group, could continue this coordinating role; this could be done much more naturally from the organizational centre. They might wish to send out a newsletter, or expanded memos, or coordinate in whatever way they wished, depending on what directions they wish to move the group. This would leave me free to pursue my own conservation activities independent of IUCN. These might include some form of mailing, maybe a newsletter on a reduced basis. They could cover matters arising through their activities as group leaders, and I could sound off on an independent basis when I felt moved.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Mrosovsky

NM:blc
cc:Prof. Archie Carr
Dr. George Balazs



THE NEW GROUNDS
SLIMBRIDGE
GLOUCESTER GL2 7BT

Tele: Cambridge (045-389) 333
Cable: Wildfowl Dursley

23rd April 1979

Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky,
University of Toronto,
Department of Zoology,
25 Harbord Street,
Toronto M5S 1A1,
Ontario,
Canada.

Dear Dr. Mrosovsky,

IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Newsletter

Your letter of February 2nd addressed to Sir Peter did not arrive until last month and Sir Peter was awaiting my return from Costa Rica before replying. Unfortunately he was not able to do this before leaving for WWF International functions in Australia and Malaysia and asked me to reply on his behalf.

Sir Peter very much hopes that you will continue to act as Editor of the Newsletter and that you will continue to receive funding for this and support from IUCN and the Group Chairman and his Deputy in regard to obtaining material. There is no doubt that the newsletter is a useful source of information and stimulation on turtle issues and it was agreed in Costa Rica that it should continue with you as Editor. It was also felt that the title of Editor is quite sufficient for obtaining material and continuing the link with turtle specialists, if you are agreeable to this. As long as it is made clear to all concerned that it is you who co-ordinates the material (i.e. in the next issue of the newsletter) there should be no problem.

Sir Peter hopes you will be able to clarify this with Archie Carr and George Balazs as soon as possible as the work of the marine turtle specialists is so important and the more co-ordination the better.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jane Fenton
Secretary to the Chairman
Survival Service Commission



THE NEW GROUNDS
SLIMBRIDGE
GLOUCESTER GL2 7BT

Tele: Cambridge (045-389) 333
Cables: Wildfowl Dursley

4th May 1979

Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky,
University of Toronto,
Department of Zoology,
25 Harbord Street,
Toronto M5S 1A1,
Ontario,
Canada.

Dear Dr. Mrosovsky.

IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Newsletter

Thank you for your letter of 27th April^A, received this morning.

I will discuss it with Sir Peter on his return, having received comments from those listed below. One way or the other I do hope it will be possible to come to a satisfactory conclusion and to keep you involved with marine turtle issues.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jane Fenton
Secretary to the Chairman
Survival Service Commission

cc: Prof. Archie Carr
Dr. George Balazs
Dr. F. Wayne King
Earl Baysinger
Richard Fitter

* Already copied
to you & to Archie.

Dear Sir,

5/22

I'm a student from
Willamette University, Salem, Oregon
in on a field studies trip &
staying on Maui in Camp Keena.

If you have any information
concerning Sea Turtles I would
appreciate it if you could send
it to me as we are all required
to do projects. Mine is on these

Sea Turtles.

Camp Keena
Route 2, Box 800
Lahaina Maui, HI
96761

Thank-you,

Darla Davis

SINCE NINETEEN-HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

May 10, 1979

Memo to: Parties interested in the NMFS program for 'head-starting' Kemp's ridley turtles.

From: Peter C.H. Pritchard

In recent months, I have heard a number of objections to and comments upon the NMFS Galveston project for head-starting Kemp's ridleys for release as a means of augmenting the species. As an interested observer who has been involved with ridley conservation since 1968, I would like to offer my comments upon these objections.

Objection 1: Head starting is an unproven technique that should not be used on so clearly endangered a species.

"paying" for eggs - like turtle farm

Comment: Head starting is indeed unproven and experimental. For that reason the Galveston project only utilizes a small percentage (about 3%) of the eggs laid at the Rancho Nuevo beach, a withdrawal that is more than compensated by the FWS project to enhance the thoroughness of the beach patrols. Moreover, the species has declined substantially since 1966 despite fair to good protection of the nesting turtles and their eggs and the abolition of the fishery for the species in both Mexico and the United States. The onus is therefore on those who oppose head-starting to propose something better. The present operation cannot hurt and may well help the species. It also happens to be the most carefully designed and executed head-start program on record, with all opportunity given for the turtles to imprint on the nesting beach (if imprinting is indeed a real phenomenon), with release sites carefully chosen after extensive consultation, and with every effort made to monitor the actions and fate of the turtles released.

Objection 2: Galveston is the wrong place to conduct the head-start operation.

Comment: These are indeed disadvantages to the Galveston site, among which are the low winter water temperatures which necessitate

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

expensive and laborious heating for several months of the year. But, the facility including heaters is now in place, and until a better facility can be arranged, the operation should remain at Galveston. The turtles that were experimentally transferred to Miami last year (where water temperatures were favorable but where isolation facilities were not available) were clearly in much poorer condition than the Galveston animals within a few weeks. The success of an operation such as that at Galveston should be judged by its product, not by the seeming cumbersomeness of its procedures.

Objection 3: The turtles in Galveston were fed on an unnatural diet of pelletized food that would not prepare them for feeding in the wild.

Comment: This is a valid point to raise, since some species of turtle do become so habituated to one type of food that they will at least initially ignore others. But young ridleys are so aggressive and voracious that this does not seem to be a problem; when the turtles at Galveston were experimentally supplied with live fish and shrimp, they chased them down and ate them. Having seen the turtles in action, I personally have no fear that they will not respond to live food when put in the sea.

Objection 4: Some of the turtles released in Florida Bay were imperfect, having bitten flippers or fungus patches on the skin.

Comment: This is true and has been carefully documented for every turtle released. But both the bites and the fungus patches are artifacts of captivity, the former deriving from the turtles being confined together at close quarters in Miami for several weeks before the release, and the latter from the finite volume, and thus high pathogen concentration, of the water in which turtles were kept. Both of these factors would be eliminated by release of the turtles in the sea. In other words, as long as the turtles were vigorous (as they were), the bitten and fungoid individuals would be anticipated to be much better off in the sea than in captivity.

Incidentally, the turtles released on May 8 near Homosassa were uniformly in beautiful condition.

Objection 5: The Galveston turtles were kept in containers too small for them to swim and develop normal muscle tone and endurance.

Comment: Since isolation appears to be necessary and since the turtles grew relatively rapidly in Galveston, it is inevitable that they should soon be cramped in their containers. This factor prompted earlier release than had been anticipated, and in a

way was simply a result of success - the turtles grew well. In some cases turtles virtually filled the surface of their bucket as they neared the time of release; but this did not inhibit their going through the motions of swimming, and when picked up they could be seen to be vigorous and aggressive animals. When released, they swam well, dived when closely approached by the boat, and held a generally constant heading into the waves throughout the observation period.

Objection 6: Releasing the turtles in Florida Bay is an unjustified act of introduction of an exotic species into a National Park; they should be placed in Mexican waters where the species breeds.

Comment: Lepidochelys kemp is not an exotic species in Florida Bay; it was historically reported to be common there in some places, and doubtless there are a few wild individuals there still; certainly some ridleys are still seen on both coasts of Florida. On the other hand, the Mexican side of the Gulf, while constituting the only known breeding area for the species, is not known to be habitat for immature stages of the species at all; only adults and hatchlings are known from there.

The real 'exotic species' that should be eliminated from the National Park are the commercial net fishermen, who automatically stand in violation of law if they catch a ridley even accidentally. Doubtless the objections to the Florida Bay release (which will not be repeated) derive from sources sympathetic to these interests.

Objection 7: Some of the experimental manipulations carried out at Galveston were not specifically included in the wording of the Endangered Species Act Permit under which the program is operating; and such experiments should not be carried out on an endangered species.

Comment: The wording of the permit is rather general, and ^{does not authorize} does not preclude the experiments on diet, grouping of the animals, and other parameters. Moreover, the experiments are being conducted for the specific purpose of producing the greatest possible number of the healthiest possible yearlings for release.

To object to the various experimental manipulations carried out at Galveston on the grounds that they are not specifically listed on the permit, even if that were the case, betrays a curious narrow-mindedness that regards the integrity of the permit more important than the integrity of the species. If

biological opinion recommends certain procedures in the course of the head-starting operation that are not included in the permit, then the permit should be changed (through proper legal channels), rather than be allowed to stand as an obstacle to what are generally considered to be desirable courses of action.

Objection 8: The turtles were transported to the release point in group containers, with the danger of them biting and injuring each other.

Comment: No such biting or injury occurred. The turtles do not seem to show any significant aggression to each other when out of water.

Objection 9: The radios trailed behind the released head-started turtles would act as an impediment and a lure to predators.

Comment: The radios themselves were encased in blocks of styrofoam painted white on the lower surfaces to minimize visibility from below. The connecting wire for each radio was attached to a hole drilled very close to the edge of the carapace; an attack by a vigorous predator on the radio acting as a 'lure' would almost certainly rip the wire right out of the turtles shell. close to
turtle -
predator
would probably
get both

Nevertheless, it remains possible that the turtles suffered some disadvantage from the attached radios. However, only a very small proportion of the turtles (about 1%) were equipped with the radios. In my opinion, the possible increased risk of predation on these turtles is more than offset by the information gained, since if all turtles were released 'blind' with no follow-up or tracking, they might all be lost.

Conclusion

The Galveston head-start program is well-planned and is being executed in the highest professional manner. It is a vital supplement to the excluder panel research and the Mexican beach patrols in the struggle to bring the ridley back from near-extinction. The program has been at all times receptive to informed outside comment. Such comment and criticism should continue, but should, I believe, always be presented constructively and after both a thorough acquaintance with the reasons why things are being done as they are, and with presentation of adequately researched better options for any aspect of the work considered questionable. Vague academic objections to the program are worse than useless; they will result in its being perceived as "controversial among turtle experts," and since the operation is expensive and has a constant fight for funding, such criticism may well reflect in reduced or non-existent support in the future. Moreover, the Galveston operation is the aspect of the overall kemp conservation effort that, being based in the United States, allows the agencies (FWS and NMFS) to justify their financial support of the ridley program. We may find that the support for

Page 5

the Mexican beach patrols (which I believe we all agree are necessary) is linked to the support for the Galveston program; and if we cut off the one we may lose the other.

It should also be pointed out that ridleys are not easy to raise; apart from leatherbacks, they appear to be the most difficult sea turtles to rear in captivity. Various efforts have been made to raise hatchlings of one or other species of ridley over the years by Deraniyagala in the 1930's; by Bob Schroeder of Mariculture Ltd; by the Mexican Instituto Nacional de Pesca; by the Daniel Leon Guevara research station in Puerto Angel, Oaxaca; by the Mexican Aquacultura Department in Tamaulipas; and by Romulus Whitaker in Madras, India. All found ridleys far more difficult to raise than other species, and the survivorship at the Galveston facility, about 70% I understand, must be considered phenomenally good.

I certainly don't think that we should stop giving Galveston the benefit of any ideas we may have for improvement of their techniques; but the format for such recommendations should be a phone call to Jim McVey at the Galveston Lab, so feedback can be received on the spot, rather than formalized critiques, widely circulated, that could easily be construed by those who control the purse-strings as "objections".

In short, we should all pull together to support the Galveston ridley program - unless we really have a better way of saving the species, which certainly no one has yet brought to my attention. The program, in my opinion, is one of the best things NMFS has ever done.

Copies to: Jack Woody
Jim McVey
Ed Klima
Joe Sylvester
Bill Stevenson
Sally Hopkins
George Balazs
Archie Carr
Members of Sea Turtle Recovery Team
Rene Marquez
Harry Hildebrand
Ro Wauer
Fred Berry
Wayne King
N. Mrosovsky
Jim Tyler

Emmenfeld

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

17 May 1979

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

Dear George:

This is to tell you, belatedly as always, that we are in complete agreement as to the desirability of our producing some kind of sea turtle brochure telling of their nature and survival outlook. The Hawaii brochure is a good model.

Will you once again provide me with a full roster of the sea turtle group as you would like to see it re-formed? I am ready to submit a panel to Wayne and Peter Scott, but want to be completely sure that you and I are seeing eye-to-eye in the final version.

Zug seems to be badly irked by some sea turtle stimulus. I can't identify his trouble, but I don't intend to try.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Archie Carr".

Archie Carr
Graduate Research Professor

AC/ljw



University of Guelph

COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

April 11, 1979

- request form
- document
- permit
- dates

Dr. George Balays
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
U.S.A.

Dear George:

Just a reminder to let you know that I will be interested to hear from you of the present distribution of rabbits on the Hawaiian islands and especially whether it is possible to get on to one easily to collect samples.

I am pleased to have met you.

Sincerely,

Ken Myers
Professor

Km/da



DODD, MEAD & COMPANY, INC.

79 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10016

PUBLISHERS SINCE 1839

Telephone: (212) 685-6464

May 8, 1979

VIA AIRMAIL

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

I'm just back from a customary six months in Moorea and one time when we were having dinner with the Kellums Med showed me some of the pictures you had been taking and some of the writing you've done. I'm wondering whether you have enough articles to possibly make up a book or whether you would be interested in writing one. The Kellums said that your chief passion lately has been turtles and I think that's a mighty good subject. Won't you let me know if you might be interested.

Sincerely yours,

DODD, MEAD & COMPANY, INC.

Edward H. Dodd
Chairman, Editorial Board

EHD:fels

FAUNA PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Patron Her Majesty the Queen

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

Cables: Faunasoc LondonNW1

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

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

Mr George Balasz
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
PO Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe
Hawaii 96744

8 May 1979

Dear George

Many thanks for the most attractive calendar with such really splendid photographs.

I think you had said something about the possibility of joining the Fauna Preservation Society and receiving Oryx. I am therefore taking the chance of sending you an application form and also a copy of the latest issue of Oryx under separate cover.

Yours ever

Richard

Richard Fitter

Hope to see you in Cambridge in September

NATAL PARKS, GAME AND FISH PRESERVATION BOARD



RESERVATIONS ONLY } 52841
SLEGS BESPREKINGS }

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS } "FAUNA"
TELEGRAMMORES }

TELEPHONES } 31221/5
TELEPHONE }

RAAD VIR DIE BEWARING VAN NATALSE PARKE, WILD EN VIS

P.O. BOX/POSBUS 662

PIETERMARITZBURG

3200

YOUR REFERENCE
U VERWYSINGSNOMMER

PLEASE QUOTE OUR REFERENCE E.10/1
MELD ASSEBLIEF ONS VERWYSINGSNOMMER

19th April 1979.

George H. Balazs,
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,
P. O. Box 1346,
K A N E O H E,
H A W A I I 96744 U.S.A.

Dear George,

Thank you for your circular letter of the 26th March on Kemp's Ridley received today.

In essence, I agree entirely with your reasoning as regards not putting all one's eggs in one basket and assume that you will be responsible for trying to find responsible and consenting aquaria and/or zoological facilities in the U.S., Mexico and other countries in order to undertake such work. A minor drawback, as I see it, is that not many such facilities have breeding beaches or artificial beaches upon which Ridley's may be encouraged to breed. It was a pity that you weren't at this meeting in Oviedo where the Cayman Turtle Farm has agreed to accept a number of Kemp's Ridelys and both by providing breeding pond space and rearing facilities, hopefully they may be able to establish a full-scale breeding nucleus. The problem is, as you are clearly well aware, is that this is putting all one's eggs in one basket and therefore I would support heartily your suggestion for widening the endeavours to conserve this species.

As regards the meeting itself it was quite successful; it was extremely pleasant from my point of view to see a number of old friends and to meet some scientists with whom I hadn't had previous personal contact and that was people like Perren Ross and Marquez.

Following the meeting I was very fortunate in being able to go down to Surinam to have a look at the famous beaches at Bigisanti and Eilanti, etc., and also to have a look at Joep Schulz's ranching project. They appear to be doing a very good job there

2/...



Please address communications to the Director
Gelieve alle briefwisseling aan die Direkteur te rig

and judging from the enthusiasm of the locals and the obvious status of Schulz in the community this is conservation working towards the right ends; as far as I am concerned, anyway.

I was a little disappointed, in discussions with Perren, to find how anti-farming and/or ranching he and obviously some others appear to be and this is something that I am still clearly dissatisfied with because to my mind conservation means the rational use of a natural resource and such opposition can only do conservation, to my mind, harm. Because, in countries like Surinam and indeed many others; certainly others that I have worked in in the Indian Ocean, we have simply got to have some form of economic incentive in order to encourage conservation of sea turtles on a wide scale.

Anyway, is there anything else that I could do from this end to help further your suggestions as regards the Kemp's? I really don't see any possibility nor desirability in bringing any Kemp's down to our part of the world although I am sure the Durban Aquarium will be delighted to look after some. However, this would mean moving genes from one ocean body to another and I am not particularly in favour of that.

Looking forward to hearing from you again.

Yours sincerely,

George
for DIRECTOR.

GRH/mh

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

16 April 1979

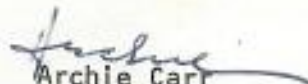
Mr. George H. Balazs
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
University of Hawaii at Manoa
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island, Kaneohe
Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

I penned the enclosed in San José last week,
and then couldn't buy stamps because it was Semana
Santa, etc.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,


Archie Carr
Graduate Research Professor

AC:ljw

GRAN

HOTEL

Costa Rica
SAN JOSE

P. O. Box 527 - Teléfono 21-40-00

Cable: Hotelcra - Telex 2131

San José, Costa Rica

11 April 1979

Dear George:

Many thanks for your
communications postmarked
3 and 4 April.

I'm down here on
another hybrid mission - planning
the IOCARIBE conference, and
reconnoitering the Panama beaches.

To my surprise I read in the
newspaper that Mexico, Costa Rica
and Ecuador are going to meet soon
to discuss management plans for their
shared ridley populations. This is
a thing I suggested to René 18 months
ago; but coming now, after Suarez's
lists have been stirred, the
proposed meeting makes me
uneasy. Meanwhile I'm going ahead
with a proposal to have people on
Naucite this season.

Your proposed additions to the turtle
group seem good - providing you
accept the old list of members to
add to, and not the abbreviated

list as of Toronto meeting time. On that, Pritchard
was not recorded, as you know,

The arrangements for the
South Pacific meeting sound pretty
complicated. Hope they evolve without
troubles.

Your plan for preserving tidbits is
worth exploring. I suspect I don't know
how aquarium people will
react. Ann's account of the
Orlando Kempi sessions
sounds like Alice in
Wonderland.

Have to be off

Con un gran abrazo -

Guessing you
Archie

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

May 8, 1979

Mr. George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist
University of Hawaii at Manoa
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Dear George:

Thanks for the additional briefing on prospects for the New Caledonia Workshop.

I was sorry to see Nicholas's reaction to your proposal to distribute survival ridley stock widely among existing aquarium facilities. I want to try to keep Nick happy and active, but in this case I'll have to say I think your scheme deserves at least equal Newsletter coverage to that given the Mittag scheme. I can't see any possible justification for discrimination. Can you?

Sincerely yours,


Archie Carr
Graduate Research Professor

AC/ljw

cc: Wayne King

AN ADDITIONAL STRATEGY FOR POSSIBLY PREVENTING THE EXTINCTION
OF KEMP'S RIDLEY, *LEPIDOCHELYS KEMPI*

The Kemp's ridley sea turtle is seriously endangered with extinction, having declined at its sole rookery of Rancho Nuevo (Mexico) from an estimated 40,000 nesting females in 1947 to 500 in 1978. While the reasons for this decline have not been fully documented, drownings in shrimp trawls appear to be a significant factor.

In 1978, intensive but nevertheless experimental management efforts to save the species were jointly initiated by government agencies of the United States and Mexico. These efforts include the captive rearing of hatchlings to a juvenile size prior to release (headstarting), and exposure of eggs and hatchlings to the sand and beach environment of Padre Island (Texas) with the objective of establishing a new rookery. Even under ideal conditions, a number of years will be required to fully assess the effectiveness of such trial manipulations. Considering the small remaining breeding population, the rate of decline, and the length of time likely required to reach sexual maturity, the species could very well become extinct before an accurate determination can be made of the results of these recovery efforts.

An additional strategy needs to be implemented immediately that will provide some hope for the survival of the species in captivity, should it not prove possible to maintain the naturally occurring population. A reservoir of captive Kemp's ridleys should be established through the dissemination of hatchlings to responsible and consenting aquariums, oceanariums and appropriate zoological facilities in the United States, Mexico and other countries. Such a survival plan could involve 50 or more different facilities each being consigned a small group of hatchlings (4-10) for rearing and permanent maintenance in captivity. The actual

number accepted would be dependent upon available holding and display space, as well as individual budgetary constraints.

Such a plan for [establishing what will hopefully be a future captive breeding stock has several important advantages]. For instance, financing would be minimal because each facility would absorb the small additional costs involved in caring for the number of turtles they have agreed to accept. Furthermore, the dispersal of turtles to many facilities would provide a valuable safeguard against a high percentage stock loss from an unpredictable disaster (i.e. disease, storm, vandalism) such as could take place if all the turtles were housed at only one or two locations. Dispersal to many facilities would also foster widespread public awareness as to the plight of the species, thereby possibly stimulating conservation efforts with other sea turtles in their natural habitat.

The number of hatchlings (200-500) needed to implement this plan would be relatively small, representing 6-16% of the hatchlings used in the 1978 headstarting effort. In addition, as a last remaining hope for the survival of the species, the plan should experience only minimal difficulties in securing the necessary permits or permit waivers under the U. S. Endangered Species Act or other protective laws currently in effect.

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

26 March 1979



TRADES

1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505

TELEPHONE: (202) ~~387-0900~~ 797-7901

387 0900

May 4, 1979

Dr. George Balazs
Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George,

Archie Carr and Wayne King suggested I contact you regarding sea turtle trade. I am preparing a paper on this subject with my assistant, David Mack, to present at the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation next November.

As you know a great deal of diffuse data exists on sea turtle trade, but to try and discover volume figures and pinpoint international trade routes is much more difficult. We would like to treat this topic under two headings:
1) localized subsistence trade/habitat destruction, and
2) international trade and consumer markets.

To be specific, we are interested in any detailed information you may have on import volume of sea turtle products (shell, leather, meat, or oil) into Japan from S.E. Asian rookeries, and also exports from Central America. If you know other sources of information, government or non-governmental agencies and/or people, we would be very grateful for any suggestions you may have. Many thanks!

Yours sincerely,

Director
T.R.A.D.E.S.

P.S. I would very much be interested in a copy of your English version of the Japanese Tortoise Shell Association Report on the Hawksbill Turtle in Indonesia, Phillipines, Malaysia, and Singapore.

Nicole Duplaix - TRADES
1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009
CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505
TELEPHONE: (202) 387-0900



CAPRICORNIA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
DR B. ROTHWELL B.Sc., Ph.D., M.I.Biol

M.S. 76.
ROCKHAMPTON, 4700

TELEPHONE 361177
TELEX NO. 48176

17th April 1979

Dr George Balazs
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Cocomut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Dear Dr Balazs,

Thank you for your letter plus enclosure, dated April 2 1979.

My present teaching committments, plus a lack of resources for research by my employer, preclude any active research in the field of turtle biology. I have tried, however, to keep abreast of literature on this topic.

I am completing the final year of a 3-year contract here and at present am looking around for a more research oriented position for 1980. If you are aware of any position for which I may be qualified I would appreciate your letting me know. My curriculum vitae is enclosed for your information. Many thanks for your help.

Yours sincerely,

John Kowarsky
John Kowarsky.

encl.- curriculum vitae

NAME: John Joseph KOWARSKY

ADDRESS: (Work) Department of Biology,
 Capricornia Institute of Advanced Education,
 M.S. 76, Rockhampton, 4700, Australia.
 *Phone (079) 361177 - Ext. 282.

(Home) 124, Hyde Street,
 North Rockhampton, 4701, Australia.
 *Phone (079) 283457

DATE OF BIRTH: 5th December 1947

PLACE OF BIRTH: Johannesburg, South Africa

MARITAL STATUS: Married

CHILDREN: Ages: 5 Years
 2 Years
 6 Months

NATIONALITY: Australian

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS: B. Sc (Hons) W.A. 1970
 Ph. D (Science: Zoology) W.A. 1975

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:(a) Ph.D PROJECT:

Investigation into aspects of the biology of marine and estuarine populations of the catfish Cridoglanis macrocephalus including studies of growth, movement patterns, environmental physiology of responses to differing temperature, salinity regimes and oxygen depletion, feeding biology and osmo-regulatory mechanisms.

(b) EMPLOYMENT:

Biologist - Torres Strait Area investigating aspects of population dynamics of sea turtles and feasibility studies of green turtle culture potential.

(c) PRESENT.../

(c) PRESENT RESEARCH:

Fish utilisation of the Fitzroy River Barrage Fish Ladder,
Rockhampton.

PUBLICATIONS:

- Kowarsky, J. 1973: Extra-Branchial Pathways of Salt Exchange
in a Teleost Fish.
Comp. Biochem. Physiol. 46A: 477-486
- Kowarsky, J. 1974: Seasonal Movement of Cobbler along the Swan
Estuary.
Aust. Mar. Sci Bull. 44:9 (Abstract)
- Kowarsky, J. 1975: Ph.D. Thesis Title: Strategy and Zoogeographic
Implications of the Persistence of the
Estuarine Catfish Cnidoglanis macrocephalus
(Val.) (Plotosidae) in Estuaries of South-
Western Australia.
- Kowarsky, J. 1976: Evolution of a Catfish in Estuaries.
Aust. Mar. Sci Bull. 55:8 (Abstract)
- Kowarsky, J. 1976: Clarification of the Name and Distribution of
the Plotosid Catfish Cnidoglanis macrocephalus.
Copeia 1976 (3) 593-594
- Kowarsky, J. 1977: Culture Trials of Young Green Turtles (Chelonia
mydas) in Torres Strait, Northern Australia.
Aquaculture 11: 197-215
- Kowarsky, J. 1978: Observations on Green Turtles (Chelonia mydas)
in North-Eastern Australia during the 1975/1976
Nesting Season.
Biological Conservation 13: 51-62
- Kowarsky, J. 1978: Cobbler in South Western Australia.
F.I.N.S. 11 (1) :27-29

Kowarsky, J. 1978: Approaches to Turtle Culture.

I.C.L.A.R.M. Newsletter (October). In press.

Kowarsky, J. &

M. Capelle. 1979: Returns of pond-reared juvenile green turtles tagged and released in Torres Strait, Northern Australia.

Biol. Conserv. (In Press)

IN PREPARATION:

Geographical variation in the weight-length relationship of the estuarine catfish Cnidoglanis macrocephalus (Plotosidae) in South-Western Australia.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED:

1972: Western Fisheries Research Committee, Perth: Presented research report.

1973: Western Fisheries Research Committee, Perth: Presented research report.

1973: Australian Marine Science Association Annual Conference, Perth:
Presented paper.

1973: ANZAAS Annual Conference, Perth.

1974: Western Fisheries Research Committee, Perth: Presented research report.

1975: Australian Marine Sciences Association Annual Conference, Canberra.

1975: ANZAAS Annual Conference, Canberra: Presented paper.

1976: Australian Marine Sciences Association Annual Conference, Paynesville,
Victoria: Presented paper.

1976: Northern Fisheries Research Committee, Brisbane: Presented research report.

1977: Australian Marine Sciences Association Annual Conference, Adelaide.

1978: Tenth Regional Fisheries Meeting, South Pacific Commission, Noumea:
Presented paper.

1978: Northern Fisheries Research Committee, Townsville: Presented research
report.

1978: Central Queensland Association of Chemists - Annual General Meeting,
Rockhampton: Presented paper.

APPOINTMENTS HELD:

- 1965-1966: Vacation employment: Wheat-Bin Attendant for Co-operative Bulk Handling Pty Ltd in wheat-belt of Western Australia.
- 1967-1968: Vacation employment: Field Assistant for Agricultural Protection Board on studies of Kangaroos in Wiluna district, Western Australia.
- 1969: Vacation employment: Field Assistant for geologist for mineral exploration company in Marble Bar district, Western Australia.
- 1969-1973: Demonstrator to biology students, University of Western Australia (Part-time).
- 1973-1974: Tutor-demonstrator to biology students, West Australian Institute of Technology (Part-time).
- APRIL 1975: Field Assistant for research into arthropod-borne viruses, Ord River, Western Australia.
- MAY 1975 -
JULY 1976: Biologist - Torres Strait Area for Australian Government Company - Applied Ecology Pty Ltd.
- AUG. 1976 -
NOV. 1976: Demonstrator, School of Earth and Life Sciences, Murdoch University, Western Australia (Part-time).

PRESENT

POSITION: (Held since January 1977)

Lecturer, Department of Biology, Capricornia Institute of Advanced Education.

TEACHING
DUTIES:

Introductory courses to undergraduates in cell biology, genetics and animal structure and function; a 2-semester course in applied physiology to second year diploma students; a 2-semester course in Quantitative Genetics to third year undergraduate students; service course in Environmental Biology to Arts and Engineering students.

ADMINISTRATION: Schools' Liaison Officer, Department of Biology,
C.I.A.E. 1978.
Computer Accounts Manager, Department of Biology, C.I.A.E.

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS:

Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement
of Science.

Australian Marine Sciences' Association.

Estuarine and Brackish Waters Sciences' Association.

Royal Society of Western Australia.

REFEREES:

Dr. K.R. Allen, retired Chief, C.S.I.R.O. Division of
Fisheries and Oceanography: 192, Ewos Parade, Cronulla,
N.S.W. Australia, 2230.

Dr. E.P. Hodgkin, Department of Conservation and Environment:
1, Mount Street, Perth, Western Australia, 6000.

Dr. V.B. Meyer-Rochow, Senior Lecturer, Department of Biology,
Waikato University, Hamilton, New Zealand.

Dr. A.W. Osborn, Foundation Head, Department of Biology, C.I.A.E.
- Now Scientific Liaison Officer, Reserve Bank of Australia,
G.P.O. Box 3947, Sydney, N.S.W. Australia, 2001.

Professor J.M. Thomson, Head, Department of Zoology, Queensland
University, St. Lucia, Queensland, Australia.

DATE ON WHICH ABLE TO COMMENCE DUTIES: Negotiable.



INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE, INC.

A DIVISION OF TRADE WIND TOURS, INC.



OUTRIGGER EAST HOTEL, 2379 KUHIO AVE. • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96815
P. O. BOX 6459 • PHONE 923-8506 • CABLE 'INTERTRAV'

DOWNTOWN OFFICE
PIONEER PLAZA
800 FORT STREET MALL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE 535-8011

OUTRIGGER OFFICE
2535 KALAKAUA AVENUE
PHONE 925-8601

HILO OFFICES
210 KANEKANEHA AVE.
HILO, HAWAII
PHONE 938-1121

88 WAHAIKULU AVE.
HILO, HAWAII
PHONE 935-8881

KONA OFFICE
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII
PHONE 323-3725

November 15, 1978

Mr. George Balazs
P. O. Box 1340
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

The information regarding airfares to Washington, D. C. are as follows:

The regular fare for weekend travel (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) a round trip, would be \$619.96 tax included.

Regular fare, round trip for travel during the week, (Monday through Thursday) will be \$588.74, tax included.

The United Friendship or Western Freedom Fares for weekend travel would be \$401.43 and \$359.80 for travel during the week with the following restrictions.

1. Booking have to be confirmed and waitlist is not permitted.
2. Reservations must be made for entire trip a minimum of 7 days prior to departure.
3. Voluntary rerouting may be done, but has to be done at least 7 days prior to scheduled departure time. Origin and destination cannot be changed.
4. Minimum stay - 12:01 A.M. of Sunday following date of departure.
5. Maximum stay - 30 days.
6. Stopovers may be made at Los Angeles on going or return, on Northwest, Western and Continental Airlines.

All fares are quoted from the November 1978 tariff and are subject to change.

As soon as you have a date, please phone our office and ask for Lorna Lo and she will be happy to make your reservations.

Sincerely,

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE, INC.

Sue Takano
Mrs. Sue Takano
Travel Consultant

ST/wh

United 54722N

Western Super Saver 946-7711

946-7711

Leave

West 564

23 NOV

3PM

LA 10PM

~~TWA 78~~

~~23 NOV~~

~~11:45~~

AA 314

24 NOV

12:20

Balt
10:42

TWA

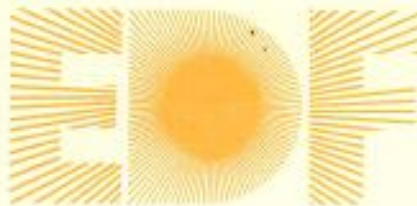
15

Dec 3

Jules 9AM

arrive LA 1122
count
west 561

11-27-70



May 4, 1979

Mr. George H. Balazs
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Post Office Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

Thank you for your interesting letter of April 19 on Tern Island and the colorful book on seabirds. The book enables me to feel a little closer to the citizens of Kaula.

Your inquiry concerning Tern Island raises an interesting legal question, which is: assuming that Tern Island would be suitable for increased utilization by sea turtles and monk seals once the Coast Guard abandons its station there, does the Fish and Wildlife Service have an affirmative obligation under the Endangered Species Act to insure that such increased utilization can occur by prohibiting activities that would hinder it (e.g., a commercial fishing station)? My thought is that a very good case can be made that the Service has that obligation. Much rests, obviously, on the strength of the underlying assumption that the island is suitable for increased utilization by the species in question. If you think that assumption is sound, I would suggest that you notify the Fish and Wildlife Service, in writing, to request that any decision on the proposed commercial fishing station be deferred until its consistency with the requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is determined.


Your letter should to go:

Area Administrator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 5302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

I would suggest you show copies going to Lynn Greenwalt, FWS Director in Washington, and to me.

Best wishes to you.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Bean
Chairman, Wildlife Program

MJB/sc

Environmental Defense Fund, 1525 18th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036 (202) 833-1484
OFFICES IN: NEW YORK, NY (NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS); WASHINGTON, DC; BERKELEY, CA; DENVER, CO



May 2, 1979

John R. Twiss
Executive Director
Marine Mammal Commission
1625 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear John:

Enclosed are various of the materials I have received in response to my inquiries concerning Navy bombing of Kaula Island. As you will see, a NMFS biological opinion is anticipated sometime this summer. In the meantime, the Navy has suspended its use of live ordinance. From the enclosed materials, you will also see that Kaula's near-shore waters support a regular, though small, population of humpbacks during the calving season. Commission review of the NMFS biological opinion before it issues would, I think, be helpful.

I have also enclosed a letter I recently received from George Balazs. Balazs is concerned about a proposal to develop a "commercial fishing station" on Tern Island at French Frigate Shoals when the Coast Guard abandons its station there this summer. Balazs apparently feels that the island has potential for much greater utilization by Hawaiian monk seals, but that this potential is threatened by the fishing station proposal. In light of Senator Weicker's recently expressed concern for monk seals, this may be of interest to you. This could be viewed as a test of the Endangered Species Act's affirmative obligations upon federal agencies to take steps to enhance the survival of endangered species.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike".

Michael J. Bean
Chairman, Wildlife Program

cc: George Balazs

Enclosures

MJB/sc

Personal



The World Wildlife Fund

(British National Appeal)

29 GREVILLE STREET LONDON EC1N 8AX • Telephone 01-404 5091 • Cables Pandafund London EC1

PRESIDENT: H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh K.G., K.T. • CHAIRMAN: Sir Peter Scott C.B.E., D.S.C. • ~~SECRETARY: Mrs. J. G. ...~~
~~Subst. Address~~

12th April 1979

Dr. George H. Balass,
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,
PO Box 1346,
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George,

I'm so sorry I didn't come and say a proper good bye at the NGO party as I promised.. I was obsessed by the Berne Criteria!

I enclose the turtle article as I also promised - it would have been a much more intelligent effort if I had spoken to you all first, but it was an attempt to interest CL's 70,000 readers (middle class and upper and land-owning) in the subject. (I have also sent a copy to Archie Carr) I couldn't have done it without all the excellent stuff in the Turtle Newsletter. Will also send a copy to Kyrovsky if I have a spare with the same comment.

You probably know that Sir Peter S. has written very recently since CITES to the Mexican president about Escobilla, so I expect that the Turtle Group members will know all as soon as anything happens (if it does).

I also haven't forgotten about the press cuttings on Suarez and am trying to gather them up now. I think SSC now don't want to hit Mexico again until the Pres. replies, but I will keep my finger on the pulse of what is happening (as they say!)

The rotten typing and scruffy paper is because I got glandular fever on stepping off the plane in London so am making an astounding recovery (from nearly dead!) in hospital.

all were

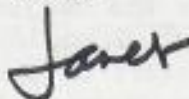
I thought you/very ~~mit~~ charming to John Rudge and his cohorts. I think he is incredibly thick, but you were quite right in saying that it isn't his fault but that of the Nature Conservancy Council and our Dept. of Environment, who still rate natural resource issues far too bloody low.

The Government has fallen in the UK, so a General Election on 3rd May is very likely to return a conservative government. I'm going to have a go at them asap on Ascension, to encourage them, and push them into action, but will keep Archie Carr informed.

Thank you very much indeed for all your help and moral support in Costa Rica. I do hope I shall have the opportunity to benefit from your advice again!

With very best wishes,

Yours



Janet Barber
Head of Public Relations and
Conservation

'ELEPAIO

Journal of the
Hawaii Audubon Society



C. John Ralph, Editor
3467 Alani Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Phone (808) 988-6921

2 May 1979

Dear George:

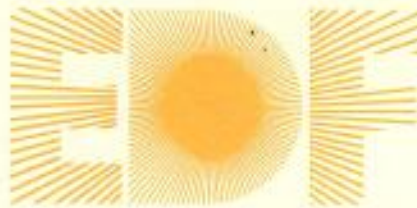
I enclose ^{*}the introduction for the Kaula Rock article which is accepted for the 'Elepaio. Shoot it back to me and I will put it in line. If it is OK with you we will reduce the bibliography down to the size of our index for last year.

I also include the article on Kemp's Ridley turtle which the editorial committee felt after much soul-searching was not appropriate for the 'Elepaio. We appreciate your efforts along this line, but don't think the 'Elepaio is really the best outlet for this particular effort, focusing on a Mexican species. In addition it was felt that the proposal (although an excellent one) didn't really need the 'Elepaio's publication of it to push it.

Warmest regards,

** not necessary - no one had comments -
it'll go into the queue.*

C.J.R.



April 25, 1979

George H. Balazs
Hawaii Institute of
Marine Biology
Post Office Box 1346
Coconut Island, Kaneohe
Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

Your letter requesting a copy of the Hendrickson report arrived while I was still vacationing in Central America, and I never told anyone in my office where I had filed it. With apologies for the delay, I now enclose it.

It was a great pleasure to meet with you in San Jose. I hope that we will continue to be in close contact on sea turtles and Kaula Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mike', is written above the typed name.

Michael J. Bean
Chairman, Wildlife Program

Enclosure

MJB/sc

University of Hawaii
Waikiki Aquarium

2777 Kalakaua Avenue

Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Phone 923-9741 923-4725

April 23, 1979

To: George Balazs

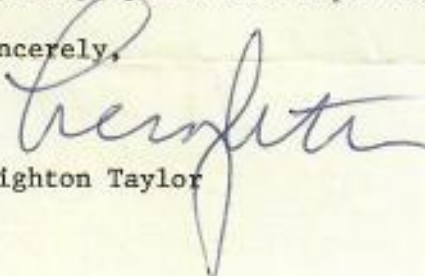
From: Leighton Taylor

Subject: Kemp's ridley sea turtles.

Dear George:

I have reviewed your proposal to insure the survival of the Kemp's ridley sea turtle in captivity. I would like to express my strong support and offer the resources of the Waikiki Aquarium in assisting its implementation. We have had success with maintaining Hawksbills, Loggerheads, and Green Sea Turtles in a variety of sizes of specimens. I feel that our personnel and our water system are satisfactory for the maintenance of Kemp's ridleys. Our budget, although modest, can afford to maintain these animals. If you feel we can be of any help, please call upon us.

Sincerely,


Leighton Taylor

April 23, 1979

Dr. George Balazs
University of Hawaii
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Presently I am conducting a marine turtle study along the coast of Peru. It is being funded by the New York Zoological Society and as suggested by Dr. King I am writing to you. So far marine turtles are only known to exist in Peru, further information is not available. This survey is to gather information pertaining to species present, distribution, nesting beaches, diet, and tag returns. *Exploitation?*

The first progress report covering the coastline north of Lima has been accomplished. Enclosed please find a copy. Any comments or suggestions would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Coppelia Hays
Coppelia Hays



Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 233 5113

G K Balazs Esq
University of Hawaii at Manoa
PO Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe
HAWAII 96744

Your reference

Our reference HWS352/1

Date 24 April 1979

Dear Mr Balazs

I have been asked to reply to your letter of 10 April expressing concern about the potential dangers to the green turtles of Ascension Island should tourism be developed on the Island.

In 1978 a pre-feasibility study on the possibility of developing tourism in St Helena and Ascension was undertaken at the request of the Government of St Helena to determine whether the establishment of tourism could ease the high level of unemployment on St Helena. Although an ecologist/marine biologist was not included in the small team the Report provided by the consultants recognised the need to protect the turtles. Should it be decided to proceed any further in this potentially important area as far as St Helena is concerned, we shall certainly ensure that Ascension's wildlife is fully protected. In whichever direction we decide to proceed we shall be enlisting expert advice from interested UK bodies.

Yours sincerely

B W Hefferon.

B W Hefferon
West Indian & Atlantic Department



OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR,
ASCENSION ISLAND,
SOUTH ATLANTIC.

24 April 1979

Mr George H Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P O Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe
HAWAII 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs

1. Thank you for your letter of 10 April and for your interest in the turtle life on Ascension, which is, of course, of considerable concern to most of those who live and work here as well as Conservationists overseas. It would seem that the reports of impending tourism which have reached you have been grossly exaggerated, for the study of tourist possibilities in St Helena and Ascension has reached only the most preliminary stage and I can assure you that conservation and ecological aspects will be given very great attention if the matter goes any further.
2. I would, of course, welcome any positive and constructive suggestions on what is the basic problem - that of finding a permanent and viable means of livelihood for the St Helenian community, whose natural resources on these two isolated, beautiful but barren, islands I should imagine are infinitely less promising than those that are now obtained on Hawaii.

Yours sincerely,

C B Kendall

C B KENDALL
Administrator



5/10/79

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

Dear Mr. Balazs,

I read your letters to the editor concerning importation of farmed turtle steaks. I am interested in learning the reasons that this is not a wise practice. I gather that either NMFS or the Fish and Wildlife Service is now being sued by the farming company and any ban on these imports may take some time coming.

We at Greenpeace are interested in any developments concerning turtle preservation, monk seals and the preservation of the leeward islands. We would appreciate any insights you have on their protection.

Sincerely,



Kelley Dobbs

Kelley Dobbs

5/11/79

Dear George -

Sorry I was not around when you called recently. I would have enjoyed hearing the latest from Hawaii.

Regarding the EIA on Tern Island I'm sorry to see this course of action taken although I can see where FWS is trying to be fair & just in their considerations. This might work except the state of Hawaii (at least many) are very biased in their views and lean far too heavily towards exploitation. Hopefully the influence or pressure would not be so great as to totally affect the study adversely. The hope is that Ed Shollenberger will be reasonably objective. He is a good man.

Sounds like the family is doing great. Always knew you would make a great father!!
Best regards,
Palmer

From: Miss Jane Fenton



THE NEW GROUNDS
SLIMBRIDGE
GLOUCESTER GL2 7BT

Tele : Cambridge (045-389) 333
Cables : Wildfowl Dursley

2nd May 1979

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

Dear George,

Your letter of April 17 addressed to Sir Peter has just arrived. As he does not return until mid-May and then to a pile of mail, may I suggest that you write to the Baileys c/o Ballantine Books as we have no record of their address here. If this doesn't find them, then I'll ask Sir Peter on his return if he can help us to track them down. It will be perfectly all right to say that Sir Peter put you on to them. I have to do this all the time on his behalf. Thank you for the compliment you paid to me in your letter! I enjoyed meeting you, too, and feel sure the Marine Turtle Group will flourish with your energies added to it.

All the best,

Yours sincerely,

Jane Fenton
Secretary to the Chairman
Survival Service Commission

Copy to: A. Carr & G. Balazs

March 21, 1979

Dear Dr. King:

So far the turtle study is going well - we have surveyed the northern coast of Peru, from Pto. Pizarro to Lima and have discovered some interesting facts. Within the next two weeks I will be mailing you a pre-preliminary update.

As you probably are well aware Felipe Benavides created quite a hassle and delayed the study three weeks at a very crucial time when turtles were to be sighted. Consequently I am rushed to leave Lima, where I have been for the last 1½ weeks, to head south as turtle season declines come April.

There is no problem anymore with the funds. I'm sorry that we had to have that communication foulup.

Bernie Peyton arrived safely and is off on his study. Let's hope this time he doesn't get trapped by any headshrinkers.

Dr. Brack has passed on information to me about the World Conference of Sea Turtle Conservation in November in Washington D.C.

I have some interesting data I would like to present as Peru's representative. Do you know of any benevolent person or organization who would be willing to provide me with funds to pay for a donkey ride up north to present the study. Some data to be formally presented there but only discussed here with you for your opinion is:

1. Near the mouth of the river Tumbes we have found turtle eggs, unfortunately we arrived at the end of the nesting season and were not able to find any tracks or nests due to an extremely high tide erasing all signs.

2. Northern waters contain the following four species: green (Chelonia mydas), leatherback (Dermochelys), olive ridley (Lepidochelys olivacea) and hawksbill (Eretmochelys imbricata).

3. We have recovered 2 tags, one bearing the Galapagos inscription and the other from the University of Florida. I have written to both Dr. Carr and Dr. Pritchard to obtain further information from these tags. There also seems to be a missing tag from the Galapagos which I'm trying to locate.

I am in need of turtle literature and would greatly appreciate it if the New York Zoological Society could send me some reprints. I have also written to the Turtle Newsletter asking for assistance in this matter.

Waiting to hear from you. Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

Coppelia Hays
Coppelia Hays

Statement of Intent

To whom it may concern.

Recognizing the vital importance of the current and ongoing efforts by the Departamento de Pesca, Mexico, to restore and perpetuate the only known breeding colony of the endangered Kemp's Ridley Turtle (*Phrynobolus kempi* (Garman)), and motivated by the desire to assist this laudable effort in every possible way, acknowledging the essential approval and cooperation of Mexico, we are agreed that it appears desirable at this time to establish a captive breeding colony of Kemp's Ridley Turtle to ensure preservation of this genetic entity, if efforts to preserve the species in the wild should fail. Also the establishment of this captive colony should in no way lessen the vigour of the efforts to preserve the species in the wild.

We are agreed that Cayman Turtle Farm Ltd. facilities with its existing scientific and technical personnel appears to offer the best prospects, at this time, for the housing of this captive colony.

We are agreed that this colony should not be drawn from the Mexican adult turtles, but that the stock should be derived from existing aquarium specimens, accidentally caught individuals, and/or individuals from the 1970 hatch currently in the hands of the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service.

We are agreed that the management of the captive colony should be guided by a non-profit corporation dedicated to the propagation of the species, which shall establish overall policies for the colony in accordance with technical advice by the scientific director of Cayman Turtle Farm Ltd. This corporation shall be managed by a board of directors, which shall as a minimum include the director of herpetology of the Mexican Instituto Nacional de Pesca, Mexico, as an ex-officio member, as well as representatives of major non-governmental conservation organisations and chief of the national sea turtle program.

Page two

Organisations. It is considered important that the Corporation shall have the endorsement of the bodies represented by the individual directors. The number of individual Redleys kept by Cayman Turtle Farm Ltd. shall be mutually agreed upon by Cayman Turtle Farm Ltd. and the board of directors. This stock will be held in trust for the Corporation only, for propagation of the species. The sole intent of the signatories of this agreement, the proposed Corporation, and its described activities in the safeguarding and augmentation of the species in its natural, wild state and no animals shall be disposed of for any other ultimate purposes.

We are agreed that the services provided for this purpose by Cayman Turtle Farm Ltd. shall not be utilized for promotional purposes, but that open channels of communication with all concerned scientists shall be maintained.

We are agreed that the costs of maintaining the initial captive stock for at least the first year of operation shall be arranged by Cayman Turtle Farm Ltd., and that subsequently, when the incremental costs of housing and maintaining these

animals have been determined, discussions will be entered
into for subsequent funding.

The actual investigations of the mechanics of this
agreement shall be pursued by Prof. L. D. Bronckema, leader,
and Dr. P. C. H. Pritchard, Orinda, Fla.

Orlando, Florida, U.S.A., April 7th, 1979,

A. W. Pomeroy

Peter M. Heston

L. M. Chubert

Nicholas M. Gross

W. J. de Witte

J. L. Hughes

Barry Odum

J. R. Herdickson

J. R. Wood

W. W. W. W.

23. April 1977

Dear George


On April 6th - 7th I attended the Mittleg-Pritchard meeting in Orlando Fla. Also attending were Prof L.D. Brongersma, Peter, Lou Echart, ^{W. J. Sprueller} Nick Woronsky, George Hughes (from Sth Africa), Ross Witham, Dr. J.R. Hendrickson, Jim Wood (Cayman Turtle Farms) Mr and Mrs Mittleg, Arre Meylan (instead of Archie), Mrs Brongersma and Mrs Hendrickson were also present and René Marquez joined us on the 7th.

All costs including travel were paid in cash immediately by the Mittlegs.

After introductory comments on the morning of the 6th outlining the purpose of the meeting; to engage in free dialogue on possible contributions to the survival of Kemp's ridley by Cayman Turtle Farms, discussion centered on the plight of Kemp's ridley, the scope of present attempts to save it (Galveston etc) and very general discussion on the advisability of producing hatchlings from a captive stock. Vigorous discussion ensued on the advisability of head starting with some people, notably Ross Witham, very emphatic about how successful it is. Most of the discussion was between the ~~some~~ turtle folks with Mittleg contributing nothing except an early statement about being 'interested'. General discussion about sea turtle biology followed.

After lunch we saw some slides of the ridley release program in Florida Keys and Jim Wood gave a concise

illustrated summary of Cayman Turtle Farms present and planned facilities and resources. Discussion in the afternoon covered practical aspects of what CTF might do, numbers of animals, preferred sizes, ~~or~~ how they would handle the animals etc and a lot of ~~contribution~~ discussion about the particular problems with keeping redlegs notably their aggressive nature. Wood seems to be an honest and committed guy who is seriously involved in raising turtles and gets a lot of satisfaction from doing it right. However his approach is very strongly an agricultural sort of Animal science orientation.

Next morning Rene Marquez joined the meeting and outlined a lot of bureaucratic problems in Mexico which would stand in the way of any project including the present Galveston project. It seems the Mexicans are pissed off about not getting lots of baby turtles from Galveston to release at Rancho Nuevo. They don't understand why  turtles have been released in Florida. There is also some backlash from the criticism of their Pacific operation.

The meeting bogged down around this point for most of the morning and apart from a general feeling that we must somehow brighten up the Mexicans to ensure their cooperation - no real progress.

Mittags were more active in discussion and had expressed a general willingness to turn over a

proportion of their planned new breeding pond (#3 planned for use in 1980, same size as the other two) to hold adult redleys and attempt breeding. Discussion with Wood earlier had determined that a small number of adults (12-24) would be preferable to hatchlings and wood felt he could solve problems of adaptation to captive conditions with minimal losses (10-12%).

~~after lunch Peter and Brongerma~~

Mittags asked for some clarification on where we were, specifically they wanted a) a request to take up the problem (from someone) and a clear entity with which to interact. Discussion revolved around creating a non profit corporation to administer and advise the project then CTF could offer its services to this corporation.

after lunch Peter and Brongerma produced the draft of a statement encapsulating this idea. We discussed and amended the draft most of the afternoon. The final document is enclosed.

As you can see Mittags isn't giving very much, they have 'ift, and' and 'batted' the thing to restrict their input and ~~com~~ place responsibility completely on the corporation. They stressed the idea that as many conservation organizations ~~as~~ as possible should be persuaded to endorse the idea and floated a suggestion that such organizations and perhaps NMFS could even fund the operation however this idea didn't get

into the final document. ~~But~~ Instead some rather vague wording about CTF 'arranging' finance for 1 year was put in at Mittag's request to allow them to 'arrange' the funding as a tax write off for part of their family finances. (Which of course are much larger than C.T.F.)

Anne and I refused to sign the document. Anne on the grounds that as Archie's proxy she couldn't sign without showing him the document. Over the phone Archie told Anne that he would not sign the document even though George Hughes called him urging him to do so.

My grounds were more complex. Early in discussion the idea that the project was not to be used for publicity was ~~clearly~~ generally agreed. Later however the concept was restricted to not using it unless it is a success. I put the wording into the amended document denying any promotional use, then I asked 'would Mittag use this document in court to fight Interior's ban of their products, after a lot of waffling the answer was [emphatically YES!] I quote Mr Mittag 'If you were to cut our head off ~~the~~ Yes yes we would use it' cut our head off in this context is follow through with Interior's ban on turtle products.

Mittags were very defensive about the suit against Dept Interior. They seem to have a lot of pride tied up in the operation and were blustering about international trade laws and reciprocal boycotts to overturn the US decision.

I should mention that I was considerably harassed about not signing the document and had to be quite forceful about saying that it was my final decision and was not going to change.

Some extra comments.

- 1) George Hughes is basically a good guy with rather similar attitudes to yourself about conservation. He professes a diplomatic ~~and~~ compromise approach to exploitation and I antagonized him a bit by my uncompromising opposition to commercial exploitation. Nevertheless he is definitely a good guy and perhaps it would be worth your while to write him for his views.
- 2) I am now firmly convinced of the market enhancement danger from ~~the~~ C.T.F. - They now have a new product, acrylic impregnated green turtle shell, which makes the otherwise useless shell strong and malleable. They plan a line of ashtrays, occasional tables, lamps etc made with this product, which is presently undergoing market acceptability testing. I asked a) Why use turtle shell? why not just make the whole damn thing out of patterned acrylic? (No satisfactory answer) b) When ^{CTF} ~~you~~ brightens the European consumer awareness of this product can it meet any substantial demand - [answer estimated full stream production for CTF is 12,000 turtles/year. i.e. cannot meet demand which

in Europe is about 80,000 equivalent hawksbill turtles / yr.
(75,726 Kg of worked shell in 1977, Traffic statistics).]

- (c) Given that CTF cannot meet the demand or any increase
i.e cannot displace any wild caught turtle product from
the market - why won't CTF's sales promotion cause
wild turtle product producers to increase their sales?

Mrs Mittags answer is revealing - [she claimed that
there is presently no import or consumption of turtle shell
in Germany! - She was unaware of the Traffic figures
of 22,000 kg imported directly in 1977 to Germany!]

She obviously neither knows or understands the situation.

My final feelings on the whole deal are this

- a) The project to captive breed a few redleys has minor
costs to all concerned (including the wild population) and
is worth trying
- b) The prospects for success are remote and untested because
of the uncertainties of captive breeding (it took over 10 years to
get the greens going) and uncertainties of hatchling release.
- c) Nevertheless the potential for success should the problems be solved
is ~~so~~ high and well worth the small cost.
- d) The value of a captive stock per se is negligible although some people
particularly Peter and John Hendrikson feel there is some value in it.
- e) The real cost in terms of giving CTF the legitimacy they need
to remain in business is a problem which, with the exception
(over)

of myself, so one at the meeting wanted to deal with.
The folks there all want to be seen doing something to 'save Kemps Redley' and will go ahead regardless of how unimportant the real effect on redleys is or how disastrous on other species indirectly.

Well there it is - a rather long chatty report not suitable for newsletter publication.

Love busy as hell, hence the longhard letter.
I leave for a month in Oman on May 5th and just heard that the Panama trip in June is cancelled leaving me one month poorer and one month fatter.

Turtle papers are progressing slowly. I'll send m.s.s when they are ready. all the best.

Perran.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107


25 April 1979

Dr. Pierre Hunkeler
World Wildlife Fund
IUCN
1110 Morges
Switzerland

Dear Dr. Hunkeler:

I have read the preliminary report on work on Mediterranean sea turtles done by Dr. Argano with WWF support. While Dr. Argano's actual contacts with turtles in the Mediterranean have been meagre, he has very wisely taken advantage of a careful systematic interview plan to piece out his understanding of the fauna. Interviews are not easy to use effectively, but Argano recognizes the pitfalls and his results provided considerable insight into a formerly very muddled situation. In any case I personally think I know more about the status of marine turtles in the Mediterranean than I did before. It seems to me that so far Dr. Argano has made good use of the support received.

Sincerely yours,


Archie Carr

Graduate Research Professor

cc: George Balazs
Sir Peter Scott

AC:ljw



Cetacean & Turtle Assessment Program
University of Rhode Island, Narragansett Bay Campus
Narragansett, RI 02882, Phone 401/792-6205, 6206

Turtle Watch
Dept. of Zoology
Univ. of Rhode Island
Kingston, R.I. 02881

Dear George,

I apologize for answering your Feb. letter so late. Unfortunately my past year has been disrupted by completion of my comprehensive exams and marriage. I have recently completed a manuscript and following departmental review will send it off to Ecology for hopeful publication. I have only been sitting on my data because of time, etc. In addition to my life style change and progress to my PhD., I have been spending considerable time on a recently acquired BLM contract and fly one week of every month in addition to designing sampling schemes.

When a preprint is available, I will most certainly send you one for your comments etc.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Nancy E. Bray'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Nancy E. Bray

Research Associate



NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

2 May 1979

Jane Fenton
The New Grounds
Slimbridge
Gloucester GL2 7BT

Dear Jane:

During the SSC meeting in Costa Rica a resolution was drawn up condemning the establishment of a commercial fishing station Tern Island at French Frigate Shoals, one of the units of the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge (see the enclosed correspondence). Has the resolution or a letter been sent either from Sir Peter or from Morges? If not, would it be possible to have a letter sent immediately to Brent Giezantner (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, P.O. Box 50167, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850).

Sincerely,


Wayne King

Enc.

cc: G. Balazs ✓
E. Baysinger



1110 MORGES, Switzerland

© IUCN (021) 71 44 01 - WWF (021) 71 96 11 - Cables: IUCN-Unicorn Morges - WWF-Panda Morges

b.c.c. Sir Peter Scott
Dr. Wayne King
Professor Mohammed Kassas

Licenciado
José López Portillo
Presidente
Estados Unidos Mexicanos
Los Pinos
México, D.F.
Mexico

Morges, 17 de Abril de 1979

Distinguido Señor Presidente,

La presente carta sirve el propósito de comunicar a Ud. la inquietud y la profunda preocupación de un numeroso grupo de personas de muchos países en relación con la destrucción de un importante recurso marino mexicano con altos valores estéticos y económicos; nos referimos a las diferentes especies de tortugas marinas.

La situación en México con respecto a la tortuga marina ha llegado a un punto tal de declinación que conducirá muy seguramente a la extinción de varias de las pocas especies de tortugas marinas que aún existen en el mundo.

La extinción es para siempre; con la tortuga marina se perdería además un recurso de valor económico que, como fuente de alimento y administrado racionalmente, puede proporcionar un rendimiento perpetuo.

En el caso de la tortuga marina solamente Ud. posee la autoridad necesaria para detener esta destrucción y establecer a México como ejemplo frente al mundo. Rogamos que considere Ud. nuestra petición, que hacemos no solamente en nombre de la ética biológica, sino también por el potencial económico a largo plazo que encierra este recurso.

Acompaña esta carta un apéndice de recomendaciones específicas derivadas de un consenso de biólogos y economistas peritos en la materia.

Sus respetuosos y seguros servidores,

David A. Munro,
Director General, IUCN

Charles de Haes,
Director General, WWF

IUCN

Provides the scientific and technical advice on joint projects based upon its network of contacts and experts in world conservation.

WWF

Provides financial support for such projects as a result of its education, publicity, and fund-raising campaigns.

APENDICE

Recomendaciones acerca de la protección de la tortuga marina en aguas del territorio mexicano.

1. Una veda total de la captura comercial de tortugas marinas en territorio mexicano.
2. Protección intensiva de las playas de desove, de acuerdo con las recomendaciones de los biólogos del Instituto Nacional de Pesca.
3. Reglamentación del desarrollo comercial en las playas de desove de las tortugas marinas.
4. Investigación intensiva de la dinámica de poblaciones para establecer un modelo de explotación económica a largo plazo.

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Uncorrected Translation of Letter to the President of Mexico from
Dr. David Munro dated 10 April 1979

Dear Mr. President,

This letter serves the purpose of informing you of the unease and deep concern of a numerous group of persons in many countries about the destruction of an important Mexican marine resource with high esthetic and economic value. I refer to the marine turtle in its different species.

The situation with respect to the marine turtle has reached a watershed that will lead very surely to the extinction of various of the few species of marine turtles in the world.

Extinction is forever; in the case of the marine turtle, a resource of economic and nutritional value is lost that, given some rational management, could provide a perpetual yield.

In the case of the marine turtles, only you possess the necessary authority to stop this destruction and set Mexico as an example before the world. We urge you to consider our plea, a plea that we make not only for the biological ethic, but also for the long range economic potential contained in this resource.

... I attach an appendix that lists recommendations for specific action that is derived from a consensus of the thinking of biologists and economists who are experts in the matter.

Attachment

10.4.79

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Recommendations for the Protection of the Sea Turtle in Mexican
Territorial Waters

1. A total moratorium in all the territory of Mexico on the commercial take of sea turtles.
2. Intensive protection of the nesting beaches in keeping with the recommendations of the biologists of the National Institutes of Fisheries.
3. Control of the commercial development of the nesting beach area.
4. Intensive research of population dynamics to establish a new model for long range economic exploitation of the sea turtle.

10.4.79

National
WILDLIFE

Editorial offices: 225 E. Michigan Milwaukee, Wis. 53202 Phone: 414/273-2486
Publications of the National Wildlife Federation

International
WILDLIFE

April 24, 1979

Dear George:

Thanks so much for sending me your latest reports. If we do an item on any of those discoveries, I'll--of course--let you know before hand. I finally dropped a note to Brent Geizentanner, mentioning that we have some interest in doing something on the refuge islands and asking what thoughts he has. It's possible that such a piece could be done without my visiting the islands, but who knows? Maybe something will work out. I'll keep you posted. In the meantime, please let me know if some other potential story ideas crop up. Thanks again for all your help.

Best wishes,



Mark Wexler



MINISTRY OF MINING

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT.

P.O. BOX 305

KINGSTON, 10

JAMAICA

PLEASE QUOTE

Reference No. 3/3/7

2nd April, 1979

George H. Balazs
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Balazs

Our Department is interested in obtaining a photocopy
or reprint of the following article:

Balazs, G.H. and E. Ross
Reared in captivity
In International Turtle
Tortoise Soc. J., 1973. v.7 (1),
p.33.

If you still have copies of this article, could you
please send us one on a complimentary basis or any other
article you may have on turtle culture with specific
reference to the green and Hawksbill Turtles.

Yours faithfully,

Marcia Thomas

MARCIA THOMAS
for Principal Director

MT/ks



NATIONAL PARKS
AND WILDLIFE
SERVICE

Our reference
Your reference

Office *Pallarenda*
Address *Townsville 4810*

Date *20 April 1979*

Telephone

Dear *George,*

Trust that all is well with you and your family. I still haven't heard if you are a father yet.

Enclosed are two reprints for your information. Under separate cover is a copy of the book "Exploration North" which should eventually reach you. Slowly I am writing up my data — the main work is still to come I know. Hope I don't end up like H.R.B.

Did you receive my notes re CITES change for Europe? I hope so. Was the Costa Rica meeting able to clarify issues like definition of "Australian green turtle". There has been one recent approach to export from ? PNG (I believe) to Aust. green turtle products on the basis that the harvested turtles were from Australian breeding populations. This was rejected by the Australian authority. There will be more applications to come I am sure

All the best.

bol.