

19

1982 HIMB

2 of 2

INCOMING
G.H. BALAZS LETTERS



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

POST OFFICE BOX 1306
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103

June 9, 1982

Dr. George Balazs
University of Hawaii at Manoa
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George,

Thanks for the continuing supply of information. We finally obtained the Mexican permit and Rancho Nuevo is underway. May have lost early nests, but won't really know until we see the bottom line and compare with last year's. We did have the largest arribada in at least 5 years. Counted over 300 crawls--it doesn't mean we have more turtles.

We don't see other regions' "strategy plans"--in fact I'm not sure what the document is that you referred to. Could it be part of a "regional resource plan?" Our "strategy plans" are a strictly law enforcement special plan--species and time specific. The plan for the Pacific Islands is something else--sounds more like a "white paper" identifying problems and proposing solutions for those aspects within FWS jurisdiction.

Our 5-year status review is relatively simple for this region since most of our species are clear cut. The only exceptions are the alligator in Texas and the Yuma clapper rail along the Arizona-California Colorado River. We are delisting the 'gator and downlisting the rail to threatened. We may also have a cactus that should be threatened rather than endangered; these we try to change as an ongoing part of the program. We don't have a situation comparable to the Islands and the sea turtles--some slight similarity with the 'gator but very slight indeed.

We will be supporting Cornelius in Costa Rica for another season and are working with WWF on the Mexican west coast project (black turtle--Cliffton; have problems with this one--not the needs of the species).

I've taken the liberty to alert my counterpart in the Portland RO of your concerns.

Keep the faith--

Acting Jack B. Woody
Assistant Regional Director
Federal Assistance & Fisheries

Commission du service de sauvegarde - Survival Service Commission
Comité des plantes menacées - Threatened Plants Committee
c/o Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AE

Drifts,
Chinnor Hill,
Oxford OX9 4BS,
England.

Dr George Balazo
Deputy Chairman: Marine Turtle Group

June 5, 1982

Dear George,

The Chairman, Gren Lucas, has asked me to edit a Newsletter for the Species Survival Commission, to go to all Chairmen and members of Specialist Groups, all SSC members and consultants. We hope that this will enable the Commission and its officers to keep in touch with members and keep them informed about activities and projects, and at the same time enable members to report developments and activities in their special fields. We hope to produce the Newsletter twice a year, the first issue to coincide with the Kuala Lumpur meeting in October this year.

So, of course, I want your news - about threats, developments, political changes, studies, censuses, anything that affects the wildlife and wild habitats with which your Group is concerned, and the results of any activities that you or your Group members have undertaken.

There is no need to send material in the form of articles - just the facts and necessary background and any relevant comments, typed (please!), in double spacing on one side of the paper only. Most languages can be translated.

For the first issue I would like the information by 20th July - earlier if you can do it. In particular, if you have your own Bulletin or Newsletter I would be glad to have a copy. Please send material to me at the above address. I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

John
(Fitter)

I have sent a copy of this letter to Archie & told him I have also written to you. I don't really expect to hear from him!



Sea Turtle
Rescue
Fund

June 9, 1982

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

Dear George:

Pamela has asked that I write to you regarding your suggestion that the Center produce sea turtle patches. I think it is a great idea; indeed, we have been thinking along somewhat similar lines for some time. I plan to see if we can fit this into our budget next year. If we do, I would like to use some of the artwork we have around here. What do you think of adapting the hawksbill poster for a patch? I have also thought of producing buttons. What would be more useful, in your estimation?

We are also contemplating having the first annual STRF awards presented next Spring. There would be four awards: one to an enforcement agent who had made an important arrest/conviction, one to one of the many field researchers/conservationists upon whom the recovery of sea turtle populations depend, one to someone who has made a unique contribution to international efforts, and one to the student who wins an essay contest we are planning for next year. This is all very preliminary, but I would like to do what we can to give recognition where it is due and to boost awareness of sea turtles.

Hoping all is well with you,

Sincerely,

Michael Weber
Marine Habitat Director

CABLE ADDRESS :

" SOUTH PACOM " NOUMEA

TELEPHONE : 26.20.00

TELEX : SOPACOM 139 NM

ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE :

" SOUTH PACOM " NOUMEA

TELEPHONE : 26.20.00

TELEX : SOPACOM 139 NM

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

POST BOX 05
NOUMEA CEDEX
NEW CALEDONIA



COMMISSION DU PACIFIQUE SUD

BOITE POSTALE 05
NOUMEA CEDEX
NOUVELLE-CALÉDONIE

In reply, please quote PRO 7/14

1st June 1982

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Mr G.H. Balazs,
P.O. Box 1346,
KANEOHE,
Hawaii 96744. USA.

Dear George,

Many thanks for the cuttings and the magnificent posters. Apologies for not replying sooner but I have only just returned from leave.

As you can see from the enclosed, I am trying to get more copies of the poster so that we can distribute them to fisheries officers in the region. Considering the quality it's amazing that these posters can be produced for nothing.

In April I visited Tokelau and Western Samoa. Saw Bill Travis in Apia, who is now operating his own commercial fishery operation, and who told me he had recently seen a leatherback off the coast of Upolu. As far as he knows this is the first one seen in Western Samoa. You could write to him for more details at box ~~1446~~, Apia.

1228

My apologies for the delay in bringing out the Fisheries Newsletter. As a matter of fact the present issue has been ready to go since early January, but has been delayed by factors entirely beyond my control, principally the fact that our publications typist has been fully occupied with higher priority work from other sections. However she has assured me it will be complete within two weeks and you should therefore certainly see your article in print within a month.

Regards,

Mark Gentle
Assistant Fisheries Officer

Encl.

CABLE ADDRESS :

" SOUTHPACOM " NOUMEA
TELEPHONE : 26.20.00
TELEX : SOPACOM 139 NM

ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE :

" SOUTHPACOM " NOUMEA
TELEPHONE : 26.20.00
TELEX : SOPACOM 139 NM

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

POST BOX D5
NOUMEA CEDEX
NEW CALEDONIA



COMMISSION DU PACIFIQUE SUD

BOITE POSTALE D5
NOUMEA CEDEX
NOUVELLE-CALÉDONIE

In reply, please quote **PRO 7/14**

1st June 1982

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Mr C.A. Oravetz,
NMFS Southeast Region,
9450 Koger Blvd.,
St Petersburg,
FLORIDA 33702,
United States of America.

Dear Mr Oravetz,

We recently received from Mr George Balazs of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Hawaii, two copies of a magnificent coloured poster entitled "Sea turtles of the world". I understand from the "Marine Turtle Newsletter" that you are distributing these posters free of charge. I feel sure that this poster would be of considerable interest to fisheries personnel in the Pacific Islands, and I should therefore like to request an additional fifty copies so that we can distribute copies to all the fisheries departments in the region.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Gentle
Assistant Fisheries Officer

c.c. to Mr George Balazs
Box 1346,
KANEHOHE,
Hawaii 96744. USA.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-382-1107

May 26, 1982

Sr. Carlos H. Cortes
Director General
Dirección General de Recursos Naturales
Renovables
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Estimado señor:

I only belatedly learned of Resolución No. 040 of the Dirección General de Recursos Naturales Renovables, prohibiting the possession and commercialization of turtle eggs in Honduras. I am writing to congratulate you for imposing this important and far-sighted control, which I believe will serve as a useful model for similar action in other countries of the Americas.

I first saw the turtle egg trade in operation in the Gulf of Fonseca when I visited Isla de Ratones many years ago. Since then the golfinas, which has always borne the brunt of the traffic on the Pacific Coast, has become seriously depleted, and is now threatened with further, wholly irrational, exploitation for the leather trade. Protective measures are everywhere needed, and your constructive legislation will be a source of gratification to the numerous people who are concerned over the precarious outlook of this persecuted species.

When relations between Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador become less unrestful, I hope that a tripartite agreement for the protection of all marine turtles in the Gulf of Fonseca can be arranged. If the Marine Turtle Specialist Group can be of any service in helping to generate such a move I hope you will let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Archie Carr
Chairman
Marine Turtle Specialist Group,
International Union for Conservation
of Nature

AC/lw

SINCE NINETEEN HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

May 18, 1982

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

Dear Archie:

Sorry I didn't make the Native Plant Society meeting - there was just too much on the weekend.

When I saw you the other day I forgot to offer some response to your letter of March 17 about a Turtle Group meeting. I think it is indeed important that we meet some time in the next few months, and agree that we should meet outside the US this time. I understand the thinking regarding a meeting in Bali and this may have merit, though I am not entirely convinced that the Group meeting in Bali would necessarily break the logjam regarding the Sulu Sea Sanctuary.

Other avenues that might be attractive, for different reasons, would include:

- i) Australia - mainly because the chance of seeing some of these very important nesting beaches (including Chelonia depressa) might encourage members to make a special effort to attend; and it would not be too far for the Asiatic folks to travel.
- ii) Malaysia - because I regard it as absolutely essential that every effort be made to increase the numbers of eggs of both Trengganu Leatherbacks and Talang Island Green Turtles that are set aside for incubation.

Wayne King's suggestion that people should set aside money in a personal savings account to attend the group meeting is somewhat insensitive, especially since his own attendance at international meetings is met by IUCN. Travel funding will clearly be a problem for many (including myself). I suspect that things will be somewhat easier if we receive the maximum possible notice of the meeting, and also hope it will be possible for the WWF National

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

221 Lake Sybilis Drive • P. O. Drawer 7 • Maitland, Florida 32751
1101 Audubon Way (305) 647-2615

Appeals of the various countries in which members reside to consider making at least some contribution towards travel costs.

Agenda items for the Meeting should definitely include:

- i) A discussion of turtle conservation problems in the area where the meeting takes place, and ways in which the Group can assist in solving them.
- ii) A discussion of the accuracy of the present status categories for the various species of sea turtle, and the criteria that should be used.
- iii) A discussion of the Marine Turtle Newsletter.
- iv) A discussion of the international incidental catch problem, with trawls, pound nets, oceanic driftnets, etc., available technology for reducing this catch, and political means of getting this technology utilized.

All best regards,

Peter C. H. Pritchard

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

cc: George Balazs

Signed in his absence
to avoid delay

PCHP/rmp

Secretariat Particulier

DE

S. A. S. LE PRINCE DE MONACO

Palace of Monaco
May 7th, 1982

Dear Miss Meylan:


H. S. H. The Prince of Monaco has commanded me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 15th, 1982 and to express His sincere thanks to Dr. Archie Carr for sending Him a coloured poster of sea turtles of the world.

Additional drawings and photos have also been received from Mr. George Balazs to whom His Serene Highness also wishes to express His appreciation.

In due course, I shall send you a copy of the stamps that might be made of sea turtles, though I have no idea at this writing as to when they will be completed.

Attached is a packet of stamps from this Country for your personal use.

Sincerely,


(Mr.) J.F. Diter

Private Secretary to H.S.H. The Prince of Monaco

Miss Anne Meylan
Agenda Officer, IUCN Marine
Turtle Specialist Group
University of Florida
Gainesville, 32611
United States of America



Mr. Thomas M. Murphy
Poco Sabo Plantation
Green Pond, SC 29446



*South Carolina
Wildlife & Marine
Resources Department*

James A. Timmerman, Jr. Ph.D.
Executive Director
Victor G. Burrell, Jr., Ph.D.
Director of
Marine Resources Research Institute

April 26, 1982

Dear George,

I trust that you have already received a copy of the Study Completion Report on Marine Turtle Telemetry from Sally. I just thought that a letter of explanation was due you concerning the delay in responding to your letter. At the time of receipt of your letter the report was written and destined for typing so I deferred response. Since that time the report was incidentally caught in many administrative nets and delay was compounded by delay. At any rate I enclose a second copy and hope that you find the information useful, if not on time.

*Respectfully
Tom Murphy*

NATAL PARKS, GAME AND FISH PRESERVATION BOARD



RESERVATIONS ONLY } 53841
SLEGS BESPKEKINGS }

TELEPHONES }
TELEPHONE } 51221/8

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS } "FAUNA"
TELEGRAMADRES }

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
NED ASSEBLIEF
ONS VERWYSINGSNOMMER

12 May 1982

Mr G.H. Balazs
U.S. Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Laboratory
P.O. Box 3830
HONOLULU
HAWAII 96812

Dear George,

Many thanks indeed for the splendid poster of sea turtles. I am delighted to receive it. Would it be possible to send me another one or should I send direct to the source?

Yours sincerely,

George
DR G.R. HUGHES

GRH/lcb

P.S. Thank for the article a kumien which arrived this a.m.

PER LUGPOS
BY AIRMAIL
PAR AVION



**AÉROGRAM
AEROGRAM**

**AAN
TO**

MR G.H. BALAZS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

LABORATORY

P.O. BOX 3830

HONOLULU

HAWAII 96812

0.05
RECEIVED
SOUTH AFRICA
POST OFFICE
PIETERMARITZBURG



TWEEDE VOU—SECOND FOLD

**NAAM EN ADRES VAN AFSENDER
SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS**

NATAL PARKS, GAME AND FISH PRESERVATION BOARD

RAAD VIR DIE BEWARING VAN NATALSE PARKE, WILD EN I

P.O. BOX/POSBUS 662

PIETERMARITZBURG

SOUTH AFRICA

3200

**INSLUITINGS WORD NIE TOEGELAAT NIE
ENCLOSURES ARE NOT PERMITTED**

VERSEËL EERS DIE TWEE SYKLAPPE, DAN HIERDIE EEN—SEAL THE TWO SIDE FLAPS FIRST, THEN THIS ONE

SNY HIERDIE KLAP EERSTE OOP

TO OPEN, CUT THIS FLAP FIRST

EERSTE VOU—FIRST FOLD

University of Toronto

TORONTO, CANADA

M5S 1A1

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

22 May 82

Dear George,

Please could you let me know the date of the 'Unesco Features' article you sent me by Betty Wenthor (I wonder who she is)? Thanks.

Enclosed are a couple of p.c.s from the Guianas for your collection —

Best wishes,

Vidwala

23 May 82

Dear George,

I tried to get a letter off to you before my trip to the Windwards, with no success. Hope you've been getting the news items / ^{4 copies of} correspondence I've been sending.

Well, as you will see by the enclosed letter, Brian Groombridge seems to be dropping the ball with us. If I don't hear ^{immediately} from him, I'll circulate the ^{draft} ~~an~~ to all members and solicit comments. I wish he could follow the same game plan twice in a row. I'm sure we'll be hit any day now with the green turtle + loggerhead accounts.

I sent out 2nd letters of inquiry, as you suggested, to the Group members who haven't responded. You should have received ^{a copy of} the letter from Bhaskar, indicating his activities. Since the letters went out, I saw Sylvia Sprung's ^(copy) letter to you, and one to Dr. Carr. ~~What~~ Where does that leave her, with respect to membership? That's really a shame that her program folded.

No, the Fiji tag was not returned. The only other Pacific tags from here that I know of ^(Gainesville) went to Micronesia.

We did receive the Sumatran proposal, and it has been sitting on Dr. Carr's desk for weeks. I think he's about to do it. I found it to be a pretty good proposal, with a reasonable objective + budget.

The authors don't sound like they have much background for turtle work, but I think they'll pick this up quickly. What did you think?

Please give us comments on the logger-head papers when you get a chance.

I would really appreciate the hawkbill jewelry/curio slide, if it's not too big a hassle. I'm supposed to write an article with David Mack of Traffic, U.S.A. for Island Naturalist on the tortoise shell trade in the Caribbean. I can certainly use some material for that.

We had a big meeting with Fred Berry before I left. He wanted suggestions as to who ~~to~~ could revise the Conservation Manual before it gets reprinted. He is not satisfied with the current version. We recommended that he ask you. Hope you don't mind. We thought you might want to. Have you heard from him?

I had a good trip to the islands. People in Dominica & St. Lucia were surprisingly gung-ho on turtle conservation. I met with a lot of govt types -- fisheries offices, nat'l park people, etc. -- and they were really open minded and interested. We got several good things under way.

Well, have to run. Hope all is well w/ you.

Hasta la proxima,
Anne

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-382-1107

May 21, 1982

Dr. Brian Groombridge
IUCN
Species Conservation Monitoring Unit
219(c) Huntingdon Road
Cambridge CB3 0DL
United Kingdom

Dear Brian:

I have just returned from a week-long trip outside the U.S. and was surprised not to have a letter from you upon my arrival here. Did you get my postcard? We are still waiting to hear from you as to which members of the Marine Turtle Group you have contacted for review of the ridley drafts. We would, as usual, like to make recommendations, and to send out copies of the draft for the general information of our group members. We feel this is a vital function of our group.

Please let me hear from you soon so that we can meet your deadlines.

Best regards,

Anne Meylan
Agenda Officer, IUCN Marine Turtle
Specialist Group

AM/lw

University of Toronto

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

RAMSAY WRIGHT ZOOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
25 HARBOR STREET
TORONTO M5S 1A1, ONTARIO, CANADA

April 23, 1982

Mr. G.H. Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service (142)
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812
U.S.A.

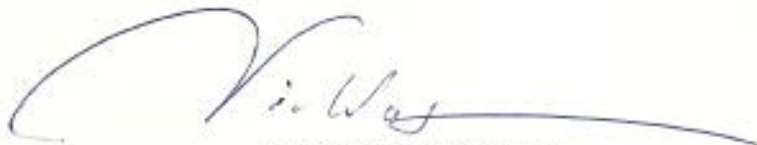
Dear Mr. Balazs, *George*

Yes, I did know that the draft version of the RDB revisions has Dermochelys as vulnerable. Although I personally did not have anything to do with this decision (I just sent in a few misc comments on an earlier draft to Groombridge), I did not think it a particularly wrong decision, so did nothing further.

As to who should make these decisions, I have no idea. I assumed Archie and you were involved with the red data book revisions. When I was co-chairman of the group I struggled with this, and could never get any support from IUCN. They just wanted revisions on complex issues done in a few weeks. Now at least they have a whole unit working on it, and they sent the drafts round to people for comment. I am quite surprised by what seems to be the implication of your letter that they didn't send drafts to you and Archie, and indeed to all group members. But then IUCN works in a mysterious way.

Australia is too far away to get too. And please don't let us have the meeting in term, and people must be given enough time to raise money. They need at least a year's notice. I have written along these lines to Archie.

Yours



Nicholas Mrosovsky

NM/jr

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

Dorothy H. and Lewis Rosenstiel
SCHOOL OF MARINE AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE

LUTCavage / BLR
4600 RICKENBACKER CAUSEWAY
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33149
(305) 350-7211
Cable: UOFMIAMI

George H Balazs
NMFS
SW Fisheries Center
PO Box 3830
Honolulu Hawaii 96812

28 March 1982

Dear George:

I'd send you a copy of my thesis but it is rather large - you might prefer to request a micro fiche through VIMS Library - I believe they'll send them for \$2.75.

do Janice Meadows, Librarian
VA Inst. of Marine Science
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

Right now I'm trying to consolidate the thesis & 1981 data into a workable manuscript - slow going when starting a new subject (physiology of turtles) area at the same time.

Regards,

Molly Lutcavage
Graduate associate, RSMA S

Title: The STATUS
OF MARINE TURTLES
IN CHESAPEAKE BAY
AND VIRGINIA COASTAL
WATERS
by
MARYELLEN LUTCAGAVE

An Equal Opportunity Employer

A private, independent, international university

1981

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY

The Agassiz Museum



HARVARD UNIVERSITY · CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 · TEL. 617 495-2466

11 May 1982

Dr. Brian Groombridge
Conservation Monitoring Centre
219(c) Huntingdon Road
Cambridge CB3 0DL
U.K.

Dear Brian:

Have you received the enclosed notes on the hawksbill draft? I found the hand written draft recently and at the risk of duplication I am sending it again. I shall get to the L. olivacea draft as soon as possible but will be unable to send it much before ~~June 10th~~ due to commitments to field work.

→ Thank you for your calm and sensible response to the Dermochelys relisting issue. It is very gratifying to find the debate being conducted in a sensible way by all concerned and I think the prospects for an amiable resolution are promising. I think you should get some input from International Whaling Commission on the difficulties inherent in different status for 'stocks' of the same species. They have had a lot of experience in this--perhaps Ray Gambel is worth contacting. On the Dermochelys issue I believe there are sufficient reasons for caution to argue against changing the Endangered status. I covered these in my March 16 letter to Archie but will briefly repeat.

- 1) Our major task is the conservation of species. We are not bookkeepers of diversity or arbiters of status but defenders of a disappearing natural diversity of organisms. That must remain our primary motivation.
- 2) Changes of status should require a careful evaluation of data before action. I repeat that while the current estimates of Dermochelys may be correct they remain unsubstantiated by data, published or otherwise. Should I wish to claim that there are seven (7) Dermochelys in Mexico that estimate has almost equal validity to other statements that there are thousands or tens of thousands. I would like to believe that the larger estimates are more correct but until real data are supplied I remain in reasonable doubt and so should you!
- 3) Concurrently with population estimates we need evaluation of the magnitude of human predation. Again I remain in objective doubt--we need data--and on the basis of such data will be able to make reasonable statements about the status of Dermochelys.

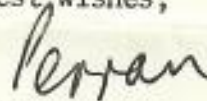
We must also recall that because of the protracted life spans of sea turtles the mistakes we make now may not show for many years. This single fact provides abundant justification for not applying equal criteria to all species. The

Dr. Brian Groombridge
11 May 1982
Page 2

inconvenience of retaining the present Endangered status is negligible. The conceivable effect of acting prematurely is disastrous.

I will continue to urge caution in this matter but I feel the issue has been well aired and I will abide by whatever consensus emerges from this important discussion.

Best wishes,



Perran Ross

JPR:cc

Enclosure

cc: A. Carr
W. King
G. Balazs
P. Prichard

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY
The Agassiz Museum

* Need Animal Kingdom article at HIMB

HARVARD UNIVERSITY · CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 · TEL. 617 495-2466

11 May 1982.

Dear George,

I arrived home from a field trip to the Bahamas to find a great raft of stuff from you (great stuff - kept coming) and I will try to comment on each issue.

1) - and most important - Don't worry I keep all of my sources including you, confidential unless I have specific permission to the contrary. I don't (and shan't) re-copy any of the material you send and will always protect you should issues arise over - "who the hell told you about - - - -"

I understand these matters are particularly sensitive within government circles where your privileged position makes you an invaluable source of info.

2) Thanks for the poster.

Brian Lycombbridge sent a reasonable and balanced reply to my critique - He has not backed down any but has suggested a composite listing (Endangered/Vulnerable) recognising the genetic isolation of different stocks. This is not a real good solution - The IWC experience with whale stocks demonstrates this. I will reply stressing my two main points:-

- * 1) There is still no good data published or otherwise supporting the currently expanded popn estimates for Demodulys.
- * 2) Any population suffering 79% - 100% reproductive mortality, due to recent human activity is prima-facie endangered.

(over)

geul roes letter

Archie has replied to Brian on May 3 - supporting the conservative position (did you send me that?).

Peter in his April 26th letter prevaricates his way into a negative position (again) although his final points of the need for special action rather than general legislation are well taken.

Nevertheless I feel the whole debate has been at a pleasingly elevated non-acrimonious level, a nice change for the turtle group, and I feel sure that properly ^{pursued} pursued we can maintain present listings.

- 4) I replied to A/C's call for a fall meeting in Antipodes positively saying a) it was timely and politically appropriate, b) I could finance my own way there as part of an overdue visit home.
- 5) I've dropped the Tuhl thing ~~although~~ ^{DO IT} I got to meet with Dick Roe recently and so might just drop him a line about it.
- 6) The SSC review of proposals issue is new to me but is long overdue. Your comments sound about right - minimise the bullshit but keep everyone informed - I suspect they have a rule preventing such directness at Island (!)

Keep the good stuff coming.

Regards
Pawan

MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION

University of Petroleum & Minerals

DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA

21 February 1982



وزارة التعليم العالي
جامعة البترول والمعادن

الظهران - المملكة العربية السعودية

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

Dear Dr. Balasz,

Dr. Cuddeback of ARAMCO has passed your letter of 14 January on to me. I am, for better or worse, the principal author of "Biotopes of the western Arabian Gulf" and the person who has worked on sea turtles here. During my stay with ARAMCO we tagged a modest number of Green Turtles (64 at Karan, if I remember correctly, and a smaller number at Jana). Unfortunately, it was impossible to obtain tags inscribed in Arabic, and also to operate a reward scheme. ARAMCO were unwilling to allocate money without knowing exactly how many tags would be returned. We never obtained any "external" returns, though we did gather a small amount of re-nesting data including one female, tagged during body-pit excavation, who returned to the sea and was re-recorded, barely four hours later, just completing a nest on the opposite side of the island!

During 1973 I and several college students operated a nightly turtle census on Jana Island during most of the breeding season. Unfortunately tagging materials arrived in the field too late to be used during this operation. The daily nest count did, however, give us an approximate idea of the number of females using Jana. The relationship between this number and the number of body pits, visible on aerial photographs, allowed us to make very rough estimates of the numbers of females using the other islands. The total, arrived at in this very crude way, was about 3,000 females per season for the six Saudi Arabian coral islands. Karan is by far the most important nesting site, followed by Jana and Jurayd in that order. There was also a certain amount of nesting on mainland beaches; but this has probably now been seriously curtailed, if not altogether eliminated, by the siting of industrial plants and other developments all along the shore line.

The coral islands are also threatened. ARAMCO periodically unshelves plans for putting a major oil storage and processing facility on Jana, and there are rumors of a Coast Guard base planned for Jurayd. I am trying to generate interest for a marine park or nature reserve including Karan, Kurayn, Jana and Jurayd islands. Needless to say I would welcome IUCN support in this effort.

21 February 1982

I should mention that the estimates given above apply to Green Turtles only. The same beaches are also used by Hawksbill Turtles, although I have no good estimate for their numbers. Their shallow body pits do not show up well on aerial photographs, and we arrived on Jana in 1973 in July, which is well past the peak of their nesting season. They seem to begin and to end about two months earlier than the Green Turtles. Their population is, I should think, certainly smaller than that of the Green Turtles; at a wild guess, one fourth the size. Karan is probably their main breeding site; but even that is a guess at present.

The text of the "Biotopes" book had to be watered down in several places to make it acceptable to ARAMCO; in point of fact the environmental situation here is disastrous, especially in respect of the coastal wetlands and shallow subtidal habitats. The scale of dredging and landfill operations is, I am sure, unequalled in the world. Most of the important mangrove stands are already gone, and unless something drastic happens there will soon be no more tidal flats and very few grass beds. This is bound to affect the trophic base of the turtles, and of many other species as well. The local fishing company has just ordered four large, new shrimp trawlers; I cannot imagine what they will find to catch with them! The shrimp stocks are already seriously overfished and their nursery grounds are disappearing apace.

There is at the moment a two-man IUCN team here, surveying the Gulf coastline with a view to making recommendations to the Saudi Arabian environmental protection agency. Their recommendations will necessarily be more or less the same as mine; but perhaps coming from IUCN they may get more attention. I will be providing them with some details of the marine park proposal already mentioned.

I have also submitted, to the environmental protection agency here, a paper on the conservation of critical habitats. These I have identified for our area as coastal wetlands, grass beds and coral reefs with their associated islands. The paper contains urgent recommendations for interim management actions (a ban on dredging and land filling, and on development of the islands or their reefs) as well as proposals for a series of research projects designed to evaluate the status, productivity, nutrient budget etc. of these biotopes. I have very wide interests in biology, but my own research is focussed at the moment on the taxonomy and ecology of reef corals. Consequently I am hoping to get some funding for a research program centered around Karan, Jana and Jurayd islands. Part of this program would include studies of the turtle populations. Tagging work would form an important part of the studies.

The greatest danger to our turtle populations, apart from the siting of industrial or military installations on the islands, is from hordes of Korean or Filipino contract laborers, whose companies might see fit

21 February 1982

to transport them to one of the coral islands for a week-end's "recreation" which would undoubtedly include the capture and ingestion of every animal living on the island at the time. Several such trips have already taken place, but I have not yet had an opportunity to get into the field to evaluate their results. My somewhat hazy sources suggest that there has been some intensive spearfishing, and a little commercial-scale coral collecting, but that so far the turtles have not been seriously molested.

Can you suggest where the dried and lacquered turtles are coming from, which are offered for sale in the local curio shops? These are mostly Hawksbill Turtles, 20-50 cm in carapace length, and the total number in the various shops must run into hundreds. They are associated with various Oriental objects and seem to be imported from Singapore, or possible also from India. There are also dried monitor lizards, dried crocodiles, and vast numbers of the dried feet of these animals (sold as key-chain ornaments) as well as dried hatchling Pseudemys spp from North America. I can't personally imagine how anyone could stand to have such a gruesome relic in the house; but they seem to find a lively sale.

I left ARAMCO in 1977 and returned to Arabia to my present position, at the Research Institute of the University of Petroleum and Minerals, only about ten months ago. Consequently I am rather out of touch with recent turtle work and with the activities of the IUCN Marine Turtle Group, and would be grateful if you could bring me up to date.

This has become a longer letter than I anticipated; but perhaps it has given you a summary idea of the present situation. I would like to get some more turtle work launched, provided only that I can obtain funding for it. It would be nice, at least, to establish the main population parameters of the Gulf turtles on a more solid foundation than the extremely crude work I have done so far.

I hope this helps; and will be happy to correspond further if you wish. Please note my address, as it differs slightly from that given on the letterhead:

Dr. John E. Burchard
U. P. M. Box 1903
University of Petroleum and Minerals
Box 144, Dhahran International Airport
Saudi Arabia

Telex: 601913 UPMRI SJ
Telephone: (03) 8603223 (my office)
8603228 (the Divisional secretary)
39

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,


Dr. John E. Burchard

George:

I'm sending the recent Mendonca and Ehrhart paper and some miscellaneous other things. I'll be sending some others shortly. I hope things are going well for you. We'll be working on nesting adults on the beaches and on juveniles in the Indian River this summer thanks to some support from WWF. Our focus is shifting away from the Space Center in north Brevard County to the south end of the county (around Sebastian Inlet) where there really are some turtles. I guess you heard about Colin Limpus' big year for green turtles. Incredible numbers. Hope to see you in these parts one of these days. Keep in touch.

Cordially,

Lew Ehrhart

MICRONESIAN MARITIME AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX D, KOLONIA, PONAPE
EASTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS, 96941

May 24, 1982

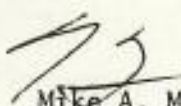
Dr. Brian Groombridge
IUCN Species Conservation Monitoring Unit
219 (c) Huntingdon Road
Cambridge CB3 0DL,
United Kingdom

Dear Dr. Groombridge:

Dr. Archie Carr, Chairman of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group, has forwarded me a preliminary draft of the IUCN Red Data Book Account of Eretmochelys imbricata. The summary is excellent, however I would like to suggest that a geographical summary of the Caroline Islands (in addition to the one for Palau) be included. Information should be available in some of the references listed, particularly those by Dr. Pritchard. Even a short listing would be helpful because I can see this work being used to pass on information to lawmakers, local chiefs, politicians, and others in policy-making roles. The short concise nature of the Red Data Book Account, along with the IUCN backing, makes it ideal for situations when quick references are requested on specific species.

While I realize that all areas of the world cannot be necessarily included in the account, the inclusion of our area, either designated geographically or politically (as the Trust Territory of Pacific Islands, or more correctly as the Federated States of Micronesia), would enhance its use here.

Sincerely,


Mike A. McCoy
Executive Director, MMA

cc: Dr. Archie Carr, Chairman of Marine Turtle Specialist Group
George Balazs, NMFS ✓

u

returned
5-11-82

May 4, 1982

Sheetkey
% Research Scientist
Hawaii Volcanoes Nat. Park, HI
96718

Dear George,

This is pretty close to what I will be submitting to Elepaio. So at this time I would like to have some comments from you if you would be so kind.

I'll also be presenting something along this line at the Conference at Hawaii Volcanoes on Research in the Natural Sciences. I have some slides of turtles & the general area but not that many. Is it possible to ask you for some? I would pay either duplicating cost or certified mail costs ~~or~~ or any other expenses to use them. I would also give you credit in my talk for the photo. I don't know if this is kosher or not to ask you, but if you say no at least I know what you would say!! What I need specifically is a picture showing the difference between male & female turtles, maybe one showing a turtle w/ sand on it & maybe one of a subadult (to illustrate

the different "age classes" that I refer to),
and maybe one of a nest? Anything
would be help. If not, no problem.

I got a job w/ RCUH at Volcanoes
and started May 3 & had this done but
time became very scarce before I left.
I wanted to drop this off personally but.....

Thank you for your
assistance.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sheeky
c/o Research Scientist
Hawaii Volcanoes Nat. Park, HI
96718
ph. 967-7367

P.S. I lost my original in the move &
this is a copy of my carbon & some
gobbled typing!

South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Dept.
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 13, 1982

TO: George

FROM: Sally Hopkins

SUBJECT: St. Simon turtle workshop

Enclosed is a copy of the summary + list of attendees at this conference on April 1 in Georgia. You were sorely needed at the meeting when tags were discussed. This workshop will be held again next year here in Charleston. Save your pennies and try to come. I'll send information as the time approaches.

Best regards,

P.S. You should receive Rec. Plan in about 2 weeks.

Sally.

SIGNED

Telex No. 214 GOVT. AV
Telephone No. GT 311/327



OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR,
ASCENSION ISLAND,
SOUTH ATLANTIC.

Ref: 11B9

5 May, 1982.

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

Dear Mr. Balazs,

Thank you for your letter of 21 April. It was kind of you to write and I am grateful to you for your continuing interest in our turtles.

But I fear that a stamp issue to feature them will not be possible until 1986 at the earliest. However attractive a turtle theme may be, the fact is that we will not issue more than four designs in any one year unless an event of considerable importance occurs such as the Royal Wedding in July 1981. Our programme, including a new definitive issue for 1985-86, is decided for the next three years.

But it will be my successor who will consider a turtle issue and you may care to write to him in late 1983.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Bernard Pouncefort

(B.E. PAUNCFORT)
Administrator

V.V. Zdanovich
Department of Ichthyology
Faculty of Biology
Moscow State University
Moscow, V-234
USSR, 117234

sent
6/82

Dear Dr. Balazs G.H.

I would greatly appreciate your sending
me the following paper if you have copies
available for distribution:

A review of shark attacks in the
Hawaiian Islands

"Blepaio", 1981, 41, N10, 97-106;

Thank you.

Sincerely,

B. Spang

11.05.82

April 2, 1982

Michael Bean, Esquire
Environmental Defense Fund
1525 18th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mike,

I am enclosing some tables on the sea turtle product trade. I hope these will help you determine how effective the Cayman Turtle Farm has been on reducing trade in wild sea turtle products.

The captive bred CTF green turtles are killed and commercially traded mainly for shell, meat, and skins. In general, wild olive ridley sea turtles are most desired for their skins, hawksbill sea turtles for shell, and green turtles for meat. I summarize the worldwide trade in each product below.

Tortoiseshell

The following Southeast Asian countries list tortoiseshell imports/exports in their published government statistics: Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, People's Republic of China, South Korea, Taiwan, and Indonesia. In our 1979 Sea Turtle Trade report we showed that Asian countries consumed most tortoiseshell worldwide. Japan is the only one of the above countries that lists imports of tortoiseshell from the Cayman Islands (which I assume comes from CTF).

Japan Imports of Tortoiseshell (in kg)

<u>Year</u>	<u>CTF</u>	<u>(% of Total)</u>	<u>Total</u>
1974	1,031	2.1%	48,188
1975	1,083	2.9%	37,261
1976	4,002	8.7%	46,060
1977	3,863	8.4%	45,818
1978	7,500	17.0%	44,039
1979	7,687	10.9%	70,846
1980	3,040	7.8%	38,809
1981 (Jan - Sept)	2,834	18.7%	15,137

(Japan became a member of CITES on November 4, 1980 with reservations taken on hawksbill, green, and olive ridley sea turtles. The 1979 increase in total tortoiseshell imports is probably due to stockpiling in anticipation of joining CITES.)

Turtle Skins and Leather

Japan was the only country listing import or exports of turtle skin or leather in their published government statistics.

Japan Imports of Turtle Skin and Leather (in kg):

<u>Year</u>	<u>CTF</u>	<u>(% of Total)</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Skin</u>			
1976	0	0%	104,606
1977	36	.05%	77,244
1978	23,514	24.9%	94,445
1979	14,336	8.5%	169,088
1980	14,778	27.6%	53,542
1981 (Jan-Sept)	6,687	32.2%	20,757
<u>Leather</u>			
1976	0	0	11,371
1977	0	0	7,008
1978	0	0	11,803
1979	0	0	23,874
1980	0	0	12,047
1981 (Jan-Sept)	0	0	9,353

Turtle Meat

Published government trade statistics do not list turtle meat; however, I have enclosed pages from CITES annual reports from countries that list sea turtle imports. Only West Germany and the United Kingdom record imports of CTF turtle meat. France, Italy, and Hong Kong do not list CTF as the origin of any sea turtle products they import.

In summary, only Japan, West Germany, and the United Kingdom appear to import sea turtle products from the Cayman Turtle Farm.

Let me know if you need any further information.

Yours sincerely,

David Mack
Assistant Director

Dear George:

Through a series
of delays on the part
of the Southern Calif
Academy of Sciences
the Baja nesting paper
is not yet published.

It will be out by
Sept. 1982.

I will make sure you
get a copy when it
is out.

Tom



United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Denver Wildlife Research Center
Tulane University Museum of Natural History
Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037

10 December 1981

Dr. George Balazs
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Honolulu Laboratory
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear George:

The paper on nesting of sea turtles in Baja California is still in press at the Southern California Academy of Sciences, Bulletin. I am told that it should be out in the next issue. I'll try to make sure you get a reprint when it comes out.

I hope that the NMFS funding cuts are still letting you get some work done. Lets keep trying to learn something for the government whether they appreciate it or not.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Fritts

THF:jr

14 May 1982

Tom - did this come out yet? I'm anxious to see it, so hope you don't forget to send me a reprint.
Aloha, George

National
WILDLIFE

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

International
WILDLIFE

May 14, 1982

Dear Linda & George,

Thanks again for all of your hospitality.
Wish I could have stayed longer--at least
it's hot and sunny here in Milwaukee for
a change.

George, I'll be in touch soon regarding the
article and photos. I really appreciate
all of your help on this project--and your
getting me out to Tern. Here's your National
Geo back, and the latest issues of NW
and Ranger Rick.

Take care,



Mark Wexler

COPY
TO ED



Republic of the Philippines

**MINISTRY OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

TASK FORCE PAWIKAN

April 29, 1982

Dr. Archie F. Carr, Jr.
Department of Zoology
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Dear Sir:

The Task Force Pawikan kindly requests your assistance in the form of suggestions, ideas or reading materials concerning the study and conservation of marine turtles.

The Task Force Pawikan was created in 1979 to initiate and to coordinate a multi-sectoral program to save the diminishing populations of marine turtles in the Philippines. In the first years of its existence, various problems and constraints have limited its output to a report on the general distribution of marine turtles throughout the archipelago and a preliminary survey of the Philippine Turtle Islands. The formulation and implementation of a comprehensive conservation program has still a long way to go.

We would greatly appreciate any form of assistance which you can extend.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

Cesar Z. Luna
Cesar Z. Luna
Biologist
Task Force Pawikan

Republic of the Philippines
Ministry of Natural Resources

Cesar Z. Luna
TASK FORCE PAWIKAN
Parks And Wildlife Nature Center
Quezon Blvd. Ext., Diliman
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Philippines

George

Anne

What we do for Luna?

SPECIAL AIR MAIL
DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA

Dr. Archie F. Carr, Jr.
Department of Zoology
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611
U.S.A.



235-6508
Dudley

National
WILDLIFE

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

International
WILDLIFE

April 22, 1982

Dear George:

I'll be arriving about mid-afternoon on Saturday, and I'll try giving you a call after I get settled. The magazine's travel agent booked me into the infamous Waikiki Outrigger Hotel, right in the "thick" of things. I'm not sure I'll need an ocean front room during my stay, but I'll at least keep the room for the first few nights. I'll probably also rent a car after I get situated. We can work out when to get together once I arrive.

I'm looking forward to meeting you, and to seeing a small piece of the Leewards. In case you haven't already seen it, here is the latest issue of NW.

Take care,

Mark Wexler

714 Riverside
Santa Cruz
CA - 95060

TRAFFIC (U.S.A.)

1601 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009
Cable: PANDAFUND
Telex: 64505 Telephone: (202) 797-7901



WORLD WILDLIFE FUND-U.S.

May 5

Dear George,

Sorry it's taken me so long to write.

We've pushed the Sea Turtle Trade update back for the moment as I'm swamped with a primate trade report and new CITES listings for the next meeting of the parties.

I hope to get back to it in early July, and actually have a fairly lengthy update for distribution at the next CITES meeting. There are no doubts in my mind that as far as any CITES Appendix I species, sea turtle products are being traded openly (in violation of the Conventions) than any other App. I species' products. Many of these countries are party to the Convention and have not taken a reservation on sea turtles.

I have enclosed a letter to Mike Bear dealing with the CTF trade, and

(over)

according to Mike, our government has told CTF's lawyers that they have presented no new information which gives the U.S. any reason to change its position.

Let me know if there are any specific areas you are interested in receiving trade info. about. I can peruse through my growing file and send you what you need.

Best,

Dind

P.S. Thank you for the photo. We had a black + white photo made from it and will keep the source "confidential."



Cornell University
Division of Biological Sciences

Section of Ecology & Systematics
Langmuir Laboratory 322 Stimson Hall
Ithaca, New York 14850

April 28, 1982

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

Dear Dr. Balazs:

I am a 1982 graduate of Cornell University with a major in the biological sciences. I am writing to inquire the possibility of working as field assistant on your sea turtle project in the months of June, July, and August. I obtained your address from the pamphlet I received at registration of the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation held in Washington D.C.

My previous work experience includes extensive work with sea turtles. Five summers in the United States and five months in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador were spent working on sea turtles. Previous positions of responsibilities include supervision of a Caretta caretta nesting beach on the West coast of Florida for Carett Research, and supervision of a Chelonia agassizii nesting beach on Baltra Island in the Galapagos Islands under Mr. Derek Green. General activities within these jobs include: (1) measuring and tagging adult and hatchling sea turtles, (2) determining mortality rate of hatchlings within nests, and (3) deterring egg predators from sea turtle nests. My experience also includes observing and capturing Pacific Greens in mating and feeding lagoons in the Galapagos Islands.

Enclosed is my resume.

My interests lie in the ecology of dispersal, specifically that of sea turtles and ichthyoplankton, with peripheral interests in sensory physiology, orientation, and systematics. I am entering the University of Rhode Island as a graduate student in oceanography in Fall 1982.

Under my present student financial circumstance, it would be helpful if the project could pay part or all of my transportation costs and living expenses. Financial matters may be discussed though.

My interest and expertise on sea turtle natural history, obtained from work experience, and my ability to work hard for little or no financial gain would benefit your project.

Please write or call at the earliest time possible if I may be of assistance to your project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Brown
(607) 257-2601

card sent
5-13-82

CHRISTOPHER W. BROWN

PERMANENT ADDRESS

7 Fairlane Drive
Canton, New York 13617
(315) 386-2953

TEMPORARY ADDRESS

226 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, New York 14850
(607) 257-2601

OBJECTIVE: Position in project addressing evolutionary and/or ecological questions.

EDUCATION: CORNELL UNIVERSITY, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, N.Y.
Bachelor of Science in biology. December 1981
Concentration: ecology and systematics.

WORK

EXPERIENCE:

N.S.F. UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTICIPANT 6/81 - 8/81
Mt. Lake Biological Station, Pembroke, VA
Studying evolutionary implications of blueberry (Vaccinium corymbosum)
phenology. Collecting and analyzing data, using computers,
and presenting verbal and written results of the study.

VOLUNTEER MUSEUM CURATOR 2/81 - present
Cornell University Herpetological and Ichthyological Collections,
Ithaca, N.Y.
Preserving and mounting museum specimens.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN ANIMAL BEHAVIOR PROJECT 1/80 - 6/80
Dr. Kraig Adler, Professor of Neurobiology and Behavior at
Cornell University, Tempe, AZ
Studying the role of polarized light in orientation of sand lizards
(Uma notata). Designing, constructing, and maintaining experimental
equipment. Also performing data analysis and caring for animals.

FIELD ASSISTANT IN ANIMAL BEHAVIOR PROJECT 5/79 - 8/79
Dr. Kraig Adler, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.
Conducting experiments to determine the environmental cues used in
orientation of red-spotted newts (Notophthalmus viridescens).
Designing and constructing experimental eye caps and collecting
animals.

FIELD RESEARCHER 2/78 - 12/78
Charles Darwin Research Station, Galapagos Islands, Ecuador,
South America.
Assisting in field natural history studies on:
1) Pacific green sea turtles (Chelonia agassizii)
2) Darwin's finches (Geospiza spp. and Camarhynchus spp.)
3) Hawaiian petrels (Pterodroma phaeopygia)
4) Marine iguanas (Amblyrhynchus cristatus)
5) Land iguanas (Conolopus sp.)

UNIT LEADER 6/77 - 8/77
Caretta Research, Inc., Sanibel, Fla.
Supervising Loggerhead sea turtle (Caretta caretta) nesting beach.

AFFILIATIONS: 1) Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists
2) Society of Systematic Zoology
3) Society of the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles

INTERESTS: SCUBA, Nordic and alpine skiing, piano, and poetry.

Rare Animal Relief Effort, Inc.

c/o National Audubon Society
950 Third Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10022

Tel: (212) 546-9298, 9297
Cable: RARERELIEF NEWYORK



May 3, 1982

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

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Thank you for your letter of April 6, 1982, to Robert Ridgely.

In the past RARE has undertaken a few small projects in relation to Sea Turtles. At the present time we are working on a cooperative project with the Center for Environmental Education to distribute a "Sea Turtles" coloring book (one is enclosed).

Thank you for sending the beautiful postcards. If I can provide any further information please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald A. Lieberman, Ph.D.
President

encl. 1981 Annual Report
"Sea Turtles" coloring book



United States Department of the Interior

ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/OES

RAT - 5 1982

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

Dear George:

Thank you very much for sending me the article on turtle ranching ("Turtle farm that combines economic profit with conservation"). It is indeed unfortunate that UNESCO should publish such a paper, particularly one so filled with inaccuracies. From the title that confuses ranching with farming to the failure to mention France's CITES sea turtle reservations, this article perpetuates the myth of green turtle aquaculture in spite of the arguments against it. It is particularly disturbing that other countries should be contemplating similar operations, especially since they will not be drawing upon such large populations as those of Europa and Tromelin. However, this is an event that a few of us foresaw some time ago. I expect we will be hearing a lot more about it in the future.

When I obtain more information on this operation, I will let you know.
Take care.

Sincerely,

C. Kenneth Dodd Jr., Ph.D
Staff Herpetologist
Office of Endangered Species

Chelonia



April 5, 1982.

Marine Turtle Specialist Group
Chairman Archie Carr
c/o Dept. of Zoology
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

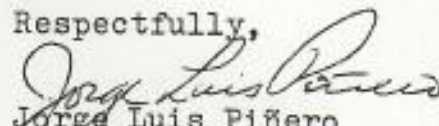
Sir:

Chelonia - Society for the study of Chelonians, is a non-profit organization of Puerto Rico. Our main goals are protection, conservation and education.

Dr. James Ferran Ross gave us your address. We would like to receive more information about your work.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Respectfully,


Jorge Luis Piñero
President
Chelonia

SOCIEDAD PARA EL ESTUDIO DE LOS QUELONIOS - PUERTO RICO

P. O. BOX 22061 * U. P. R. STATION, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00931

OFFICE DES ÉMISSIONS
DE TIMBRES-POSTE

DÉPARTEMENT DES FINANCES
ET DE L'ÉCONOMIE

PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO

April 28, 1982

N.-RÉF. HRC/JB
N° 159/82

V.-RÉF.

Dear Sir,

Thanking you for your letter of the 5th March which has been transmitted to me by the Secretariat of His Serene Highness Prince Rainier III, I beg to inform that your suggestion has received my best attention, and it might well be that sea-turtles will be used as a subject for an issue on wildlife conservation.

In the case that the Princely Government should withhold your idea, I shall be happy to contact you for documentation.

Very sincerely yours.

Le Directeur de l'Office
des Emissions de Timbres-Poste



Mr George H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist
and Deputy Chairman
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island

KANEOHE, HAWAII 96744

Longevity



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
201 BIOLOGY BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84112
801-581-6517

20 April 1982

Mr. George Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Honolulu Laboratory
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear George:

This is in response to your letter of 25 March 1982 and accompanying papers from the Pacific Legal Foundation.

At this time I do not favor the removal of the ban on mariculture turtle products. To me it would be ludicrous to try to tell a Floridian fisherman (or an Hawaiian) that he cannot take Florida green turtles (e.g., off west coast), but he can buy Grand Cayman farmed turtles to eat.

As far as their statistics go, I note that about 37% of their breeders are wild caught individuals. I wonder if these are still the most active breeders--especially the males (viz. II d experiments)?

I agree with you that the numbers of E2's are not impressive as they may be the individuals from only a few nests each year. As I read it, survival rates of the 1975-1977 crop appear in the letter of 12 November 1981.

In my opinion, mariculture has not yet proven itself to be a thriving closed-system farm. Have you sought Ehrenfeld's opinion on this? This would be one good, timely, and exciting topic for the next I.U.C.N. sea turtle meeting.

Sincerely,

Harold F. Hirth
Professor

HFH:nmf

RESOLUCION No.040 Julio 26 1981

DIRECCION GENERAL DE RECURSOS NATURALES RENOVABLES. Tegucigalpa, Distrito Central, veintisiete de julio de mil novecientos ochenta y uno.

CONSIDERANDO: Que es una obligación de la Secretaría de Recursos Naturales a través de la Dirección General de Recursos Naturales Renovables, velar por la protección, conservación y aprovechamiento de la fauna y flora fluvial, lacustre y marítima;

CONSIDERANDO: Que no obstante los esfuerzos realizados por esta Dirección, no ha sido posible lograr la concientización de las personas involucradas en la captura y comercialización de los huevos de tortuga, arrasando totalmente con sus nidos, evitando como consecuencia su reproducción y por tanto propiciando el exterminio de la especie;

CONSIDERANDO: Que la incubación o desarrollo del huevo a cría es de 45 a 60 días y que se aproximan los meses en que las tortugas adultas llegarán en gran número a las playas a depositar sus huevos;

CONSIDERANDO: Que es preocupación permanente de esta Dirección velar por que la tortuga marina no se extinga con una explotación irracional,

POR TANTO

La Dirección General de Recursos Naturales Renovables, en uso de sus facultades y en observancia de los artículos: 1, 2,3,5,6,9,42 43,44,49,53,70, numerales 3,4,7,9,10 y demás aplicables de la Ley de Pesca Vigente,

R E S U E L V E

PRIMERO: Prohibir en forma total en toda la república la captura y comercialización de los huevos de tortuga, así como la tenencia en depósito de los mismos en bares, restaurantes, hoteles, comedores, supermercados y puestos de venta de cualquier naturaleza;

SEGUNDO: La contravención de las presentes disposiciones dará lugar a una multa de TRESCIENTOS LEMPIRAS EXACTOS (L.300.00) o TRESCIENTOS DIAS DE RECLUSION en aplicación del artículo 70 de la Ley de Pesca.

TERCERO: Solicitar la colaboración de las Autoridades civiles y Militares especialmente de la Fuerza de Seguridad Pública y Fuerza Naval para el cumplimiento estricto de esta Resolución.

CUARTO: La presente Resolución entrará en vigencia a partir del QUINCE AL TREINTA Y UNO DE AGOSTO DE MIL NOVECIENTOS OCHENTA Y UNO, debiéndose dar a la misma la más amplia divulgación a través de los medios escritos y radiales, del país y afiches colocados en lugares convenientes.

CUMPLASE.





SECRETARIA DE ESTADO
EN EL DESPACHO DE

RECURSOS NATURALES

DIRECCION GENERAL DE RECURSOS
NATURALES RENOVABLES

Tegucigalpa, D. C., República de Honduras, C. A.

21 Abril 1982

Mr. Jack Woody
Endangered Species Coordinator, USFWS
Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

Dear Mr. Woody:

Please excuse the delay in getting back to you. I have been very busy working with the dove hunting here, which is from November - March. Thank-you very much for your detailed reply and the material you sent. I'm hopeful that these changes in methods will be implemented into the project this coming year.

In putting together the answers to your questions of January 4, 1982, I have found that there is not one complete source of information regarding the history of the turtle work in Honduras. This is in part due to a poor system of filing reports from year to year, or maybe I would be more correct in saying, there is no system at all, and also a high employee turn over rate each time there is a change in government. I will answer your questions to the best of my knowledge up to date and will inform you of any other information I am able to obtain.

Enclosed is a copy of the report on the project for 1981. At present I don't have the report written up in English. If the Spanish copy isn't of much use to you because of the language, let me know and I'll get an English copy written up for you. The report should answer most of your questions but to be sure I will answer your questions specifically in the following.

The total number of nests we translocated in 1981 was 243, which involved a little under 24,000 eggs.

I don't know why the collected eggs were held in a "house", champa overnight before reburying except for maybe convenience of the workers.

The project for this year has been transferred to the Department of Investigation from the Department of Inspection and Control. A biologist named Enoc Burgos is in charge of the project this year. I talked to him about starting a tagging program here this year, showed him the 2 samples of tags you sent and informed him of the offer of USFWS to supply the tags. You should be receiving a letter from him soon regarding the tags.

I have not as yet been able to obtain a sample of the tag used by the people of the China Mission. The person that was in charge of their work returned to Taiwan last October, and the person now in charge doesn't have any interest in the project.

Enclosed in the report is a map of the area of beach from which eggs were collected. All eggs were brought to Vuelta de los Viejos. You asked if the hatchlings are being released on the playa where the eggs were laid. How much of this area is considered the same playa? Do you consider the whole stretch from Cedeño to Punta Raton, approximately 25 km, as the same beach or is each area divided by a river outlet a different beach? The reason I ask is because we released all hatchlings collected from eggs that were laid in Cedeño to Punta Raton at Vuelta de los Viejos, would you suggest that hatchlings from Cedeño be released in Cedeño, hatchlings in Boca de Río Viejo be released at Boca de Río Viejo, etc?

Although I cannot give you concrete data, but from talking with Hondurans, both living in the area of the project and people working with the project, and my own observations I feel near 100% of the natural nests laid would be poached by humans or destroyed by dogs. I have no indication that adult turtles are actively being sought by the campesinos for use of their meat, shell, or leather here in the south. I have seen hair barrettes made from marine turtle shells sold in Tegucigalpa, that I was informed come from the north coast. There are turtles on the north coast but I have no information as to numbers, species, or predation pressure. There is no turtle work being done on the north coast by the Honduran government. Because of the length of the beach that turtles are using and the location of a village, approximately 300 people, at Punta Raton (where the majority of turtles lay their eggs), it would not be economically practical for Honduras to employ guards. Also there would be a problem of unprofessional, undedicated guards.

I don't know what the total Honduran population is and don't know if the information is even available. How would the population size be determined? By tagging females over a number of years? What method is used to account for the number of males in the population? I don't have any information on the distribution and population size historically. I will try to get some historical information from the people living in the area. I'm not aware of any large arribadas here in Honduras, presently or in the past like those mentioned by Stephen Cornelius and Douglas Robinson in their report Abundance, Distribution and Movements of Olive Ridley Sea Turtles in Costa Rica, March 1981.

Each year a resolution regarding the turtles is posted by the Director of Renewable Natural Resources. The turtles and eggs are protected only during the field work of the project. For 1981 only during the collecting of the eggs August 15 - August 31, 1981. Other years included the time of development of the eggs and subsequent hatching. Enclosed is a copy of the Resolution for 1981, also in Spanish, if you need it translated, please let me know and I'll translate it.

During this prohibited time last year, I'm aware that restaurants, markets, etc., were checked for eggs being sold. There is a problem in Honduras as to lack of money which in part relates to the lack of trained, dedicated personnel. As to the extent this law is enforced, I have my doubts.

I have not been able to locate much information about the dependence of the local people on the eggs/turtles as a food, and/or economic source. I do know the eating of the eggs is based on custom, regarding the increased virility of males. I hope to initiate a study of the economic dependence of the local people on the use of marine turtles and their eggs. Do you have any input you could offer on the methods of this type of study?

In reference to your statement about research you said that "I'd prefer to see the effort spent on any number of needed studies of practical application", that can be applied to the "direct application of the needs of management and the species." Would you be more specific as to what these current needs are? Is it possible that Honduras could assist in collecting information that would apply to future management and species needs?

Thank-you for forwarding my letter on to others working with marine turtles. I have received a couple of replies.

Please inform me of any national or international sea turtle conferences that you may become aware of in the future.

Once again, thank-you for all your assistance!

Sincerely yours,
Cynthia Minarik
Cynthia Minarik
Wildlife Biologist
Peace Corps/Honduras



SECRETARIA DE ESTADO
EN EL DESPACHO DE

RECURSOS NATURALES

DIRECCION GENERAL DE RECURSOS
NATURALES RENOVABLES

Tegucigalpa, D. C., República de Honduras, C. A.

21 April 1982

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Please excuse the delay in responding to your letter of January 14, 1982. I and another peace corps volunteer have completed a report on the turtle project in Honduras for 1981, which I have enclosed. The report is in Spanish, if this poses a problem for you please let me know. At this time we do not have the report in English, but if the Spanish copy is of no use to you I can get a English copy typed up and sent to you.

Also enclosed is a copy of my letter to Mr. Woody regarding my response to his questions of January 4, 1982. I would appreciate any response you might have as to the letter I have sent Mr. Woody.

Thank-you for the information you have sent and your time.

Sincerely yours,

Cynthia Minarik
Wildlife Biologist
Peace Corps/Honduras

gional Office, East Coast National Parks
~~TURTLE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK~~
BOX 768, SANDAKAN, SABAH, MALAYSIA.
CABLES "NATAPARK", SANDAKAN. TEL. 2188

SNPRO/52/1/129

Date: 10th April, 1982

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



Dear Archie,

Many thanks for your letter of 17th March, 1982 and am glad to learn that you will be at Bali. I have been requested to present a paper at the Conference and will do so. I am in entire agreement with you - it is certainly vitally important that we come to grips with the Sabah/Philippine situation. It is also suggested that we also have a look at the possibility of a link with Indonesia in view of what goes on in the Celebes Sea area. Bali appears to be the ideal location for our purpose and those connected with the turtle business in the Philippines and Indonesia would be there.

I also agree with you that a fall meeting at some time or other is necessary but how is travel to be financed? Most members would be hard put to it and find it impossible to attend due to lack of funds. Nowadays, even generous governments decline to provide travel grants for conferences. With inflation, domestic responsibilities etc. it would be impossible for members to attend a meeting at their own expense. It is very difficult to suggest anything at the moment - perhaps when we meet we could discuss it in greater detail.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

G. S. de Silva
G. S. de Silva

Handwritten note:
Handwritten note: This meeting is being held in Sandakan, Sabah.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904 382-1107

April 30, 1982

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

Dear Bob:

This is in reply to your letter of April 20, asking about my reaction to Mrs. Mittag's brochure advertising green turtle products now being purveyed by Cayman Industries. I deplore any effort to extend demand for turtle products, and in this particular case there is an unusual twist. The Cayman traffic in articles made from green turtle shell has direct bearing on the survival outlook of another, even more critically declining species - the hawksbill. Because of the high-protein diet fed at Cayman, the shell produced there is much thicker than that of wild green turtles. In appearance it is quite similar to real tortoise-shell. The Japanese connoisseurs would never accept it; but for the avid trinket and novelty trade, the farm shell is an acceptable substitute, and this new, legal supply will feed and augment the demand for tortoise-shell products. This in turn will accelerate the illegal hunting of wild hawksbills and the smuggling of shell. I believe that until CITES and all other international organizations working for species-survival recognize market extension as a prime adverse factor in the outlook of depleted species, it is going to remain difficult to provide any real protection for any animal that is involved in international commerce.

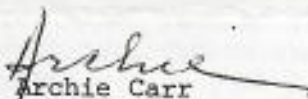
Except for that quite fundamental objection, I see nothing much to cavil at in Mrs. Mittag's brochure. It is a good job of advertising.

What I see as a more disturbing development are the petitions to CITES for degrading *Chelonia* from Appendix I to Appendix II by Surinam, and by France for the Europa and Tromelin nesting populations. The Europa and Tromelin colonies furnish a significant proportion of the green turtles of the Indian Ocean. The multiplication of turtle farms that CITES will abet if degradation is allowed seems sure to hasten the loss of *Chelonia* in the wild. Long ago, in our initial debates over the Cayman farm project, we foresaw that as inland markets opened and people became aware of turtle products, culture projects would break out all over the place; and that is now taking place. By its willingness to entertain petitions for the parochial degrading of a species, CITES is setting brush fires that probably will before long all run together. I view this proliferation of farming as a serious and growing threat.

Mr. Robert Scott
April 30, 1982
Page 2

Chelonia is a colonial nester. The world population is maintained by a relatively small number of large breeding colonies. Any state in whose territory one of these colonies exists is in charge of an international asset. Unless CITES and the IUCN do everything possible to emphasize this point they will in my view be failing in a fundamental obligation.

Sincerely yours,



Archie Carr
Chairman
Marine Turtle Specialist Group, IUCN

AC/ljw

cc: George Balazs
Wayne King



Dear George,

Many thanks for the poster - it has brightened up a space in the office wall quite considerably! I'm interested that agassizii is treated as a separate species. I hope the Green Turtle RDB account will get finished soon - it has to as the final final press date is near!

Best wishes, Brian.



Dr George Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service,
Honolulu Laboratory
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu
HAWAII 96812
USA



MARINE SCIENCES CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

Diliman, Quezon City 3004

Philippines

4 May 1982

Dr. George Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Honolulu Laboratory
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear George:

Many thanks for the poster. I think it's excellent. I have a mind to have it framed. Now, just as soon as I do that, people will start asking me where and how I got it. Is it for sale?

I do not recall if I acknowledge receipt of the four postcards you sent me last November. If I haven't done so, many thanks.

Speaking of memorabilia, I have started collecting sea turtle stamps. To date I have only obtained about two dozen from half that number of countries. I have started a list and I note the existence of a little over 60 stamps from about 25 issuing authorities. Would you by chance be up to date on this? Or would you know if anyone has made a list previously? If not, I have a mind to continue this and perhaps circularize the list through the Marine Turtle Newsletter or other medium.

I recall you having mentioned something about encouraging countries to issue postage stamps depicting sea turtles, so I thought you would be the best person to write to about this.

Some interest was expressed by our National Environmental Protection Council to request the local postal bureau to issue a set of stamps on endangered species including a sea turtle. However, I have not learned whether this pushed through.

If I can get good colored pictures of the four (or five) species known to occur in the Philippines, I may be able to start a move to get a set of stamps issued. Any ideas?

The other day I received an invitation to get involved in writing a chapter for a book at the East-West Center. I am still trying to figure out how I can do it. If it goes through, I may visit Honolulu in June or July for a week or so. If I do that, I will look you up and we can catch up on marine turtle matters.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,

EDGARDO D. GOMEZ

Director

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA
SECRETARIAT

c/o IUCN, avenue du Mont-Blanc
CH - 1196 Gland, Switzerland

Telex : 22618 iucn ch
Tel. : (022) 64 32 54

Telegrams :
IUCNATURE GLAND

Ref. :

D/1/1.96
JB/da/16

Dr. George H. Balazs
Deputy Chairman
Marine Turtle Group
Hawaii Institute of
Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
KANEHOE, Hawaii 96744
U.S.A.

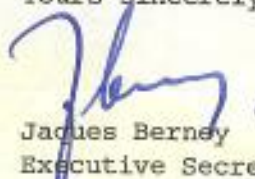
Gland, 16, April 1982

Dear Dr. Balazs,

Further to my letter dated 11 February 1982, I am now sending you a memorandum I just received from Suriname which completed the information already sent to you as well as the English translation of the French proposal to transfer the Tromelin and Europa Island population of the green turtle from Appendix I to Appendix II pursuant to the New Delhi Resolution Conf. 3.15 on Ranching.

Your comments on this proposal would be very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,


Jacques Berney
Executive Secretary

DATE:

4/15/82

MEMO TO:

George -

FROM:

Somehow we managed

SUBJECT:

to lose the original letter from the Prince's secretary (a copy of which I sent to you). I kept waiting for it to turn up, but it didn't, and rather than call you about it or wait for you to return it, I just went ahead + sent the poster + the enclosed letter to the prince's name, again, (rather than his secretary). Hope that's OK. Please send us back a copy of his letter when you can, for our records (!)

Lynda will be sending you
a file of copies of letters
from MTG members
responding w/ meeting
ideas.

Have to run.

A.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611



15 April 1982

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

Prince Rainier III de Monaco
Palais Princier, Place du Palais
MC - Monaco-Ville (Principaute de Monaco)

Your Serene Highness:

Dr. Archie Carr has asked me to thank you, in his absence from Gainesville, for your letter indicating your interest in initiating a postal stamp series commemorating sea turtles. For this purpose, I am sending by separate mail a colored poster of sea turtles of the world that was created jointly by the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service and the Center for Environmental Education. The poster gives the scientific and common names for each species, as well as a brief description. I have asked Mr. George Balazs, Deputy Chairman of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group to send you some additional drawings and photos that may be helpful in designing the stamps.

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance. Thank you sincerely for your interest. We look forward to the outcome.

Sincerely,

Anne Meylan

Anne Meylan
Agenda Officer, IUCN Marine
Turtle Specialist Group

xc: George Balazs

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Sea Grant College Program

MEMORANDUM

March 2, 1982

TO: George Balazs, Assistant Marine Biologist
FROM: Jack R. Davidson, Director, Sea Grant College Program
SUBJECT: Your Memo of February 2, 1982

We will start the 1983-85 planning process in April.
Will keep you informed. Thanks for your interest.

Dr. G. Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
SW Fisheries Center
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812
U.S.A.

Athens, 5th February 1982

Dear Dr. Balazs,

This is to thank you for your letter containing the three newspaper articles. Two of them are of special interest to me because their author, Kerin Hope, who had promised to send them to me was not able to do so after all.

On this occasion, I would like to request a copy of your paper "Observations on the basking habit in captive juvenile Pacific green turtles".

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours Sincerely,

P. Marinou

Penny Marinou
National Council for Physical
Planning and the Environment
Secretariat
Ministry of Coordination
Zalocosta 1, Athens
GREECE

*sent
2/25/82*

FROM : Chandra Sekhar Kar
Rahisamatha Marine Turtle Research
& Conservation Centre
Post : Satabhaya - 754225
Via : Rajnagar, Dist: Cuttack (Orissa)
INDIA

Dated 14th August 1981

To

DR. G.H. BALAZS
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346, Kaneohe
Hawaii, 96744, U.S.A

Subj: Request for reprints

Dear Dr. Balazs,

I would request you to kindly send me a copy of your following publications for my reference.

N.B. List of Publications:

(1) ~~X~~ Balazs, G.H. (1980) - Synopsis of biological data on the green turtle on the Hawaiian Islands. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS, 141 pp.

(2) ——— (1980) - Field methods for sampling the dietary composition of green turtles.

(3) ——— (1978) Terrestrial/Costal habitat in the pacific region. ECOPAC 3(4), 37-41.

Further I would request you to kindly inform me whether the proceedings of the World Conference on ~~Marine~~ ^{Sea} Turtle Conservation has already been published.


Thanking you for your favour.

With best regards.

N.B. would it be possible on your part to send me a copy of "Bibliography on Marine Turtles" yours faithfully

Proc. of the Symposium on the Behavioral & Reproductive Biology of Sea Turtles held at Tampa, Florida, Dec 1979 +

published in: H. Amour, ed. 1980


C.S. KAR

Chelonia mydas. Herp. Review. 11, pp. 5-6

(3) _____ (1971) Status of Sea turtles on the Central Pacific. Proc. World Conf. on Sea Turtle Conservation, Washington, D.C.

(4) _____ (1975) Growth rates of wild sea turtles. Proc. World Conf. on Sea Turtle Conservation, Washington, D.C.

(5) _____ (1977) - Losses of turtle measured from a tiger shark at Mae Nazoc (Philippines) - English version of the preliminary report on the Hawksbill turtle, (Eretmochelys imbricata) in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

(6) _____ (1971) - Growth rates of immature green turtles in Hawaiian Archipelago. IUCN/WWF workshops on Marine turtles in the Tropical Pacific Islands, Noumea, New Caledonia 11-14 Dec. 1971. (P.T.C.)

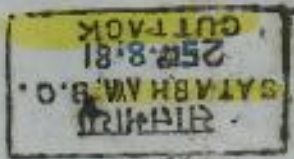
No Enclosures Allowed

INDIA (Missa)

Via: Rajmoga Dist: Cuttack

Post: Satebhaya - 754225

Chandha Sarkar Skar
Gahisimatra Marine Turtle Research & Conservation Centre
Sender's Name and Address



SECOND FOLD

U.S.A.

Kameoke, Hawaii, 96744

P.O. Box 1346

DR. G.H. BALAZS (IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist)
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology



To



राशि ५३
Aerogramme

FROM: Chandra Sekhar Kar
Gahinmathe Marine Turtle Rest

Conservation Centre
Post: Satebhaya - 754 225

Via: Rajnagar, Dist: Cuttack

(Orissa) INDIA Dated 9th April, 1982

To, DR. George H. Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Honolulu Lab. P.O. Box 3830,
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96812, USA.

Sir, I thank you very much for your most kind letter of 23 March, 1982, along with your two comp. publications. I went through your esteemed publication "Synopsis of Biological data on the green turtle in the Hawaiian islands" - and enjoyed reading it. I will be very glad if you can send me a xerox copy of your other publications mentioned in the bibliography of the above paper (as in Serial Nos 41 to 91 except sl. Nos. 55, 57, 62, 66 & 67). Please, also send me a copy of English version of preliminary report on the Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) in Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia & Singapore - 1978 & a copy of the Proc. 1st Working Meeting of Marine Turtle Specialist Group, 1969.

I would also request you to kindly consider sending me xerox copies of related publications on sea turtles of Hawaii by other authors - which you may have - as for ex: papers relating to Hawaii State Legislation (Bills & resolutions), Hawaiian legends and papers concerning captive maintenance of food & feeding etc. of ridley sea turtles.

I have been involved in the marine turtle research since last few years & have pioneered the work in India but due to lack of minimum necessary funds and facilities etc. I am facing much difficulties in my day to day work, even the situation is such that often I am not able to correspond with researchers & coworkers abroad. This is because the project has not yet received full sanction.

Finally I would again request you to kindly help me by sending requested publications as far as possible on your part. I understand I have asked for a no. of publications - but I hope you will surely help me in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

C. S. Kar

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme



१०

DR. GEORGE H. BALAZS
National Marine Fisheries Service
Honolulu Laboratory
P.O. Box 3830, Honolulu,
Hawaii, 96812, U.S.A.



दुसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता...
Sender's Name and Address... Chandra Sekhar Kar
Satebhaya Marine Turtle Research
& Conservation Centre
Post: Satebhaya 754225
Via: Rajanagar, Dist: Cuttack
(Orissa) INDIA

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

पहला मोड़

E. T. RULISON, JR., M.D., F.A.C.S.
3063 CAMBRIDGE ROAD
SHINGLE SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA 95682
TELEPHONE (916) 933-0230

April 16, 1979

Mr. George H. Balazs
HAWAII INSTITUTE of MARINE BIOLOGY
P.O. Box 1346 - Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George Balazs:

Thank you for your inquiry
regarding rental or purchase of our
new film "CAGUAMA".

The price of a two weeks rental
of a clean print is \$125.00. A new
optical-sound print from Palmer Film
Lab. can be purchased for \$475.00

If you are undecided between the
above choices, I will be pleased to send
you a copy of the film for your review.

All the best!

Sincerely,

Ted Rulison
E. T. Rulison, Jr., M.D.

JM

Panda House
11-13 Oddford Road
Godalming, Surrey GU7 1QU
Telephone: Godalming (04868) 20661
Telex: 859602

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

24th March 1982

Dear Dr. Balazs,

Your letter to Janet Barber arrived this morning,
and I am just writing to acknowledge it and to
let you know that Janet will not be back in the
office until 19th April.

I am sure she will be only too pleased to get
your stamps in due course, and will be interested
to see the cuttings you enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Molineux

Jane Molineux (Mrs.)
Conservation and Information Department.

- Stanley Gibbons
- my booklet
- Pitcairn

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600 Telephone (062)723933



Reference: F77/332

15 September 1980

Dear Dr Balazs,

I am writing to thank you for your complementary letter of August 20, 1980. The widespread favourable response that I have received to my article in Australian Fisheries has come as a pleasant surprise. There have been letters of appreciation from Canada, South Africa, India, New Zealand and Australia, including several generous donations of stamps and offers of exchange.

I was interested to read of your own special thematic collection on turtles and its significance to your work at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. I must confess to a very limited knowledge of turtle biology and conservation, but your letter prompted me to consult with colleagues in the Resources Management Section of the Division, notably Mr David Walter, who has had first hand experience of turtle research in Australia.

Hamilton Lib.
Scott cat. +

Already your collection sounds a substantial one, and I have indeed noted the wide extent of turtle issues when checking through Stanley Gibbons catalogue. I have little doubt that turtles will increasingly feature on postage stamps, probably you will be watching this trend carefully through updates of Scott's catalogue. A Pitcairn Island 9c stamp will be issued at the end of this month featuring a wooden turtle carving in a set of stamps on island handicrafts. When it comes on sale (Pitcairn stamps can be bought over the counter in Australian Post Offices) I will naturally send you a small block.

As for the prospect of an Australian stamp issue featuring turtles, I think that there is a possibility that your suggestion could be adopted. However, the rate of new issues here is deliberately a conservative one, so that the timing of any new issue could be years away. Nonetheless, I will be pleased to forward, with a letter of endorsement, copies of your correspondence to Australian Post. I have enclosed a copy of an article on the Australian Post Stamp Advisory Committee which may be of interest.

To date I do not have any turtle stamps in my own collection, and intended to read more about the turtle situation before deciding what issues would be appropriate. Your letter will prompt me into action in that regard! Once again, thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,



(PETER DAVIS)

Fish Export Standards Officer
Fisheries Division

Dr George H. Balazs,
University of Hawaii at Manoa,
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,
PO Box 1346,
Coconut Island,
Kaneohe, Hawaii, 96744
USA



Postage stamps are issued primarily for the pre-payment of postage. Theoretically this means that a policy of issuing one common design with just simple changes in denominations (e.g. the 1913 Kangaroo and Map series) would be practicable and adequate. However, Australia Post is very much aware, as are most stamp issuing countries, that stamps provide a wonderful opportunity to draw attention to a wide range of aspects of the issuing country.

Bearing in mind that Australia Post receives over one hundred and fifty suggestions for the public for stamp topics each year, it is necessary to have a policy relating to their issue. A new policy has recently been formulated which, while adhering to many principles of the old policy, has certain basic changes relating to the subject matter and sales periods.

Previously Australia Post issued long-term definitives, short-term definitives and commemoratives. There will still continue to be three main categories of stamps but under the new policy they will be:

- Definitives
- Special issues
- Commemoratives

Definitive Stamps

Definitive stamps are those stamps sold for frequently-used postage rates and in future will be divided into three sub-categories, as follows:—

- (1) basic postage rate, sold at post offices for twelve months and at philatelic sales centres for a further twelve months from the date of replacement, providing stocks last;
- (2) values up to and including \$1 (except basic postage rate), sold at post offices for the nominated period (usually three years) and at philatelic sales centres for up to a further twelve months from the date of replacement, providing stocks last;
- (3) values over \$1, sold at post offices for the nominated period

(usually six years) and at philatelic sales centres for up to twelve months from the date of replacement, providing stocks last.

The subject matter for the definitive stamps will generally be selected from Australia's flora, fauna, bird and marine life for sub-categories (1) and (2) and from famous Australian paintings for sub-category (3).

Special Issues

Special issues, in Australia, are a new category of stamps being introduced in order to provide greater flexibility for featuring particular Australian subjects which are not of a commemorative nature.

They will be sold at post offices for the nominated period (usually six weeks) and at philatelic sales centres for up to twelve months from the issue date, providing stocks last.

Commemoratives

Commemorative stamps, in Australia, are those stamps issued to commemorate occasions of national interest and they are intended to be topical and timely.

They are sold at post offices for the normal period (usually two weeks) and at philatelic sales centres, for up to twelve months from the issue date, providing stocks last. The criteria applied to commemorative stamp subjects is that the occasion to be commemorated be:—

- of outstanding national importance or of special historical significance
- of general interest to a wide section of the community

Commemorative stamps are not issued to mark the anniversary of the founding of a town or city, an organisation of limited appeal, a political party or group, or a religious organisation, except in special circumstances. Likewise, periodic events and minor international conferences and congresses are not commemorated on stamps unless they are associated with an anniversary which qualifies for inclusion on a stamp or are of exceptional importance to Australia.

The new Australia Post stamp policy will provide a more balanced programme and will equally

eliminate both long pauses between stamp issues and too frequent issues. The new policy will not change the total number of stamps issued, beyond those required for normal postal and philatelic requirements ■

First 'OS' Overprints



No longer on sale from Australia Post.

The 2d. and 3d. values of the Kingsford Smith's World Flights 1931 stamp issue were the first commemorative stamps to be overprinted 'OS' for official use; this treatment replaced the previous practice of puncturing the two letters. They became available in that form on 4 May 1931 and were issued to Federal Members of Parliament only.

In November 1931 postmarked copies of the two 'OS' stamps were included in the Collectors' Sets on sale to the public.

Total quantities of the two values overprinted 'OS' were, 2d. — 32,000 and 3d. — 28,000.

The 6d. Kingsford Smith stamp was later modified by the removal of the inscription "Kingsford Smith's World Flights" from the lower part of the design and transfer to that area of the words "Air Mail Service"; it was issued in a new colour, sepia, as a 6d. Air Mail Service stamp on 4 November 1931. The overprinting of 75,000 of these stamps with the letters 'OS' was authorized and they were first issued in this form on 17 November 1931.

As a special gesture, mainly in connection with the forthcoming special Christmas air mail flight, the 6d. 'OS' stamp was made available for purchase by the public for use on air mail correspondence. ■

80

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stamp sales

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adquartersVIC 3053
Code 02) 669 7592 669 7454

AN STAMPS

1980
s 1979, 55c Christmas1980
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d Issues Souvenir Pack

CHANGES TO ISSUE PROGRAMMES

Various changes have been made to the stamp and pre-stamped envelope issue programmes for the remainder of 1980.

An additional 'Australian Birds' definitive stamp will be released on 17 November 1980, bearing an 18c denomination.

Production problems have unfortunately caused the delay of the four special issue stamps featuring Australian Aircraft. Further details will be given in the next Stamp Bulletin, but the issue date for the stamps is now 19 November 1980, not 14 October 1980 as previously announced.

The opening date of the Tarcoola-Alice Springs Railway has been brought forward to enable HRH Princess Alexandra to perform the opening. Consequently, the pre-stamped envelope commemorating the event will now be released on 9 October 1980. The pre-stamped envelope commemorating Charles Sturt's Explorations will now be issued on 12 November 1980, the date originally intended for the release of the Opening of the Tarcoola-Alice Springs Railway pre-stamped envelope.

The 15c Australian Antarctic Territory S.Y. Nimrod stamp, referred to on

page 2 of Stamp Bulletin No 149, will be withdrawn from sale on 31 March 1981, provided stocks last.

Note:

As this issue of the Stamp Bulletin went to press, it appeared that stocks of the stamp would be sold out at philatelic sales centres before this date. Customers who have already ordered first day covers, for post-marking in the Antarctic during the visits of the relief ship to the stations in the summer, can be assured that adequate stocks of the present stamp have been reserved for those orders.

1980 STAMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Australia Post's Stamp Advisory Committee includes four new members in 1980. They are Mrs Sue Bray (consumer representative), Mr Ray Chapman, MBE (philatelist), Mr Tom Goulding (Australia Post staff representative) and Mr John Spatchurst (graphic artist).

The Stamp Advisory Committee is an advisory panel set up by Australia Post to select stamp artists, evaluate and, if necessary, suggest changes to submitted stamp designs and to recommend to Australia Post management stamp designs that are considered suitable for adoption.

Members of the committee are experts drawn from the following fields:

- fine arts,
- commercial art,

- graphic design,
- philately,
- Australia Post staff, and
- consumer interests.

The members of the committee re-appointed for 1980 were Mr Carl Andrew, Mr Peter Clemenger and Mr Ron Fletcher.

Pictured at the June meeting of the Stamp Advisory Committee are (standing, L-R) Mr R. Fletcher, Mr G. Dennis (Stamps and Philatelic Branch), Mr T. Goulding, Mr J. Spatchurst, (seated, L-R) Mr C. Andrew, Mr R. Chapman, Mr R. Gamble (Chairman), Miss A. Turzynski (Stamps and Philatelic Branch) and Mrs S. Bray. Mr P. Clemenger was unable to attend this meeting.

LONDON 1980

Australia Post recently took part in the world's largest stamp exhibition — The London 1980 International Stamp Exhibition, which was held at Earl's Court, London in May.

The exhibition, under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, is held every decade by International Philatelic Exhibitions Ltd of London.

Australia Post participated with a large sales stand, which was mounted in conjunction with the Crown Agents, Australia Post's sales agents in the UK, and with an exhibit in the Official Class.

The sales stand was a real attention getter, featuring huge colour blow-ups of recent Australian stamp issues on the outer walls of the stand as well as brightly lit displays of all the items on sale. It was designed by Robin Causer and John Triplett of Australia Post's Graphic Design Section and erected on the site by Barret Bros of London.

Interest in Australian stamps proved to be very high amongst visitors to the exhibition, and the Crown Agents and Australia Post staff manning the stand were kept very busy dealing with the 10,000 plus collectors that made purchases from the stand during the week long show.

In the Official Class Australia Post exhibited twenty-four album pages of stamps depicting Australian buildings and bridges.

In all, 122 countries and 190 dealers participated in the exhibition.



ZOO ZÜRICH

ZÜRICHBERGSTRASSE 221
CH-8044 ZÜRICH
TELEFON 01/251 54 11 POSTCHECK 80-1818
TELEGRAMME: ZOOZURICH
BANK: SCHWEIZ. KREDITANSTALT
DEPOSITENKASSE SEEFELD ZÜRICH
BAHNSTATION: DÜBENDORF-ZÜRICH

Mr. George H. Balazs
Institut of Marine Biology
University of Hawaii

Kaneohe Hawaii 16 744

USA

Zürich, den February 17, 1982

Ho/fh

Dear George

Thank you for sending me the picture-material for the Marine turtles, to be used by the artists to do the identification part for CITES. Are there any "inside" hints as to draw the sketches of "mydas" and "depressa", and "kempii" and "olivcea" in order to show typical external differences between them.

Enclosed is a copy of a popular report on "Marine turtle conservation on Mexico" by Antonio Suarez. The right hand top picture is not clear to me: is it true that the ♀♀ are kept in this way to lay eggs? I have my doubts about the entire story!

Yours sincerely

René E. Honegger
Curator of Herpetology

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY

The Agassiz Museum



HARVARD UNIVERSITY · CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 · TEL. 617 495-2466

16 March 1982

Dr. A. Carr
Chairman, Marine Turtle Specialist Group
Dept. of Zoology
Gainesville, FL 32601

Dear Dr. Carr:

The memorandum from Brian Groombridge to Glen Lucas (24 Feb. 1982) concerning relisting Dermochelys has come to my attention.

There seems to be two separate issues involved here:

- 1) What criteria are used to determine Red Data Book status.
- 2) Who gets to decide on the available data.

On issue 1) there is clear need for a re-evaluation of the status of Dermochelys in light of the large increase in reported individuals and populations. However there are many points to be considered before a change in listing is advisable.

- a) What methods and data support the current population estimates? I believe they are (with the exception of Trenganu and Surname populations) all guesses! They may well be correct but it is premature to say so.
- b) The concentration of large numbers of individuals on few nesting grounds makes them more vulnerable, not less so. The reported greater numbers of individuals must be balanced against the horrendous reports of predation on eggs and adults that approaches 100% of reproductive output in some cases.
- c) The determination of status from just number of individuals is ridiculous. Comparison with other small populations of turtles, Geochelone Yniphora for instance, is entirely specious. Of course there are endangered species rarer than Dermochelys. There are also many clearly endangered species, elephants and whales for instance, with many more individuals. Endangered status must derive from a balanced view of animal numbers, reproductive rate, natural mortality, the effect of exploitation and habitat destruction and the cascading effects that delisting would have on the integrated structure of conservation law and activity, CITES and ESA for instance. Ideally our actions protect species that are still reasonably numerous, not just mount rescue missions for very small populations that may be lost causes.

Dr. A. Carr
16 March 1982
Page 2

I must be getting old - I think discretion here is best (and will be most productive) I have ^{annotated} Brian Groombridge's copy assuring him this is not a criticism of him and assuring him of my continued support for his red data sheet work.

OK. So who should make such determinations? I feel strongly that such decisions are properly the purview of the specialist group. I think it would be appropriate for us to insist that we advise the SSC Steering Group on this matter. Unfortunately we have a bad record of slow or negative response to challenges of this sort. We need to offer clear unambiguous advice within a week or two. The ultimate resolution of such a matter may need to be decided by the full SSC and a Turtle Group opinion could be fine tuned at a future meeting, but I think the Red Data Book compilers and SSC deserve an immediate 'best approximation' response now. The issues are fairly clear. Couldn't you, Peter, Nicholas, Rene Marquez quickly assemble a preliminary opinion for immediate use by the SSC Steering Committee and subsequent discussion and modification by the group and eventually ratification by SSC?

For my own opinion, for the reasons given above I do not believe the data warrant any reduction in the status of *D. coracea* from Endangered at this time. However a careful review of this situation and careful rationalization of this position should be developed to guide the Red Data Book compilers and others. I think this is an important challenge to the Turtle Group and I am confident we can rise to meet it.

Sincerely,

James Perran Ross

JPR:cc

cc: Wayne King
Peter Pritchard
Brian Groombridge
✓ George Balazs

P.S. I will make points a) b) - c) in regard to Lepidochelys delisting in response to that stupid memo you copied to me (The NOAA one from Rolf Juhl (?) with the erroneous turtle data cf. Ortiz-Green Int. L.N. #20) To whom should such a response go in addition to the distribution list on the memo?

P.S. well done on the Suriname delisting proposal -

Send my
Scott letters
or paper
proposals



University of Hawaii at Manoa

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

April 19, 1982

Mr. J.P. Diter
Private Secretary to
H.S.H. The Prince of Monaco
Palace of Monaco
MONACO

Dear Mr. Diter:

In your letter of March 25, 1982 to Professor Carr, you requested further information and illustrations on sea turtles. I am very pleased to respond to this request on behalf of Professor Carr. The enclosed poster should be especially helpful to His Serene Highness, in that each species of sea turtle is vividly portrayed along with its English and Latin name.

Please contact us again if further information is needed in your evaluation of sea turtles as a topic for postage stamps.

Yours sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Deputy Chairman
IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group

cc

Professor Archie Carr, University of Florida



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1348 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW
5 March 1982

His Royal Highness Prince Rainer III
Palais Princier, Place du Palais
MC- Monaco-Ville

Your Royal Highness Prince Rainer III:

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to consider having Monaco issue a set of postage stamps that feature sea turtles. The portrayal of these endangered marine reptiles on stamps is an excellent way of attracting attention to their worldwide conservation problems. As you are undoubtedly aware, sea turtles in many areas of the world have been overexploited for meat, soup stock and leather, and their sand nesting beaches have been altered by our expanding human population.

To my knowledge, Monaco has not previously issued stamps with a conservation theme of sea turtles. I believe that this would be a superb and successful idea, and I ask that you give it your serious consideration.

My Sincere Best Regards,

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



INSTITUT OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE

FONDATION ALBERT I^{er}, PRINCE DE MONACO

RECONNU D'UTILITÉ PUBLIQUE

Monaco-Ville, le 14 janvier 1982

N. réf. DOC 82/35
(JCL/cp)

Dr. George H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist and Deputy Chairman
IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group
HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY
P. O. Box 1346
Coconut Island
KANEHOE, Hawaii 96744
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Balazs,

Thank you very much for your letter of November 16 and for the very interesting publications you sent to the Library. Be sure that these documents are very appreciated by our readers, as the publications on sea turtles are not very numerous.

I am completely in agreement with your proposal to use postal stamps to attract the attention of the public on the protection of the sea turtles. You can choose among several possibilities in Monaco. First of all I have to advise you that H.S.H. Prince Rainier III is all together a very active protector of nature and of the endangered species and a philatelist who is following very carefully the issuing of the postal stamps in the Principality. Maybe you could write to him to the following address :

- Secrétariat de S.A.S. le Prince Rainier III de Monaco
Palais Princier, Place du Palais
MC - MONACO-VILLE (Principauté de Monaco)

or to the :

- Office d'Emissions de timbres-poste
Villa Miraflores
2, Avenue Saint-Michel
MC - MONTE-CARLO (Principauté de Monaco)

With my best wishes for the success of your action,

Mrs J. Carpine-Lancre
Head Librarian

Veuillez répondre à
Please answer to

MUSÉE OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE (BIBLIOTHÈQUE)
AVENUE SAINT-MARTIN
MC - MONACO-VILLE (P^{te} DE MONACO)

31 March 1982

Dear George -

No, we're not dead in Gainesville. Actually, we've been working hard. Just not corresponding very well. A few items:

1) I don't know if Dr. Can ever got you on the phone after he called Brian Groombridge. If not, you should know that AC had a lengthy discussion to first determine if Brian was within his authority to change the status ^{of the leatherback} (he is, apparently) and to try to dissuade him. The bottom line is that Dermodochelys really doesn't fit IUCN's definition of endangered (far different from U.S. description), and in spite of the fears expressed by us as to possible ^{negative effects} ~~negative~~ of downlisting, it will probably come to pass.

2) Brian had no objection to our circulating the leatherback draft to all group members. We did so, under the category of information. We didn't solicit additional critiques, but I'm sure those with something to say will speak up. Brian's address was provided.

3) We have not to my knowledge received acceptance letters for MTC membership from: Schulz, Sprung (?), Parmenter, Bhaskar, Surwelo.
Do we treat these as acceptances, anyway?

- 4) Yes, the Frick turtle film arrived safely.
- 5) No one that I know of is going to the St. Simon Island meeting. We went to a similar shindig in Jacksonville last year, and that satisfied us for a while! What a waste of time, lots of hot regional air.
- 6) Do you know about the meeting in Mississippi to discuss impact of oil on turtles? I don't have the exact dates & places, but can probably find them if you would like. ~~I~~ I think Dr. Carr was invited, but he's going on a vacation from 2-18 April in ~~the~~ Baja Mexico - on a cruise.
- 7) Would you have a slide/photo showing sea turtle products -- especially tortoiseshell jewelry, polished carapaces, etc. -- that I could use in a leaflet ~~&~~ advising tourists to the Caribbean islands ~~&~~ about CITES restrictions. If possible, one with several different types of items - to remind tourists just what the law applies to, & have the permission of a govt. agent in Antigua to distribute it there - in hotels, restaurants, at the airport. He offered to help - thru their office of tourism. I'm trying to get Chuck Carr at NZZ to print it.
- 8) The Tonga job sounds interesting. I'm writing to find out just how soon they mean business. The nesting season isn't until December. If they miss this year's season, I would sure like to be considered for the next one. I have several bits of research I'd like to follow up on Pacific hawksbills.

Researcher shows about how
usually talks "enhance
conspicuousness" "enhance
one in the nesting!"

- 9) (a long letter!) Enclosed is a rough of a letter to William Stevenson from Sally Hopkins' boss (I think), at Sally's instigation. It's a hot one, and it's already caused a lot of squirming at NMFS. This copy is a confidential one to AC, who asked me to tell you to keep it under your hat. The Moll letter I am sending just for the pure irony of it -- after Sally's, why can't NMFS get it's priorities straight and follow thru on efforts like the incidental catch design?
10. The citation in Marine Fisheries Review, "Sea Turtles in the Central West Atlantic" is that ass hole Bacon's. What more can I say.
11. Fred Berry is really rolling on the 1983 WAT Symposium. He has such high hopes for it. I'm supposed to meet with Horace Walters, technical team member from St. Lucia, to give him a pep talk on getting delegates from the east Caribbean to get out & do some work. Fred has me signed up for half the Caribbean. He thinks that because the islands are small, I can cover more! And I really don't have much time to get involved. It just makes me lose sleep!

TO BE CONTINUED

5 April.

12. We've just heard from His Serene Highness (Monaco). Copy enclosed. Will you take care of his request? Dr. Carr asked me to send him a copy of the sea turtle identification poster. I'll tell him at the same time that you'll be getting in touch with ^{him} on the specifics ~~are~~ ok? Sounds like he's interested.

13. We haven't seen or heard ^{about} the Caguama film - Let us have a rating -

14. Seagrass sample - Lawrence Huber. You must be dreaming, George. We can hardly keep track of this year's correspondence - let alone 1965's. AC didn't have a glimmer of a memory of it; I checked through all the old correspondence between them - there were several letters, but none about that - and no samples. Sorry.

15. Glad to see the letter from Ken Dodd re: ^(downlisting) ~~(distorting)~~ Hawaiian Chelonia. Sometimes, inertia works in our favor!

16. The news about Arvanon ~~is~~ ^{is} very disappointing. Is there anything we can do about it? Are you in touch still w/ Vaughan on it? Incidentally, I wrote him a long letter ^(about hawk-bills) and never heard a peep from him. Is he a slow correspondent? Could some letters be sent to the authorities out there?

17. Any breakthrough on the Tonga-Fiji tag return

18. Pacific Legal Fdn. - Yes, AC got same letter from NMFS. He had a talk with Larry and decided he didn't want to comment on it.

Well, that's about all I know! Sorry to have to pack all this in one scrunched letter. I had hoped to type a clean draft, but there's just no time. I'm trying to get a monumental amount of lab work done in order to get up to the Smit-Roman with my sponge preparations before my contact there goes in the field for a month.

Will try to write sooner next time.
Hope all is well.

Hasta luego,

Anne

P.S. We're hearing a few ideas from MTG members on possible places/dates for a meeting. Will send along soon.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

12 Feb '82

Dear George,

Thanks for your recent letter + the various news items. And the El Salvador stamp! Much has been happening around here - it's hard to keep up. Enclosed are my comments to Brian Groombridge on his leather-back draft. ^{What did you think of it? I didn't understand the need for the 3 recapitulations of nesting distri,} but I did think he did a good job. As you will see in my notes to him, I was hoping you'd send him a draft of your Onyx squid net paper. That's a whole new threat to leather backs. I'm glad you will be making people aware of it via Onyx. I had to laugh when I finished reading it - it certainly doesn't sound like your usual NMFS document! (yea, turtles - boo, fishing) Do they give you any grief about drawing negative attention to fisheries matters? Anyway, back to Brian. I hope you sent in your comments. Dr. Carr has written him concerning

WHO MAKE THE DECISIONS! (Brian)
the status designation. I hope he backs down.

Yes, Sally Hopkins sent us all copies of her loggerhead paper. I haven't had a chance to read it yet. Karen + I are still waiting to hear about our loggerhead papers. Would you be interested in seeing the manuscripts? They're not too terribly exciting, but I'll send copies if you like. Also, did you ever get our ~~the~~ second ~~half~~ interim rept. to NMFS on WAS

(Aug 81?)? I think you did. We are anxious for the NMFS Tech mem. to come out. Please let me know Limpus' response to your letter about Bustards' tag returns.

We did have a session about them at the Conference - and I thought I had straightened out what needed it, but maybe not, Limpus really does need to come out stronger on what he knows about them.

* Any leads on the Tonga # - Fiji return?
No, Michel Martin never responded. Idiot

Have to run - Hope all is well w/ you + family.
Anne

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS 61920

*Division of
Life Sciences*

Botany Department 217-581-3624
Environmental Biology 217-581-3011
Zoology Department 217-581-3126

26 February, 1982

Wilber Seidel Chief
Harvesting Systems and
Surveys Division
NMFS, Southeast Fisheries Center
Mississippi Laboratories
Pascagoula Facility
PO Drawer 1207
Pascagoula, MS 39567

Dear Mr. Seidel:

My Lindberg Fund proposal to introduce the sea turtle excluder device to Malaysia was not funded. However, I am not ready to give up yet. As alternative funding sources, I have recently sent letters to UNEP and FAO representatives. If and when something positive comes through, I will let you know. In the meantime I am trying to take whatever actions are possible without funds.

I have recently heard from Siow Kuan Tow, Director of Fisheries in Trengganu Malaysia. They are very anxious to begin work with the excluder device and will institute the net modification as soon as they know how. According to Siow, two main types of trawl are used there - one operated with 110 hp or 160 hp engine and the other type trawl with a 35 hp engine. He has sent the design of these nets which I include herein. Could you provide a set of instructions for modifying these trawl nets? I have NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFC-71 and the addendum which I will copy and send to them. However, if you can offer any more specific instructions based on the trawl diagrams, this would be better yet.

The Malaysians can modify several nets for testing. If and when I get the funding to fly a net specialist (such as Taylor) over there, it ^{should} will be ready for him to check. If no funds are forthcoming the Malaysians can still go ahead with the project and work out the "bugs" as best they can.

Thank you once again for all your help on this effort.

Sincerely,

Edward O. Moll
Edward O. Moll

PS. Please send me an additional reprint of the Watson-Seidel paper "Evaluation of techniques to decrease sea turtle materials---etc."

cc; Archie Carr
Larry Ogren

February 16, 1982

Mr. William H. Stevenson
~~U. S. Dept. of Commerce~~
NOAA/NMFS
Washington, D. C. 20235

Dear Mr. Stevenson,

Our department recently received a Request for Proposal No. FSE-43-82-121-50, from the Regional Office in St. Petersburg to conduct aerial pelagic and beach surveys of marine turtles. After this RFP was reviewed by our staff biologists, I felt that a position letter was in order on this matter.

We feel that this proposed study is ill-conceived in both general and specific ways and that these points should be brought to your attention. These views were shared by other concerned researchers and managers in North Carolina and Georgia who contacted us.

First, the funding is inadequate to carry out the tasks called for in the RFP. There is \$115,000.00 provided for an initial 6-month period with an expected \$115,000.00 for an additional 6-month period. However, the first period would include all of the beach surveys and one-half of the pelagic surveys. Thus the potential contractor must perform 3/4 of the project on 1/2 of the funding. By comparison, a cooperative beach survey conducted in 1980 from North Carolina to Florida cost approximately \$75,000.00. Yet this RFP calls for a similar survey plus two quarterly pelagic surveys over the continental shelf for just \$115,00.00. It is clear that this is not possible.

Second, the final report of the ^{above} 1980 beach nesting survey (Joseph Powers, 25 February 1981) indicates the continuing statistical uncertainty of this data source. The RFP requests "at least monthly" beach surveys, but seven (eight in Florida) surveys in 1980 produced uncomfortably large standard errors around the estimate; fewer than seven surveys would be statistically illogical. Furthermore, Powers (1981) points out the desirability of replicate surveys within a given sample period, and Richardson *et al.* (1980) indicates serious problems needing investigation, including the inconsistency of aerial/ground truth count ratios between survey years. The RFP does not speak to these problems, nor does it request consideration of the same.

Third, previous pelagic aerial surveys conducted under Bureau of Land Management contracts, cited in the introduction of this RFP, yielded extremely large confidence limits on their estimates of turtles. The information necessary to convert aerial turtle observation to an estimate of "oceanic abundance of sea turtles by species" has not been developed as yet. Turtle behavior at the surface of the ocean is influenced by a variety of unquantified factors such as water temperature, turtle activity, water depth, sea state, turtle species, etc. Therefore, even though the sampling design provided by a potential contractor may be statistically valid, it may not provide useful biological data, i.e. the confidence limits of the estimates may be so large as to make them useless.

Fourth, the major emphasis of this RFP appears to be on the pelagic aspects of this survey. In the Marine Turtle Recovery Plan, both sections of the "step-down" plan that refer to pelagic survey are given only a "moderate" priority. Also, in that Recovery Plan, it is evident that the Team feels that pelagic survey methodology is still to be developed and therefore the feasibility of pelagic surveys for population estimates are

Dg. your red cooler is here. Shall I send it?

L. Sorry this was so slow. Had trouble finding it. A

questionable. To quote, "much work remains to be done before shelf aerial surveys provide quantitative data."

In these times of limited research funding, it is even more critical that priorities be carefully thought out and that contracts be awarded to provide the best and most needed information for the money invested. Our staff feels that there are better approaches to obtaining population estimates than those requested in the RFP, and that NMFS should allocate ~~their~~^{its} limited funding to those activities which will directly lead to obtaining biological data which will result in the recovery of marine turtle species.

Our current turtle research is proceeding in this direction and in fact we have two projects which address the problems encountered in aerial surveys. We also place the highest priority on requiring the TED (turtle excluder device) and educating the fishermen in its correct use. This will have an immediate and direct benefit to marine turtles.

We look forward to continued cooperation between our agencies, and I hope that this information will be helpful in planning your future research and management priorities.

Sincerely,

JAT

cc: Dr. Allen, SE Reg. Dir., NMFS
Dr. Fox, Dir. NMFS SEFC
Mr. Berry, Res. Prog. Dir., SEFC

NOTE:

Please send blind copies same day to

Mr. Stewart Critcher
N. C. Wildlife Res. Comm.
Archdale Bldg.
Raleigh N. C. 27611

and

Mr. James I. Richardson
Inst. of Ecology
Univ. of Georgia
Athens, GA 30601

Memo



To: A. Carr / G. Balazs / F. Wayne King
From: Patricia Chable / SSC *Patricia*
Cc:
File Ref:
Date: 2 April 1982
Subject: Int. 393 - Research on sea turtles

Please find enclosed N. Mrosovsky's proposal: Sex ratio of sea turtles: temperature effects and conservation methods.

We urgently need to know if you have any suggestions or objections.

Many thanks.



WWF WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

FONDS MONDIAL POUR LA NATURE

CANADA

60 St. Clair Ave. E., Suite 201,
Toronto, Ontario M4T 1N5
Telephone: (416) 923-8173

March 4, 1982

10 MARS 1982
24/CD

Dr. Hartmut Jungius
IUCN
Avenue du Mont-Blanc
CH-1196
GLAND, Switzerland

Potential Projects
Sub Series no. 396
Research on
sea Turtles.

Dear Hartmut:

I have enclosed a copy of a proposal which was recently screened by the Scientific Advisory Committee and Executive Committee of World Wildlife Fund (Canada). This project received a very high rating from our scientific group, and was recently approved for full funding by WWF (Canada) at our February 26 Executive Committee meeting. Since this project takes place in part outside Canada, I am now seeking the agreement of IUCN for it to proceed.

Since WWF (Canada) is prepared to extend the entire funding, since it has been approved by our entire Scientific Advisory Committee, and since it has also been approved by our Executive Committee, I hope you can give this application both prompt and positive consideration. I don't know exactly when the nesting period occurs for the marine turtles under consideration, but I'm sure it is safe to assume that Dr. Mrosovsky would like to know where he stands as soon as possible.

Sincerely

Monte Hummel
Executive Director
WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (CANADA)



APPLICATION FOR OPERATING GRANT

THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (CANADA)
FONDS MONDIAL POUR LA NATURE (CANADA)

60 ST. CLAIR AVENUE EAST, SUITE 201
TORONTO, ONTARIO M4V 1M9 (416) 923-8173

PERSONAL DATA

Date December 21, 1981	Given Names Nicholas	Surname MROSOVSKY	1
Position—Rank Professor	Department Zoology	University or Other Toronto	City Toronto Tel. No. 978-8506
Degrees	College, University or Institution	Discipline	Year
Bachelor's	Cambridge, U.K.	Natural Sciences	1958
Master's	Cambridge, U.K.	- " -	1961
Doctorate	University College, U.K.	Psychology	1962
Other	Guggenheim Memorial Fellow		1973-4

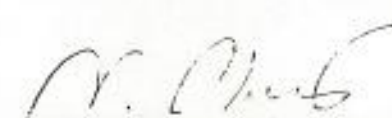
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS


Positions Held	Dates	Department	Institution
Associate Professor	1968-1973	Zoology & Psychology	University of Toronto
Professor	1973-present	- " -	- " -
Co-Chairman, IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group	1976-1979		IUCN, Switzerland
Member, IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group	1979-present		" "
Editor, Marine Turtle Newsletter	1976-present		


OTHER RESEARCH SUPPORT: State agency, title of project, whether held or applied for.
Underline those which are for the purpose of the project covered by present application.

Agency and Title of Project	Amount \$	Current Status (held or applied for) (if held, indicate duration)
NSERC Body Weight, Biological Rhythms & Behaviour (Renewal of 3 year operating grant. Last instalment of present operating grant, \$44,000, ends March 1982)	81,000 73,000 72,000	applied for

SIGNATURES OF:


(Applicant)


(Head of Department)


(President or Principal)
C. M. Gillin

Associate Director,
Research Administration

PUBLICATIONS AND PATENTS

68 publications in refereed journals or symposia, including 1 book. Selected publications:

1. Mrosovsky, N. 1978. Orientation mechanisms in marine turtles. In: Animal Migration, Homing and Navigation. Schmidt-Koenig, K. and Keeton, W.T. (eds.). Springer-Verlag, Berlin, p. 413-419.
2. Yntema, C.L., and Mrosovsky, N. 1980. Sexual differentiation in hatchling loggerheads (Caretta caretta) incubated at different controlled temperatures. Herpetologica, 36, p. 33-36.
3. Mrosovsky, N., and Yntema, C.L. 1980. Temperature dependence of sexual differentiation in sea turtles: implications for conservation practices. Biological Conservation, 18, p. 271-280.
4. Mrosovsky, N. 1980. Thermal biology of sea turtles. American Zoologist, 20, p. 531-547.
5. Mrosovsky, N., and Sherry, D.F. 1980. Animal Anorexias. Science, 207, p. 837-842.
6. Mrosovsky, N. 1980. Circannual cycles in golden-mantled ground squirrels: phase shift produced by low temperatures. Journal of Comparative Physiology, 136, p. 349-353.
7. Mrosovsky, N. 1980. Circannual cycles in golden-mantled ground squirrels: experiments with food deprivation and effects of temperature on periodicity. Journal of Comparative Physiology, 136, p. 355-360.
8. Joy, J.E., Melnyk, R.B., and Mrosovsky, N. 1980. Reproductive cycles in the male dormouse (Glis glis). Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, 67A, p. 219-221.
9. Mrosovsky, N., Melnyk, R.B., Lang, K., Hallonquist, J.D., Boshes, M., and Joy, J.E. 1980. Infradian cycles in dormice (Glis glis). Journal of Comparative Physiology, 137, p. 315-339.
10. Mrosovsky, N., and Lang, K. 1980. Body weights of garden dormice, Eliomys quercinus, kept in constant conditions for two years. Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, 67A, p. 667-669.
11. Mrosovsky, N. 1981. Body fat during pregnancy and lactation. In: The Body Weight Regulatory System: Normal and Disturbed Mechanisms. Cioffi, L.A., James, W.P.T., and Van Itallie, T.B. (eds.). Raven Press, New York, p. 253-257.
12. Mrosovsky, N., and Melnyk, R.B. 1981. Towards new animal models in obesity research. International Journal of Obesity, in press.
13. Grimes, L.J., Melnyk, R.B., Martin, I.M., and Mrosovsky, N. 1981. Infradian cycles in glucose utilization and lipogenic activity in dormouse (Glis glis) adipocytes. General and Comparative Endocrinology, 45, p. 21-25.
14. Mrosovsky, N. 1981. Sex ratio bias in hatchling sea turtles from artificially incubated eggs. Biological Conservation, in press.
15. Kingsmill, S.F., and Mrosovsky, N. 1982. Sea-finding behaviour of loggerhead hatchlings: the time course of transient circling following unilateral and asynchronous bilateral blindfolding. Brain, Behaviour, and Evolution, in press.
16. Mrosovsky, N. Ecology and nest site selection by leatherback turtles. Biological Conservation, in press.
17. Yntema, C.L., and Mrosovsky, N. Critical periods and pivotal temperatures for sexual differentiation in loggerhead turtles. Can. J. Zool. in press.

SURNAME

MROSOVSKY

APPLICATION FOR OPERATING GRANT

BUDGET

Amount requested for fiscal year ending March 31

	1983	19	19
(a) Assistants	4,375		
(b) Equipment	-		
(c) Travel	1,142		
(d) Materials, supplies, incidentals	100		
(e) Computing costs	-		
TOTALS \$	5,617	\$	\$

Particulars:

- a) Technician Grade 4, 3-1/2 months at \$1,250 per month, for histology.
- b) -
- c) Return air fare to Surinam (\$892) + hotels en routes + boat hire + transport costs for eggs.
- d) Chemicals, stains, glass slides and boxes, specimen bottles.

WWF Potential Projects

Inte Series no. 396

Research on Sea Turtles

A one year application may also be made

SHORT TITLE of proposed research

Sex ratio of sea turtles; temperature effects and conservation methods

RESEARCH PLAN to be followed by PROGRESS REPORT (of part work)

Background: Many reptiles, including those sea turtles studied, lack heteromorphic sex chromosomes. Sexual differentiation depends on temperature prevailing during incubation (Bull. 1980, review in Q.J. Biol. 55, 3-21; Mrosovsky, 1980, Am. Zool. 20, 531-547). These are not minor adjustments. At warm temperatures 100% females are produced, at cool temperatures, 100% males (Fig. 1). This has many implications for conservation practices (Mrosovsky & Yntema, 1980, Biol. Conserv. 18, 271-280). In particular incubating eggs in styrofoam boxes is widespread because it protects against predators and hatch rates are excellent. But temperatures are cooler, and it has now been shown that in green turtles sex ratio is biased toward males (Mrosovsky, in press a, Biol. Conserv.). A reprint and press reports are attached for additional background.

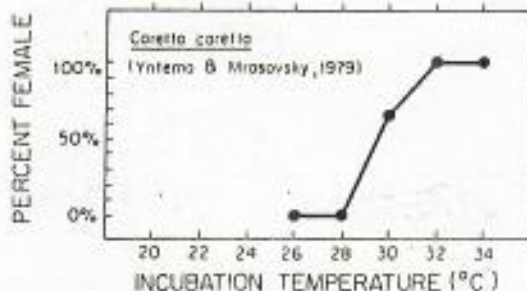


FIG. 1. Sex ratio as a function of incubation temperature in loggerhead turtles (data from Yntema and Mrosovsky, 1979).

Research Plan: The present proposal is to study sex determination in leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*). This has not been done yet and there are particular reasons for doing so in this species:

RESEARCH PLAN AND PROGRESS REPORT (continued)

1) Leatherbacks lay lower on the beach than other turtles; in the Guianas around 40% of their clutches are laid below the high tide line (Schulz, 1975, Zool. Verhand. 143, 1-143; Mrosovsky, in press b, Biol. Conserv.). Therefore their eggs are more often moved in conservation programmes. It is important to know what are male and female producing temperatures for this species and assess the impact of thermal differences in clutches that have moved (to styrofoam boxes, higher on the beach in the sun, in the shade etc, it makes a difference).

2) Incubation times within styrofoam boxes are relatively more different from natural nests than for other species (Schulz op. cit). Masculinizing effects could be greater therefore.

(It may also be relevant that the leatherback swims into Canadian waters in search of jelly fish in the summer months:)

Three things will be attempted with leatherbacks:

1) fly 100 eggs back from Surinam to Canada and incubate at 5 different constant temperatures, to find the male and female producing levels.

2) get a baseline measure of sex ratio at hatching in nature. This is the hardest part because, even in Surinam near the equator, temperature varies seasonally. To get a useful baseline nests will be sampled weekly for the 6 months nesting season; 10 hatchlings will be taken at random from each nest or sexing (n = 240).

3) at specified times within the season 16 styrofoam box nests will be incubated, and 10 hatchlings taken from each for comparison with natural nests (n = 160). Other variables to be monitored in 2 and 3 are temperature of clutches, incubation durations and location of nests.

Methods: There is no known way at present to sex hatchling sea turtles other than histology of the gonads, as demonstrated by Yntema and Mrosovsky (1980, Herpetologica 36, 33-36). For reasons given, karyotyping does not work. Nor are hormone levels sufficiently dimorphic at hatching. So tissues will be taken from Surinam to Toronto for histology. Because of the sample size, this is very laborious. The main item in the budget is for help on histology. All equipment for this and incubators for part 1 are available already. Also it is planned to have someone in the field already for related work in green turtles, and they can collect the leatherback samples also. However, at least one journey to Surinam is necessary because the leatherback season lasts longer than that for green turtles, and experience has also shown that the only sure way to get eggs through the customs etc of several countries is to accompany them. Eggs must reach Toronto in viable state and before the onset of the critical period within incubation.

Misc.: An individual leatherback probably lays a few thousand eggs in her lifetime, maybe more sometimes. Therefore each hatchling represents only a fraction of an adult. The number taken for the whole project therefore amounts to taking less than 1 adult from the population. Since many leatherback eggs are laid below the high tide line, the cost of ignorance is likely to exceed the price of knowledge in this case. Certainly both the Surinamese and the Canadian CITIES authorities have issued permits in the past. The Surinamese Forest Service have especially encouraged research of this kind there.

The applicant's past work on turtles has been supported by NSERC, and NSERC funds will be used to continue the more theoretically oriented work on green turtles. But because the histological follow up is so laborious, there is no leeway to extend the work to leatherbacks and their particular conservation problems involved. But everything else is in place for this project: field work is arranged, incubators, microtomes available, and previous experience with the field area and methods.

from the "Sea Turtle Conservation Strategy" (Washington, 1979)

"Issues of importance include testing the biological effectiveness of restocking, transplanting, and head-starting programmes, and studying the effects of incubation temperature and other environmental condition on sex determination."

Regional Office, East Coast National Parks
~~TURTLE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK~~
BOX 768, SANDAKAN, SABAH, MALAYSIA.
CABLES "NATAPARK", SANDAKAN. TEL. 2188

Your Ref:

Our Ref: ECNPRO/52/1/128

Date: 10th April, 1982

Mr. Robert Scott,
Executive Officer,
Species Survival Commission,
IUCN, Avenue du Mont-Blanc,
1196 Gland -
Suisse/Switzerland.



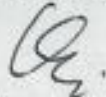
Dear Bob,

Many thanks for your letter No. SSC/RFS/pc of 12th March and am glad to learn that my suggestion to discuss matters at Bali has been appropriate. As George Balazs has always been very interested and has actively supported the project, it is suggested that he be invited to attend. If I remember correctly, he was to have accompanied the Director General to the Philippines to provide the expertise. I have just received a letter from Archie saying that he would be at the Bali conference.

I am writing a paper as requested by Jeffrey A. McNeely for the Bali Conference and will be able to attend if funding is available. There have been substantial budgeting cuts this year and government has launched an austerity drive; in fact it began last year. Funds for conferences are therefore impossible to obtain from the State.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,


G. S. de Silva

NOO

c.c. Mr. George Balazs.

George
Hope you are OK. Regards.
Stanley.



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

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Regional Office, East Coast National Parks,
 Turtle Islands National Parks
 Sender's name and address:
 P. O. Box No: 768 Sandakan,
 Sabah, East Malaysia



AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
 ENCLOSURE: IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
 OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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Mr. George Balazs

Handwritten notes:
 Mr. George Balazs
 Marine Turtle Specialist Group
 University of Hawaii at Manoa

22 March 82

Dear George,

I hope this finds you well. I was delighted to receive four letters from you! ~~on~~ These arrived here on Cosmoledo on the first of March, aboard a yacht. Your letters are always welcome, and I appreciate the news items that you pass on for me. I enjoyed the clipping about the invasion of Seychelles. My father in Chicago tells me that now when he tells his friends where I am they have heard of the place, since it has made all the papers.

When I was on Reunion George Hughes was mentioned, but mostly in passing. I did not get the impression that he was too involved in the Ranch. I got the impression that he was just casually interested. I may be wrong.

In answer to your other question, the "Ranch" has some very big ~~big~~ turtles. I think it is very conceivable they have been supplying meat/calipee already to such soup places.

I think you and I could ^{start a competition} ~~be competing~~ for the honor of working in the most remote place. God! I am isolated out here! ~~As~~ I do, however, enjoy it much. I've been on Cosmoledo since Jan 1. On Jan 15 our VHF radio broke down. We were completely out of touch until Mar 1 when the yacht which brought my mail also brought a new radio. On Mar 10 I went to Assumption for a visit of one day. ~~Then~~ (after which I was going to return to Cosmoledo for a couple more months.) I stayed for 11 days cause the ship got called to Tanzania to pick up cargo. Now I'm back on Cosmoledo till May or June. In the interim, however, our radio broke down

again, and can not be repaired out here. Tomorrow morning the ship goes back to Malé and leaves me out here. I like it! Cosmoledo is an interesting atoll. There's enough turtles to keep me busy. When I'm not doing my own work I go fishing or turtle-hunting with the men. There are 20 people out here, counting me. (I'm the only white one.) All the people are great. Living conditions are primitive!!! No electricity, no fridge, no stoves (just wood fires), water is not only not "running," it is scarce.

I have to make this short cause I've got a million things to do before the ship leaves. I'll write more later. I expect to visit the States in July / Aug / Sep now. It is so hard to really make plans out here, but I make stay 2 months.

Take care

Jeanne

THE FLORIDA STATE MUSEUM
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



the florida
state museum
museum road
university
of florida
gainesville
32611
904/392-1721

23 March 1982

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

Dear George:

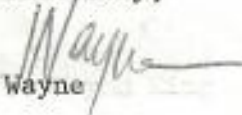
Six or eight months ago, I sent you a copy of an article on sea turtles from the St. Petersburg Times newspaper, written by Pete Gallagher. I am trying to locate a copy of it, but apparently have misfiled our copy. If you still have it could you send me a xerox copy? Please do not send the original, I only need a copy.

I hope you will be able to join Archie and me in Bali on 10-12 October for a regional meeting of the Turtle Specialist Group. Stanley de Silva and representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines will be attending the 3rd International Conference on National Parks, and we all thought it would be an ideal time to conclude some of the SE Asia turtle business that has been hanging-fire for many years. This will not be in place of a meeting of the entire Marine Turtle Specialist Group in the next year or two, but is simply an opportunistic gathering of regional people.

I will be passing through Hawaii on the way to and from Australia during the last week in March/first week in April. I will only be between planes, but will try to give you a call from the airport.

Incidentally, I have just learned that Sean McKeown is planning to return to Mauritius and Reunion in the next month or two to collect more Phelsuma for commercial sale and for release in Hawaii -- last year he collected over 70 Phelsuma guimbeaui from Mauritius and other species from the Seychelles, most of which died during the shipment back. The few that survived he offered for sale at over \$100 apiece. Nice guy.

Sincerely,


Wayne

923-7723
FWK/jm

26 March 1982

Dr. Archie Carr, Chairman
I.U.C.N. Marine Turtle Specialist Group
Department of Zoology; 223 Bartram Hall
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

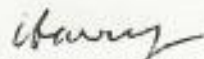
Dear Dr. Carr:

This is in reply to your letter of 17 March 1982 concerning a meeting of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group. I do think a meeting is timely. As I mentioned in my last letter, I think that sea turtles are in more jeopardy now than in any other time in the 20th century. I think it would be most meaningful to convene a meeting in a country where sea turtles abound and where a meeting of international experts could add weight to proper management of turtles in the host country. In this regard I rank in descending order my choices of a meeting site: Australia, New Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Japan, Malagasy Republic, India, and Hawaii. As you can see, my preference is somewhere on the western rim of the Pacific.

Financial support is, of course, a bigger problem. Perhaps I.U.C.N. could see its way to pay for one-half the travel costs. This would make it easier for members to obtain the other half through local organizations or from their own personal savings. The fact that some domestic backing may be obtained makes Australia enticing. United States participants may be able to get financial help through the Foreign Currency Program with India. The U.S. has Cooperative Programs with China and Japan, but these require long lead times. The "Gainesville Travel Bureau" may be able to help via group fares (I have heard of their world-wide arrangements even out here). The N.S.F. Division of International Programs does help sponsor international symposia--again if given enough lead time.

Although the timing of such a meeting may not be negotiable, my preference, because of teaching commitments, would be around Christmas 1982.

Sincerely yours,


Harold F. Hirth
Professor

HFH:nmf

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-322-1107

March 17, 1982

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

Dear George:

It is becoming urgent for us to start planning a meeting. I've been in a quandary as to how to find ways for the members to finance the travel, and want to ask for your suggestions. Some members can expect travel grants from their governments, but perhaps not many. Australia is at the moment the most attractive prospective location for a meeting, and Colin Limpus has kindly offered to request help with domestic costs from the government there. However, with funds as scarce as they are, I can't see much evidence that we could expect to assemble a quorum out there. Hawaii or Europe would be cheaper for a lot of members, but I have no constructive suggestions for those who couldn't count on government or organizational help with the fare. Nobody likes the idea of another meeting in the U.S., both because it shifts the burden to the Old World folk, and because our last two sessions have been on this continent. Some time ago Wayne King suggested that responsibility for finding funds be left to each individual member - even if he or she had to set up a little savings account for it. That seems a bit rough, but I have decided to canvass the membership to learn what you-all think of the idea - or what alternative suggestions you might have.

Meanwhile, Wayne has told me that IUCN in Gland urges that we combine a regional Group meeting with the World National Parks Congress that will convene in Bali next October. They have even left a slot open in the agenda for this. They think it is vital for us to come to grips with the long delayed negotiations between Sabah and the Philippines over the Sulu Sea sanctuary, and they are right. I'll be going to Bali, because I'm presenting a paper. The regional meeting would probably be attended mainly by Asiatic folk, although all members would obviously be welcome. In any case, we ought to start making definite plans for a full meeting at some later time. I hope you will share with us here any ideas you may have.

Sincerely yours,

Archie

Archie Carr
Chairman, IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist
Group

AC/1w

University of Toronto

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

RAMSAY WRIGHT ZOOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
25 HARBORD STREET
TORONTO M5S 1A1, ONTARIO, CANADA

March 26, 1982

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

Dear Archie,

In reply to your circular:

- 1) October (Bali) is much too soon for a proper meeting. People need more lead time to raise support. Applications for travel grants often take several months or more. It would be better to combine with the 1983 WATS-IOCARIBE meeting in Costa Rica than with the Bali one, both for timing and otherwise.
- 2) Please can we have some recognition, in setting the date of the meeting, that some of us are academics with commitments in term.
- 3) I agree with you that a partial meeting is not really going to fill the bill, useful though it might be.
- 4) Overall I think you will not get as good attendance in Australia. I think Hawaii would be a very good compromise for Asian and U.S.A. members. Somewhere more exotic, a bit further out into the Pacific might be considered also.
- 5) You will recall that Siow in Malaysia was previously very keen to have a meeting, and felt he could arrange favourable terms. That would not be a bad place for having Sabah/Philippines input. And it is in fact much nearer than Australia for most people. But I have no idea whether he is still interested.

For your information:

- a) I personally hope to be in Australia Aug.-Sept. 1983, for the international ethology and other meetings (Int. Physiology congress, satellite), so any time then would suit me well, apart from dates of those other meetings.
- b) I could probably raise some of the fare via my grant if the title of the meeting was such that it indicated that scientific (biological) content as well as political, conservation type.

Dr. Archie Carr

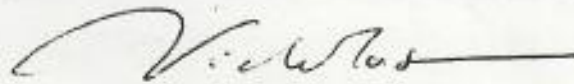
- 2 -

March 26, 1982

I hope these ideas of are some use to you. My main feeling is that people need not less than 1 year's notice. When you get replies from others over the next few months, you should fix the best place and time, and let people work round that as best they can.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Nicholas Mrosovsky.

P.S. Why not ask that Foundation in Texas that supports wildlife things to find it, or even the Cayman Farm!

NM/jr

TURTLE TRUST

Westport Point
Massachusetts 02791
U.S.A.



*A charitable trust for the protection of
turtles especially through captive breeding.*

Richard Cary Paull, Trustee

Dear Turtle Protector:

Turtle Trust is a charitable, cooperative, international effort to save turtles from extinction largely through captive breeding.

Turtle Trust has bred and assisted others to breed turtles, honored outstanding accomplishments in both breeding and care of captive turtles, and now published Occasional Papers.

The first seven papers included articles on: The Reptilian Breeding and Research Institute; the green turtle and the Wall Street Journal; did Thoreau find a mud turtle in Plymouth, Massachusetts?; color vision of pond turtles; growth records; the radiated tortoise; softshell turtles; burn treatment; book reviews; status reports; and much more. These papers are sent to forty-five countries.

Turtle Trust has held shows, has a turtle seminar scheduled for March 27, 1982 in Rhode Island, and plans a busy year.

You can be part of this and really help turtles. Turtle Trust needs volunteers for slide bank, library, turtle matching, articles, turtle care, computer operation and soliciations.

If this soliciation meets its goal, the very next issue of Turtle Trust Occasional Papers will include an article on a single species of turtle, suitable for a permanent place in a notebook. (This article may well have a color photograph of the animal!)

Also expected in the next issue: articles on aggression in Testudo, captive care including pen design, and elimination of risks to people and turtles.

Please send your offer of support, suggestions of names for the mailing list and your contribution in any amount. Ten dollars per year entitles you to our book specials and a subscription to the Occasional Papers.

Thank you.

RICHARD CARY PAULL
Trustee

TURTLE TRUST

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*A charitable trust for the protection of
turtles especially through captive breeding.*

Richard Cary Paull, Trustee

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By Pritchard

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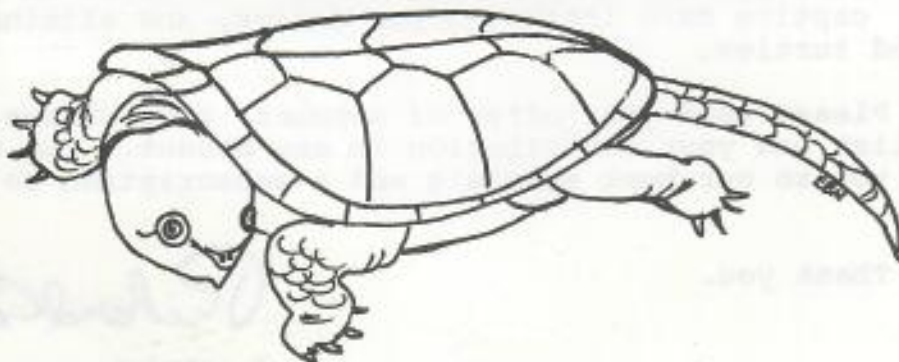
TURTLES OF SOUTH AMERICA

9.95

7.50

Anyone who has contributed at the rate of \$10 per year may purchase at the special contributor price. All others must pay list and postage. Domestic postage is free for contributors. These books are all now in stock for immediate delivery.

Geo. H. Balazs
Hawaii Inst. for Marine
Biology (U. of Hawaii)
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744



Référence/Reference:

SSC/RFS/pc
Sa/3/4-4

Mr. G.S. de Silva
East Coast National Parks
Regional Office
Turtle Islands National Park
Box 768
Sandakan
Sabah
Malaysia

12 March 1982

Dear Stanley,

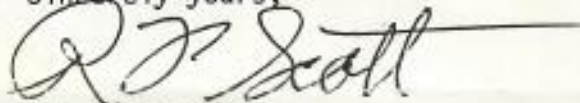
Thanks for yours of 19 February.

The idea of setting up a discussion on sea turtle conservation during the Bali World Parks Congress, which would then involve participants from Sabah, Philippines and Indonesia, is very appropriate. I have discussed it with Jeff McNeely, who is coordinating the Bali meeting, and we have agreed tentatively that he will set aside the evening of Tuesday 12 October 1982 (and perhaps a later follow-up) for that purpose. He will send necessary letters after our SSC Steering Committee meets next week. Do you have specific names to suggest?

It may well be that Archie Carr and perhaps others interested will also be in Bali and able to participate.

We will keep you informed.

Sincerely yours,



Robert F. Scott
Executive Officer
Species Survival Commission

cc: J.B. Alvarez
N. de Celis
E. Gomez
A. Carr
F.W. King
J. McNeely



PEJABAT TAMAN NEGARA BAHAGIAN PANTAI TIMUR

REGIONAL OFFICE, EAST COAST NATIONAL PARKS

BOX 768, SANDAKAN, SABAH, MALAYSIA. TEL : 42188

CABLES "NATAPARK" SANDAKAN.

Your Ref :

Our Ref: ECNPRO/52/1/131

27th April, 1982

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

Dear George,

Many thanks for your letter of 16th April, 1982 and the poster which is greatly appreciated. As I need a dozen more, can you please let me know the source of supply.

With regard to the Philippine/Sabah International Sanctuary, it appears that another round of talks is scheduled at Bali. In case you have not received a copy of my letter to Bob Scott, another is sent herewith. I hope it all works out and you are able to attend.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

G. S. de Silva
G. S. de Silva

Regional Office, East Coast National Parks

ECNPRO/52/1/128

10th April, 1982

Mr. Robert Scott,
Executive Officer,
Species Survival Commission,
IUCN, Avenue du Mont-Blanc,
1196 Gland -
Suisse/Switzerland.

Dear Bob,

Many thanks for your letter No. SSC/RFS/pc of 12th March and am glad to learn that my suggestion to discuss matters at Bali has been appropriate. As George Balass has always been very interested and has actively supported the project, it is suggested that he be invited to attend. If I remember correctly, he was to have accompanied the Director General to the Philippines to provide the expertise. I have just received a letter from Archie saying that he would be at the Bali conference.

I am writing a paper as requested by Jeffrey A. McNeely for the Bali Conference and will be able to attend if funding is available. There have been substantial budgeting cuts this year and government has launched an austerity drive; in fact it began last year. Funds for conferences are therefore impossible to obtain from the State.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,



G. S. de Silva

NOO

c.c. Mr. George Balass.