

50th Anniversary
Complex Ltd DEUBA, FIJI
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Jan 2 1991

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I want you to know that I have always been upset with you and W.M.F.S, for you always have and will continue to treat us Hawaiians as second class citizens. I don't think W.M.F.S has a Hawaiian working for them; since we are 20% in population in Hawaii, you should have 20% Hawaiians working for you - this shows how America treats us, as indigenous people - especially W.M.F.S -

You should know I still believe in our Hawaiian Gods, Kane, Ku, Lono, and Ikaika, and still pray to them, for these are my ancestral Gods. There are many of us who do so. When you stopped indigenous people from using turtle for their religious rights, that was out of line. Even under the Freedom of Religion act of 1978, you were out of line and still are.

When I left Hawaii in 1985, the turtle population was stable. They were enough turtles so the indigenous people could have had a few for their religious rights. You have no track record, you haven't the years of knowledge, methods, moon phases, time of year, seasons, and the hundreds of years of experience that I have passed down from my ancestors.

My family had large acres in fish ponds in Pearl Harbor. Below...

used turtles both for food and to keep some of our fish ponds free of grass, weeds, mangrove, etc. We never used the turtles caught in our konohiki from Pearl River to Fort Weaver, inside Pearl Harbor.

We caught our turtles, by the shark pen at Fort Kamehameha and across the Pearl Harbor channel Ford Weaver. Every thing under 200 lbs was let go. We ate the males, the females usually used for weed controls and to stake up the ponds. Every few years, while catching the weevil in the kupa season - Dec to March, we would let the turtles go and we stock them with new turtles. These conditions were good, fat.

I can remember prior to the war, 1939, 1940 we did catch a few turtles which had this string cancer, as it was referred to them. My Grandfather was a doctor, M.D. - He, at that time, said this was a type of string cancer and not to eat them.

Dec. 1941 Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, our total property were taken from us, our fish ponds, homes, and the complex. We have never been paid for our Pearl River konohiki -

We moved to Hilo, Hawaii, where I lived most of the time and was the student of the strongest kahuna kapaau - a man named Jaki Wainaku. He was a police man and a fisherman, turtle fisherman. We caught turtles from the break water to Pūmāke. I saw a few turtles with string cancer, caught by the

Spent about of '42, 43 in Waipio Valley with my kahu, Sana Kakaikua hui. In those days at Waipio or Waimanu, if you wanted a turtle, you could go to the right hand side of either valley before dark, you could grab a turtle in waist deep water. The turtles there, smell of Lepoa Lima. They feed in the big surf areas.

In the beginning of summer I would ride from Waipio to Kawaihooe on my mule, sheep by the water hole where the service station is now. In Kawaihooe, Maluwa hini, the historian for King Kalanikoua, would ride with me to Keahou & up to Keiunui. Turtle was part of our diet & used as with Sana Kakaikua hui for religious rights. I saw no string cancer in the Kona & Kawaihooe waters.

When I returned from Guadalcanal, the Solomon's, New Hebrides, Noumea, were our head quarters ~~was~~ ^{was}, Gilbert, the Philippines and Japan, as a diver for Gen. MacArthur. I finished college & fished. I also was in the Korean war.

I fished all the Hawaiian Ili except Kaula & Niihau. I dove, sometimes eight to ten hours a day, I studied, I learned many turtle grounds. From 1945 to 1955, I probably caught more turtles than any living man in Hawaii. I never killed any turtle under 150 to 200 LBS. Often I caught up to 200 mature turtles in 3 to 4 days of fishing.

The turtle is like a dove, you ~~should~~ ^{should} not catch him going to feed, but when he returns. The largest turtles come from Oahu, Molokai, Maui & Hawaii - Kaula has

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and few. The Leeward Islands have
a fairly large breeding stock, but since
the breed every two or 3 years, it is hard
to determine the number of breeding
females. They also breed in the main
Hawaiian Islands, or should I say lay.

I notice a continuous string cancer
growth since the mid 50's - in areas of
fresh water bays - Kihoo Lagoon, Kaneohe Bay,
Kahala Harbor, Hilo Harbor. It seems after
the sewer systems were taken out of
use, this string cancer increased greatly.
I believe it is some kind of a pollution
in heavy ^{human} populated areas, but what, I
don't know. Kahala is very heavy in ~~arsenic~~ ^{arsenic}.

I have been sending this string cancer
growth to Germany, England, France, to my
friend Tok Coston, the Smithsonian Inst. etc.
I sent many samples to the Smithsonian
Institute and under ~~see~~ see Wain Fair, for
both were conserved. I did not wish
to fight except for our religious rights, to
eat from 1956 to 1965 -

In 1965 or 1966 I had a mullet study
for Oceanic Institute, also the ^{state} shark contract
for four years - a Pocha Fellow Foundation
shark contract at Kihoo Bay also.

Dr John Hennickson, Director of
Oceanic Institute, heard from cousin Gilbert
that I knew about turtles. John spent
a lot of time with me working on turtles.
It was ^{observed} ~~observed~~ that the turtle problem had

We wrote a good project to catch and tag turtles in all the 8 main Hawaiian Islands, in the summer work the Leeward Islands, mainly French Frigate Shoals - Due to the increase of the string cancer, we both felt this was good timing.

The main thing, with my past records and our five year tagging program, we could come up with proper numbers to learn what the population was, was it endangered, ~~etc~~ was it stable, were was it.

You know what happened, W.M.K.S., reviewed it, we wrote our project, got alot of money to run the program, tagged 5 turtles at French Frigate Shoals and that was it. I have had several projects since and reviewed.

I had all my back records, all the equipment, the boats, skiffs, nets etc, with John being the world's #1 authority on turtles, we would have learned if the turtle was an endangered animal in ~~how~~ the Hawaiian archipelago or not.

With the Mickey Mouse program you guys are running, who knows - what is your base line, what is your track record??, ? what is your credibility - ?

In Fiji, there have been two turtles found with Hawaii tag on them.

One of the reasons I left Hawaii was due to the over number of tourists

6.
- continuous prejudice toward my people,
to see my people be used as second
class citizens. It gets worse yearly -

Seeing W.M.F.S putting their standards
on our people - trying to take our indigenous
rights away is ridiculous - For we have
never been included in making any
decision, never been asked, just told. You
guys say I think, it, but where is your
track record, what credibility do you have - ?

I feel if John Henderson and I
had got funded and carried out our
tumble project, you would have a strong
base line, good credibility. But you have none.

It reminds me of the Native Hawaiian
indigenous right that ex W.M.F.S. Rob Simpson
and two other books put together, it is
~~prejudice~~^{prejudice}, one sided, there is no way I can
accept that negative report that is very, very
one sided. Read it, what do you think?

I just saw a ^{actual} movie called Blood
on wheels about a ~~part~~ case of a navy
officers who ~~was~~ another caused to ^{be} taken away by
militia, ~~which~~ ^{you} should take the time and
see these videos - , sit back, you'll see none
of you realize what you are doing, maybe then
you might understand our side. This
prejudice still exist. when I was 19 years, I was

a 65.12 - Also educated, higher education
if you want to keep me posted on your
tumble situation, I would appreciate it.
aloha le mui soa kua mau.

years.

There were some places very high in ~~arsenic~~ arsenic. Kahaui harbor, Hilo harbor, ~~that way between Lahaina~~ Olowalu half way to Lahaina on main - we tested every stream, every out let of water, for years, up to 100 fathom or closer from Hawaii to

The sugar plantations used a arsenic base spray to control weeds and grass in the sugar cane fields up to the early 1960 - over 100 years - it was called Penite a herbicide, that was ~~used~~ discontinued in the early 60s - arsenic is a base that does not break down, it remains in the soil and eventually ~~ends~~ ends up in the ocean. there is also natural arsenic in the soil. The crab, ^{lobster} seems to have a higher % of arsenic than fish, this is why arsenic count is high, like Kahaui & Hilo, many people get hives - when eating crab, lobster etc. the squid is high in arsenic - also.

I don't believe arsenic is a problem with the turtle, I think population. Chemicals might be a part of it, what types are question able -

I have never caught a turtle with the string ~~cancer~~ cancer on mokuai, Lanai, Kahoohave, from Puna to Waipua on Hawaii - the leeward islands

Internal sicknesses later I will address - we as Hawaiians use everything of the turtle except the head. Aliba.

W. L. L.

P.S. As I evaluate the situation, it seems that Keolu Lagoon, Kahala Harbor area, Hilo Harbor, and Kaneohe Bay are the places where the turtles are most affected. 8

I don't believe the Red Lime from Kaneohe Bay is the problem. For 200 years boats have come to our islands with all kind of Lime on their hulls. Haven't found any Fluoride, thought might be that dredged harbor might be the key, but Kawaihae does not affect the turtles. So it is something in the large population around the above harbors. 12 turtles listed.

A water testing program should be set up in all harbors to learn what is different over a long period of time between the affected harbors and the others. Testing should be taken at 10⁺ different locations and depths - where the turtles feed and sleep during the day, outlets of water into the harbors, etc.

I did all the water testing for years for Kennedy Engineering out of S.F. for the water pollution of all the mills and stream run of for the HSPA study, starting from about 1966 to 1968 or so. This was a confidential report, paid for by the H.S.P.A., so I'm not sure if you can get a copy. I have a copy, but since I left Hawaii my kids probably disposed of it. I think it was called water quality studies of the Sugar Industry in Hawaii for HSPA - by Kennedy Engineering - San Francisco - Calif.

We did all the harbors, including