



don chapman

HEADACHES OF A SENATOR-TURNED-RE-

STAURATEUR: State Sen. Andy Anderson should find out next week whether the National Fisheries Service will issue a notice of violation to his new John Dominis restaurant. The Federal agency investigated Anderson's having found three green sea turtles in the restaurant's saltwater stream and pond. The turtles, of the



Anderson

species *Chelonia mydas*, are protected under the federal Endangered Species Act, which makes it illegal to take, possess or eat them. The three juvenile turtles were confiscated and released at sea by local NMFS agents just before the posh restaurant opened. Said Anderson yesterday: "A couple of fishing buddies of mine caught the turtles and threw them in the stream here. I knew you couldn't eat them, but I didn't know it

was illegal to possess them. . . We're applying for a federal permit to have them here under the Endangered Species Act." Dr. Edward Shallenberger, v-p of Sea Life Park, which contracted to design the saltwater stream at John Dominis, said Anderson initially approached him about supplying turtles to enliven the stream. "I spent about 30 minutes with Mr. Anderson explaining the pertinent state and federal legislation," said Shallenberger. "I was helping him collect fish for the stream and then I heard that he had turtles out there anyway. Once we got into the turtle problem, that's when I stopped dealing with Mr. Anderson." An investigator with the NMFS regional office at Terminal Island, Calif., said yesterday: "The bottom line is this: The investigation has been completed and the results are not in because it takes a lot of time, not because it's Andy Anderson who is involved. I hope that some decision is made sometime next week. This is on my list of things to agitate about." Possible penalties range from a letter of warning to a substantial monetary fine.

Hawaii Warned on Turtle-Fishing

Hawaii residents have been reminded by the National Marine Fisheries Service that it is illegal to take sea turtles. Violations are subject to a \$1,000 fine.

The NMFS said in a new release that it was issuing a reminder because it had received reports that residents are continuing to take green sea turtles.

A ban on taking all sea turtles has been in effect since July 1978 when the green sea turtle was placed on the list of threatened species under provisions of the Endangered Species Act.

The only exceptions are in the Trust Territory of the Pacific where limited taking of turtles is permitted for subsistence and, under special permit, for scientific, zoological and educational purposes.