



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

Publication is funded by **TRAFFIC (USA)** and  
**THE PEOPLE'S TRUST FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES**

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**\*\*DOUBLE ISSUE\*\***

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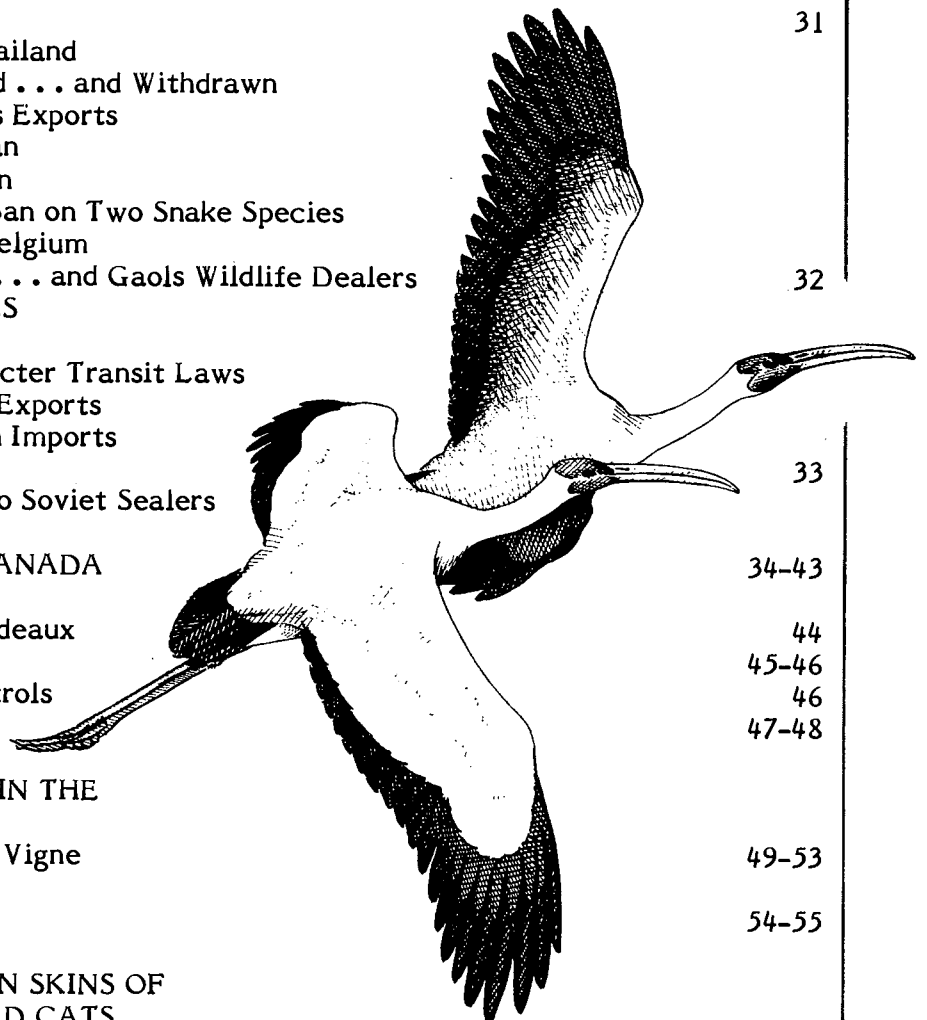


Illustration of Milky Storks by Craig Robson

## SEIZURES

### Macaques and Orang-utans in France

On 5 May 1987, whilst in transit from Jakarta, Indonesia, eight Crab-eating Macaques Macaca fascicularis, three Pig-tailed Macaques Macaca nemestrina and two Orang-utans Pongo pygmaeus were seized, with the assistance of TRAFFIC (France), at Roissy Airport, France. The shipment was on its way to Mexico.

The animals, which arrived in extremely poor health and without food and water, had been shipped on 2 May by Garuda Indonesian Airlines, without CITES documentation.

The specimens are currently being cared for by the "Jardin d'acclimatisation, Ménagerie du Jardin des Plantes" of the National Museum of Natural History in Paris.

Source: *Gwénola le Serrec, TRAFFIC (France)*

### Leopard skins in UK

A routine search, by Customs officers, of a vessel moored at Tees Dock, Middlesbrough, UK, and bound for the Netherlands, uncovered two Leopard Panthera pardus skins. They were in the possession of a seaman who was believed to have received an order for the skins on a previous trip to the Netherlands. The ship had travelled from Ethiopia, where Leopard skins can reportedly be bought for £50 (US\$80) each.

Source: *Portcullis, Vol. VII (11), July 1987*

### Bonytongue fish in UK

UK Customs officers were recently alerted by reports of Asian Bonytongue Scleropages formosus being offered for sale by a UK fish farm. This fish is listed in CITES Appendix I and known to be difficult to breed in captivity (see *Traffic Bulletin* 7(5):73-76), thus it was likely that the specimens had been illegally imported. Accompanied by a fish expert, Customs visited the premises and seized five specimens. They are now being held in a British zoo.

The seizure is the first ever in the UK of live fish imported in contravention of CITES controls.

Source: *Portcullis, Vol. VII (11), July 1987*

### Rare Pythons in US

Eighteen specimens of the rare Boelen's Python Python boeleni, a species only discovered in New Guinea in 1956, were found amongst a crate of 70 reptiles confiscated at Los Angeles International Airport, USA, on 9 March 1987.▷

▷ The snakes, which are about 4 m long and weigh 11-16 kg, have distinctive black, velvety skin, with yellow bellies and yellow flash marks along their sides.

The shipment, which was seized because it lacked the correct documentation, was on its way to an Ohio importer claiming to have a reptile research facility.

Source: *Los Angeles Times (USA), 12 March 1987*

### Hyacinth Macaws in Argentina

A total of 40 Hyacinth Macaws Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus were seized recently by officials in Resistencia, Argentina. The shipment, which had travelled from Brazil to Clorinda, on the border with Paraguay, destined for Buenos Aires, was not accompanied by CITES documentation.

Only 18 of the birds survived. Juan Villalba-Macías, Director of TRAFFIC (South America) accompanied the animals back to Brazil, where they are being cared for at a biological reserve in São Paulo.

The Hyacinth Macaw was transferred from Appendix II to I at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, in July 1987.

Source: *J. Villalba-Macías, TRAFFIC (South America)*

### Birds and reptiles in Paraguay

Eleven birds have been seized from a house in Asunción, Paraguay, where, earlier this year, two Spix's Macaws Cyanopsitta spixii were seized (see *Traffic Bulletin*, 9(1):1).

On 21 August 1987, whilst carrying out a search for Golden Lion Tamarins Leontopithecus rosalia rosalia, allegedly being kept at the premises, the Director of TRAFFIC (South America), Juan Villalba-Macías, accompanied by local police, discovered 2 Golden Conures Aratinga guarouba, 3 Hawk-headed Parrots Derophtus accipitrinus, 5 Dusky Parrots Pionus fuscus and 1 Mealy Amazon Amazona farinosa. No Tamarins were found.

The birds were seized and flown, courtesy of the airline Lineas Aéreas Paraguayas, to São Paulo, Brazil, where they are now being cared for at the Zoological Gardens.

On learning that the Tamarins were probably still being held in Asunción, Villalba-Macías was requested by the CITES Secretariat to return there. Although the primates were not found, further seizures from two other properties included 2 Mealy Amazons Amazona farinosa, 42 Blue-fronted Amazons A. aestiva, 5 Red-crowned Amazons Amazona dufresniana rhodocorytha, 1 Broad-nosed Caiman Caiman latirostris and 3 Spectacled Caimans Caiman crocodilus.

Source: *J. Villalba-Macías, TRAFFIC (South America)*

## New Zealand Closes Ports to Soviet Sealers

The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr David Lange, has announced that his country will close its ports to Soviet ships on sealing expeditions to the Antarctic, if the USSR does not halt such activities. The announcement by New Zealand follows two previous protests to the USSR this year concerning the killing of seals in the Antarctic.

Greenpeace has claimed that nearly 5000 seals killed by the USSR in 1986 are being sold for meat, fur and leather. A spokesman for the Soviet Embassy in Wellington, Mr Vladimir Ivanov, has confirmed that between December 1986 and January 1987 4014 Crab-eater Seals Lobodon carcinophagus were killed in the Antarctic zone, but that they had been used for scientific rather than commercial purposes.

In response to Mr Lange's announcement, Mr Ivanov has stated that the USSR has taken into account the will of the New Zealand Government and that in future Soviet sealers will avoid New Zealand's ports.

A full report on Soviet sealing and its purposes is to be made to the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research in October. Members of the Antarctic Convention, of which the USSR is a Party, are drawing up an international agreement to determine how commercial resources of the Antarctic can be exploited in the future.

Sources: *Sydney Morning Herald (Australia), 4 August 1987; The Dominion (New Zealand), 4 August 1987; New Scientist, 6 August 1987*

## Australian Prosecutions

compiled by Frank Antram, TRAFFIC (Oceania)

### Federal:

On 20 July 1987, at Port Hedland, Western Australia, Cory Blanc of Longwood, Florida, USA, was convicted of attempting to export four Desert Death Adders Acanthophis pyrrhus without a permit, contrary to Section 21(b) of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 through Section 7 of the Crimes Act 1914. Blanc had been arrested by Australian Federal Police at Port Hedland airport, on 28 March 1987, after his baggage had been found to contain the snakes. He was fined A\$1000 (US\$700) plus A\$261 court costs. He was also fined A\$500 plus A\$70.20 costs for illegal possession of protected fauna, contrary to Section 16A(1) of the Western Australian Wildlife Conservation Act 1950. Death Adders are valued at US\$400 to US\$600 each on the American market, according to a US Fish & Wildlife Service agent (TRAFFIC (USA) in litt.).

\* \* \* \*

On 23 July 1987 at Devonport Court of Petty Sessions, Tasmania, Marilyn Daniels of Sheffield, Tasmania, was convicted of illegal importation of two live turtles (Emydidae) and of making a false declaration, contrary to Section 22(b) of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 and Section 234(1)(e) of the Customs Act 1901. Daniels had arrived at Perth airport, Western Australia, on 12 September 1986 on a flight from Indonesia. A search of her baggage had revealed the two small turtles hidden inside a soap dish. The magistrate fined Daniels A\$150 (US\$106) and ordered her to pay court costs of A\$21.10.

\* \* \* \*

On 10 August 1987 at Perth Magistrates Court, Irene Carter of South Guildford, Western Australia, was convicted of illegally importing a Pig-tailed Macaque Macaca nemestrina contrary to Section 22(a) of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 and of making a false declaration contrary to Section 234(1)(e) of the Customs Act 1901. Carter, apparently acting out of compassion for the animal, had bought the male monkey from Wildlife Zoological Supplies, 23 Jalan Sultan, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in January 1987 for MY\$160 (US\$60). She had given a false name and address to the suppliers as she knew that the monkey had to be registered with the Penang Wildlife Department. She left Malaysia on 15 January 1987 for Singapore, leaving there on 17 January 1987 for Perth, carrying the monkey under her jumper. On arrival at Perth airport, Carter did not declare that she was in possession of the animal and she passed through Customs without examination. It was not until 19 March 1987, after a tip-off, that Customs officers found the animal at Carter's house. Due to her financial problems and the fact that she was supporting a handicapped child, the magistrate did not fine or gaoil her, but ordered her to do 150 hours community service work and to pay A\$88.40 (US\$63) costs.

### State:

#### Queensland

On 4 March 1987 at Warwick Magistrates Court, Anthony Meyer of Texas, Queensland, was convicted on charges involving the taking and keeping of protected fauna, contrary to Section 54(1)(a) of the Fauna Conservation Act. Meyer was fined A\$400 (US\$285) and ordered to pay

A\$70.50 court costs. The following birds were seized from Meyer:- 2 Musk Lorikeets Glossopsitta concinna, 5 Rainbow Lorikeets Trichoglossus haematodus, 2 King Parrots Alisterus scapularis, 6 Crimson-winged Parrots Aprosmictus erythropterus, 2 Pale-headed Rosellas Platycercus adscitus and 1 Cockatiel Nymphicus hollandicus.

\* \* \* \*

On 31 March 1987 at Tara Magistrates Court, Raymond Hiles of Tara, Queensland, was convicted on a charge of keeping eight Crimson-winged Parrots Aprosmictus erythropterus and four Galahs Eolophus roseicapillus without a licence, contrary to Section 54(1)(a) of the Fauna Conservation Act. Hiles was fined A\$40 (US\$28.50) and ordered to pay A\$240 in royalties.

\* \* \* \*

On 22 May 1987 at Nanango Magistrates Court, Arthur West of Nanango, Queensland, was convicted of offences under Section 54 of the Fauna Conservation Act involving the taking and keeping of protected fauna, namely two Pale-headed Rosellas Platycercus adscitus and two King Parrots Alisterus scapularis. West was fined A\$600 (US\$425) and ordered to pay royalties of A\$80 and court costs of A\$70.50.

\* \* \* \*

On 23-24 June 1987 at Caboolture Magistrates Court, George Karas, a fauna dealer of Beerwah, Queensland, was found guilty of attempting to take Rainbow Lorikeets Trichoglossus haematodus contrary to Section 54(1)(a) of the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act 1974-1985; of permitting removal of three Scaly-breasted Lorikeets T. chlorolepidotus contrary to Section 62(1) of the Act; and of failing to maintain a proper register of dealings in fauna, contrary to Regulation 23 of the Fauna Conservation Regulations. Karas, who had pleaded not guilty, was convicted on all three charges and fined a total of A\$400 (US\$285). He was also ordered to pay A\$410.50 witness costs and A\$105.75 court costs. On 29 July 1987, the Queensland Minister for Tourism, National Parks and Sport revoked Karas' Class C Fauna Dealer's Licence and ordered that his application for a Class E Fauna Dealer's Licence (Aviculturist) should not be granted. The Minister further ordered that Karas be disqualified from holding any licence, permit, certificate or other authority pursuant to the provisions of the Fauna Conservation Act for a period of two years from 24 June 1987. Accordingly, a total of 316 native Australian birds were seized from Karas' premises on 7 August 1987.

\* \* \* \*

On 2 July 1987 at Bundaberg Magistrates Court, Brian Horsman of Cabramatta, New South Wales, and Martin Line of Marsden, Queensland, were charged with obstructing a fauna officer, contrary to Section 17(a) of the Fauna Conservation Act, keeping protected fauna contrary to Section 54(1)(a) of the Act, and moving fauna without a permit, contrary to Section 62(1). The fauna involved was one Amethystine Python Morelia amethystina. Horsman was convicted on all three charges and fined a total of A\$2200 (US\$1565) and ordered to pay A\$140 in royalties and A\$105.75 court costs. Line was convicted only on the charge of obstructing a fauna officer, the other charges being dismissed. He was fined A\$200 and ordered to pay A\$35.25 court costs.



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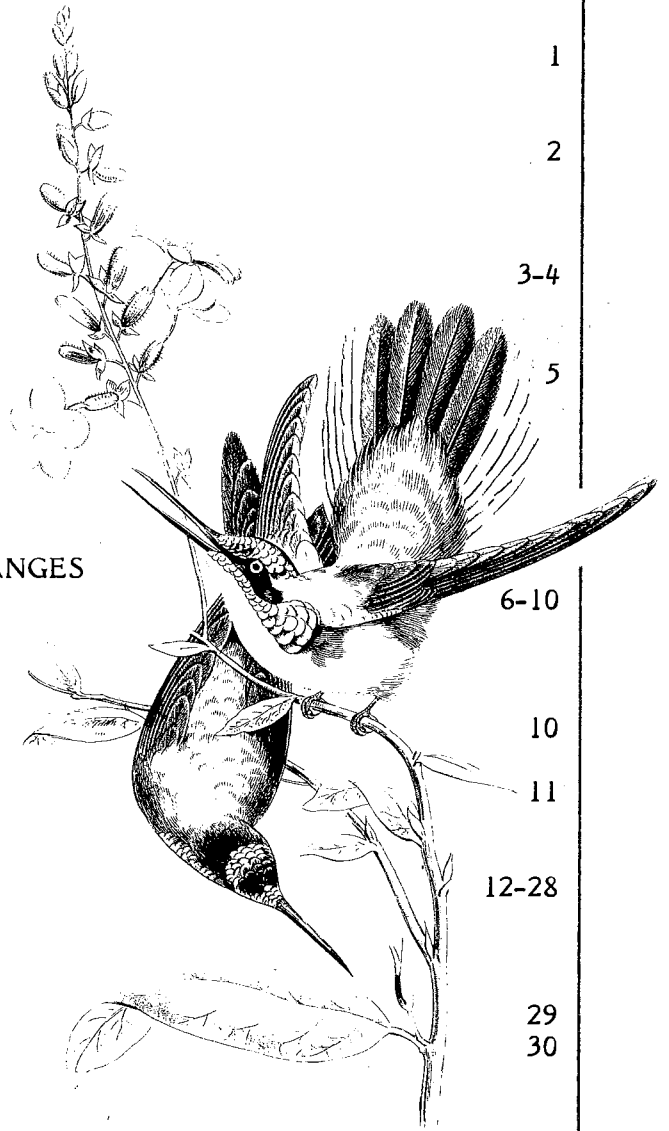
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## Birds Seized

### Spix's Macaws

The Spix's Macaw *Cyanopsitta spixii* is one of the most critically endangered birds in the world. Last year two young were taken from a nest in north-east Brazil, the only known area where this species occurs, and where just three or four adults are believed to survive. The birds were smuggled into Paraguay, destined for F.R. Germany.

The CITES Secretariat immediately started an investigation, calling on the help of researcher Jorgen Thomsen of TRAFFIC (USA), and a biologist from the New York Zoological Society. The two researchers established contact with traders in Brazil and Paraguay who had recently obtained the two fledglings. On 23 March 1987, the birds were located at a house in Asunción. The Director of TRAFFIC (South America), Juan Villalba-Macías, representing CITES, flew to Paraguay to establish contact with the authorities there so that the birds could be rescued and returned to Brazil. A search warrant was obtained and the premises searched by Villalba-Macías, with the participation of Ing. Hilario Moreno, the Director of National Parks & Wildlife in Paraguay, and the police. The birds were recovered from a travelling bag and immediately taken to the Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería to prepare for their return to Brazil. Only 24 hours after the search had begun, Villalba-Macías flew to Sao Paulo with the birds where they are now being housed at the zoological gardens.

A man has been arrested in connection with the incident.

According to Thomsen, approximately sixty birds survive in captivity, two-thirds of which were illegally obtained. "The only hope for survival of the species lies in captive breeding and redoubled efforts to protect the remaining wild Macaws and their habitat."

The birds have been commercially valued at US\$20 000 each.

Sources: TRAFFIC (South America); TRAFFIC (USA)

### Palm Cockatoos

Spanish authorities have confiscated 14 Palm Cockatoos *Probosciger aterrimus*, illegally-held by a Spanish trader, and fined him 18 million pesetas (US\$140 000). The authorities have placed the birds at Barcelona Zoo, where five have since died from an infection; the remainder are making a good recovery. The country of origin is unknown.

The Zoo will be represented at the International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens annual conference, to be held in Bristol, UK, in September, where it plans to offer the animals to suitable zoos that might be interested in a breeding programme.

The Palm Cockatoo is listed in CITES Appendix II.

Source: CITES Secretariat

### Mynah Birds

Thai wildlife officials have confiscated more than 1118 birds of protected species which were travelling on a Malaysia-bound train on the outskirts of Bangkok.

The birds included 998 Hill Mynahs *Gracula religiosa* and 120 White-crested Laughing Thrushes *Garrulax leucolophus*, probably destined for export to Singapore and Japan. The birds are believed to be worth about US\$23 600 on the Thai market. A man has been charged and faces a maximum six-months' imprisonment and a fine of 5000 baht (US\$195) if convicted.

Source: China Post, 28 May 1987

### Military Macaws

On 23 March 1987, Customs at Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam, in the Netherlands, seized 48 Military Macaws *Ara militaris*. The birds, listed in CITES Appendix II and in the Endangered Exotic Animal Species Act (1977) of the Netherlands, were accompanied by incorrect documentation from their country of origin, Mexico. Moreover, although Mexico is not party to CITES, it has prohibited the import and export of live wildlife since 1982.

The papers accompanying the shipment stated that it was destined for Singapore, via Guatemala City, Madrid and Amman. It seems likely that airport personnel in Madrid mistook the destination code AMM (Amman) for that of Amsterdam (AMS). Temporary accommodation has been arranged for the birds at the quarantine facility of Blijdorp Zoo in Rotterdam. If it is not possible to return the confiscated animals to the country of origin, the Management Authority of the Netherlands will place groups in selected captive-breeding centres.

\* \* \* \*

Thirty Military Macaws from Guatemala, travelling via Mexico and Spain, to Singapore, were seized in transit at Sahar Airport, Bombay, on 27 January 1987, on the advice of the Regional Deputy Director for Wildlife Preservation, Mr P. Kannan. The consignment was not accompanied by export documents.

Eleven of the birds were found to be dead, probably as a result of suffocation from the overcrowded conditions in the five crates bearing them, which are reported to have violated packaging conditions of the International Air Transport Association. Five of the birds flew away and have not been traced; the remaining birds are being cared for at Jijamata Zoological Park until proof of legitimate trade has been established.

It is believed that attempts were being made to smuggle the birds into Singapore before its ratification of CITES became effective in February.

Argentina has submitted a proposal to upgrade the Military Macaw to Appendix I at the forthcoming CITES Conference in Ottawa. The above shipments may reflect attempts by traders to stockpile as many specimens as possible should a total ban on the trade become effective.

Sources: TRAFFIC (Netherlands)  
The Times of India, 3 February, 1987  
NRC-Handelsblad, 4 June 1987;

## India Bans Export of Frogs' Legs

On 5 March 1987, the Indian Government announced its decision to ban, with immediate effect, the commercial killing of frogs and the export of frogs' legs.

Source: Agscene No. 88, June 1987

## EEC Downlists Butterflies

On 25 May 1987, the birdwing butterflies *Ornithoptera* spp. (except *O. alexandrae*), Trogonoptera spp. and Troides spp. were transferred from Annex C1 to C2 of EEC Regulation 3626/82. The intent is to allow trade in ranches specimens of these species under certain conditions. *Ornithoptera alexandrae* remains banned from commercial trade in the EEC.

## \* Reptile Seizures

### Spectacled Caimans

Six boxes containing a total of about 2000 baby Spectacled Caimans Caiman crocodylus were intercepted at Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam, Netherlands, in early June, on their way to Taiwan. The shipment, declared in the accompanying papers to contain turtles from Curacao, was identified by an expert as containing Spectacled Caimans, from Venezuela. The Management Authority of Venezuela was informed and requested the return of the animals, which have now been flown home, courtesy of the airline KLM. The animals will be released in rivers in the south-west of the country.

Source: *NRC-Handelsblad*, 4 June 1987

### Snakes, Lizards...

A major dealer in reptiles and amphibians is expected to be charged with smuggling endangered animals into the UK.

Paul Sullivan of Torquay, Devon, UK, was stopped recently by Customs at Heathrow Airport as he arrived from Cairo. In his possession were snakes, lizards, skinks and scorpions, including some rare species. The haul included a chameleon, worth more than £300 (US\$490).

A month earlier, a reporter from The Sunday Times newspaper visited Sullivan's home where, he reported, a range of illegally imported animals were on offer. Russell Lee, Sullivan's associate who was present at the time, is reported to have claimed that the two were "the biggest smugglers in Europe".

Source: *The Sunday Times*, 1 March 1987

### Snakeskins

Surveillance by police at Sahar Airport, Bombay, India, has led to the arrest of four major snakeskin smugglers, and the recovery of 1081 pieces of snakeskins.

Following a tip-off, police arrested Chandrakant Yashwant Gurav, who was found to have 100 pieces of snakeskins in his suitcase. After interrogation, Gurav released the names of three fellow smugglers, one well known to police, who were all later arrested and from whom further snakeskins were recovered.

The total haul is believed to be worth Rs400 000 (US\$31 500).

\* \* \* \*

Snakeskins worth Rs2 million (US\$157 500) were seized from a tannery in Nagalkeni, on 5 March 1987.

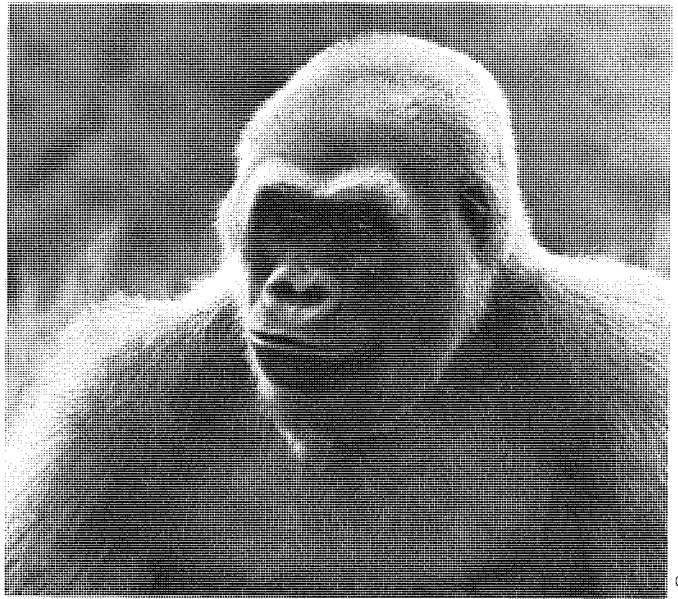
122 000 pieces of skins from various species were seized from Bankith Tanneries, making it the single largest seizure of snakeskins in the country.

Sources: *Indian Express*, 2/7 March 1987

## Gorillas Illegally Exported to Taiwan

In early January 1987, three Lowland Gorillas Gorilla gorilla gorilla left Cameroon to travel to Taiwan via Zaire. Only one Gorilla survived the journey to Zaire, from where it travelled on to Taipei Zoo. The animal was at first rejected as too young and underweight, but it survived and is currently on display at the zoo. A zoo official is reported to have said that they ordered two pairs of Gorillas for a total of NT\$20 M (US\$645 000).

The CITES Management Authority in Cameroon has confirmed to the CITES Secretariat that they did not permit the export of the Gorillas (Appendix I) and that the animals have therefore been acquired illegally.



Lowland Gorilla Gorilla gorilla gorilla

## Cat Skins Refused in Europe

A shipment of 5000 cat skins, which arrived at Bilbao, Spain, from Hamburg, F.R. Germany, has been detained by Customs at Madrid (Barajas) because of its supposed illegality. The skins had already been refused entry by the German authorities.

The unique aspect of the case is that the skins, of Little Spotted Cat Felis tigrina and Geoffroy's Cat F. geoffroyi, had been travelling through European Customs since 1982, the year they left Paraguay.

The shipment has been kept at Madrid for more than three months waiting for an export permit from the country of origin. However, Paraguay banned exports of wildlife in 1975.

The skins were allegedly bought for 7 million pesetas (US\$55 000) by a Spaniard.

Source: *Diario 16*, 19 March 1987

## \* Fish Smuggler Arrested

A Japanese trader has been arrested in Japan for allegedly smuggling Asian Bonytongue Scleropages formosus into the country from Indonesia, in violation of CITES. The fish is listed in CITES Appendix I.

Hideo Nishikubo paid Y2500 (US\$1526) for the fish in Indonesia.

Source: *Straits Times*, 16 May 1987

## Australian Shell Trade

Under the Australian Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 (WPA), permits or authorities are required for export of all native fauna and flora. Export permits are not normally issued for commercial shipments of wild-caught specimens unless there is an approved management programme for the species in question. Since proclamation of the WPA on 1 May 1984, and until suitable management programmes can be devised for molluscs, shell dealers have been authorised to export under Section 44 of the WPA (the exceptional circumstances clause) (see Commonwealth of Australia Gazette S493 of 21/11/84, S106 of 1/4/85, S138 of 29/4/85, S179 of 27/5/85, S191 of 4/6/85, S219 of 21/6/85, S263 of 8/7/85, S305 of 2/8/85, S368 of 13/9/85, S468 of 12/11/85, S532 of 16/12/85, S2 of 6/1/86, S170 of 17/4/86, S232 of 22/5/86, S262 of 5/6/86, S344 of 17/7/86, S360 of 24/7/86, S562 of 3/11/86, S600 of 20/11/86, S16 of 3/2/87). During the year 1 July 1985 - 30 June 1986, the Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service funded a study of the marine shell trade in Australia. The purpose of the study was to provide information on shells entering export and domestic trade and to provide assessments of characteristics that may make certain groups vulnerable to collection for the shell trade (Anon., 1987). The study was undertaken by the Malacological Society of Australia, under the supervision of the Society's President, Dr R.C. Willan, and was conducted during the period March-May 1986. Questionnaires were sent to 40 shell dealers in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia, and to 18 other organisations (e.g. shell clubs and museums) in those States. Dealers' price lists and the published literature were also examined.

The report (The Sea Shell Trade in Australia, Malacological Society of Australia, unpublished report) estimates that there are 7000 species of Australian molluscan fauna, approximately 2000 of these being non-marine. The marine shell trade in Australia is estimated currently to be worth approximately A\$2.5 million, about A\$2 million of this being derived from the specimen shell trade. A number of taxa are identified as being potentially over-exploited for the specimen shell trade, for the jewellery trade (although the bulk of shell jewellery sold in Australia is imported) and for human food. Habitat destruction (e.g. destruction of coastal mangroves) is also identified as a serious problem.

Among the report's recommendations, it is suggested that *Charonia tritonis*, *Cassis cornuta* and all *Tridacna* species should be added to Schedule 1 of the WPA (thereby prohibiting commercial trade). It is further recommended that, until management programmes have assessed stocks and resilience to collection, dealing bans should be applied to cowries of the subgenus *Zoila* (especially *Cypraea* (*Z.*) *marginata* and *C.* (*Z.*) *rosselli*); all volutes (especially *Amoria exoptanda*); *Chicoreus rubiginosus* in Western Australia and *Pterynotus bednalli* in Western Australia and Northern Territory; *Phasianotrochus eximius*; *Granata imbricata*, *Mitra* spp., *Cancellaria* spp. and *Argobuccinum bassi* in Victoria. It is also recommended: that current requirements under the WPA, for export of all native molluscs to be under licence, be rescinded, as it is considered to be a futile and meaningless exercise; that shell dealers be licensed and required to submit annual returns summarising sales; that management of potentially vulnerable mollusc populations be vested with the States; and that marine reserves of irrevocable status be designated in areas biologically significant for molluscs.

### Reference

Anon., (1987): Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service, Report 1985-86. Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra.

Source: *TRAFFIC* (Australia)

## Ivory Stockpiles

Stocks of raw ivory registered with the CITES Secretariat by 1 December 1986 are recorded below. It should be noted that stocks held in states with a population of African Elephants have not been included in this list since such ivory destined for international trade would be included in an annual ivory export quota.

Country	No. of Tusks	kg
Belgium	567	6573.1
	1889	9577.2*
Burundi	17848	89502
China	4394	19026.8
Germany, F.R.	1450	10886
Hong Kong	28477	178510
Japan	2872	32579
	3017	20005.95 (cut pieces over 40cm.)
Macau	2452	22292.5
Portugal	1089	14017
Singapore	55819	270474
	1986	26756.91 (cut pieces)
Spain	22	161.3
UK	8	139.2

\* Illegal consignment seized Jan. '86 and disposition not yet decided.

## Ornithologist Facing Charges Dies

Dr Julian Ford, a university lecturer in Western Australia and a world-renowned ornithologist, suffered a heart attack and died at his home on 31 January 1987 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 3.2.87). Dr Ford is reported to have been facing over 600 charges, under the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act, relating to the alleged collection of birds and reptiles without permits. He had been apprehended by police near Cooktown, Queensland, in October 1986, allegedly in possession of several hundred bird 'skins' and reptiles preserved in alcohol. Dr Ford had been remanded on bail and was due to appear at Cairns Magistrates Court in February. The case was widely publicised in the Australian press and Dr Ford's wife is reported to believe that her husband's death was caused by the humiliation of the incident.

Source: *TRAFFIC* (Australia)

## \* Reptile Smugglers Indicted in USA

Robert Stene and David Rittenhouse of San Jose, California, have been indicted in the USA on 30 counts, including conspiring, between January 1985 and November 1986 (or later), to unlawfully import wildlife, primarily reptiles, from Australia and Mexico. The two are alleged to have travelled to Australia and Mexico to obtain reptiles which they smuggled back to the USA by sending them in mail parcels addressed to friends. Four others have also been named as co-conspirators.

Mr Stene has been arrested and Mr Rittenhouse is being sought. The remaining defendants have been summoned to appear before a Magistrate Court at a later date. The maximum penalties that can be imposed are 108 years imprisonment and/or a fine of US\$4 280 000 for Stene and Rittenhouse. The remaining defendants face maximum penalties, if convicted, of five to ten years imprisonment and/or fines of US\$250 000 to US\$500 000.

Source: *US Department of Justice*, 4 June 1987

**Australian State Prosecutions**

Western Australia

On 13 February 1987, Russell Leach and Bradley Culverwell were convicted, at Kununurra Court of Petty Sessions, for illegally taking a Saltwater Crocodile Crocodylus porosus contrary to the Western Australian Wildlife Conservation Act. The two men shot the animal near Wyndham, allegedly so that they could take some 'close up' photographs of a crocodile. Both men were fined A\$1000 (US\$700) plus A\$60.20 court costs.

\* \* \* \*

On 20 March 1987, at Midland Court, Joseph Przbyski Kazikarz of Midland, Western Australia, was convicted for unlawful possession (contrary to Section 16A of the Wildlife Conservation Act) of two Red-eared Firetails Emblema oculata. He was fined A\$400 (US\$284) plus costs of A\$95.20 and the birds were forfeited.

In an earlier case involving E. oculata, Robert McLauchlan of Greenmount was convicted in the same court, on 5 December 1986, for keeping two Red-eared Firetails without a licence, contrary to the Wildlife Conservation Regulations. He was fined A\$200 plus A\$55.20 costs. The birds were forfeited.

At the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, E. oculata is being proposed for deletion from Appendix II, under the Ten Year Review of the Appendices, as it has not been recorded in international trade since the species was listed, in 1979. According to Landholt (1985), only isolated individuals were ever imported into Europe, although 20 live specimens were imported by Switzerland in 1970. The species, which has a restricted distribution in south-western Australia, is kept as an aviary bird in most Australian States. Exact numbers of legally held Emblema species are not available, or not readily available, for all States and Territories but the table below lists the latest available figures for New South Wales (NSW) and South Australia (SA), based on periodic returns by bird keepers.

Numbers of Firetail Finches registered as held in captivity in NSW and SA

	NSW (as at April'87)	SA (as at Dec'86)
Beautiful Firetail <u>Emblema bella</u>	5	0
Diamond Firetail <u>Emblema guttata</u>	2128	1824
Red-browed Firetail <u>Emblema temporalis</u>	2181	921
Red-eared Firetail <u>Emblema oculata</u>	96	0
Painted Firetail <u>Emblema picta</u>	2090	8229

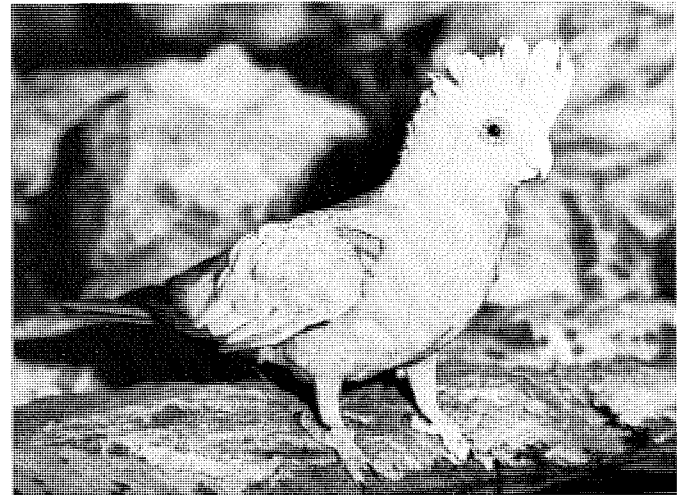
Sources: NSW & SA National Parks & Wildlife Services

Reference

Landholt, R. (1985): Emblema oculata. In: P. Dollinger (Ed.), CITES Identification Manual Vol. 2: Aves. CITES Secretariat, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Queensland

On 23 February 1987, at Mackay Magistrates Court, Robert Davison and Brian Archer, both of Mackay, Queensland, were convicted on charges relating to the illegal taking of six crocodiles at Cape York in August/September 1986. Photographic evidence was presented to the court from which it was apparently impossible to identify whether the specimens were Saltwater Crocodylus porosus or Freshwater C. johnstoni Crocodiles. Davison was fined A\$300 (US\$210) and ordered to pay a royalty\* of A\$360 and A\$35.25 costs. Archer was fined A\$1600 and ordered to pay royalties of A\$660 and A\$35.25 costs.



Galah Eolophus roseicapillus © S.F. Taggart, N.P.W.A.

On 11 February 1987, at Longreach Magistrates Court, Robert Mathie of Brisbane was convicted on two charges, under the Fauna Conservation Act 1974-1985, relating to the unauthorised taking and moving of four Galahs Eolophus roseicapillus. The birds were taken at Cuddapan, near Windorah, and moved to Brisbane. Mathie was fined a total of A\$400 (US\$284) plus A\$70 costs and ordered to pay a double royalty\* of A\$80.

\* \* \* \*

\* Under the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act Section 68, persons who take fauna or dealers or other persons who receive or keep fauna are liable to pay a royalty to the Crown. Under Section 69 there is a mandatory double royalty payable for deliberate evasion of payment of royalty. For offences under Section 54 (taking, keeping or attempting to take or keep fauna without a licence) and Section 59 (buying, selling, etc. fauna without a licence) the court has discretion in awarding up to double the prescribed royalty.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)





# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

Publication is funded by **TRAFFIC (USA)** and  
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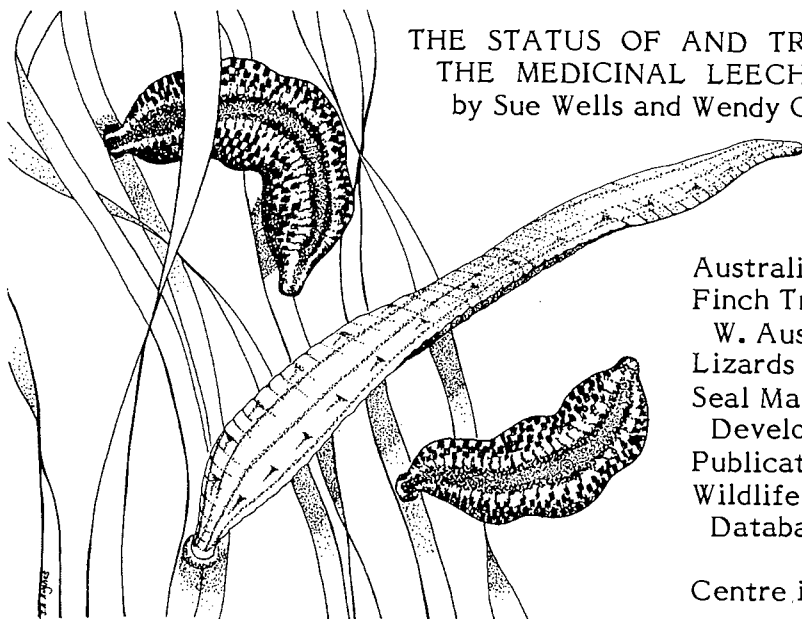
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\* \* \* \*

Dr Michael Green is Senior Research Officer at the Protected Areas Data Unit of IUCN's Conservation Monitoring Centre. For six years he was engaged in an ecological study of the Himalayan Musk Deer (WWF Project No. 1328), during which time he began investigating the musk trade. This is documented in the 'Musk Connection', which was featured on UK television in the BBC 'The World About Us' series in June 1986. Copies of the film are available on VHS cassette (525 and 625) from Orpheus Films Ltd., 6 Amyand Park Gardens, Twickenham, UK, at £22.00 plus £2.50 postage (£3.50 for Europe and £6.50 outside Europe).

### Proposed 'Roo Quotas for 1987

Australian states or territories which wish to utilise kangaroos commercially are required to have a management programme approved each year by the Federal Government (see *Traffic Bulletin* VI(5):73-82). The Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory and Victoria do not have a commercial cull. Management programmes for the other states have not yet been approved, but provisional quotas for 1987 were announced on 17 December 1986, and are as follows:

<u>Western Australia</u>	1986	1987	
<u>Macropus rufus</u>	180000	200000	
<u>Macropus fuliginosus</u>	50000	45000	
<u>Macropus robustus</u>	10000	-	
<u>New South Wales</u>			
<u>Macropus rufus</u>	313000	313000	
<u>Macropus fuliginosus</u>	-	161000	
<u>Macropus giganteus</u>	264000*	103000	*
<u>Queensland</u>			
<u>Macropus rufus</u>	300000	375000	
<u>Macropus giganteus</u>	970000*	1300000	
<u>Macropus robustus</u>	70000	70000	
<u>Macropus parryi</u>	40000	10000	
<u>South Australia</u>			
<u>Macropus rufus</u>	180000	180000	
<u>Macropus fuliginosus</u>	34600	30900	
<u>Macropus robustus</u>	12000	16500	
<u>Tasmania</u>			
<u>Thylogale billardieri</u>	110000	-	*
<u>Macropus rufogriseus</u>	140000	-	

\* combined total for *M. fuliginosus*/*M. giganteus*.

No quota has been set for Tasmania pending further discussions.

S. Australian and W. Australian management programmes were declared approved on 19 February 1987 (*Commonwealth of Aust. Gazette No. S 32*, 24 February 1987) effectively confirming above quotas for those states.

*Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)*

### Tanzania Cracks Down on Ivory Trade

From 1 December 1986, all raw/polished ivory in Tanzania will be sold by the Government by tender and all exports will require CITES export permits. Export permits for ivory hunting trophies will continue to be issued.

In addition, a ban has been imposed on the carving of ivory and, as from 31 December 1986, there will be no commercial exports of worked ivory. Worked ivory acquired as personal effects prior to 1 January 1987 will remain eligible for export.

*Source: CITES Secretariat*

### Ivory Returned to Congo

A shipment of 713 ivory tusks, weighing 3.8 tonnes, seized after being illegally exported to France from Congo more than two years ago, has recently been returned to Brazzaville.

The tusks had been kept in storage at Roissy Airport since the shipment arrived with a forged permit.

*Source: Ministry of the Environment (France)*

### Bonytongue Fish Seized in Hong Kong

In 1986, up to November, the Hong Kong Government successfully prosecuted seven offenders for the illegal import and possession of 174 specimens of Asian Bonytongue *Scleropages formosus* (CITES Appendix I). The fish were seized under the Animals and Plants (Protection of Endangered Species) Ordinance through which CITES is implemented. The specimens had been imported from Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

*Source: Hong Kong Agriculture and Fisheries Dept.*

## Australian Federal Prosecutions

### Reptile Smugglers Gaoled

On 20 November 1986, at Adelaide, South Australia, two West German students from Frankfurt, Robert Seipp and Ralph Schroder, were convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment for attempting to export 135 Australian reptiles through the post illegally. The total value of the reptiles, which included two CITES-listed species, Varanus gilleni and V. tristis, was estimated at over A\$40 000 (US\$26 000).

Postal staff in Stirling North, Port Augusta and Whyalla, South Australia, had become suspicious of the contents of several packages destined for F.R. Germany. The South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service was alerted and, in a joint operation with the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Customs Service, located the two students who were later charged under the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982. The following species were involved in the attempted smuggling:

Fat-tailed Gecko	<u>Diplodactylus conspicillatus</u>
Eastern Spiny-tailed Gecko	<u>Diplodactylus intermedius</u>
Beautiful Gecko	<u>Diplodactylus pulcher</u>
Narrow-toed Gecko	<u>Diplodactylus stenodactylus</u>
Spotted Dtella	<u>Gehyra punctata</u>
Tree Dtella	<u>Gehyra variegata</u>
Bynoe's Gecko	<u>Heteronotia binoei</u>
Knob-tailed Gecko	<u>Nephrurus asper</u>
Thick-tailed Gecko	<u>Underwoodisaurus milii</u>
Central Netted Dragon	<u>Amphibolurus nuchalis</u>
Bearded Dragon	<u>Amphibolurus vitticeps</u>
Earless Dragon	<u>Tympanocryptis lineata</u>
Pygmy Mulga Monitor	<u>Varanus gilleni</u>
Mournful Tree Monitor	<u>Varanus tristis</u>
Gidgee Skink	<u>Egernia stokesii</u>
Shingle-back Lizard	<u>Trachydosaurus rugosus</u>

### Skin Smuggler Fined

Wilson Redondo of Western Australia was summarily convicted at Fremantle Court of Petty Sessions on 18 April 1986 for offences under the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982. In July 1985, at Darwin, he had attempted to import illegally one skin of a Spotted Cuscus Phalanger maculatus and one skin of a Greater Bird of Paradise Paradisaea apoda from Papua New Guinea. Both species are listed in Appendix II to CITES. Redondo was fined A\$600 (US\$400) plus A\$90.15 costs.

### Parakeets Imported Illegally

On 27 January 1987, a West German citizen, Gunther Dittrich, was convicted and sentenced at Sydney District Court to 100 days imprisonment for attempting to import live birds contrary to Section 22(A) of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982. Dittrich had been apprehended by Customs officers at Sydney Airport on 12 December 1986 attempting to import illegally three Moustached Parakeets Psittacula alexandri which he had purchased in Thailand. The birds were destroyed by the quarantine service. Although a common avicultural species in some countries, the Moustached Parakeet is not commonly held in captivity in Australia and it is estimated that a breeding pair would fetch at least A\$4000 (US\$2600).

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## Australian State Prosecutions

### Northern Territory

#### Bird Trappers Prosecuted

John McDonald Ellis and his son, Grahame, both of Ipswich, Queensland, were prosecuted at Katherine, Northern Territory, on 17 October 1986, for offences under the Territory Parks & Wildlife Conservation Act 1977-1984. The two men had been caught, by police, illegally trapping birds about 60 km from Katherine. Approximately forty birds, some dead, were found in their possession, including Crimson Finches Neochmia phaeton, Masked Finches Poephila personata and Double-barred Finches P. bichenovii. The men were fined A\$3500 (US\$2330) and their caravan, four-wheel drive vehicle and equipment were seized.

Another bird trapper was convicted at Katherine Magistrates Court on 5 December 1986. Hector Grenvold was charged under the Territory Parks & Wildlife Conservation Act with possession of forty Long-tailed Finches Poephila acuticauda and five Masked Finches P. personata. He was sentenced to twenty-eight days imprisonment and a fine of A\$450 (US\$300) or a further nine days on default of payment. All his trapping equipment was confiscated.

### Queensland

#### Parrot Dealers Fined

Two Western Australians, Dean Martin and Robert Rabczynski, appeared in Goondiwindi Magistrates Court on 19 December 1986. They were charged, under the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act 1974-1985, with illegal possession, movement and importation (from New South Wales) of seven Black Cockatoos Calyptorhynchus funereus and two Major Mitchell's Cockatoos Cacatua leadbeateri. The men pleaded guilty to all charges and were convicted and fined A\$2850 (US\$1900) each.

At Beenleigh Magistrates Court on 16 January 1987, Kerry Hannifey of Loganlea, Queensland, was convicted for three breaches of the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act involving the taking, possession and movement of protected fauna, namely Rainbow Lorikeets Trichoglossus haematodus and Scaly-breasted Lorikeets T. chlorolepidotus. Hannifey was fined a total of A\$1500 (US\$1000) plus A\$105.75 costs. He was also ordered to pay A\$660 for the unlawful taking of twenty-two Rainbow Lorikeets and three Scaly-breasted Lorikeets. The action was taken by the Queensland Police Fauna Protection Squad. All the birds were seized and released into the wild.

On 9 February 1987, at Maroochydore Magistrates Court, Allan Brock of Mooloolaba, Queensland, was prosecuted for five breaches of the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act involving failure to maintain a register of records and submit monthly returns whilst being the holder of a fauna dealer's licence and dealing in fauna, including the sale of one Mallee Ringneck Parrot Barnardius barnardi, whilst not being the holder of a fauna dealer's licence. Brock, who pleaded guilty to all charges, was convicted and fined a total of A\$3580 (US\$2390) including costs and was ordered to pay A\$90 for the unauthorised sale of the parrot. The action was taken by the Queensland Police Fauna Protection Squad.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)



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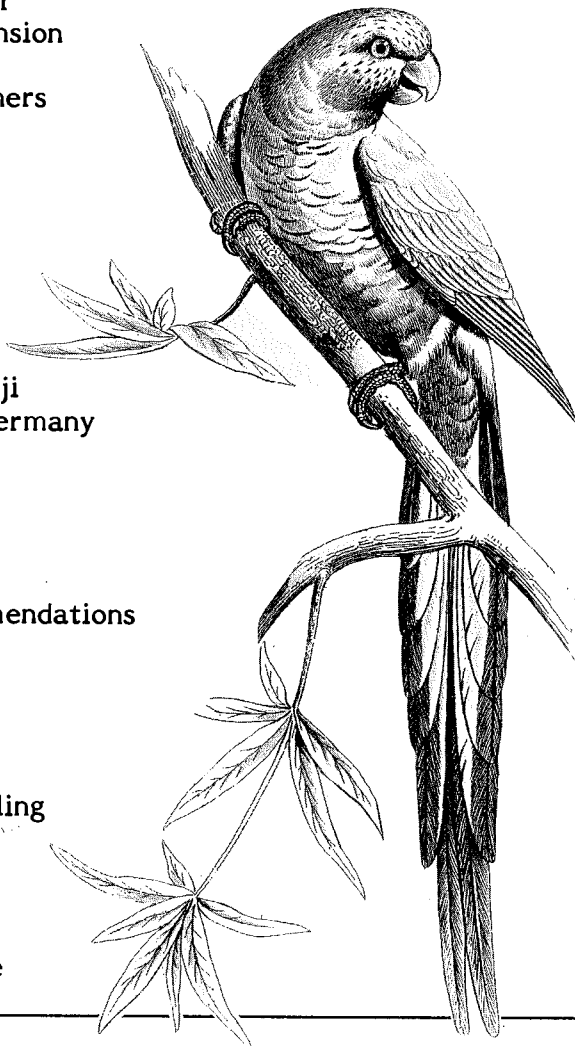
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## Changes to CITES Appendices

The Nile Crocodile Crocodylus niloticus population of Botswana will be transferred from CITES Appendix I to II on 3 January 1987, subject to an annual export quota of 2000 specimens. This transfer has been agreed through CITES postal procedures. The CITES Secretariat distributed the proposal, from the Republic of Botswana, to the Parties on 12 February 1986 and also sought comments from other sources. All comments received were transmitted to the Parties on 5 September and within the thirty-day period available for objections none was received.

The Government of Malaysia has submitted to the Secretariat a list of ten species of birds for inclusion in Appendix III. These are as follows:

### GALLIFORMES

#### Phasianidae

<u>Arborophila brunneopectus</u>	= 385 Bar-backed Partridge
<u>Arborophila charltonii</u>	Chestnut-necklaced Partridge
<u>Caloperdix oculea</u>	Ferruginous Wood-Partridge
<u>Lophura erythrophthalma</u>	Crestless Fireback Pheasant
<u>Lophura ignita</u>	Crested Fireback Pheasant
<u>Melanoperdix nigra</u>	Black Wood-Partridge
<u>Polyplectron inopinatum</u>	Mountain Peacock-Pheasant
<u>Rheinartia ocellata</u>	Crested Argus Pheasant
<u>Rhizothera longirostris</u>	Long-billed Partridge
<u>Rollulus rouloul</u>	Crested Wood-Partridge

(= 385 means: includes synonym Arborophila orientalis).

The listing of these species becomes effective on 13 November 1986.

Source: CITES Secretariat

## Austria Imports Chimps

On 31 July 1986, twenty infant Chimpanzees Pan troglodytes (CITES Appendix I) arrived at Vienna Airport, Austria, on a flight from Sierra Leone. The plane had been chartered by the Austrian pharmaceutical company IMMUNO AG.

A permit for the import had been issued by the Austrian Ministry of Trade on 15 November 1985. However, under pressure from TRAFFIC (Austria) and other conservation organisations, the import permit for IMMUNO AG was withdrawn in early 1986. But on 16 July 1986 it was revalidated, in spite of a CITES Secretariat statement that they could not recommend in favour of allowing the importation which appeared to be for commercial purposes.

The shipment of Chimpanzees was accompanied by a CITES import permit which had been signed by an employee of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) in Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone banned the export of Chimpanzees in 1978. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Forestry has confirmed that "this Ministry and Government have stopped issuing licences and permits for dealing in and export of endangered primate species (chimpanzees included) since that date" (H.A. Johnson in litt. to D. Slama, 27.8.86).

WWF Austria has requested the Viennese Government to confiscate the twenty chimpanzees which are now being held at IMMUNO's laboratory in Vienna.

Source: TRAFFIC (Austria)

## Snow Leopard Skins on Sale

Snow Leopard Panthera uncia skins have long been reported on sale in the People's Republic of China. Two World Wildlife Fund-UK correspondents were there very recently and have drawn attention to the sales of this Endangered, CITES Appendix I species.

One correspondent, who visited the bazaar in La-sa (Lhasa), Tibet, saw two Snow Leopard skins on sale (described as "fairly fresh") for Y180 (about US\$56) each. He also reported other leopard skins on sale at about Y1800.

The second correspondent had visited Su-fu (Kashgar), Sinkiang Province. There she saw about twenty Snow Leopard pelts, of both cubs and adults. She reports that the recent opening of the border with Pakistan had led to an influx of tourists, both Pakistani and European, and that the skins were very popular with the Pakistani visitors.

## \* Snow Leopard Fabric Seized

The Australian Customs Service has seized a quantity of woven fabric, believed to contain one per cent Snow Leopard Panthera uncia hair, from the Australian department store, Fletcher Jones and Staff Pty Ltd, in the State of Victoria. The fabric, woven by Taylor & Lodge of Huddersfield, UK, had been advertised as "a unique combination of Summer Kid Mohair, Lumb's Super 100's, Cashmere and Snow Leopard". Taylor & Lodge have stated that the Snow Leopard hair was contained in a small amount of old stock yarn inherited by them when they purchased the company from the official receiver in 1980. Both Taylor & Lodge and Fletcher Jones stated that they were unaware of the 'endangered' status of the Snow Leopard. Taylor & Lodge has expressed deep regret at its oversight and says it will not be involved in the use of Snow Leopard hair again. Fletcher Jones immediately withdrew the fabric from sale after numerous complaints from the public. No charges have been laid, although the case is still under Customs investigation.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## \* Queensland Convicts Reptile Importer

On 25 August 1986, Ivan Mountford of Toonpan, near Townsville, Queensland, Australia, was prosecuted and convicted for offences, under the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act 1974-1984, involving illegal importation of reptiles through the mail and possession of native Australian reptiles without a permit. On 25 July 1986, officers of the Queensland National Parks & Wildlife Service and the State Police had discovered three Boa Constrictors Boa constrictor and a number of native reptiles in Mountford's possession. The Boa Constrictors had been imported by post, allegedly from Switzerland, in April 1985 and May 1986. Mountford was fined A\$750 (US\$475) and A\$1500 on two counts of importation of the exotic snakes, contrary to Section 64(3) of the Act. The first Boa was allegedly imported concealed inside a chocolate Easter egg, the other two being imported this year in a padded envelope. He was further fined A\$500, plus A\$540 royalties, for possession of native reptiles contrary to Section 54(1)(A): a total of A\$3290.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## Australia Lifts Export Permits Suspension

The suspension on processing of Australian export permits for wildlife products subject to management programmes, which was imposed on 18 June 1986 (see Traffic Bulletin VIII(2):24), was lifted by the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Environment, Mr Barry Cohen, on 10 July 1986. The Minister, in a press release, stated that "the matter of management programs approved under the Wildlife Protection Act was considered at a meeting of Commonwealth and State Conservation Ministers in Adelaide on 26 June and subsequently by senior representatives of Commonwealth and State conservation authorities in Canberra on 1 July. The States have confirmed that the approved management programs are being implemented and have agreed to provide the Commonwealth with reports on a regular basis."

Meanwhile, the Fund for Animals has lodged an application with the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for review of the Minister's decision to approve Queensland's 1986 kangaroo management programme. Another Sydney-based animal welfare group, Australians for Animals, has lodged an application for review concerning New South Wales' 1986 kangaroo management programme. Additionally, the Council of the Australian Conservation Foundation recently resolved to apply for review of the kangaroo management programmes operating in Tasmania and Western Australia.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## \* Falcon Dealers Fined

Thomas Cullen, a falconer from New York, USA, was sentenced on 29 July to five years probation and fined a total of US\$13'000 for the illegal possession and exportation of eggs of the Red-tailed Hawk Buteo jamaicensis. He was also sentenced to perform 200 hours community service.

Cullen was charged with transporting the eggs from New York to Wolverhampton, UK, where a contact, Phillip Dugmore (see Traffic Bulletin VIII(2):24) hatched and sold the live birds, in violation of the US Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the US Endangered Species Act. Correspondence between Cullen and Dugmore had been seized in 1984 and indicated that the two had engaged in a series of transactions involving birds of prey eggs from 1979 to 1981. Cullen was previously convicted in Western Australia (see Traffic Bulletin VIII(1):11).

\* \* \* \*

Ceri Griffiths of the Welsh Hawking Centre, Barry, south Glamorgan, UK, has been fined £900 (US\$1350) for smuggling twenty-seven eggs of the Lannar Falcon Falco biarmicus (CITES Appendix II) into Britain from Morocco. The eggs were smuggled into Manchester Airport, UK, concealed in secret pockets in the defendant's T-shirt. Griffiths also pleaded guilty to smuggling eggs of the Northern Goshawk Accipiter gentilis (Appendix II) from Germany and illegally exporting a Harris' Hawk Parabuteo unicinctus (Appendix II) to the Irish Republic. He was ordered to pay £120 costs.

David Martin of Bridgend, mid-Glamorgan, was convicted of importing twenty-seven Lannar Falcon eggs from Morocco and was fined £300 and ordered to pay £1000 costs.

Sources: US Department of Justice Press Release, 29.7.86

Department of the Environment, UK  
Daily Telegraph, 18.10.86

## Zimbabwe Hits Rhino/Elephant Poachers

Zimbabwe has introduced tough penalties for rhinoceros poaching and for illegal trade in ivory and rhino horn. Under the Parks and Wild Life Amendment Act, 1985, offenders are liable on a first conviction to a fine of not less than Z\$15 000 (US\$9168) or imprisonment for not less than five years, or both. On a second or subsequent conviction the penalty will be not less than Z\$35 000 fine or not less than seven years in gaol, or both.

In September 1986, Eusibio Ngirazi was sentenced to pay a fine of Z\$15 000 or to five years imprisonment, for the possession of two tusks. The accused was arrested when he unwittingly tried to sell the tusks to policemen and game rangers who had set up a trap. The two tusks were valued at Z\$587.

In another incident, Amadeo Matioli was gaoled for two years for hunting illegally in Gonarezhou Game Reserve. On four occasions between April and July 1983, Matioli, dressed as a game warden, had entered the reserve and killed two elephants, two hartebeests and two buffalos. Mateoli was additionally fined Z\$1400 for the death of the elephants, Z\$400 and Z\$750 respectively for the death of the hartebeests and the buffalos.

Sources: Zimbabwe Dept. of National Parks & Wild Life Management; The Herald (Zimbabwe) 19.9.86

## Ethiopia Sets Ivory Quota

Ethiopia has announced that its export quota for raw African Elephant ivory in 1986 will be 700 tusks, including its currently held stock of 436 tusks.

This updates the list of quotas in Traffic Bulletin VIII(1) and brings the total number of countries setting quotas to seventeen.

Source: CITES Secretariat

## \* Cacti Collectors Fined

Six US cacti collectors, arrested following seizures of illegally-held cacti from their premises, have been prosecuted and fined.

Further to our report in Vol. VIII(1):32, Wendell S. Minnich of Cactus Data Plants, Littlerock, California has been fined US\$2500, put on supervised probation for five years and had his car confiscated. Edward G. Gay from The Cactus Ranchito, Tarzana, California, was fined \$2000, put on one year's unsupervised probation and forfeited his car. Steven Franklin Sobel of Van Nuys, California was fined \$1000 and put on one year's supervised probation.

Three others, Walter Fitz-Maurice of San Luis Potosi, Mexico, Steven C. Southwell of San José, California and John K. Wakamatsu of Marina del Ray, California, were fined a total of \$6500, and received up to five years' probation sentences. All defendants were found guilty of misdemeanour charges of conspiracy and unlawful importation of plants listed in CITES Appendix I and protected by the US Endangered Species Act. A total of 248 live cacti were ordered forfeited to the US Government. The specimens have been donated to the Huntington Botanical Gardens, Los Angeles, and the University of California, Berkeley Botanical Gardens for research and educational purposes.

Source: US Fish & Wildlife Service

## Queensland 'Roo Shooting Ban

The Queensland Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport & The Arts announced, in a Press Statement dated 15 July 1986, that a number of measures had been taken to preserve the export of kangaroo products from Queensland\*.

The first measure was the stopping of commercial harvesting of Red Kangaroos Macropus rufus five months before the end of the year. The Minister stated that this action was "unprecedented in the management of kangaroos in Queensland and resulted directly from the Federal Government imposed quotas". Information supplied by the Queensland National Parks & Wildlife Service indicated that the quota of 300 000 Red Kangaroos might be exceeded unless shooting were stopped. The Minister also stated that commercial harvesting of the Western Grey Kangaroo M. fuliginosus would be stopped, although harvesting of the Eastern Grey Kangaroo M. giganteus would be allowed to continue. He further warned that the season for Wallaroos M. robustus was likely to close before the end of August if present harvesting trends continued. The Minister said that an order would be issued to stop commercial shooting and dealing in skins and carcasses of Red and Western Grey Kangaroos to take effect from 19 July 1986. He reconfirmed that Queensland would continue to try to obtain a larger quota\*\* which Queensland Government scientists believe "on the basis of current monitoring . . . would have no adverse effects on kangaroo populations".

The issuance of pest destruction permits, under Section 25 of the Queensland Fauna Conservation Act 1974-1984, is not affected by this commercial shooting ban.

\* The number of kangaroos from each State that may enter commercial trade is subject to Federal Government imposed quotas. The 1986 quota for Queensland is 1.38 million, comprising 970 000 M. giganteus (inc. M. fuliginosus), 300 000 M. rufus, 70 000 M. robustus and 40 000 M. parryi.

\*\* Queensland applied for 1.84 million in 1986.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## Kangaroo Footwear Ban

Three major leather footwear companies have announced that they will cease the sale of footwear containing kangaroo products.

Polytrade Ltd, the sole distributors in the UK of Diadora footwear, have stated that they will take no further deliveries of kangaroo leather footwear from Diadora once present stocks are exhausted.

Nike International, UK, and Puma, have both stated that their footwear for spring 1987 does not include kangaroo products.

Sources: Polytrade International  
Nike International, UK  
Puma

## Clams for Fiji

A trial shipment of juvenile Giant Clams Tridacna gigas has been flown to Fiji from the James Cook University's Orpheus Island Research Station, Queensland, Australia, as part of a project to restock coral reefs in the Pacific region (Sydney Morning Herald, 10.9.86) (see Traffic Bulletin, VII:5:77). Tridacna gigas (CITES Appendix II) is probably now extinct in Fiji, the last specimens having been harvested about fifteen years ago (Munro, in press). The juvenile Clams, which were spawned and reared at the Orpheus Island Research Station hatchery, will be quarantined for six months before being released into Fijian waters.

The shipment was the first of a number of planned shipments from Australia and from a proposed hatchery in the Solomon Islands (Munro, pers. comm.). The shipment was also part of the International Giant Clam Mariculture Project (funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research) investigating the culture of the Giant Clam for food and restocking of tropical reefs. The project is being jointly co-ordinated by Dr J. S. Lucas of the James Cook University of North Queensland and Dr J.L. Munro of the International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management. Partners in the research are the Fisheries Division of the Department of Primary Industry, Fiji, the University of the Philippines, Silliman University, Philippines and the University of Papua New Guinea.

It is planned to send a similar shipment, later this year, to the Philippines where T. gigas is almost extinct (Munro, pers. comm.). Munro (in press) states that T. gigas is now extinct around Java and eastern Sumatra and heavily exploited elsewhere in Indonesia. It is extremely rare in the Philippines and extinct in the Ryukyu Islands, Taiwan, the Marianas, Guam, New Caledonia and Fiji. The status in Vanuatu is unknown and only relict populations are known from Lamotrek and West Fayu Atolls in the Federated States of Micronesia. The present centres of abundance of the species are the waters of Palau, the coasts of New Guinea and adjacent islands, Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu, southern Burma, the west coast of Thailand and the waters of northern and north-eastern Australia.

### Reference

Munro, J.L., in press: Fisheries for Giant Clams (Tridacnidae: Bivalvia) and prospects for stock enhancement. In, Caddy, J.F. (ed.), Scientific approaches to management of shellfish resources, John Wiley & Sons, New York.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## \* Turtle Flippers Smuggled into F.R. Germany

A thousand kilogrammes of salted sea turtle flippers were smuggled out of the Hamburg freeport recently and into the Federal Republic of Germany. Alerted by TRAFFIC (Germany), the Department of the Environment of the city of Hamburg ordered an investigation. It was found that the flippers came from a shipment of sea turtle derivatives and crocodile skins which had been stored in the freeport area for several years.

The remainder of the stored shipment has been seized by Customs, and TRAFFIC (Germany) is trying to trace the flippers which left the port.

Source: TRAFFIC (Germany)

## Tasmanian Kelp Industry

Two Tasmanian companies, Kelp Industries of King Island and Tasbond Pty Ltd., of Launceston, have been issued with authorities under Section 44 (the exceptional circumstances clause) of the Australian Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 to export Bull Kelp *Durvillaea potatorum* as no approved management programme currently exists for this species.

Public notice of the authorities to the two companies to export consignments of Bull Kelp over a period of six months was given in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S61 of 19 February 1986 and again, for a further six months, in Gazette No. S447 of 4 September 1986. Since February 1986, authorities have been issued to allow export of 1526 tonnes (t) of dried kelp, 5600 kg and 1080 litres of liquid organic seaweed (J.D. Ovington, Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service, *in litt.*). Only beach-washed kelp may at present be utilized.

According to Allan Moutt (Kelp - cash crop for free, Panorama, Qantas in-flight magazine, September 1985), Kelp Industries pays harvesters A\$280 (US\$177) a dry tonne (= approx. six wet tonnes). The seaweed is dried, shredded and pelleted before export overseas where it is processed to produce an alginate gel. This gel is used by the food industry to help stabilise, thicken, suspend and gel food products and pharmaceuticals, including ice cream, frozen foods, juice drinks, toppings, salad dressing, pet foods, toothpaste, milk shakes, beer and meat pies. The gel is used in a number of other fields as well. Kelp Industries has been operating for over ten years and apparently exports about 2750 dry tonnes a year.

Tasbond Pty Ltd manufactures liquid fertiliser from King Island Kelp supplied by Kelp Industries. Australian Fisheries (Vol. 45 No. 6, June 1986, p.15) reports that scientists at the Australian National University have found natural plant growth hormones - or cytokinins - in Bull Kelp which are said to increase crop yields, help plant resistance to frosts and fungal infection and improve the storage abilities of fruits.

The biology of *D. potatorum* and the environmental impact of its removal from beaches has been studied by Monash University. A management programme for the King Island Bull Kelp is currently being drafted by the kelp harvesting industry.

Source: *TRAFFIC (Australia)*

## \* Tortoises Seized in Italy

For the second time in the past few months, Italian Customs officers have seized a number of land tortoises Testudo hermanni robertmertensi which were on sale in Naples.

The species Hermann's Tortoise Testudo hermanni is generally considered rare and localised in Italy and is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Amphibia-Reptilia Red Data Book (Groombridge, 1982). It is a strictly protected species under the Bern Convention.

A WWF delegation for the collection of data has been set up in Naples with the particular aim of locating and opposing all attempts to capture and trade in land tortoises and for preliminary estimates to be made on the remaining colonies of T. hermanni. Anybody interested should contact Guido Guerrasio, Delegazione WWF per la Campania, Villa Pignatelli, Riviera di Chiaia 200 - 80121 Napoli, Italy.

### Reference:

Groombridge, B. (1982): The IUCN Amphibia-Reptilia Red Data Book, Part 1. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland, 426 pp.

Source: *TRAFFIC (Italy)*

## CITES Enforcement Seminar Recommendations

A seminar on CITES enforcement was held in Bristol, UK, from 27 September to 5 October 1986. A total of fifty-six participants attended the meeting which included representatives from twenty-three party states, Interpol, the Customs Co-operation Council and the CITES Secretariat. The overall objective of the meeting was to determine the most effective ways of improving the Parties' ability to enforce the Convention and, thus, to reduce the volume of illegal trade. This objective was achieved by the process of identifying the major problem areas and formulating an appropriate series of recommendations as a strategy to alleviate these problems. The following points form the framework for a proposed strategy:

1) CITES Parties should systematically collect information on cases of infringements, *inter alia*, in order to identify suspects and for the purposes of possible imposition of sanctions against individuals or companies involved in illegal CITES trade.

2) Systematic analysis of all information should be undertaken, identifying patterns and trends of legal and illegal techniques and trade for the practical use of enforcement officers.

3) Each Party should prepare a national enforcement manual, based on existing domestic legislation, including details of enforcement agencies involved, to be used as a practical guide to communication links, both domestic and international.

4) Parties should systematically analyse their individual cases and enforcement techniques in order to identify positive and negative factors experienced each year in efforts to enforce CITES. The Secretariat should receive reports on this from the Parties.

5) The Secretariat should co-ordinate these activities and should provide enforcement agencies, via Management Authorities where appropriate, with relevant information, including, where possible, names of persons convicted, and the analysis of information collected. To enable the Secretariat to fulfil this function, additional staff should be taken on.

6) Enforcement officers should be provided with relevant documentation and other aids for verification purposes.

7) The Secretariat should organize and conduct further seminars on a regular basis to provide enforcement agencies with an opportunity to discuss progress in establishing this strategy and to exchange information and views on specific enforcement problems.

Source: *CITES Secretariat*

## Madeira Protects Turtles

According to the Portuguese National Agency, Madeira has prohibited the catching, possession, deliberate killing of or trade in the following sea turtles:

Loggerhead Turtle	<u>Caretta caretta</u>
Hawksbill Turtle	<u>Eretmochelys imbricata</u>
Kemp's Ridley Turtle	<u>Lepidochelys kempii</u>
Green Turtle	<u>Chelonia mydas</u>
Leatherback Turtle	<u>Dermochelys coriacea</u>

Source: *International Pet Trade Organisation Bulletin, No. 18*



## Caviar Poachers Caught

A member of a special Soviet police force, which was set up to help stop illicit trade in black caviar, has been found in possession of over 346 kg of caviar poached from Agrakhanski Bay in the Caspian Sea.

The caviar (roe from the sturgeon fish) was discovered in an ambulance on its way to be sold in the city of Makhachkal. It was traced back to a camp of poachers with an armed guard. They had been slitting open the sturgeon to remove the caviar and returned the fish to the water.

Another incident further north, where forty headless sturgeon were discovered, led to the capture of four poachers and, in a separate incident, two poachers were arrested after poaching sixty-one fish, and preparing 97 kg of caviar. The loss to the state was estimated at 20 000 roubles (US\$19 000).

*Source: The Sydney Morning Herald, 20.9.86*

## Asian Bonytongues in Japan

A considerable and persistent illegal Japanese trade in Asian Bonytongues *Scleropages formosus*, a CITES Appendix I, South-east Asian freshwater fish, was first documented in the *Traffic Bulletin* Vol. VI(3/4) (The Japanese Trade in Bonytongues and CITES-listed Fish; Matsumura and Milliken, 1984). A subsequent WTMU study on the international trade in the species appeared in Vol. VII(5) (International Trade in Asian Bonytongues; Joseph et al., 1986) also concluded that "it seems likely that Japan is the major importer of the fish".

Although this publicity has resulted in improved control efforts on the part of Japanese Customs authorities, the illegal trade continues. So far in 1986, according to newspaper accounts, Customs have intercepted four shipments of the fish at the ports of entry. The Government has not officially disclosed the details of these confiscations, but it has been reported in the press that incidents occurred at Osaka and Narita (Tokyo) international airports. In the spring, a total of forty-nine Asian Bonytongues were reportedly apprehended on two separate occasions at Osaka and Narita; all of the fish subsequently died. Two more cases at Narita occurred in July. One exceptionally large shipment reportedly involved 480 fish from Singapore, 242 of which were dead on arrival. The other case apparently involved nine 20-cm Asian Bonytongues from Thailand, three of which died. Both Singapore and Thailand were identified as staging points for Japan's illegal trade in the earlier reports.

Recent monitoring of pet and tropical fish retail outlets in and around Tokyo by TRAFFIC (Japan) revealed the presence of small Asian Bonytongue specimens under 10 cm in size for sale at prices reaching Y89 000 (US\$575). While many shops regularly feature specimens 20 cm and longer, it is difficult to say when these fish were imported. On the other hand, TRAFFIC (Japan) believes that fish measuring less than 10 cm are certainly recent imports and, therefore, tangible evidence that illegal shipments are still circumventing Government controls.

TRAFFIC asked the Japanese CITES Management Authority to investigate one particular shop, which featured seven small fish, but government action was not forthcoming, apparently because Japan has still not developed internal guidelines for law enforcement activities. When brought to the attention of the press, however, the affair gained considerable media coverage. TRAFFIC (Japan) now reports that the Government is finally investigating the matter and moving towards the establishment of investigation procedures for future suspected violations.

*Source: TRAFFIC (Japan)*

## Eels Exempted from Export Control

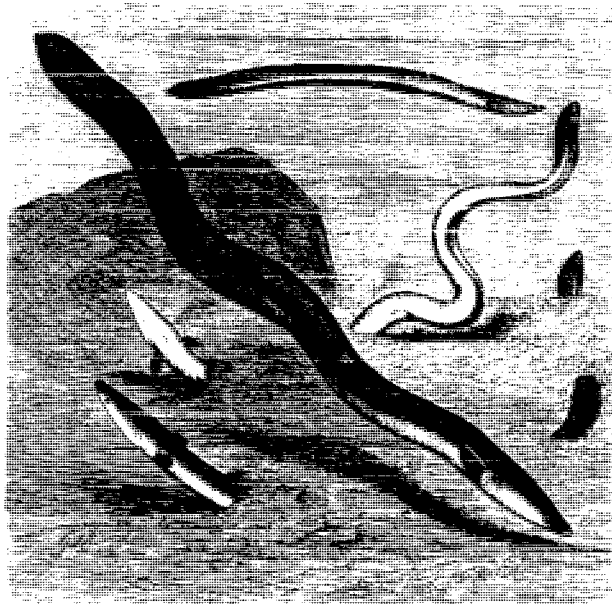
Part 1 of Schedule 4 of the Australian Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 was amended on 15 July 1986 by declaration of the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Environment in *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette S341* dated 16 July 1986, to include "a specimen that is, or is derived from, a fish of the species *Anguilla australis* or the species *Anguilla reinhardtii*." Schedule 4 lists specimens that are, or are derived from, native Australian fauna and flora, the export of which is not controlled under the Act.

The two species concerned, the Long-finned Eel *A. reinhardtii* and the Short-finned Eel *A. australis*, are the basis of a million dollar fishery in Victoria (Harrington & Beumer, 1980). There are also small commercial fisheries established in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania according to the Victorian Dept. of Conservation, Forests & Lands. *A. australis* is the principal commercial species in Victoria (Merrick & Schmida, 1984), forming about ninety-five per cent of the annual commercial eel catch (Harrington & Beumer, 1980). Harrington & Beumer (1980) state that during the last decade (i.e. before 1980) the annual catch of eels from Victoria increased from 80 to 211 tonnes (t). A spokesman for the Victorian Dept. of Conservation, Forests & Lands quoted (pers. comm.) production figures for *A. australis* in 1984/85 of 160 t, plus 67 t cultured; production of *A. reinhardtii* was negligible. The price paid to fishermen in that year was A\$1.75 (US\$1.10) a kg for *A. australis* and A\$1.00-1.60 a kg for *A. reinhardtii*. In 1985/86 the prices paid were A\$1.85 a kg for *A. australis* and A\$1.10-2.50 a kg for *A. reinhardtii*. Approximately twenty-five fishermen in Victoria have commercial licences for eels; the fishery is closed. Most of the catch is exported, mainly to Europe and to South-east Asia (Anon., 1980; Beumer, pers. comm.). The market for *A. reinhardtii* in 1980 was only for live eels heavier than 3 kg, which were exported to Hong Kong and Taiwan (Harrington & Beumer, 1980).

### References

- Anon., (1980). Vic. eels exported to Europe. *Australian Fisheries* 39(8):22.  
 Harrington, D. & Beumer, J. (1980). Eels support a valuable fishery in Victoria. *Australian Fisheries* 39(8):23.  
 Merrick, J.R. & Schmida, G.E. (1984). *Australian Freshwater Fishes; Biology and Management*. John R. Merrick, North Ryde.

*Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)*



## Seabird Hunting Controlled in N. Keeling

A temporary ban has been declared on the harvesting of seabirds on North Keeling Island in the Australian Territory of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Indian Ocean.

The ban, which will last until 30 June 1987, is part of a seabird management programme announced on 18 July 1986 in a joint statement by the Australian Federal Minister for Arts, Heritage & Environment, Mr Barry Cohen, and the Federal Minister for Territories, Mr Gordon Scholes. The Cocos Malay community has traditionally hunted seabirds, principally Red-footed Boobies *Sula sula* and frigatebirds *Fregata* spp. The Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service (ANPWS) began surveying the bird populations in 1985 following public concern about the possible effects of the harvest. North Keeling Island has significant colonies of Red-footed Boobies, Lesser Frigatebirds *F. ariel*, Greater Frigatebirds *F. minor*, White Terns *Gygis alba* and Common Noddies *Anous stolidus*. Based on the 1985 surveys, the number of Red-footed Boobies has been conservatively estimated at 17 000 breeding pairs and the number of Lesser Frigatebirds at 4000 breeding pairs. These are the two main species harvested. Figures for the other species are not known. There are no data on harvesting levels although, on the basis of anecdotal accounts, the estimate for 1985 is between 3000 and 10 000 birds. Eggs are not taken (Australian Senate Hansard, 7.5.86, p. 2573).



Frigatebird  
*Fregata* spp.

During the period of the ban, strictly regulated hunting of Red-footed Boobies will be permitted on Horsburgh Island in the main atoll where some birds roost but do not breed. Data gathered during the period will be used to determine permissible hunting levels for the future when a quota/permit system will be introduced. Future hunting is likely to be restricted to Red-footed Boobies.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## \* Birds Discovered at Sydney Airport

According to sources in the Australian Customs Service and the Australian Museum, three Monk Parakeets *Myiopsitta monachus* were found dead at Mascot Airport, Sydney on 9 September 1986. The dead birds had been deposited in toilets situated before the immigration barrier.

\* \* \* \*

Two passengers on a Qantas flight from Singapore were apprehended by Customs at Sydney, on 15 September 1986, attempting to bring live birds into Australia. A Customs officer was conducting a routine search of a man's baggage when he allegedly noticed bird catalogues and some birdseed in the bottom of a suitcase. The officer became suspicious and the passenger was body-searched, resulting in six live birds being found secreted in the man's jacket pockets (Australian Customs Service News Release C23/86). The birds were subsequently identified by the Australian Museum as two Red-crested Finches *Coryphospingus cucullatus*, two Paradise Whydahs *Vidua paradisaea* and two Pintail Whydahs *Vidua macroura*. (The Avicultural Society of Australia's 1986 Guide to Bird Prices lists Pintail Whydah at A\$1200 (US\$760) a pair; the other species are not listed.) Subsequent action by Customs resulted in the apprehension of another man who had been on the same flight and was transitting to Melbourne. He was found to have two Red-crested Finches in his luggage. The birds are prohibited imports under the Quarantine Act 1908 and were destroyed the same day, the skins being donated to the Australian Museum. Charges have not yet been laid against the importers.

\* \* \* \*

Frederick Angell and Kim McPhee of Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia, were apprehended at Mascot Airport, Sydney, on 23 May 1986 and charged with attempting to export native Australian birds of CITES-listed species without a permit. It was alleged that five parrots were found in Ms McPhee's baggage when she tried to board an aircraft bound for Christchurch, New Zealand. The birds were two Major Mitchell's Cockatoos *Cacatua leadbeateri*, two Gang-gang Cockatoos *Callocephalon fimbriatum* and a Galah *Eolophus roseicapillus*. Mr Angell was further charged with previously having exported eighteen birds to New Zealand without a permit. The two were convicted at Newcastle District Court on 17 October 1986. Angell was fined A\$5000 and placed on a two-year good behaviour bond with a special proviso that, if he came to notice within this period, he would automatically incur another A\$5000 fine. McPhee, who was acting as Angell's courier, was placed on a two-year good behaviour bond. This was the sixth prosecution under the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982.

Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)

## Flamingo Eggs Smuggled into Chile

Prodena Bolivia recently funded an ornithologist, Saul Arias Cossio, in order to determine the extent of damage to Laguna Colorada in Eduardo Avaroa National Faunal Reserve in South-west Bolivia, after pollution and climatic conditions had allegedly caused the death of thousands of flamingos. During the investigations, it was discovered that nesting sites within the Reserve have become the target of egg poachers.

Apart from the removal of eggs for human consumption by local villagers, batches of 2000-3000 eggs have been removed in cartons and the eggs smuggled over the border into Chile.

Source: Bolivian Wildlife Society



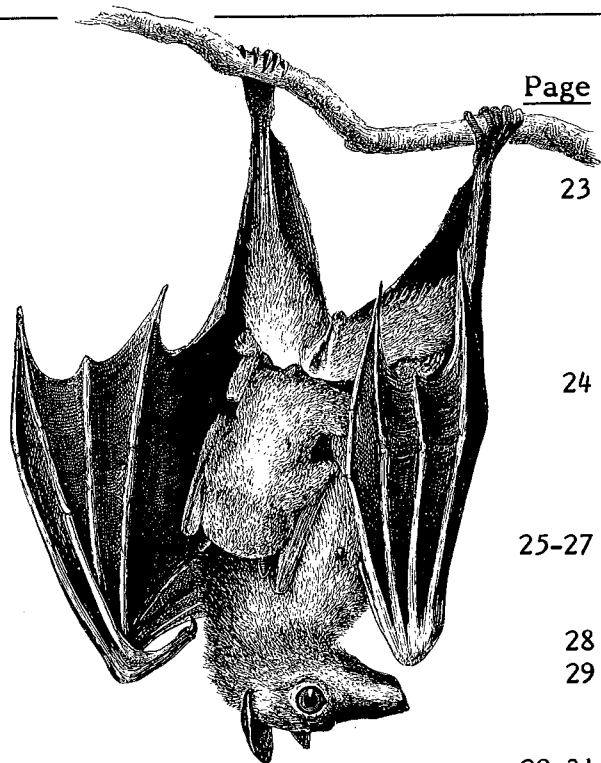
## WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

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*Centre insert: Text of Convention on International Trade in  
Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora*

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## Spain Joins CITES

Spain has become the 92nd Party to CITES, acceding to the Convention on 30 May 1986. The accession becomes effective on 28 August 1986.

## Biggest Ivory Seizures ... outside Africa

On 15 January 1986, Belgian Customs officers seized ten tonnes of raw ivory at Antwerp harbour. The tusks were stacked in two containers, which left Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, for Antwerp by boat on 5 December 1985.

The shipment, valued at about US\$1 million, was awaiting transferral to a ship bound for Dubai; the final destination, in Asia, is unknown. However, the ship for this part of the journey was delayed for several weeks and missed the appointment in Antwerp. Whilst the containers were being stored at the docks, Customs officers accidentally discovered their contents whilst carrying out a drugs search.

The shipment, described as "Bee-wax", in fact consisted of 1889 unmarked tusks, weighing 9777.2 kg (mean weight = 5.07 kg). An inspection by Chris Huxley and Joe Yovino of the CITES Secretariat, revealed that the tusks were taken from recently killed elephants, probably all shot in 1985. The tusks, some still with bullets lodged in them, had been removed in a way typical of poachers working in a hurry. The shape and quality of the ivory indicate that the tusks were probably collected in the same region (most likely Tanzania), from an already depleted elephant population.

During a press conference, called by the Belgian Secretary of State for Agriculture, C. Huxley stated "that this was the biggest seizure of illegal ivory ever made outside Africa". In the past, dealers were able to "launder" illegal ivory, using forged documents or transiting shipments from one country to another until the illegal origin was obscured. According to Huxley, this case clearly demonstrates that the recent reinforcement of the international control on ivory trade is now forcing the illegal traders to use much more risky smuggling routes and techniques. The CITES Secretariat estimates that only two years ago, up to eighty per cent of the world ivory trade was illegal. This figure would now be less than fifty per cent.

The Attorney of Antwerp, in charge of the case, has called upon Interpol to investigate the exact origin of the ivory and the smugglers and buyers involved.

It is not yet known whether the ivory will be sent back to Africa or sold at public auction in Belgium.

## ... and in Zambia

A shipment of 564 ivory tusks, weighing about 6 t, and two rhino horns, were seized in early June 1986 by the authorities in Zambia. The shipment was found in a concealed compartment in a truck moving through the Mpika district of northern Zambia, on the way to Burundi.

This represents the largest single shipment of ivory ever seized in Zambia. Those involved are being questioned and prosecutions will ensue.

*Sources: TRAFFIC (Belgium)  
CITES Secretariat*

## Bolivian Export Ban Extended

Bolivia's ban on the hunting, processing, trade and export of all live wildlife, parts and derivatives, has been extended for three years by Supreme Decree 21312, effective from 27 June 1986.

This ban excludes an annual quota of 50 000 skins of "Caiman crocodilus crocodilus" Spectacled Caiman, cured in Bolivia. It is not clear whether it was intended to restrict the quota to this subspecies. The taxonomic status of the subspecies of Caiman crocodilus present in Bolivia is disputed: the most widespread subspecies is thought to be C.c. yacare, while C.c. crocodilus, if it is present at all, is thought to be confined to the extreme north of the country. A major field project, supported by CITES, is currently trying to resolve this problem.

*Sources: Bolivian Wildlife Society  
CITES Secretariat*

## UK Bans Dolphin Imports

An immediate ban has been imposed on the imports of dolphins and killer whales into the UK. The ban is to be enforced for a period of five years to allow Britain's six dolphinariums to carry out major improvements to their facilities.

This announcement on 1 July, by the Environment Minister, Mr William Waldegrave, follows a study by Dr Margaret Klinowska of Cambridge University, into the practices of the UK dolphinarium. The animals' behavioural problems were also investigated. Major improvements were recommended in virtually all areas, in particular, to the size of the pools used, which Dr Klinowska advised should be doubled to meet international standards.

Mr Waldegrave said that live displays of dolphins and killer whales would not be allowed to continue unless the improvements were made. He said that operators of dolphin shows would be required to submit an improvement programme by the end of November.

*Source: Department of the Environment News  
Release, 1.7.86*

## TRAFFIC in Austria and Italy

Proposals to set up two new TRAFFIC offices in Austria and Italy, as part of the TRAFFIC Network, were approved at the TRAFFIC Committee meeting held in Cambridge, UK, on 7 May 1986.

TRAFFIC (Austria) and TRAFFIC (Italy) have begun operations as branches of their national World Wildlife Fund (WWF) offices. Dr Daniel Slama, formerly of WWF-Austria, is Director of TRAFFIC (Austria). A Party to CITES since 1982, Austria is an important trade route from eastern Europe into the EEC.

The Director of TRAFFIC (Italy), Ing. Pier Lorenzo Florio, is a founder member of WWF-Italy and has been on the National Board since its inception in 1966. He has now resigned from the Board to take charge of the new position. Since 1980, Ing. Florio has been the representative of WWF for the Scientific Authority for CITES implementation in Italy. Italy has one of the most important reptile skin and leather industries in the world and the need for a TRAFFIC office in this country has been felt for some years. One of TRAFFIC (Italy)'s first tasks will be to encourage the establishment of legal penalties for violations of CITES.

## Australia Suspends Wildlife Exports

The Australian Federal Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment announced, in a press release dated 18 June 1986, that he had "decided to suspend for the time being the processing of permits for exports of all wildlife products subject to Management Programs." This decision followed a judgement made on 6 June 1986 by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal in relation to the Kangaroo Management Program operating in Queensland in 1985, and affects all commercial exports of kangaroos, possums and muttonbirds (these being the only fauna currently subject to Management Programs under the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 (WPA) in Australia).

The Australian animal welfare and conservation group, the Fund for Animals, had applied to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, under sub-section 80(1)(A) of the WPA for a review of the decision made by the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment to declare (pursuant to sub-section 10(1) of the WPA) a Management Program entitled "Kangaroo Conservation and Management in Queensland" to be an approved Management Program. The Fund for Animals had submitted that the Queensland Management Program should be set aside on the grounds that the Minister was not, or should not have been, satisfied as to the matters set out in Regulation 5(1) of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Regulations (the conditions for approval of Management Programs). After eight days of hearings, the Tribunal concluded that the Management Program which was approved by the Minister on 16 October 1985 and gazetted on 30 October 1985 was not the Management Program which was being carried out in Queensland at that date, nor was it a programme which was proposed to be carried out or had been carried out. "That being so, the Minister had no power to approve it, and his purported approval was ineffective." The Tribunal set aside the Minister's decision and remitted the matter to him for reconsideration in accordance with recommendations made by the Tribunal.

In his press release of 18 June, the Minister, in suspending the processing of export permits, stressed that this was "not a ban and that it would be his expectation that, following review and necessary amendment to Management Programs, exports could recommence".

*Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)*

## Australian Parrot Keeper Fined

On 26 May 1986, Samuel Russo of Dural, New South Wales, Australia, was fined AU\$2500 (US\$1792), plus AU\$323 costs, in Hornsby Court, Sydney, for illegally selling and keeping Australian native birds, and acting as a fauna dealer without a licence. Russo had pleaded guilty to three summonses brought against him by police under the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW State legislation). Russo had been found to have in his possession twenty-two Galahs Eolophus roseicapillus, two Cockatiels Nymphicus hollandicus and two Sulphur-crested Cockatoos Cacatua galerita, without an aviary registration certificate, and evidence was also given that he had sold two Galahs. For these offences, contrary to sections 101 and 108 of the Act, he was fined \$2000 plus costs. He was fined a further \$500 plus costs for acting as a fauna dealer without a licence, contrary to Section 104 of the Act.

*Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)*



Tomato Frog Dyscophus antongilii

© Mike Linley/Survival

## Tomato Frogs Seized in UK

An investigation carried out by UK Customs in March on a consignment of live reptiles and amphibians imported at Harwich, UK, led to the discovery of two specimens of the rare Tomato Frog Dyscophus antongilii from Madagascar. The frogs had been described as "giant tree frogs".

Unique in size and colour and keenly sought by collectors, the Madagascan Tomato Frog is restricted to north-eastern Madagascar.

The two specimens, which had travelled via Europe, are being looked after by a UK expert on amphibians.

*Source: UK Customs & Excise*

## UK Convictions

### Illegal Eagles

Philip Samuel Dugmore was convicted in the UK, on 28 April, of keeping three Crowned Eagles Stephanoaetus coronatus, four Martial Eagles Polemaetus bellicosus and two Verreaux's Eagles Aquila verreauxii. The birds had been illegally imported to the UK as eggs, over the last three years. Mr Dugmore was charged under the Customs and Excise Management Act, 1979, at Stafford Crown Court, and fined £500 (US\$700) plus £500 costs.

### Egg Smuggling

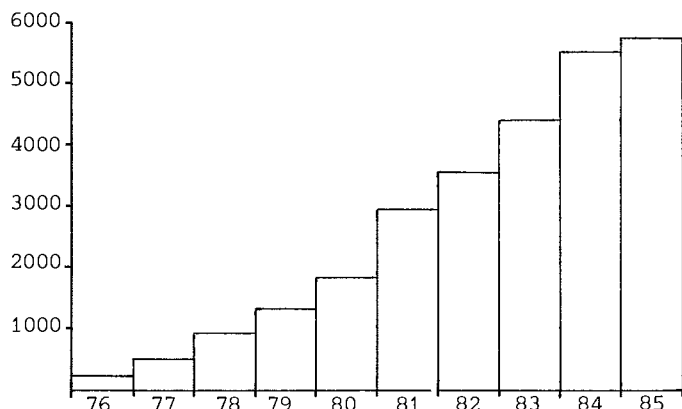
A West German, Rudolf Pfade has been convicted and fined £600 (US\$840) at Hull Magistrates Court, UK, for attempting illegally to export Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus eggs.

Pfade, a registered falconer with seven birds of his own, was detained on 16 May 1986 by Customs officials after a tip-off. The court was told that Pfade had been staying with a gamekeeper in North Yorkshire and had been given the eggs as a farewell present at a rendezvous, by a man from Liverpool. The RSPB has been carrying out undercover operations in the Yorkshire Dales and believe this case to be the "tip of the iceberg" in an international falcon trade worth hundreds of thousands of pounds. They believe that about fifty birds of prey nests are robbed each year.

*Sources: UK Customs & Excise  
The Daily Telegraph*

## Swiss Export Permits Increased

### Export Permits/Re-export Certificates Issued



Since 1975, the number of CITES export permits and re-export certificates issued by the CITES Management Authority for Switzerland and Liechtenstein has steadily increased. This development reflects the improvement of import controls in the destination countries rather than a real increase in the trade. Most CITES documents issued by Switzerland concern watch straps made from reptile leather, of which 891 757 were exported in 1985.

*Source: Swiss CITES Management Authority*

## USA Seizes Rare Cacti

The recent seizure of over 200 rare cactus plants in California, USA, is believed to be the largest seizure of endangered cacti in the State.

A year-long undercover investigation by the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) resulted in the seizures from the premises of three cacti collectors. Wendell Sherwood Minnich of Cactus Data Plants in Littlerock, Edward G. Gay of the Cactus Ranchito in Tarzana and Steven Franklin Sobel of Van Nuys, are accused of making several trips to remote locations in Mexico, removing plants and later importing them illegally into the USA. According to USFWS Agent Ed Dominguez, the cacti are of "extreme botanical value"... "Some are among the ten most endangered plants in the world." One species, the Aztec Cactus *Aztekium ritteri* (CITES Appendix I) is found only on near-vertical cliff faces in four remote canyons in Central Mexico. Two other Appendix I species, *Ariocarpus agavoides* and *Obregonia denegrii* were included in the seizure, along with a large quantity of Peyote Cactus *Lophophora williamsii*. The Peyote Cactus is classified as an illegal drug in California because of its hallucinogenic properties. Live Gila Monsters *Heloderma suspectum* (Appendix II), had also been taken unlawfully in Arizona and transported to California.

Prosecutions are being considered. Violations of the US Endangered Species Act may result in a maximum of one year in prison and/or a US\$20 000 fine.

The USFWS was assisted in this investigation by Agents of the US Customs Service, the US Department of Agriculture and Wardens of the California Department of Fish & Game.

*Sources: Los Angeles Daily News, 4.3.86  
US Attorney Press Release, 3.3.86  
Los Angeles Times, 23.3.86*

## Skins Seized in Uruguay

In early March 1986, the Direction of Legal Control for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in Uruguay seized a large number of skins from fur shops in Montevideo. The skins were confiscated when it was found that the identification stamps were false.

Amongst the seizures were 2369 raw skins, 2828 tanned skins and 27 skin garments of Coypu *Myocastor coypus*. Included also were Geoffroy's Cat *Felis geoffroyi* skins, and an Ocelot *Felis pardalis* coat. Other skins, skin pieces and garments from fox *Dusicyon* and *Cerdocyon* spp., Raccoon *Procyon lotor*, ferret and River Otter *Lutra longicaudis*, brought the total seized to 2388 raw skins, 4093 tanned skins, 47 garments, pieces and accessories and 58 kg of mixed skins.

*Source: TRAFFIC (South America)*

## Corrections

In 'The International Trade in Frogs' Legs' by Manfred Niekisch, TRAFFIC (Germany), published in *Traffic Bulletin* VIII(1), we incorrectly indicated that Swiss imports of live frogs, amounting to 100-200 tonnes a year, are used for "scientific purposes". These figures (in Table 6), in fact referred to frogs imported for human consumption. The number of frogs of the genus *Rana* imported to Switzerland for scientific purposes is in the region of 1000 to 2000 specimens a year. We apologise to the author and our readers for this error on our part.

In the same issue, we misleadingly stated that Indonesia bans the export of cockatoos (p. 21). Only two species, the Greater Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita* and the Palm Cockatoo *Probosciger aterrimus*, are protected in Indonesia (see page 30 of this issue).

## US Reptile Smuggler Gaoled

Randal Theodore Graham of Stockton, California, USA, was recently convicted and sentenced to two years gaoled (with eighteen months of the term suspended) for illegal importation of reptiles from Australia. Graham, who had been travelling on a false passport, was arrested by US Customs in San Francisco when he returned to the USA from Australia in December 1985. During his stay in Australia, Graham had collected reptiles and posted them to various addresses in the USA.

*Source: TRAFFIC (Australia)*

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

The *Traffic Bulletin* will be published quarterly in 1986. This publication is sent free to WTMU consultants, government agencies, conservation organisations and other institutions involved in the conservation of threatened species. Donations to defray costs will continue to be welcomed. To commercial enterprises and private individuals, the subscription is US\$20.00 (£10.00 in UK) per volume. Cheques, bank drafts or international money orders should be made payable to the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL, UK.



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

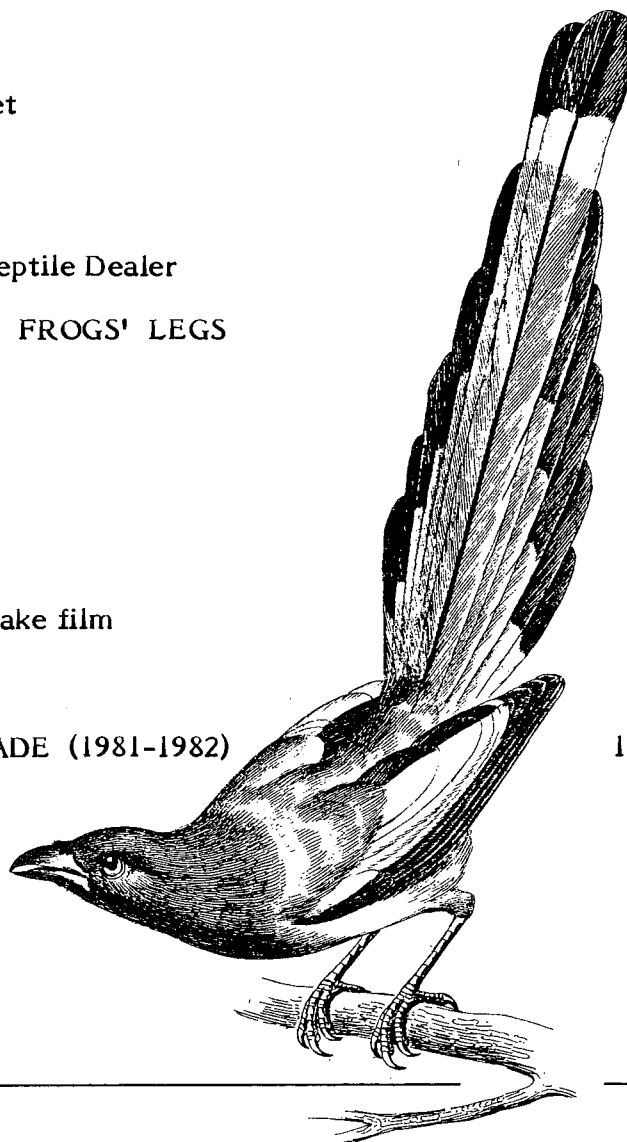
# Traffic Bulletin

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**THE PEOPLE'S TRUST FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES**

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## \* Peccary Skins Seized in Paraguay

6000 peccary skins from Asunción, Paraguay were seized on 16 October 1985 at Carrasco Airport, Uruguay, on their way to Hamburg, F.R. Germany.

The dried skins, all believed to be from the Collared Peccary Tayassu tajacu, were packed in twenty-six bundles and weighed 4700 kg.

The consignment from Paraguay was addressed to Paul Fehns, Vogelweide O. and had been despatched by a Carlos Ordiera who had arranged the re-export permit. It was this permit which came to the attention of the Customs authorities. Paraguay banned all trade in wildlife and wildlife products in 1975, and although trade may be permitted in exceptional circumstances, it appears that no such permits have ever been issued.

The skins, with an estimated value of US\$35 000, are currently being kept at an auction mart.

F.R. Germany appears to be the major importer of peccary skins and the importer, Paul Fehns, claims to import 36 000 skins from Paraguay every year (in litt.) (see Traffic Bulletin, 6(2)).

The only peccary species included in the CITES Appendices is the White-lipped Peccary Tayassu tajacu, which is in Appendix III for Guatemala.

Sources: TRAFFIC (South America);  
CITES Secretariat

## Bolivia/USA Monkey Business

Bolivia's ban on the export of live wild animals, for one year from 1 May 1984, and later extended to 31 July 1986, had been the culmination of a three-year campaign for the Bolivian Wildlife Society (Prodena Bolivia). On 17 January TRAFFIC (USA) informed the International Primate Protection League who advised Prodena Bolivia that a total of 361 Night (Owl) Monkeys Aotus trivirgatus and Common Squirrel Monkeys Saimiri sciureus had arrived at Miami on 15 January, the first of 600 due to be exported from Bolivia under a special Ministerial Resolution instigated by the US Government. Prompt action resulted in the export being limited to the 361.

It was discovered that the dealers, Matthew Block and Gene Harris of Worldwide Primates Inc. of Miami, had been contracted by the US Agency for International Development (AID) to obtain 600 monkeys immediately, despite the ban, with 2000 to follow later 'for malarial vaccine research'. The Ministry of Agriculture in Bolivia quickly revoked the special Resolution when it realised there were irregularities, and requested that the monkeys be returned to Bolivia. AID apparently informed the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Department in Washington that this was impossible as all the animals had been dispersed to research centres immediately on arrival. On 28 February, it was found that only the twenty Night Monkeys had gone to a research centre, three of the Squirrel Monkeys were dead on arrival in Miami and the remaining 338 had been sent to Worldwide Primates Inc.

Sources: Bolivian Wildlife Society; TRAFFIC (USA)

## No News of Pudus

In early 1985, a number of Southern Pudus Pudu pudu (CITES Appendix I), possibly forty, were imported from Chile by a pet shop owner in Mendoza, Argentina, with the authorisation of the Director Provincial de Parques y Bosques of Mendoza Province, Ing. Agr. Sr Formento. Half of the animals were sent to an unidentified person in Buenos Aires, another two to four were destined for Mendoza Zoo, and the importer kept the remainder, two of which later died. It is believed that some were also destined for a captive-breeding facility in Neuquén. Each animal was imported for US\$1000.

On receiving this information at the fifth Conference of the Parties to CITES, the director of TRAFFIC (South America), Prof. Juan Villalba-Macías, immediately informed the CITES Management Authority, the Dirección Nacional de Fauna Silvestre, in Argentina. On 12 May, the director of TRAFFIC (Belgium), Dr Jean-Pierre d'Huart, visited the pet-shop "Pájaro Uno", in Mendoza. He was taken to a private holding pen, where four Pudu were being held and was informed that these were part of a consignment of twenty-five Pudus imported from Chile. He was unable to establish the whereabouts of the remaining twenty-one animals.

This information was sent to the CITES Management Authority in Argentina on 21 May, and the matter was directed to the Administración Nacional de Aduanas (Customs) for investigation. When the Argentinian authorities broke into the room where the Pudus were kept, the animals had gone. Meanwhile, Mr Eduardo Cruz from the CITES Management Authority in Chile confirmed, in a telephone conversation with TRAFFIC (South America), that no export permit for Pudus had been issued. Investigations indicate that the Pudus in Argentina had been imported under a false permit which identified them as a rare species of Mara Dolichotis spp.

TRAFFIC (South America) informed the Argentinian authorities that the Director Provincial de Parques y Bosques of Mendoza Province, or dependent officials, may

have been involved in the illegal importation of Pudus to Mendoza. According to information sent to TRAFFIC (Belgium) by a contact in Mendoza, the Pudus are bought from a German person by natives in the Valdivia, in southern Chile.

TRAFFIC (South America) has so far received no explanation of these events, even though ten months have passed since the matter was first brought to the attention of the authorities in Argentina and Chile.

During the investigations of the above case, it was also found that, in the summer of 1984, seventy-two Pudu had been imported into Argentina, many of which died. Some were destined for Mendoza Zoo and others had been re-exported. It was established that eight bound for Belgium died at Brussels airport, and that others had been sent to zoos in F.R. Germany.

On 26 August 1985, TRAFFIC (South America) learnt that 300 Pudu had been caught in the Chiloé Archipelago of Southern Chile by a Mr Eugenio Mujica Mujica. 209 of these were apparently being kept on Imerquiña Island. The objective of this operation appeared to be the exportation of these animals via Argentina. There is not believed to be any connection between these Pudus and those imported by the pet shop owner in Mendoza.

Sources: TRAFFIC (South America);  
TRAFFIC (Belgium)



## Somalia's Ivory Sale

The forthcoming sale of 51 tonnes (t) of ivory, comprising some 17 000 tusks, has recently been advertised in newspapers in many countries. Little further information was added apart from an address in Essex, UK, from where the tender documents could be obtained.

Many people have expressed surprise that such a quantity of ivory could be available for sale and that such a sale could be legal. However the tender documents reveal that the ivory was from stock held by the Somali Government and now owned by the Shirre Company, and that the sale was due to take place in Mogadishu, Somalia, in April.

Accompanying the tender documents was a report prepared for the Shirre Co. by a firm of consultants, Resource Management and Research (RMR), which contained a description of the ivory and the way it was stored, a report on an aerial census of elephant carcasses in Somalia, and a hypothetical breakdown of the tusk size classes and numbers that were for sale. The report indicated that most of the ivory was clearly of recent origin and that substantial substitution of the larger tusks by smaller ones had taken place. One of the more strange aspects of the report, however, was that the ivory was held in three 20-foot sea containers and was piled haphazardly to a height of 1.3 metres. The stock of ivory so described could not possibly have amounted to 51 t and led to a suspicion that there was a considerable shortfall from the advertised quantity.

It has been known for some time that the Somali authorities held a considerable store of ivory, possibly amounting to about 40 t, and more recent information (E. B. Martin, pers. comm.) suggested it was nearer 50 t. Somalia introduced a ban on hunting in 1970 and subsequently all confiscated ivory has become State property and held by the police for subsequent sale for the benefit of the State. It is further believed that in the early 1980s the Somali Government purchased all privately-held stocks of ivory in order to discourage elephant poaching and private ivory carving industries.

In recent years there has been heavy and indiscriminate poaching of elephants over much of Africa and attempts to "legalise" the ivory have taken many forms. Several consignments of ivory accompanied by forged Somali documents came on to the world's markets during 1985 and it was feared that the Somali stock was possibly being used to cover a laundering operation for illegally obtained tusks.

In order to clarify the situation caused by the confusing and conflicting reports in circulation concerning the Somali ivory, the CITES Secretariat sent a mission to Mogadishu on 10 March 1986 to inspect the ivory and to discuss the proposed sale with the Somali authorities in the light of Somalia's recent accession to CITES (2 March 1986) and the newly introduced international ivory quota system.

There were several major discrepancies between the Secretariat's observations in Mogadishu and the report produced by RMR which apparently arose from the following points:

- a) RMR counted three rather than four containers;
- b) RMR inspected the contents of only one container (the most atypical one) and wrongly assumed the others to have identical contents;
- c) RMR misjudged the age of the ivory, claiming it to be of recent origin.

From a close examination of the ivory the CITES Secretariat is satisfied that there are 17 002 tusks weighing around 51 t, that the vast majority were acquired prior to 1982 since which time they have been held as Government property until being sold to the Shirre Company in May 1985, and that the tusks originate from the Somali/Kenyan Elephant population. The Secretariat saw no evidence that the original ivory had been replaced recently with fresh ivory to any significant extent.

The entire amount of 17 002 tusks, which comprises the entire quota for Somalia for this year, is due to be sold and exported before the end of April 1986 and should, therefore, forestall further attempts to launder illegally obtained ivory by giving it Somali identity. The CITES Secretariat urges that importation of ivory from this sale is only permitted after the Secretariat has received confirmation that the shipment is part of this stock. It is thought that any further ivory confiscated by the Somali Government will be held over for the 1987 export quota year.

*J.R. Caldwell*

*Source: CITES Secretariat*



Somali ivory smuggler with sacks of dried peas which concealed illicit ivory - part of the stock now offered at auction.

© Somali Wildlife Dept.

## \* UK and USA Fine Plant Smugglers

On 28 January, a plant dealer in the UK was fined £1800 (US\$2615) for smuggling cyclamen and orchid 'bulbs', in what appears to have been the first prosecution in the UK for an offence involving plants under the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 1976.

The dealer, Mr Walter Stagg of Avon Bulbs, Housel's Field, Westwood, near Bradford-on-Avon, UK had six sample offences brought against him; four for imports and two for exports, all between 1982 and 1986. At Bath Magistrates Court he admitted smuggling a total of 1536 bulbs, worth £1827, from Czechoslovakia, Greece and Japan and to F.R. Germany and Japan. For each offence he was fined £300 (US\$435). The Wildlife Inspectorate of the UK CITES Management Authority assisted the Customs and Excise in preparing the case.

A few months earlier, on 29 August 1985, the first plant export conviction was achieved in the USA. On that day, Joseph Anthony of Texas pleaded guilty to illegally exporting twenty-five species of CITES Appendix I and Appendix II cacti from the USA to the UK in 1983. He was fined US\$4000 and put on probation for two-and-a-half years.

*Sources: UK Department of the Environment;  
TRAFFIC (USA)*

## Argentina's Trade Bans

Argentina has issued four resolutions pertaining to trade in wildlife. Trade within the country and the export of the following species has been banned:

Greater Rhea	<u>Rhea americana</u>
Boa Constrictor	<u>Boa constrictor</u> <u>occidentalis</u>
Yellow Anaconda	<u>Eunectes notaeus</u>
Pampas Cat	<u>Felis colocolo</u>
Geoffroy's Cat	<u>Felis geoffroyi</u>
Kodkod	<u>Felis guigna</u>
Margay	<u>Felis wiedii</u>
Little Spotted Cat	<u>Felis tigrina</u>
South Brazilian Ocelot	<u>Felis pardalis mitis</u>
Jaguarundi	<u>Felis yagouaroundi</u>
Andean Cat	<u>Felis jacobita</u>
Puma	<u>Felis concolor</u>

In addition, an indefinite ban has been placed on the internal trade and the export of all live indigenous fauna, with the exception of those species considered to be pests, those which have been bred in captivity by registered establishments and, with regard to export, those considered to be of scientific interest. The Resolutions were published in the 'Oficial Boletin' in February and March and traders have been given 180 days to dispose of their stocks.

Sources: TRAFFIC (South America); CITES Secretariat

## Ivory Smugglers Heavily Fined

Zaire is beginning to take serious action against ivory poachers. 530 elephant tusks, weighing 2760 kg were recently recovered by wildlife guards from an overturned truck near the Virunga National Park in Zaire.

This represents one of the biggest seizures of illegal ivory in Zaire for many years. The Guinean driver of the truck was sentenced to eight years in prison without bail, fined Z100 000 (approx. US\$2000) to be paid to the State and 26 million (US\$650 000) payable to the Zaire Insititute for the Conservation of Nature to compensate for the elephants that were killed.

In a similar case in 1984, the contents of a truck loaded with 124 tusks weighing 239 kg were confiscated and the driver, another Guinean, received only a suspended twelve months' sentence.

Source: WWF News No. 38, 1985

## Canned Snakeskins Seized in India

In southern Cochin, India, a consignment cleared by Customs for export to Singapore in September 1985 was subsequently found to contain snakeskins worth US\$1.6 M.

The consignment of 400 tins, supposedly containing cashew kernels, was being loaded onto a ship when one of the tins was accidentally smashed open. A worker became suspicious when pebbles and sand seeped from the tin, and he alerted Customs. On re-examination of the shipment, only 140 tins were found to contain cashew kernels. The remainder contained snake skins of various sizes.

Six Indians were arrested. News of the case is awaited.

Source: Straits Times (Singapore), 11.9.85

## Netherlands Seizes Cacti

Two large cacti shipments were seized at Schiphol Airport in the Netherlands in 1985.

The first, consisting of 327 specimens, mainly of Discocactus and Melocactus species, was seized on 2 September 1985. The shipment came from Brazil, was shipped by Fazienda Ribeirao Holambra, Jaguarine Est. Sao Paulo, a well-known cactus grower, and was destined for a cactus nursery, 'Hovens' in Lottum, the Netherlands, although part of the shipment was for a Belgian collector. The CITES permit issued by the Brazilian Management Authority stated that all plants were artificially propagated. When the shipment was checked, however, it turned out that most, and probably all, of the plants were wild-collected. Further investigation revealed that the plants were collected in Brazil by Dr W. Strecker, a private, German collector. The Dutch grower said he was unaware that the plants were illegally shipped, and that he had expected to receive artificially propagated plants.

The second, much larger shipment, was seized in the first week of December 1985. This had been shipped by 'Southamerican Plants' of Lima, Peru, and was also accompanied by a valid CITES permit for about 4400 cactus specimens, all artificially propagated: 10000 Islayas, 1600 Borzicactus, 200 Cereus, 320 Copiapoa, 1000 Rebutia and 300 Melocactus.

When the shipment was checked it was discovered that it contained species other than those listed on the export permit, that all the plants had been wild-collected and that not all of them had originated in Peru; the genus Copiapoa, for instance, occurs only in Chile. After the Dutch CITES Management Authority checked with the CITES Secretariat and the Peruvian authorities, the shipment was declared illegal and was confiscated. Although the consignee claimed to be a private collector without commercial interest, an advertisement appearing in a local paper (Haagse Courant, 12.12.85) stated that the same 'Cactus Specialist' had in stock 1500 rare plants from Peru.

Sources: Netherlands CITES Management Authority;  
TRAFFIC (Netherlands)

## Egg Smugglers Arrested

Twenty-six eggs of the rare Lannar Falcon Falco biarmicus (Appendix II), worth £18 000 (US\$26 168), were recently smuggled into Manchester Airport, UK, on a flight from Agadir, Morocco. Two men and a woman were arrested.

Source: The Guardian (UK) 17.3.86

## UK Fines Reptile Dealer

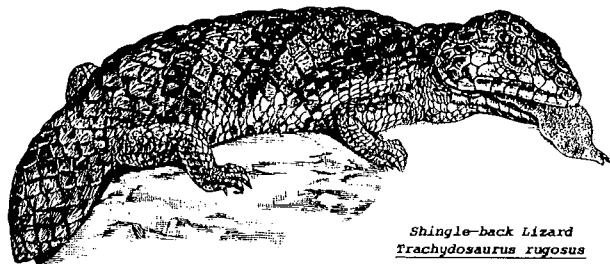
On 29 November 1985, a British reptile dealer, William Nigel Adams, was charged £60 (US\$87) at Croydon Magistrates Court, UK, for illicit dealing involving one Radiated Tortoise Geochelone radiata (CITES Appendix I) and £60 for illegally acquiring one Madagascan Tree Boa Sanzinia madagascariensis (Appendix I).

Source: H.M. Customs & Excise, UK

\* **Reptile Smuggler Fined**

On 22 September 1985, a 33 year old West German citizen, Dieter Boxheimer of Frankfurt, was apprehended by officers of the Australian Customs Service at Melbourne's Tullamarine airport as he attempted to leave the country with sixty-two live reptiles and one amphibian in a suitcase. The species found in Boxheimer's possession were:-

Shingle-back Lizard	<u>Trachydosaurus rugosus</u>
Thick-tailed Gecko	<u>Underwoodisaurus millii</u>
Wood Gecko	<u>Diplodactylus vittatus</u>
Inland Bearded Dragon	<u>Amphibolurus vitticeps</u>
Gidgee Skink	<u>Egernia stokesii</u>
Cunningham's Skink	<u>Egernia cunninghami</u>
Blotched Blue-tongued Lizard	<u>Tiliqua nigrolutea</u>
Eastern Blue-tongued Lizard	<u>Tiliqua scincoides</u>
Western Blue-tongued Lizard	<u>Tiliqua occipitalis</u>
Spotted Grass Frog	<u>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</u>



Shingle-back Lizard  
Trachydosaurus rugosus

Boxheimer was remanded on bail and appeared before Melbourne County Court on 30 October 1985. He was charged with attempting to export on 22 September 1985 sixty-three specimens of native Australian fauna contrary to the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982 (WPA), and also with illegally exporting reptiles on 28 October 1984. He pleaded guilty to both charges, was convicted and fined A\$5000 (US\$3587) on the first charge and placed on a good behaviour bond for the second charge. This was the third prosecution to be taken under the WPA which came into force in Australia on 1 May 1984.

Frank Antram, *TRAFFIC (Australia)*

\* **Australian State Prosecutions**New South Wales

On 27 November 1985, Joseph Saliba of Plumpton, NSW, was fined A\$1300 (US\$933) and placed on a twelve-month good behaviour bond after pleading guilty in Hornsby Local Court to four counts of possessing protected fauna, one of taking and killing endangered fauna and one of cruelty to animals. NSW Police had alleged that Saliba and Mario Theuma of Horsely Park, NSW had conspired to trap and sell twenty-eight Major Mitchell's Cockatoos Cacatua leadbeateri between 1 May and 28 May 1985.

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Earlier, on 2 September 1985, Theuma was fined A\$2000 and placed on a twelve-month good behaviour bond on one count of possessing protected fauna and one of cruelty to animals.

Tasmania

Two men, Edward Vincent Terry and Alec James Le Fevre, appeared in Launceston Magistrate's Court on 15 January 1986 charged with attempting to trap a Tasmanian Tiger or Thylacine Thylacinus cynocephalus without a permit. They were bailed to appear for plea on 10 February 1986. The Thylacine is listed in CITES Appendix I and is classified as 'extinct' in the IUCN Red Data Book. The last known specimen was taken from the wild in 1933 and died in Hobart Zoo in 1936. There have been numerous unsubstantiated claims of sightings of the species in recent years.

Western Australia

On 12 September 1985, Peter Krauss, a reptile dealer from Atherton, Queensland, was found by rangers at Fitzroy Crossing, Western Australia, in possession of a number of illegally-taken reptiles. He was prosecuted and fined A\$250 (US\$180) under Western Australian State law.

"Operation Overland" was the first successful major campaign of the new Department of Conservation and Land Management\* in Western Australia, according to the Department's own publication Landscape (Vol. 1 No. 3, December 1985). After months of investigation, two Western Australians, John Franceschi and Stanley Osborne, were found in Victoria with eighty parrots of Western Australian origin, and were prosecuted under Victorian law (see Traffic Bulletin VII(3/4):61 for details). They were subsequently also prosecuted under WA law for exporting (to Victoria) fauna without a licence. The two pleaded guilty and were fined A\$400 each. A third man, Siek Rabcynski, who was apprehended in Victoria with Franceschi and Osborne, was found guilty of illegal export of seventy-nine parrots and finches and illegal possession of parrots. He was fined a total of A\$581.

Fines for offences under Section 16 or 16A of the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 were increased recently to a maximum of A\$10 000. The Wildlife Conservation Amendment Act 1985, which came into force at the end of November 1985, also extends the time in which proceedings for offences may be made, from within six months to within two years. The need for increased penalties under the Act had been highlighted by a case, in September 1984, in which two US citizens, George Jurcevich of Pennsylvania and Thomas Joseph Cullen III of New York, were caught cutting down a tree to obtain eggs from the nest of a Red-tailed Black Cockatoo Calyptorhynchus magnificus. The two men also had in their possession twenty-nine Galah Eolophus roseicapillus eggs, three Long-billed Corella Cacatua tenuirostris eggs and two Red-tailed Black Cockatoo eggs. They were fined the maximum penalty, at that time, of A\$1200. The overseas value of the eggs was estimated at A\$75 000!

Frank Antram, *TRAFFIC (Australia)*

\* The Department of Conservation and Land Management was established in March 1985 under the Conservation & Land Management Act 1984. Previously the (now defunct) Department of Fisheries & Wildlife had been responsible for fauna investigations. Fisheries matters in WA are now handled by the Department of Fisheries.

## Rhino Horn Smuggler Jailed

A Zimbabwean who smuggled two rhino horns, worth more than Z\$49 000 (US\$29 945), into the country from Mozambique was jailed on 7 March 1986 for four years.

Duwariti Aliphasi, 62, was arrested whilst trying to sell the horns to an official of the Zimbabwean Department of National Parks & Wildlife Management. The magistrate said that had it not been for his advanced age, Aliphasi would have been given a harsher sentence.

*Source: The Herald (Zimbabwe), 8.3.86*

## Asian Rhino Horn Imports

South Korea and Taiwan have been important consumers of rhinoceros horn. They are not party to CITES but their annual Customs reports include a category for rhinoceros horn and we have previously published their reported imports (see *Traffic Bulletin* VI(1):3-4, VI(2):28). To update the previous information:

South Korea does not appear to have imported any rhino horn in 1984 or 1985; however, it is known that the Korean statistics understated the trade in the past.

Taiwan reports having imported 120 kg of horn, valued at NT\$671 000 (US\$16 870) in 1984, and 43 kg declared at NT\$285 000 (US\$7165) in the first nine months of 1985. Taiwan banned the import of rhino horn in August 1985 (see *Traffic Bulletin* VII(3/4):42).

## The Hazards of Pet Turtles

The export of three to four million turtles a year from the USA, as well as sales of turtles raised and distributed in other countries, may be an important source of the infection salmonellosis worldwide, according to a report published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 7.12.85.

Following the contraction of salmonellosis by an infant in Puerto Rico who had been in contact with a pet turtle, and the discovery that, in the USA, turtles marked "for export only" were being shipped from Louisiana to Puerto Rico in 1983, a study was carried out in two urban areas of the latter country to measure the extent of pet turtle-associated diseases. Twelve to seventeen per cent of salmonellosis cases reported in infants were attributed to pet turtles.

During the study, turtles were collected from eighteen pet shops throughout the island and were tested in lots for the presence of Salmonella. All turtles collected were Red-eared Turtles (Terrapins) Pseudemys scripta-elegans and all eighteen lots were infected by Salmonella serotypes. Sixteen of them, eighty-nine per cent, were found to be infected with Salmonella pomona. It is believed the animals were contaminated before being exported from the USA.

Red-eared Turtles have been associated with salmonellosis since 1962. Whilst other reptiles, including lizards and snakes have been implicated as sources of human salmonellosis, the Red-eared Turtle is a particularly efficient vehicle because it is easily raised, shipped and distributed worldwide.

*Source: Tauxe, R.V., Rigau-Pérez, J.G., Wells, J.G. and Blake, P.A. (1985). Turtle Associated salmonellosis in Puerto Rico; hazards of the global turtle trade. Journal of the American Medical Association. 254(2):237-239.*

## Parrot Importer Convicted

A thirty-five year prison sentence and US\$1 million fine face New York bird dealer Harvey Edelman, after being convicted in October 1985 of smuggling birds into the USA.

Edelman had been under investigation by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and was observed receiving shipments of smuggled birds in New York. In March 1985, he was arrested near the El Paso/Mexican border in possession of forty-four Mexican parrots that he had smuggled into the USA.

Among the birds in his possession were Yellow-headed Amazons Amazona ochrocephala, Red-crowned (Green-cheeked) Amazons Amazona viridigenalis, Red-lored Amazons Amazona autumnalis and conures Aratinga spp. Their total wholesale value was estimated to be about US\$10 000. His offences involved not only evading endangered species legislation but also evading quarantine regulations.

*Source: Bird Talk (USA), February 1986*

## Hawk Smugglers Sentenced ... to make film

Two men have been sentenced to make a documentary film on the importance of birds of prey, after being convicted for smuggling rare Australian bird eggs into the USA.

William Robinson and Jonathan Wood were arrested at Los Angeles International Airport on 12 September 1984 when a customs inspector found twenty-seven eggs of rare birds in their clothing. The eggs were forfeited, and two hawks which hatched from the eggs were given to the Los Angeles Zoo. The men, both from New York, were also placed on probation for five years.

*Source: Daily Telegraph (Australia), 31.10.85*

## World Fish Catch Sets Record

According to preliminary figures from the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation, the world fish catch reached its highest ever in 1984, at more than 80 million tonnes (Mt).

Japan, with a catch of more than 11.8 Mt remained the biggest catcher, followed by the USSR at 10.5 Mt, China 5.2 Mt and the USA 4.7 Mt. Norway's catch apparently dropped by fourteen per cent to 2.4 Mt, behind India's 2.8 Mt and South Korea's 2.5 Mt.

Later figures published by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries indicate that Japan's 1984 catch rose by seven per cent over 1983 to a record 12.8 Mt. This is believed to be the largest annual catch ever recorded by a single country. The Ministry's figures show that Japan's total figure comprises: offshore 6.9 Mt; coastal 2.28 Mt; deepsea 2.26 Mt and marine farming 1.1 Mt. The largest single species landing was for pilchards at 4.18 Mt, an increase of twelve per cent.

Of all the major fish exporting nations (Canada, USA, Norway, Japan and Denmark), only Japan's overseas sales increased, rising to a value of \$A1200 M (US\$900 M). This was as a result of bigger sales of frozen and canned tuna to the UK, USA and Thailand.

*Source: Australian Fisheries, 44(10) October 1985*



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

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represents of the entire trade, the above examples do indicate that illegal raptor collecting and commerce is an international problem, involving numerous countries, trade routes, and species.

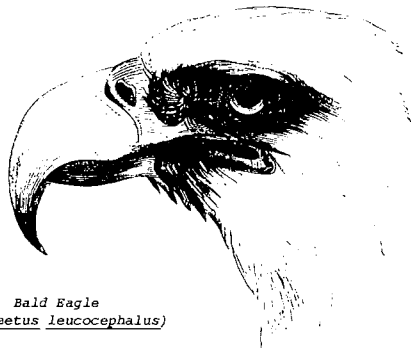
## CONCLUSION

The international raptor trade is complex and difficult to assess because of incomplete information. CITES data provide the best statistics on recent reported trade.

Evaluating the impact of trade on wild populations is difficult because the sources of birds, whether captive-bred or wild-caught, are often not determinable. A number of Appendix I Peregrine Falcons and Gyrfalcons entered commercial trade from 1980 to 1983; most of these were purportedly bred in captivity. While this is plausible for Peregrine Falcons, the lack of information on captive propagation of Gyrfalcons makes evaluating those claims difficult. There is clearly a need for better information on raptor breeding worldwide for these as well as other species.

Recent government investigations into the raptor trade indicate that the illegal removal of live birds and eggs from the wild is an international problem, and that these specimens are sometimes "laundered" into world commerce as captive-bred birds. While the scope of these problems is just now coming to light, law enforcement initiatives in North America and Europe have received widespread publicity and should play a positive role in curbing illegal activities.

Finally, there appears to be a large international commercial trade in dead raptors and their parts, notably stuffed whole birds and feathers. According to CITES annual report data, the international trade in Appendix II dead raptor specimens exceeds that of live birds. The volume of this specialised trade warrants closer examination, as its effect on wild raptor populations in some cases may be significant.



Bald Eagle  
(*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

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Deborah Barnes is a biology student at Stanford University, California, and worked at TRAFFIC (USA) on the raptor survey for several months during the summer, 1985. Ginette Hemley is the Assistant Director of TRAFFIC (USA).

## EEC Sealskin Ban Continues

On 27 September 1985, the Council of Ministers agreed to continue the ban on the importation into the European Community of Harp and Hooded Seal (*Phoca groenlandica* and *Cystophora cristata*) pup skins and other products derived from them. The ban has been extended until 30 September 1989.

## \* Illegal Ivory Seized in Portugal

According to the CITES Secretariat, an illegal shipment of raw ivory was confiscated by Customs officers at Lisbon Airport, in November 1985, on behalf of the CITES Management Authority of Portugal. The 1.3 tonnes of ivory were concealed in an 8-tonne shipment of malachite, consigned from Kinshasa, Zaire, to Lisbon, via London.

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\* **Snakes Seized**

On 25 September 1985, snake collector Peter Murr from F.R. Germany was detained in Greece, under the wildlife protection law, for attempting to smuggle seventy live specimens of the Cyclades Blunt-nosed Viper (Vipera lebetina schweizeri) onto a ferry from the island of Milos, bound for Piraeus. The snakes are of a protected, endemic subspecies, and include five of the rare red variety which are valued at over DM2000 (approx. US\$720) each. The total consignment, weighing over 7 kg is estimated to be worth DM20 000.

Murr was later released, pending charges. All the snakes were released, at several suitable wild locations on the island, under police supervision.

The initial detective work leading to the arrest was carried out by amateur Dutch herpetologist Gaston van Mook, and David Stubbs, of the UK, who was carrying out work on behalf of the Societas Europaea Herpetologica.

It is estimated that over 1000 specimens of Vipera lebetina (perhaps ten to twenty per cent of the population) are taken from the island each year and that collecting is a major threat to the species in several areas. This arrest is therefore an important landmark in co-operation between conservationists and the Greek authorities.

Sources: David Stubbs  
*Herpetofauna News* No. 2, October 1985

\* **Cacti Consignment Seized**

A number of live cacti were seized in September by the authorities in Switzerland, where the plants were being imported from the Netherlands. According to the CITES Secretariat, the reason for the seizure was that, although the accompanying Dutch certificate stated that the plants were artificially propagated, a Swiss expert who examined them determined that five Discocactus plants and five Ariocarpus plants, out of the twenty-two specimens being imported, appeared to have been taken from the wild. The case is being investigated.

**Leaflet Warns of Threat to Plants**

On 17 September 1985, the UK Environment Minister William Waldegrave announced the publication of a new leaflet from the Department of the Environment which explains restrictions on trade in endangered plants.

The leaflet warns plant collectors and traders of the strict import, export and sale controls on rare plant species such as cyclamen, cacti and orchids. At the same time it encourages the propagation of rare plants from seed as a way of helping with conservation.

Source: DoE Press Notice, 17.9.85



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

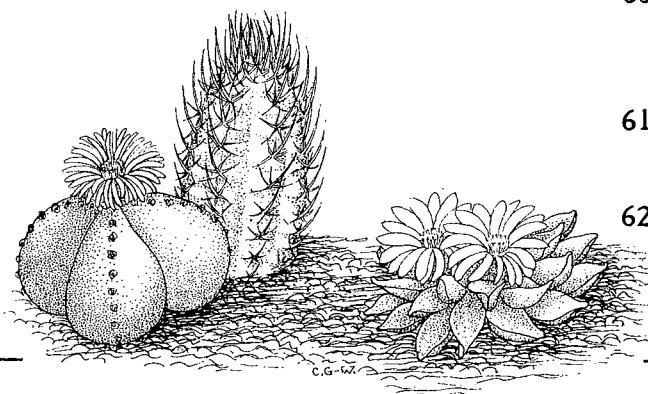
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## Suriname and Switzerland Enter Reservations

Suriname and Switzerland have both entered reservations against the listing of the Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao*) in CITES Appendix I. Switzerland has also entered a reservation against the inclusion in CITES Appendix II of the Indian Bullfrog (*Rana tigerina*) and the Six-fingered Frog (*Rana hexadactyla*). All these listings were agreed at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in May.

A Resolution (Conf. 4.25) adopted at the fourth meeting recommends that Parties with reservations on Appendix I species, treat them for all purposes, including documentation and control, as if they were in Appendix II. The Resolution also called on Parties having entered reservations to include data on trade in the species concerned, in their annual reports.

## Spain Implements CITES for Chimps

Although it has not yet presented its instrument of accession to the CITES depositary government, Spain has started implementing CITES. On 29 July 1985, the Spanish authorities, assisted by the Spanish representatives of the International Primate Protection League, confiscated nine Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*) held by photographers on beaches in southern Spain. It is thought that the animals originated from several countries, including Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone, and it is hoped that they will be returned to Africa in the near future.

*Sources: CITES Secretariat  
International Primate Protection League, UK*

## Ports of Entry Restricted in UK . . .

New regulations under the UK Government's endangered species legislation restrict the entry into the UK of live animals, including most mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds, to certain designated seaports and airports.

The new rules came into force during the second half of August.

According to the Environment Minister, Mr William Waldegrave, "These regulations will fulfil a promise made by the Government during the passage of the Wildlife and Countryside Act in 1981. The regulations will help to implement the rules governing trade in endangered species more effectively, and have been made following extensive consultations with traders and conservation bodies.

"I am also making further Regulations today about penalties for offences under the European Community legislation covering trade in endangered species."

*Source: UK Department of the Environment Press  
Notice, 25.7.85*

## . . . and Japan

The CITES Management Authority of Japan has informed the CITES Secretariat that, upon the instruction of the Japanese Government, the number of ports of entry for clearance of specimens of species listed in the CITES Appendices (including for personal and household effects) has been limited to thirty-five out of the former 222 places. This measure entered into force on 1 May 1985.

## Parrots and Monkeys Found Dead

French authorities have uncovered an important trafficking in wild animals from Latin America following the discovery recently of 115 monkeys and 170 parakeets and parrots at Orly Airport, Paris, France.

The shipment, from French Guiana, had been flown to Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport, Paris on 16 July 1985 and taken by a transit company to Orly, from where it was due to be flown to the island of Réunion. Airport employees at Orly, alerted by the smell, opened the boxes containing the animals to discover them without food or water, and three quarters of them dead. The surviving animals, once recovered, were returned to French Guiana.

The investigation that followed showed that the 'transit' company did not exist. French authorities have discovered that not all the animals originated from French Guiana but that some had been illegally introduced through this country in order to evade CITES regulations.

*Source: CITES Secretariat*

## \* Caiman Skin Smugglers Face Jail . . .

Skins from at least 45 000 Spectacled Caiman (*Caiman crocodylus*) were seized on 11 July 1985 from a Greek ship moored at the port of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Packed in eighty-nine unlabelled cardboard boxes, the nine tons of illegally imported skins are thought to comprise the largest shipment of crocodilian skins ever seized in South America.

The shipment, estimated to be worth US\$100 000, was accompanied by a Bolivian CITES export permit which appears to the Brazilian authorities to be a forgery. The exporters were Lozano Hermanos, Guayamirin, Bolivia and the consignee was Isaac de Joseh Ortiz S.A., Barcelona, Spain. The CITES Secretariat confirmed to the Brazilian authorities that, according to the permit, the shipment was destined for Italy.

The captain of the ship, Demetrius Papadopoulos, said he did not know what the shipment contained.

According to Brazilian law, the person or persons responsible may be convicted to up to three years imprisonment.

*Sources: TRAFFIC (South America)  
CITES Secretariat*

## \* . . . Bird Barbeque Organisers Jailed

Two Brazilian promoters of a wild bird barbeque, which featured a menu including some 2400 small birds as a main course, have been found guilty and condemned for environmental damages. This sets a precedent for prosecution in Brazil. The judge gave the heaviest penalty applicable, in accordance with the Fauna Protection Law, and jailed both men for one year and fined them US\$370 each. This is the first time someone has been jailed in Brazil for killing wild birds.

*Source: World Environment Report, 26.12.84*

## The Western European Trade in Cacti and other Succulents (ctd)

## Annex 1

Alternatives for names, used in the tables, which are generally considered to be synonyms

Table No.	Name used	Alternative name
	Cacti:	
5	<u>Hertrichocereus beneckeii</u>	<u>Stenocereus beneckeii</u>
5	<u>Lemaireocereus dumortieri</u>	<u>Stenocereus dumortieri</u>
5	<u>Machaeocereus thurberi</u>	<u>Stenocereus thurberi</u>
5	<u>Opuntia mayavensis</u>	?
5	<u>Opuntia monacantha</u>	<u>Opuntia vulgaris</u>
5	<u>Pilosocereus chrysacanthus</u>	<u>Cephalocereus chrysacanthus</u>
	Other succulents:	
1	<u>Anacampseros ustulata</u>	?
5	<u>Euphorbia herythera</u>	?

? denotes that the species to which this name refers is unknown

### \* Colombian Firm Fined

A firm in Colombia, Mendal Hermanos, found guilty of illegal trade in animal skins, has been fined more than 1 million pesos (US\$6293).

More than 5000 skins, including 708 Capybara (Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris) skins and 4314 'babilla' (Spectacled Caiman, Caiman crocodylus) skins, amounting to more than 120m, have been confiscated.

According to the World Society for the Protection of Animals, Mendal Hermanos has long been involved in the illegal export of animal skins and, only several months ago, was fined 500 000 pesos (\$3146). Between 1977 and 1983 the firm is said to have exported skins valued at an estimated \$32 600 000. In June 1984, investigators from the newspaper El Tiempo found 27 000 'babilla' skins, valued at 50 million pesos (\$314 641), on the premises.

Now, however, the company is reported to be in bankruptcy.

Source: El Tiempo (Colombia), 6.7.85

### Chilean False Larch Trade

According to a report in El Mercurio (12.5.85), 100 000 inches of Chilean False Larch (Fitz-Roya cupressoides) are due to be exported from Contao, Chile, to Argentina, reactivating that market, said Victor Ahumada, the administrator of the wood plant SACOR. He referred to the low demand for the product and said that last year 10 000 inches of Chilean False Larch were exported to Buenos Aires via Puyehue, whilst a similar amount remained in Chile awaiting sale. He explained that problems relating to fluctuations in the dollar had caused a decline in sale and he believed that the situation was temporary. He was optimistic that in the very near future exportation would pick up again.

The coastal population of the Chilean False Larch is in CITES Appendix II and the population in The Andes is in Appendix I.

### Seal Meat for Sale?

An ambitious scheme to market seal meat for human consumption is being studied in Arica, Chile. According to Oscar Nuñez Rocuant, who already has the facilities set up, he is the only one authorised by the Fisheries Subsecretariat to manufacture and trade in seal meat.

It is not known which species of seal may become involved. The main species in this area are the sub-antarctic Fur Seal (Arctocephalus tropicalis), the South American Fur Seal (Arctocephalus australis) and the Southern Sealion (Otaria byronia).

Source: El Mercurio (Chile), 22.4.85

### Frog-eating Not 'Halal' in Indonesia

Indonesian Muslims may not eat frogs but are allowed to raise them for commercial purposes, Indonesia's Muslim Council has ruled.

The Council's ruling was handed down after a two-day meeting held after government calls to increase frog-leg exports, to boost non-oil export revenues.

The Quran makes no specific judgement on frog-eating, and sources said the Council was divided on whether frog meat was 'halal' (clean) or not.

At the CITES conference in Buenos Aires the Indonesian delegation indicated that, although the Indian Bullfrog (Rana tigerina) and the Six-fingered Frog (Rana hexadactyla) occurred in their country, they were not subject to major exploitation and that Indonesian exports were of mainly captive-bred specimens of a different species.

Sources: The Star (Malaysia), 15.11.85  
David Whiting

### \* Skins Seized in Spain

According to the CITES Secretariat, Spanish authorities have seized 30 000 crocodylian skins and 10 000 Boa Constrictor (Boa constrictor) skins shipped from Panama with CITES re-export documents, apparently issued on the basis of false country-of-origin export documents. The case is currently under investigation.

## Possum Meat for Sale

The 1985 Tasmanian culling season for Brush Possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) opened on 13 July 1985 and runs until 15 September 1985. In a press release announcing the details, the director of the Tasmanian National Parks and Wildlife Service also stated that permit holders would be permitted to sell possum meat to licensed dealers and suggested that any person who wished to deal in possum meat should make written application to him for a licence. This is the first time that permits covering the culling of Brush Possums and the sale of their skins have been extended to include the sale of meat. The Hobart Mercury (13.6.85) quotes a possum fur dealer as stating that efforts to convince the Government to permit the sale of possum meat for human consumption were abandoned two years ago because the meat could not be monitored well enough to satisfy health regulations. For the time being, it would appear that the local pet food industry will be the only market. Possum meat is not covered by the Tasmanian Brush Possum management programme, approved under Sub-Section 10(1) of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports & Imports) Act 1982, therefore export of the meat cannot at present be permitted. However it is understood that the Tasmanian National Parks and Wildlife Service has applied to the Commonwealth Government for the meat to be included in the approved management programme. The fur trade has been in a depressed state in recent years.

## New Plan for 'Roos

At its May 1985 meeting on Norfolk Island, the Australian Council of Nature Conservation Ministers (CONCOM) approved a 'National Plan of Management for Kangaroos'. This Plan is a revision of the 'National Kangaroo Management Program' which was approved by CONCOM in 1981. The new Plan is in two Parts. Part A applies in all States and Territories in which any animals of the Family Macropodidae are subject to culling and subsequent commercial utilization. This Part states the aims of kangaroo management and sets out a range of implementation procedures from which each State or Territory should select, for its management programme, those best suited to its individual circumstances. The range of procedures includes methods for assessing population trends, determining culling levels and controlling the culling and the commercial use of culled animals. Part B of the Plan consists of the State management programmes currently approved under the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982. Part B is also to include statements (currently in preparation) about kangaroo management and culling in States or Territories which do not permit commercial utilization of culled kangaroos.

## The International Primate Trade

The International Primate Trade, Volume I, covering legislation, trade and captive breeding of primates, is available from TRAFFIC (USA), 1601 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009, USA. Price \$US15.00. Free copies are available to appropriate individuals and organisations.

Edited by David Mack and Russell A. Mittermeier, this is a joint publication of TRAFFIC (USA), WWF-US Primate Program and the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group.

## \* Fur Dealer Jailed in India

A man in Palam Colony, Delhi, has been sentenced to six months imprisonment in a case that has protracted for four years. The accused was found guilty of possession, without authority, of 192 cured Jungle Cat (*Felis chaus*) skins, 175 uncured Common Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) skins and 169 uncured Jackal (*Canis aureus*) skins, for the purpose of sale.

Source: S.K. Mukherjee, CITES Management Authority, India.

\* \* \* \*

## Errata

In our report of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (Traffic Bulletin VII(2):20-29) we stated that *Budorcas taxicolor* (Takin) had been included in CITES Appendix I. Although China originally submitted a proposal to include this species in Appendix I, this was later changed during the course of the meeting for inclusion in Appendix II, and this was adopted.

In addition, we omitted *Mirounga angustirostris* (Northern Elephant Seal) from the list of proposals withdrawn. The USA had proposed deletion of this species from Appendix II.

On page 40 of Traffic Bulletin VII(2), we incorrectly stated that the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service was involved in the seizure of illegal bird-egg collections, rather than the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service. The two organisations are not connected and we apologise for this error.

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# Traffic Bulletin

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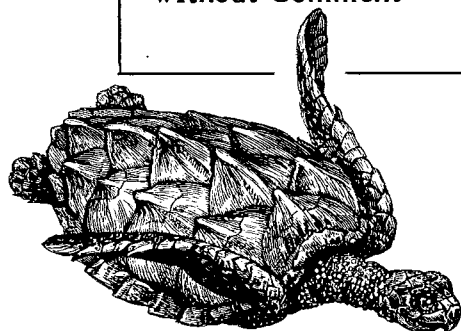
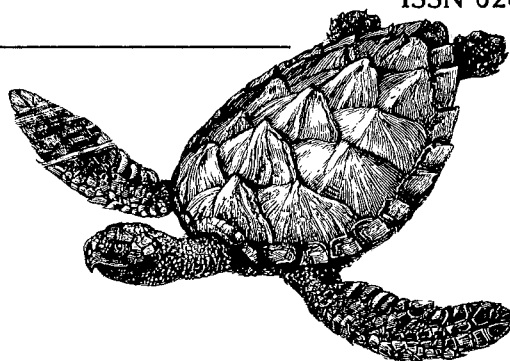
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**Eggshell Raids in Australia**

The Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service (ANPWS), in recent months, has seized eight collections of native bird eggs in New South Wales (NSW), containing a total of 33 000 eggshells, reports The Sydney Morning Herald, (11.4.85).

These seizures are the result of a two-year investigation into major illegal theft of birds' eggs, many from species of protected and endangered birds. The ANPWS first offered a six-month moratorium to collectors, during which they could surrender their eggs. When this ended in March, and no-one had come forward, the Service raided the homes of known eggshell collectors. The large collections were housed in elaborate glass-topped cabinets with the marked egg specimens resting on cotton wool. One collector had 8000 eggshells. The eggs are blown using drills and suction syringes to avoid damaging the shells.

According to the new Director of ANPWS (NSW), shells from overseas birds were also found in the collections, which may indicate an exchange trade; and live eggs were also being smuggled out of Australia. Mr Whitehouse fears that the future of several native endangered birds could be in the balance due to the continuous theft of eggs from nests. "The terrifying thing is that some of these collections contain over 500 different species of protected and endangered birds."

There are forty known illegal large collections throughout Australia and up to thirteen in New South Wales. The collectors face possible maximum fines of AU\$10 000 (US\$6250) or five years' jail, or both, for possessing eggs of endangered fauna.

**Threatened Flowers Sold**

A South African farmer has been fined R300 (\$US c.300) and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment for taking flowers of threatened Protea species. According to African Wildlife (38, 4), between 1980 and 1981 he sold a total of 25 894 flowers of Protea holosericea to two companies, Kapflor and Honingklip Dryflower Exporters, for export.

This species was rediscovered only in 1965 after an absence of records since 1801, and is confined to two separate populations totalling about 1500 plants in mountains in the south-west Cape.

**Orchid Extinct in the Wild?**

The Golden Slipper Orchid (Paphiopedilum armeniacum), first described in 1982, may now be almost extinct in the wild. Within two years of its existence being made known to the scientific world, enormous numbers have been collected from its only known location in south Yunnan, China. Phillip Cribb, Curator of the Orchid Herbarium at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK, in The Garden (109, 9) reports that he saw 200 specimens in nurseries and collections in California. The California plants are no doubt only a proportion of those collected from the wild; specimens are also on sale in Taiwan, where the plants now in the USA came from, Japan and the UK where they are offered at £150 each.

The Golden Slipper Orchid is closely related to P. delenatii, which is now known only in cultivation, all specimens having been derived from one plant collected from Viet Nam in 1924. It has not been seen in the wild since and it may be already too late to save the wild population.

Source: Oryx Volume XIX, April 1985

**Without Comment**

Under the newly adopted criteria for downlisting certain species from Appendix I to II of CITES, if particular conditions are met (Conf. 5.21), the Nile Crocodile (Crocodylus niloticus) populations of nine African countries were downlisted, with quotas (see p. 27). One of the conditions adopted in the new Resolution was that it should apply only to populations in those countries which have met and continue to meet the annual-reporting requirements under Article VIII of the Convention. In the case of the Nile Crocodile, however, the countries concerned have submitted the following annual reports:

Country	Party since	Reports submitted
Cameroon	3.9.81	1981-1983
Congo	1.5.83	1983
Kenya	13.3.79	none
Madagascar	18.11.75	1976-1983
Malawi	6.5.82	none
Mozambique	23.6.81	1983
Sudan	24.1.83	none
Tanzania	27.2.80	1982-1983
Zambia	22.1.81	1983-1984

\* \* \* \* \*

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*Illustration of Mexican Red-kneed Tarantula by Sarah Anne Hughes*

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\* Snake Smuggler Fined

On 16 January 1985 the wildlife smuggling activities of Mr Johnny Renaldo Noordman, a fishmonger from Enschede in the Netherlands, were brought to an abrupt halt by officers of the Australian Customs Service. Noordman was arrested while trying to leave Australia on an Olympic Airways flight to Athens. Customs officers found eighteen reptiles concealed in his luggage. In addition to a number of Australian lizards and venomous snakes, the reptiles included four Children's Pythons (Liasis childreni) and four Diamond Pythons (Morelia spilota spilota) which are listed on Appendix II of CITES.

Under the Wildlife Protection Act, which regulates Australian international trade in wildlife, the export of native reptiles and most other native fauna for private or commercial purposes is banned.

Mr Noordman, who is a member of the Dutch Snake Society and the Netherlands Herpetological Society, Lacerta, claimed that he was unaware of Australian controls on wildlife trade but admitted that he was aware of CITES. Dutch CITES authorities, who responded quickly to an Australian request for information on Noordman's background, found two Australian Carpet Pythons Morelia spilota variegata at his home. He had, however, acquired these snakes prior to ratification of CITES by the Netherlands.

For the smuggling attempt in January, Noordman was prosecuted by the Australian Government. When he was brought to trial, his legal representative argued that the seven days spent in custody before bail was granted and Mr Noordman's enforced stay in Australia for a further six weeks prior to the trial, should be taken into account when Noordman was sentenced. The judge convicted Noordman and fined him A\$5000 for attempting to export Australian native fauna and attempting to export CITES Appendix II specimens. The reptiles were ordered forfeited to the Australian Government.

Source: *Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service in Litt. to TRAFFIC (Australia), (7.3.85).*

New Zealand Route for Smugglers

The New Zealand Wildlife Service has found evidence of Australian fauna, particularly parrots and reptiles, being smuggled out of Australia via New Zealand. Many of New Zealand's own unique wildlife species are also being smuggled out of the country. The service is reported to have evidence of foreign buyers in Singapore, the USA and western Europe sending 'shopping lists' to New Zealand dealers. The Tuatara (Sphenodon punctatus) is said to be high on the wanted list and there are fears that traders may also try to obtain specimens of the rare flightless parrot, the Kakapo (Strigops habroptilus).

Source: *TRAFFIC (Australia)*

Errata

We apologise for three errors in our article on the European Trade in Kangaroo Products in Traffic Bulletin Vol. VI No. 5. The title of Table 3 should have been "State Quotas for Red, Western Grey and Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Euros, 1983-1984".

In Table 6, "Number" should read "kg", and the value of kangaroo meat exports to F.R. Germany should have been AU\$1 589 003.

Security Stamps Stolen

The Management Authority of the Central African Republic has informed the CITES Secretariat of the theft of CITES Security Stamps numbered: CF 9117317 to CF 9118200. The last authentic permit of the Central African Republic bearing a CITES Security Stamp is permit No. 0028 CF 1985 granted on 12 February 1985.

Consequently, any permit of the Central African Republic, or any permit of any other country, bearing one of the above-mentioned stamps must be confiscated and sent, accompanied by all relevant information, to the appropriate Management Authority, via the CITES Secretariat, for investigation purposes. The specimens accompanied by any such permit must be seized or rejected.

From the permit number and date indicated above, and until further notice, the permits of the Central African Republic will not bear a CITES Security Stamp.

The Secretariat urges all the Parties to pay particular attention to this information and to inform the Secretariat of any suspect cases.

Source: *CITES Secretariat Notification to the Parties No. 340.*

\* \* \* \*

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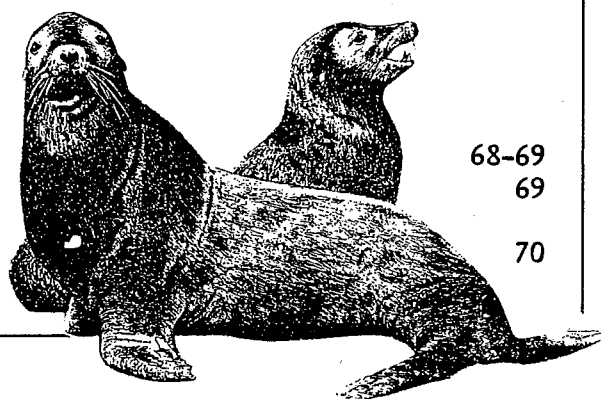
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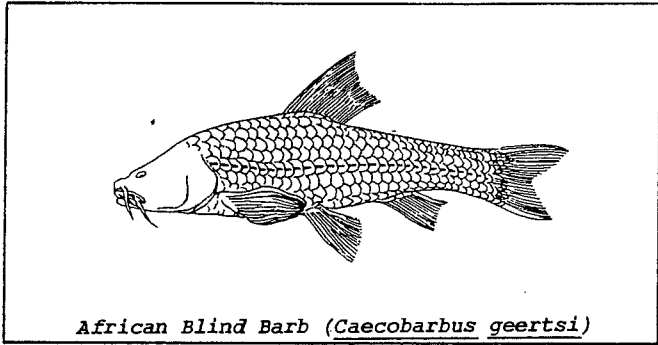
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Black Arowana every year for the Japanese trade alone. Since this species has a restricted habitat and is difficult to breed in captivity (although few attempts have actually been made), there is concern that the present level of exploitation may be having a detrimental impact on the survival of the species. In order to control this trade and acquire more accurate statistical data, the Black Arowana should be considered as a candidate for an Appendix II listing on CITES.

A small and largely unknown trade also involves other CITES-listed species. Of particular concern is occasional traffic in African Blind Barb and Australian Lungfish, which apparently has taken place without CITES controls in the past.

And finally, of overall concern, is the general state of CITES implementation in Japan which affords a situation not wholly unfavourable to the perpetuation of illegal trade in these and other species of threatened wildlife. The absence of clear definition for fundamental CITES procedures and administrative lines of responsibility for handling routine problems greatly complicates efficient control of Japan's wildlife trade.



African Blind Barb (*Caecobarbus geertsi*)

Limiting ports of entry, more diligent export document verification and species identification practices on the part of Customs, and the enactment of stringent penalties for offenders would improve CITES implementation in Japan tremendously.

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All illustrations were drawn by Shinobu Matsumura except for the African Blind Barb.

## \* Australian Bird Smugglers Prosecuted

Two US citizens recently became the first people to be prosecuted under Australia's new Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982. David Craig Frye of Clearwater, Florida and Reeda Lynn Spurgeon of Indianapolis were apprehended by Customs officers at Sydney Airport on 9 July 1984 whilst trying to smuggle out of the country two Black Cockatoos (*Calyptrorhynchus funereus*), two Major Mitchell's Cockatoos (*Cacatua leadbeateri*) and one Gang-gang Cockatoo (*Callocephalon fimbriatum*). The birds were found wrapped in stockings at the bottom of Reeda Spurgeon's bag. The couple were arrested under Section 21 of the Act. They appeared at St. James Court of Petty Sessions the next day where they pleaded guilty and requested that the matter be dealt with summarily. However the Crown, as prosecution, opposed this and the case was referred to the Federal court for sentencing on 24 July.

Frye and Spurgeon had arrived in Sydney from the USA on 8 July 1984 and had been under Customs surveillance until they attempted to leave the next day. Frye had made another brief visit to Sydney only a week earlier on 30 June and again had left the following day. After his departure, it was suspected from evidence found in his hotel room that he had been smuggling fauna. Subsequent investigations revealed that he had visited a

pet dealer and purchased six Galahs (*Eolophus roseicapillus*), four Sulphur-crested Cockatoos (*Cacatua galerita*) and one Major Mitchell's Cockatoo.

Frye, who had been charged both with exporting and attempting to export fauna without a permit, failed to appear in court on 24 July and has not been seen since. Although his passport was confiscated at the time of his arrest, it is not certain whether he is still in Australia. Spurgeon, who did appear in court, received only a two year good behaviour bond. She returned to the USA the next day. The maximum penalty for an offence under the Act is A\$100 000 or five years in jail. The Crown is appealing against the leniency of Spurgeon's sentence.

Frank Antram, Director, *TRAFFIC (Australia)*

## Bird Bill

A Bill has been passed to prohibit the sale of live wild birds in New York State, USA. This will come into effect from 1 November 1985.

A new section has been added to the existing legislation ruling that no person, except as permitted by rule and regulation of the Department of Environmental Conservation, shall sell live wild birds; birds born and raised in captivity are exempted from this law.

## Butterflies Protected in Indonesia

In Bulletin III (6) we published a list of species protected in Indonesia. Three species of birdwing butterfly were missing from the list and we below publish the full list:

1. Species protected under Decree Ministry of Agriculture No. 576/Kpts/Um/8/1980.

Cethosia myrina  
Ornithoptera chimaera - Chimaera Birdwing  
O. goliath - Goliath Birdwing  
O. paradisea - Paradise or Tailed Birdwing  
Trogonoptera brookiana - Rajah Brooke's Birdwing  
Troides amphrysus  
T. andromache  
T. criton  
T. haliphron  
T. helena - Common Birdwing  
 (incl. T. helena neoris)  
T. hypolitus  
T. miranda  
T. plato  
T. rhadamantus  
T. riedeli

2. Species protected under Decree of Ministry of Agriculture No. 716/kpts/Um/10/1980

Ornithoptera priamus - Priam's Birdwing  
O. rothschildi - Rothschild's Birdwing  
O. tithonus

It is noteworthy that Troides rhadamantus is listed as protected although it occurs only in the Philippines, not in Indonesia. T. dohertyi occurs on the Talaud Islands of remotest northern Indonesia, but is not listed as protected. However, some authorities classify dohertyi as a subspecies of T. rhadamantus, and this is presumably the basis of the listing. D'Abrera in Birdwing Butterflies of the World (1975), (the classification used in the CITES listing) recognises the common ancestry of the two species but treats T. dohertyi as a full species.

It is also noteworthy that Troides andromache is not recorded as occurring in Indonesia, but on Borneo, only in Sabah and Sarawak, Malaysia. However, it is quite possible that this species occurs in Kalimantan.

## Cactus '84 Sales Fair

A cactus sales fair was held in Harrogate, UK, on 25 August. Most of the plants on sale were artificially propagated but several nurseries were offering wild-collected specimens of rare cacti and other succulents.

Artificially propagated CITES Appendix I cacti and succulents are increasingly advertised for sale by UK nurseries. At the sales fair, seedlings of the slow growing Mexican cacti, Ariocarpus trigonus and A. scapharostrus were offered together with seed-raised plants of Leuchtenbergia principis and Mammillaria pectinifera. Propagated plants of Aloe polyphylla, an Appendix I succulent, endemic to Lesotho, were also on sale. No wild-collected Appendix I plants were on display by nurseries at the sales fair.

Wild-collected plants which were for sale included specimens of Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus and both varieties of A. retusus, all of which are considered to be Vulnerable by IUCN. The same nursery offered wild-collected plants of all Ariocarpus spp. not currently listed on Appendix I of CITES.

Several species of Madagascan succulents collected from the wild were on sale. These were plants of the Didiereaceae, a family endemic to Madagascar, and listed on Appendix II of CITES.

Sara Oldfield

## Illegal Collectors Face Penalties

More than thirty people in the USA and Canada face sentences of up to five years imprisonment and \$20 000 fines for their part in the capture, transport and sale of more than 400 Peregrine Falcons (Falco peregrinus), Gyrfalcons (Falco rusticolus) and other birds of prey (The Washington Post, 30.6.84).

Many of the birds, which had been illegally collected from the wild over the last three years, had been channelled into breeding operations where they had been fraudulently ringed. Since the Reagan administration, the federal ban on the collection of raptors has been lifted for birds bred in captivity, provided that they are marked with government-authorized leg bands.

Smuggling techniques in these operations included using small aircraft to cross remote sections of the US-Canadian border in order to snatch chicks, and strapping illegally-taken eggs next to the body, in addition to trapping adult birds.

The birds can fetch as much as US\$60 000 each in Europe and the Middle East.

## Parrots and Primates Intercepted

A consignment from Senegal, which included a number of smuggled parrots and primates, was intercepted on 12 March 1984 at Frankfurt Airport whilst in transit to Italy. The shipment consisted of fifty parrots: Senegal Parrots (Poicephalus senegalus) and Ring-necked Parakeets (Psittacula krameri); and eight primates: five Patas Monkeys (Erythrocebus patas) and three which were probably Savanna Monkeys (Cercopithecus aethiops); all had been concealed in secret compartments. The shipment was covered by an export permit which recorded only non-CITES listed species. A permit for the listed species to be imported into Italy (required under EEC Regulation 3626/82) had not been issued. The consignment, however, was forwarded to Italy on 13 March and we do not yet know whether Italy accepted it.

Source: CITES Secretariat

## Macaw Rehabilitation Project

The World Wildlife Fund has agreed to fund the completion of the project to rehabilitate a number of macaws at Buenavista, near Amoro, Bolivia (see Bulletin VI(2):15).

Some sixty-six macaws have now been released, along with the nineteen monkeys which had been temporarily housed at Santa Cruz Zoo. However some 247 macaws are still recovering and it is not yet known how long it will take before they can be released.

The approximate numbers of remaining birds are: 4 Blue-fronted Amazons (Amazona aestiva), 4 Tucuman Amazons (Amazona tucumana), 149 Blue-and-Yellow Macaws (Ara ararauna), 41 Yellow-collared Macaws (Ara auricollis), 11 Green-winged Macaws (Ara chloroptera), 8 Scarlet Macaws (Ara macao), 12 Military Macaws (Ara militaris), 17 Chestnut-fronted Macaws (Ara severa), and 40 Blue-crowned (Sharp-tailed) Conures (Aratinga acuticaudata). The project has been in operation for ten weeks at a cost of US\$3291.

The latest report on the birds being cared for in Robin Clarke's garage is that 90 parrots have been released, 49 have died and there are 13 new arrivals, leaving a total of 121 birds still on hand.

Source: Reginald Hardy, Bolivian Wildlife Society  
 (Prodena Bolivia)



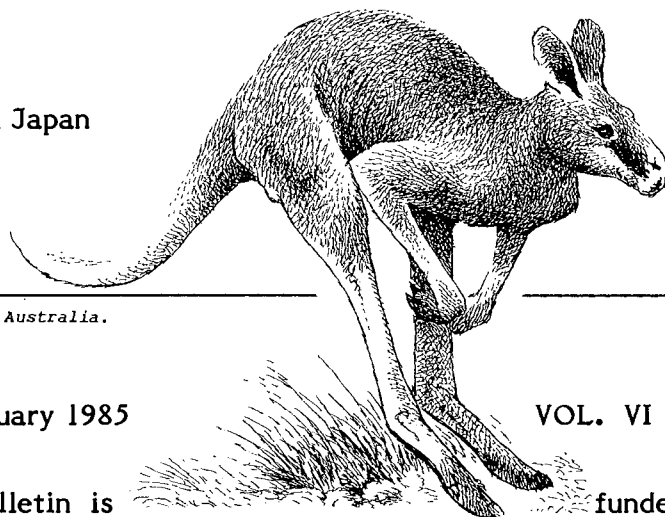
## WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

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*Illustration by Frank Knight, CSIRO, Australia.*

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## CITES Secretariat Moves

The CITES Secretariat has moved to new premises in Lausanne. Their address is: 6, rue du Maupas, Case postale 78, 1000 LAUSANNE 9, Switzerland. Telephone: (021) 20 00 81; Telex: 24584 ctes ch; Cable address: CITES Lausanne.

## Fifth CITES Meeting

The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES will take place at the Centro Cultural San Martin, Sarmiento 1551, Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 22 April to 3 May 1985.

## TRAFFIC in Belgium

A new office in the TRAFFIC Network has now been established in Belgium as an independent non-profit organization. TRAFFIC (Belgium) joined the Network in December 1984, under the Directorship of Dr Jean-Pierre d'Huart. Financial support will be provided by World Wildlife Fund - Belgium (of which Dr d'Huart is a Director) and other non-governmental conservation organisations in Belgium. The current plans for staff are to employ a zoologist, a botanist and a secretary, under a Government scheme to provide work for the unemployed.

The statutes establishing TRAFFIC (Belgium) were deposited on 31 October and are expected to be published in *Le Moniteur* (Belgium's official Journal) in the next few months.

## France Withdraws Reservations

France has withdrawn all its specific reservations on CITES Appendix species, with effect from 10 December 1984. The species on which France had reservations are the Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Black Caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*), African Slender-snouted Crocodile (*Crocodylus cataphractus*), Nile Crocodile (*C. niloticus*), Estuarine Crocodile (*C. porosus*) and West African Dwarf Crocodile (*Osteolaemus tetraspis*).

## Birds of Prey Protected

The UK Department of the Environment (DoE) has announced two measures to strengthen protection for birds of prey. Under the first of the two measures announced on 27 November 1984, the Department is to continue an existing moratorium on imports and exports of two of the most vulnerable species, the Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*) and the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). Under the second measure, the Department has introduced a ban on movement between the UK and Germany in all species of diurnal birds of prey.

The United Kingdom operates a strict, internal system of protection for birds of prey under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Controls on imports and exports are exercised under the new EEC CITES Regulation (3626/82) and the UK invoked Article 15 of the Regulation at the end of last year to maintain separate controls on diurnal birds of prey within the Community.

*Source: DoE Press Notice, 27.11.84*

## Japanese Tamarins Traced

All fourteen Golden Lion Tamarins (*Leontopithecus rosalia*) imported into Japan in 1983 (see *Bulletin VI(1):1*) can now be accounted for. The six Golden-headed Lion Tamarins (*L. r. chrysomelas*) whose whereabouts were previously unknown are at the Aritake Chojuten Stock Farm in Okinawa. As reported previously, three of unknown subspecies went to Nihon Daira Doobutsuen (Shizuoka City Zoo) and one later died; two Golden-headed went to the Japan Monkey Center. Three were exported to the Zoological and Botanical Gardens in Hong Kong - which has borne good results...

## Rare Tamarin Birth

A Golden-headed Lion Tamarin was born in the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens on 11 November 1984. This appears to be the first recorded captive birth of this subspecies outside Brazil. The baby is probably male and on 9 January 1985 was reported to be doing well.

*Sources: TRAFFIC (Japan)*  
*CITES Secretariat*

## \* Egg Thieves Fined

In October 1984, a Zimbabwean ornithologist, Adrian Lendrum, and his son, Jeffrey, were convicted of stealing eggs of protected birds of prey and of fabricating entries in a nest record survey, which is now in its 21st year.

Investigations over a year before had led officials of the Zimbabwe Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management to the discovery in Lendrum's home of 900 blown eggs said to be worth hundreds of thousands of pounds. In subsequent court hearings, it emerged that Adrian Lendrum, who, since 1974 had been working on a raptor nest survey, had removed the eggs from nests in the Matopos National Park, south of Bulawayo. He then invented data on the progressive stages of breeding of the birds which were recorded on cards in the nest record system. The effect has been to nullify all findings on one species and to devalue much of the data on many others.

Both Lendrums were fined Z\$4500 (£2650) and given four-month suspended sentences. Adrian Lendrum was then arrested on 15 October on charges of smuggling eggs out of the country. The hearing is scheduled to take place in February 1985.

*Source: The Observer, 21.10.84*

## Macaw Liberation

Further to our reports concerning the Macaw Rehabilitation Project being undertaken at Buenavista, near Amoro, Bolivia (see *Bulletin VI(3/4):67*), on 25 December 1984 only fifteen Blue and Yellow Macaws (*Ararauna*) remained captive, ten of which are in poor condition. All birds being housed in Robin Clarke's garage were sent on to recover at Amoro.

*Source: Reg Hardy, Bolivian Wildlife Society*  
*(PRODEMA Bolivia)*



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

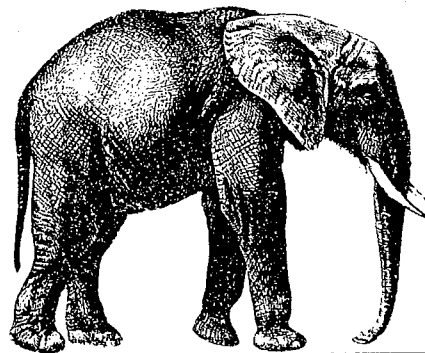
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## The New Australian Wildlife Act

by Frank Antram, TRAFFIC (Australia)

The Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982 was finally proclaimed by the Commonwealth of Australia, after a lengthy delay, and came into operation on 1 May 1984. The Act replaces the various Regulations under the Customs Act 1901 which enabled Australia's ratification of CITES in 1976. However, permits issued under the Customs (Endangered Species) Regulations and which are still current, remain valid. The object of the new Act is to enforce the obligations of Australia under CITES and also to further the protection and conservation of the wild fauna and flora of Australia and of other countries by regulating the import and export of wildlife. There are 8 Schedules to the Act; all except Schedules 5 and 8 may be amended from time to time by the Minister of State for Home Affairs and Environment by instrument published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette.

Schedule 1 lists those taxa on Appendix I to CITES, except Cetacea, plus the official list of Australian endangered vertebrate fauna endorsed by the Council of Nature Conservation Ministers (CONCOM) and the bird species covered by the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Birds in Danger of Extinction, and their Environment.

Schedule 2 lists those taxa on Appendix II to CITES, except Cetacea.

Schedule 3 lists all species of the order Cetacea.

Schedule 4 lists native Australian species, the export of which is not controlled under the Act. These are marine fish, Barramundi (Lates calcarifer), certain specified invertebrates, seeds and spores, fruit not attached to any part of a plant, timber and articles derived from timber, and oil from a plant of the genus Eucalyptus.\*

Schedule 5 lists live animals and plants, the import of which is not controlled under the Act. This Schedule refers largely to domesticated animals and animals and plants that are biological control agents of a kind approved for general release under the Quarantine Act 1908.

Schedule 6, like Schedule 5, lists live animals and plants the import of which is not controlled under the Act. This Schedule differs from the previous in that it may be altered by the Minister by instrument published in the Gazette. Currently the Schedule lists certain species of freshwater and marine fish and live plants, the introduction of which into Australia is in accordance with the Quarantine Act 1908.

Schedule 7 lists species of native Australian animals eligible to be treated as household pets. Three species of parrot, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (Cacatua galerita), Galah (Eolophus roseicapillus) and the Budgerigar (Melopsittacus undulatus), are the only animals listed.

Schedule 8 comprises the text of CITES.

Strict import and export controls apply to taxa on Schedules 1, 2 and 3. Permits for Schedule 3 species will only be issued under exceptional circumstances. Export controls apply to all live animals and plants except those on Schedule 4. Import controls apply to all live animals and plants except those listed on Schedules 5 and 6. Permits will only be issued for Schedule 1 specimens for zoo or scientific research purposes, or if the specimen is captive-bred or artificially propagated. Permits for export of native Australian wildlife and import or export of Schedule 2 species taken from the wild, will only be issued if the specimen was taken in accordance with an

approved management programme. At the time of writing, the following management programmes have been approved:-

The Macropod Conservation Programme in South Australia, Part A. (for Macropus rufus, M. fuliginosus, M. robustus).

Kangaroo Conservation and Management in Queensland (for M. rufus, M. giganteus, M. robustus, M. parryi).

Kangaroo Management in New South Wales (for M. rufus, M. giganteus, M. fuliginosus, M. robustus).

The Status and Management of Bennett's Wallaby M. rufogriseus and Rufous Wallaby Thylogale billardierii in Tasmania.

Western Australia Kangaroo Management Programmes (for M. rufus, M. fuliginosus, M. robustus).

The Status and Management of the Brush Possum Trichosurus vulpecula in Tasmania.

Management of the Short-tailed Shearwater Puffinus tenuirostris in Tasmania.

Western Australia Management of Commercial Harvesting of Protected Plants other than Gazetted Rare Plants.

The Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service (ANPWS) is responsible for administering the Act while enforcement is the responsibility of the Australian Customs Service and the Australian Federal Police. Under the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Regulations, fees ranging from A\$5 to A\$50 may be charged for permits granted. Penalties, under the Act, for not having a permit include a fine of up to A\$100 000 and a maximum of five years in prison. An Inspector under the Act may arrest, without warrant, any person that he suspects, on reasonable grounds, of committing or having committed an offence under the Act.

The Act allows for public scrutiny of permits by requiring particulars of applications, permits granted and refused and specimens imported and exported to be published in the Gazette. Applications for review of decisions on permits may be made to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, under the Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975, by persons whose interests are affected.

The Commonwealth of Australia is to be congratulated on producing a tough piece of legislation for the control of wildlife trade but, as with any legislation, its effectiveness will depend on how well it is administered and enforced.

\* a later amendment to the Schedule included honey; faeces; and specimens, other than live animals, of seven species of Macropodidae which are the personal property of persons departing from Australia and are not for commercial purposes.

### Australian Parrots Seized

Australian Customs officers seized 17 Major Mitchell's Cockatoos Cacatua leadbeateri in January 1984 at Sydney Airport. The birds were en route for Bangkok, Thailand, which would appear to be one of the major 'clearing houses' for smuggled Australian birds. The courier was fined A\$3000 and there is a conspiracy prosecution pending. During February, another courier was apprehended at Sydney Airport attempting to take 15 Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos Calyptorhynchus f. funereus out of the country and was fined A\$1000. The destination was again Thailand.

TRAFFIC (Australia)

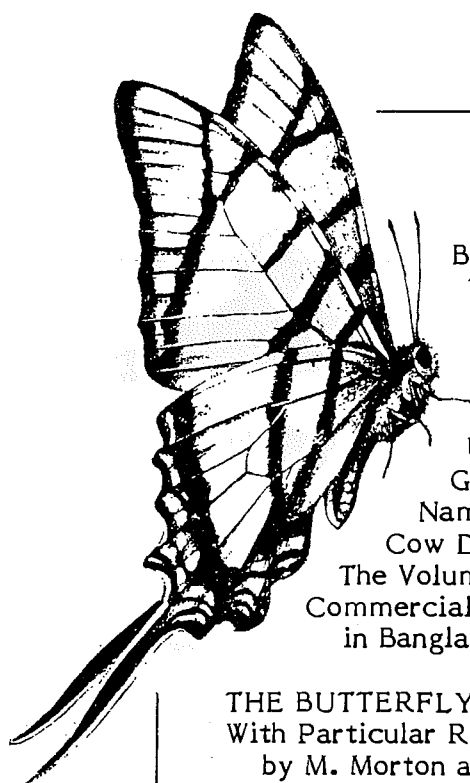


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## \* Bird Traders Fined

## Benin Joins CITES

Benin has become the 86th member of CITES, acceding to the Convention on 28 February 1984; this will take effect from 28 May 1984.

## Threatened Tamarins in Japan

A total of 14 Golden Lion Tamarins (Leontopithecus spp., Appendix I) are known to have been imported into Japan from Guyana between August and November 1983. Three of them, identified as Golden-headed Lion Tamarins (L. rosalia chrysomelas) were re-exported to Hong Kong in September (see Traffic Bulletin V(5/6):51); two others have also been identified as being Golden-headed Lion Tamarins.

Eight specimens reported to be of L. rosalia were imported in August. In October the CITES Management Authority for Japan (MITI) received and approved an application to import a further ten animals. However the Customs statistics for November record the import of only six specimens and the Government has subsequently prohibited the importation of the remaining four. MITI has confirmed to Traffic (Japan) that both shipments came from Guyana and were imported on export documents allegedly issued by the Guyanese Ministry of Agriculture recording the animals as L. rosalia and 'captive-bred'. In March, however, the CITES Management Authority in Guyana officially confirmed to the CITES Secretariat that no export permits had been issued for L. rosalia. During the official visit to Japan, in April 1984, of the Secretary General of CITES, Eugene Lapointe, this matter was discussed with MITI and it is still under investigation.

The fate in Japan of five specimens has been verified: a pair of L. r. chrysomelas was sold to the Japan Monkey Center in November 1983 by Yoshikawa Shokai (also known to trade under the name of Isejima Zoo). The purchase was made because, according to a contact at the Center, it was felt that the individuals would die if left to the dealer. In December, two specimens, subspecies unknown, were received by Nihon Daira Zoo in Shizuoka from the same dealer, however one later died and a replacement was bought to make up a pair. Traffic (Japan) contacted Yoshikawa Shokai and was told that they had imported Lion Headed Tamarins "over the summer, in July or August", that it had taken over a year to secure them and that they had all been sold to zoos. The numbers involved were not revealed.

The whereabouts of the remaining six is not known.

Traffic (Japan)  
CITES Secretariat

## Traffic (Germany) Exhibition

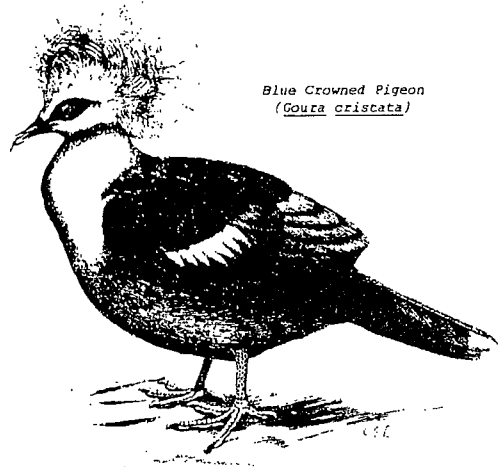
An exhibition set up by Traffic (Germany) was opened at Frankfurt Airport on October 19, 1983 on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of World Wildlife Fund (Germany) and the 10th Anniversary of CITES. The exhibition, which consists of 50 display-boards with a variety of confiscated CITES goods, has been funded by WWF (Germany), the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, the Bank of Commerce (Commerzbank AG), the German Fur Trade & Furriers Association and the Hessian Foundation for Nature Conservation. After two months at Frankfurt Airport, the exhibition was shown at the Alexander Koenig Museum of Natural History at Bonn until March; it is now on a tour of other West German cities.

Traffic (Germany)

Traffic Bulletin, Vol. VI No. 1

Further to our report in Traffic Bulletin V(3/4):49 concerning the seizures of 124 rare and endangered birds in Singapore, we can report that the trader responsible has been fined SG\$6550. The offender, who was caught in possession of 100 Palm Cockatoos (Probosciger aterrimus), 21 Moluccan Cockatoos (Cacatua moluccensis), two Brahminy Kites (Haliastur indus) and a Blue Crowned Pigeon (Goura cristata) (all CITES Appendix II species), faced four charges preferred against him under the Wild Animals & Birds Act. Each offence carries a maximum fine of SG\$1000. The birds were believed to be worth SG\$112 350.

The Palm and Moluccan Cockatoos are reported to have died, and it is believed that the Brahminy Kites and Blue Crowned Pigeon which had been sent to Jurong Bird Park, have also died.



Blue Crowned Pigeon  
(Goura cristata)

Five Indonesian barter traders have each been fined SG\$8500 for importing 34 Blue Crowned Pigeons into Singapore. Originally there had been 100 birds but only 34 were alive when the shipment was intercepted and these have been sent to Jurong Bird Park. The Blue Crowned Pigeon, which is endemic to Irian Jaya and nearby coastal islands, in New Guinea, is protected under Singapore's Wild Animals & Birds Act.

\* \* \* \* \*

In the United States, 104 Palm Cockatoos and 28 Eclectus Parrots (Eclectus roratus, Appendix II) originating in Indonesia and shipped via Singapore, have been confiscated (see Traffic Bulletin V(3/4):49). This confiscation has taken place under the US Lacey Act which prohibits the importation of wildlife illegally exported from another country. The importers, Anna Marie's Inc., a wholesale wildlife business in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, imported 100 of the Palm Cockatoos and the 28 Parrots at Miami on September 25, 1983 and had valued the birds at US\$700 000. The firm had previously imported the four other Cockatoos at Los Angeles. The US Fish and Wildlife Service, which claim this to be the largest importation of Palm Cockatoos ever known to have been made into the US, has taken possession of the birds and they are being cared for in zoos.

The Straits Times, 26.11/9.12.83  
Department of the Interior News Release 29.2.84



## Cat Skins Seized in Thailand...

In December 1983 the CITES Secretariat informed the Management Authority in Thailand that Tiger skins were on open sale in several shops in and around Bangkok. They named one establishment "Diana Gems Factory" from information supplied via HRH the Duke of Edinburgh.

As a result of this, the Secretariat has been informed by the Royal Forest Department of Thailand that two shop owners in Pattaya have been arrested for selling Leopard and Tiger skins. The shops, Diana Gem Jewelry (which we assume to be the same as, or part of, the Diana Gems Factory) and A.A. Jewelry, had a number of specimens confiscated. At the former, these included one full-mounted Tiger skin (*Panthera tigris*), two full-mounted Leopard skins (*Panthera pardus*) (spotted phase) and one full-mounted black Leopard skin; at the A.A. Jewelry shop, nine items, including skins and handbags of Leopard and Tiger, one stuffed Lar Gibbon (*Hylobates lar*) and three stuffed Hawksbill Turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata bisca*) (all Appendix I species) were confiscated.

It appears that Thailand is one of the main outlets for the products of large Asian cats. A recent survey has found that over 300 shops in and around Bangkok have on average 15.4 cat claws and 7.4 large cat teeth of unknown species and several Tiger and Leopard teeth on open sale. There are large profits involved in this trade; the claws and teeth of a single Tiger may be worth US\$2000-\$4000. Tiger and Leopard skins are also known to be sold secretly in some stores, but law enforcement has greatly reduced the local sale of cat skins. Reports suggest that most of the cats are coming from Burmese states along the Thai border and from forests in the area of Uthai Thani Province and neighbouring provinces along the Tenasserim Range.

Although the trade in Tiger and Leopard skins is being reasonably controlled through efforts of the Wildlife Conservation Division, it would seem imperative that officials are trained to identify other cat products; the successful prosecution of offenders in court must include positive identification by a Thai expert.



Tiger (*Panthera tigris*)

## ... and Denmark

On 28 November, an attempt was made by two Norwegians to smuggle two mounted Leopard skins and one mounted Tiger skin into Denmark from Bangkok. The skins were confiscated and the two offenders fined a total of DK130 000 (approx. US\$13 000) against which they are to appeal.

Ministry of the Environment, Denmark

## New Legislation for Zimbabwe

A new Act to amend the Zimbabwe Parks & Wild Life Act 1975 and the Trapping of Animals (Control) Act is shortly to be come into force. This legislation will impose heavier penalties on persons in possession of contraband wildlife and wildlife products and those acting in contravention of the management and control regulations.

Where the offence involves either the sale or manufacture of any article from trophies of rhino horn or ivory, the purchase of live animals or trophies, or the selling or donating of any such item hunted in contravention of the Act or without a licence, a fine not exceeding five times the value of the ivory or rhino horn or 10 000 dollars will be imposed, whichever is greater, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years, or both.

Any offenders, in breach of the registration or issue of certificates of ownership in respect of registered rhino horn and ivory, or in breach of the regulation, control, registration or prohibition of the sale, disposal or transfer of unregistered ivory and rhino horn, are liable to a fine not exceeding three times the value of the ivory or rhino horn concerned, or 5 000 dollars, whichever is the greater, or imprisonment for a period of two years or both such fine and such imprisonment.

In addition, fines for obtaining other animals, plants and their products in contravention of the Act have been considerably increased.



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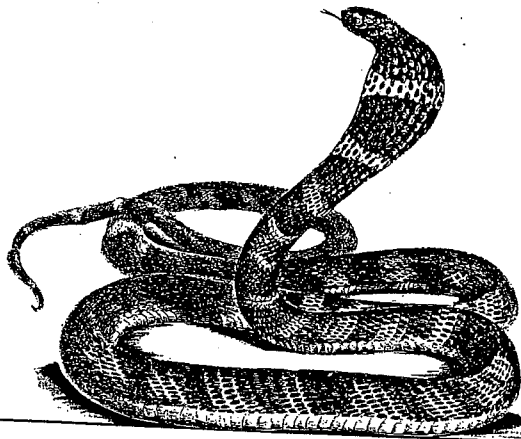
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## Sandalwood Smuggling in India

The White Sandalwood (*Santalum album* Linn.) is a small to medium-sized parasitic tree occurring mainly in seasonal moist forest areas in parts of south and south-east Asia, of great commercial importance for its hard close-grained and oil-rich heartwood.

The species occurs on the islands of Timor and Sumba and at relatively few other localities in Indonesia (including Bali, Java and Sulawesi), and also in Sri Lanka and in southern India. Sandalwood is thought to be indigenous to Timor and Sumba, but may have been introduced to other parts of Indonesia (in association with Hindu temples) and to Sri Lanka and India. In India, Sandalwood occurs mainly in southern Karnataka, especially around Mysore (an important centre for the Sandalwood industry), but also in the Nilgiri Hills area and other parts of Tamil Nadu.

Sandalwood provides one of the oldest known perfumery materials, its use is recorded many hundreds of years ago in China and southeast Asia. Whilst the use in Europe appears to have expanded during the past century, Sandalwood was one of the exotic substances imported by the Romans from (or through) the Malabar Coast of southwest India.

Commercially useful heartwood is found in branches and roots down to a couple of centimetres diameter. The wood may be carved to produce items such as trinket boxes, or may be powdered and subjected to steam distillation in order to produce sandalwood oil. The pale yellow oil has a well-known sweet woody scent of its own and also blends well with a variety of other perfumery substances. In Asia both the wood and oil are valued for their aromatic properties and also for reputed medicinal powers, useful in treating a wide range of ailments.

Trade in Sandalwood is by law a Government monopoly in India, however current reports indicate that the intensity of poaching in recent years is not only causing significant loss of revenue to the Government, but is reducing stocks of wild-growing Sandalwood to vestigial levels.

Although poaching has apparently 'always' occurred, it has reportedly become both better organized and more intense over the past few years. There is very little Sandalwood in Kerala State, but most poaching in adjacent states, notably Tamil Nadu, is attributed to gangs from Kerala. Unconfirmed reports suggest that the gangs are now financed and organized by relatively prosperous Keralans returning home after working in the oil-rich Gulf States.

The Calicut area of northern Kerala is suspected to be one base for the poachers. In the nearby Nilgiri Hills area it is said that most Sandalwood trees are now cut right to the base, with no shoots left, and even the roots are being dug up. One Forest Department official reportedly awoke one morning to find that all the Sandalwood trees growing inside his compound had been taken during the night. Groups of poachers live mainly off the land while operating, apparently dynamiting streams to obtain fish, and hunting elephants and other animals. It is expected that they will concentrate more on ivory once Sandalwood cutting is no longer feasible.

Much of the Sandalwood collected is thought to be illicitly exported from the west coast port of Calicut. There is also a regular movement up the east coast toward Calcutta for export to Nepal and other places. Officers of the Forest Protection Squad recently seized over 700 kg of Sandalwood packed in deal containers at Madras Central Station, en route to Calcutta. In this particular instance the original booking slip for one 50 kg container had been fraudulently altered to allow for seven containers. The consignment of logs (wetted to avoid the tell-tale scent) was worth over Rs 40,000 (around £ 2,700).

It should be stressed that most Forest Department staff in Sandalwood areas are doing all in their power to restrict poaching, but are severely limited by the lack of

equipment. Their resolve is demonstrated by the fact that some poachers have already been killed in armed clashes.

Brian Groombridge, Conservation Monitoring Centre.

## \* Switzerland Seizes Monitors

According to the Swiss Federal Veterinary Office, a shipment of aquarium fish, in transit through Switzerland and originating from Zaire, was seized at the Zurich/Kloten frontier on 15 November 1983. The seizure was made because the continuation of the journey had been delayed and a large number of the fish had perished. In one of the containers, 15 juvenile Nile monitors (*Varanus niloticus* - CITES Appendix II) were discovered, two of which had already died; the remainder of the consignment was seized. On examination of the export documents, it was found that the shipment had been illegally exported from Zaire. The consignment came from Aquafior SPRL, B.P. 9.752, Kinshasa, Zaire and was destined for Dolphin International, PO Box 91081, Los Angeles, USA. The 13 monitors are temporarily being held at the Zoological Gardens, Zurich, where they will remain on loan unless the Government of Zaire will pay for their return to the wild.

Source: Federal Veterinary Office, Switzerland

## Musk Farms in China

We have received further information concerning Musk deer *Moschus* spp. farming in China (see Traffic Bulletin V(3/4)). This practice has been carried out in China since 1958 and quite a number of farms have been set up (Zhang Baoliang, 1983) and are spread through the provinces of Chinghai, Szechwan, Shensi, Shansi, Anhwei and Kwangsi-Chuang Autonomous Region (Green, in press). Szechwan is one of the major centres and in 1981 there were four state-run farms and 21 commune-run farms with a total of over 1000 musk deer. There were a further 21 commune-run farms in the Abo-Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, holding about 400 animals.

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Musk-deer. Their capture, domestication and care according to Chinese experience and methods, *Unisylva* Vol.35, No.139, pp.16-24
- Green, M.J.B. in press:  
The musk trade, with particular reference to its impact on the Himalayan population of *Moschus chrysogaster*. Paper presented at Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. Centenary Seminar (1983).

## Chimps in Japan

Further to our report on the Sierra Leone Chimp trade (See Traffic Bulletin V(3/4)), a reporter in Japan has received confirmation from the Japanese Foreign Ministry that the 30 Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*), imported from Sierra Leone, are in fact being held at the National Institute of Health's research facility in Maruyama, Tokyo



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

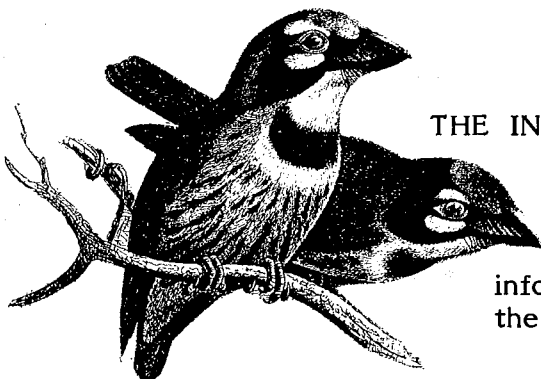
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THE INDIAN BIRD TRADE, our special feature in this issue, by Tim Inskipp, is based on a study carried out in India in 1977. Several summaries of the data have already been published, notably in "The Bird Business" by Greta Nilsson. All of the collected information is included here, together with updated figures on the export trade.

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## \* Palm Cockatoos Seized in Singapore . . .

One hundred and twenty-four rare and endangered birds, worth SG\$112,350 were seized by Singapore's Primary Production Department in a house raid on 13 September. 100 Palm cockatoos (*Probosciger aterrimus*), 21 Moluccan cockatoos (*Cacatua moluccensis*), 2 Brahminy kites (*Haliastur indus*) and a Blue-crowned pigeon (*Goura cristata*) were found in wire-mesh cages covered with gunny sacks.

According to Singapore Straits Times (16.9.83), the Palm cockatoos are valued at SG\$1,070 each, the kites at SG\$110 and the pigeon SG\$640 on the black market.

The birds are said to have been smuggled from Indonesia by a businessman at the Barter Trade Centre at Pandan River, Singapore. Our Singapore correspondent, Lee Toh Ming, comments that the Pandan Barter Trade Zone "has always been a problem". The Zone is a free port. It is closed to the public, but Indonesians and other foreign nationals are allowed into the port without a passport or ships' papers and are granted the right to trade, providing they remain within the confines of the port.

However, importation of the birds is an offence under the Wild Animals and Birds Act, and the offender faces a fine of SG\$1000 for each bird.

The seized birds were taken to Jurong Bird Park but the Straits Times of 13 October reports that only three of the birds are still alive: the Brahminy kites and the Blue-crowned pigeon. The zoo vet, Dr Phiru Chelvan claims that all the cockatoos died from Newcastle disease.



Palm cockatoo  
(*Probosciger aterrimus*)

## . . . and the U.S.

At least two shipments of Palm cockatoos totalling approximately 100 birds were recently seized by law enforcement officials of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The cockatoos, valued at between US\$500,000 and US\$1,000,000 were apparently shipped from Singapore.

One shipment was seized at the port of Miami on the

grounds that the birds originated in Indonesia, where they are fully protected. The shipment had apparently travelled to Malaysia and then to Singapore before arriving in the USA. The smaller shipment arrived at Los Angeles with a certificate declaring that the birds had been captive-bred in the Philippines. However, Palm cockatoos are very difficult to breed in captivity, and it is extremely doubtful that these birds were in fact captive-bred.

## Sale of Rhino Horn

During 1978 and 1979, 150 kg of rhino horn and 138 kg of rhino hide were sold by Natal Parks Board, Natal's provincial wildlife department, to a dealer involved in export trade to the Far East.

South Africa is a Party to CITES and, as such, prohibits the commercial export of rhino horn. These sales did not contravene the Convention which does not cover internal trade. Of the 5 consignments sold, 3 of the receipts issued to the trader were labelled "Not for Export". The Board had not supplied the trader with export permits.

The Director of the Board, John Geddes Page, in an interview with the Sunday Tribune, admitted that, "The Board did trade in rhino horn and with the wisdom of hindsight I'm sorry we did."

Natal Parks Board reportedly has 600 rhino horns in stock now. A dealer in Cape Town, Frans Hartman has recently offered to buy them all; estimating that the average weight is 4 kg per horn, he is prepared to pay R1.2 million. The Board, however, has already rejected the offer.

South Africa's booming White rhino population poses several problems. Since 1962, Natal Parks Board has sold over 3000 animals to stabilize the population in their reserves. Originally, these went to zoos and other reserves but now most are sold to private land owners, often for the purpose of trophy hunting.

Export permits are issued for the export of trophy horns but the problem arises with the horns

and skins of rhinos which die from natural causes or during translocation. These may not be exported for primarily commercial purposes under the terms of CITES and recent internal legislation controls their sale within South Africa. Most Parks and private individuals, when faced with the problem of disposing of this material are unwilling to destroy it, and rather than risk prosecution by selling it, tend to stockpile it in the hopes that some day there may be a relaxation in the regulations. Storage is not an ideal solution and thefts of some stockpiled horns have been reported.

*The Argus (South Africa), 7.11.83*  
*L.A. Carter, PTES, South Africa.*  
*Sunday Tribune (South Africa) - 21.8.83*

## \* Parrot Shipments Seized

A correspondent recently informed WTMU of two consignments of parrots at Santa Cruz Airport, Bolivia, waiting to be transported to Paris and Amsterdam via Argentina and Madrid. The shipments, probably mostly of *Amazona aestiva* (Blue-fronted amazon), weighed 102 kg. The CITES Secretariat was notified and immediately contacted the Bolivian authorities who verified that no CITES permits had been authorised for these shipments, and consequently they were seized.



## WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

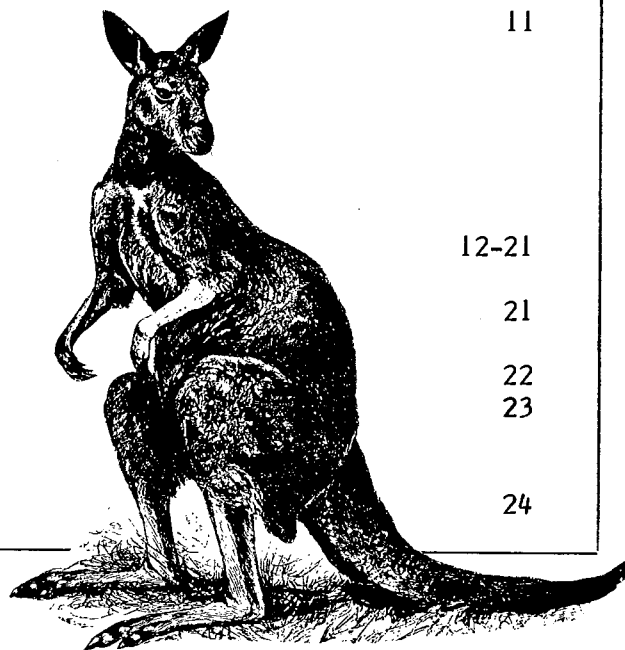
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## WTMU Staff Changes

Chris Huxley left his post as Head of WTMU on 31 July to take up a new position in the CITES Secretariat in Switzerland. His new title is "Statistical and Information Co-ordinator" and the responsibilities of the job include supervising the consultancy contract that WTMU undertakes for the Secretariat. Chris will, therefore, continue to work very closely with the Unit and with the Traffic offices.

Jonathan Barzdo has agreed to take over as Head of WTMU from 1 August. Jon will be well known to most readers since he has been working for, or associated with, WTMU and the Traffic network for many years. Jon will continue to organise and supervise the WTMU survey of wildlife farming and ranching operations, assisted by Richard Luxmoore and, until September, David Jones (a sandwich placement student).

## \* Shipment of Parrots Intercepted

A total of 488 African grey parrots Psittacus erithacus (Appendix II), from a consignment of 980 intercepted recently at Nairobi International Airport, have now died. The dead birds, worth more than US\$100,000, had been packed, without drinking water, into 10 crates, 80 birds per 2 x 3 ft box; each box had 2 levels with about 8 inches headroom and the parrots were approximately 9 1/2 inches high. The shipment, which had arrived on an Ethiopian Airlines flight from Ghana and bound for Jeddah, was despatched by Ali Abu Bird Supply in Accra. Onward shipment to Jeddah on Saudi Arabian Airlines was refused by the latter airline due to the condition of the birds. The shipment contravened IATA regulations, CITES guidelines and there is no information as to whether a CITES -export permit was issued by Ghana. The consignees in Saudi Arabia, Alhaji Abdul Karim and Alhaja Alhassan Gao, have apparently asked for the parrots to be forwarded, but this is being resisted by the KSPCA (Kenyan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals).

CITES Secretariat  
The Washington Post 20.7.83

## More Marine Mammal Data

According to José Truda Palazzo, Jr., a correspondent in Brazil, a small population of Otaria byronia (flavescens) Southern sea lion, can still be found in the Ilha dos Lobos, the southernmost island of Brazil, despite mass slaughter which almost led to its extinction in 1960 (see Bulletin IV(4/5):48). Over the last two years, small groups of 2-6 individuals have been reported.

Mr. Palazzo also informs us that hundreds of Pontoporia blainvillei, Franciscana or La Plata River dolphin have been killed, as well as some Otaria byronia, however it is impossible to estimate the numbers killed.

## Demand for EEC Ivory Ban

The European Environmental Bureau (EEB), on 30 June 1983, issued a statement demanding that the EEC propose a regulation banning the import of ivory into the Community, similar to the regulation concerning the products of whales.

## Peru Withdraws Objection

Peru agreed to withdraw its objection to the 1986 commercial whaling moratorium after a week of tense negotiations at the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting held in July in Brighton.

Chile announced it had already suspended whaling, and South Korea, Brazil, Spain and Iceland all renewed their acceptance of the moratorium, thus phasing out their whaling operations over the next two years.

A request by Norway to increase its minke quota by 250 was very nearly passed by consensus, but at the last minute, Antigua demanded a vote and Norway's request was rejected; her minke quota was thus reduced by two-thirds (more than a thousand whales). However, as a result of Norway's refusal to abandon the cold harpoon and for its objection to the moratorium, the US has notified its intention to certify Norway under the Pelly amendment, which authorises the US to place an embargo on any or all fish products from nations which "diminish the effectiveness of an international fisheries conservation agreement". The US has already imposed economic sanctions on the Japanese fishing industry withholding 100,000 metric tons of fish from the Japanese allocation in the US 200-mile zone. The following figures show a comparison of the 1982/3 quotas and those fixed for 1983/4:

<u>Southern Hemisphere</u>	<u>1982/3*</u>	<u>1983/4*</u>
Minke	7072	6655
Bryde's	165	165
<u>North Pacific</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
Minke	1361	421
Bryde's	546	536
Sperm	400	-
<u>North Atlantic</u>		
Fin	287	287
Minke	2434**	1226
Sei	100	100
<u>Aboriginal</u>		
Fin	6	6
Bowhead	17	27***
Gray	179	179
Humpback	10	9
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>12577</b>	<b>9611</b>

\* 1982/3 and 1983/4 pelagic season and 1983 and 1984 coastal season  
\*\* includes 1690 not as a quota but as an undertaking by Norway  
\*\*\* maximum number of strikes

ECO - 18/23.7.83  
International Whaling Commission

## Protected Species for Sale

We have further evidence (see Traffic Bulletin IV(4/5):39) from a correspondent in Malaysia that Rajah Brooke's birdwing butterflies (Trogonoptera brookiana) are widely available in curio shops (eg. at Subang Airport) despite being a protected species in Malaysia.

In addition, a number of shops (Peking Art Co. of Sungei Wang Plaza, Kuala Lumpur, for example) are selling lacquered, whole hawksbill turtles (Eretmochelys imbricata - Appendix I).

## \* Smuggling Ring Broken

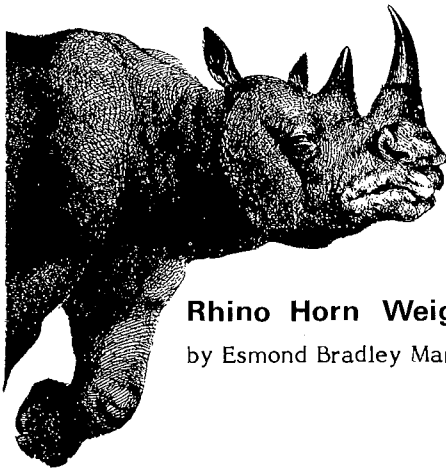
A 2-year investigation by US police has uncovered a \$1 million-a-year smuggling business of bald eagle carcasses and plumage, used to make replicas of Indian artefacts such as fans, whistles, head-dresses, rattles and jewellery. Eighteen other species of birds were also involved in the illegal trade including hawks, owls, songbirds, scissor-tailed flycatchers and aningas. Agents of the US Fish & Wildlife Service, posing as buyers, arrested 9 people and charged 37 for violating federal laws protecting the bald eagle (the US national emblem) and other endangered species. The laws carry penalties of up to two years in jail and \$20,000 fines.

Over 300 bald eagles have been killed over the last 3 years to supply collectors in Europe, especially West Germany and including Britain, with articles such as war bonnets which fetch as much as \$5000 each and fans for \$800.

This once abundant eagle was virtually exterminated during the 1960s, partly due to the use of DDT and other pesticides. However, since the use of DDT was banned in the US in 1972, populations are increasing although the bald eagle still remains an endangered species. The main threat to the birds' survival is the destruction of habitat, plus the fact that many adults cannot reproduce.

*New Scientist* 23.6.83

*The Washington Post* 16.6.83



### Rhino Horn Weights

by Esmond Bradley Martin

The amount of rhino horn available annually on international markets is generally calculated in tonnes. By knowing the average weight of horn carried by a species, conservationists can ascertain how many rhinos are killed to meet the demands of the markets, but samples of horn from all five species of rhinos are not easily obtainable and I am unaware of any report which has compared their average weights. In an attempt to provide some basic information on this subject, I offer the following data which I have gathered from various sources.

While the African white rhino *Ceratotherium simum*, supplies considerably less horn to international markets than the African black *Diceros bicornis*, the white is the species which carries the most horn per animal. From statistics available in southern Africa, this averages 4.0kg. The heaviest single white rhino horn that I have personally handled weighed exactly 10.0kg.

An analysis of the auction records of 6,425 black rhino horns which passed through the Mombasa Ivory Room between 1959 and 1976, shows that the average weight of each was 1.44kg per animal. However, the horn from the black rhino of Zimbabwe appears to be heavier. Of the 228 horns which were sold by the Zimbabwean Department of National Parks from 1963 to 1978 the average pair weighed 3.43kg, approximately twenty per cent more than that of the East African black rhino.

Although over ninety-five per cent of the rhino horn reaching the world market each year is from the two African species, there is some from Asian rhinos as well. The Indian rhino's (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) horn is the heaviest of these. The largest sample of Indian rhino horns I have studied comes from the 441 pieces collected by the Assam State Forest Department from 1965 to 1980, which were eventually all sold. The average weight per horn was 722g, and the largest horn turned the scales at 2.22kg. Although the weight of the horn carried by the Indian rhino is less than one-fifth that of the average white rhino, its value is much greater: US\$6,500 wholesale as compared to US\$2,200.

The Javan rhino *Rhinoceros sondaicus* is similar in appearance to the Indian rhino and also has just one horn. It can easily be confused with the latter, and in the nineteenth century taxidermists and zoologists frequently misnamed specimen horns of these two species. Still today there are collections of horns from Javan and Indian rhinos in European natural history museums that are improperly identified. Compounding the problem of obtaining a sufficient quantity of Javan horn now to make an estimate of its average weight is the fact that there are perhaps only sixty animals of this species extant. However, Nico van Strien has weighed the five Javan horns in Indonesia's Bogor Museum; and, as one would expect, their average weight of 676g each is very close to that of the Indian horn.

Nico van Strien has also provided me with the weights of the largest sample of horns available from the Sumatran rhino *Didermocerus sumatraensis*. These also are in the Bogor Museum. They number twenty-six and come from thirteen animals that lived on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. The average pair weighs only 269g; the smaller, rear horn is very tiny, weighing on average only 65g. It is not difficult to differentiate between Javan and Sumatran horns because the former invariably have an obvious groove which runs from near the base of the front of the horn right up to near its tip.

On account of the very much smaller size of Asian rhino horns, smugglers can easily carry them when they move across international borders. The main market for Asian horn is currently Singapore, where it can be legally imported and exported, and where it commands a retail price of US\$19,170 per kg. It is the demand for this horn as a cure for high fever in thousands of traditional medicine shops that has pushed rhinos into their precarious existence today, and it has had a far more disastrous effect on their surviving populations than the loss of much of their former habitat to cultivation.

### Plea to Halt Vicuna Trade

At the CITES Conference in Botswana, a statement made by Bolivia and endorsed by Argentina, Chile and Peru, called upon governments of the UK, Hong Kong and the USA to act immediately to halt the illegal sale of vicuna products which is seriously frustrating efforts to arrest poaching and illegal traffic in the countries where vicuna occur (ie. Bolivia, Peru, Chile and Argentina).

As reported in *Traffic Bulletin* IV(3):27, vicuna cloth has been openly on sale in London and Hong Kong for the past 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years and recently in New York and Washington.

The UK government's reply to Bolivia's request stated that all cloth on open sale in London is from pre-Convention stocks, but threw open an invitation to anyone wishing to purchase the remaining supplies, a detailed record of which is kept by the government.



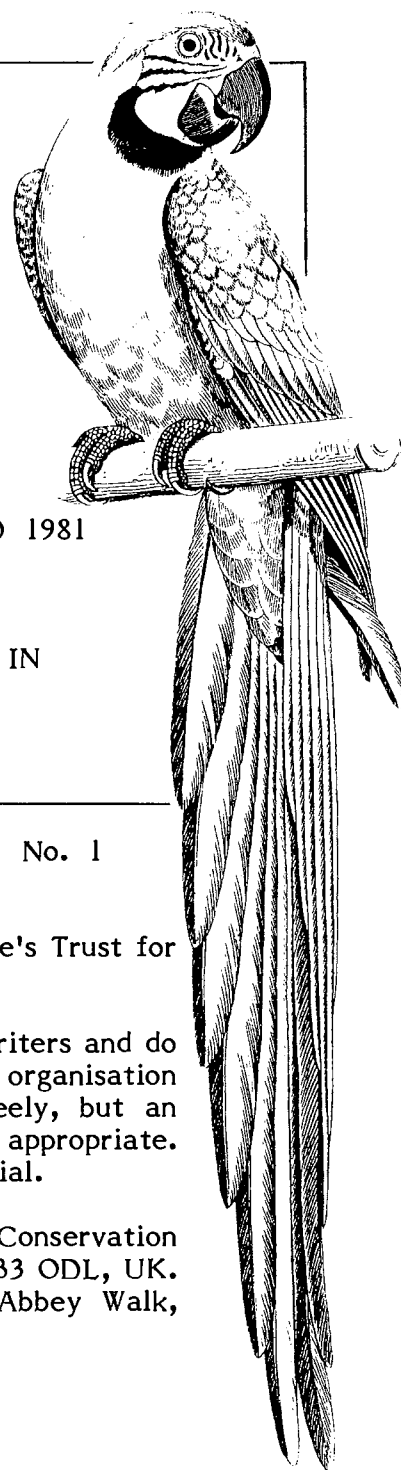


## WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

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## Compulsory Ivory Markings

The South African CITES authorities have announced that from 1 January 1983 the import, export or re-export of unworked ivory of more than 1 kg will only be allowed if it is marked in accordance with the CITES recommendation. People with stocks of unworked ivory have been asked to comply with the regulation by having their stocks marked by the Government.

*South African Government Press Release*

## Zoo Director Suspended

The director of Los Angeles Zoo was recently suspended for five days for failing to "carry out his management responsibilities" in connection with the disappearance of more than 200 pieces of ivory artwork entrusted to the zoo.

More than 1,600 ivory pieces had been confiscated by Los Angeles police officers from an art gallery and placed in the zoo's protective vault and investigators recently discovered the missing pieces. 30 pieces were found to be in the possession of zoo employees but the remaining pieces cannot be accounted for.

*Los Angeles Times, 12.3.83*

## Timber Trade Talks

Exporters and importers involved in the timber trade recently met to negotiate terms of an international agreement to curb the destruction on tropical forests, according to officials of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Switzerland. The expected agreement will enable developing countries to reafforest depleted woodlands and raise earnings by increasing processing facilities.

*New York Times, 15.3.83*

## Grant for Canadian Sealing

### Association

With the loss of the European market for the sale of seal products, the provincial government of Newfoundland has made a \$500,000 grant to the Canadian Sealing Association in an effort to establish domestic markets.

*Monitor, 21.3.83*

## \$5m Contract Cancelled

America's largest seafood restaurant chain of shops has decided not to purchase fish from nations that will not comply with the International Whaling Commission's decision to phase out commercial whaling by 1986. This action will affect Norway quite considerably, cancelling contracts worth more than \$5m. The \$500m corporation, Long John Silver's Seafood Shoppes, has more than 1,300 restaurants across the US and is the world's largest buyer of cod fillets with 80% of its fish coming from Iceland. Iceland and Canada will now get Norway's lost business.

*Monitor, 28.2.83*

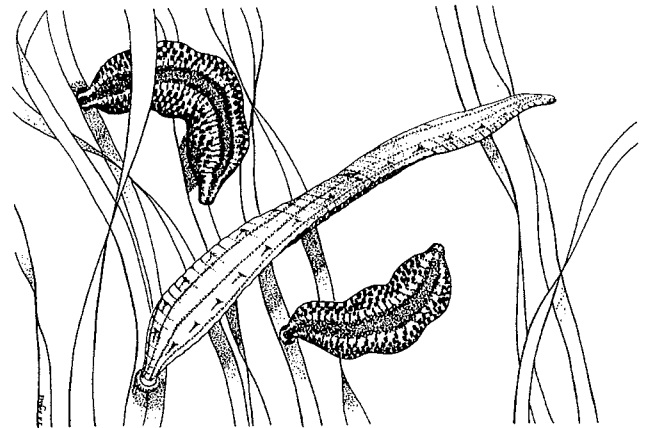
## \* Dealer Charged

The owner-operator of Anthony Botanical Gardens, Donna, USA, has been charged with smuggling 12 parrots and forging documents to import 100,000 cacti. He has been sentenced to a one-year suspended sentence and fined \$5,000.

*Valley Morning Star, Texas, 14.3.83*

## IUCN Invertebrate RDB

The IUCN Red Data Books are acknowledged as the authoritative international works on threatened species. As the latest and most innovative of these, the Invertebrate RDB is breaking new ground. Compiled jointly by S.M. Wells, R.M. Pyle and N.M. Collins and illustrated by S.A. Hughes, it is the first of its kind and presents a wide-ranging and balanced set of case histories illustrating pressures on invertebrate populations and habitats and the range of threatened invertebrates worldwide. Each phylum is discussed in introductory sections which detail its biology and significance to man. Over 200 taxa are reviewed in detail and 50 illustrations depict a selection of fascinating and beautiful creatures.



*Medicinal leech*

This book draws attention to the need for conservation of an extremely important and hitherto neglected group. There are probably between 3 and 10 million extant invertebrate species, although only about 1.4 million of these have been scientifically described. Even the latter outnumber all other living species by at least three to one. The richest areas in terms of invertebrate diversity are often the least studied and the most vulnerable. The destruction of rainforest alone is believed to be causing daily extinctions of invertebrate species, many unknown to science. Several species affected by trade and listed under CITES are also included, eg. Queen Alexandra's birdwing butterfly *Ornithoptera alexandra*, Apollo butterfly *Parnassius apollo* and black coral, ANTIPATHARIA spp. and some non-CITES listed species which are in trade, eg. medicinal leech *Hirudo medicinalis*, European edible sea urchin *Echinus esculentus*, Homerus swallowtail butterfly *Papilio homerus* and red-knee tarantula spider *Brachypelma smithi*.

This book can be obtained from The Conservation Monitoring Centre, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL or IUCN Publications, Avenue du Mont-Blanc, 1196 Gland, Switzerland at a cost of £12 (US\$20) plus £2 (US\$3) postage and packing per volume surface mail (air mail by request only) - 10% of total purchase price for surface mail, 30% for airmail for orders from Switzerland. In the USA, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean, orders should be placed with: UNIPUB, Box 433, Murrays Hill, New York, NY 10016, USA.



\*  
CITES Seizures in Hong Kong

CITES Resolution Conf. 3.10 recommended that the Annual Reports of the Parties should include particulars of specimens seized under provisions of the Convention. The figures below are derived from the Reports on the

Implementation of CITES in Hong Kong for 1979, 1980 and 1981 with additional information from the answer to a UK Parliamentary Question put down on 20 July, 1982 by Lord Melchett.

	CITES Appendix	1979	1980	1981	1982 (first quarter)
<b>Mammalia</b>					
<b>PRIMATES spp.</b>	I/II			6 live	
Cercopithecidae					
<u>Macaca fascicularis</u>	II			1 live	
<u>Macaca mulatta</u>	II	1 live		2 live	
<b>PHOLIDOTA</b>					
Manidae					
<u>Manis spp.</u>	I/II	23 live 389 skins	6 live, 7 stuffed, 318 skins	41 live, 2 stuffed, 31 carcasses, 1 package of cut pieces	6 live, 1 stuffed, 13 carcasses + 18.6 kg carcasses + 127 pieces of carcasses
<b>CARNIVORA</b>					
Ursidae					
<u>Ursus arctos</u>	I/II	1 live	1 live		
Mustelidae					
<u>Lutra spp.</u>	I/II			107 skins	
Viverridae					
<u>Hemigalus derbyanus</u>	II			1 skin	
<u>Viverra civetta</u>	III			1 skin	
Felidae					
<u>Acinonyx jubatus</u>	I		1 skin		1 skin
<u>Felis bengalensis</u>	I/II			1 live, 393 skins	55 skins
<u>Felis lynx</u>	II			4 skins	57 skins
<u>Felis pardalis</u>	I/II	5 skins	15 skins	2 skins	2 skins
<u>Felis serval</u>	II		1 skin	3 skins	
<u>Felis viverrina</u>	II		2 stuffed	1 stuffed	
<u>Felis wiedii</u>	I/II	28 skins	28 skins	2 skins	1 skin
<u>Neofelis nebulosa</u>	I	221 skins	2 skins	1 skin	
<u>Panthera pardus</u>	I	28 skins	5 skins, 19 skin scraps	4 skins	1 skin
<u>Panthera tigris</u>	I	10 skins	4 skins		
<b>PINNIPEDIA spp.</b>	I/II			60 skins	32 skins
Otariidae					
<u>Arctocephalus pusillus</u>	II			1 skin	

## CITES SEIZURES IN HONG KONG (ctd)

	CITES Appendix	1979	1980	1981	1982 (first quarter)
<b>PROBOSCIDEA</b>					
Elephantidae spp.	I/II	90 kg + 21 pieces of tusks 3 pieces of skin	6 tusks, 90 kg ivory pieces, 3 pieces of skin	1800 kg of tusks and ivory pieces	5 tails
<b>PERISSODACTYLA</b>					
Rhinocerotidae spp.	I		4 horns, 21 pieces of skin	1 horn, 1 piece of skin	3 horns
<u>Ceratotherium simum</u>	I			4 horns	
<b>ARTIODACTYLA</b>					
Cervidae					
<u>Moschus 'moschiferus'</u>	I/II			8 lbs musk	1 kg musk
<b>Aves</b>					
FALCONIFORMES spp.	I/II			14 live 2 stuffed	1 live
Accipitridae					
<u>Accipiter virgatus</u>	II		1 stuffed	1 stuffed	
<u>Aquila heliaca</u>	I	1 live			
<u>Aquila rapax</u>	II			1 stuffed	
<u>Buteo buteo</u>	II		8 stuffed	1 live	1 stuffed
<u>Circus spp.</u>	II		1 stuffed		
<u>Spizaetus nanus</u>	II			1 stuffed	
Falconidae					
<u>Falco tinnunculus</u>	II		10 stuffed		
<b>GRUIFORMES</b>					
Gruidae					
<u>Grus vipio</u>	I	14 live			
<b>STRIGIFORMES spp.</b>					
	I/II			27 live 7 carcasses	11 live 11 carcasses
Tytonidae					
<u>Tyto capensis</u>	II		1 live		
Strigidae					
<u>Asio flammeus</u>	II	1 live	3 live	6 live 1 carcass	
<u>Bubo bubo</u>	II		1 live 1 stuffed	1 live	
<u>Glaucidium cuculoides</u>	II			13 live	
<u>Otus bakkamoena</u>	II			1 live	
<u>Otus scops</u>	II			3 live 1 carcass	

## CITES SEIZURES IN HONG KONG (ctd)

	CITES Appendix	1979	1980	1981	1982 (first quarter)
<b>CORACIIFORMES</b>					
Bucerotidae					
<u>Rhinoplax vigil</u>	I		24 casques		
<b>PASSERIFORMES</b>					
Pittidae					
<u>Pitta brachyura</u>	II ssp. nympha	1 live	1 live		
Paradisaeidae spp.	II	5 stuffed 1 skin			
<u>Paradisaea apoda</u>	II		5 stuffed		
<b>Reptilia</b>					
<b>TESTUDINATA</b>					
Cheloniidae spp.	I	136 stuffed 180 eggs, 2065 pieces of scale, 100 kg scale	1 live, 189 stuffed, 2 shells, 184 eggs, 676 kg scales	122 stuffed, 2 shells, 936 eggs 17 kg scales, 211 pieces of skin	22 stuffed, 419 eggs, 210 kg scales
CROCODYLIA spp.	I/II			10 stuffed 1381 skins	500 lbs skins
Alligatoridae spp.	I/II	6 stuffed 205 skins	29 stuffed 424 skins	8 stuffed 7 skins	
Crocodylidae spp.	I/II	4 stuffed	19 stuffed 1 head 30 skins	9 stuffed 1 head 9 skins	
<u>Tomistoma schlegelii</u>	I				1 stuffed
<b>URIA</b>					
Varanidae					
<u>Varanus</u> spp.	I/II	6 stuffed	2 skins	5 stuffed 2559 skins	2185 skins
<b>SERPENTES</b>					
Boidae spp.	I/II	2 skins		2 live 337 skins	5 skins
<u>Python reticulatus</u>	II		25 skins	2 stuffed	
<b>Amphibia</b>					
<b>URODELA</b>					
Cryptobranchidae					
<u>Andrias davidianus</u>	I			3 live	
<b>FLORA</b>					
Araliaceae					
<u>Panax quinquefolius</u>	II		0.5 lb root	570 kg root	20 kg root

## CITES SEIZURES IN HONG KONG (ctd)

	CITES Appendix	1979	1980	1981	1982 (first quarter)
<b>CORACIIFORMES</b>					
Bucerotidae					
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<u>Andrias davidianus</u>	I			3 live	
<b>FLORA</b>					
Araliaceae					
<u>Panax quinquefolius</u>	II		0.5 lb root	570 kg root	20 kg root

**Export Permits for Gyr Falcons**

In Canada recently, seven permits have been issued for the capture and export of gyr falcons Falco rusticolus. This species is listed on Appendix I of CITES apart from the North American population which was transferred to Appendix II at the New Delhi meeting of the Parties in 1981. At that meeting the delegation of Canada reported 'that the use of gyr falcons was the subject of a government programme, which had established a system of priorities for sales to scientific institutions, breeding centres and accredited zoos.' The permits were issued by the Northwest Territories government, and two of the birds were destined for sale in the Middle East for falconry purposes.



Gyr Falcon

The proposed sale has enraged the 500,000 member Canadian Wildlife Federation and several members of parliament. One of the latter, Jim Fulton declared that "Once the birds are sold in the Middle East, and they will be, you can be sure of that, we'll be inundated with buyers. Arabs will pay a king's ransom now for a hunting falcon and if they find out the birds can be bought legally here, our falcon population will be wiped out." In Parliament on 20 December 1982, he pointed out to the Prime Minister that the Canadian Wildlife Service, which is both the Management Authority and Scientific Authority for CITES, "vociferously objects to the export of these two young gyr falcons", and asked him to intervene and stop the export.

It was reported last year in a Canadian newspaper that Arctic Inuit hunters were trapping the birds for Middle East handlers for which they were being paid CA\$10,000 (US\$8,000) apiece. The birds were smuggled out to the Middle East, particularly Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, where their value was increased ten-fold.

**NEWS FROM SINGAPORE**

**Arowana Warning**

Aquarium fish dealers in Singapore have been advised by the Primary Production Department against buying, selling or having on display the Arowana, or Golden Dragon Fish Scleropages formosus (App. I, see Bull. 4(2)). The PPD, the responsible authority in Singapore, will not issue permits for the import, export, transshipment and other commercial transactions of arowanas. A spokesman from the Department said "Although Singapore is not a signatory to the Convention, we support its aims and objectives". Asked what will happen if dealers do not follow this advice he declared "We will take appropriate action against them since aquariums are licensed by the department".

**\* Cheetah Skins Seized**

A correspondent from Singapore has informed us that, in October '82, approximately 47 cheetah skins were seized by customs. The consignment of raw skins is worth between S\$80,000 and S\$100,000 and belonged to an Australian who, if charged and found guilty, could be fined up to S\$47,000 or S\$1,000 per skin. The Primary Production Department is investigating to find out whether this shipment is part of an international ring of illegal smuggling or an isolated case.

S\$1000 = US\$472.00

*Straits Times 5.1/11.2.83*

**Subscription Form**

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The Bulletin is sent free to all WTMU/IUCN consultants, government agencies, conservation organisations and other institutions in a position to further the conservation of threatened species. Donations to defray costs will continue to be welcomed. To commercial enterprises and private individuals, the Bulletin subscription is \$10.00 (£5.00) per

**\* Bird Dealers Prosecuted**

Six people from Aviexco (Pty) Ltd., were prosecuted last year and fined a total of \$27,900 (Zim) (US\$28,600) and in addition received 44 months suspended prison sentences for illegal dealings in the exportation and importation of birds



## WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

**Publication of the TRAFFIC Bulletin is funded by  
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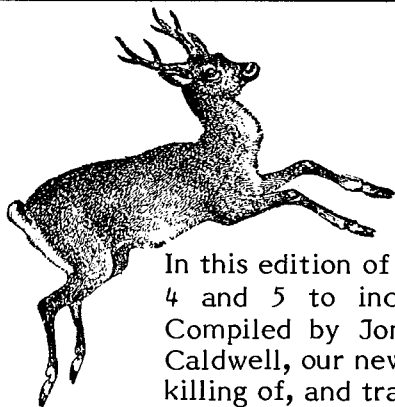
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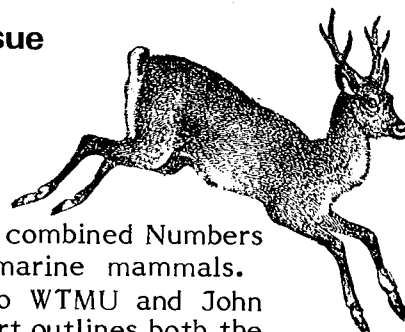
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- A Review of International Trade in Marine Mammals by Jonathan Barzdo and John Caldwell	40-60	Any opinions expressed in this Bulletin are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN or any other organisation connected with WTMU. Information may be quoted freely, but an acknowledgement to WTMU/IUCN should be made where appropriate. The Editor would appreciate a copy of any reprinted material.
- 1979 International Trade in Crocodylia Reported by CITES Parties	60-62	Published by the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit, IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL, U.K. Tel: Camb. 277427.
- South African Fur Seal Harvest Amphibia-Reptilia Red Data Book	63	Printed by Foister & Jagg Ltd., Abbey Walk, Cambridge.
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### Special Christmas Issue



In this edition of the Traffic Bulletin we have combined Numbers 4 and 5 to include a special report on marine mammals. Compiled by Jonathan Barzdo, Consultant to WTMU and John Caldwell, our new Trade Researcher, this report outlines both the killing of, and trade in, all marine mammals.

We would like to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Sudan Ratifies CITES

On 26 October 1982, Sudan became the 78th Party to CITES. The ratification becomes effective on 23 January 1983.

## North Yemen Bans Importation of Rhino Horn

The Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) has decreed a total ban on the importation of rhino horn. The decree, issued by the Ministry of Economy and Industry in San'a, follows diplomatic efforts by the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation (AWLF). Hussein M. Almagbaly, the Yemen Ambassador to International Organizations in Geneva said that the Government's decision is "in keeping with its endeavour to protect endangered species throughout the world" and that "the Government of Yemen fully supports the conservation activities of WWF and IUCN which have drawn attention to such important issues".

North Yemen has been the world's largest single consumer of rhino horn. The horn is fashioned into handles for daggers called 'djambias' and traditionally worn by Yemeni males as a symbol of manhood. A single dagger made with rhino horn can cost from \$300 to \$13,000. According to Dr Esmond Bradley Martin, whose book 'Run Rhino Run' was reviewed in the last issue of the Bulletin, 22,645 kilos of rhino horn were imported to North Yemen between 1969 and 1977, which were derived from about 8000 rhinos.

The ban has been praised by the CITES Secretariat as the most important single step taken to stop illegal trade in rhino horn. Eugene Lapointe, the Secretary General of CITES, said "Arguments put forward by AWLF and the insistence of the CITES Secretariat has succeeded in convincing the Yemen Government that international co-operation to protect endangered wildlife by far exceeds requirements to maintain traditions having no relationship whatsoever with basic human needs."

### ... no evidence to support fever remedy

WWF/IUCN have sponsored a pharmacological study by Hoffman-Laroche and Co. (a pharmaceutical concern) and this research has found no evidence that rhino horn has any medicinal effect as an antipyretic and would be ineffective in reducing fever. Tests have also demonstrated that rhino horn contains no analgesic, anti-inflammatory anti-spasmodic, diuretic or bactericidal properties. According to Dr Martin "rhino horn on its own is used primarily for the purpose of reducing high fever ... some 60 per cent of all rhino horn sold is used for medicines."

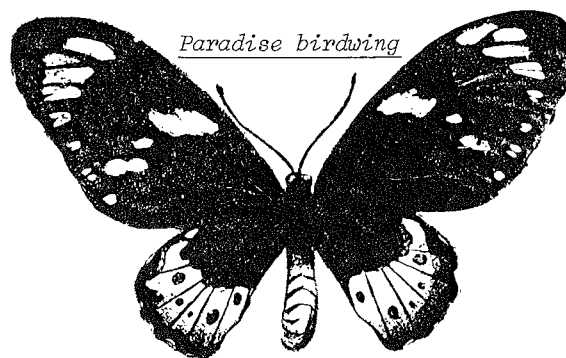
Esmond Bradley Martin, who is Vice Chairman of the IUCN African Elephant & Rhino Group, is currently in Asia on a WWF/IUCN project to persuade dealers and medicinal retailers to stop using rhino horn and find alternatives.

## Slaughter of Black Bears

The Animal Welfare Institute Quarterly, Vol. 31, No. 3 reports that many Californian Black bears, *Ursus americanus* have been killed by poachers operating throughout the bear country of California and other US states and that this slaughter appears to be increasing. It is suspected that the bear paws, claws and gall bladder, highly prized amongst Orientals, are exported to the Far East. There, a bear's gall bladder, believed to be a cure for a number of ailments ranging from hepatitis to toothache, can fetch as much as \$3000; the bear paws are considered a delicacy and the claws are valued as jewellery.

## Rare Butterflies for Sale

Rajah Brooke's birdwing *Trogonoptera brookiana* from Malaysia, and *Ornithoptera* birdwing butterflies from New Guinea are amongst several rare butterfly species for sale as mounted souvenirs in Malaya, according to a report in The Malay Mail (1.10.82). A spokesman for the firm producing the souvenirs claims that the Rajah Brooke's birdwing species is not in any danger of extinction. "Certain other species that we don't sell are even more rare. In fact, Malaysia has an abundance of species. What we are selling are just common and cheap species for decorative purposes."



All Birdwing butterflies are on Appendix II of CITES.

## EEC Conflict over Seals

The UK, at the meeting for the Council of Ministers on the proposal for the banning of seal skin imports into EEC countries, held on 3 December, has agreed to a 12-month voluntary ban. However the decision for a total ban has been put off because the British government does not believe that the EEC should interfere with trade on moral grounds. France and West Germany also oppose a total ban. The Netherlands, the Irish Republic and Italy, want a total ban similar to the one already imposed on whale products into the EEC.

The Commission has chided ministers for seeking a legal loophole to avoid an effective trade ban and warned that a vague package of voluntary restrictions would only lead to greater confusion.

Source: The Guardian, 4 December 1982

## \* Pangolin Scales Seized

\$60,000 worth of pangolin scales have been seized from a lorry in Penang by the Dept of National Parks, Malaysia. Packed in 94 sacks, the scales are believed to have been smuggled from Thailand and were probably intended for export to Singapore, Hong Kong and other countries. The Malayan pangolin, *Manis javanica*, is a CITES Appendix II species and protected in Malaysia. According to the State Deputy Director of the Department, Mr Encik Rapih bin Mundah, anyone found catching this rare animal can be fined up to \$3,000, jailed for two years, or both. The owner of the lorry is soon to be charged.

The scales of the Malayan pangolin, or scaly ant-eater, are used as medicine in powdered form and it is also believed that boxers in Thailand drink the blood of the animal to cure internal bleeding! The skin is used for leather goods.

Source: The Star, 21 July 1982

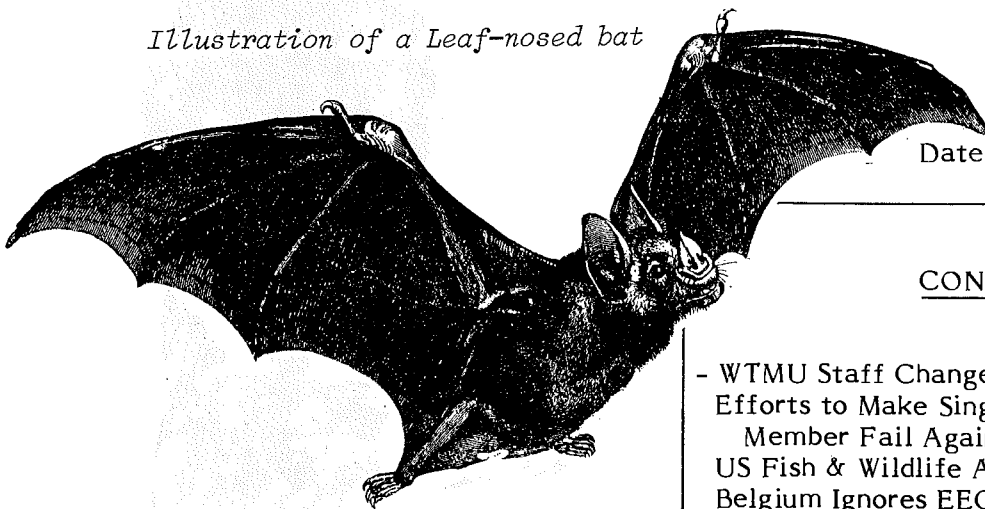


# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

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*Illustration of a Leaf-nosed bat*



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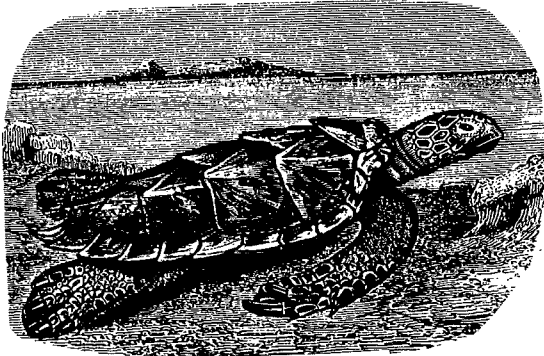
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## \* Jewellery Manufacturers Prosecuted

The proprietors of a factory which manufactures turtle shell jewellery have been prosecuted and fined a total of HK\$3,000 following the seizure of 199.85 kg of sea turtle scutes, together with two stuffed specimens of Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*, Appendix I of CITES), according to the Hong Kong Agriculture & Fisheries Dept.



Hawksbill Turtle

## Transvaal Bans Internal Trade in Rhino Horn

In July this year the Nature Conservation Division of the Transvaal, South Africa agreed to ban internal commercial trading in rhino horn, which is in line with the recommendation Conf. 3:11 on 'Trade in Rhinoceros Horn' passed by the 3rd Meeting of Parties to CITES at New Delhi. South Africa has been a member of CITES since 1976 but, until this year, traders, many of whom were Chinese, had been licensed to trade openly in rhino horn within Transvaal. This had considerably facilitated their ability to bypass the CITES regulations and also commercially import and export horn illegally - an action which was both inevitable, since the market for the horn is outside Africa, and occasionally admitted to by the traders. Conservation of the live wildlife within South Africa is strictly controlled and efficiently administered, but there was reason to believe that horn and ivory were passing through illegally from other countries, and that horn was legally available from the rhino populations held nationally, provincially and privately.

Wildlife Conservation in South Africa is legislated and administered separately within the four provinces, although there are no border controls between them. Natal and the Transvaal are the two that hold most of the rhinos. Natal had banned internal trading in December 1980, while the other two provinces do not license commercial trade in horn. The decision by the Director of the Transvaal Division of Nature Conservation, Mr S S Du Plessis, to ban internal trading within the Transvaal, resulted from discussions with Mr Frans Stroebel, Director of the South African Nature Foundation, the local branch of WWF, at the request of the IUCN/SSC African Rhino Group. Initially the ban will be effected by ceasing the issue of permits for trade in rhino horn since it takes time to change the legislation. Certain private landowners however, with game-proofed fencing, enjoy exemption from the provisions of the ordinance with regard to sale of game products. Nonetheless, extremely tight control of the traders is needed to distinguish horn originating from the private landowners from the illegally acquired horn. The Administration is therefore training a wildlife trade law enforcement officer.

Source: Kes Hillman, IUCN/SSC Rhino Group

## Vicuna Cloth for Sale in Hong Kong

Trade in the wool of the vicuna (*Vicugna vicugna*, Appendix I species) has been illegal in Peru since 1825 and prohibited under the La Paz Agreement of 1969, yet vicuna cloth continues to be offered for sale openly in Hong Kong according to recent photographic evidence.

A further investigation is being carried out by the UK CITES Management Authority who has written to UK cloth exporters for samples of their markings to compare with those supplied from Hong Kong. This should determine whether or not the cloth in Hong Kong is manufactured in the UK.

The fact that vicuna cloth was for sale in Hong Kong was first reported to CITES and WTMU over two years ago. The Hong Kong CITES Management Authority carried out an investigation which was said to reveal two important points. Firstly, although no import or possession licences were held for the cloth, a prosecution could not be brought because of the technical difficulty of determining the percentage of vicuna fibre in the cloth. Such a determination would be necessary under Hong Kong law. Secondly, all the cloth had apparently been manufactured in the UK from "pre-Convention" stocks. Samples of the cloth from Hong Kong have since been analysed in the UK and were found to contain 65% pure vicuna fibre and 35% wool.

A recent report shows that a Hong Kong firm, Kowloon Fashions Inc. in New York is offering vicuna garments for sale.

Along with the alpaca, llama and guanaco, the vicuna is one of four members of the camel family native to South America. It is covered with a soft, dense fleece that protects it from the harsh, Andean climate. Because of its texture and insulating qualities, vicuna wool is considered one of the world's finest. A kilo of pure vicuna wool is reportedly worth as much as \$600 on the black market in certain European cities. By comparison, the same amount of cashmere sells for approximately \$100 ('International Wildlife', May-June '81). Twenty years ago this animal was on the brink of extinction but as a result of strict protection, numbers have now recovered.

## WTMU Computerizes Trade Data

The CITES Secretariat contracts WTMU to process and store all the trade data submitted by Party states in their annual reports, and to produce each year a comparative tabulation of these statistics as part of the overall trade monitoring function of CITES. Such a tabulation was produced for 1978 data and distributed at the CITES meeting in New Delhi last year. That tabulation was completed by hand and then typed by the CITES Secretariat, an extremely laborious and time-consuming piece of work. It compared imports, exports and re-exports reported by Party states, but accuracy was considerably impaired by the lack of standardization of reports, inconsistencies in the reports and the fact that the massive volume of data had to be sorted by hand. Also, the sheer scale of the task precluded any possibility of producing comparative tabulations for countries other than Party states that had submitted a report for 1978.

In 1981, WTMU was able to utilize the Wang VS computer (housed at Kew Gardens, London, UK and donated by World Wildlife Fund to the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre of which WTMU is a part) and computerized storage and processing of the data was initiated. All of the 1979 annual report data were fed into the computer (about 12,500 trade transaction records) and the computer was then programmed to produce a comparative tabulation of these data. This computerization resulted in greatly increased efficiency and accuracy and comparative tabulations of the

## IWC Report

Agreement to stop all commercial whaling in three years time was finally achieved this year by the International Whaling Commission (IWC), just ten years after a moratorium was proposed by the UN Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment.

The 34th annual meeting of the IWC took place in Brighton, England, from 19-24 July, 1982. Thirty-seven member nations were represented, the largest number since its inception 36 years ago; new members attending for the first time were Antigua, Belize, Egypt, Federal Republic of Germany, Kenya, Monaco, the Philippines and Senegal. Jamaica did not send a delegation and Dominica and Canada had withdrawn from the Commission.

Commissioners spent the first four days of the meeting in Technical Committee (TC), and voted first on whether or not to vote on a proposal by the Seychelles and Costa Rica, to phase out all commercial whaling by the end of the 1985 season. It was agreed (by 17 votes to 9) to vote on the proposal which was then passed by 19 votes to 6, with 9 abstentions. (In TC only a clear majority is needed to pass a proposal, whereas in plenary session a three-quarters majority is required).

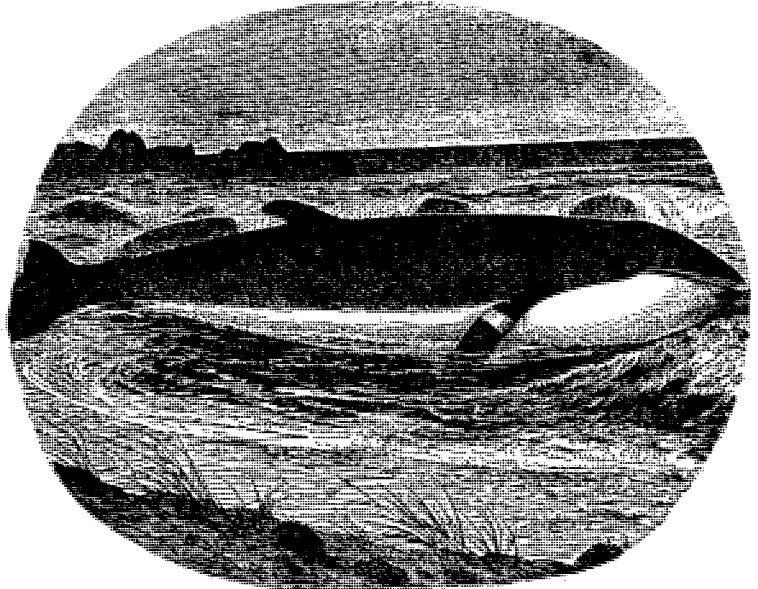
A proposal to allow Japan 890 Sperm whales (*Physeter catodon* - App. I) from her coastal fishery failed by 6 votes to 22, but it greatly disturbed some conservationists that China voted for the proposal. Since joining the Commission in 1981 she had abstained on every vote and it was feared that she might now have sided with the whaling nations.

Votes were also taken on catch limits for Minke whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata* - App. II) in the S. Hemisphere, S. China Sea and N. Atlantic and in each case greatly reduced quotas were recommended. For the Antarctic the proposed catch limit for Minkes was 2467, only 30% of the 1981/2 level. There were further recommendations for zero quotas for Fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus* - App. I) off Spain, Atlantic Sei whales (*Balaenoptera borealis* - App. I), and Bryde's whales (*Balaenoptera edeni* - App. II) off Peru and in the E. China Sea. In a move thought by some to be aimed at reducing US pressure for the proposed commercial phase-out, Spain proposed a zero catch limit for Bowhead whales (*Balaena mysticetus* - App. I). This, too, was passed by 9 votes to 7.

In the plenary session arguments about the proposed phase-out had centred around whether it could be shown scientifically that whale stocks were endangered. The conservationist viewpoint was that it couldn't be shown scientifically that they were not, so the safest course was to stop whaling. At the vote, Spain, who had already prepared anti-whaling legislation in her Parliament, voted in favour of the proposal and it passed by 25 votes to 7, with 5 abstentions. Countries voting against were Brazil, Korea, Japan, Iceland, Norway, Peru and the Soviet Union. This ruling now means that catch limits for commercial whaling for the 1986 coastal and 1985/6 pelagic season, and thereafter, shall be set at zero. This provision will be kept under review, based upon the best scientific advice, and by 1990 at the latest the Commission must undertake a comprehensive assessment of the effects of this decision on whale stocks and consider modification of this provision and the establishment of other catch limits. Whaling nations have until November 4, 1982 to register an objection under IWC rules.

On N. Atlantic Minke whales, Norway proposed a catch limit of 1690, 100 less than last year. This failed to achieve the necessary majority, as did a Seychelles amendment of 1606. Catch limits were therefore not set for this stock but the Norwegian Commissioner gave an undertaking that no more than 1690 whales would be taken. Proposals for catch limits of 7072 S. Hemisphere Minkes, 167 E. Greenland/Iceland Fin whales and 536 W. Pacific Bryde's whales were all passed by consensus, as was a Japanese proposal that the Korean catch of Bryde's whales from the E. China Sea should be reduced from 19 to 10.

The TC made no recommendation for Spanish Fin whales so Spain herself proposed that she should take 270 in the three seasons 1983-5, with no more than 120 to be taken in any one year. This would allow her whaling industry to be phased-out gradually in accordance with the earlier ruling. She also gave an undertaking to reduce her 1982 catch limit from 210 to 150, but this may not be as generous as it first appears as she only managed to land 146 whales during 1981 despite having extended the whaling season.



*Minke Whale*

The TC recommended that the Peruvian stock of Bryde's whales should be classified as a Protection Stock, with a zero catch limit, but sadly no seconder could be found amongst the 18 countries who originally voted for this proposal in the TC. Peru herself then proposed a catch limit of 180, which failed to achieve the necessary majority. After a recess to allow time for further discussion, Sweden proposed a limit of 100 which was amended by Uruguay to 165. This latter amendment was passed by 12 votes to 3 with 17 abstentions.

Japan also obtained quotas of 450 and 400 male sperm whales for the 1982 and 1983 seasons respectively, with an 11.5% allowance for accidental catches of females.

Clearly the effect of all this must be a massive reduction in trade in whale meat and oil. It remains to be seen whether there will be a complete end to whaling. If there is, Japan, as the most important single producer of whale meat and sperm whale oil and almost the sole user of internationally traded whale meat, is sure to suffer economically and perhaps culturally. It will then be interesting to see what animal products fill the gaps.

## \* Chimpanzee Rescue

Two chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*) and a pygmy chimpanzee (*Pan paniscus*) which were seized by customs officials in the Federal Republic of Germany in the early summer of 1980 are on their way back to the wild ('Wildlife', July '82). The animals were being smuggled in a pitiful condition over the Belgian border in a sack in the boot of a car. After intensive veterinary care at the Frankfurt Zoological Gardens, all three are now quite healthy. The two chimps were moved back to Gambia late last year, where they are being prepared for life in the wild by Stella Brewer at the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Centre.

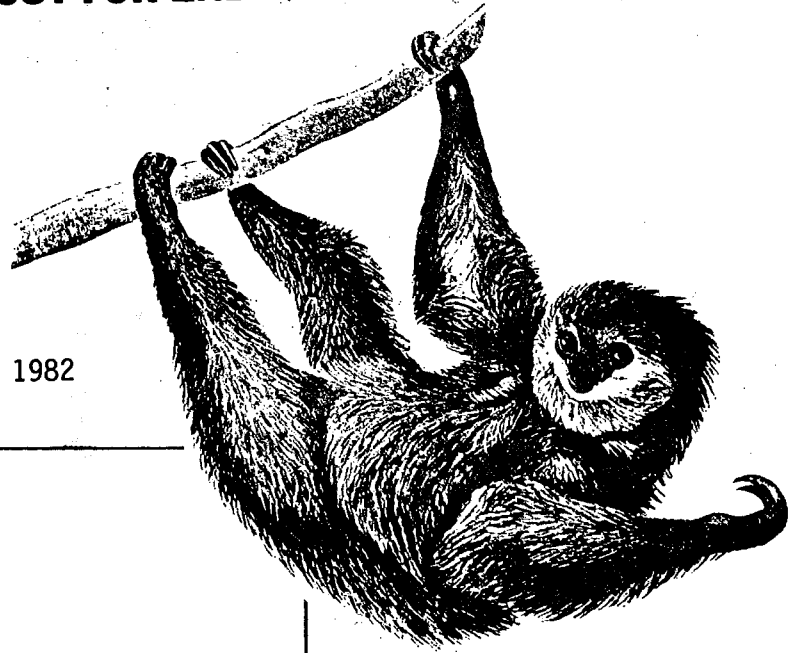


# TRAFFIC BULLETIN

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## New Secretary-General for CITES

Following the departure from the CITES Secretariat last year of Peter Sand to become Assistant Director-General of IUCN, Jaques Berney (Executive Secretary) has been Acting Secretary-General. After a lengthy selection and recruitment process, the name of the new Secretary-General of CITES was announced on 22 March 1982 - Eugene Lapointe from Canada, who took up his duties from 15 April 1982. Mr Lapointe was formerly legal officer with the Canadian Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in Ottawa where, since 1974, he was responsible for CITES enforcement matters.

## ... and staff changes at WTMU

Chris Huxley joined WTMU on 10 May as head of the Unit, in effect filling the position which had been vacant for more than a year, since the departure of John Burton. Chris, whom a number of readers will know personally, has wide experience of CITES matters and wildlife trade in general. Previous to his appointment to WTMU he spent five months with the CITES Secretariat in Switzerland and three months in eight African countries on a WWF/IUCN CITES contract. Before that he spent some years in Hong Kong where he was responsible for CITES enforcement.

Readers of this Bulletin will be disappointed to hear of the departure of Clare McCormack. The present standard and style of the Bulletin owe much to Clare's initiative and enthusiasm. She is much missed by the staff of WTMU. However, we welcome Kim Lochen to WTMU; Kim takes over responsibility for the production of the Bulletin.

## Malawi Accedes to CITES

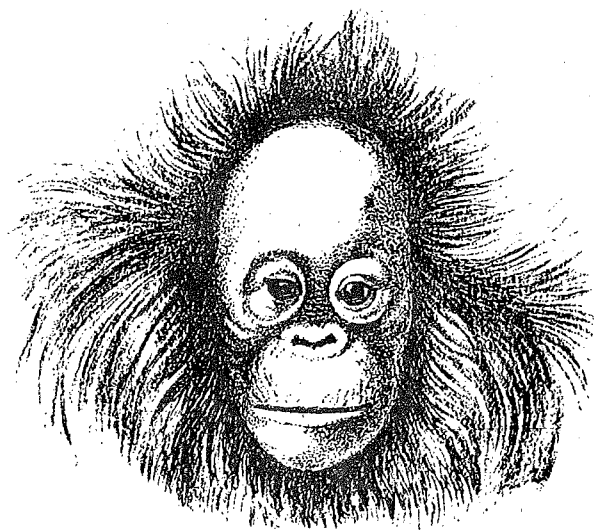
On 5 February 1982, Malawi acceded to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, thus becoming the 77th member country. Malawi's accession becomes effective as of 6 May 1982.

## Argentina Protects its Cats

Argentina has banned exports of all skins of all indigenous Argentinian felids, excluding the puma, Felis concolor. This ban came into effect from 12 Jan 1982 according to a notification from the CITES Secretariat dated 22 March 1982. The ban also covers hunting and trading of the maned wolf Chrysocyon brachyurus.

## \* Taiwan Seizes Smuggled Orang-utans

Five orang-utans (Pongo pygmaeus), one gibbon (Hylobates sp.) and a bear (probably Helarctos malayanus) were recently seized by Taiwanese customs officials. According to Taiwan's Central Daily News (22.2.82), they had been smuggled out of Indonesia by Taiwanese seamen. Yet according to an American conservationist, the designation of Indonesia as a health risk area by WHO, meant that the animals could be destroyed for health reasons. If they passed quarantine requirements, said the Daily News (23.2.82), they would be sent to zoos. The concerned American has been campaigning for the animals to be rehabilitated in Indonesia, but WTMU has yet to receive news of his success.



## Animals Seized At Gatwick

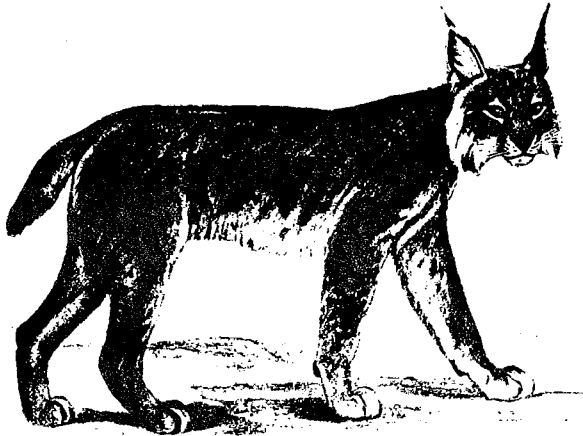
On 15 May 1982, two pygmy marmosets Cebuella pygmaea, four tamarins, one baby red-billed (or red-backed) toucan Ramphastidae spp., and three acuchi Myoprocta pratti, were discovered in a hidden compartment of a crate containing wild birds which were being shipped under licence via Gatwick from Ecuador to Belgium. The tamarins, first thought to be moustached tamarins Saguinus mystax are now believed to be juvenile male black-mantled tamarins Saguinus nigricollis, although this is not yet certain. The primates, which had been confined to a space just 3½ x 2½ x 27 inches, are now recovering in Edinburgh Zoo though one tamarin died soon after its arrival at the zoo. The importer, a Mr Frank Vercammen from Belgium, states that he had received permission from the Belgian government, but UK Customs officials are planning to initiate an international prosecution.

Source: The Mail on Sunday (16.5.82)  
RSPCA

## Apology

We apologise for the omission of the date and number in our last issue, headlined CITES Appendices. This should have been Vol. III No. 6.

## Canadian Fur Auction Results



Nearly 21,500 Lynx (*Felis lynx*) skins have been offered for auction by Hudson's Bay Co., in Toronto, Canada since September last year. At auction they fetched a top price of CA\$450 in September '81, rising to CA\$820 in February '82, but falling to CA\$610 in April '82. From April '81 to April '82, Hudson's Bay Co., Toronto, appears to have held only three auctions of wild animal skins; the results were published in Fur Review and for selected species are reproduced below.

It may seem strange that the auction at which most lynx skins were offered is also that at which they achieved the highest price. Other species also achieved their highest at this auction, in February 1982. The reason for this is that most of the European buyers are in Canada and the USA at that time of year, generally to attend the mink auctions in New York and Seattle; thus competition is at its peak. (H. Dwan, pers. comm.).

		Number			Av. price			Top price		
		Sept 81	Feb 82	Apr 82	Sept 81	Feb 82	Apr 82	Sept 81	Feb 82	Apr 82
					\$			\$		
Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	22,649	300,596	206,139	15.95	34.13	-	70.00	124.00	100.00
Bobcat	<i>Felis rufa</i>	987	1,594	583	99.11	195.91	-	260.00	320.00	280.00
Otter	<i>Lutra canadensis</i>	2,038	5,650	2,793	41.21	54.35	50.52	122.00	148.00	142.00
Wild Mink	<i>Mustela vison</i>	8,285	70,537	21,311	16.53	34.83	-	40.00	120.00	60.00
Fisher	<i>Martes pennanti</i>	208	6,473	2,297	113.70	194.27	-	200.00	550.00	395.00
Opossum	<i>Didelphis marsupialis</i>	191,909	67,853	61,473	w/drawn	6.35	-	-	17.00	12.00
Badger	<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	3,016	9,167	6,492	w/drawn	43.56	-	-	190.00	220.00
Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	8,714	133,289	37,051	1.14	1.70	1.96	1.84	2.40	2.26
Lynx	<i>Felis lynx</i>	650	13,499	7,344	257.44	344.01	-	450.00	820.00	610.00
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>	8,063	56,501	63,440	28.78	75.27	-	142.00	360.00	270.00
Grey Wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	439	805	647	113.03	143.09	-	300.00	500.00	330.00
Wolverine	<i>Gulo gulo</i>	20	155	100	84.00	220.42	157.97	245.00	390.00	255.00
Red fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	1,413	56,050	33,670	60.42	69.72	-	116.00	184.00	138.00
Grey fox	<i>Vulpes cinereoargenteus</i>	5,190	6,914	5,721	34.97	-	-	60.00	70.00	56.00
Baum Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>	1,686	42,671	-	30.18	38.13	-	64.00	152.00	-
Polar Bear	<i>Thalarchos maritimus</i>	169	-	142	1,180.77	-	w/drawn	-	-	-

## \* UK Prosecution Success

## Wildlife Act Inspector

## for UK

The UK government recently appointed a Wildlife Act Inspector to help enforce the bird protection laws under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. This is a new position and the inspector, Colin McKelvie, who takes up his post on 1 June 1982, is responsible to the Department of the Environment, although he will be based with the British Field Sports Society (BFSS). Mr McKelvie was formerly Development Officer for the British Association for Shooting & Conservation and the Ulster Game & Wildfowl Society. His professional background, together with the decision that the post should be administrated by the BFSS has caused concern among some conservationists. According to a report in 'New Scientist' (22 April 1982), the Department of the Environment sees the inspector's role as "educative rather than punitive". Mr McKelvie will be liaising with falconers, aviculturists and taxidermists and investigating cases where the law has been broken.

PCAP (Protection & Conservation of Animals & Plantlife) have succeeded in their private prosecution against Raimond furs of Manchester (see TRAFFIC Bulletin, Vol. III No. 6), who were charged with having an illegally obtained leopard skin coat for sale, contrary to the Endangered Species Act 1976. The firm was fined £750 which is the largest fine that has been imposed under the 1976 Act.

After the hearing, Mr Daniel Lindsay, PCAP's European Secretary, said that his 5,000 members in Britain were planning a national campaign to halt the sale of all coats made from endangered animals.

Source: The Guardian (21.4.82)







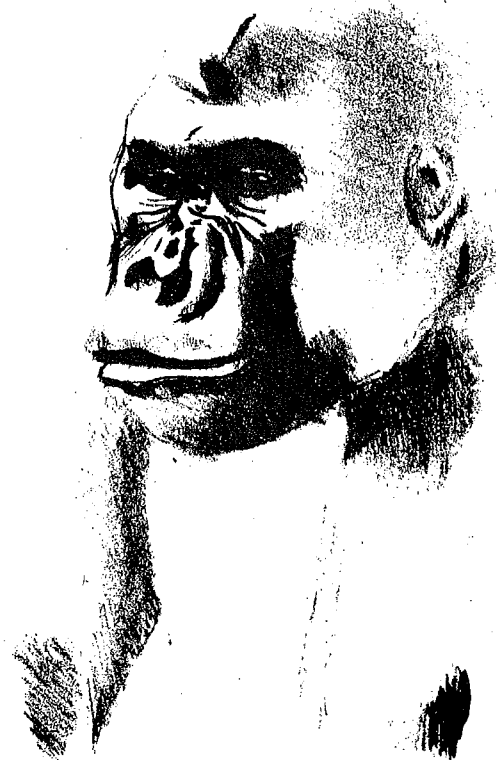
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## CITES Appendices

A special supplement to this Bulletin is available on request. It is a review of the three CITES Appendices, which lists all the taxa with their English common names and includes all the additions, amendments and deletions made since the Convention's inception. This updates the lists published in 'International Trade In Wildlife'.

For readers in the U.S., please write to  
TRAFFIC (U.S.A.), 1601 Connecticut Avenue,  
N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.



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## The Fur Trade in Kashmir

by  
Martin van den Berg & Resi Damhuis

In July and August 1980 and 1981 both authors visited the Indian part of Kashmir. Particularly in Srinagar, the capital of Indian Kashmir, we came across an important trade in skins of wild cats. Among the cats were some very rare Appendix I species like the Snow Leopard (Panthera uncia) and the Clouded Leopard (Neofelis nebulosa).

In 1980 we visited approximately ten furshops and taxidermists in Srinagar. The most popular species in fur-trade were Jungle Cat (Felis chaus) and Desert Cat (Felis silvestris ornata) of which many thousands had been made into coats and caps. The presence of many skins or coats of Snow Leopard, Tiger (Panthera tigris), Clouded Leopard and Leopard (Panthera pardus) in several furshops was even more shocking.

In 1980 we estimated the number of the rarest wild cats which were on sale in the shops of three traders on the Bund in Srinagar. The table below gives the estimated number of skins and the selling-price (in US\$) of each skin asked by the trader.



Species	Trader I	Trader II	Trader III
Snow Leopard	-	20 (120-160\$)	4 (300\$)
Clouded Leopard	-	10 (150\$)	-
Panther	-	50 (200\$)	5 (150\$)
Tiger	-	10 (350\$)	-
Lynx ( <u>Felis lynx</u> )	25 (65\$)*	25 (15\$)	10 (40\$)
Leopard Cat ( <u>Felis bengalensis</u> )	25 (15\$)	-	25 (price unknown)

\* was offered for sale but not present in the shop.

The prices were only applicable to skins. Bargaining could reduce the price by 25-50%. In each shop we saw many hundreds of skins of small species like Jungle Cat, Fishing Cat (Felis viverrinus) and Desert Cat.

In 1981 we revisited the same furshops and taxidermists in Srinagar and there appeared to be no reduction in the number of skins and furs on sale. This year we only collected numbers and prices of the firm Malik on the 32nd Boulevard, one of the biggest fur-traders in Srinagar. We obtained the prices by pretending to be potential buyers. In this shop the following fur-coats were offered to us for sale: 4 long coats of Snow Leopards (4000 US\$), 3 long coats of Clouded Leopards (\$3000), 5-10 long coats of Leopards (\$1500), 5-10 coats of Leopard Cat (\$900), dozens of coats of Jungle Cats

(\$200), dozens of coats of Desert Cats (\$300-400). All prices are for one piece. On request the furriers showed us a coat of Tiger skin which was also for sale. Unlike the previous year, the Snow Leopard coats were offered for sale very openly. The fur of the coats (3 to 4 specimens for one coat) did not look old and was of excellent quality.

Most of the mentioned species are no longer to be found in the wild in the Kashmir Valley and adjacent areas but their presence in furshops can largely be explained by the attraction of the valley as a tourist spot. It seems obvious that the traders of Kashmir obtain their skins from other parts of India or even neighbouring countries. The Desert Cat (Mulam in Kashmiri), for example, is obtained from hunters living in Rajasthan.

The rather high prices for furs of rare species do not have to be an impediment for the traders or the customers. Traders readily offered to arrange the financial transaction through a bank in our country. After receiving payment, they would send the fur by mail.

It is sad that in a country like India, where the government pays so much attention to nature conservation (especially to protecting the Snow Leopard), skins of rare and threatened cat species can be bought so easily in one of its federal states.

(Unlike virtually all other states in India Jammu and Kashmir has not implemented the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. Although the sale of the species mentioned is still permitted any export by tourists would be controlled by the National Exports (Control) Order and therefore illegal - Ed.) □

### U.K. Prosecution

A conservation group PCAP (Protection and Conservation of Animals and Plantlife) is to take legal action against an old family firm, Raimond Furs of Manchester, for allegedly offering for sale an illegally imported leopard skin coat at £3,999. The prosecution will be under the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act of 1976. So far only three cases have succeeded under this Act mainly due to the fact that the onus is on those taking out the action to prove that the skin was imported after the Act had come into force. However, when the relevant provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act become effective in March 82, it will be an offence, except under licence, to offer for sale any live or dead specimen or part or derivative of any species listed in the new Schedule 4 (animals) and Schedule 5 (plants) of the Act. Thus the burden of proof will fall on the traders and so it should be easier for successful prosecutions to be taken against illegal trading. In the meantime, all donations - however small - towards the legal costs of this prosecution will be gratefully accepted and acknowledged by PCAP at: 29 Broughton Drive, Grassendale, Liverpool, L19 0PB.

PCAP has also been active in enlisting the support of the T.U.C. in animal and environmental issues. It played a large part in getting the T.U.C. policy decision on whale products whereby union members would not handle any processes involving these products and union leaders would halt their importation. Now it is involved in the campaign (which has already received the support of many trade unions and eventually the T.U.C.) to halt the U.K. involvement in the import/export of seal products. For more information on this or for help or advice on how to enlist the support of the trade unions in animal or environmental campaigning, write to Daniel Lindsay at PCAP. Membership per year is £2, for students and unwaged £1, and for under 16s 50p. □



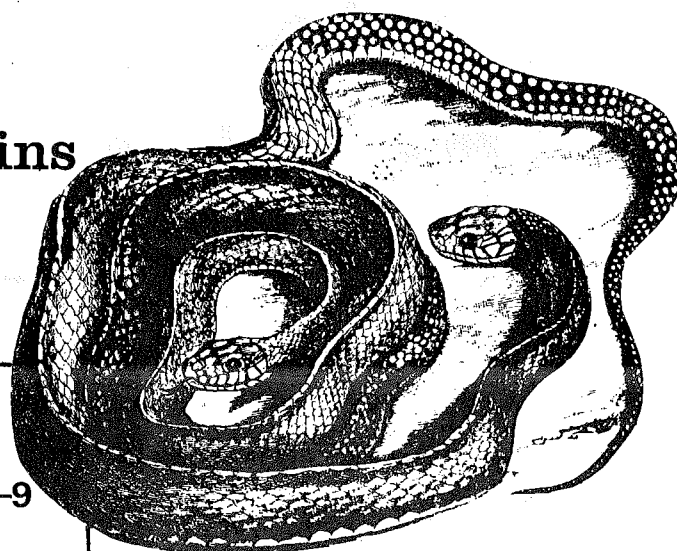
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Included with this issue is a separate 13 page report by Tim Inskipp -

## Indian Trade in Reptile Skins

We hope to be able to produce similar reports in the future which will be sent out as special supplements to the Bulletin.



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**VOL III**                      **No 5**  
**September-October 1981**

Editors: Clare McCormack  
and WTMU

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## More Parties for CITES

Good news for CITES with two more countries ratifying the Convention and one acceding to it. The Philippines ratified on 18 August 1981 (effective as of 16 November 1981) and Colombia finally ratified on 31 August 1981 (effective as of 29 November 1981). The Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea acceded to the Convention on 21 September 1981 (effective as of 20 December 1981) thus becoming the 74th member country of CITES.

Although you may have read in several publications that Belgium has at last become a Party to CITES, this is unfortunately not absolutely correct. The Belgian Parliament approved ratification in June 1981 but as the instrument of ratification has not yet (October 1981) been deposited with the Swiss Government, Belgium is still not an official CITES member state.

## \* Fine for Cactus Importer

The 'Frankfurter Allgemeine' of 11.6.81 reported that a civil servant was fined 420DM for bringing in 400 rare cacti from Mexico. The cactophile was stopped by Customs at Frankfurt airport on 29 March 1979 as he did not have the import permit required under CITES. In his defence he stated he had not realised that the permit was necessary. However the judge ruled that as chairman of a cactus society he ought to have known about the legal requirements for the importation of these plants.



## Appendix I Species at Cactus Fair

The first British Cactus Sales Fair was held in Harrogate on 15 August. 16 nurseries sold a wide variety of succulents, with cacti being by far the most numerous family represented. Prices ranged from 50p for small nursery-grown plants of the more common cultivated species to £60 for a specimen of *Carnegiea gigantea* about 18" high and £85 for a specimen of *Mammillaria plumosa*.

Field-collected plants were on sale on several stalls, in some cases distinctly displayed. One stall, for example, had a section labelled, 'Habitats from America and S.Africa'. The South African specimens were mainly succulents of the genus *Euphorbia* which, like the Cactaceae, are all included in Appendix II of CITES. Another stall had a range of small 'collected imports', whereas on other stalls habitat-collected plants were mixed in with nursery grown specimens.

Of the cacti species transferred to Appendix I of CITES at the New Delhi meeting, *Obregonia denegrii*, *Pelecypora aselliformis*, *Ariocarpus scapharostrus* and *Ariocarpus agavoides* were all on sale at the Fair. The latter two species were both displayed as wild-collected along with other species of this slow growing and desirable genus, i.e. *A. lloydii*, *A. trigonus*, *A. kotschoubeyanus*, *A. fissuratus* and *A. retusus* var. *furfuraceus*.

## Kenyan Export Ban on Primates

According to the September International Primate Protection League (IPPL) newsletter, on 15 July 1981 Kenya announced a ban on the export of monkeys and baboons. Dealers trading in primates were told to dispose of their stocks within two weeks. In the last few years Kenya has exported a large number of monkeys and baboons which are considered agricultural pests in some areas. Smaller numbers of other species such as Colobus monkeys have also been exported.

A letter has also been published from Richard Leakey, the Director of National Museums of Kenya which operates the Institute for Primate Research. IPPL and other concerned groups had expressed shock that a new Primate Research Centre was to be set up in the Olulua Forest Preserve the construction of which involved destruction of part of the forest. 'Primate News', the publication of the Oregon Regional Primate Centre, in an article on the new Centre had stated that one of its purposes was to control the trapping and exporting of primates. However, in his letter of 31 July 1981 to the 'Weekly Review', Richard Leakey declares that "the National Museum does not intend to export animals as such and it was never the purpose of the I.P.R. to do so" which supports the statement made in the previous week's edition by the Kenyan President, Mr Daniel arap Moi that African countries should not export fauna and flora for research purposes.

We hope to bring you further details on Kenya's wildlife export bans in our next issue.

## Pakistan Export Ban & 1979-80 Exports

Syed Ali Ghalib, a WTMU consultant, has sent us a list of the 1979-80 Pakistan live wildlife exports which we reproduce below.

He has also informed us that the export of mammals and reptiles and their derivatives from Pakistan has been stopped as from 1 September 1981 for a period of 3 years. Further details will be given as soon as the government notification is received.

### Statistics of live wildlife exported from Pakistan during November 1979 - March 1980

Five-striped Palm Squirrel ( <i>Funambulus pennanti</i> )	1000
Budgerigar ( <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i> )	4000

### Countries to which exported:

Japan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, West Germany.

### Statistics of live wildlife exported from Pakistan during April 1980 - March 1981

Five-striped Palm Squirrel ( <i>Funambulus pennanti</i> )	60
Pigeon ( <i>Columba</i> sp.)	2250
Budgerigar ( <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i> )	6100
Rose-ringed Parakeet ( <i>Psittacula krameri</i> )	3343
Black-headed Bunting ( <i>Emberiza melanocephala</i> )	693
Red Avadavat [Tigerfinch] ( <i>Amandava amandava</i> )	17,848
Indian Silverbill [White-throated Munia] ( <i>Euodice malabarica</i> )	12,222
Brahminy River Turtle ( <i>Hardella thurji</i> )	30
Brown River Turtle ( <i>Kachuga smithi</i> )	180

## Facts about U.S. Fur Exports

The following facts are from the American Fur Industry and were published in 'Fur Review', May 1981.

### Total Fur Exports:

(Pelts & Garments):	\$552 million in 1980
	\$515.1 million in 1979
Pelts:	\$469.2 million in 1980
	\$452.7 million in 1979
Garments:	\$83.1 million in 1980
	\$63.0 million in 1979

### World Markets

The United States exports fur garments and pelts to more than 30 countries throughout the world. West Germany, Japan and Switzerland are principal buyers.

### Export Growth Rate

In 1980, exports of garments increased 37 per cent, compared with 1979. The most spectacular gains have been recorded in fur garments during the past two years. Since the American International Fur Fair was started in 1979, fur garment exports more than doubled.

### Favourable Trade Balance:

Furs are one of the few American consumer products industries that enjoy a favourable balance of trade.

1980 Fur exports	\$552 million
1980 Fur imports	\$310 million

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce

### US Retail Sales:

1976 - \$565.0 million	1977 - \$612.5 million
1978 - \$750.0 million	1979 - \$858.4 million
1980 - \$944.0 million	

### Exports (wholesale):

1976 - \$329.1 million	1977 - \$299.0 million
1978 - \$264.1 million	1979 - \$515.1 million
1980 - \$552.2 million	

### Manufacturers:

Approximately 600, the overwhelming majority located in New York City.

### Retail Establishments

7400 in the United States.

### Employees:

Some 250,000 employed directly or indirectly in the United States.

### Ranching:

Virtually all mink and chinchilla, and many fox, are bred on fur farms. Mink accounts for an estimated 55 per cent of retail fur sales.

The Conibear "instant kill" trap is outlawed in 18 states for use on land.

### Wild Furs:

Account for about 45 per cent of retail fur sales.

\$250 million collected annually for licences and permits of hunters, trappers, fishermen constitutes a major source of revenue for wildlife conservation.

### Endangered Species:

The American Fur Industry does not use pelts of endangered species, a policy established prior to Government regulations.

## New Wildlife Port for Texas

The Dallas-Fort Worth airport has been chosen as the U.S.A.'s ninth port of entry for wildlife imported or exported under the Endangered Species Act. In 1979, it was recommended that Houston be designated as a new port for the Southwest since it had both a huge seaport and a large airport. However, after requests from Dallas (including from the prestigious Neiman-Marcus store) to reconsider, the recommendation was reviewed.

The resulting study showed that a major change had taken place in the international wildlife trade. Instead of using ships, according to the study, "70 per cent of the wildlife inspected and cleared by the Service (Fish & Wildlife) now arrives in the US as air cargo and another 10 per cent as the accompanying baggage of airline passengers". In addition most wildlife imports are now in the form of products from animals used by the fashion industry. Because of this, Houston's seaport became almost irrelevant and the Dallas-Fort Worth airport was chosen to be the new port of entry.

Source: Washington Post, 10.9.81



## Indonesian Seizure of Illegal Skins

The following report is from 'Conservation Indonesia', March 1981.

A team from the Directorate of Nature Conservation (PPA), Bogor, and PPA, Padang, in cooperation with West Sumatran Police, recently made perhaps the largest single assault on organized poaching of protected wildlife in Indonesia, and certainly the most significant blow to the illegal trafficking in West Sumatra of skins and trophies of protected birds and mammals. On 19 January 1981, the authorities visited the home of a taxidermist in Padang Panjang who for several years had been preparing and mounting skins given to him by poachers. Many of these skins were subsequently sold within Indonesia or smuggled out of the country to Singapore where they fetched very high prices.

The team from PPA and West Sumatran police confiscated no less than 244 skins (including dried skins, fresh skins still being processed, and mounted specimens). Most significant was the confiscation of 29 tiger skins all originally taken from the forests of West Sumatra. Six of the skins were mounted in a life-like position, eight were flat and processed, while 15 fresh tiger skins were still being processed. Other confiscated wildlife remains included hawks (50), Argus pheasants (about 40), storks, herons, egrets, wreathed hornbills, rhinoceros hornbills, helmeted hornbills, birds of paradise, (about 20), siamang, gibbons (including some from the Mentawai islands), leaf monkeys, macaques, flying squirrels, tree squirrels, civet cats, binturongs, clouded leopards, leopard cats, barking deer, mounted heads of sambar deer and serows, and cockatoos and other parrots from Maluku Province.

This recent confiscation by PPA in West Sumatra is commendable and, through its publicity, people will come to learn that PPA is committed to upholding and enforcing the wildlife protection laws of Indonesia. However, enforcement of these laws in Indonesia will always be hampered until countries such as Singapore which openly sell the protected species of other countries either ban the import of animals protected by ASEAN states or accede to CITES which was signed by Indonesia on 28 December 1978.

The next issue of TRAFFIC will include a list of the protected animals in Indonesia.



# TRAFFIC BULLETIN



OF THE WILDLIFE  
TRADE MONITORING  
UNIT

Publication of the **TRAFFIC Bulletin** is funded by  
**THE PEOPLE'S TRUST FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES**

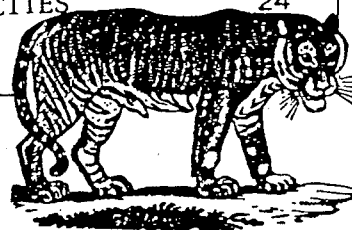
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Editors: Shirley Bennett  
and John A. Burton

Publication of TRAFFIC is funded by the Peoples Trust for Endangered Species, 19 Quarry Street, Guildford, Surrey, UK.

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VOL III NO 2

March/April 1981

## CITES MEETING AT NEW DELHI, INDIA *By Tim Inskipp*

The third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora was held in New Delhi from 25 February to 8 March. Delegates included representatives from 53 Parties, 16 non-Party states, the European Community, five UN agencies, INTERPOL and the International Whaling Commission. Of the 70 non-governmental organizations represented 10 were from India, 31 from the USA and 4 from the UK.

The Standing Committee was provided with additional functions: to oversee the execution of the Secretariat's budget and represent the Secretariat in matters dealing with the budget; to represent the Parties when requested and report to the Conference of the Parties on inter-meeting activities.

It was decided that the headquarters of the Convention Secretariat shall remain in Switzerland.

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\*\*\*\*\*

#### FRANCE IMPOUNDS 15 TONS OF IVORY TUSKS

Sunday Times (UK) of 19 April 1981 reports on 15 tons of ivory tusks awaiting clearance in customs warehouses in Paris. This is less than two months after the CITES meeting in New Delhi when a new system of documentation was worked out making false documentation more difficult (see this issue, p. 13, 2nd para).

Jean-Claude Renoue, deputy head of customs, has forbidden its entry, even though French customs and the environment ministry says it has apparently 'perfect documentation'.

Valued at £550 000 the shipment, from Central African Republic, could represent tusks of more than 500 elephants. So many that officials "cannot accept at face value any claims that they died either of natural causes or during controlled culling. Doubts are fuelled by news of a further 30 tons of ivory to be flown to Paris from Chad."

This second shipment also originates from Central African Republic, according to the prominent French big-game hunter turned conservationist, Marc Pechinart.

Jean Servat, the Environment Ministry's Director of Nature Protection instructed Jean-Claude Renoue to block the shipment.

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# TRAFFIC (International) BULLETIN

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December 1980

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Editors: Shirley Bennett and John A. Burton

TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce) is a specialist group of the Survival Service Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Its function is to monitor the international trade in wildlife.

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## TRAFFIC MOVES TO CAMBRIDGE

PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS: 219 (C) HUNTINGDON ROAD  
CAMBRIDGE CB3 0DL  
UK  
TELEPHONE: CAMBRIDGE (0223) 277427  
TELEX : 817036 SCMU G

## COTTONTAILS IN EUROPE

Attempts are being made to introduce North American cottontail rabbits *Sylvilagus spp.* into Europe. Some have recently been released in the Po Valley, Italy and in Southern France. They could possibly spread explosively in the way the European rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus* has done in the past and cause immense damage to young trees and other vegetation.



84  
\*  
ZOO OWNER CHARGED UNDER PROTECTION OF BIRDS ACT

Source: *Guardian*, January 6 & 7, 1981

Vd.II nos 9/10

Christopher Marler, owner of the Flamingo Zoological Gardens at Weston Underwood, Buckinghamshire, England, was found guilty in a court case involving two snowy owls, *Nictea scandiaca*. They are on Appendix II of the CITES.

He was given a conditional discharge for selling the owls without rings on their legs to prove they were born in captivity. Under UK law it is an offence to take protected birds (such as snowy owls and peregrine falcons) from the wild; an offence to sell many British birds unless they have a leg ring put on at birth showing they were bred in captivity; but not an offence to possess an unringed bird.

Apparently the night before a sale of birds at Weston Underwood one of the owls was sent to Christopher Marler by Bristol Zoo; he had owned the other owl for ten years. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds investigators who attended the sale contacted the police who charged him under a section of the Protection of Birds Act.

Mr Marler claimed he was unaware he was breaking the law, and had sold the owls for £600 because he wanted to get rid of surplus zoo stock. He argued that there must be many technical infringements of the law, saying that most zoos do not fit rings to their owls.

Mr Peter Robinson, an RSPB investigation officer, accepts the argument that there are many anomalies in the law, but said that prosecution must be seen against the larger background of the RSPB's campaign to protect wildlife.

#### IVORY COAST POACHING RING

Source: *Animal Kingdom*, Feb/March 1980

The Director of the Tai National Park, which is near the Ivory Coast's western border with Liberia, is alleged to have run a major poaching ring, together with the country's Minister of Water and Forests.

The park is the home of 800 to 1200 elephants whose population throughout the Ivory Coast had suffered a 50% decline; in 1974 the Government declared a 10 year moratorium, allowing herds to recover before harvesting resumed.

An American Peace Corps volunteer, biologist David Gibson, who went to the Tai National Park in 1977 found what he described as "the deepest hotbed of governmental corruption left in the Ivory Coast."

Apparently the Director allowed poachers the run of the place, even loaning them park vehicles. Gibson claimed the Director was responsible for the killing of more than 45 trophy bull elephants, the ivory obtained from them stocking a shop which was owned jointly by the Director and the Minister of Water and Forests.

The Director was identified as organizer of the poaching ring when some apprehended poachers were fined and he refused to pay the penalties for them. The case went to the country's justice department and, according to Gibson, was not heard of again.

Gibson and other reliable sources say that a considerable amount of the poached ivory gets into the hands of the local ivory-smiths. Carvers are supposed to keep records of their supplies of raw ivory but the rules are not well enforced.

# TRAFFIC (International) BULLETIN

VOL II NO 4

May 1980

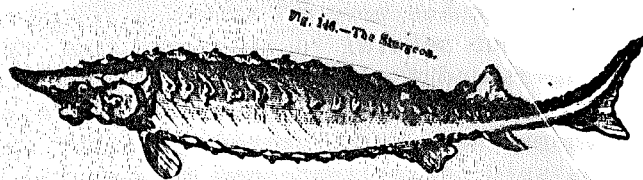
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Editors: Shirley Bennett and  
John A. Burton

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## Soviets Find Something Fishy; Caviar Was No Red Herring

THE WASHINGTON POST Tuesday, April 15, 1980

*One day the wrong man bought the wrong can. He was a police investigator and when he found caviar inside instead of smoked fish, "he decided to tug on this thread and he pulled out the whole chain."*

All through the 1970s, Soviet Fishing Ministry officials smuggled precious Russian black caviar abroad in cans marked 'smoked herring' according to reliable sources in Moscow, accumulating an illegal hard currency fortune abroad that they used to buy foreign goods while travelling in the West.

It is difficult to obtain details, but it is understood that the discovery of the scandal forced the resignation last year of the Fishing Industries minister, the deputy minister, two assistants and the deputy

chief of resources and fish products marketing.

The operation has not been reported in the official Soviet news media, but it is rumoured that it amounted to a major economic scandal. Apparently dozens of officials, if found guilty, could be executed by firing squad, the usual penalty under Soviet criminal law for major hard currency crimes.

## RSPB Prosecutions

CONFIRMED OR RELIABLY REPORTED INCIDENTS INVOLVING BIRDS OF PREY AND OWLS  
NOTIFIED TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS BETWEEN 1975 - 1979  
(excluding destruction by poisoning, shooting, trapping etc.)

## ILLEGAL TAKING OF CHICKS

Peregrine	35	(4 prosecutions)
Goshawk	2	
Buzzard	3	(1 prosecution)
Sparrowhawk	7	(1 prosecution)
Kestrel	13	(4 prosecutions)
Golden Eagle	3	
Owls	5	(2 prosecutions)
INCIDENTS	<u>68</u>	

## ILLEGAL POSSESSION AND SALE

Peregrine	9	(7 prosecutions)
Kestrel	32	(4 prosecutions)
Buzzard	11	(2 prosecutions)
Goshawk	1	
Sparrowhawk	5	(2 prosecutions)
Marsh Harrier	1	
Golden Eagle	1	(1 prosecution)
Owls	10	(1 prosecution)
Merlin	1	
INCIDENTS	<u>71</u>	



Dressed Falcon.

## EGG COLLECTING (including eggs taken for hatching)

Peregrine	30	(1 prosecution)
Golden Eagle	5	(2 prosecutions)
Goshawk	4	
Owls	2	(1 prosecution)
Osprey	2	
Kite	1	
Kestrel	1	
Merlin	2	
Marsh Harrier	1	
Hen Harrier	1	(1 prosecution)
Hobby	1	
INCIDENTS	<u>50</u>	

## WILFUL DISTURBANCE

Peregrine	20	(2 prosecutions)
Kite	5	
Goshawk	3	(1 prosecution)
Hobby	1	
Merlin	2	(1 prosecution)
Hen Harrier	1	(1 prosecution)
Golden Eagle	1	
INCIDENTS	<u>33</u>	

## THEFT OF CAPTIVE FALCONS

Peregrine	4	(1 prosecution)
Buzzard	2	
Kestrel	2	
Hobby	1	
Lanner	2	
Lugger	1	
Snowy Owl	1	(1 prosecution)
Barn Owl	1	
Harris' Hawk	1	
Sparrowhawk	1	
INCIDENTS	<u>16</u>	

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# TRAFFIC (International) BULLETIN

VOL 2 NO 2

March 1980

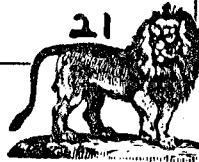
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Editors: Shirley Bennett and  
John A. Burton

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## Horror Farm of the Transvaal

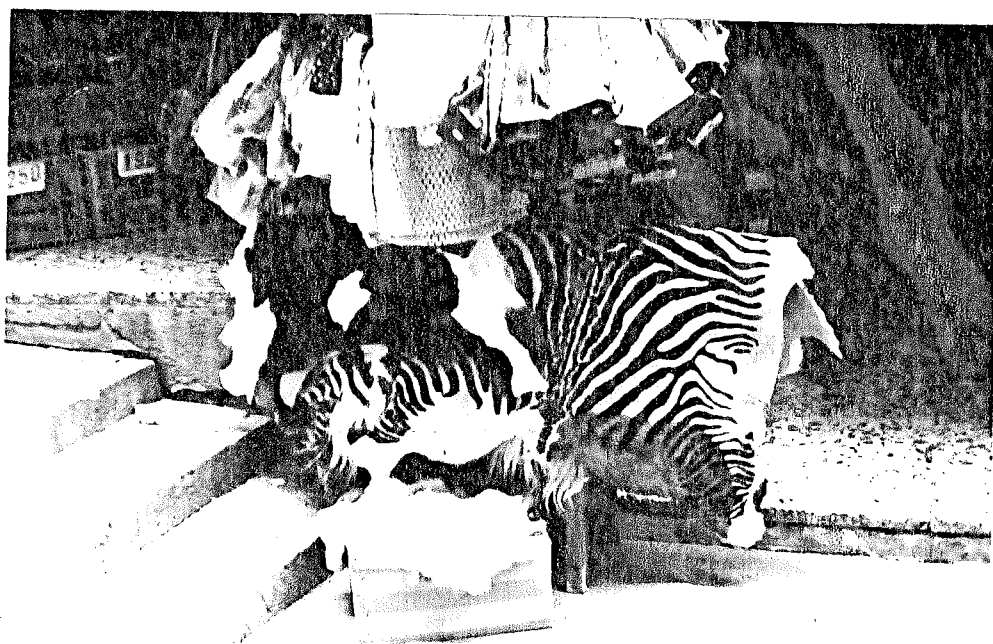
Lions and tigers from the High Noon game farm at Villiersdorp have been sent to a 'horror farm' in the Eastern Transvaal, where animals are shot as trophies by thrill seeking tourists from the safety of vehicles.

The lions are kept in small enclosures until hunter tourists buy them as trophies. They are then released into an enclosure where they are shot

The Cape Department of Nature Conservation now refuses to issue permits allowing animals to be sent to the farm owned by Mr Don Timcke.

Apparently the department had understood that the lions were to be released in a large area on Mr Timcke's farm for breeding purposes.

The director of the Cape Department of Nature Conservation, Mr W.O. Morsbach, said that he did not believe such hunting to be in the interest of conservation. "While I am in favour of hunting as part of a management programme under natural conditions, I am totally against hunting wildlife under artificial conditions. This is not in the interests of conservation," he said. (Cont.p2)



ZEBRA SKINS IN MAJORCA

These photos were taken in Majorca last year, where large numbers of ocelot and zebra skins were on sale. The zebra skin appears to be of *Equus burchelli*, which is widespread, but if trade on the present scale continues a rapid decline in numbers is to be expected.

## HM Customs + Excise Wildlife Seizures

The table below shows seizures of wildlife by HM Customs and Excise and was published in Hansard 23 November 1979 in answer to a Parliamentary Question by Peter Hardy MP.

	1978	1979*
Leopard Skins ... ..	11	2
Cheetah Skins ... ..	4	—
Otter Skins ... ..	3	—
Tiger Skins ... ..	2	—
Serval Skins ... ..	5	—
Civet Skins ... ..	1	1
Lion Skin Rug ... ..	—	1
Crocodile Skins ... ..	30	—
Snake Skins ... ..	45	3
Lizard Skins ... ..	1	—
Colobus Monkey Skins ... ..	—	3
Kangaroo Skins ... ..	—	2
Zebra Skins ... ..	—	1
Stuffed Turtles/Turtle Shells ... ..	30	18
Stuffed Birds of Prey ... ..	5	9
Stuffed Crocodiles ... ..	—	8
Stuffed Lizard ... ..	2	—
Stuffed Mongoose/Cobra ... ..	2	2
Snakeskin Bags/Wallets ... ..	—	3
Elephant and Warthog Tusks ... ..	17	7
Carved Ivory Items ... ..	—	3
Live Animals ... ..	19	1
Live Birds ... ..	44	—
Cacti ... ..	13	46

\* To the end of October.  
I regret that more detailed information available. not

# TRAFFIC (International) BULLETIN

VOL II NO 1

February 1980

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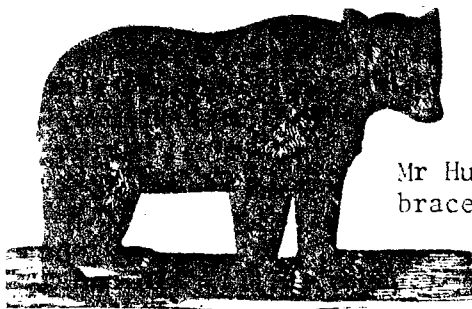
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## *Bear Fare*

Diners in the north of England are being offered bear meat. Sold through a Cheshire specialist food suppliers it has already appeared on Manchester tables as bearburgers and bear bourguinonne for between £6 and £7 a portion. In December two 750 lb bear carcasses arrived at Mr Richard Hunt's firm: Lomber Hay Farm, High Lane, Cheshire.



Mr Hunt, the man who introduced dormice at £60 a brace to wealthy gourmets two years ago, and installed a tank to keep turtles for the restaurant trade has added Himalayan bear (at £4 a pound) to his list of meat and game.

Apparently Mr Hunt gets his bear supplies from a private animal collection in Scotland. When there are too many male bears they cull them, and if there are too many females they are sold for breeding purposes. (*Yorkshire Post*, 1.12.1979).

★ TELEX

We had to wait nearly a year for our telex (see Vol.I No.2), but it is now installed and functioning. No. 8952261, TRAFIC G.



Queen of Bavaria conures, worth £500 each, are targets of wildlife crooks. ERIC HUSKING

## Rare birds in danger

by JUDITH JUDD

A MASSIVE international wildlife racket will go on despite the jailing last week of Britain's leading rare bird smuggler, Gordon Cooke.

Eighteen people have been charged or brought to trial in Canada, the United States and Britain after a conspiracy that spanned the world from Rome to Tokyo, first revealed in *THE OBSERVER* in January last year.

But some of their contacts in Europe are still at large, and with a single bird fetching as much as £3,000 the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is certain that smuggling has not been stopped.

Cooke, 48, of Wigston Field, Leicestershire, who was jailed for six months, had escaped detection for at least 10 years.

Customs officers in Nottingham who investigated Cooke's activities found that he had evaded Customs checks by the simple device of describing birds wrongly.

He wrote to a Rome bird dealer instructing him to mark a consignment of two rare Leadbeater cockatoos

just 'two cockatoos' so that they would not be opened by Customs. Leadbeaters are worth about £2,500 each.

A Japanese dealer was told to label a crate of exotic birds as 'green-headed marsh birds,' a species which does not exist.

Cooke employed other devices to get his birds through Customs. In 1973 he wrote to Ken Clare, a Canadian dealer, about some rare North American buffleheads:—

'I am wondering if it would be possible to send a few snakes in the front of the crate and mark the crate as if it contained all live snakes, which would mean it would not be examined very carefully.'

In that case, however, Cooke had hurriedly to countermand his instructions a week later, when he discovered that Customs had been alerted to crates of drugs marked 'poisonous snakes.'

Provided birds have a licence, granted by the Department of the Environment, they can be checked through on the computer at Heathrow airport without further

inspection by a Customs official.

Even when they do examine birds, Customs and Excise officials point out, they cannot be expected to know a blue-headed conure from a spix macaw.

Cooke described a pair of spix macaws, worth £6,000, as blue-headed conures worth only a few hundred pounds each. Both birds have blue heads, but there are only about six pairs of spix macaws left in the world.

Customs officials visited Cooke after the Royal Canadian Mounted Police discovered Ken Clare smuggling birds across the Canadian/American border.

At the trial Cooke's counsel denied that he was a rich man or that he had made large sums out of the bird trade, but for one Dutch customer alone in 1977 Cooke was involved in sales worth £30,000.

About five million birds a year are traded on the international market. During the two years after the investigation of his activities began, Cooke was granted 200 licences for hyacinth macaws, worth a total of £250,000.

THE OBSERVER, SUNDAY 3 FEBRUARY 1980

### \* Illegal Imports

Global Zoological Imports Inc., USA and Kohlitz Trading Corp. of Manila, along with five private individuals, were charged with illegally importing rare and exotic birds from Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines into the United States.

The birds were imported through the use of misrepresentations on US Customs declarations and entry documents, which falsely stated the countries of origin and the values of more than 200 birds, among which were cockatoos, hornbills, eclectus parrots, Chinese starlings and various species of songbirds from Australia, Indonesia, Thailand and Mainland China.

If convicted the defendants could face prison terms and fines ranging from 5 to 19 years, and \$5000 to \$30,000.

*Los Angeles Times, 17.11.1979.*

# TRAFFIC (International) BULLETIN

VOL 1 NO 10

December 1979

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Editors: Shirley Bennett and  
John A. Burton

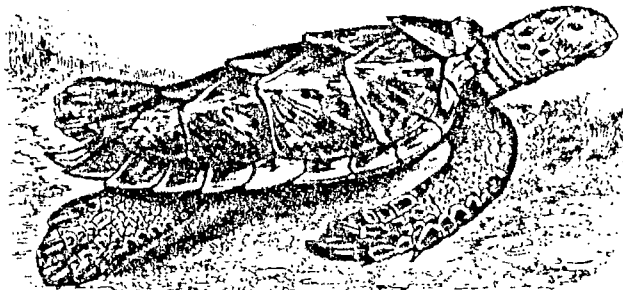
TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce) is a Specialist Group of the Survival Service Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Its function is to monitor the international trade in wildlife.

Any opinions expressed in this Bulletin are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN or any other organisation connected with TRAFFIC. Information may be quoted freely, but an acknowledgement to the TRAFFIC Group of IUCN/SSC should be made where appropriate.

## Turtles are tasty

"Rub six individual turtle steaks with a damp cloth dipped in vinegar. Dip each steak into seasoned breadcrumbs, in beaten egg, and finally in sieved bread crumbs. Heat 1/4 cup butter and stir in one tablespoon finely chopped shallots. Cook the steaks in this to a delicate brown on both sides. Pour over the browned steaks one cup bordeaux and season with salt, pepper and a dash of nutmeg. Cover the pan and simmer gently for 15 to 20 minutes. Dress steaks and keep in hot platter....."

This recipe is one of many produced by Mariculture Ltd., part of the Cayman Turtle Farm organisation of Grand Cayman Island in the British West Indies.



Hawk-Bull Turtle (Chelonia mydas)

Cayman Turtle Farm was hotly debated at the recent World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation in Washington DC. Sue Wells of TRAFFIC International and David Mack and Nicole Duplaix of TRAFFIC USA compiled a report on the international trade in sea turtle products and presented it at the Conference. Sue Wells will give her account of the conference in the next Bulletin.



### African observations

#### GHANA

An appreciable amount of ivory in the form of carved whole tusks and tusk sections, along with bracelets, necklaces, rings and so on, are on open sale inside the departures area at Accra International Airport. Other wildlife products offered for sale in the same kiosks included zebra skin bags and trinket boxes, Python and Monitor skin handbags and several rough cured civet skins.

#### KENYA

The recently passed Wildlife Products Ban seems to be working effectively. There were virtually no trophy sales and several discreet enquiries as to the availability of ivory products produced negative responses in each case. The nearest thing to ivory being sold was plastic elephant hair.

#### MALI

Small amounts of ivory are carved and sold in the Craftsmans Market in Bamako, along with python skin products. In another shop approximately 25 Harnessed Antelope (*Tragelaphus scriptus*) skins were for sale. Around 80% of these were juvenile and the remainder females.

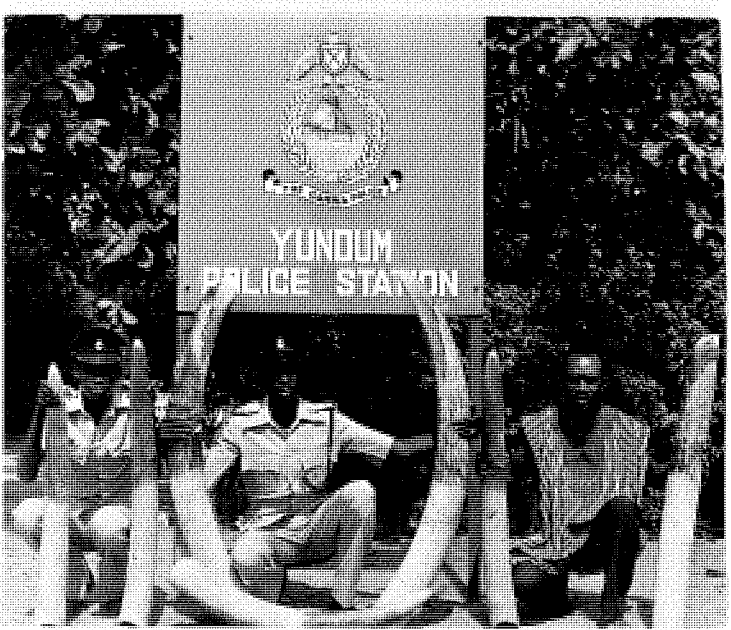
*(Source: Philip Steele, Conservation Education Officer in The Gambia.)*

\*

### Police swoop in The Gambia

We received news from Eddie Brewer, Director of the Gambian Wildlife Conservation Department, that the Gambian Police have intercepted seven elephant tusks.

They were smuggled into The Gambia by a person claiming to have bought them, and were discovered by The Gambian Police who had been tipped off by the Senegalese Police and The Gambian Wildlife Conservation Department.



Gambian police with poached ivory

Examination of the tusks by Col. A Dupuy, Director of the National Parks of Senegal, confirmed that one of them was from Johnny, an elephant well known to visitors to Niokolo Koba National Park in Senegal.

The affair has been given maximum prominence in The Gambia and Ms Connie Wadner of Radio S I D which broadcasts in English, Swedish, German and French has produced a short programme which begins with the Elephant Song and is followed by a text appealing

to the people of Africa to help save their priceless natural heritage.

Eddie Brewer writes: "Compared with ivory poaching activities in East Africa, seven tusks are but a drop in the ocean - but here in this region of West Africa they represent four elephants at least poached from a National Park which is engaged in a constant struggle to protect its already depleted resident herd - over 50 are thought to have been poached from an estimated overall Park population of 300 in recent years (excluding the four elephants under reference)". The Gambian police force (3 of which are shown above) are to be congratulated on their vigilance.

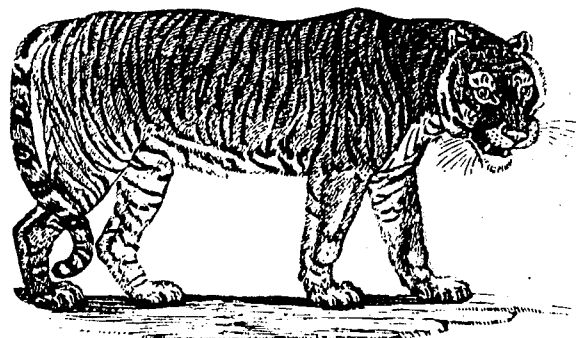
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INDONESIAN TRADE IN COCKATOOS AND OTHER PARROTS Survey by Tim Inskipp	2	TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna In Commerce) is a Specialist Group of the Survival Service Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Its function is to monitor the international trade in wildlife.  Any opinions expressed in this Bulletin are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN or any other organisation connected with TRAFFIC. Information may be quoted freely, but an acknow- ledgement to the TRAFFIC Group of IUCN/SSC should be made where appropriate.
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### Tiger Bone Wine

Taiwan Trade Trends recently printed an article headed 'Time for Tiger Bone Wine, Shipments prove it's genuine'. The article goes on to say that the Chiayi brewery of Taiwan Tobacco and Wine Monopoly Bureau imports about 2,000 kilograms of tiger bones from Indonesia and Thailand a year to manufacture Hu Ku (tiger bone) wine.

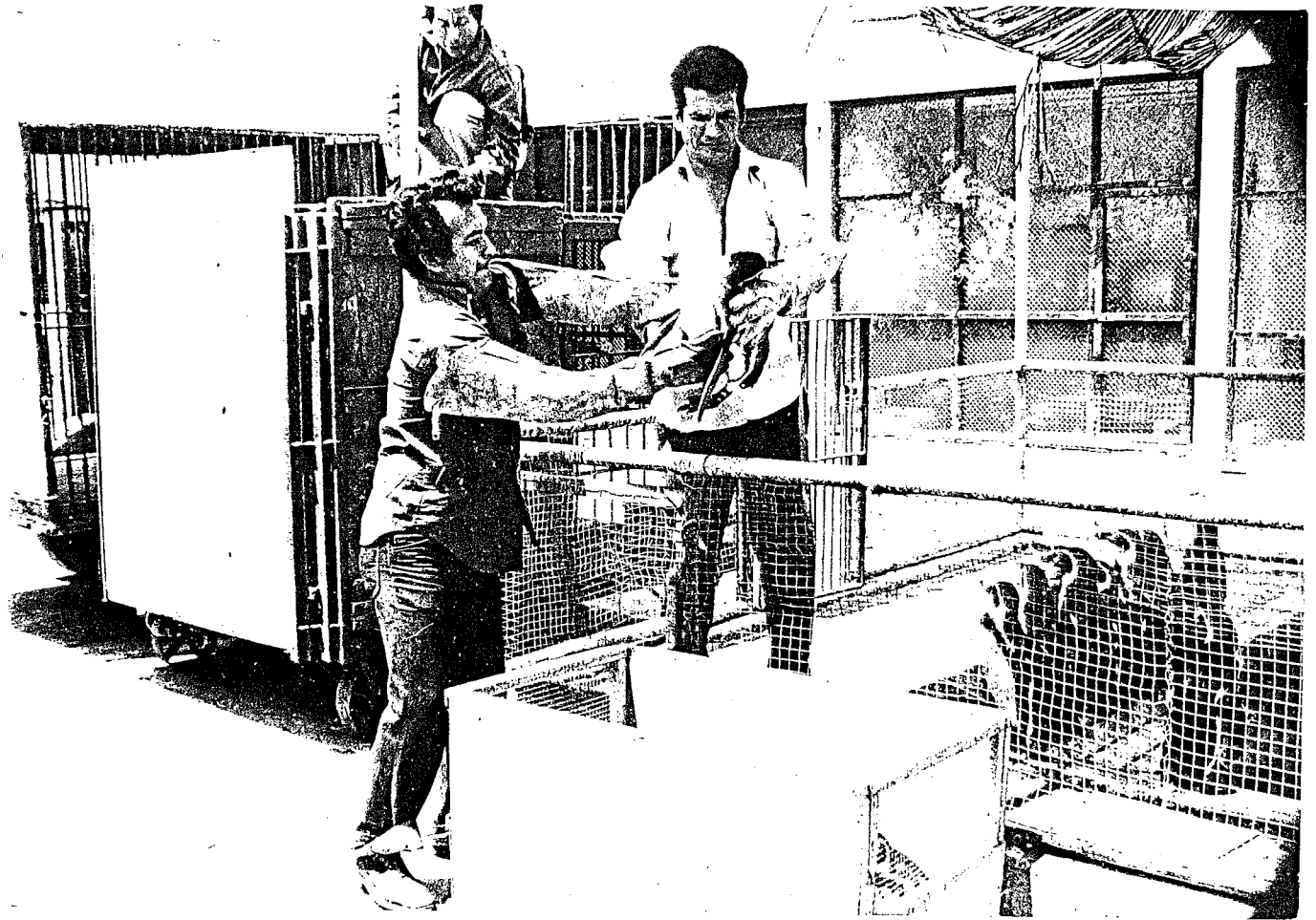
According to plant manager Shi Li-hsiung, imports have been exclusively handled by the Central Trust of China. His remarks were made in response to suspicions by some members of the Taiwan Provincial Assembly that Hu Ku wine might not be manufactured with tiger bones because they believed there were not sufficient tiger bones for the market, and there were rumours that other animal bones such as dog or cat bones could have been used as substitutes.

The Chiayi brewery turns out 100,000 dozen bottles of Hu Ku wine annually and, according to Shi Li-hsiung, every single drop is connected with tiger bones. Apparently the tiger bones are imported in bags, with each bag comprising the entire set of the bones of a tiger, big or small, ranging from 8 to 20 kilograms. As the Chiayi plant needs



## 12 Humboldt Penguins

We recently received news from Peru that 12 Humboldt penguins were confiscated at Lima airport on their way to Ruhe Zoo, Dusseldorf. They were taken to the Paracas Institute in Lima and from there taken by boat to the San Gallan Islands in Peru and released.



Loading penguins at Las Leyendas Zoo for the Paracas Institute



Penguins being released on San Gallan Islands.

# IUCN/SSC TRAFFIC GROUP

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## BULLETIN

VOL.1 NO.7

September 1979

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### Fur news

The fur trade frequently claims to be conservation orientated, and certainly there are among the traders those who are genuinely concerned. Unfortunately there are still a large number who are in it purely for the money, and regard all conservationists as 'The No. 1 Enemy'. These traders are very concerned about the poor representation made by the fur trade at the CITES meeting at Costa Rica earlier this year, and to rectify this plans were made at a recent meeting in New York to coordinate the furriers and ensure that lobbying will be effective at the next CITES meeting in New Delhi in 1981. According to a recent report in the English journal 'Fur Review':

".....They have agreed to alert all the national fur groups to the situation and then try to organize them into a cohesive force, able to function as a body in the formal meetings in New Delhi, but also able to manoeuvre in the corridors and lobbies, as the anti-fur forces have been doing. This will be brought up at the September meeting of the IFTF, at which time there will be less than a year to formulate and approve proposals which must be submitted six months before the next CITES meeting in New Delhi."

### FRANCE

According to the fur traders, France produced 15,000 - 20,000 stone martens a year and 7,000 - 8,000 'pine' martens, until this year. In April, legislation was passed banning the trade in martens, polecats, wildcats, seals and stoats. Quoting again from 'Fur Review':

".....the decree is said to be the result of animal protection activists who were able to get their message across to French legislators without alerting the fur industry. Similar actions

in the US and Germany have resulted in the establishment of special trade groups to monitor government movements in such directions and trigger quick response from the industry."

#### LYNX

The current prices for lynx give cause for alarm - Harrods' current catalogue lists a  $\frac{7}{8}$ -length coat at £29,000. With pricetags like that the pressure must be on. In July Soviet lynx sold for up to \$210 at the Leningrad Fur Auction, compared with a maximum of \$170 in January 1979. In January the bottom price was \$40, but by July had increased to \$92. Mongolian lynx skins at the same auction in July went for between \$60 and \$1,400!

#### FOX

Concern has been expressed over the red fox, which is in heavy demand by the fur trade. However we have come across no evidence that suggests there is a conservation problem. The prices are remarkably high - USSR red fox up to \$300.

The variety of furs in trade is still quite considerable. The September sale of Hudson's Bay and Annings in London is offering the following:

9,000 coyotes	80 otter
1,450 wolf	40,000 N.American opossum
4,100 lynx	10,000 Australian opossum
40,250 raccoon	800 martens
3,250 badgers	4,000 hair seals
700 bear	4,400 wallaby.

In addition there are mink, musquash, foxes, etc.

#### NEW ZEALAND

According to Fur Review, over 2m pelts, worth more than \$10m were exported from New Zealand last year. They were mainly opossums - which like all the fur bearers in New Zealand are introduced, and in many areas are pests.

#### Argentina

According to a recent report received by TRAFFIC, Argentinian shops are still full of wildlife. Jaguar and snow leopard coats, snake and caiman skin products, and many others. Apparently they are imported from Paraguay, but it is also likely that Argentinian skins are smuggled into Paraguay where they are given licences and exported back to Argentina - a carbon copy of the Colombia/Panama rackets recently exposed (see Bulletin No.1). Paraguay is a party to CITES, but licences appear to be issued very freely.



#### Colorado man charged

Bill Lee Huffman, a former Michigan taxidermist, has been charged with violating the trade embargo against Rhodesia, receiving illegally imported wild birds and interstate transportation of 120 bird skins which may have been stolen from the University of Michigan. He was indicted July 26 by a Federal Grand Jury in Detroit, and faces possible maximum fines of \$48,000 and 43 years in prison. No trial date has been set. A 10-month undercover investigation by special agents of the US Fish and Wildlife Service uncovered a lucrative taxidermy operation at a Michigan jewelry store, involving the possession and sale of hundreds of protected native and foreign birds. In a May 7 raid on a Detroit jewelry store service agents seized 250 birds, arrested two men, and discovered information pointing to Huffman.

During a search of Huffman's Colorado home on May 9th, agents seized 250 birds that were part of his collection of 800 mounted birds. US Customs Service and the FBI then joined the case to investigate activities involving Rhodesia, illegal importation, and interstate transportation of stolen property.

One of the counts Huffman was indicted on was promoting the exportation of goods from Rhodesia and of importing 130 bird skins from that country. The 130 bird skins from Rhodesia included rare exotic species such as the kingfisher, plovers crane, martial eagle, hornbill, the red billed wood hoopoe, black collared barbet and arrow marked babbler.

(Taken from Department of the Interior news release.)

### Black bears killed

Two Nevada men have been fined a total of \$10,000, given 60-day suspended jail sentences, and placed on probation for a year following their conviction for interstate transportation of black bears killed in violation of Nevada law.

James H Lathrop Jr and Steven T Schlink pleaded guilty to violating the Lacey Act and were sentenced on August 7 in Las Vegas. It is illegal to kill black bear in Nevada, where at least a dozen of the estimated population of 30 have been killed in recent years.

Lathrop was convicted previously of violating Nevada law and a year ago had his hunting, fishing and trapping licence privileges suspended for 2 years. Schlink was convicted 3 years ago in Federal court of hunting ducks over baited areas.

(Taken from Department of the Interior news release.)

### Attempted vicuna sale

Recently Carlos E Rincon, Manager of Tropica International SA of Lima, Peru tried to sell vicunas to Frankfurt Zoo at \$12,00 each, even though, according to the licencing authorities in Peru, the export of live vicunas is still banned. As soon as they were informed, however, they clamped down on Tropica.

### The travelling TRAFFIC cactus

In spite of recent publicity of the German organised cactus collecting trips to Mexico (see Bulletins Vol.1, Nos 2 and 3/4), UK customs officials are still in the dark about endangered species legislation. The TRAFFIC cactus (see Bulletin Vol.1 No.2) is still travelling, unhindered by its many trips through the 'Red Channel'. On September 3rd it came back from a weekend in France on the Cherbourg-Portsmouth ferry and was declared at 6 am to a bleary eyed customs official. A plant health form had to be filled in but (as we all guessed) the customs man firmly denied that the cactus might require further inspection as an endangered species when this was suggested to him.

#### Fancy That!

"POACHING indeed causes a fall in population density because it influences natality and mortality balance in favour of increasing mortality rate. This activity may also interfere with population composition." (from a report in the African Journal of Ecology on the condition of the black rhinoceros in the Nyorongoro Crater in Tanzania).

# IUCN/SSC TRAFFIC GROUP

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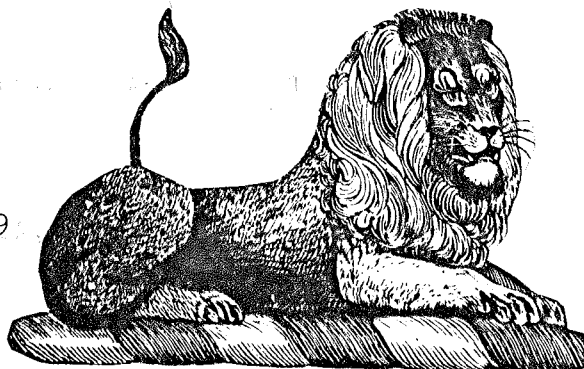
## BULLETIN

VOL. I NOS 3 and 4

May/June 1979

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### Cites Conference in Costa Rica

The second conference of the parties to the Washington Convention was held in San Jose, capital of Costa Rica, in March. Delegates representing 39 CITES parties attended, and a further 15 states were present as observers. Also the European Community, 3 UN agencies and 55 NGOs were represented. At least 35 of the NGOs were US or US-based.

Two documents which provoked considerable discussion were Doc. 2.6 Annex 2, based on data from TRAFFIC (which revealed that substantial numbers of cat skins were being imported to the UK and West Germany) and Doc. 2.5 Annex 8 (which described the wildlife traffic between Bangkok and Brussels, and the correspondence which the CITES secretariat has had concerning it).

The UK, Switzerland and West Germany proposed that CITES should adopt a 'minimum list' of parts and derivatives of listed species, on the grounds that there was wide disagreement among member states on just what parts and derivatives were 'readily recognisable'. This proposal was opposed by other countries, plus many of the conservationist NGOs, on the grounds that it would soon become a 'maximum list'. The minimum list was rejected by a narrow majority.

Australia suggested that the increase in trade in non-CITES wildlife was a negative result of the convention. Other countries - notably Botswana and

\* **Texas Skins Seized**

17,538 skins, of which 1,556 were of the Mexican lynx, which is endangered, were seized in February in El Paso, USA by Wildlife Service agents and US Customs agents and patrol officers. This is said to be the largest seizure ever made in the States. The skins were confiscated on the 37,000 acre ranch of David W Adams, who was arrested along with four alleged illegal aliens. The men were charged with conspiracy to smuggle and smuggling the skins from Mexico into the USA, violating the endangered species laws and illegally transporting the skins in interstate or foreign commerce. Federal officials are trying to sell the skins, except for the endangered species, before they rot.

Taken from The El Paso Times, February 28 1979.

**Mexico Trips.... the continuing saga**

This year's fully booked annual trip to Mexico of 'plant lovers' (see Bulletin No. 2, page 12) returned to Germany at the end of March with 3,600 various species of cacti. Frankfurt airport authorities confiscated the entire collection on the grounds that the plant health certificate covering them is not recognised by CITES. The tour operators, Ehlers-Reisen International, have taken the matter to Court, claiming that commercial firms are bringing in plane loads of cacti, paying the Mexican authorities \$1 for a permit. They also claim that somebody from the Zurich Botanical Gardens arranges similar tours. IUCN is looking into the matter.

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