



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory
2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396

October 30, 1991

F/SWC2:GHB:JEG
SIU-8L.GHB

Mr. Philippe Siu
Program Coordinator
EVAAM
P.O. Box 20, Papeete
Tahiti, French Polynesia

Dear Mr. Siu:

I am writing to formally request your assistance in obtaining a CITES export permit to ship from Tahiti to Hawaii 16 limb bones (humeri) from green turtles, *Chelonia mydas*. As you know, all of these bones currently being held at your office were legally obtained within French Polynesia from turtles that had already died from causes unrelated to the bone collection activities.

As we agreed, they will be used in cooperative research between our agencies aimed at estimating the age of the turtles through skeletochronological techniques. All data will be freely shared between us in a timely manner. Any publications that result from this study will include both of our names as coauthors.

Thank you for assistance with this important matter.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Zoologist and Leader
Marine Turtle Research Program

