



INFORMATION REPORT

ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 3650, Washington, D.C. 20007

January-February-March 1980

Vol. 29, No. 1

WILL OUR COUNTRY ACCEPT ITS DOLPHIN PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES?

"The hunting of Dolphins is immoral and that man can no more draw nigh the gods as a welcome sacrificer nor touch their altars with clean hands but pollutes those who share the same roof with him, whoso willingly devises destruction for Dolphins. For equally with human slaughter, the gods abhor the deathly doom of the monarchs of the deep..." Oppian

If we accept the wisdom of the Ancients as expressed by Oppian, immorality is rife in the United States and Japan.

The government of Nagasaki even provided a "Dolphin Processor" to Iki Island to chop up the dolphins deliberately captured and slaughtered on their migratory path in late February and early March.

The U.S. government has scheduled hearings before an administrative law judge to examine the findings of the scientific workshop which determined that offshore spotted dolphins, the species most often set upon by tuna purse seine fishermen, are depleted. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, depleted species may not be taken. The tuna industry is preparing to argue the case strongly.

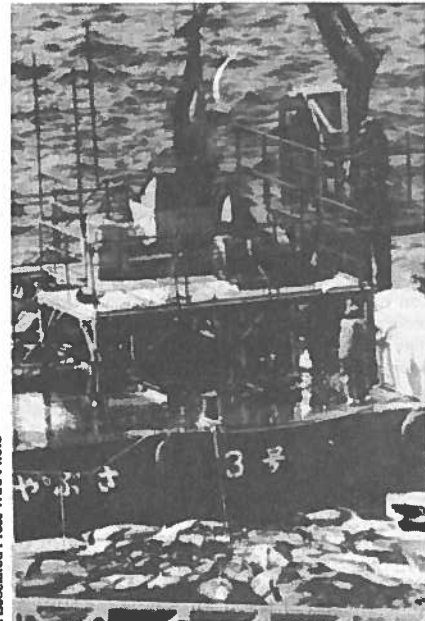
The only way a final solution can be reached is to use a different method for locating and setting the seines on schools of tuna. The best hope lies with fish aggregating devices. These have been successfully used in Hawaiian waters and are now the subject of a proposal for a statewide fish aggregation system, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service. They have already brought about a substantial reduction in scouting time and pursuit of tuna schools because the fish tend to stay round the anchored rafts from which forty foot pieces of net hang free in the water. It is a remarkable fact that fish and other marine organisms are attracted to such foreign objects. It has been reported that even an old rain coat floating on the surface has attracted fish; oil drums have been set out successfully to aggregate them and floating trunks of dead palm trees are well known to fishermen who have used them for "log fishing" for many years.

A proposal to research both aggregating devices and methods of locating schools of tuna fish not associated with dolphins, has been prepared by Frank Awbrey and William Evans, scientists from the University of San Diego and Hubbs-Sea World respectively. This carefully prepared work should be implemented immediately by industry and government to eliminate the pursuit of dolphin herds and setting of the giant purse seines around them.

The purse seine fishery is now known to all the dolphin herds in the Eastern tropical Pacific, and as soon as they perceive a seiner, the whole dolphin school starts to "run", swimming and leaping at top speed. The speedboats deployed by the big \$5-million purse seiners must now be equipped with extra fuel tanks for their ruthless pursuit of the dolphins. The chases which used to last one to two hours now are extended to three or four hours before the exhausted dolphins are able to "run" no more, and they are encircled in the seines. Such prolonged chases cannot be sustained by the old, the weak, or diseased, the very young or the pregnant dolphins. Death from exhaustion is likely to follow such persistent pursuit, thus, causing more damage to populations that are either depleted or likely to become so.

The cruelty of the chase has enormously intensified as the dolphins have learned that they must do their very best to avoid tuna seiners. At the same time, the cost of the chase in fuel and time spent continues to rise. Thus, selfish and altruistic motives combine to demand the discovery of a tuna fishing method which does not depend on dolphins.

Compliance with federal law, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, requires calls for a goal approaching zero mortality and



Associated Press Wire Photo

Dolphin processor at Iki Island, Japan. Body of dolphin is being dropped into the shredder for use as fertilizer. Fishermen call the migratory dolphins "gangsters of the sea." Dead dolphins in foreground.

THE KELLERT REPORT

The extent to which the general public is willing to put wild animals ahead of purely economic considerations has surprised many cynics when they read phase I of a Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies survey: "Public Attitudes Toward Critical Wildlife and Natural Habitat Issues." The study, funded by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, was conducted in a highly professional and extremely thorough manner showing close correlation with the U.S. census with regard to age, sex, race, and occupation.

The 138-page study covers a broad area. Some of the questions of particular interest to readers of the *Information Report* include views on endangered species, predator control, use of the steel jaw leghold trap, and poisons.

When asked which of a list of endangered species they would be willing to protect even if it resulted in higher costs for an energy development project, 89% favored protection for the bald eagle, 73% for the mountain lion, 71% for the Agassiz trout, 70% for the American crocodile and 64% for the Silver-spot butterfly.

When asked whether they would approve poisoning of coyotes because it is the least expensive solution even though other animals besides coyotes may be killed, 92% of the general public disapproved. However, when sheep producers were asked the same question 75% approved.

The general public and the sheepmen were also diametrically opposed though not to quite such an extreme degree, on the question as to whether cattle and sheep grazing should be limited on publicly owned lands if it destroys plants needed by wildlife even though this may result in higher meat costs. Sixty percent of the general public agreed, and 59% of the sheepmen disagreed.

The public expressed its willingness to pay higher prices for tuna fish if this resulted in fishermen killing fewer porpoises in their nets. Sixty-nine percent were prepared to make a financial

DOLPHINS *Continued*

dollar U.S. tuna fleet is far more severe than any other marine mammal receives at the hands of American citizens, and it involves tens of thousands of dolphins chased, set upon, and released when the tuna seiner backs down to let the dolphins out of the nets before the tuna are hauled on board.

The tuna industry, after four separate lawsuits were won by environmental and humane groups, reduced the numbers of dolphins killed and injured before release from the seines, but they have not reduced the number chased and held in the nets prior to release.

The issue now is the chase, the suffering and death it inflicts, and the need to end dependency on the dolphin herds to locate yellow fin tuna.

If the Aubrey-Evans proposal is promptly funded and implemented, and if it leads to development of efficient fishing methods without harassment of dolphins, it will solve the U.S. tuna fleet's problems and carry over to seiners of other nations. This is important, for though the seiners are still preponderantly American, they have become popular with other countries too.

Venezuela, the Congo, New Zealand, Senegal, and Spain have informed their vessel operators that they must fish in accordance with U.S. law and follow dolphin release procedures required of U.S. operators (*San Diego Law Review*, April, 1979). Senegal volunteered to be bound by U.S. quotas and to cease setting on any species for which the quotas have been reached.

Under the heading of "The Responsibility of the United States in International Programs," (*ibid.*), Laurel Lee Hyde writes, "In addition to the moratorium on imported yellowfin under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), the United States could ban the importation of all tunafish products from any State whose nationals fish in a manner that diminishes the effectiveness of an international fishery conservation program under the Pelly amendment. The amendment's broad definition of international fishery agreements includes international programs for cetacean conservation. Thus, the United States may ban not only all yellowfin imports but all other fish-product imports as well from any State that frustrates the purpose of an international program to protect the dolphin and to reduce their incidental kill in tuna industry. The invocation of these trade sanctions does not demand that a species or stock be in danger of extinction or that a treaty be violated. The offending party need not even be a party to the conservation program it is hindering. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has used the Pelly amendment to encourage non-International Whaling Commission (IWC) States to join the IWC or at least to comply with IWC regulations. It could actively be used in connection with the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission's (IATTC) attempts to internationalize dolphin protection if the United States decides to accept fully the responsibilities imposed by the MMPA."

SAVING SEA TURTLES

A world Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation was held in the U.S. Department of State November 26-30 and attracted turtle scientists, representatives of turtle products industries, government officials, and environmentalists. At the conclusion of the 4-day meeting, a turtle conservation policy was unanimously adopted; and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature was put in charge of implementing it.

The conservation strategy was prepared by Dr. David Ehrenfeld, a turtle scientist of broad interests who holds an M.D. Degree from Harvard University and wrote *The Arrogance of Humanism* (Oxford University Press, 1978). Emphasizing that the goal is the ending of international trade in all sea turtle products, the strategy singles out four of the most immediate priorities: (1) the leather trade, a new industry which constitutes an intolerable drain on the sea turtle populations, especially *L. olivacea* (Olive Ridley); (2) trade in stuffed baby sea turtles; (3) eggs collected for sale in distant markets; and (4) trade in tortoiseshell.

The incidental catch of sea turtles is described as a major threat to many sea turtle populations. "All countries," the strategy states, "should be prepared to establish restricted fishing zones in areas of high turtle concentration . . . The development of trawls that exclude sea turtles should be given high priority."

Other matters covered in the conservation strategy include Habitat Destruction and Pollution, Conservation Education, Regulations, Laws and Treaties, and Enforcement.

SCIENCE FAIR MONITORING KIT OFFERED

Inhumane biology projects involving animals conducted by young students for science fairs have been a constant problem for many years. For instance, a recent prize-winning high school student project at the International Science and Engineering Fair involved cutting off the legs and tails of a lizard to demonstrate the well-known fact that tails regrow and legs don't.

If you would like to actively participate in a campaign to

CEQ DOCUMENTS ORV'S DEADLY HAVOC

Motorcycles, dune buggies, snowmobiles and other off-road vehicles (ORV's) are causing irreversible damage to public lands and disrupting the activities of wildlife, domestic animals, and human hikers, campers, and skiers who use the land. Millions of people roar through woods, fields, dunes and deserts on ORV's with little restriction, despite executive order 11989's unequivocal statement; "the respective agency head shall, whenever he determines that the use of off-road vehicles will cause or is causing considerable adverse effects on the soil, vegetation, wildlife, wildlife habitat or cultural or historic resources of particular areas or trails of the public lands, immediately close such areas or trails to the type of off-road vehicle causing such effects, until such time as he determines that such adverse effects have been eliminated and that measures have been implemented to prevent future recurrence."

The Council on Environmental Quality has recently published an 84-page report on the ORV problem, *Off-Road Vehicles on Public Land*. Under *Environmental Costs* the report states, "It is because ORV's attack that relatively thin layer of disintegrated rock and organic material to which all earthly life clings—soil—that they can have such a devastating effect on natural resources . . . and what happens when ORV's strip away the entire soil mantle, leaving exposed bedrock, as they have done in numerous spots in California? Then recovery will take millennia . . . They collide with animals, especially smaller mammals and reptiles. By destroying vegetation, they are also destroying animal food and shelter. In addition, ORV's afford hunters and fishermen access to remote, heretofore untouched areas, thereby dramatically increasing the fish and game kills in those areas."

Under "The Impact of Snowmobiles" we find, "Jack Hope reports: 'At 80-acre Pierz Lake in Minnesota, where summer canoeists were once rewarded for their six-hour paddle with a catch of a two-pound trout, a troop of 120 snowmobiles virtually cleaned out the lake in a single winter's day, packing out 556 pounds of fish.'"

As for birds, the report notes, "In Anderson Valley, an undisturbed area had twice the bird biomass and number of species and 1.5 times the number of birds as a 'similar area of 'moderate' ORV use."

This publication is recommended to all who care for wildlife. It is available from The Assistant Public Printer, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, for \$2.40.

VIEWS OF A NOBEL LAUREATE ON FACTORY FARMING

George Wald, Professor of Biology Emeritus, Harvard University, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine, 1967, has written AWI giving his permission to publish his opinion on the extreme confinement and other deprivations suffered by livestock and poultry on factory farms.

Professor Wald states: "Never before in human history have the animals that bring meat to the table been subjected to such cruelties as in present factory procedures. Always heretofore animals raised for meat have lived some degree of normal animal lives up to the dreadful day of slaughter. But a few years ago the realization began to be exploited that an animal allowed to move thereby grows and fattens more slowly. Hence, everything now is done to see to it that animals move as little as possible during their entire lives. Either they are fastened in stanchions, or boxed in narrow stalls, or packed in pens or feedlots so that they can hardly move. Chickens are so crowded throughout their lives as to be unable to move about. That irritates them so that they try to peck one another; but that would spoil their skins. So they are de-beaked; and if allowed to live long enough, may be de-beaked again. In part, to reject such brutalities my family has gone semi-vegetarian. We permit ourselves fish and invertebrates—clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops: animals that live free until taken. But we find it neither hard nor unhealthful to do without meat altogether."

PROGRESS TOWARD REPLACING THE STEEL JAW LEHOLD TRAP

Tests show that the leg snare trap, developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, is capable of bringing about a major reduction in serious injuries to captured animals.

In a letter to New York Assemblywoman Florence Sullivan, sponsor of a bill to restrict the steel jaw leghold trap, Mr. L. H. Eckel, Executive Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation for the province of Ontario wrote, "We extensively field tested this new trap in 1978 and compared it to the leghold trap. The capture rates for the live-trap and leghold traps were identical at 71 percent each. The live-trap captured fewer skunks as compared to the leghold trap, 28 vs. 96 percent. Six percent of the captured animals escaped from the live-trap and 7 percent from the legholds. None of the animals captured in the live-trap were seriously injured (cuts, chewed feet, broken bones, etc.) whereas 43 percent of the animals caught in the legholds were. Eighty-

animals discharged the live-traps and 74 animals discharged the legholds.

The Ontario government is seeking a patent so the new trap can be manufactured and marketed.

NATIONAL ADVISORY EYE COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENT

Procedures to Assure Freedom from Pain in Experiments upon Cold-Blooded Vertebrates Adopted October 25, 1979

Issue

The new policy ("Responsibility for Care and Use of Animals") on humane care and use of vertebrate animals under NIH-supported grants, contracts, and other awards, appeared in the November 10, 1978 issue of the *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts*. At recent meetings of the National Advisory Eye Council, this policy was discussed in terms of providing adequate guidance on humane care and use of cold-blooded lower vertebrates, which are used extensively for vision research.

Background

It was agreed in these discussions that the new policy statement on "Responsibility for Care and Use of Animals" provides essential guidance to research scientists, institutional and peer review groups, NIH program staff, and the NIH Office for the Protection from Research Risks, on the humane care and use of vertebrate animals under NIH awards. This guidance probably suffices for most purposes, since there is a long history of attention by biological scientists to the conditions which assure that experimental work is conducted under pain-free conditions, especially in mammals. However, the new policy statement provides no guidance on the special problems involved in the humane care and use of cold-blooded lower vertebrates, which appear in particular need of further consideration.

Since it has sometimes been assumed that cold-blooded vertebrates do not experience pain, this question needs to be addressed. Being an important adaptive survival mechanism, pain is probably a primitive mechanism that appeared early in evolution. Also, the continuity of vertebrate evolution makes it extremely unlikely that pain first appeared in mammals. It is likewise relevant that functional continuity among vertebrates is commonly assumed in using cold-blooded vertebrates to obtain results that may be applied to mammals, and especially to humans. Since this assumption is demonstrably reasonable for many of the research problems that prompt the use of cold-blooded vertebrates, it would seem unreasonable to assume at the same time that cold-blooded vertebrates do not feel pain. This is a subject upon which proof is lacking, and definitive evidence cannot be foreseen in the near future. But even a cursory review reveals strong reasons for believing that cold-blooded vertebrates do experience pain. Hence prudence requires that these animals receive at least the same consideration as mammals, if undue suffering is to be prevented.

In fact, if cold-blooded vertebrates experience pain, it is particularly important to strive for pain-free conditions during experiments upon them. This is partly because cold-blooded vertebrates are often used in research to avoid undesirable effects of the anesthetics that are required in mammalian work. Also, the nervous systems of cold-blooded vertebrates continue to function for long periods after procedures that would quickly kill mammalian nerve cells. This is another reason why cold-blooded vertebrates are used so extensively in research. But prolonged survival also means, for example, that if a frog or turtle is decapitated, the decapitated head may be capable of experiencing pain for several hours. In short, one of the main reasons for using cold-blooded vertebrates can also place these animals at particular risk of suffering. Since these animals provide us with much useful information, and have no choice in this matter, there is a clear responsibility to prevent such suffering.

It is believed that these background considerations are already familiar to, and accepted by, most persons who are concerned with humane experimentation upon cold-blooded vertebrates. But it is also believed important to clarify the policy of the National Advisory Eye Council on these points.

Recommendation

Since a great deal of vision research is conducted upon cold-blooded lower vertebrates, the National Advisory Eye Council believes that, for research supported by the NEI, effective and uniform procedures should be adopted to minimize pain in these animals. In many cases this can be done very easily with no compromise to the advantages of working with cold-blooded vertebrates. For much research in vision, the first step is decapitation. Following decapitation, unless the experiment requires an intact brain, the National Advisory Eye Council recommends that the brain be destroyed immediately by nitro-

REGULATIONS FOR 1978 HUMANE SLAUGHTER ACT INCLUDE PRE-SLAUGHTER HANDLING

The 1978 amendments to the Federal Humane Slaughter Act of 1958 are at last in force. Final regulations published in the November 30, 1979 *Federal Register* were summarized in a bulletin issued January 29, 1980 for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's regional directors and supervisors and distributed to all involved.

The major changes in the law are 1) Coverage of all animals in federally inspected plants 2) coverage from the time they arrive at the plant with regard to handling and care 3) powerful incentive to packers to treat animals humanely because of potential large monetary losses when federal inspection is suspended (no slaughter allowed) because of inhumane practices and 4) requirement that imported meat be from humanely slaughtered animals.

A few quotations from the U.S.D.A. bulletin follow:

"The Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1978 makes humane slaughtering and handling mandatory for all cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, and other equines slaughtered under inspection at federally inspected plants . . . The humane stunning and slaughtering provisions contained in Part 390 are now mandatory for all livestock, except those being slaughtered ritually, under the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1978 . . . *Handling Requirements*. The animals shall be handled humanely in the livestock pens and while being driven to and from the pens. Driving of livestock shall be accomplished with a minimum of excitement and discomfort to the animals. With respect to permitted driving implements, determination of the humaneness of a driving implement lies as much in the way it is used as in the implement itself. However, metal pipes and sharp pointed objects shall not be permitted. Electric prods, canvas slappers, or other implements used to drive animals shall be employed as little as possible to minimize excitement and injury to the livestock being driven. All livestock shall have access to water. Feed shall be supplied if livestock are to be held more than 24 hours before being slaughtered. There shall be sufficient room in the pens for animals held overnight to lie down. Electronic prods which are connected to AC house current shall be reduced by a transformer to the lowest effective voltage not to exceed 50 volts AC. There is some evidence that voltages as low as 20 volts AC are effective.

"Downer animals shall not be dragged. In some instances, immediate slaughter may be the most humane thing to do, in which case the animal shall be given ante-mortem inspection and then stunned before moving it.

"Pens, driveways, and ramps shall be kept in good repair to prevent injury to the livestock. Sharp objects, loose, splintered, or broken boards and other pain producing objects shall be eliminated or repaired. Pen floors and alleyways shall be slip resistant. Sand may be used to provide livestock with a more secure footing, especially during winter months . . .

"Whenever a violation of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act occurs and operations are stopped, the inspector in charge shall notify plant management of the reasons for taking action. If the situation is corrected and the problem resolved at the establishment level, operations may resume. Report the incident to the Area Supervisor. If the matter cannot be resolved at the establishment level, refer plant management to the next level of supervision."

Commenting in *The Federal Register* on complaints from industry about the loss of funds which a plant could suffer when operations are suspended under the law, U.S.D.A.'s Administrator of Food, Safety, and Quality Service stated: "The principal purpose of the Act is to deter and prevent inhumane treatment, not to punish for violations. Furthermore, the temporary suspension of inspection for inhumane handling or slaughter would be done in the same manner as the temporary suspension of inspection because of sanitation deficiencies. The use of the 'U.S. Rejected' tag would similarly have the same function and meaning as when used on insanitary equipment. It may be removed by the inspector in charge when the cause is corrected or satisfactory assurances are given."

ICLA RECOMMENDS AVOIDANCE OF DUPLICATION OF TOXICITY TESTS FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER

At the January 1979 meeting of the Governing Board of the International Committee on Laboratory Animals a resolution was passed expressing support for animal experimentation while drawing attention to means whereby significant reductions in the numbers of animals used have been or could be achieved.

According to the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science Newsletter (vol. 11, No. 5, Oct., 1979), "Laboratory animal technology, which has done much to advance the health of experimental animals particularly when allied to statistical analysis, also has led to significant reductions in the number of animals used

TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH IN PREVENTING WILDLIFE DEATHS BY AUTOMOBILES

The Austrian Academy of Science has confirmed the highly successful results of an investigation by the Institute of Comparative Behavior on reduction of road accidents involving animals. Animal behavior theory was put into practice by a company that manufactures optical devices. Reflectors were devised for placement 10 or 20 yards apart, giving the appearance of reflected, red eyes glowing in the dark. Thus, animals' natural inborn fear of predators is translated, in behavioral terms, to the fear they need to feel of an oncoming motor vehicle if collisions are to be avoided. Automobiles have been deadly to wildlife because there has been no way to inform animals of the dangerous speed and power of a phenomenon which has had no place in the evolution of any species. The eyes of predators, on the other hand, are instantly recognized as signaling danger. It is a universal language.

Because the car headlights strike a number of the reflectors, many "eyes" flare up instantly, thus producing an "optical fence". The result has been a decrease of 80% of collisions with animals after dark in Austrian roads equipped with these reflectors.

"Swareflex" wildlife reflectors are available in the United States from the Strieter Corporation, 2100 Eighteenth Avenue, Rock Island, Ill. 61201. The Company describes the effect of the reflectors thus: "The headlights of approaching vehicles strike the wildlife reflectors which are installed on both sides of the road. Unnoticeable to the driver, these reflect red lights into the adjoining terrain and an optical warning fence is produced. Any approaching wildlife is alerted and stops or returns to the safety of the countryside. Immediately after the vehicle has passed, the reflectors become inactive, thereby permitting the animals to cross safely."

It is noted that thousands of miles of European roads where deer frequently cross have been made safe with these reflectors. In Austria alone, 300,000 reflectors have been installed. Furthermore, unlike fixed fences which interrupt the accustomed paths of wildlife, the optical warning fence is activated only when a vehicle approaches.

Although the driver does not see the reflection, animals of all kinds and sizes approaching the road do. Due to the large angle of dispersion of these wildlife reflectors, spacing up to 66 feet on straight parts of highways is effective.

Otto Koenig, in an essay on the importance of eyes and eye symbols, notes that red is the most important "alarm color" for men and other vertebrates. Humans react most definitely to round red stop lights. Primitive man frequently used eye representations and symbols on his dwellings. A number of animals from moths to hawks have representations of eyes to aid them in survival, the moths on their wings, the hawks on the backs of their heads.

At a conference of the Austrian Automobile Association in 1965 on prevention of accidents to wildlife, Dr. Koenig suggested mounting red warning reflectors in eye patterns on both sides of the road. Sources of light arranged by pairs would suggest the eyes of predators, he said. Dr. Koenig was asked by the Swarovski Company whether wildlife could really see the color red, since hunters had insisted that animals were color blind. He provided substantial documentation and common observation to the contrary.*

The results of tests attracted the attention of Austrian hunting federations and traffic engineers, and in recorded checks of 30 kilometers of particularly dangerous areas for animal crossings 233 animals were killed each year before the wildlife reflectors were installed, and afterwards this number decreased to 55 animals per annum (roughly a decrease of 80%). On some of the test sections there were no more accidents with animals at all after the reflectors were installed.

It is estimated that installation of the reflectors pays off within approximately six months through reduction of wildlife accidents in areas where these are prevalent. They are much cheaper than fences.

The Animal Welfare Institute is requesting the United States Department of Transportation to encourage use of reflectors to

protect human and animal lives through this proven preventive measure.

WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY LAUNCHED IN 32 NATIONS

The World Conservation Strategy, its fourth and final draft in nent, was launched simultaneously by the International Union the hands of governments and private groups on every conti- for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources on March fifth with ceremonies in Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, England, Finland, France, Germany, Grenada, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Venezuela, United States, and Zambia.

In Washington, the Secretary General of the Organization of American States Alejandro Orfila was host to the hundreds who came to hear Russell Train, President of the World Wildlife Fund/United States, Cecil Andrus, Secretary of the Interior, former President Oduber of Costa Rica and other distinguished conservationists speak.

Senator John Chafee (R., RI) announced introduction of his bill to assist wildlife on an international basis. He said, in part: "No one nation is the sole arbiter of its natural resources. One country's loss of habitat might trigger a decline in a migratory species of unique importance far beyond the boundaries of that land. To turn that around, one nation's gain in conservation is everyone's gain.

"In the spirit of today's celebration, I wish to announce an effort on which we in the United States Congress are embarking.

"Nowhere among the world's declining natural resources is there a more extreme case than in the area of wildlife and the habitat upon which it must depend. We may attempt to deal with such problems as a species decline or disappearance through trade laws and such, but the quagmire is much deeper and so must be our approach.

"I was dismayed at the tragedy of our wildlife resources highlighted during recent hearings of our Senate Environment Committee. We see species gradually disappearing from the earth. Loss of habitat vital to wildlife, such as tropical rain forests, is a dangerous threat to many forms of wildlife around the globe. Two scourges of the world environment, deforestation and desertification, are taking a high toll on this precious resource.

"I will leave here today to go back to the Senate to introduce bipartisan legislation which would enable the United States to extend international assistance in wildlife resource conservation and management. The bill represents the kind of initiatives we are fueling here with the launch of the World Conservation Strategy. It is positive in its approach. Among its features is an international conservation corps whereby experts from our country can assist other nations in developing their capability to manage their living natural resources. We would also make available training opportunities in wildlife conservation for representatives from other countries, so that they could attend higher education or research institutions or take part in other conservation training courses here in the United States. Resource attaches would be stationed in up to ten key regions around the world as liaisons for the gathering of needed conservation information.

"I challenge the countries and organizations represented here today, and indeed all those involved in the World Conservation Strategy, to *match our offer*. Make a commitment to turn the tide on the deterioration of our wildlife and its habitat. It doesn't take a lot of money. I have a hard time thinking of an effort where the benefits would be greater for the modest amounts spent. *Join with us* in a truly international conservation corps. *Who says* the United States has a corner on the market of wildlife conservation corps. We are talking about creativity here . . . and no nation or organization will admit to being short on creativity!

"Let us all sow together the seeds for assuring that man does not become a species who contemplates himself . . . by himself."

Senator Chafee's bill includes several of the basic provisions of the House-passed elephant protection bill, urgently needed to prevent the current poaching and smuggling of ivory that is causing much cruel suffering among these highly social animals and decimating their populations.

*Experimental Investigations on the Acuity of Vision and Color Vision in Some Hoofed Animals. Dieter Backhaus, Zoological Institute, Munster University.

ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

Scientific Committee

Marjorie Anchel, Ph.D.
Bennett Derby, M.D.

F. Barbara Orlans, Ph.D.
Roger Payne, Ph.D.

Samuel Peacock, M.D.
John Walsh, M.D.

International Committee

T. G. Antikatzides, D.V.M.—Greece
Major C. W. Hume, O.B.E., M.C.,
B.Sc., M.I. Biol.—United Kingdom

Angela King—United Kingdom
David Ricardo—Canada

N. E. Wernberg—Denmark
Godofredo Stutzin—Chile

Officers

Staff



INFORMATION REPORT

ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 3650, Washington, D.C. 20007

April-May-June 1980

Vol. 29, No. 2

THE LATEST ON FUR

The new edition of *Facts About Furs* is now available from the Animal Welfare Institute. Based on four years of research by AWI staff, the book is a comprehensive account of the fur trade and the animals involved in it. Illustrated with 79 photographs, many beautiful studies of animals in the wild, others giving sorry documentation of frenzied battles with the steel trap, the 258-page book contains 47 charts, tables and maps, 18 appendices, and an index.



Cover photo: Orphaned Raccoon raised by the Sun-coast Sea Bird Sanctuary and now restored to the wild. Photo by Jay Morris

Principal author of the new edition is Greta Nilsson, who wrote *The Bird Business* and did the research and writing for authoritative reports on otters and macaws.

Hope Ryden, whose books *God's Dog*, *The Last of America's Wild Horses*, and *The Little Deer of the Florida Keys*, have won her a secure place in the annals of American nature writing and photography, contributed many photos, as did Dick Randall, whose powerful documentation of the suffering caused by steel traps is equalled by no other photographer in the world. Other illustrations range from Audubon prints to current news photos. AWI is grateful to the World Wildlife Fund and Defenders of Wildlife for supplying numerous photos.

The first two editions of *Facts About Furs* were written by F. Jean Vinter, M.D. of the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, who set the high standard of obtaining precise data on the numbers of animals taken country-by-country, detailed description of the different traps used, available scientific studies and legislation regulating trapping. Developments since Dr. Vinter's pioneering study are summarized in the foreword to the third edition as follows:

"In 1958, one year after the first edition of *Facts About Furs* was published by the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, England and Wales outlawed what the British call the 'gin trap,' known to Americans as the steel jaw leghold trap."

"By the time the second edition was published by the Animal Welfare Institute in 1973, Denmark, Austria, Chile, Republic of Ireland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Switzerland, India, Gambia, and the remainder of Great Britain—Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands, Jersey and Guernsey, had outlawed the trap."

"Since then, Bangladesh, Belize, Brazil, Burundi, British West Indies, Colombia, Costa Rica, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Hong Kong, Hungary, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Laos, Mali, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania,

IWC ADDRESSES PROFOUND SCIENTIFIC AND ETHICAL QUESTIONS

An unprecedented meeting sponsored by the International Whaling Commission took place April 28-May 1 at the Smithsonian Institution. The report submitted by the Chairman of the Conference, Professor Derek Ovington, Australia's Commissioner to the IWC and Director of the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, follows, together with a few quotations from the papers submitted by scientists, philosophers, and other participants:

Report on Meeting on Cetacean Behavior and Intelligence, and Ethics of Killing Cetaceans

By J. D. Ovington

Background

At the 30th Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in July 1979, the Commission agreed to a specialist meeting to consider (1) Cetacean Behavior and Intelligence as relevant to Cetacean Assessment and Management and (2) the Ethics of Killing Cetaceans. A steering committee was appointed to organize the meeting.

Financial support was provided by the International Whaling Commission, the Institute for Delphinid Research, the Animal Welfare Institute and the Governments of Australia and the U.S.A.

The aims of the meeting, as given by the Secretary of the IWC, were to provide

(a) a source of specific advice and information for the IWC for use in its analysis, estimating procedures and establishment of catch limits whilst whaling continues; and

(b) a unique forum for discussions of more general questions of the ethics of whaling and their implications for the IWC. The meeting was held in the Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. USA from 28 April to 1 May 1980.

Organization

Professor J. D. Ovington, the Australian Commissioner to the IWC, was appointed Chairman of the meeting as a whole and chaired the opening and concluding sessions. The early sessions concerned with intelligence and behavior were chaired by Dr. Sydney J. Holt and the later sessions on ethics were chaired by Dr. Lyall Watson. Both chairmen were assisted by three rapporteurs in preparing the minutes of the sessions for which they were responsible.

Typed copies of submitted papers were available for participants, authors were given an opportunity to speak to their papers prior to a general discussion and the lectures and discussions were taped. In addition, several films were screened at appropriate times.

The meeting was well attended with consistently over 100 people present. Unfortunately, since few members of the IWC Scientific Committee attended, the opportunity was lost for constructive interactions with the scientists involved in stock assessments and the formulation of IWC catch limits.

The Meeting

Richard Frank, the USA Commissioner to the IWC, in welcoming the participants emphasized the importance he attached to the subjects to be discussed.

In his opening remarks, Professor J. D. Ovington pointed out the meeting was an important development in the approach of the IWC to cetacean management. Such management requires a sensitive understanding of marine organisms and their environments. He explained that the IWC was seeking guidance and information and gave a number of practical examples where advice was needed.

Comments on the papers and discussions are available through the reports of the meeting prepared by the chairman and rapporteurs and the summaries of the two chairmen.

The discussions embraced the following topics: the difficulties of defining intelligence and the relevance of a neurobiological definition of intelligence; brain anatomy and evolution; tech-

IWC MEETING (Continued)

tion problems between cetaceans and humans and the inappropriateness of some tests used to assess cetacean intelligence; social interactions and adaptive behaviour of cetaceans, for example, in areas where cetaceans have become a tourist attraction; the impact of whaling on the social behaviour of cetaceans, especially those with latitudinal differences in distribution of different components of a population; the nature and cause of cetacean strandings and administrative arrangements for dealing with stranded whales; behaviour of whales during whaling operations; the killing of dolphins on Iki Island and the need to resolve conflicts with fisheries interests; animal rights; and the question of the humaneness of whaling methods.

The meeting was characterized by a frank, and at times heated, exchange of viewpoints. Participants at the meeting included scientists who are studying cetaceans as scientific subjects, representatives of the whaling industry who see cetaceans as a natural resource to be harvested, representatives of the fishing industry concerned about the effects of cetaceans on fish stocks, conservationists troubled about the past and determined to safeguard the future of cetaceans, philosophers concerned with the attitude of people to highly evolved animals and bureaucrats who have to be responsive to public and political pressures. Only time will show if the exchange of views that occurred will lead to the development of better relationships between cetaceans and people.

In general it was not possible in the time available to discuss the issues raised in detail. Much of the material presented was based on already published information, but some significant new material was also presented. Nevertheless there is a scarcity of factual information and the data available are subject to different interpretations. For example, the early evolution, large size and complexity of the cetacean brain, the ability of dolphins to participate in complex activities devised by humans and evidence of co-operative behaviour between dolphins were generally accepted but participants differed in their interpretation of the relevance of these observations as measures of intelligence. A small number of papers prepared for the meeting could not be discussed in the time available.

Whilst it was evident that there were widely differing views on the need and justification for whaling there did appear to be some measure of agreement on the following matters:

- (a) no species of cetaceans should be made extinct and human activities likely to endanger individual whale populations should be avoided,
- (b) human activities should not diminish the potential of cetaceans to provide food, pleasure or economic gain for future generations,
- (c) cetaceans, as a common heritage, are a matter of international concern,
- (d) there is a unique opportunity to investigate communication between cetaceans and humans and every care must be taken to ensure that this is not jeopardised,
- (e) the inflicting of unnecessary suffering and pain on cetaceans by human activities is unjustifiable.

Future

A meeting of the Steering Committee was held at the conclusion of the meeting. The Steering Committee agreed to a proposal that a collection of relevant papers should be published through a commercial publishing company, with Ms. P. Wray (Center for Action on Endangered Species) as editor.

The Steering Committee recognised that significant progress had been made in clarifying issues and recommended that

- (a) a workshop be established by the Scientific Committee of IWC for further detailed examination of those matters identified as being of greatest significance to the assessment and management of cetaceans, and
- (b) a workshop be established by the Technical Committee of IWC to further develop the dialogue begun at the meeting between philosophers and people concerned with the IWC with respect to the ethics of whaling.

Excerpts from a Few of the Conference Papers

- "Owing to the massive amounts in whales of what appears to correspond to association cortex in land mammals, there is strong justification for considering the brain of cetaceans capable of carrying out many of the same highly complex mental functions as in the human brain. With the tremendous potential for higher brain activities residing in the almost completely neocorticalized brains of cetaceans, it is one of life's ironies that nations engaged in whaling practices are, unwittingly, destroying a group of mammals which in terms of their own form of intelligence, may be even closer cerebral relatives of man than the subhuman primates. Certainly the facts demand reconsideration of past practices and a more enlightened future handling of the problem."—Dr. Myron S. Jacobs, Department of Pathology and Oral Pathology, New York University Dental Center, and Research Associate, Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences, New York Aquarium.
- "... I think it should be admitted that the provision of scientific advice through the existing [IWC] mechanism is a deeply corrupting process. It is that process which perpetuates the myth that scientific knowledge is adequate to the task assigned of applying the NMP, and which specifically condones the con-

"... Whatever else they may be cetaceans are large brained, sociable, communicating and sensitive mammals with a broad range of emotions, and great differences between individuals of a species and even in their small groups, with long memories and strong tendencies to parental care and other forms of mutual aid. This means, I believe, that the present species are likely over a far longer period than human history, to have developed a mental culture which we are almost certainly destroying just as surely colonizers of the new world destroyed local human cultures, even if they did not make the indigenous populations extinct."—Dr. Sidney Holt, University of California, Santa Cruz.

- "If man is the goal of evolution then we can also accept what follows from that assertion which is that the justification of another animal's existence is its usefulness to man. This was not an unreasonable position given the known world that gave birth to this view of reality. However, the discovery of intelligent man-like creatures provided an anomaly that has proved indigestible to this view of man's place in nature. I think we are seeing in the debate surrounding the question of intelligence and language in both apes and dolphins, the scientific world adjust to this new reality. This process is occurring of a piece with a reassessment of whether man and his fellow creatures have long term common interests that outweigh the short term benefits of exploitation."—Eugene Linden, Author of *Apes, Men, and Language*.
- "The most advanced in the animal world development of the brain associative regions in some Cetacean, extremely complex structure of populations, clearly pronounced (but not completely estimated due to imperfection of our own brain) highly complicated behaviour—all this makes us to believe that intelligence of Cetacean is the phenomenon which has no analogs in the animal world."—A. V. Yablokov, Institute of Developmental Biology, U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R.
- "Now that hard science has revealed such special brains in whales, we urge all men and nations to go about the task of learning more about them and what they may tell us about ourselves and our own evolution. Destroying another entire species is the most unethical, despicable outrage man can perpetrate against his own planet. The holocaust perpetrated against whales needs to be warred against with all the tools, economic and otherwise, we can muster. In destroying other species man is slowly destroying himself. In destroying our neurological relatives we are perpetrating genocide and will lose the knowledge of another entire world. What a price to pay for limited, local, nationalistic profit and outright greed!"—Peter J. Morgane, Ph.D., Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts.

THE LATEST ON FURS (Continued)

Running on parallel tracks are greatly increased fur prices, the concomitant increase in trapping wild furbearers, and the surge of public feeling against the cruelty of the steel trap. At the same time, science is giving us intensive studies of intelligence and behavior of a number of mammalian species, the results of which bring the conflict into sharp focus.

To give a sampling of information from the new edition:

- Far more wild than ranched animals are killed for fur in the United States. Over 18,000,000 wild animals were trapped in 1977-78, while only 3 million mink and fox were ranched.
- Endangered species are still being killed in substantial numbers for the international fur trade. Ocelot skins are still being exported from South America—estimated at over 30,000 in 1977—to furriers in Europe and Asia. Black market tiger skins now sell for \$3,000; a tiger coat represents .2% of all tigers left in the world.
- In Texas, between 1970 and 1978, the price of raccoon pelts rose from \$3.50 to \$26.00, the number of trappers rose from 5,000 to 32,900, and the number of raccoons trapped rose from 150,000 to nearly 500,000 a year.
- The history of the fur trade reveals the depletion of many species of furbearing animals, reduced to endangered status or even driven to extinction by the demands of the industry. This trend, pushing some species to near extinction when their pelts become fashionable, has continued to the present, in spite of conservation legislation and international wildlife treaties.
- A recent attitude survey conducted by the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies reveals that three quarters of the American public favor a ban on the steel jaw leghold trap.
- Siberian Lynx coats sell for as much as \$150,000, while bobcat and North American Lynx coats sell for over \$10,000 per coat. Pelt prices have increased astronomically within the past few years, causing trappers to seek out furbearers with such thoroughness that many species are disappearing from large areas.

The book is a guide upon which to base more humane and



The Animal Welfare Institute displayed literature promoting a humane approach to the study of biology at student science fairs and in the classroom at a recent National Science Teachers Convention in Anaheim, California. AWI Executive Assistant Fran Lipscomb conducted the booth.

WORKSHOP FOR HUMAN/ANIMAL ECOLOGY PROGRAM

A workshop sponsored by the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies of Yale University and the Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge Foundation was held February seventh. Its stated purpose was to determine the potential role of animal rights and welfare issues in the development of a Human/Animal Ecology Program which would provide a scientific university context for the study and resolution of various problems involving people and animals, particularly wildlife.

Dean of the School, Dr. Charles H. W. Foster, introduced the workshop which was held in the Yale Club in New York City. Dr. Stephen Kellert, who recently completed the survey, "Public Attitudes toward Critical Wildlife and Natural Habitat Issues" funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, outlined the purpose of the workshop. The fifteen participants included several authors, scientists, television educators, a philosopher, a lawyer, an engineer, and professors and representatives of animal welfare and conservation organizations. They were asked to address 1) substantive issues, 2) research needs, 3) educational and training needs, and 4) policy and management issues.

Roland Clement pointed out that modern agriculture and multinational corporations are chewing up what remains of our resources and raised the question as to whether our short sightedness is part of our biological make-up.

Craig Van Note called for a quantum leap in animal rights with legal and ethical rights for animals as individuals and as a group, emphasizing the right to survive. He referred to a new type of inflation which is likely to get worse as the biological clock records acceleration of extinctions. Citing lack of data, too little and too late, his suggestion: "Send out a thousand Darwin's," dramatized the necessity for greatly expanded action by scientists.

James Mason pointed out that animal rights takes off from the environmental ethic and recommended research from an animal rights perspective. Animal exploitation, he said, should be phased out. Citing Winthrop Jordan, he said the animal hating idea is fundamental to racism.

Roger Caras blamed the elitist attitude of the human race and the fact that animals are considered property for the failure to establish an ethic.

Marlin Perkins struck a more cheerful note with the twenty to twenty-five million dollars a year now being spent on non-game wildlife in the State of Missouri as the result of a decision to use part of the funds from sales tax for this purpose. He showed the publications prepared for use in the public schools using this tax money.

Tom Regan provided optimism, too, as he spoke of the enormous activity in the past five to ten years with books, classes, and symposia on animal rights, and distributed a bibliography of recent publications on the subject. He expressed surprise that so little had been said about fine art in this connection and listed other areas: history of other peoples, systematic surveys, laws—federal, state, city—and its social implications; wilderness, disciplined vision, logic, and moral philosophy.

Stephen Kellert asked, "How do we separate the ethical from the scientific?" Michael Fox spoke of inner values and the overall imperative of the culture. All agreed that a basic biological background was essential, but a number of scientists and non-scientists stressed the danger of narrow science raised by Dr. Clement. Andrew Rowan referred to the "myth of the unbiased scientist," and Hope Ryden told of the emotional outburst in a scientific meeting on bobcats when a leading expert, Dr. Paul Leyhausen, proposed a moratorium on the taking of bobcats. Dr. Fox referred to the danger of tunnel vision in scientific sur-

NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION ADOPTS HUMANE CODE

A "Code of Practice on Animals in the Schools" was adopted by the National Science Teachers Association Board of Directors at its 28th National Convention in Anaheim, California March 21, 1980. The final language of the code will appear in a fall issue of *Science Teacher* magazine.

Dr. F. Barbara Orlans, a member of AWI's scientific committee, and the Director of the Scientists' Center for Animal Welfare, chaired the NSTA committee which drafted the Code. Dr. Orlans presented a workshop entitled "Plants, Worms, Insects, Mammals—Classroom Maintenance, Projects and Code of Practice" at the convention.

The AWI booth at the convention featured AWI's *Humane Biology Projects*, a comprehensive source of projects for science fairs and the classroom.

BRITISH VETERINARY JOURNAL REVIEWS AWI'S ANIMALS AND THEIR LEGAL RIGHTS

A transatlantic view of AWI's *Animals and Their Legal Rights* is provided in the review of the book published by the British Journal, *Veterinary Practice*, February, 1980. Veterinarians may find the review of particular interest.

Since publication of the third edition, 2,720 public libraries, 2,910 chiefs of police and 560 humane societies have requested free copies. The AWI policy of providing one free copy to each of these groups, on request, continues. It is available at cost price, \$2.00, to the general public.

Informative Law Book

"Those interested in animal welfare legislation are only too aware of the numerous Acts, orders and by-laws involved and the limited range of literature on the subject in Britain.

"Compare this, however, with the American scene in which one author in 'Animals and Their Legal Rights' advises that, 'For those who wish to do their part to alleviate animal suffering through law enforcement, the first step is to become familiar with federal, state, county and municipal laws on the legal rights of animals in their locality.'

"This book is a remarkable collection of American animal welfare law, not comprehensive, but covering the main federal and state laws. This in itself has clearly involved substantial collaboration by a number of American authors and Ruth Harrison (on 'Animals in factory farms').

"Under the headings which include slaughter, laboratory animal welfare, dogs, cats, horses, birds, marine mammals, primates and wildlife, the various authors have taken an individual approach to their subject matter so that the chapters vary between a chronological account of the achievement of a single piece of legislation, a table of all state laws on a given subject and the complete text of a law such as the Animal Welfare Act.

"The book is not intended as a comprehensive textbook, however, and the amount of law together with the many sources of further information is impressive. There is even included some EEC legislation (on transport, stunning and farm animals) and some English, German and French law relating to experimental animals.

"The only disappointing part of the book is the bibliography which, in attempting to include some English literature is sadly out of date, while the American side is based largely on references to legislature sub-committee hearings.

"Any minor disappointments are easily overruled by the sheer quantity of information...

ELEPHANTS IN UGANDA AND ZAMBIA NEAR EXTINCTION; ANTI-POACHING SQUADS HAVE LITTLE EFFECT

A scientific report just released warns that Uganda's elephants are on the verge of extinction and an October report reveals that Zambia's elephant population, too, is dwindling. In areas where professional or volunteer wildlife guards are present, losses are somewhat reduced, but poaching still takes a heavy toll.

A survey carried out by a team under the leadership of Dr. Iain Douglas-Hamilton of the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) African Elephant Group found that poaching in Uganda, which became widespread during Idi Amin's regime, continues unabated.

Elephant numbers in their two former strongholds—the Rwenzori and Kabalega Falls National Parks in western Uganda—have plummeted from the 1972 levels. In Rwenzori the population has fallen from 3,000 to just 150 individuals. In the isolated southern section of the Kabalega Falls Park, the decline has been even more catastrophic than in Rwenzori. Here the IUCN team found that 160 elephants remained out of a population numbering 9,000 seven years ago. In the north of the park, where anti-poaching measures are still in force, the position is less critical—1,200 elephants remain out of a 1973 population of 5,000.

In Zambia's Luangwa National Park, a 10,000 square mile wildlife reserve, an October aerial survey showed the elephant population had declined from 90,000 in 1972 to a low of 50,000 animals.

A Zambian anti-poaching squad recently found a poacher's camp set up nine days previously. The take for those nine days was 15 elephants, one rhino and a number of smaller animals. The tusks and horn on world markets would have brought about £40,000. The wildlife guards caught the hired marksman, five helpers and the 'go-between,' whose job was to organize the kill on behalf of the gang's financial backer, allegedly a government official.

The hunter was fined only £400, the equivalent of 950 American dollars, the go-between £450 and the camp workers were jailed for four months each. Amazingly, all guns will be returned to the poachers. The minor fines, easily met from the gang's purse, are the norm in Zambian courts. The law permits five-year prison sentences and fines of £16,500, but such punishment is seldom exacted. Unfortunately, poaching is the best form of living a man can make in Zambia. In two weeks he can earn five years salary.

Understandably, the Zambian wildlife guards, living alone or in pairs in isolated posts, poorly paid, and often without ammunition, can offer little resistance to well-armed poaching gangs. In fact, ten guards were killed by poachers between 1970 and 1977 and, according to one government representative, "a sharp increase can be expected this year."

Tragically, a number of guard posts in Zambia are now abandoned, and anti-poaching patrols in and around the park almost non-existent. Volunteers help to man roadblocks around the edge of the park and occasionally go into the bush in search of the poachers, but their effectiveness is limited.

The IUCN team reports that if poaching is brought under control, the elephant populations could recover. "But," according to Dr. Douglas-Hamilton, "if active and forceful anti-poaching measures are not introduced immediately, the Uganda elephant faces extinction within a year or two."

FELIX-WANKEL RESEARCH AWARD

The West German Felix-Wankel Foundation has announced its yearly international animal protection contest. Any person whose research work concerns experimental or theoretical problems of animal welfare is invited to participate. Contributions regarding alternatives to animal experiments will be of particular interest. The maximum award is \$26,000.

Last year's winner was Dr. Hilary Koprowski, a leader in developing vaccines using cell cultures rather than living conscious mammals. For further information write: Felix-Wankel Research Award for Animal Protection Attn. Dir. H. J. Weichert Ortlindstrasse 6/VIII D-8000 Munich 81, Federal Republic of Germany

BRITAIN GIVES VEAL CALVES ROOM TO MOVE

Instead of rearing veal calves in undersized crates on bare slatted floors in total darkness, Britain's largest veal firm has developed a cheaper, more humane way of raising veal.

Quantock veal, which supplies about 90% of veal sold to British households, now raises its veal calves in groups of 20-30 on beds of straw in well-lit airy buildings, with freedom to move about.

According to Dr. Philip Paxman, managing director of Quantock's parent company, Volac, the new technique was developed because veal sales were down as a result of the cruelty stigma. But, to the company's pleasure, the system has proved far cheaper than the traditional Dutch method.

"Loose housing works out to roughly £78 a calf compared with £175 for the crated animal. The calves are more contented and the meat is of excellent quality," says Dr. Paxman.

USDA REPORT PREDICTING END OF OLD FASHIONED PIG FARMING SPURS DEBATE

A report just released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, "Another Revolution in U. S. Farming?" predicts the demise of the small farm hog producer. The report says that by the year 2000, three quarters of the hog industry will consist of factory farms, each raising over 2,000 hogs per year. Already, there are 15 to 20 companies producing from 50,000 to 250,000 hogs annually.

According to the Center for Rural Affairs, the report further claims that factory farms are a more efficient way of raising pigs, implying that the nation would be better off with a hog industry resembling today's poultry industry.

Small farm pig producers reject the implication. They claim that the authors of the report resorted to some questionable economic logic to show small farms less efficient merely to rationalize the continued proliferation of pig factory farms. The flaw in the report's logic, the farmers say, is that it includes the purchase of a new barn as part of a small farm producer's expense.

While the report recognizes the importance of Federal tax subsidies, pollution control regulations, availability of credit, and Federal research programs in promoting the growth of factory farming, the small farm producers say, the authors fail to realize that the trend toward factory operations might be interrupted by a reversal of these same Federal policies.

According to the farmers, USDA and agricultural college hog production research could be reoriented to help the small producers improve efficiency and profits; tax subsidies to hog factories could be eliminated. The farmers feel justified in seeking further support in light of the fact that the USDA report itself states that hog factories have generally delivered no better litter size or feed conversion rates than the traditional small-scale producers and have actually resulted in higher death losses due to the crowded, high stress confinement environment. (Emphasis added.)

ILLEGAL POLAR BEAR HIDE TRADE SUPPORTS COCAINE IN ALASKA

Global trade in polar bear hides is the primary means of financing the use of cocaine in Alaskan coastal villages, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's chief law enforcement agent and state drug investigators.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the sale of raw polar bear hides to or between non-native Alaskans. But a large polar bear hide measuring 10 feet square can be purchased for about \$1,000 in coastal villages and, after being smuggled out of the country, it would sell for more than \$10,000 in Japan.

Besides Japan, the other large trade center for Alaskan polar bear hides is the London Fur Exchange, where the hides bring premium prices alongside polar bear hides from Norway, Greenland, Canada and Russia.

Estimates of the kill range from 200 to 400 a year, but the exact figure is unknown. Fish and Wildlife agent Larry Hood says his seven-man force is finding it nearly impossible to control or keep abreast of the trade. "We're such small timers, we just can't compete," says Hood of the sophisticated hide smuggling and drug selling connection.

"There's absolutely no protection for the polar bear right now," according to Hood.

ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

Scientific Committee

Marjorie Anchel, Ph.D.
Bennett Derby, M.D.

F. Barbara Orlans, Ph.D.
Roger Payne, Ph.D.

Samuel Peacock, M.D.
John Walsh, M.D.

International Committee

T. G. Antikatzides, D.V.M.—Greece
Major C. W. Hume, O.B.E., M.C.,
B.Sc., M.I. Biol.—United Kingdom

Angela King—United Kingdom
David Ricardo—Canada

N. E. Wernberg—Denmark
Godofredo Stutzin—Chile

Officers

Christine Stevens, President

Staff

Diane Halverson, Research Assistant

Nell Naughton, Mail Order Secretary



INFORMATION REPORT

ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 3650 Washington, D.C. 20007

July-Aug.-Sept.

Vol. 29, No. 3

"No" says Canada to a whaling moratorium

How can Canada do this?

1980 has been a bad year for the whale. Following the progress made in 1979, this year's meeting of the International Whaling Commission—held in Brighton, England, July 21-26—proved a big all-round disappointment. But the saddest event of this meeting, and the one which most angered conservationists, was the loss by a single vote of the proposal for a moratorium on the killing of sperm whales. The villain of the piece was a non-whaling nation: Canada.

Over the years Canada's voting record on moratorium issues has been peculiar—to put it kindly. Since 1973 there have been several moratorium votes at the IWC. And since then a number of countries have moved from the No camp to the Yes. Canada alone has moved in the opposite direction.

In 1973 a total moratorium on all commercial whaling was proposed.

Canada voted Yes and supported the proposal with passion and eloquence. Last year, 1979, a similar proposal was put to the IWC. Canada abstained. This year Canada voted No to that proposal and No again to the call for a ban on the killing of sperm whales, the most hard-pressed of all the whales still commercially hunted.

The vote on the sperm whale ban

was 14 Yes, 6 No. Had Canada voted the other way, the figures would have read 15 Yes, 5 No—so achieving the $\frac{3}{4}$ majority which the IWC requires to make quota changes. Thus Canada's No spelled Yes to the question whether sperm whales in large numbers (1,320 in the coming season) should continue to be killed for their sperm oil, a substance for which wholly adequate substitutes now exist.

Why did Canada act this way? Canada's government-appointed advisory body, the *Committee on Whales and Whaling*, had recommended that Canada should support all moratoriums scheduled for debate at the IWC meeting. The Canadian cabinet vetoed this. It instructed the Canadian Commissioner, Mr. Malcolm Mercer, to vote in accord with the IWC Scientific Committee's recommendations—except where they were equivocal. In those instances, the cabinet said, he should support those scientists pressing for a more conservationist position.

The Scientific Committee's Report states that some scientists favored a sperm whale moratorium on the grounds of inadequate data and a poor "biological model." Other scientists were against, arguing that uncertainty varied and that a blanket moratorium was therefore unjustified.

However, despite this divergence of opinion, the Scientific Committee recommended zero quotas in two out of three areas in which sperm whales are hunted. For the third area, the North Atlantic fished by Icelandic and Spanish whalers, the uncertainties were so great that the Committee simply urged that the average catch of recent years should not be exceeded.



Demonstrators outside the July meeting of the IWC dramatize the role of the nine nations—South Africa, Peru, USSR, Japan, Korea, Canada, Spain, Chile, and Iceland—who voted against a worldwide commercial whaling moratorium.

photo by John J. Domont.

Continued on page 7

3-year quota on bowheads

U.S. now free to reassert leadership

Most endangered of all whales on which IWC sets a quota is the bowhead, a species decimated by commercial whalers in the 19th Century and still killed by Alaskan Eskimos using a curious weaponry manufactured in Pennsylvania which exactly replicates that used by the Yankee whalers who undermined the species' survivability.

Nemesis of U.S. leadership in the Commission is the conflict between the Scientific Committee's repeated recommendation of a zero quota on bowheads and the demands of the Eskimos, backed up by court challenges for the right to take numbers greatly exceeding those killed in the 1940's, 50's and 60's.

Conservationist concern, directed at U.S. Commissioner Richard Frank, was expressed succinctly in the foot-high words "No Bowhead Trade-Off" which demonstrators outside the IWC meeting attached to "Flo," a 40-foot balloon in the shape of the whale that has haunted IWC meetings for the past four years. The phrase refers to the fact that Japan and Russia always support the United States in getting a quota on bowheads for Alaskan Eskimos, while U.S. leadership in the Commission has slackened since 1977 when the bowhead issue first came to a head.

In that year the Commission voted a zero quota, and lawyers for the newly formed Alaskan Eskimo Whaling Commission fought to force the United States to file an objection to the IWC decision. The issue was carried all the way to the Supreme Court. Although they lost the legal battle, counsel for the Eskimos has heavily influenced the actions of the U.S. Commissioner. The Commission narrowly escaped adjourning with no quota on bowheads this year—the most dangerous possible result for these endangered whales. Finally, a three-year quota, which represents a small reduction from the current quota, was voted: 45 bowheads landed or 65 struck and lost.

Removal of the bowhead issue from the enervating quota battles for the next three years should make possible a reassertion of U.S. leadership for the whales.

It should also make possible a change in the embarrassing U.S. vote

The Whaling Commission—how it works

The International Whaling Commission, born in 1948, meets every summer to agree on whaling quotas for the following 12 months: how many to kill, what species and where. Ostensibly the IWC exists to "conserve" whale populations so that whalers may prosper. In this it has failed dismally. The whaling industry is now in its death throes.

Far from conserving whales (if only for the sake of the whaling nations), the IWC has presided over the destruction of the great whales to the point of "commercial extinction." As their populations have collapsed, so the industry—through the IWC—has striven to stay afloat by switching attention to the lesser whales. Minke whales were only marginally exploited until recently. Now they are the prime target of the whalers' harpoons.

A more rational corrective to the gross overhunting of the past lies in the IWC's so-called *New Management Procedure* which lays down certain rules to make the recommendations of its scientists more "scientific." This is a great step forward—in theory.

In practice, however, the political make-up of the Scientific Committee plus the shortage of hard data too often make for confused and flabby recommendations. Presented with ambiguous advice, Commissioners can interpret it as they will. And

because IWC quotas have to be agreed by a 3/4 majority, the whaling nations—though in a minority—can prove and do prove hard bargainers.

In short, the *New Management Procedure* has brought few changes. Politics still dominate. True, the overall quota drops year by year. But while this downward trend is partly due to conservationist pressure, it is chiefly

IWC LINE-UP

10 Whaling Nations

Brazil	South Korea
Chile	Norway
Denmark	Peru
Iceland	Spain
Japan	USSR

14 Non-Whaling Nations

Argentina	Oman
Australia	Seychelles
Canada	South Africa
France	Sweden
Mexico	Switzerland
Netherlands	UK
New Zealand	USA

due to the continued failure of the IWC to "conserve" whale populations.

Continued whaling will lead only to the death of whales and whalers. But while the whaling industry is past saving, the whales are not. Not yet, not quite. A moratorium could just save the whales. Nothing less will do. We must all start working *now* to make next year "The Year We Saved the Whale."

this year for a quota of 10 humpback whales for Greenland fishermen. Without the U.S. vote, this quota would not have been approved by the Commission.

Canada does not permit Canadian native peoples to kill bowhead whales. However, she unilaterally set a quota of 40 beluga whales in the Cumberland Sound area, despite the fact that IWC's Scientific Committee recommended a zero quota for these whales. Canada's rationale on this matter is bizarre. In a vehement speech, Canadian Commissioner Mercer asserted that beluga whales and narwhals are not whales and, therefore, must not be under IWC control. Despite a scholarly presentation by Sweden's Alternate Commissioner, Mrs. K. Mannheimer, the Commission did not include belugas and narwhals in the IWC schedule. The struck-and-lost rate for these small whales in the aboriginal fishery is high.



Secretary of Commerce Philip M. Klutznick and Christine Stevens discuss the July meeting of the IWC. Both agree that strong U.S. leadership is critical to the conservation of the world's whales.

photo by Ronald J. Bell



Komondor cares for young lamb.

photo by Mary Bloom

Nongame gains some protection from Congress

Since late in the nineteenth century, the bulk of wildlife conservation in America has consisted of the propagation of the 13 so-called "game" species, primarily deer and ducks. To provide prime habitats for these few species, millions of acres of forest have been bulldozed, burned or flooded, destroying the habitats of all other animals, e.g., chipmunks, frogs, turtles, snakes, and field mice, with fledgling birds and newborn mammals especially vulnerable. The effect of these manipulations on such species is virtually unknown.

But wildlife conservation is about to take a step forward in this country. Congress has passed a sort of Equal Opportunity Act for nongame wildlife, "The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980." While the funding authorization is small compared with expenditures for game species, past "game favoritism" will nevertheless be slightly diluted. An excerpt from the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Work's report on the bill follows:

S. 2181, "The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980," is intended to fill a gap in this country's existing fish and wildlife management programs. Current State and Federal programs are almost exclusively focused on game species. For the first time, S. 2181 will establish a comprehensive wildlife conservation program giving adequate attention to nongame as well as game species of wildlife.

The reported bill is designed to be integrated with existing "game" wildlife laws, specifically the Dingell-Johnson (Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act) and Pittman-Robinson Act (Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act). The management programs established under S. 2181 may reduce the possibility that species of wildlife will become endangered and in this sense may help avoid the use of the more stringent measures contemplated in the Endangered Species Act. The bill provides for comprehensive conservation plans, and specific nongame management projects undertaken pursuant to these plans, which can be reimbursed by the Federal government. Both plans and implementing actions are essential in the creation of effective wildlife management programs.

No call for poisons where dogs guard sheep

Until recently, the barbarity of so-called predator "control"—burning, shooting, trapping and poisoning of coyotes and other carnivores for the ostensible purpose of protecting livestock—was an implacable bureaucratic wall. But after more than a half century of humane condemnation the wall has begun to crumble.

In November of last year, Interior Department Secretary Cecil N. Andrus issued a directive to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service calling for a more environmentally-sound approach to livestock protection. One of the most critical new initiatives was the "development and testing of non-lethal/non-capture control methods," paramount among which is the use of livestock-guarding dogs.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is currently supporting research on sheep-guarding dogs at Colorado State University, the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, Idaho and at Hampshire College's New England Farm Center, whose study is the subject of an article in the April 1980 issue of *Country Journal*.

"To keep the wolves away from his sheep," the piece begins, "Mike Smiljanic used to burn rubber tires all night in the pasture of his Ontario farm. His father in Yugoslavia laughed at Mike's defensive tactic and sent him a pair of Yugoslavian sheep-guarding dogs. The wolves went elsewhere."

The authors, Ray and Lorna Coppinger, who are also the chief investigators in the Hampshire study,

drove 25,000 miles throughout Europe and Asia, where livestock-guarding dogs have been used for centuries, to find the best possible breeding stock for their project. In Switzerland, they saw the Polish Ovcharka; in Hungary, they saw Komondors, Kuvasz, and Pulis; in France, the Pyrenean Mountain dog.

In 1976, Hampshire imported ten pups from Old World working stock to be the foundation of a comprehensive study. The goal was to lease out 100 potential guard dogs to farmers for a nominal fee. By the summer of 1979, nearly 170 young dogs had been leased, all offspring of the original 10.

Five breeds, including the Anatolian Shepherd, Great Pyrenees, Maremma, Russian Ovcharka, and Shar Planinets are under direct observation by Farm Center students and staff, while the progress of Komondors, Kuvasz and Pulis is monitored indirectly through reports from the farmers themselves.

So far the results are very encouraging, according to the Coppingers. By scaring predators away from flocks of 10-1,000 sheep, the great shaggy dogs are keeping a number of farmers in business in 17 states from Massachusetts to California.

Sparks fly at furbearer conference

Electric debate was sparked by an AWI scientific paper called "Replacement of the Steel Jaw Leghold Trap for Humane Reasons" at the first Worldwide Furbearer Conference held August 3-9 in Frostburg, Maryland.

The paper, written by AWI Vice-president Dr. John F. Beary III, was delivered by AWI President Christine Stevens to an audience of trappers, furriers, and wildlife scientists.

It reviewed the Canadian study of a new foot snare developed by the Ministry of Natural Resources in Ontario, and the Swedish leg snare. The paper also exposed the lack of scientific rigor in a New York study which alleges that the Ezyonem, a leg snare developed by Elmer Davies of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, is inferior to steel traps.

In the ensuing discussion, Don Hoyt, President of the National Trappers Association, said that Canadian trappers use a steel trap that is too large for fox and raccoon, resulting in injuries to most (52%) of the animals caught. The *Pennsylvania Trapper Education Manual*, however, which was being distributed at the conference, recommends both the larger (#2) and smaller (#1½) traps for catching fox and raccoon.

Kenneth R. Dixon, of the Appalachian Environmental Laboratory at Frostburg State College, briefly described the conclusions of a paper published in the *Journal of Wildlife Management* 42(4): 1978, which found that 74% of the nutria caught in steel traps died after release, as compared to 53% mortality in the cage-trapped nutria. Major Boddicker criticized all leg snares for holding deer, antelope, and even elk. However Canadian tests have found that deer caught in the foot snare are able to break loose. The Canadian snare has also been constructed to fall off when it is torn free of the trapping apparatus. Mrs. Stevens responded to Mr. Boddicker by stating that hooved animals can also be caught in steel jaw leghold traps. Asked to prove it, she produced the picture from page 91 of *Facts About Furs* of a pronghorn antelope which staggered in agony for two days until killed by blood poisoning from the leghold trap clamped to its foot (*Sports Afield*, November 1965).

The Fur Industry of America's representative, Gary Kugler, took exception to Mrs. Stevens' praise for Mr.

Ernest Graf, President of Ben Kahn Furs, who has publicly stated his opposition to the continued use of the steel jaw leghold trap. Mr. Kugler firmly stated that Mr. Graf does not represent the fur industry and it will never agree with his position.

Following these exchanges, over 150 copies of *Facts About Furs* were distributed upon request to the conferees. Most of the 200-300 in attendance were wildlife biologists from 28 nations, many of which had banned the steel jaw leghold trap.

On the first day of the conference Harry V. Thompson from the British Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said, "The gin trap (steel jaw leghold trap) is not used, we hope, at all for animal trapping in Britain." He then went on to state that the coypu, a furbearer managed in Britain, is easy to catch in cages.

Dr. Sam B. Linhart of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service introduced the Service's poor record for finding alternatives to trapping and poisoning for predator control by saying "Mother nature is a bitch." From Dr. Linhart's report it appears that everything that can go wrong does go wrong with USFWS studies on this subject.

Chemical attractants and repellents for coyotes have been researched extensively by Dr. R. Teranishi and his team at the USDA Western Regional Research Center in Berkeley California. To date there have been two breakthroughs. One: the team has isolated a simple chemical compound that is very effective in attracting coyotes to a scent station. Two: preliminary work with sugar solutions has caused coyotes standing at the scent station to chew on a sweetened bait up to four times longer than when other solutions are used. This suggests a fruitful area for future chemosterilant research. Carolyn King, a biologist from New Zealand, said she wanted to study the use of chemosterilants as a more efficient predator control method than trapping.

The Tuesday morning session featured the Canadian foot snare, developed by the Ministry of Natural Resources biologist, Milan Novak, and efforts at the University of Guelph to develop killer traps that really kill instantly. Mr. Novak reported that the foot snare is more selective than steel traps for fox, coyote and raccoon. Only 2% of the animals caught in the foot snare had significant injuries. The comparable figure for animals caught in steel jaw traps is no less than 52%. The snare will be available commercially before long; the bids for production were due by August 8, 1980.

AWARDS

Indian receives Schweitzer Medal

In recognition of his pioneering work in developing a national conservation policy for India, Shri H. M. Patel has received the 1979 Animal Welfare Institute's Albert Schweitzer Medal.

Mr. Patel has served as India's finance minister and is presently chairman of the Indian Board for Wildlife. The award was presented August 4, 1980 by the Honorable Archer K. Blood at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India before a number of Indian dignitaries. Upon accepting the Medal, Mr. Patel had these gracious and insightful words:

"During the time that I was Finance Minister and later Home Minister of the Government of India, and acting concurrently in the capacity of Chairman of the Indian Board for Wildlife, I considered it one of my foremost responsibilities to help conceive and give shape and content to what I hoped might represent a National Conservation and Environment Protection Policy



which would cut across all political, economic and sectoral barriers, and provide the country with a framework in which to shape its entire broad range of plans for the national development of this country. I was able to assemble what I considered to be the finest scientific talent in the country, supported by some of the most senior and knowledgeable government administrators and others including conservationists. I am confident that the labours of this group—the Informal Group as I chose to call it—will be of help to our Prime Minister in her efforts to achieve the goals of conservation that she has set herself . . .

"Earnest discussion at the highest level, nationally and internationally, must now commence so that it may become possible to formulate a new outlook, a new philosophy as it were, that will enable us once again to live in harmony with nature, taking only what we must from it, while sup-

porting and strengthening the systems that sustain it. It is Institutions from all over the world such as the Animal Welfare Institute of the USA inspired by the vision, humanity, and deep sense of reverence for life of men like Albert Schweitzer, who must share responsibility for leadership in this great and vital endeavour."

Rachel Carson honored

Rachel Carson, world-renowned author and environmentalist, was posthumously awarded the U.S. government's highest honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, on June 9 this year. Among the 13 other American recipients of the medal were Hubert Humphrey, Schweitzer medallist in 1958, Ansel Adams, eminent wildlife photographer, and Roger Tory Peterson, the distinguished ornithologist. During her lifetime the author of *Silent Spring* was awarded the Schweitzer Medal; she was also on AWI's Scientific Committee.

Her Presidential Medal of Freedom citation reads:

Never silent herself in the face of destructive trends, Rachel Carson fed a spring of awareness across America and beyond. A biologist with a gentle, clear voice, she welcomed her audiences to her love of the sea, while with an equally clear, determined voice, she warns Americans of the dangers human beings themselves pose for their own environment. Always concerned, always eloquent, she created a tide of environmental consciousness that has not ebbed.

Agents honored for crackdown on wildlife smuggling

Tenacious probing by eight federal agents and a prosecutor has brought hefty fines and/or jail sentences for several notorious wildlife smugglers. Their convictions mark a major advance in the history of federal wildlife law enforcement. In recognition of the agents' profound contribution, the Monitor Consortium, a coalition of 35 conservation and animal welfare groups, presented them with Awards for Special Achievement in Wildlife Protection.

The recipients were: Jeffrey Friend, Joseph O'Kane, Robert Guthrie and David Meisner of the U.S. Customs Service; David Kleinz, Thomas Riley and Edward Whalen of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Robert Hufford

of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Thomas Mellon of the U.S. Attorney's Office.

- Meisner and Hufford conducted an investigation which led to the conviction of Global Zoological Imports and Richard La Blue, a notorious trafficker in illegal wildlife. The defendants were convicted of conspiracy to import several hundred birds into the U.S. by filing false documentation with the Customs Service, importation of endangered species, theft of birds from La Blue's quarantine station, receipt by La Blue of stolen birds that he knew were infected with exotic Newcastle disease and obstruction of justice. The Justice Department has said, "The case is a significant one. It has led to discovery of serious flaws in the U.S. quarantine program and is the first to involve the theft of diseased birds from quarantine."

- Friend and Kleinz have been investigating the smuggling of wildlife and wildlife products across the Mexican border into southern Texas. Their work has already resulted in the arrest and conviction of nine major wildlife smugglers. One case involved the seizure of 150 birds worth \$75,000. They have also been instrumental in establishing a task force consisting of themselves, an agent from the Department of Agriculture and a Department of Justice Lands Division attorney. This task force will conduct investigations into the massive illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products in this region. Under a new interagency agreement, nine more such investigative task forces will be established at major portals of smuggled wildlife in the United States.

- O'Kane and Mellon successfully conducted an in-depth investigation of the illegal trade in reptiles. This five-year investigation, during which they had to become experts in herpetology, culminated in the conviction of Henry Molt, a Philadelphia reptile dealer who had collected about 1,000 reptiles from Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Australia. So far he has been convicted for numerous violations of the Lacey Act and the Endangered Species Act and is awaiting trial for smuggling wildlife in two other indictments which involve over nine hundred reptiles. Molt's convictions and fines total \$20,000, a year in jail and a three-year probation period during which he cannot import reptiles nor travel to Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Singapore or Switzerland.

- Riley led a team of special agents to seize more than 17,500 fur pelts, many from endangered species. This represents the largest seizure of illegal furs in the history of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The furs were seized at a remote ranch along the Rio Grande and were worth an estimated \$1.1 million.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Agent Thomas Riley with \$1.1 million in contraband furs that were seized after a year-long investigation which he headed.

photo by David Kennedy

- Guthrie and Whalen were responsible for an indictment recently returned in Syracuse, New York against six persons for smuggling birds, including endangered species, into the U.S. from Canada. Among the persons indicted are two zoo curators, two bird importers and one of the largest wildlife dealers in England.

The awards were presented during a reception given by the Center for Environmental Education for the environmentalists and scientists from all over the world who were attending the International Whaling Commission's Meeting on Cetacean Behavior and Intelligence and the Ethics of Killing Cetaceans. The reception was highlighted with a performance by Martita Goshen, whose choreographic impressions of endangered species have delighted audiences around the world, and composer and saxophonist Paul Winter.

Kangaroo ban must stay!

In a June 16th *Federal Register* notice, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced its intention to lift its 6-year ban on the commercial importation of red, eastern gray, and western gray kangaroo parts and products. The Service made its decision following a cursory evaluation visit to Australia by USFWS biologist Dr. David Anderson of Utah.

The inadequacy of Dr. Anderson's study makes it readily apparent that the reasons promulgated in 1974 for imposing an import ban remain virtually unchanged and may, in some instances, have worsened. While eighty percent of the estimated population ostensibly lives in Queensland, no aerial survey has ever been conducted there. The proposed ruling concedes that only the estimates of "New South Wales and South Australia are based on extensive aerial surveys. The other States have not done aerial surveys because of the greater areas involved, the complex habitats that need to be covered, or the prohibitive expense of such surveys. They depend instead on other techniques such as annual hunter take or extrapolation from the New South Wales estimate."

The FWS says it favors importation because "sustained yield programs have been developed," but according to Dr. Graeme Caughley, the ecologist who conducted the aerial surveys in N.S.W., nothing is known about maximum sustained yield of kangaroos," and he urges that "information be collected from kangaroo populations during drought." Dr. Anderson admits that during drought the mortality rate of kangaroos "could be greater than the commercial kill" which this year is a quota of nearly 3 million animals.

Moreover, the *Federal Register* notice itself admits that the population estimates, coordination and enforcement are all inadequate. It states:

"Western Australia intends to remove the red kangaroo from its 'vermin' classification. . . ." (Emphasis supplied.)

"There remain many deficiencies in the gathering of population data . . . no management agency can do more than its best under existing restrictions on money and personnel. . . ."

"Regulations and management policy concerning kangaroos are not uniform between the states. . . . The current lack of coordination will not result in the extinction of the species within the foreseeable future but does pose a threat that could lead to endangerment if not corrected. . . ."

"There are valid indications that the kangaroo-hide industry will expand in future years. . . ."

"Admittedly, law enforcement efforts are difficult because of funding and staffing levels; and this problem, if uncorrected, poses a threat to the kangaroos that might lead to their endangerment. . . ."

"Kangaroos are poisoned as unwanted competitors with livestock; they are shot for sport; or killed indiscriminately. There is little possibility of controlling such illegal killing in a country of this magnitude which is so sparsely inhabited."

While Dr. Anderson maintains that hunters are merely "culling surplus animals on a grazier's property," actually the market for kangaroo hides will powerfully affect both the quotas and the number killed legally and illegally.

Opening commercial trade in a threatened species after a complete ban on its importation is unprecedented in U.S. regulatory history. If the kangaroo ban is lifted, scores of exotic animal profiteers intent on importing a certain species or its hide, fur or meat will likely flood the halls of the FWS pleading for regulatory handouts.

At Interior Department hearings, September 16, Jeffrey H. Howard, counsel for Defenders of Wildlife, petitioned the hearing officer to cancel or suspend the hearings on the grounds that the regulations are unlawful. He asked for the opportunity to cross-examine Interior witnesses. The hearing officer declined and the hearing proceeded with testimony from five conservation groups, an independent witness from New York, and three industry spokesmen.

Experimental animal specialist joins AWI

Dr. Leon Bernstein has joined the staff of the Animal Welfare Institute as a consultant in physiology. Recently retired as Special Assistant to the Chief Medical Director, Veterans Administration Central Office, and as Professor, Department of Medicine, George Washington University, Dr. Bernstein is a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, and has a PhD in physiology from the University of London. He belongs to both the American and British Physiological Societies.

Porpoise deaths from "Sundown Sets" rising

In recent National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) hearings before Administrative Law Judge Hugh Dolan, a coalition of humane and environmental groups represented by Counsel Michael J. Bean of the Environmental Defense Fund held that so-called "sundown sets," the netting of dolphins and associated yellowfin tuna within 90 minutes before dusk, should be prohibited.

The American Tunaboat Association (ATA), however, maintained that such a prohibition is an inappropriate solution to the problem of high porpoise mortality. "Continuing education" is the most effective solution, according to ATA. To illustrate the effectiveness of continuing education in reducing porpoise mortality, ATA cites the fact that the percentage of sundown sets with zero mortality has steadily increased in the period from 1977-1979.

While a reply brief by the environmental coalition acknowledges this, it is quick to point out that the total and percent mortality associated with sundown sets has actually increased from 1977-1979, a period when overall porpoise mortality declined. The derived figures are 3,655 in 1977 to 4,788 in 1978, and 6,585 in 1979. The assertion by ATA that continued education is preferable to a prohibition on sundown sets is unsupportable."

Judge Dolan recommended to NOAA that sundown sets be prohibited only after implementation of a 100% observer program (i.e., a professional observer aboard each tuna seiner). The final ruling will be cast by NOAA Administrator Richard Frank sometime this year.

Concerned about the welfare of experimental animals throughout his career, he first entered the ambit of the Animal Welfare Institute when he wrote a letter, published in *Information Report* Vol. 10 No. 3, supporting a pending bill based on the British Act regulating experiments on animals. Stating that he had been licensed to perform experiments on animals under the British law, he pointed out that "the formalities involved are trivial; I do not recall that in my own case they ever occupied more than one minute of my time for each experiment I performed, and perhaps thirty minutes for the completion of the annual report."

Canada—Continued

The first thing to note is that the Scientific Committee was itself split on the issue of the sperm whale moratorium—with the conservation-minded scientists being in favor. Given the instructions that he had, it is hard to understand Commissioner Mercer's opposing vote.

His vote is even harder to understand in the light of the Scientific Committee's advice on sperm whale stocks. In two areas this advice amounted to an "unequivocal" call for a moratorium. As for the third area, the quota recommendation was very halfhearted; grave uncertainties were admitted—of a kind which assuredly influenced some scientists to press for a moratorium on *all* sperm whaling.

In short, the scientific position on the three separate sperm whale stocks served to strengthen rather than to weaken the conservationist case for a *total* ban on the killing of sperm whales. Yet the Canadian Commissioner, despite his instructions, opposed it.

Of course it should not have mattered too much. The scientists still recommended zero in two areas out of

"... the Committee was unanimous that Canada exert her influence to achieve [a moratorium on all commercial whaling] and vote yes to a moratorium proposal."

DR. IAN McTAGGART-COWAN
Chairman, Committee on Whales and Whaling
for the Canadian government

three, including the main plundering ground, the North Pacific. If these recommendations had been adopted, the damage would have been contained.

But that is not how the IWC works. The defeat of the moratorium opened the floodgates. Heedless of scientific advice, quotas were set for all three areas. In the North Pacific the Commissioners voted 890 male sperm whales with a so-called "by-catch" of 11.5% females to allow for miscalculations by harpoonists.

By then it was all too late for the Canadian Commissioner to vote zero in support of the scientists. For by then the battle was lost beyond recall.

Vice Chairman of the International Whaling Commission and Chairman of its Technical Committee, Malcolm Mercer is a powerful figure in the IWC. As Director of the Fisheries Research Branch of Canada's Department of Fisheries, he is also a powerful figure in Canadian fishery circles.

Candid Shots in Corridors of the Hotel Metropole

by John J. Domont



Peruvian Commissioner de Rivero and Japanese Commissioner Yonezawa voted hand in hand against whale conservation measures.



Alleged caviar smuggler and still Soviet Commissioner, Dr. I. V. Nikonorov



A tension-filled discussion among whaling nation delegates



Dr. G. G. Newman, South African Commissioner, newly elected IWC Vice-Chairman

Norwegian whaling not in accord with cruelty laws

Most of the whales killed by Norway are minke whales. Norway has good anti-cruelty laws governing the slaughter of domestic animals and the capture of fur bearers, but the minke whales' prolonged agony remains a blot on Norway's reputation as an advanced nation.

Magnar Norderhaug of Norway's Environment Ministry, author of *Status 80*, Norwegian Yearbook of Conservation (1979), wrote: "One can claim on clear grounds that the Norwegian

small whaling is not in accordance with Norwegian law for the prevention of cruelty to animals." Norderhaug emphasizes, "Now that we know that the whales are very intelligent animals with a nervous system just as advanced as the humans', this is, to put it mildly, serious."

Please write to Norway's Minister of the Environment urging him to press for an end to commercial whaling by Norway and, until Norway stops killing whales, to require that cold harpoons be abolished because of the long, slow death they cause. The Minister may be addressed as follows: Rolf Hansen, Minister of the Environment, Myntgaten 2, Oslo, Dep., Norway.

Cold harpoons—a small victory

The IWC debated a major cruelty issue—"cold" harpoons. The Commissioners voted overwhelmingly (only Japan, South Korea and Russia, opposing) to ban the use of this primitive weapon on all whales except minke. But since minke now make up the bulk of the IWC quota, and since only Spain and South Korea (among IWC members) use the cold harpoon on the larger whales, this partial ban is hardly a great step forward.

Minke are small whales which until recently were considered too small to be worth hunting. The explosive harpoons designed for the great whales blast right through the minke's slender body, so rendering its carcass unfit for the Japanese meat packers. The

"The swing towards greater use of the cold harpoon means that, on average, whales taken under the aegis of the International Whaling Commission are now taking longer to die and are in greater pain than has been the case in the past. The justification for the wanton disregard of the normally accepted animal rights is that there is less damage to that portion of the animal taken by man."

Professor Derek Ovington, Australian Commissioner

whalers have therefore reverted to ancient implements developed before the invention of gunpowder—and in the coming season more than 10,000 minke will die slowly and in agony.

Prompted by Australian Commissioner, Professor Derek Ovington, the IWC resolved that at next year's meeting it will consider extending the ban on cold harpoons to minke whales. The Japanese are not pleased. Com-

missioner Yonezawa said that current Japanese research into the "humane killing" of minke will not be completed in time for next year's voting.

This is unacceptable stalling. Prime Minister Suzuki can insist that the research be speeded up. Write him urging him to stop the needless cruelty to minke whales. Tell him you are boycotting Japanese goods and will continue to do so while Japan continues to hunt whales in such a cruel fashion. His address: *Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki, Office of the Prime Minister, 1-6-1 Nagata-Cho, Chivoda-Ku, Tokyo 100.*

Dolphins too

Please also urge Japan's Prime Minister to halt the spearing of dolphins at Iki Island. And again tell him you are boycotting Japanese goods until dolphin policies are changed.

Japanese scientists have done little



Camera-shy Juan Masso, Director of the Spanish whaling station, was finally photographed in an unguarded moment.

photo by John J. Domont

work on diverting dolphins from their migrations past Iki where overfishing has led the fishermen to blame the dolphins for past and present human errors. The bloody, callous and totally unregulated slaughter of the dolphins is unworthy of a civilized nation.

Ask Prime Minister Suzuki to see that the dolphins are successfully diverted from Iki this year. Demand that the huge machine into which the slaughtered dolphins are dropped and ground into fertilizer be dismantled and removed from Iki. Unless this "Dolphin Disposal" machine is removed, the dolphins will again be bountied and killed.

Spain and South Korea must stick to new ruling

Spain and South Korea still use cold harpoons for 80-foot long whales, but as members of the IWC they will have to stop in the 1980-81 season or file an objection to the new IWC ruling.

Failure to adhere to the ruling would subject them to the Packwood-Magnuson amendment to the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, and they could lose important fishing rights within 200 miles of the United States. Senators Bob Packwood (R. Oreg.) and Warren Magnuson (D. Wash.), in creating this solid economic incentive, greatly surpassed the effectiveness of the IWC itself in offering a deterrent to violation of IWC quotas and rules.

Portugal

Portugal refuses to join the IWC. There is thus no pressure on Portuguese whalers to stop using the cold harpoon on the large whales. *Outlaw Whaling, 1980*, Greenpeace logs a 24-hour courageous and resourceful struggle of a great sperm whale bull against the unrelenting series of harpoons thrust by Portuguese whalers into the animal whenever he rose to the surface to breathe. This senseless cruelty must end.

Animal Welfare Institute

Scientific Committee

Marjorie Anchel, Ph.D.
Bennett Derby, M.D.
F. Barbara Orlans, Ph.D.
Roger Payne, Ph.D.
Samuel Peacock, M.D.
John Walsh, M.D.

International Committee

T. G. Antikatzides, D.V.M.—Greece
Major C. W. Hume, O.B.E., M.C., B.Sc., M.I. Biol.
—United Kingdom
Angela King—United Kingdom
David Ricardo—Canada
N. E. Wernberg—Denmark
Godofredo Stutzin—Chile

Officers

Christine Stevens, President
Cynthia Wilson, Vice President
John Beary, M.D., Vice President
Marjorie Cooke, Secretary
Roger L. Stevens, Treasurer

Staff

Leon Bernstein, Ph.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
Consultant in Physiology
Diane Halverson, Research Assistant
Lynne Hutchison, Whale Campaign Secretary
Fran Lipscomb, Executive Assistant
Nell Naughton, Mail Order Secretary
Adele Schoepperle, Assistant Treasurer
Sheryl Sternberg, Publications Secretary