

October 5, 1956

Dr. W. H. Wheeler, Head
Nursery Stock Section, Plant Quarantine Branch
Agricultural Research Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Room 201, 12th St.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

Thank you for your letter of October 3. During this next week I shall forward the two boxes of soil samples to Mr. McGahen, with mention of what you say in your letter to me. I am glad that you have also written him. I am sure the samples will be properly handled and sterilized when his examination of them has been completed.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:EEK

September 26, 1956

Dr. W. H. Wheeler, Head
Nursery Stock Section
Plant Quarantine Branch
Agricultural Research Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Room 201, 12th St.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

Early in May I returned from the West Indies with 38 samples put up in the same fashion as those I brought back from the Congo, in stout muslin bags enclosed in plastic ones. These I would like to send to the du Pont folks, as before. Is it necessary to obtain further clearance from the du Ponts? If that is the case, you may prefer to do so over your own signature. The samples are here in the ~~office~~ Museum in the boxes in which they were packed at St. Croix. They haven't been opened and can be delivered to you if you wish them brought to your office.

I enclose Mr. J. W. McGahen's letter of September 18 to me for your information. As you will see, he has taken Dr. Dale E. Wolf's place. A list of the samples is attached to this letter.

Whenever you give me the word, I will either bring the samples to you or forward them to Mr. McGahen.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.
WLS:EEK

C O P Y

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
Incorporated
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

^a
Gresselli Chemicals Department

September 18, 1956

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Since your last contact with Dr. Wolf early this year, he has changed positions and your letter of August 8, along with your other correspondence, has been referred to me since I am directly involved with soil screening. We are in a position to handle the soil samples and will be glad to receive them.

As with the African soil samples, the du Pont Company will be happy to test and accept these new soils with the understanding that the Smithsonian Institution and all other interested parties waive all rights with respect to the samples and any useful products which may result from them. As you indicated in your letter, such an arrangement appears once more to be a satisfactory basis on which to proceed.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. W. McGahan
J. W. McGahan
Animal Medicine Section

JWMcG:vp

T. R. Wood
Mar.

Stine Lab.

Newark Del

E. I. du Pont de

Nemours & Co.

Gresselli Chemical

Dept.

Nothing in
previous
samples

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
PLANT QUARANTINE BRANCH
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

November 30, 1955

Mr. Dale E. Wolf
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
Grasselli Chemicals Department
Building 268, Experiment Station
Wilmington, Delaware

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, Head Curator, Department of Zoology, U. S. National Museum, has furnished this office a copy of his letter of November 25 to Mr. A. S. Bjornson of the du Pont Company. In it he offered to turn over to your firm certain soil samples he collected in Africa during the past spring and which are now in the possession of this office.

We are sure you understand the concern of the U. S. Department of Agriculture over the introduction of foreign soils and especially those which have been collected at or near the earth's surface. Such collections are capable of carrying various harmful organisms which may attack both animal and plant life. For that reason we would appreciate your assurance that the soil samples which Dr. Schmitt wishes us to turn over to you will be used with all necessary precautions and will finally be incinerated or sterilized when they have served their purpose. Upon our receiving such assurance from you, the samples will be released for delivery.

Very truly yours,



W. H. Wheeler, Head
Nursery Stock Section

cc: Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt

March 13, 1956

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Court 5, South Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Attn: Shipping Room

Gentlemen:

Please deliver to bearer, Mr. N. L. Livingston,
film on Order 21-784.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Dept. of Zoology

EK



Alcoa Steamship Company, INC.

SEVENTEEN BATTERY PLACE + NEW YORK 4, N.Y.

CABLES: ALCOASHIP + TEL: WHITEHALL 4-1500

June 4, 1956

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt
United States National Museum
10th and Constitution Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

RE: SS GREY MASTER V. 3 SB
Sld. Dominica 5/17/56
Dominica B/L 10

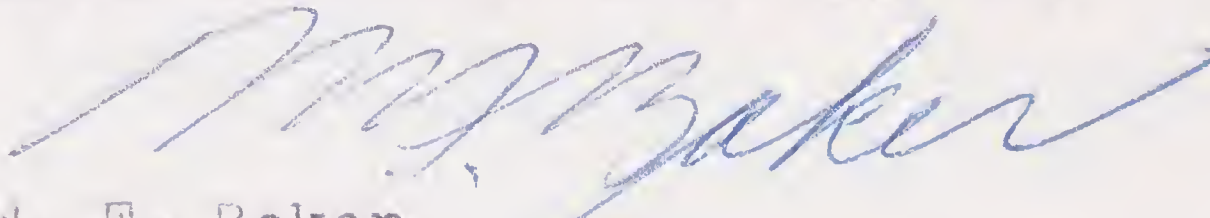
With respect to your letter of June 1st concerning your shipment of one roll grass mats weighing 53 pounds, we are pleased to advise that J. P. Reiss Company, Customs Broker of 19 Rector Street, Suite 1912, will act in your behalf in the Customs clearance and subsequent forwarding of this shipment.

The material arrived in New York on the SS ALCOA PEGASUS V. 91 NB on June 2nd. By copy of this letter to J. P. Reiss we are enclosing a copy of your letter of June 1st.

If we can be of any further service to you, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Very truly yours,

ALCOA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, INC.


W. F. Baker
Freight Traffic Department

LFK:11

cc: J. P. Reiss Co., New York

Bredin Exp. - West Indies

Mr. William H. Trauth

February 28, 1956

Mr. William H. Trauth
Alcoa Steamship Co. Inc.
Ring Building
1200 - 18th St. N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Trauth:

Thank you for your letter and the Alcoa tickets
for Dr. Chace and myself.

We have filled our respective questionnaires and
forwarded them this day to Robert L. Merwin Company in
St. Croix.

Your assistance throughout is keenly appreciated,
and you will be one of the first persons upon whom we
shall call upon our return to Washington to tell you
about our trip and some of our experiences in the
course of it.

Thanks a million to you and your secretary.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:cek



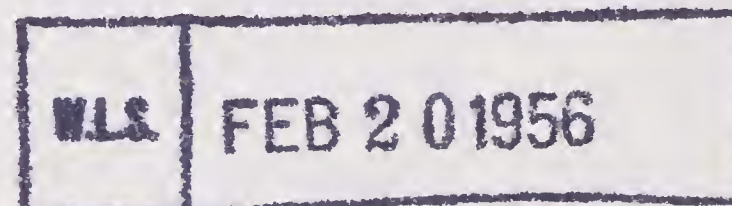
Bredin Expedition-West Indies
W. H. Trauth-Alcoa S.S.Co.

Alcoa Steamship Company, INC.

1200 RING BUILDING + WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

CABLES: ALCOASHIP + TEL: DISTRICT 9400

February 17, 1956



Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator, Dept. of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

I am acknowledging your letter of February 8th and confirm its contents have been passed on to our New York and San Juan office. In other words, everyone is informed about your wishes regarding the shipment of two boxes of equipment destined for Dominica. I'm sure there will be no difficulty in connection with the handling of this material.

I'm still having trouble securing space for the third party on the RUNNER leaving St. Croix on April 21st, but our passenger department is hoping they will come up with something before too long.

Sincerely,

W. H. TRAUTH

Manager, Washington Office

WHT:g

Alcoa Steamship Co. Inc.

December 21, 1955

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
17 Battery Place
New York 4, New York

Gentlemen:

We have tried without success to obtain reservations for a party of three men on one of your ships arriving at Trinidad or Grenada, preferably the latter, on or before March 9; all accommodations seem to have been sold out for some time. It is important, indeed imperative, that we get one or two of these men to Grenada by ship at about the time set. It is perhaps too much to expect accommodations for all three. We have been wondering if it would not be possible for you to accord us some official dispensation to the extent of transporting one or more of these men in the quarters of the ship's personnel, if anywhere in these quarters there might be an unoccupied bunk or two. For them we would expect to pay regular first class passage. These men are all museum curators, college graduates who have been to sea before, and who we can assure you are able to fit in congenially with whatever companions they might find themselves.

On the same vessel we wish also to ship about 1400 pounds of collecting equipment which would also be paid for at customary rates. I mention this not as an inducement, but only as one of the reasons why we wish to place these men on the appropriate vessel. They should accompany the shipment.

Last but not least, can we count on return passage with you from St. Thomas on April 15 or shortly thereafter for one or more of the party?

We realize that we are asking a very special favor of you but hope that you may be able to find a way to grant it. The Smithsonian Institution earnestly solicits your kind offices in this matter for we cannot depend on the uncertainty involved in merely being on the waiting list.

Very truly yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator, Zoology

December 21, 1955

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
17 Battery Place
New York 4, New York

Gentlemen:

We have tried without success to obtain reservations for a party of three men on one of your ships arriving at Trinidad or Grenada, preferably the latter, on or before March 9; all accommodations seem to have been sold out for some time. It is important, indeed imperative, that we get one or two of these men to Grenada by ship at about the time set. It is perhaps too much to expect accommodations for all three. We have been wondering if it would not be possible for you to accord us some official dispensation to the extent of transporting one or more of these men in the quarters of the ship's personnel, if anywhere in these quarters there might be an unoccupied bunk or two. For then we would expect to pay regular first class passage. These men are all museum curators, college graduates who have been to sea before, and who we can assure you are able to fit in congenially with whatever companions they might find themselves.

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Very truly yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator, Zoology

St. Pierre & Miquelon

4 copies

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
17 Battery Place
New York 4, New York

Gentlemen:

We have tried without success to obtain reservations for a party of three men on one of your ships arriving at Trinidad or Grenada, preferably the latter, on or before March 9; all accommodations seem to have been sold out for some time. It is important, indeed imperative, that we get one or two of these men to Grenada by ship at about the time set. It is perhaps too much to expect accommodations for all three. We have been wondering if it would not be possible for you to accord us some official dispensation to the extent of transporting one or more of these men in the quarters of the ship's personnel, if anywhere in these quarters there might be an unoccupied bunk or two. For them we would expect to pay regular first class passage. These men are all museum curators, college graduates who have been to sea before, and who we can assure you are able to fit in congenially with whatever companions they might find themselves.

Insert
para 1+2

that we are

We realize ~~this is~~ asking a very special favor of you but hope that you may be able to find a way to grant it. The Smithsonian Institution earnestly solicits your kind offices in this matter for we cannot depend on the uncertainty involved in merely being on the waiting list

~~Very truly yours,~~
Very truly yours,

①

~~On~~ On the same vessel we wish also to ship about 1400 pounds of collecting equipment which would also be paid

for at customary rates. I mention this not as an inducement, but only as one of the reasons why we wish to place these men on the appropriate vessel. They should accompany the shipment.

(2)

Last but not least, can we count on return passage with you from St. Thomas on April 15 or shortly thereafter for one or more of the party?

~~Any assistance you can render us will be keenly appreciated.~~

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator, Zoology

Bredin, Bruce

August 17, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Bruce:

Thank you for your letter of August 15.

I have asked the Matson Line for reservations for five, two doubles minimum fare, and one single with bath, for the March 23 sailing. Three weeks or so would be just fine. Returning poses one difficulty in that the first sailing northbound is May 19. That, of course, would take home whatever we collected and maybe such members of the party who might stay longer than three weeks, but if there were any urgency for coming home sooner, one can always fly. If any members of the party wish to return by ship, they might be able to join a homeward bound vessel from Suva or Pago Pago April 26 or 27. Either or both of these can be reached by air from Papeete. The April dates rather shorten the stay. The May sailing, of course, prolongs it two weeks about.

Meanwhile, I have come upon a few helpful leads. A Dr. John E. Randall, who has his own small "boat," went down with his family, and he has been in Tahiti for the better part of a year and will be there through next spring. He is studying the life history of the sea bass, and, of course, working along lines in which we are all interested. He will be able to give us the lowdown on charger possibilities. I have asked him to contact the firm Establishment "Donald," the name of which was given to me by Dr. Morrison, one of our curators in the division of mollusks here in the Museum. Before long, I should be able to present you with some quite definite estimates.

In this letter I am enclosing a kodachrome slide of the map prepared by one of our Museum artists for any showing that you make of the pictures you took. I have been wanting to send you a selected set of our several color shots, but Al Smith will not be available until after the first of September when he returns to Washington. At that time he ought to be able to put together a 100 slides more or less, giving you the best of the shots that we made. I have just been looking at this map through the viewer on my desk. It was a wonderful cruise, and we enjoyed every minute of it. It is nice to see the track of the "Freelance"

from Trinidad to St. Croix. I just happened to think that Ernie May would want one too. Won't you pass the second slide on to him?

Good luck.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

Encl.

Bredin, Bruce

See: Bredin Exp. Society Ids.

August 15, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Bruce:

The grass mat is getting off to you this weekend. Perhaps it is expecting too much for it to be delivered before Monday.

You will recall my reference in the previous letter to Milton Wegeforth and John Scripps. In a letter from the director of the San Diego Zoo is the following P. S.:

"Milton Wegeforth saw your note and suggested that we wait until John Scripps returns and he might be interested in himself, or could suggest a boat of the right size."

Are we going too far in that direction, but whether or no, it might be worth while to hear what Mr. Scripps has to say? He is expected back in September. If he should go back down there, you might enjoy his company and he yours should we be getting aboard the same yacht. Have you met with any better success in inquiring of your acquaintances among yachtsmen?

So much for now.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Bredin, Bruce

August 10, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Bruce:

Here's one little matter apart from everything else. It concerns Mustique and the information we may have picked up there. The enclosed letter tells you all I know at this time.

We have finally gotten around to sorting the specimens collected. There are about 38 soil samples all told. This day I have written Mr. Dale E. Wolf, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, Del., asking if he will undertake the samples for biotic assay and mentioning that perhaps six of them in part should be chemically analyzed in order to determine the nature of the soil. This you may want to see done if you are still interested in that island. When I hear from Wolf that he will take on the samples will be time enough to talk of the matter of the analyses perhaps through some of your contacts with that activity of the firm. Any information given Mr. Heim should come from you. I have so written him (carbon herewith). You once mentioned that a friend of yours had asked about Mustique. Could it possibly have been Heim? If you care to pass on anything to Mr. Heim, I would be happy to have you do so direct than to relay it through me.

No word as yet from the Tahiti Museum re charter yachts. I mentioned the matter to Dr. C. V. Schroeder, director of the San Diego Zoo and got the following in reply: "One of our Board members, Mr. John Scripps, has a rather large boat--two masted ketch, approximately 90 feet long with an approximate twenty-foot beam. I understand that he placed second in the Tahiti Yacht race which is already concluded. He is expected back in September. You know that Milton Wegeforth is a yachtsman and has been Commodore of the local club, but his is a small boat. Mr. Albert Eugene Trepte, another member of our Board, is also a yachtsman and has a larger boat but I don't believe it large enough to accommodate your group. In any event, I am sending your letter to Milton Wegeforth, our President and Dr. Harry's eldest son, and I am sure he will write you separately. Hope this does some good."

I have not yet heard from Wegeforth and in any event was not looking for a charter possibility from the States out. As with Eggleston (a copy of whose book I had sent you) it might be in order to go to the Islands and take one's chances on securing a suitable "boat" or else fall back on the inter-island craft and freighters. People do get around down there if only for trade and copra.

The card from Venice is appreciated. Hope you folks had as good a time as the very beautiful picture seems to indicate. I'll bet you feel relieved that you did not book passage on the DORIA. I am glad too. As a Coast Guard man is reported to have said,--"The big fellow was trying to bluff the little fellow out--it's done all the time on the trans-Atlantic passenger run."--

Within the next day or two you should be receiving the grass mat we picked up in Dominica for you. It is quite a nice-looking thing, with smell of new-mown hay. It is a little rough on bare feet. How do I know? I picked up a couple of small ones about 3 feet long which we have alongside the beds. On the FREELANCE they felt smoother--perhaps more worn down.

The balances remaining in your two funds are: African, \$4,579.63; West Indian, \$1,273.22. As I mentioned in earlier letters, I would like to earmark two to three hundred dollars in the former for a couple of strips of film yet to be taken here in the Museum--of the Ward African (Congo) sculptures as introductory matter, the tip of the Washington monument to tie in with Egypt, and some of the specimens we brought back to tie in the scientific results with the Museum. I soon hope to wind these things up with the National Geographic Society. A set of the kodachromes that the several of us took on the West Indian cruise will be gotten together right after the first of September. Al Smith has some very good ones of the dip net collections, but will be showing them at Storrs, Connecticut at a botanical society meeting. It has been a bit difficult to get the various slides together for making up a set. Some will need to be duplicated which will entail a nominal charge against the balance remaining in the Caribbean expeditionary fund. The \$579 and \$273 I would like to leave on hand for completing the films and slides of the two expeditions, but these will probably use only a fraction of those sums. In any case you can count on a full \$5,000 from the two funds as being available for whatever other expedition you may wish to devote them.

Coming back to the plans for the Society Islands, I am now asking the State Department if they have any official or semi-official contacts in the area who might put us in touch with possible charter opportunities. We shall see, and I shall write you when we do.

Regards to you all both great and small,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

May 9, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Delaware

Dear Bruce:

The Club I spoke to you about on the "Freelance" was the New York Explorers Club, which fits in with your flair for exploration and your sponsorship of the two recent Smithsonian-Bredin Expeditions. The Cosmos Club is a fine one too, but it has set up very special requirements as you will see from the proposal blank enclosed. In the by-laws they read:

- (a) "Who have done meritorious original work in science, literature, or the fine arts; or
- (b) "Who, though not professionally occupied in science, literature, or the fine arts, are well known to be cultivated in some field thereof; or
- (c) "Who are recognized as distinguished in a learned profession or in public service."

The Explorers Club requirements are set forth in their application blank, and amplified in the leaflet and the card accompanying it. I'll do what I can with either of them, if you are moved to tackle them.

Your phone call Monday anticipated the letter I was planning to write as soon as I could get my head above water. I returned to work on the third, but ran into some grading problems at home. The dirt roads about my place on a hill are being graded, and I had to get together with the County engineers to make plans for lowering and providing entrance to my garage now up on a ten-foot bank. This kept me out until Monday noon.

The Caribbean Expedition worked out beautifully, except for the fact that you were unable to participate beyond the first two weeks. Though Ernest May did pinch-hit nobly for you, we missed you, nevertheless.

It is therefore doubly good news that I shall have the chance to see you both on the twenty-third, at noon, at the Club, 2121 Massachusetts Avenue. I am looking forward to the day.

Best ever to you and yours, and the Mays. I appreciate his good letter no end.

Sincerely,

April. 16/56.

Dear Bruce, Here we are in Portofino, and write as it may sound, we wish you were here. I'm sorry that you could not return, but it was a happy thought to send Ernest May in your place; he is the same good company that he proved to be ten years ago, and has been the life of the "party" since he came aboard with his snorkel and other underwater accoutrements. // Our collections have gone well; in sum total beyond our original expectations, and largely due to the Captain of the Freelance, Desmond Nicholson. As a collector of marine animals he has been like our extra people added to the party. You could have made no better choice for a successful cruise than the Nicholsons. Some of our best "hauls" were made

at Virgin Gorda where we spent yesterday. Before that we were at Nevis and St. Kitts, the latter was also good collecting. You would have enjoyed them all including Barbuda where we put in two days before returning to English Harbour, for Ernest May.

Through the weather has been good to us. Getting in to the harbor here at Broadbottom, Tortola, was so cool, I want to say chilly (almost) that we took undershirts and long pants. This afternoon, it was comfortably warmer.

We've started packing our plunder; we are nearing the end of an other grand expedition made possible by the generosity of Mrs Bredin and yourself. I thank you from the bottom of my heart, for myself and the other members of the party. Sincerely for the bunch,
Best ever to the ladies from Fred J. Schmitt
Mrs Bredin to Annina, and your son and her parent.

J. BRUCE BREDIN
P. O. Box 87
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

April 6, 1956

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Ernie May is good enough to deliver this note to you in person. My only regret is that I am unable to be with you. My two weeks in the Grenadines were very enjoyable and I will remember the time spent with you on the Freelance with much pleasure.

Dr. Carmichael also is sorry not to be with you. He feels that he should not leave Washington at this time.

Thank you again for your many courtesies and please give my kindest regards to the others aboard.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce Bredin

CABLE AND WIRELESS (WEST INDIES) LIMITED

(Incorporated in England)

VIA IMPERIAL

ISSUING OFFICE

The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions—if any.

CIRCUIT	CLERK'S NAME	TIME RECEIVED	
	D7 FS	1917/B	

RY14/LW21 WILMINGTON DEL 28 2 207P

DR WALDO SCHMITT YACHT FREELANCE NICHOLSON

STJOHNS ANTIGUA

ERNEST MAY WILL JOIN YOU ANTIGUA MONDAY APRIL

NINTH REGRET I AM UNABLE TO ACCOMPANY HIM

STOP PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE

= BREDIN

Enquiry respecting this telegram should be accompanied by this form and may be made at any of the Company's offices

March 31, 1956

Dear Bruce, You left quite a gap in our ranks that Dr. Clarke has not yet filled though he is making the most of your room with his bugs of various kinds. As the old saying goes "wish you were here."

We left Fort de France 6:15 a.m. Sunday the 25th and arrived off Roseau at 3 p.m. Found Clarke on the dock. We had been seen coming in and they phoned Clarke up in his hillside cottage. He had rented cottage and car included for \$25 a week. Next morning Clarke and Al Smith went way inland by car as far as they could go ^{followed} ~~and then by~~ a 2 mile hike to a fresh water lake, rather swampy all around in contrast to the one you visited in Grenada. Al says ~~it was~~ his best collecting so far (Dominica). I visited Dr. Steiger, chief surgeon and director of the hospital. He said I'd picked up some infection and gave me 2 shots of penicillin on successive days, Monday and Tuesday; right leg is O.K. again left on the mend and will soon be well. Personally I did not go collecting in Dominica, but Capt. and Dr. Chace did. Compared to Dr.

Dr. Smith collecting. Theirs was meager. Morning ⁽²⁾
of the 28th we moved up off the Laya River, Dominica
where the Capt. planned to take us up river but the
waves were breaking heavily on the bar at its mouth
that we gave up the attempt and moved further north
to Prince Rupert's Bay off PortBmouth. Here Clarke and
Smith collected atop the hill at north end of bay,
making satisfactory collections and discovering an
old fort and large cannon on top, much as you did
at Pigeon Id. Capt. and Dr. Chace looked after
the marine end of thing, though I did assist with
the dredging. Got our third orinoid here. Capt
also did a little shopping here and bought a heavier
piece of line for dredging from the Freelance.

Left PortBmouth for Guadeloupe 8.05 am.
arriving there at 4.15 and dredging from ship en-
route got some material from 10 fms. and shall
use this method in the Virgins where there are some
promising shoals over which we can work.

Sailed all the way over from Dominica, one of
the best days yet everything considered; have had
practically no rain, a bit at night is all. Our
best collecting was done yesterday about a
little rocky ~~islet at the~~ harbor entrance and
nearby sand flats and shoals, I believe

we got more different kinds of shrimps and crabs^③
here than anywhere on the cruise so far some very
pretty ones that the Capt. tried color photographing
using my tripod. While we were out in the water
Al and Clarke went inland to visit a French botanist
Dr. Stehle and in the rain forest near his place
some 7 miles up country made a fair haul. All
hands were pretty well tired out at days end. I
turned in at 9 p.m. It was my first days collecting
since Martinique. // We move on tonight, rather
4 or 5 p.m. to Antigua where we hope you will
be able to rejoin your expedition. Today while
Al Smith is putting up his yesterdays plants ~~were~~ ^{the rest of}
us are going to explore the river Salée dividing
the two parts of this large island, hoping to collect
on reefs at either end. Guadeloupe seems a
much more prosperous place, at least busier than
Dominica did, as we see it from the ship. Before
we do our days exploring, the Capt. is doing a little
shopping, and I hope to mail this. You may not
get it before you wire, but at least the thought
that you may come is in the mail.

Hope's hoping your
obligations will
permit your coming back

Our collective best to you
and yours both great and
small, Sincerely T. L. C.

March 30, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Mr. Bredin:

Referring to Dr. Schmitt's letter to you of March 1 about the films taken on the Smithsonian-Bredin Belgian Congo Expedition, there is being forwarded to you, by express, four reels, in cans, of these films. When you receive this shipment, please sign and return the white copy of the enclosed invoice.

Sincerely yours,

David H. Johnson
Acting Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Enclosure

cek

March 1, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Bruce:

Just too many things requiring last minute attention turned up to prevent me from editing this annotated list of film sequences. I shall check these at the first opportunity, but the film, at the time that this is being written, is still in the Department of Agriculture's motion picture laboratory. Nevertheless, the notes herewith should enable you to follow the story, if we may call it that, of our African expedition.

Fitting of the tape recordings we got together so that they may be played with the corresponding parts of the motion picture will have to await our return to Washington. Everything connected with these reels has taken much more time than I anticipated, even the office work of which there is seemingly no end. I shall fill out double spaced draft of this film commentary more in detail the first chance I get, likewise the tape editing job. If these reels are too large, carry too much film for your projector at home, you can cut the film into convenient lengths for home showing.

I am sure you will enjoy what we did get, but, like "the fish that got away," we lost some very wonderful shots through fogging, and others through the photographer's lack of interest. Still we did get a fair record of the places we visited and some of the things we did and saw. My greatest regret is that you and Mrs. Bredin were unable to take part in the travels and experiences of the expedition. Another time better luck.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

PS Please remember that the outline herewith is a rough one; the measurements, feet, and the timing, seconds, are but tentative, and serve as a guide or outline for what might be said when the film is run. W

March 29, 1956

PS The list of film sequences is in preparation and will be sent in a day or two. Emma E. Kran, Secretary to Dr. Schmitt.

EEK

February 29, 1956

Dear Bruce:

If it is not too much to carry,
could you bring along the two
Fenger books on cruising the
Caribbean first in a one-man
canoe, and later in the Diabliesse?

We are off March 1 for New York
and Trinidad. Here's to seeing
you soon.

Happy landings.

Sincerely,

Bredin, Bruce

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 21, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Mr. Bredin;

Inasmuch as the Caribbean Expedition is about to take off on March first, I thought you would be interested in knowing the current status of the Congo Expedition funds. From the sale of the stocks you left with me, as you know, \$23,595.37 was realized. A total of \$18,434.54 was expended in the course of the field work, and in preparation therefor, leaving at this writing a balance of \$5,160.83. This, however, cannot be considered a fully free balance, for against it we wish to charge the cost of two prints of the master film that Dr. Schmitt has assembled.

We had hoped to deliver the original film to the laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, where the copying is to be done, last Monday, but the National Geographic Society, which kindly has undertaken the splicing and some editing, will not be able to complete the splicing before next Tuesday or Thursday, Wednesday being a holiday. There will be a total of about 4,000 feet of film available for projection. The several reels containing this footage will be sent you as soon as Agriculture can complete the copies. With them will be some brief notes or indications identifying the episodes and scenes photographed.

Regrettably, we do not have the proper sound recording equipment in the Institution. Here again the Geographic Society has promised further assistance, but I am afraid we shall not be able to avail ourselves of this until after the Caribbean Expedition returns, because considerable editing, timing, and re-recording is involved, as we wish to have the sound sequences in the right order and of the proper length. The unused and the unfortunately fogged film totals about another 5,000 feet. Then there are three hundred feet of Dr. Chapin telling about some of his Congo bird specimens, for which we have also sound tape, but editing this will be a more exacting job. There will be some difficulty in making tape correspond to film, as again some portions of this film were fogged.

In addition, there are another 1,000 feet of film relating

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

2

to the plant-mite investigations which Dr. Baker has just started checking over. He is actively engaged in working up the collections he made in the course of the expedition, but hopes before too long to get the mite film well organized. There was quite a bit of unexposed film left over. With the advice of our purchasing officer, this was disposed of locally and the \$507.50 so realized is included in the balance given above.

Copying the film will cost 10¢ a foot; for an introductory map and title we cannot yet furnish you an estimate. Dr. Schmitt also suggests a brief view of some of the Herbert Ward African sculptures in our Museum halls, to tie in the Institution with the expedition in the beginning and then a shot at the end of some of the specimens brought back and under study. The copy and these additions will entail some additional charges against the fund, but will in no way deplete it.

I believe Dr. Schmitt has already mentioned some of the scientific results to you. Regarding the Crustacea, shrimp and crabs, collected, Dr. Chace, our Curator of Marine Invertebrates, contributes some interesting remarks. These you will find enclosed.

The fish and mammals are in the process of being identified, but are not yet ready to be reported upon. The specimens of the former brought back totaled about 550; the latter about 63, including fine series of at least 3 species of bats. As you know, 93 bottom samples were forwarded to Dr. Dale E. Wolf of your Grasselli Chemicals Department Experiment Station, who received them on January 9. We hope that some worthwhile antibiotic may be recovered from one or more of them.

Drs. Chace, Smith and Schmitt will meet Captain Nicholson in Trinidad on March 12, sailing the next day for the Grenadines; Dr. Clarke, who is flying down as far as Dominica, will be picked up there at the first opportunity, and, unless we hear from you to the contrary, they expect to rendezvous with you in Antigua on or about April 1. Is that the date you plan to arrive there? If later, a bit more time could be devoted to islands farther south, if on that date the extra time could profitably be spent collecting about the various British and American Islands.

I am still mindful of your kind invitation to meet you in St. Thomas for that visit to Tortola, and when you know more definitely when you approach that stage in the cruise, I shall try to arrange to join you, if at all possible. I must confess my calendar does not now hold forth much promise, but we cannot now foresee the shifts I may be able to make when the time draws near.

We are deeply appreciative of the fact that you made the Belgian Congo Expedition possible and successful. It was very

much to the Smithsonian Institution's interest, and has materially enhanced its scientific collections. I wish I could express to you the very profound feeling of gratitude that I have personally for your really wonderful generosity to the Smithsonian Institution. You are an inspiration to all of us.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard Carmichael
Secretary

WLS:EEK

J. BRUCE BREDIN
P. O. Box 87
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

W.L.S. FEB 23 1956

February 19, 1956

Dear Dr. Schmitt -

It looks now as though I will be taking the first half of the trip with - that is - starting off from Trinidad and leaving at Antigua. This would fit in better for me. I hope it does not upset any of your plans.

I will be in Wilmington Feb. 27, 28 and 29 and will telephone you on one of those dates.

Very trying to write letters here -

Kindest regards,

T. Bruce

Delray Beach, Fla.

(DRAFT)

February 17, 1956

Mr. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Mr. Bredin:

Inasmuch as the Caribbean Expedition is about to take off on March first, I thought you would be interested in knowing the current status of the Congo Expedition funds. From the sale of the stocks you left with me, as you know, \$23,595.37 were realized. A total of \$18,434.54 was expended in the course of the field work, and in preparation therefor, leaving at this writing a balance of \$5,160.83. This, however, cannot be considered as all clear gain, for against it we wish to charge the cost of two prints of the master film that Dr. Schmitt has assembled. We had hoped to deliver the original to the film laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, where the copying is to be done, last Monday, but the National Geographic Society, which kindly has undertaken the splicing, and some editing, will not be able to complete the splicing before next Tuesday or Thursday, Wednesday being a holiday. There will be a total of about 4,000 feet of film available for projection. The several reels containing this footage will be sent you as soon as we get the copies from Agriculture, along with several sheets of written comments or annotations which will enable you to identify the episodes and scenes photographed.

Regrettably, we do not have the proper sound recording equipment in the Institution. Here again the Geographic Society has promised further assistance, but I am afraid we shall not be able

to avail ourselves of this until after the Caribbean Expedition returns, because considerable editing, timing, and re-recording is involved as we wish to have the sequences in the right order and of the proper length. The unused, and the unfortunately fogged film totals about another 4,000 feet. Then there are three hundred feet of Dr. Chapin telling about some of his Congo bird specimens, for which we have also sound tape, but this will be a more exacting job. There will be some difficulty in making tape correspond to film, as again some portions of the film were fogged.

In addition, there are another 1,000 feet of film relating to the plant-mite investigations which Dr. Baker has just started checking over. He is actively engaged in working up the collections he made in the course of the expedition, but hopes before too long to get the film well organized. Of the unused or surplus film, there was quite a bit left over. With the advice of our purchasing officer, this was disposed of locally and the \$507.50 so realized is included in the balance given above. Copying the film will cost us 10¢ a foot; for an introductory map and title we cannot yet furnish you an estimate. Dr. Schmitt also suggests a brief view of bits of the Herbert Ward African sculptures in our Museum halls, to tie in the Institution with the expedition in the beginning and then a shot at the end of the specimens brought back and under study. The copy and these additions will entail some additional charges against the fund, but will in no way deplete it.

I believe Dr. Schmitt has already mentioned some of the scientific results to you. Most interesting are Dr. Chace's remarks on the Crustacea, shrimp and crabs collected. Regarding these Dr. Chace, our Curator of Marine Invertebrates, contributes some pertinent remarks. These you will find enclosed.

The fish and mammals are in the process of being identified, and are not yet ready to be reported upon. The specimens of the former brought back totaled about 550; the latter about 63, including fine series of at least 3 species of bats. As you know, 93 bottom samples were forwarded to Dr. Dale E. Wolf of your Grasselli Chemicals Department Experiment Station, who received them on January 9. Some worthwhile antibiotic may be recovered from one or more of them.

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I am still mindful of your kind invitation to meet you in St. Thomas for that visit to , and when you know more definitely when you approach that stage in the cruise, I shall try to arrange to join you, if at all possible. I must confess my calendar does

4
not held forth much promise, but we cannot now foresee the shifts I may be able to make when the time draws near.

We are highly appreciative of what you did to make the Belgian Congo expedition possible and successful. It was very much to the Smithsonian Institution's interest, and materially enhanced its scientific collections.

Tahiti Cove...

320 VENETIAN DRIVE
BOX 516
DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA

ack. long
send carbon of my
letter of Nov. and
Cottages and Apartments
SELECTED CLIENTELE
Nicholson's reply of Nov.
28/56
January 3, 1956

Dear Dr. Schmidt -

The picture album of the African trip
is a treasure to have. I appreciate the work
both you and Mrs. Schmidt have done to
organize the album. Many thanks to you both.

The Delaware weather caught up with
me and I came here on Monday to try
to rid myself of a head cold and ease a
sinus infection. After two days I decidedly feel
much better.

Mark is getting closer and my friend's
schedule, also my own, is getting to the point
when we would like to have some definite
dates for the Caribbean. Perhaps you had better
cable Wilkinson in Antigua requesting the
information which we need.

On Saturday I will be back in Wilmington
for about a week.

My best wishes to you for a happy
and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely

J. Bruce Bredin

Bredin, Bruce

November 10, 1955

Mr. Bruce Bredin
Box 87
Wilmington, Delaware

Dear Bruce:

In the course of formulating the plans for your Belgian Congo expedition it was suggested to us by a Mr. Fred Barclay of the Nepera Chemical Company that the saving of soil samples for their antibiotic content might prove very worthwhile. As a result we collected some 60 lots. These were offered to the Nepera people on our return, as set forth in my letter of September 16 to Dr. George W. Mast, Vice President and scientific director. With a carbon of that letter I enclose also a copy of the list of the samples and his reply of November 7 to me.

I bring this matter to your attention at this late date because I have since heard that the "DuPonts," or some branch of that far flung organization, had once been interested in soil samples for biotic assay. Is that still the case? If so, they should have the opportunity of examining these samples before we now approach anyone else. There was no expectation of cashing in on the samples in a big way but if anything were to develop certainly the Bredin Fund for exploration should derive some return from it.

If you find that the "DuPonts" are not interested I could follow Mast's advice and see Dr. Welch, or do you think we should approach the Merck people first? Whomever is approached regarding these samples must be able to assure the Department of Agriculture that this unfumigated material will be properly safeguarded before it will be released. I shall be glad to send the samples to any DuPont laboratory that would be interested in them.

As the identification of the Congo specimens progresses we are finding some things of scientific interest. Dr. Chace was telling me of a rare crab that turned up in our Lake Tanganyika collections, and remarked that there must be more interesting forms of life than have yet been discovered in that general area. The count of the mammals, rodents, and bats mostly runs close to a hundred. I had not realized that we had gotten quite so many.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encs.

November 8, 1955

Mr. Bruce Bredin
Greenville, Delaware

Dear Bruce:

You will have by this time received a carbon of Mr. Nicholson's letter to me of October 29 in response to my letter to him of October 24. A draft carbon of the latter is enclosed to let you know what has passed between us so far.

I am wondering if Nicholson's suggestion fits in with the plans or ideas you had about the cruise and the time that you and your friend, the doctor, might be able to devote to it. You will recall that in the letter you wrote him you hoped to have about a week in the American and British Virgins; this you also mentioned to Dr. Carmichael and myself when I last saw you. Therefore, if you were to start at Trinidad as Nicholson urges, two or three weeks would only get you half way to the Virgins. As far as the Smithsonian "bug-hunter" members of your expedition are concerned, the start and finish are immaterial. We can put in our time to good advantage at whatever islands you may visit enroute. Dr. Carmichael, also, if he can get off from prior commitments, could join up at the most convenient place for the run over to Tortola.

How do you feel about Nicholson's suggestion for reversing the direction of the cruise? Do not hesitate to lay it on the line because he, the FREELANCE, and the rest of us will be only too glad to meet you where and whenever you say.

There is one thing to bear in mind, however. Nicholson writes that his immediately previous cruise ends in Grenada or Trinidad, and that the "about 8 days" run back to St. Thomas "would mean a much later start." Just how much later can be ascertained as soon as we know where you prefer to start.

Fortunately Nicholson is most receptive to the type of work we wish to do, and it would be most convenient to have him secure lobster pots, a wash tub or two, and buckets for us instead of our shipping them down.

Dr. Chace, one of the members of the party selected by Dr. Carmichael, will not fly. Thus he will be able to take with him our collecting gear. It will be just fine to have it personally conducted and delivered by steamer at the port of departure.

I just got back from Miami Monday morning in time for work. The Florida sunshine and warmth are "not to be sneezed at," but I do like the more crisp morning air we are enjoying this time of the year.

Regards to you all,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator of Zoology

Enc.

Bredin, Bruce
(Filed: West Indies Exped.)

October 21, 1955

Mr. J. Bruce Bredin
P. O. Box 87
Wilmington, Delaware

Dear Mr. Bredin:

Thank you for your letter of October 17, and for the information about the FREELANCE. As you say, this ship certainly sounds ideal for the purposes of the trip.

The proposed expedition has been discussed with Dr. Schmitt, and he has agreed to serve as leader of the Smithsonian Institution group and to be responsible for making whatever arrangements are necessary. He will contact Mr. Nicholson to determine the practicability of starting at St. Thomas and ending at Barbados, - visiting the lesser known islands on the way.

Dr. Schmitt feels that it should not be difficult to stop at Tortola should it be possible for me to join the group at St. Thomas. If this stopover can be arranged, I certainly hope I shall be able to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to visit the Island where some of my ancestors resided.

After he has corresponded with Mr. Nicholson, Dr. Schmitt will get in touch with you.

Best personal wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard Carmichael
Secretary

J. BRUCE BREDIN
P. O. Box 87
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Nicholson

OCT 19 1955
L.CARM.2-1

October 17, 1955

Dr. Leonard Carmichael
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Carmichael:

I am sending along some information on the ship which I believe would be ideal for our purposes. Also, I am attaching a letter which I have written to Mr. Nicholson. I hope this meets with your approval. If so, we should send a deposit so that we may be certain that the schooner "Freelance" is reserved for our trip.

There is no objection whatsoever to Dr. Schmitt being a member of the expedition. I would like to see him go along. It seems to me he should fully realize that there might be some rough going on a trip such as this. Whether Dr. Schmitt or another person heads up the expedition, we should be getting our plans organized. I leave that entirely up to your good judgement.

Kindest regards,

J. Bruce Bredin

*Should be discussed
with Dr. Schmitt - RK*

*W. J. Schmitt
AC Smith
J. G. Clarke
F. M. Chase*

Dear Bruce,

Bredin, Bruce
Filed: West Indies Exped. 9/30/55 (1).

It was good to see you Wednesday, to get news of the contemplated Caribbean trip, and of Antonia. I hope the rest of the family are equally well and vigorous.

~~I got a reminder from~~

^{next} The morning ~~after~~, Dr Carmichael ^{sent me a reminder to make my} ~~for~~ recommendations ^{of} concerning scientists who may wish to accompany the expedition. ^{He put} ~~with very~~ heavy emphasis on the fact that you "expressed a preference for young scientists because of the nature of the travel." The results of a staff check will go over to him ~~on~~ Monday a.m. - about a half dozen names from which he ^{or you} ~~may~~ ^{make} a selection.

(2)

I regret ^{that} you had to go away empty-handed as regards Congo pictures. ~~I've been~~ ^{I am still} ~~hard~~ at work on narrative ^{movie} film, and stills, evenings and some week-ends here ~~at the office~~ but ~~and~~ hope to get every thing wound up by the year's end, including photographs ~~and~~ for you before that. If I can accomplish these several ~~things~~ tasks before March first I would awfully well like to participate as one of the possible three you may take from here.

I would hate to appear as having been judged and found wanting for this second trip you are planning under the Smithsonian's auspices in this ~~very~~ last ~~full~~ year ~~of~~ ~~my~~ that I shall be with the National Museum, ^{up to} My ~~mandatory~~ retirement ~~falls due in mid 1957, June 30.~~

June 30, 1957.

Same

The West Indies, Windward and Leeward are an old stamping ground for ~~the~~ both of us. You yourself know how unforgettable that Conrad Cruise with Hunt still is. Is that why you are going back? It would be wonderful to repeat at least parts of it with you.

Along with this I am sending the two Fenger books I mentimed ~~covering the~~ ~~area~~ in which the area between St. Thomas and Barbados is pretty well covered. I know that you will enjoy them as much as I have. Though written ¹⁴ years past, the romance and the atmosphere must still hold for islands to which tourists seldom if ever win their way. "The Cruise of the Diabliesse" belongs to the Museum library. Fenger's earlier book I found second hand. Both are readable and entertaining

Though not written in modern style. From Fenger you may get suggestions of places you'd like to see, but do include Guadalupe, a place ^{where} ~~we~~ ^{we'd} like to collect.

There are several things we did not bring off in the Conrad days ~~some~~ ^{samples of} phosphatic rock desired by our department of geology, and more porpoises. They are worth ^{pulling for} ~~their~~ skeletons for study purposes. You may recall we got ^{me} ~~a~~ porpoise in San Juan Harbor, and a second one off the coast of Georgia. To refresh your mind I'm enclosing with the books the few pages in which the ~~few~~ ^{Hartford} Expedition was summarized. Those were the good old days. No? You ~~had~~ ^{should} have received a copy back in '37.

If not about let this one replace ⁽⁵⁾
it.

Regards and best wishes
to you, Mrs Bedine, the "Family"
and Antonia

Sincerely

August 26, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bredin
Greenville, Delaware

Dear Bruce and Mrs. Bredin:

Pretty much the same old story,--behind hand again with my promises. However, I did get the bits of Congo handicraft into the expressman's hands for delivery to you using the Greenville address. As I have said before, there isn't much of it, but it is in a measure reminiscent and representative. The enclosed photo shows what there is in the box and carton sent this morning. Two of the woven mats, a piece of bark cloth (rather crude looking) for a back drop, and a bow are in the paper wrapped carton; the other things are in the two foot square box.

The bark cloth, woven mats, bow and arrows were obtained in Paulis, presumably made by the Mangbetus. The wooden drummer (to the right), the face plaque (center), and the ivory huntsmen are from Leopoldville. The wooden image to the left--I take it to be a woman--is from Stanleyville, and the circular seat in the middle is from a native village near Mutwanga. The figures, wood and ivory, cost about 450 francs (\$9.00) each. The arrows about 2 francs apiece, the bow 45, the bark cloth and mats about 130 and the face plaque 110 francs. The ivory figurines and drummer, though started home from Leopoldville, April 15, were somehow terribly delayed. They landed here the very same day that the freight shipment from Entebbe via Nairobi did.

Dr. Krieger, our curator of ethnology, was much taken by these objects. He has nothing quite like the bark cloth. This he thought a little unusual because of the stamped decorations, he said with indigo, along the lateral strips. These rosettes show faintly in the photograph. When I picked up these things, I felt crowded, for space in our boxes, but now that I am back, I wish I'd gotten more. So does Dr. Krieger, for we have so little of African handicraft in our collections. I turned over to him another bow and five arrows that the pygmies had made. They are no smaller in size than the Paulis ones. The pygmy arrows had no metal points and carried a patch of poisonous material just behind the sharply pointed wooden tip. This is a wise precaution,--an accidental scratch would work no harm; the poison is not released into a wound unless the arrow penetrates both skin and flesh.

Dr. Kreiger says that the black wooden images are black because of shoe polish! Perhaps I should have asked our wood technologist to try to identify the wood. This may be possible but right now I did not want to hold up the shipment any longer.

May the box and carton reach you promptly. The kodachrome slides are still not quite ready but should be before too long. I'll do my best to expedite them.

My best to you all,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

Enc.

P. S. So that the sending may be properly recorded here, please sign the white copy of the enclosed invoice and return it in the franked envelope accompanying it.

WLS:vd
8:26:55

Bredin Fund

May 10, 1956

Dr. Schmitt

Brenner Photo Company
933 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington 4, D. C.

Processing color film of West Indies
Expedition:

20 exposure rolls	13	each	1.50	19.50
36 exposure rolls	10	each	2.50	25.00

\$ 44.50

Convent Industrial School,
Roseau, DOMINICA. B.W.I.

June 19, 1956.

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Head Curator of Biology,
United States National Museum,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Schmitt,

I thank you very much for your encouraging
letter of May 29.

By now I have received your payment through
the Bank and I thank you very much for it.

I hope you received a rebate on allowed foreign
purchases, since I wrote on your B/L "Unaccompanied
personal baggage".

I thank you very much for your suggestion to
tell to the tourists to declare their mats when returning
to the States.

The Roy Rogers hats can always be obtained and
send by Parcel Post, if desired.

Thanking you for sustaining our work and
assuring you of our best attention to any of your orders,

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Mother Mary Camille

Mother Mary Camille.

BY AIR MAIL

PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME



Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Head Curator of Biology,
United States National Museum
Washington, D. C.
U.S.A.

First fold here

Second fold here

Sender's name and address:

Convent Industrial

SCHOOL

ROSEAU-DOMINICA

B. W. I.

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURES; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

THE 'APSLEY' AIR LETTER

Form approved by Postmaster General No.—71995/IV.

To open cut here

Dr. Leonard Carmichael

March 7, 1957

Waldo L. Schmitt

Expenses in connection with Bredin expeditions

With this I hand you a statement of miscellaneous expenses chargeable to the Bredin fund covering the preparation and editing of the African film, copying charts for projection, and copies of Kodachromes taken on the Caribbean expedition and in Cuba. Also there were several books bought, two of which were sent to Mr. Bredin. The total amounts to \$269.34.

Attach.

3-7-57

Miscellaneous expenses incurred in connection with
the Bredin, African, and Caribbean expeditions

1956

Jan. 30	Taxi to National Geographic Society and return, editing African film	\$ 1.00
Feb. 13	do. two trips	2.00
16	Slide binders, Brenner (No. 1)	4.95
21	2 - 16 mm. movie reels (No. 2)	5.13
24	Taxi, Agricultural Department with film.50
June 7	3 maps, West Indies, National Geographic Society (No. 3).	2.50
July 12	2 books, Tahiti, Devin-Adair (No. 4)	12.00
26	Taxi, Customcraft Photo Finishers.	1.00
	4 copies Nicholson, English Harbor film.	6.00
	Copy Schumacher chart, West Indies, Dunlop	4.08
Aug. 16	Taxi, Silver Spring and return	3.50
	Kodachrome copies, Colorfax (No. 5).	1.80
Sept. 18	Taxi, Silver Spring, waiting and return.	4.35
	Copies of Kodachrome slides, Colorfax (No. 6).	76.50
Nov. 5	Guide to Mexico for Mr. Bredin (No. 6 a)	3.83
Dec. 7	Copy, Schumacher charts, Africa, Dunlop (No. 7).	8.16
	2 - 2,000 ft. movie reels, Electric Center (No. 8).	8.00
12	Work on African film, Mr. Haynes, National Geo- graphic Society (No. 9)	87.00
	Taxi fares in connection with this work.	6.00

1957

Jan. 3	Long distance call to New York re Society Islands Expedition (No. 10).51
21	3 rolls 35 mm. 36 exposure Kodachrome.	6.00
Feb. 13	do. developing, Brenner (No. 11)	6.68
Mar. 1	Kodachrome copies, Africa, Cuba (L. DuPont),	
	Colorfax (No. 12).	<u>17.85</u>

Total \$269.34

April 16, 1951 ①

Monday

Dear Dr. Carmichael,

Here we are in Port
near the close of a most successful cruise
which has exceeded our expectations regard-
ing collections, scenery, and personal pleas-
ure. It has been a grand expedition
and we all regret that you found it im-
possible to participate in these last two
days in this place. I know you would
have enjoyed them. So closely is Porto-
la linked with St. Thomas economically
and socially that here they spurn the
Beewee dollar and deal almost exclusively
in American money, even in the Post
Office where this is being mailed.

I enclose a few glimpses
of the scenery hereabouts. It is a
beautiful and picturesque place

Mr. Ernest May, brother.

Carmichael

is taking

(2)

the in-law of Bruce Bredin, who ~~took~~ his place for the last two weeks has proved grand company. It was Mr. May who financed our Dr. Kreiger and Mr. Morton to the West Indies about 10 years ago. I enjoyed renewing my acquaintance with him. Naturally we regret Mr. Bredin's inability to return, but he will be getting a first hand report from Ernest May when he returns to Wilmington. We are all due to leave St. Croix on the 21st, excepting Dr. Clarke who starts his flight home on the 19th. Dr. Chace and I are coming by Str. the "Alcoa Runner" due home, Baco. or N.Y. about May first.

Again I wish you were here, regards from the four members of your staff on the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition, Clarke and Smith
Sincerely Chace

Dr. Leonard Carmichael

Feb. 29, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Smithsonian-Bredin Caribbean Expedition

I have just had further word (herewith) from Commander Nicholson regarding the cost of the "extras" we may incur on the forthcoming cruise. The \$4 per day per man which I put down for subsistence needs to be doubled to take care of those extras (harbor fees and others) and fuel, which I was unable to estimate before.

Although I did make an allowance of \$913 for incidentals and miscellaneous expenditures, it looks as though we may have to dip into the balance remaining in the African expeditionary fund, perhaps to the extent of \$1,200 to \$1,500.

I am bringing this contingency to your attention at this time in case it arises. We may also be expected to pay for Mr. Bredin's round trip flight to Trinidad to join the expedition on March 12 and return home from Antigua on April 1. However, as Commander Nicholson hopefully expresses it, we may be pleasantly surprised to find that the cost will come to less than the figure he quotes.

Bredin Expedition - West Indies
Dr. Leonard Carmichael

February 28, 1956

Dr. Leonard Carmichael
Secretary
Smithsonian Institution

Dear Dr. Carmichael:

Yesterday I had a phone call from Mr. Bredin. He will be joining the FREELANCE in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, on the 12th of March, to sail with us the next day for the Grenadines. It fits in with his present plans better to spend the first two weeks of the cruise with us. Although he has to leave Antigua for New York about April 1st, he intends re-joining the FREELANCE for the last week or so of the expedition, expressing, at the same time, the hope that you would meet us in St. Thomas shortly after the middle of April for the trip to Tortola. I told him that I had just discussed the matter with you that same morning, and that I was hoping to persuade you to come down despite a busy schedule. He hopes that you can make it. He would love to have the pleasure of your company for at least that brief trip, which should not take more than a day or two.

It would be nice if you could make arrangements to get away. I do hope that you will find it possible to defer a few of your responsibilities about that time.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

Bredin Exp. - West Indies

Dr. Leonard Carmichael

Dr. Leonard Carmichael

Feb. 24, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Smithsonian-Bredin Caribbean Expedition

With this an estimate of cost of Smithsonian-Bredin Caribbean Expedition. With cash advance requested it totals \$8,865.41. The cash advance I would like to have for purchase of American Express Company Travellers checks is \$2,000. In addition, I should have with me a bank draft for \$5,000.00, the balance of the charter fee expected by Capt. Nicholson on or before date of sailing, March 13, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

Bredin Exp. - West Indies

Dr. Leonard Carmichael

Dr. Leonard Carmichael

Feb. 20, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Bredin Congo and Caribbean Expeditions

Herewith a draft of a letter to Mr. Bredin as per your request. Nobody regrets the delay with the motion picture film more than I do, myself. Editing film is a time-consuming job; I've done it before on a Tortugas film and on a Fish and Wildlife Service crab investigation movie back in the 1940's. The sound-tape arranging (editing) will have to wait on the copying. I do not know just how long the latter will take after the original is delivered to Agriculture.

As things stand at this writing: A copy of the usable film, 4,000 feet of it, will be turned over to Mr. Bredin as soon as the copying has been accomplished. Mention of this is made in the drafted letter in which the cost of copying, 10¢ a foot, is given.

The final editing of film for, let us say, an hour's lecture, and the adjustment of the tape recorded sound to it will have to wait until after our return from the Caribbean. In any case, a copy of the film will be sent on to Mr. Bredin when received from the Department of Agriculture motion picture laboratory.

The Group Health doctors have checked over my physical condition and pronounce it satisfactory.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY
NATIONAL AIR MUSEUM
NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Washington 25, D.C.
U.S.A.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
NATIONAL COLLECTION OF FINE ARTS
FREER GALLERY OF ART
INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE SERVICE
CANAL ZONE BIOLOGICAL AREA

February 13, 1956

Friends and Correspondents
of the Smithsonian Institution:

The bearer of this letter, Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, Head Curator of the Department of Zoology, United States National Museum, is acting as the leader of the Smithsonian-Bredin-Caribbean Expedition to the British, French, Dutch and American West Indies. He is accompanied by Dr. Fenner A. Chace, Jr., Curator of Marine Invertebrates, Dr. J. F. Gates Clarke, Curator of Insects, and Dr. A. C. Smith, Curator of Fishes. They are conducting biological studies and collecting specimens of plants, insects, and marine invertebrates of the Islands for the National Collections of the United States National Museum.

Any courtesies and facilities that may be extended to Dr. Schmitt and his party during the course of their official travel will be highly appreciated by the Smithsonian Institution.

Leonard Carmichael

Secretary



Dr. Leonard Carmichael
Thru: Dr. Remington Kellogg

Jan. 24, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Bredin Caribbean Expedition

The most recent word (letter of January 6) from Capt. Nicholson, owner of the "Freelance" the vessel being chartered, states that he will be in Port of Spain, Trinidad, on March 12, prepared to take us aboard for a 5-weeks cruise to St. Thomas, where the cruise will terminate on or about April 19. The actual closing date is subject to Mr. Bredin's wishes and reaction to the Captain's proposal.

I wrote Mr. Bredin upon the receipt of Capt. Nicholson's letter, and am still awaiting his reply. Unless Mr. Bredin should plan it otherwise, we shall be meeting him and his personal guest in Antigua, B.W.I. on April 1, for a final two weeks cruise through the British and American Virgin Islands, in accordance with his previously expressed desires.

Meanwhile, it will be in order to forward Capt. Nicholson the indicated deposit of \$1,000 to bind the yacht charter agreement herewith with the understanding that the balance due will be paid to him in Port of Spain on or before March 12. Inasmuch as you mentioned Mr. Graf as handling the administrative details of this Bredin expedition, I take it that he will sign the agreement in behalf of the Smithsonian Institution and forward it to Capt. Nicholson. A tentative draft of a letter of transmittal is attached.

The only steamship transportation that we have been able to arrange for the majority of the party and its gear, such as baggage, is aboard the "Ile de France," departing from New York on March 2 and arriving in Port of Spain about March 9. These reservations, made yesterday, must be confirmed by Wednesday, and the passage money for three passengers, Dr. Chace, Dr. Smith, and myself, paid no later than Thursday. This amounts to \$227.80 apiece, plus tax, unless this can be waived in the case of an official Smithsonian party.

Dr. Clarke, the fourth member of the party, prefers to fly, and moreover, is desirous of proceeding direct to the island of Dominica to collect insects while awaiting the "Freelance's" arrival there, 10 days or so after leaving Port of Spain. To Dr. Clarke's desire of spending as much time on Dominica as possible, I personally have no objection, but I do request authorization from you for this departure from the original plans. I understand that it will entail but modest additional expense for meals, lodging, and auto hire for getting about.

Our gear is being actively assembled, so that it will be ready to take with us, or, in the case of Dr. Clarke, of being shipped in advance. Return passage from St. Thomas via the Alcoa Line has been requested. We hope it will be confirmed in the next few days.

In summation:

(1) The contract with Capt. Nicholson needs to be filled in, signed, and forwarded to him with a deposit of \$1,000.

(2) For passage for three of us on the "Ile de France" \$683.40, plus 10% tax, if required of us, will have to be paid over to the French Line, 734 Fifteenth St., N. W., not later than Thursday, January 26.

(3) For Dr. Clarke's air fare to Dominica, and return from St. Thomas, \$268.00 (tax free) will be required.

Dr. Leonard Carmichael
Thru: Dr. Remington Kellogg
Waldo L. Schmitt

January 24, 1956

Bredin Caribbean Expedition

An addendum to our memo of today regarding advances for transportation: A round trip was listed for Dr. Clarke. Dr. Albert Smith would also like to return by ship from the American Virgins. We have just learned from Alcoa this noon that they have a vessel returning from St. Thomas via St. Croix on April 21. Passage is \$215 apiece, plus tax; \$645 for three, plus tax, which, travelling for the Government, may not be required of us (?).

These reservations may be taken up this week and should be not later than next Wednesday. Therefore, may we not have \$645 in addition to the sums requested earlier today.

Carmichael
Filed: Bredin Caribb
(West Indies)
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Carmichael

DATE: Nov. 8, 1955

FROM : Waldo L. Schmitt *WLS*

SUBJECT: Bredin Caribbean Expedition

Having just heard from Commander Nicholson, the owner of the FREELANCE, regarding his reaction to the proposed itinerary, I have prepared the enclosed for Mr. Bredin's information and his expression of opinion.

If you approve please have it dropped into the mail today. Air mail to Delaware is no speedier than regular. ~~_____~~

Thank you!

The letter is fine

Carmichael, Leonard
Filed: Bred. W. 2 Exped.

Dr. Carmichael

October 3, 1955

Waldo L. Schmitt

Scientists for the Bredin Caribbean Expedition

I have checked over the qualified and available younger men on our staff whose work and plans are most pertinent to those of the proposed expedition. They are listed and commented upon below. I can recommend any number or combination of these men, whomever you may designate. Some will be glad to go if selected, the others with reluctance or if ordered.

You yourself suggested Drs. Chace and Rehder as possibilities, mentioning also botany. Representing the latter is Dr. Albert C. Smith (No. 3, below), for whom I have very high regard.

1. Dr. Fenner A. Chace, Jr., 47, curator of marine invertebrates, specialist on decapod Crustacea. Dr. Chace is one of the best of our younger men; background and experience excellent. However, he prefers museum research to field work and admits being somewhat prone to seasickness.

2. Dr. Harald Rehder, 43, curator of mollusks, specialist on marine shells; background and experience very good. Though he is at home with a heavy cold, I am quite sure he would be happy to go if chosen. Dr. Rehder has a speech defect, halting speech which poses no very serious difficulty.

3. Dr. Albert C. Smith, 49, curator of phanerogams, department of botany, specialist in flowering plants, recently returned from a year in Fiji, his second on that island. Excellent background, a most experienced field man.

4. Dr. J. P. E. Morrison, 49, associate curator of mollusks, knows land and marine shells very well, one of our most experienced field men; collects all groups. Veteran of the Pacific Science Board and the Bikini biological surveys, as is also Mr. Bayer below.

5. Dr. Thomas E. Bowman, 37, associate curator of marine invertebrates, specialist on copepods, excellent background, with considerable west coast field experience but very susceptible to seasickness and therefore most reluctant to go.

6. Frederick M. Bayer, 34, associate curator of marine invertebrates, specialist in coelenterates, particularly the soft or fleshy corals, and experienced in the use of the aqualung. The Museum's best qualified man

for field work in marine biology. He is still in the Pacific but is due to return in November. However, he is within a year of his doctorate and should by all means complete the requirements for this degree before going in the field again. His work toward it has been interrupted in two different years by field work.

7. Dr. Charles E. Cutress, Jr., 34, recently appointed associate curator of marine invertebrates, specialist in sea anemones, with considerable field experience in Hawaii and the Marshall Islands. We have no assurance that he would take part in this expedition due to the fact that he will be arriving in Washington for the first time in December and has expressed the desire to complete his doctor's thesis in the ensuing months; he will have completed all other requirements at the University of Hawaii before leaving. None of us have yet met Dr. Cutress but he comes to us very highly recommended and is well qualified to give a good account of himself; may be the logical man to represent the interests of the division of marine invertebrates on the proposed expedition but would have to be consulted first.

Neither Drs. Leonard Schultz, 54, nor Ernest Lachner, 40, respectively curator and associate curator, division of fishes, is available. Dr. Schultz has promised to conduct a course in ichthyology at the University of Maryland during the spring semester and Dr. Lachner leaves for Europe on a Guggenheim scholarship the first of March, 1956.

Carmichael, L.
Filed: Bredin W.D. Exped.
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
*KK***TO :** Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt (through Dr. Kellogg)**DATE:** September 29, 1955**FROM :** Leonard Carmichael *LC***SUBJECT:** Proposed Bredin Expedition to Caribbean

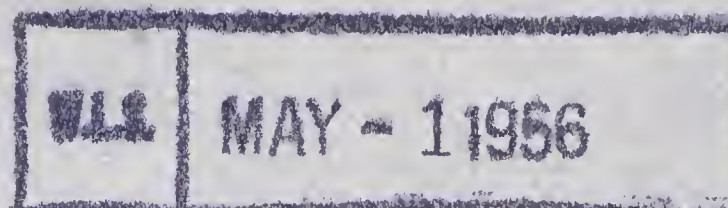
Mr. J. Bruce Bredin yesterday informed me that he would be glad to finance a Smithsonian expedition to the islands of the Caribbean. He suggests that the expedition extend from March 1 to April 10, 1956. Funds will be presented to the Smithsonian Institution to make it possible to pay all the expenses of the expedition and to pay full travel and living expenses of two or three Smithsonian scientists who may wish to accompany the expedition.

I would be glad to have recommendations concerning the scientists who are to go. Mr. Bredin expressed a preference for young scientists because of the nature of the travel.

Mr. Bredin himself may or may not be able to accompany the expedition, and Mrs. Bredin will not be able to join the expedition.

cc: Mr. Graf

367 20 1955



Dr. Remington Kellogg

May 1, 1956

J. F. Gates Clarke

West Indies Smithsonian - Bredin Expedition.

Departed Washington 6 March 1955 by plane; San Juan, Puerto Rico 7th to Martinique via St. Croix, Antigua and Guadeloupe. Departed Martinique 8th March and arrived Dominica 8th March slightly before noon.

Remained in Dominica until the morning of 28 March when I joined the rest of the expedition members aboard the "Freelance".

Subsequent stops, for collecting, were made at Guadeloupe, Antigua, Redonda, Nevis, St. Christopher, Virgin Gorda and Tortola, the trip terminating at St. Croix the night of 18th of April, 1955.

I estimate that between 15000 to 20000 insects were collected, most of course, on Dominica. The collection is particularly rich in Coleoptera, Orthoptera, Diptera, and Microlepidoptera. Among the non-insects the collecting of millipeds was emphasised and much material in this group was obtained.

cc: Dr. Waldo Schmitt

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Washington 25, D. C.
REQUEST FOR SPECIFIC (NOT GENERAL) TRAVEL AUTHORITY
(In triplicate)Name Dr. J. F. Gates Clarke Title Curator - Division of Insects

Authority is requested to travel via ☐ common carrier; ☒ commercial airline; ☐ private automobile @ _____ per mile (see justification); ☐ Government vehicle or plane; ☐ other (specify) _____ (see justification); on official business from (~~temporary~~) (official) station at Washington, D.C. (~~residence~~)
on or about March 11, 1956 to: Dominica via New York and San Juan, Puerto Rico, and return from St. Thomas, B.W.I.

and to such other points as may be found necessary, and in the order found to be most advantageous, revisiting any of said points as may be necessary; and to return to the (~~temporary~~, official, residence) station not later than April 20, 1956.

A per diem allowance of \$ _____ is requested.
The amount of \$ _____ is requested for procurement of supplies, materials, or equipment.

This travel is for the purpose of: Collecting Terrestrial Arthropods.

All expenses for this trip will be borne by the Bruce Bredin Fund which is sponsoring this Caribbean Expedition.

Dr. Clarke is to be advanced \$165.00 for living expenses on Dominica where he will spend 10 days and St. Thomas where he will spend 2 days.

He will also need \$268.00 for traveling expenses.

Estimated cost:

Transportation \$ _____; Per Diem \$ _____;

Other expenditures \$ _____; TOTAL COST OF TRIP \$ _____.

No. of transportation requests desired _____.

Appropriation chargeable: _____

Approved by _____

Travel Order No. _____

Date _____

The foregoing travel requested is authorized except as follows:

Assistant Secretary

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Leonard Carmichael

DATE: January 30, 1956

FROM : J. F. Gates Clarke *J*

SUBJECT: Per Diem for living expenses on Dominica and St. Thomas.

It has been estimated that I shall need \$180.00 for living expenses on Dominica and St. Thomas.

May I please have this amount advanced to me, from the Bruce Bredin Fund, before departure for the Caribbean Expedition?

2/2 - S o'c

Dr. Schmitt:

Mr. Clarke was in; will get transportation tickets tomorrow; must have transportation requests in time, before noon.

EK

AIR LETTER

September 26, 1956

Mr. William B. Cobb, Jr.
American Consul
Fort de France
Martinique, F. W. I.

Dear Mr. Cobb:

By this time you will have received a letter signed by Dr. Carmichael dated September 24. I had wanted the letter from Dr. Carmichael addressed to the Secretary of State, but somewhere along the line some secretary changed arrangements and the letter went to you and the carbon to the Secretary of State. I hope it will suffice for your record because you certainly were of wonderful service to us. I am sorry I could not get matters put through as I wished.

I still have a letter for Dr. Blanche that I have hesitated to send because I want to send him a little crab token, a key ring with a crab imbedded in plastic. I don't recall whether I gave you one or not, but I was wondering if I might not as the Diplomatic Mail Service to send two to you, so that you might give one to Dr. Blanche. In the old days I knew the man in charge of the Mail Room at State, and he would take anything that I gave him within reason, such as little mementos as the ones of which I speak. Now-a-days the State Department has gotten so large and so many of my friends have passed on that I no longer know my way around up there. Have you some friend on the inside to whom I might deliver the package for transmittal to you? I hate to run into the Customs authorities for things that are really worth so little.

I trust all goes well with you, Mrs. Cobb and the baby.

Good luck !

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

W.L.S.

SEP 2 1956

September 24, 1956

Mr. William E. Cobb, Jr.
American Consul
Fort de France
Martinique, F. W. I.

Dear Mr. Cobb:

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt has informed me of the gracious and courteous treatment the members of the Smithsonian Institution-Bredin Expedition received during their stay in Fort de France from the Office of the Consul. They were particularly grateful for the introductions to local naturalists, scientists, and fishery representatives, which also made it possible for the expedition to establish valuable contacts in Guadeloupe.

The services rendered by you personally contributed immeasurably to the success of this field expedition and I wish to extend the appreciation of Dr. Schmitt and those who accompanied him. May I add my personal thanks to you and your associates for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard Carmichael

Leonard Carmichael
Secretary

CC: Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt ✓

HMWEISS:ALK
9-24-56

AIR LETTER

September 14, 1956

Mr. William B. Cobb, Jr.
American Consul
American Consulate
Martinique, F. W.I.

Dear Mr. Cobb:

This is a terribly belated letter expressing our appreciation of your great kindness during our brief visit to Martinique. The highlight of that visit, of course, was that wonderful day's tour you gave us of the Island, both through its inland portions and back to Fort de France by way of the sea coast. I am terribly behind-hand with everything connected with the results of that expedition, and it may be some time before any of them get published. Before too long I hope to have a few black and white prints made from some of our kodachrome slides so that I might send you some little remembrance of that very pleasant day. Do you have a projector, and are you a color-slide fan? If so, it might be simpler to duplicate a few of the slides for you.

I am asking our Secretary, Dr. Leonard Carmichael, to thank the State Department for your interest in our expedition and its welfare. One of the nicest things that came out of our visit with you was the reference to Dr. Blanche. From him I received a set of five numbers, I believe, of the publication of the local Natural History Society. Our Librarian was not familiar with the publication and has gotten in touch with the organization with a view to exchanging publications. But for you and your introductions, we would never have learned about this most interesting series of bulletins. Though small, they prove very informative and make mention of some birds that had been described by the late husband of our Librarian, Mrs. Austin H. Clark.

Mr. Ashbrook of the Fish and Wildlife Service is also enthusiastic of your kind attention to him on his visit to Martinique. It is a wonderful Island, and you are a wonderful host. I wish I could come back soon again, but whether or no, do look me up when next you come this way. Have a crisis, and maybe they will invite you home for consultation. I can hear you say: "Now, heaven forbid," with regard to the crisis.

My kindest regards to you, Mrs. Cobb, and the youngster.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:sek

ARCHIVES DE LA MARTINIQUE

ADM56/88

Fort-de-France, le 22 mars 1956

Monsieur William B. COBB, Jr.
Consul des Etats Unis d'Amérique
Consulat Américain
FORT-DE-FRANCE

CONSULATE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MARTINIQUE, F.W.I.
MAR 23 1956

Monsieur le Consul,

En réponse à votre lettre du 19 mars 1956, j'ai l'honneur de vous indiquer les noms des personnes ci-dessous comme s'intéressant aux plantes, insectes, vertébrés ou spécimens sous-marins :

M. BLANCHE, Directeur du Service de Protection des Végétaux, (Service de l'Agriculture - Jardin Desclieux);

Mlle CECCALDI, Professeur de Sciences Naturelles au Lycée Schoelcher ;

M. MORICE, Directeur de l'Office des Pêches (Inspection Maritime, Bassin de Radoub) ;

M. DEROG, près du Bassin de Radoub (M. DEROG n'a aucune formation scientifique, mais il a constitué une collection de plantes et d'animaux sous-marins qui contient, de l'avis de personnes informées des exemplaires intéressants.)

Muddy alley

Je regrette que le Révérend Père PINCHON, Professeur au Séminaire-Collège soit absent de la Martinique jusqu'en octobre prochain ; il eût été une des personnes les plus aptes à fournir des renseignements aux Personnalités que vous m'annoncez ; mais il est possible que ces personnalités puissent visiter une partie de ses collections

D^r Henri STEHLE Director of Agronomy
Research - Prise d'Eau par LA MENTIN
(Guadeloupe)

R.P. PINCHON - Professeur
au Séminaire Collège de Fort-de-France

J. MORICE. B.P. 559 Fd.F.
LA MARTINIQUE

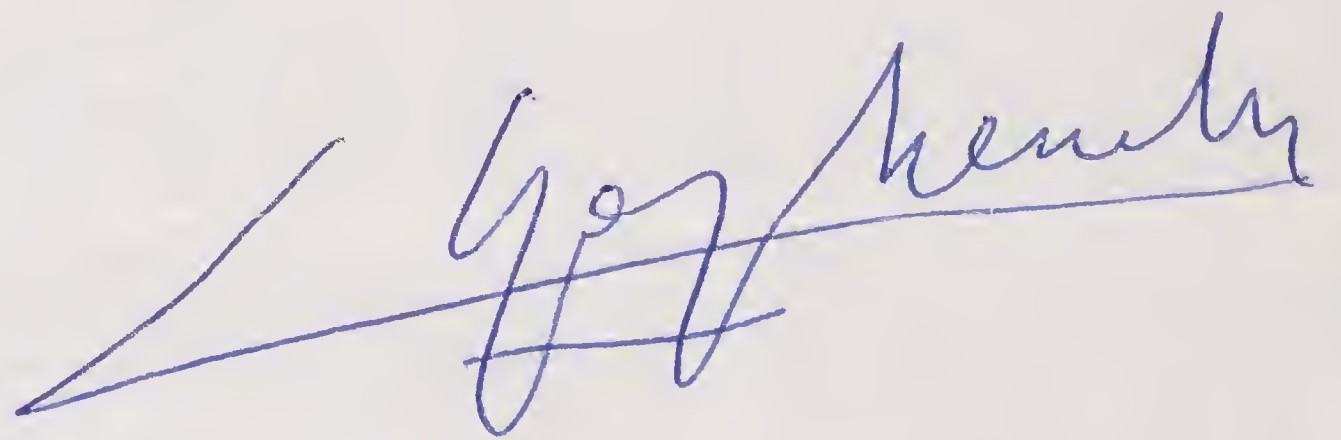
MARTINIQUE

FORT de FRANCE

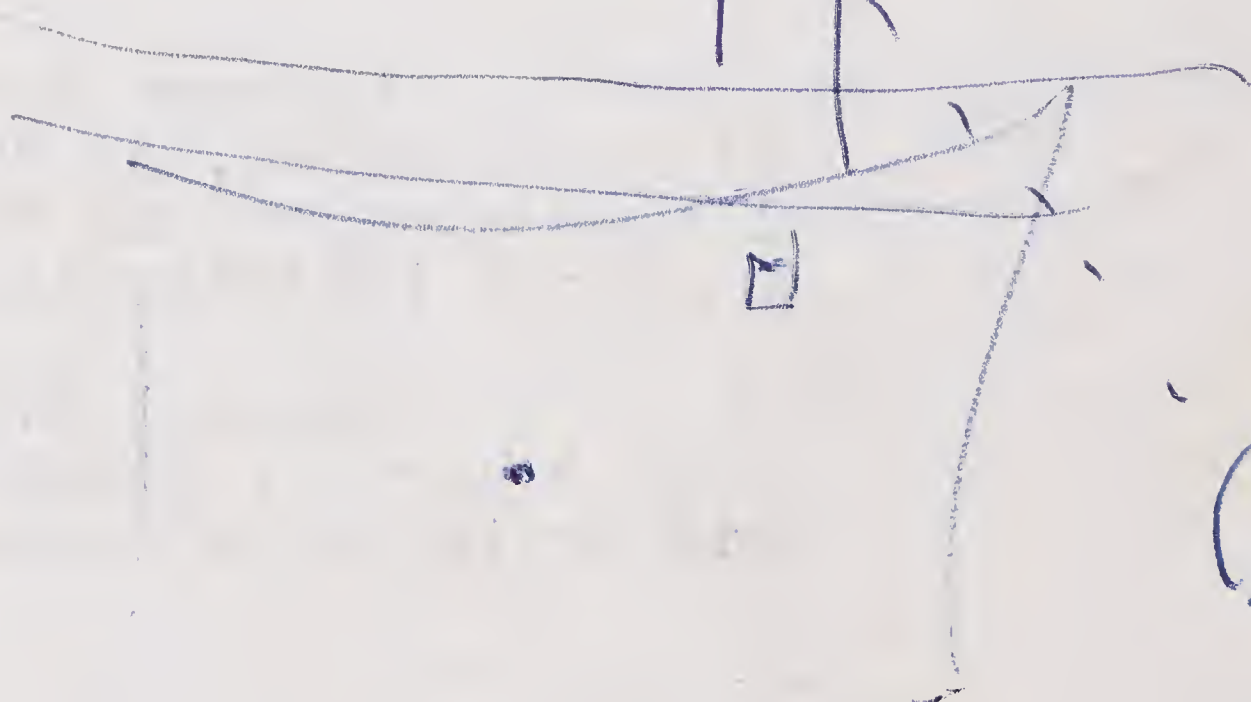
Robert Widlund
Sweden - he said B.P. 3459
Fort-de-France

Lorsque donc, l'Expédition Scientifique annoncée sera sur place, je suis persuadé que l'on pourra, selon les préoccupations des savants la composant, établir des contacts intéressants.

Restant avec plaisir à votre disposition, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Consul, l'expression de ma considération très distinguée.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Goyheneche', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

E. GOYHENECHÉ
Archiviste en Chef de la
Martinique
Préfecture
FORT-DE-FRANCE (Martinique)



After

AIR LETTER

February 28, 1956

Mr. William B. Cobb, Jr.
American Consul
American Consulate
Martinique, F. W. I.

Dear Mr. Cobb:

Your letter of February 17 is most welcome. I don't know just when we will get to Martinique. However, we are departing from Port-of-Spain, Trinidad on the 13th, and hope to spend a few days in the Grenadines enroute.

I have most pleasant recollections of Martinique which I visited once before in 1937, on the Joseph Conrad. We shall be very happy to meet with you and the biologically-interested friends of whom you speak. However, I do not know if there is a single one of us that speaks French, though all of us can read a bit.

I shall try to keep you posted as to our movements. Perhaps you are in touch with Capt. Nicholson from time to time by radio telephone.

Thank you again for your friendly letter.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:cek



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bredin Exp.-West Indies
William B. Cobb, Jr. Amer. Consul

WLS. FEB 27 1956

American Consulate,
Martinique, F.W.I.,
February 17, 1956.

Dr. Waldo Schmitt,
Head Curator of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

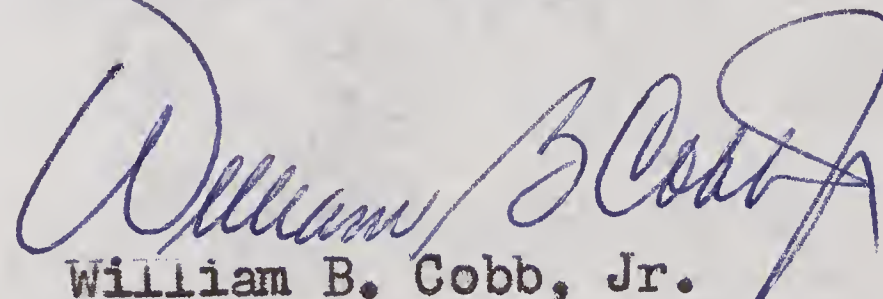
Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Word of your forthcoming visit to the Caribbean has been received from Desmond Nicholson and from the Department of State. I wish to assure you that we look forward to your arrival with keen anticipation.

This Consulate has long maintained cordial relations with the Nicholsons in Antigua who frequently call here and your proposal to charter one of their yachts for 6 weeks strikes us as an excellent way of covering the islands thoroughly, for the Nicholsons are well and favorably known, not only in Martinique, but throughout the Antilles.

While I know that your travel will be determined by your success in collecting specimens of plant, insect and marine life and it is not possible to say at this time when you will arrive in Martinique, I hope that your visit here will provide us with an occasion to entertain you and the members of your party as well as a small group of local residents interested in the field of your endeavor. We will also be pleased to hold for you any mail which your families may wish to send; and, if there is any other way in which we can be of assistance to you, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,


William B. Cobb, Jr.
American Consul

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TRINIDAD,

B. W. I.

CABLE ADDRESS:
"TRINCARONI, TRINIDAD"

OUR REF. NO.

CODES:
ACME, A.B.C. 5TH & 6TH EDITIONS,
DUO, BENTLEY'S 2ND PHRASE,

18th February, 1956.

Miss Jocelyn Crane,
Department of Tropical Research,
New York Zoological Society,
Simla, Arima Valley,
Trinidad. British West Indies.

Dear Miss Crane,

Since this 30 gallons of Alcohol is for use outside Trinidad it can be sent "in Bond" to the boat by which the person wishes it to be conveyed.

No duty is payable on Export Alcohol or spirits, but it must be accompanied by an Excise Guard which should not cost more than the regulation \$2.25 for half day. This should be a simple arrangement.

The other plan is to submit an application to the Collector of Customs and Excise for Duty exemption, stating the reasons. This will take a little time but it can be speeded if you made a request for urgency.

Please let us know what size and type of containers you wish to use for it.

The Excise duty on this 30 gallons would be about \$300.

Messrs Unital (Trinidad) Limited, 29 Chacon St., P.O.S. handle our spirit sales so the price fixing is outside my sphere. I have spoken to them and have asked them to quote you a favourable price.

Yours sincerely,

R. H. Getty.

If you are using the export plan we can go ahead with it as soon as we hear from you.

1. Mr. W. Schmidt

2. Mr. F. Chase

3. Mr. J. F. Gates

4. Mr. A. C. Smith

5 Return to
Fink & Walbridge
Central Files

2/15



DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

UNCLASSIFIED

862

Mr. Waldo Schmitt

82 eld

ORIGIN:

NO.:

CA-6030 February 8, 1956

EUR

INFO

DCL

OLI

U/FW

U/SA

SUBJECT:

Proposed Trip to West Indies by Scientific Expedition.

TO:

PORT-OF-SPAIN, BARBADOS, CURACAO, MARTINIQUE

RPTD INFO: PARIS, LONDON

CIA IN SM

The Department has been informed by the Smithsonian Institution that the Institution is sponsoring a scientific expedition, known as the "Smithsonian-Bredin-Caribbean Expedition," which will travel through British, French, Dutch and American West Indies during March and April 1956.

The purpose of the trip is to undertake biological studies and to collect specimens of plants, insects and marine life of the Islands. It is expected the specimens obtained will supplement the present collection and add species not previously represented. This work is said to be especially desirable since information will be obtained on the distribution of plants and insects in parts of the West Indies that are little known biologically.

Four members of the staff of the United States National Museum are participating, namely, Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, Head Curator of Zoology; Dr. Fenner A. Chase, Jr., Curator of Marine Invertebrates; Dr. J. F. Gates Clarke, Curator of Insects; and Dr. Albert C. Smith, Curator of Phanerogams.

Three members of the party will travel from New York to Trinidad in early March on the SS ILE DE FRANCE. The fourth member, Dr. Clarke, will fly direct to Dominica and will join the expedition there. The expedition will travel among the Islands on a chartered twin-Diesel schooner, the FREELANCE, owned and mastered by Capt. V. E. B. Nicholson of Antigua, B.W.I. The expedition expects to visit the Grenadines, Dominica, Redonda, St. Eustatius and Saba, Curacao, Martinique, and Guadeloupe, and if time permits possibly Barbuda, Sombrero and St. Croix.

The addressee missions are requested to inform the appropriate authorities and to undertake to obtain whatever clearances may be necessary.

DULLES

UNCLASSIFIED

ED BY:

EUR:BNA:FDTaylor/js 2/8/56

APPROVED BY:

Ernest A. Lister

RANCES:

WE - West and Lancaster

Mr. J. W. McGahan
Animal Medicine Section
E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

Dear Mr. McGahan:

With this is our official invoice covering the shipment of the 38 West Indian soil samples that I collected this spring in the course of an expedition sponsored by Mr. J. Bruce Bredin, the same gentleman who made possible the Smithsonian Expedition to the Congo which returned the samples that Mr. Wolf was working with. I have been in communication with Dr. Wheeler in the Department of Agriculture, who tells me that he has also dropped you a line about these samples which he has permitted me to send you direct.

I do hope that you may find something in these samples, and I am wondering if anything was turned up in those from the Congo. Mr. Bredin has asked me several times if I had heard from Mr. Wolf, but I know how long some of these studies take. In our work there are several cases where the report followed collections of the material by some twenty years. I wish you luck with what I have sent.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.
WLS:ek
10/5/56

10/5/56

No. 2

Mr. J. W. McGahan
Animal Medicine Section
E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

frank-mail

Waldo L. Schmitt

xxxxxxx Dept. of Zoology

bags

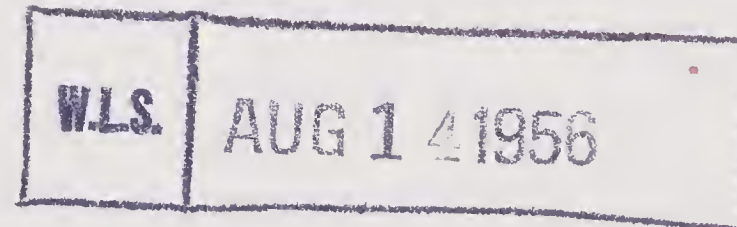
38 soil samples
(see list attached)

Bredin Exp.--West Indies

Glasgow House

ONE WEST MAIN STREET • RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

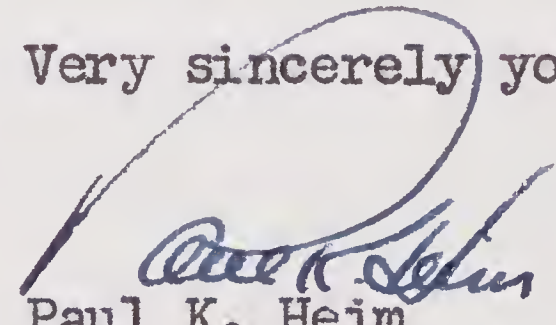
12 August 1956



My dear Doctor Schmitt:

Thank you for your good letter of August 8. I will look forward eagerly to hearing from Mr. Bredin.

Very sincerely yours,


Paul K. Heim

Pro/ms

Copy

GLASGOW HOUSE

One West Main Street . Richmond, Virginia

6 August 1956

Professor Waldo L. Schmitt
U. S. National Museum
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Professor Schmitt:

I have been in correspondence with Previews Incorporated relative to the purchase of Mustique Island in the British West Indies. I plan to visit the island in October, but I am at ^{the} present engaged in gathering general data on it. It was/suggestion of Previews Incorporated that I try to determine from you something about the nature of the soil of the island. Any additional information that you can give me in the way of personal observation will be greatly appreciated.

In the hope that I will be hearing from you soon,

Sincerely yours,

/s/Paul K. Heim
Paul K. Heim

Copy forwarded to Mr. Bredin

AIR LETTER

September 26, 1956

Mr. Arthur M. Greenhall, Curator
Royal Victoria Institute Museum
Port of Spain, Trinidad, B. W. I.

Dear Mr. Greenhall:

Just a word to tell you how pleased I am with your recent letter to Dr. Kellogg and the prospect that you may soon make a trip to the south end of Trinidad for specimens of Pseudis. You really stirred up a lot of interest hereabouts. The letter signed by Dr. Kellogg is one that I would have liked to have written to you myself. Indeed, I drafted most of it.

I am more than pleased that Alice is still interested in natural history and that you are sending me the four crabs she collected in Tobago. My best to her and to you.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:EEK

cc: Dr. Schmitt ✓

December 5, 1955

Miss Elizabeth A. Hill
Esplanade Travel Service Inc
76 Charles Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Hill:

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt has asked me to reply to your letter of November 22 regarding transportation involved in our proposed trip on Commander Nicholson's "Freelance".

There will probably be four members of the Smithsonian staff on this trip: Dr. Schmitt, Dr. Albert C. Smith, Dr. J. F. Gates Clarke, and myself. Three of us would prefer to go to and from the West Indies by ship if possible. Dr. Clarke prefers to go by air. I will go by ship or not at all. If you can obtain reservations for three of us on a freighter or similar vessel, we will be glad to avail ourselves of your services.

We plan to join the "Freelance" at either Grenada or Trinidad on or about March 7 and will leave it at St. Thomas about April 15. I will let you know just as soon as we learn from Commander Nicholson whether we are to start from Trinidad or Grenada. There is a possibility that two or three members of our families would like to accompany us on the first or last leg of the trip. In other words, they would make a round trip either to Grenada-Trinidad or to St. Thomas on the same vessel on which we book a one-way passage. Is there a chance that such an arrangement could be worked out?

The Virgin Islands cruises are probably especially popular, and it may therefore be difficult to obtain reservations back from St. Thomas. If so, would it be easier to book passage from one of the other islands visited during the trip or from Antigua at the end of the trip, if the "Freelance" returns to that port?

Any assistance you can give us will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Fenner A. Chase, Jr.

Curator

Division of Marine Invertebrates

Mr. William W. Johnson

July 17, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

S.I. Bredin Expedition account

Please add to my expenses, on account of the Bredin Expedition, the sum of \$39.71. This amount represents the cost and shipping of a map bought in Dominica for presentation to Mr. Bredin, less \$13.81 covering a few small mats bought for myself. The latter, however, did not increase shipping charges as the whole "package" was below the minimum charge made by Alcoa. The payment made the Riggs Bank for the mats and charges is attached.

Attach.

Dr. Remington Kellogg

December 6, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Exhibit material

In so far as exhibit material from the head curator's office may be concerned: With the map that Dr. Clarke suggests, setting forth some information regarding the materials collected on the Smithsonian-Bredin Caribbean Expedition, could be placed the Museum's automatic slide "projector" in order to show a selected series of kodachrome slides taken in the course of the expedition. These can be made ready for your inspection on a day's notice.

Dr. Remington Kellogg

May 3, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Smithsonian Bredin Caribbean Expedition

Just a word to report Dr. Chace's and my return to duty at the Museum.

The Bredin expedition was far more successful than first anticipated in view of size of vessel and limited time. However, we were enabled to make a number of interesting observations; of shrimp commensal with anemones, windrows of red crab megalops on the beach, thousands of them at one time and in one long drift, a phenomenon which in the experience of the natives, fishermen and others seems never to have been noted before. Also, I was enabled to realize a twenty-year ambition of landing on Redonda Island, a place difficult of access except in the most favorable weather which was vouchsafed us this time, and from which Dr. Foshag has long desired samples from a phosphatic deposit occurring there.

We left Trinidad on March 13 on the schooner "Freelance" with Mr. Bredin, visiting Grenada and several of the Grenadines, making Martinique on the 22nd. Here Mr. Bredin left for the States, after the American Consul at Port de France, Mr. William B. Cobb, Jr., had taken us on a tour of the island. On April 9, Mr. Ernest N. May, Mr. Bredin's brother-in-law, joined the expedition for the rest of the cruise. It was Mr. May who financed Dr. Kreiger's and Mr. Morton's expedition to the West Indies about 10 years ago.

Dr. Clarke was picked up at Roseau, Dominica, on April 25. The subsequent stops and his personal activities he has enumerated for you:

Guadeloupe, Antigua, Redonda (mentioned above), Nevis, St. Christopher, Virgin Gorda, and Tortola.

He and Dr. Smith departed for Washington from St. Croix by air on the 19th and 20th respectively. Dr. Chace and I left St. Croix by the Alcoa "Runner" on the 23rd, 2 days later than expected.

As Dr. Clarke has recounted, he collected between 15,000 and 20,000 insects, Dr. Smith collected over 4,000 specimens of plants, and Dr. Chace and I gathered a most satisfactory lot of crustacea still enroute and yet to be counted, certainly numbering several thousand specimens. Included among numerous invertebrates were several crinoids taken alive, starfish, sea-urchins, sea-hares, and cephalopods.

An accession for the material collected, and a more formal report on the activities of the expedition will be forwarded in due course.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

AIR MAIL

March 30, 1956

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
c/o Robert L. Merwin Company
Fredericksted
St. Croix, V. I.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

I received your letter of March 22 regarding the Bredin film. The film is being packed ready for shipment either today or Monday. The list is also being sent off today.

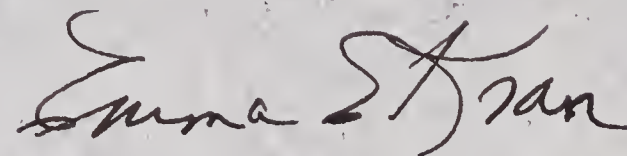
Thank you for the card depicting the yacht which looks very inviting and I am sure you must be enjoying your trip on the sister ship.

The weather has been quite cold and there has been lots of snow in the northeast; not very good Easter weather.

Everything is coming along very nicely and we are looking forward to your coming back refreshed and with a nice collection.

Regards from Dr. Johnson and best wishes from me and good luck!

Sincerely,



Emma E. Kran

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 27, 1956

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

Thank you so much for your very interesting and newsy letter. It pleased me very much to receive it.

Herewith is a letter that Dr. Piggot asked me to forward to you and I hope you will receive it in time for reply.

Everything is running along smoothly. Dr. Johnson wishes me to extend to you his kindest regards and best wishes and said he will try and write you. Miss McCain and all the rest send you their greetings and best.

With best wishes for a successful and pleasant collecting trip to you and your party,

Sincerely,

Emma S. Swan

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

AIR MAIL

March 5, 1956

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
c/o Lazzari and Sampson, Ltd.
13 Pembroke Street
Port of Spain, Trinidad

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

I hope this finds you well on your way and are having a fine trip.

Enclosed herewith is letter from Mr. Merwin which I thought you should have.

Miss Bennett wrote as of March 1 stating she sent letter to Commonwealth Fund, also among other things a P.S. reading:

"I sail from here on the P & O STRATHAIRD on Mar. 26 and arrive in London on May 2nd. Sail for Canada on EMPRESS OF BRITAIN on Sept. 14. I shall let you know from N. Y. as soon as I make my bookings for the East coast."

She started out by expressing thanks and gratefulness.

Dr. Peter Dohrn wrote letter, dated Feb. 26, stating he hoped to be in Washington very briefly about April 20 and would like to know whether you will be in the country. His departure from Naples is scheduled for the 18th of March, the goal, La Jolla, for the Symposium on the Future of Marine Biology. He is also sending a package of Glycymeris to Dr. David Nicol. Dr. Johnson will make a reply to this letter.

Dr. Wharton called and gave the following message: (Mar. 2)

"Received your letter regarding Prof. Van Straelen.
Prof. Van Straelen is sending me (Dr. Wharton) specimens."

Mr. David Nutt called: "Was passing thru and wanted to say 'Hello!'"
I told him you were on an expedition. This was March 2nd.

Everything is coming along fine.

With best wishes, and good collecting,

Sincerely,

Emma S. Khan

PS The enclosed letter from Mr. Wallis was marked "Personal" so I had Miss McCain look at it and she opened and asked me to forward it to you.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Schmitt

DATE: September 5, 1956

FROM : Ernest A. Lachner, Division of Fishes

W.L.S.

SEP 6 - 1956

SUBJECT:

15 spec. + 1 Poly

1934 (150) det

The fish specimen, that was presented by Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Bredin, from Greenville, Delaware was Polymixia lowei Günther. "These berycoid fishes have not been reported as common off the Atlantic coast. Their specimen is the largest in our collection from Atlantic coastal waters."

1933 n 4
B. sen
described

Bredin

AIR LETTER

February 24, 1956

Dr. John B. Lewis
The Bellairs Research Institute
of McGill University
St. James
Barbados, B. W. I.

Dear Dr. Lewis:

It so happens that I am going to get a chance to go to Trinidad and work northward through some of the islands to St. Thomas, on a small schooner yacht. Regrettably, that particular cruise will not be taking in Barbados. On the other hand, I am extremely fortunate in that the ship that is taking us to Trinidad, the "ILE DE FRANCE" is, for one day, stopping at Barbados, on March 6, 7 AM to 7 PM. This should give us a few hours ashore, and certainly, I shall take advantage of the opportunity of calling on you at the Bellairs Institute. I have a few friends there to whom I would also hope to pay respects, however brief,--a Mr. Roach, whose wife was a Miss Deane, and her brother, Mr. Deane, who, on occasion of my former visit to Barbados, was with one of the larger banks. I am sorry I do not have their first names on hand at this writing.

With me will be traveling Dr. Fenner A. Chace of this Museum, with whom you may have had some correspondence in the past, and Dr. Albert Smith, one of our national herbarium botanists.

Here's to seeing you if you are not otherwise engaged that day. I want to thank you again for the interest you displayed and the information you endeavored to secure for me regarding fire fly lamps.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

THE BELLAIRS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OF
Mc GILL UNIVERSITY

ST. JAMES
BARBADOS, B.W.I.

October 18, 1955.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Head Curator, Dept. of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
U.S. National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

I was very interested in your recent letter concerning fire fly lamps in the West Indies. I have been unable to find any record of their use in Barbados. However, the Curator of the local Museum has promised to write to friends on the island of Dominica about them. Dominica has still some old Indian settlements and it is possible they may still be in use there. I shall write you again if I hear anything further.

Yours very truly,

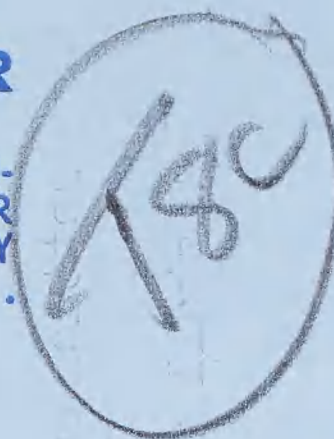
John B. Lewis

John B. Lewis

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS EN-
CLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,

Smithsonian Institution,

U.S. National Museum,

Washington 15, D.C. U.S.A.

First fold here

Second fold here

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:—

To open cut here

To open cut here

Form approved by the Postmaster General, No. 71995/2D

THE BELLAIRS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OF
Mc GILL UNIVERSITY

ST. JAMES
BARBADOS, B.W.I.

December 1, 1955.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, Head Curator,
Dept. of Zoology,
Smithsonian Institution,
U.S. National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

You will find enclosed a short note from a Mr. Douglas Taylor of Dominica, B.W.I. to Mr. Connell, the Curator of the Barbados Museum. This is in reply to your query on fireflies and their use as lamps in the West Indies. I hope it will be of interest to you.

I am expecting another note from Grenada on the same subject which I shall send to you when it arrives.

Sincerely,

John B. Lewis

John B. Lewis, Director

MA DEC 1955
Magua

Dominica, B. W. I.,
15th November, 1955

Dear Mr. Connell,

The kind of firefly (Pyrophorus luminosus) variously known in these islands as
- *strictly speaking, a beetle* -
"candle-fly", "cogouyou", "lalo", etc., is said to have been caged for use as a lamp, and tied to the big toes to aid in night hunting, on Hispaniola. How the cage or "lamp" was constructed and of what it was made I do not know; but I have an idea that bamboo is not a native plant. Children play with these fascinating creatures; and people occasionally (but not regularly) use them to read or to lighten a dark room when they have no fire or matches. Breton, who was here between 1635 and 1653 says that he used them regularly in order to read his breviary. There is a local belief that they are sukuiyō (women who divest themselves of their skins and take various shapes in order to go and suck people's blood at night). They are merely placed and held on the page it is wished to read, or introduced into the room it is wished to light. I never heard of a their being put in such a lamp as you mention here in Dominica. Sorry I have not been able to help.

Sincerely,

Douglas Taylor
(Douglas Taylor)

Mrs. McCarthy

Nov. 29, 1955

Waldo L. Schmitt

Request for articles from Bull. 139 and Bull. 141

Have you the separate or reprint articles of the papers cited below, or if not--copies of the complete bulletins in which they appear? If so please send them to Dr. C. Bernard Lewis, Director, Science Museum, Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I., with whom I have been corresponding re firefly lamps in use in the West Indies many years ago.

Bulletin 139, "Fire as an Agent in Human Culture" (plate 32 and page 198 on firefly lanterns)

Bulletin 141, 1928, "Collection of Heating and Lighting Utensils in the United States National Museum" (page 44 on firefly lanterns)

AIR MAIL

SCIENCE MUSEUM
THE INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA.
KINGSTON, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

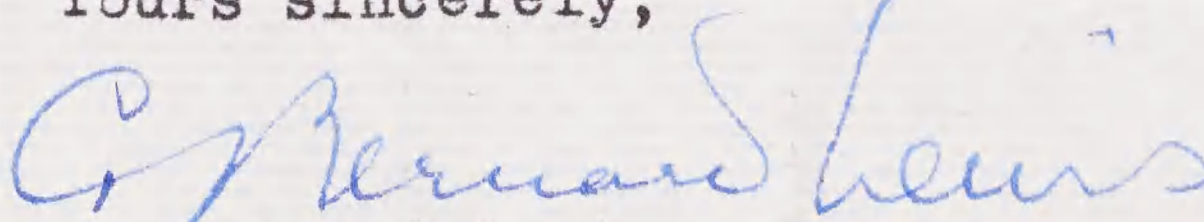
November 25, 1955.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Head Curator,
Department of Zoology,
U. S. National Museum
Washington 25, D.C.
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Schmitt,

Your airletter of November 22nd just received.
Many thanks for the detailed references to the articles
which mentioned firefly lamps. I have now ascertained
that neither of them are in our library, and if you could
possibly obtain copies for us I would indeed be grateful.

Yours sincerely,



C. Bernard Lewis,
Director and Curator.

CBL/er

*See Gross file
Mrs. Lillian*

November 22, 1955

Air Letter

Dr. C. Bernard Lewis, Director
Science Museum, Institute of Jamaica
Kingston, Jamaica, British West Indies

Dear Dr. Lewis:

I appreciate your interest in the matter of the firefly lamps and send you the titles of the two articles in which they were described in our Museum Bulletins. Bulletin 139, 1926, "Fire as an Agent in Human Culture" (See plate 32 and its description on page 198) and Bulletin 141, 1928, "Collection of Heating and Lighting Utensils in the United States National Museum" (See page 44), the articles which I mentioned, were written by Dr. Walter Hough. Let me know if you locate the articles. Otherwise, I will endeavor to get you copies here. I have not tried for I think papers published so long ago will no longer be available.

Here's hoping you turn up something about the lamps! How many interesting things that the natives formerly used are now gone and forgotten. That is the nice thing about museums. They save things of this sort for our wonderment in the years to come.

With kind regards to you,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb

AIR MAIL

SCIENCE MUSEUM
THE INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA.
KINGSTON, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

November 11, 1955.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
Head Curator,
Department of Zoology,
U. S. National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C.
U. S. A.

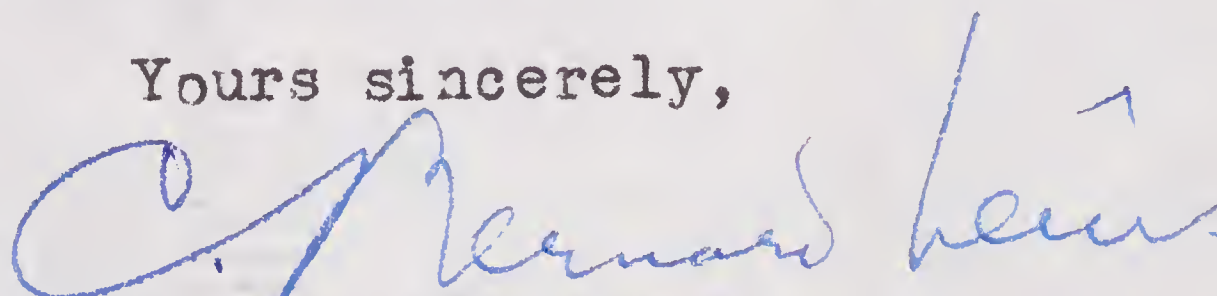
Dear Dr. Schmitt,

Please forgive me for not previously acknowledging your airletter of September 15. I was very pleased to hear from you and wish I could be more helpful at the present time. I have never heard of any specially constructed firefly lamps in Jamaica and I can find no reference to them in our West India Reference Library. My guess is that the insects used in such "lamps" were the elaterid Pyrophorus plagiophthalmus which is widely distributed, certainly in the Greater Antilles. One often sees people today (usually children) put these insects in jam jars to carry about, but not as a lamp in any very serious way.

Unfortunately, our library does not file the Bulletins of the U.S. National Museum under the Bulletin numbers although we have a great many of them, and I would be pleased to look up the references you mentioned if you could let me have the titles of the articles.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,



C. Bernard Lewis,
Director and Curator.

CBL/er

September 15, 1955

Air Letter

Dr. C. Bernard Lewis
Director and Curator
Science Museum
The Institute of Jamaica
Kingston, Jamaica, B. W. I.

Dear Dr. Lewis:

It isn't often that I address you but every one of us needs help once in a while. This time I would like to ask you if you have any knowledge of so called fire fly lamps that were carried in the West Indies a good many years ago. We have two very old specimens of them here in the Museum, one is a three story cage, made of fine bamboo,-slivers I want to say, perhaps I should say slats. They are placed closely enough together to prevent the escape of the fire fly when put inside. The other style is a small gourd with perforations which is the better known of the West Indies fire fly lamps. Are things of this sort still used in the remote parts of the Caribbean area and, if you are not aware of it, have you some correspondent in one or another island who might give us some information about their present or past use? When was one last seen in use is more or less the burning question here.

We have been unable to dig up any information regarding these lamps since our Dr. Hough published a few words about them in Bulletin 139 and Bulletin 141 of the United States National Museum. Any information that you can give me would be keenly appreciated but don't go to too much trouble about the matter. I am also writing to Dr. John B. Lewis at St. James in this same strain.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 13, 1956

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
c/o American Consul
Fort de France, Martinique
F.W.I.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

The American Consulate General, Curacao, N.W.I., has just notified the State Department (and through them the Smithsonian) that he would like to be informed as soon as possible the exact date of the arrival of your expedition at St. Eustatius and Saba. Will you please write him that information as soon as you can? He says he needs to know it "so that the necessary contacts can be made." He seems to think, in fact, that you are also going to Curacao.

On your list of mailing addresses this one for Martinique is given "c/o American Consul, Martinique, F.W.I.," without the city, Fort de France. The other day I mailed you a letter addressed that way, and like a chump did not at that time think of Fort de France. I hope it will reach you all right.

We had a little snow in the night, hardly enough to cover the ground, and it is melting rapidly.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

L Mc

Lucile McCain
Assistant Registrar — !!!

November 9, 1956

Mr. J. W. McGahen
Animal Medicine Section
E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Company
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

Dear Mr. McGahen:

I find I have been negligent in acknowledging your kindness in returning to us the bottom samples that were in those boxes of soil samples that we shipped you on October 9. I am glad they turned up. The boxes in which they were packed were not clearly labeled when we shipped them home from St. Croix. Here is hoping that the samples I gathered may prove worth your while.

Next spring we hope to have a small expedition down in the Society Islands working out from Tahiti. Should we continue to gather up soil samples in our travels? I do not want to burden you with them, but I would like to turn up something that would be of some use to you and in a wider sense to my client.

Good luck to you and your undertakings.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

W.LS:cek

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 9, 1956

Mr. J. W. McGahan
Animal Medicine Section
E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

Dear Mr. McGahan:

With this is our official invoice covering the shipment of the 38 West Indian soil samples that I collected this spring in the course of an expedition sponsored by Mr. J. Bruce Bredin, the same gentleman who made possible the Smithsonian Expedition to the Congo which returned the samples that Mr. Wolf was working with. I have been in communication with Dr. Wheeler in the Department of Agriculture, who tells me that he has also dropped you a line about these samples which he has permitted me to send you direct.

I do hope that you may find something in these samples, and I am wondering if anything was turned up in those from the Congo. Mr. Bredin has asked me several times if I had heard from Mr. Wolf, but I know how long some of these studies take. In our work there are several cases where the report followed collections of the material by some twenty years. I wish you luck with what I have sent.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.

October 19, 1956

Mr. J. W. McGahen
Animal Medicine Section
E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Company
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

Dear Mr. McGahen:

On October 9, 1956 we shipped you the 38 soil samples which I had gathered in the West Indies, and I write at this time to ask you if, in the bottom of either one or both of the boxes, you found some 14 or 15 canvas sacks without the plastic covering. We took that number of bottom samples from our various anchorages, anywhere from a table-spoonful to a cupful of bottom material. These samples were collected for foraminifera. We have been unable to locate them among the other material brought back, and therefore, fear they were sent to you along with the soil samples through an inadvertence. Do check over what we send you and let me know whether we should look further afield for the "lost" bottom samples.

For your convenience, I have enclosed a self-addressed franked envelope which requires no postage.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.
WLS:cek

OFFICE OF
REGISTRAR

208263

OCT -9 1956

No. 2

Mr. J. W. McGahan
Animal Medicine Section
E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company
Stine Laboratory
Newark, Delaware

express prepaid

Att:

Waldo L. Schmitt

XXXXXX Dept. of Zoology

bags

38 soil samples
(see list attached)

SENT

OCT 11 1956

RECEIVED OFFICE, U.S.N.M.

ST. BERNARD EXP. - West Indies

80

6369

51-

100-2-100

ST. BERNARD EXP. - West Indies
ST. BERNARD EXP. - West Indies
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ST. BERNARD EXP. - West Indies

October 23, 1956

Mr. Ernest N. May
R. F. D. No. 1
Wilmington, Delaware

Dear Ernie:

Thank you for the return of that letter.

In poking around in the drawers of my desk, I came upon a little packet of kodachrome slides that we were not ready to give you when I handed you the "Caribbe" pictures and which since had been forgotten. They are just little reminders of a very wonderful cruise with Bruce and then with you.

I shall be happy to see you whenever you come to town. Let's hope it will be for lunch again.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ech

PS

Bredin Exp. - West Indies

Merwin, Miles

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

WLS.	JUN 28 1956
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AIR MAIL

June 21, 1956

Mr. Miles Merwin
c/o Robert L. Merwin & Co., Inc.
Frederiksted, St. Croix, V. I.

Dear Mr. Merwin:

Yesterday I received another bill for \$4.55 trucking charge for our gear which you kindly had transported from Christensted to Frederiksted, that I paid by personal check, acknowledged by you on May 11. Won't you kindly check your office files in connection with the enclosed statement? I would like to clear up the matter, at your convenience, however.

I still recall, most pleasantly, your helpfulness and the happy time we had homeward bound on the Alooa Runner. I wish that we could make another trip with that line soon again.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.

*Mr. Schmitt:
Sorry for our clerical
error, which has now been
adjusted. Regards,
Miles Merwin*

Bredin Exp. - West Indies
Merwin, Miles

May 8, 1956

Mr. Miles Merwin
c/o Robert L. Merwin & Co., Inc.
Frederiksted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands

Dear Mr. Merwin:

Enclosed is my check for \$4.55 in settlement of your bill of April 30. I do appreciate your taking care of the shipment for us and hope that the Government will be equally prompt in reimbursing you for the freight charges noted on the bill of lading which you sent to Mr. Fyfe.

I wish I had had more time in Frederiksted, St. Croix is a wonderful place and so are all the good folks I met there, not the least yourself. I hope I may have the pleasure of coming back again soon.

Sincerely yours,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.

P.S. If my check entails any discount charge or fee, please let me know. I have enclosed a stamped air mail envelope for your convenience.

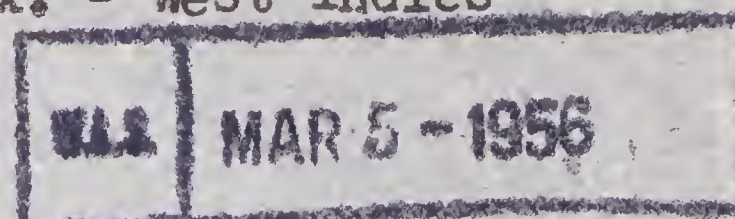
ROB'T. L. MERWIN & CO., INC.

CABLE ADDRESS:
"MERWIN - ST. CROIX"



Merwin, Miles

Filed: Bredin Ex. - West Indies



FREDERIKSTED, ST. CROIX,
VIRGIN ISLANDS,

U. S. A.

March 2nd, 1956

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

Your letter of February 28th has been received along with two sets of Passenger Department questionnaires duly filled out, and it is noted that you have reservation for passage on the "Alcoa Runner" #93 about April 21st from St. Croix to U.S. East Coast port as per tickets Nos. 20001 and 20002, issued respectively to you and Mr. Fenner A. Chace, Jr.

Due note has been taken of your remarks regarding seeking passage for a third member of your party, Mr. Albert C. Smith. As far as we, as their agent here in St. Croix, are concerned we could not arrange to sign him on the ship's roster in some capacity without the consent of the New York office.

We are sending a copy of this letter to the New York office so that in the event that they could instruct the Master to take care of Mr. Smith in this manner, they could advise him whether or not it may be done.

Due note has been taken of your schedule on the "Freelance" in case there should be any reason for us to get in touch with you.

Yours faithfully,

Mile Merwin
Treasurer

MM/HN

c.c.- Mr. T. J. Flannery, N. Y.

Collected
Fidelity Union

AIR MAIL

February 28, 1956

Robert L. Merwin Company
Fredericksted
St. Croix, V. I.

Gentlemen:

We are just in receipt of a letter dated February 27, from Mr. W. H. Trauth, of the Washington, D. C. office, with regard to tickets Nos. 20001 and 20002, issued to me, Waldo L. Schmitt, and to Mr. Fenner A. Chace, Jr., respectively, for passage on the ALCOA RUNNER V/93, about April 21st, from St. Croix to U. S. East Coast Port.

With this I send you the Passenger Department Questionnaires for Mr. Chace and myself. We expect to be in St. Croix on April 21st, unless you advise us to arrive at an earlier date. I hope that the ALCOA RUNNER will not depart before the 21st. You will note on my copy of the questionnaire that I have listed 17 boxes. These represent the collecting outfit which we will have used during the preceding five weeks in the Caribbean area, together with specimens collected for the National Museum. In this outfit there will be 3 tanks and a box of bottles containing a total of about 41 gallons of 70% alcohol contaminated with formalin, used as a preservative for our specimens. These 17 boxes occupy possibly 50 cubic feet or less, and will have a total weight of approximately 1,128 pounds.

We have, through Mr. Trauth, been seeking passage for a third member of our party, Mr. Albert C. Smith. We realize that all passenger accommodations to date are occupied, and so there is no hope at present of his becoming a passenger on this sailing of the ALCOA RUNNER. However, it has occurred to us that it might be possible to assign him on the ship ROSTER in some capacity that would enable him to travel with us to the states. If not possible, he will fly home from St. Thomas, where we will arrive on the 19th of April.

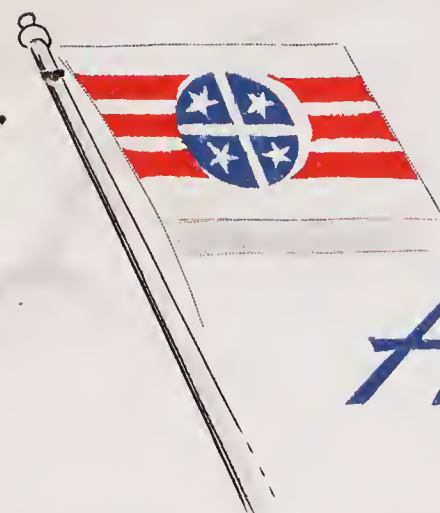
Our cruise through the West Indies will be aboard the diesel schooner FREELANCE, Capt. V. E. B. Nicholson, P. O. Box 103, St. John's, Antigua, B.W.I. We depart from Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, on March 13, and expect to arrive in Antigua on or about the first of April. I mention this in case you may wish to get in touch with us during the cruise. Nicholson has aboard a radio telephone and is in touch with his Antigua headquarters twice each day.

We are looking forward to meeting you and traveling home on the ALCOA RUNNER.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encls.
WLS:ek



Alcoa Steamship Company, INC.

SEVENTEEN BATTERY PLACE + NEW YORK 4, N.Y.

CABLES: ALCOASHIP + TEL: WHITEHALL 4-1500

cc: Mr. W.H. Trauth
Washington, D.C. Office

February 27, 1956

cc: Robert L. Merwin Company
St. Croix, V. I.

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator, Dept. of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Ticket No. 20001
Mr. Fenner A. Chace, Jr.
Ticket No. 20002
St. Croix/U.S. East Coast Port
Alcoa Runner V/93
Abt. April 21st.

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

We are pleased to enclose the tickets for the above accommodations, together with baggage insurance and customs regulations pamphlets and a supply of baggage tags and labels. The tickets must be signed prior to embarkation.

Inasmuch as your ship is a freighter and subject to cargo commitments, her sailing hour is not finally established until a few days prior to departure.

Accordingly, we advise you to contact our agent, The Robert L. Merwin Company, Frederiksted, St. Croix, V. I., upon arrival, in order to receive the exact embarkation hour.

We are enclosing passenger information forms which should be filled out by you and Mr. Chace in duplicate and forwarded to the Merwin Company at your earliest convenience.

We are still unable to offer a berth in this sailing for Mr. Smith, however, should space become available, we will notify the Merwin Company immediately.

Should you require any additional information, please call upon the Robert L. Merwin Company in St. Croix and they will be more than happy to answer all questions.

TJF/bz
Encl.

Very truly yours,
ALCOA STEAMSHIP CO., INC.
T. J. Flannery
T. J. Flannery
Passenger Department

AIR MAIL

September 17, 1956

Mr. William T. Miller
Christiansted
St. Croix, Virgin Islands

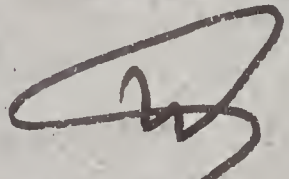
Dear "Fish" Miller:

Sorry that I did not have your post office box or a more exact address, but I am hoping that this communication will reach you in time. Do you remember that deep-water fish that you let me take along? It has been identified by our Dr. Ernest A. Lachner, associate curator of the Division of Fishes, as Polymixia lowei Günther. He says:

"These berycoid fishes have never been reported as 'common' off the Atlantic coast. The species was originally described by Poey, I am told, but the name is credited to Günther, as you will have seen. Following Poey a single specimen was taken in 1933, and until 1933, when a Harvard expedition did some deep-water trawling in the Greater Antilles, getting 150 specimens, were the only two of which we knew. Your specimen is our largest representative of the species, *in our collection*."

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ack

~~cc: Registrar's Office~~

Copy of this letter sent Dec. 5, 1956

AIR LETTER

October 19, 1956

Capt. Desmond Nicholson
Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B.W.I.

Dear Desmond:

I just do not seem to be able to get around to the many things I want to do, or, indeed, should do. One of them was to send you a few more kodachrome slides. As you will see, from the ~~separately mailed~~ ^{accompanying} package, most of them were taken by Dr. Smith (ACS); a few are my own, as you will observe. The one of English Harbor was taken by yourself and the original has been slipped in beside the little plastic boxes containing the other slides. There is still one more slide I want to send you, but I failed to get it copied, a nice "shot" of you at the wheel taken by Dr. Smith. If you do not get it in the next three or four weeks, do remind me of this promise.

Incidentally, in the course of unpacking our collections, we failed to turn up the bottom samples, those little dips of material that I tried to get at each anchorage. I am quite sure they were sent to the biochemist along with the soil samples taken on the various islands, but Dr. Chace thinks we left them behind on the "Free Lance." You tell us. I am writing the DuPonts who got the soil samples in this same mail. There were 15 canvas sacks not in plastic bags. The soil samples, on the other hand, were put each into a plastic bag for safety sake.

I often think of you folks and wish we were back cruising the Caribbean again. If our good fortune holds, we should be sailing for Tahiti on the 23rd of next March for six weeks in the Society Islands. They are reputed most beautiful, but we shall see.

Kindest regards to your father, mother, Rodney and his wife, and yourself. Do not fail to remember me to the crew.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:EEK

AIR MAIL

October 3, 1956

Capt. Desmond Nicholson
Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B.W.I.

Dear Desmond:

With this I send you a few kodachrome slides, copies of some we took on the recent cruise. Included is a chart of the expedition's route made by our Museum artist. It certainly is intriguing.

I wish we could get back to do Barbuda more thoroughly. Give my very best to your folks. English Harbor is a wonderful place, and let's hope that you can get in a cruise this way one of these days. Yes, you can come right up the Potomac and Washington, and we would love to entertain you, however long you might be able to stay here. Good luck!

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:EEK

Encl.

AIR MAIL

June 4, 1956

Capt. Desmond Nicholson
Box 103

St. John's

Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Desmond:

I know you are wondering what has become of me, but I have been up to my neck in office routine ever since my return from one of the most enjoyable cruises I ever took part in.

Just the other day I received copies of the FREELANCE kodachrome slides. They were 30¢ apiece, and so we got a few more for your \$5 than I anticipated. Regrettably, at the time I ordered only three more, when I should have asked for six. In all, I paid the photo shop \$6 for 20 copies, and since I am only sending you 14, I am return you \$1 American money to take care of the three slides that otherwise would have come to you. In the same little shipment are six pictures of the faggot lobster fishery at Barbuda. I had a number of duplicates, but the series is no more complete than what I sent you, the encircling net pitching over the faggots and the lobster catch in the boat. Regrettably, I did not get a picture of the sailboat from which the men operate. As you will recall, I had to run for it on the west shore of the lagoon, and then after we moved away, I failed to get a shot of the departing sailboat. Still, that is the least important part of the fishery.

Also, I am sending you one slide of yourself where you are leaning on a boom forward, talking to the men on the deck. I believe it was Kennet who was dissecting the black Crevally. When I glimpsed your pose, I said to myself, "It looks just as though the Captain was sea sick," and so I took the picture more as a lark than otherwise. Many more interesting things occurred on the cruise than I was able to photograph. Before long I want to have black and white prints, 4x5, or 5x7, made from a slide series, but that will have to wait until we peel our several pictures at this end and take out a suitable sequence for reproduction. I just cannot afford to do them all in color, though I shall, within the next week or two, get copies of the picture I took of the crew grouped about you at the wheel at the stern of the FREELANCE. Fortunately, that snap turned out very well indeed.

You will recall my complaining of shutter trouble, and I lost a not inconsiderable number of shots due to a vertical white streak across the film. I cannot understand it, but have not yet consulted the manufacturer of the camera or the shutter. A few of these I have been able to salvage by pasting a slip of dark paper over the white streak. The resulting picture is as though one had looked out of a window.

I am sorry that everything concerning the photographs in our collections is taking so long. Presently, I will have to go back and complete

trip

my movie sequence for the African/ of the year before. But, again, I must say we had a wonderful time, and I wish that I might be going on a cruise with you again this coming winter or next spring. This reminds me that I got a few nice pictures of that early morning seine haul at Pigeon Island, one rather good one of the Pink Megalopa on the sand.

Meanwhile, I am wondering if you could let me borrow the negatives of the several shots you took of one or another of us at work. I have nothing of the sort. If you can let me have some of them at least via registered mail, I will have prints made here, and we shall be glad to send you a set too. Shortly I shall have to prepare a little narrative of our trip for the Smithsonian annual report, and for that I need some black and white pictures such as you took of us.

Mr. Bredin and Mr. May were down last Wednesday over the lunch period, and they still are very enthusiastic about their experiences as are we all. There is nothing like a FREELANCE cruise with Desmond Nicholson. Please give my very best to your father and to Rodney and his wife. I do hope that our paths will soon cross again. If I do not get south, let's hope that one or another of you will soon get north. You should see the States, and here in Washington we have a lot to show you too.

Good luck to you, and before long I shall be writing you folks soon again.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Encl.

P.S. Perhaps you would rather send me prints of the negatives pertaining to our work on and off the FREELANCE. If so, I will be only too glad to pay for any prints that you may have made for us. In that way you would not be risking your negatives and we could then indicate those of which we wished further copies.

You will recall my complaining of a slight trouble, and I feel a not inconsiderable number of shots due to a vertical white streak across the film. I cannot understand it, but have not yet consulted the manufacturer of the camera or the shutter. A few of these I have been able to salvage by getting a slip of dark paper over the white streak. The resulting picture is as though one had looked out of a window.

I am sorry that everything concerning the photographing in our collection is so far from ideal. Presently, I will have to go back and complete

Capt. V.E.B. Nicholson

AIR MAIL

February 29, 1956

Capt. V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B.W.I.

Dear Capt. Nicholson:

Your letter of February 24 has just been laid on my desk just as I was on the point of writing you that Mr. Bredin will join the ship with us on the 12th of March. He will spend that night at the Queens Park Hotel and will be prepared to sail on March 13, as you suggested in your charter agreement. Thank you for the copy that you have sent me. Mr. Bredin will continue through to Antigua, from whence he will return for a brief period to New York, with the expectation of re-joining the cruise somewhere in the Virgin Islands. Those details we can work out when he comes aboard, likewise the stops that we shall make between Trinidad and Antigua. We hope to make the Grenadines and should call at Martinique, and Dominica where we pick up the fourth of the scientific members of our party.

It will be a pleasure to sail with your son. I am sorry that you yourself will not be with us. Thank you for providing the buckets, tubs and fish pots, and we will trust to luck with regard to the dip-nets. We will certainly be able to pick them up somewhere if we don't contrive some for ourselves. I am prepared to make such advances as Mr. Desmond may need as the cruise progresses. Our final squaring of accounts, if necessary can be handled through Washington as was the charter fee. With regard to the balance of this charge, our disbursing office yesterday made arrangements to provide a draft similar to the one sent you before in pounds sterling, as you then requested, payable to the North Marine and Industrial Consultants Ltd. I wish that I had gotten your letter earlier, but, as long as the draft has gone through in pounds sterling, equalling the dollar cost, I am afraid we had better let that matter rest as it is at present.

I hope too, as you intimate, that we may be pleasantly surprised when we find that the average daily cost of extras may come to less than your estimated \$48 a day. We are not a hard-drinking crew. An occasional "snifter" is about all that we should want.

Besides a few technical fish and crab books, we shall have with us the narrative account of the University of Iowa's expedition in which Capt. Nicholson's picture appeared. It should make a nice conversation piece. You may after all find that you are related.

Good luck and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Dept. of Zoology

WLS:cek

C O P Y

V. E. B. NICHOLSON & SONS

English Harbour

Antigua

Postal Address

P.O.Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B.W.I.

February 24th.1956.

Walde L.Schmitt, Esq.,
Head Curator,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schmitt,

This is about the last time that I will get a chance of writing to you before you leave the cold north for a warmer climate.

The FREELANCE has left here on the cruise before yours en route for Trinidad, and all is going well.

My son Desmond will be taking the ship. They finish their present cruise in Trinidad on the 7th.March, and the vessel will be anchored off Trinidad Yacht Club as soon as all official entries have been finished with.

On February 5th. I wrote to your Secretary returning the draft for \$1000 U.S., requesting that it be paid direct to the London owners, and I am expecting a cable any day from them advising me of the completion of the transaction when I would have sent you the signed agreement form. However, since time is short, I am sending you a copy of the agreement for your information and will have the signed copy ready for you when you join the ship on the evening of March 12th.

I cannot tell you exactly what the food will cost per. man per day, but I know very well that for a normal charter with six people on board, all extras should not exceed \$48 U.S. a day. This includes everything, food, wines, fuel, drinks of all descriptions, Harbour dues, cooking gas, catering, laundry, etc. and if you plan for this expenditure you will I hope be pleasantly surprised when you find it comes to less.

The total charter fee as stated on the agreement for the 38 days amounts to \$ 5,157.36 U.S. I note that you will be catching an Alcoa boat from St.Croix on April 21st.

and we will be very glad to co-operate with you so that you can stay on board FREELANCE for the extra day without any additional charge except for actual cash expenditures on food etc.

I suggest that Mr. Bredin stays at the White Sands Hotel in Antigua, if he plans to stay here a while, and as regards Trinidad the large Queens Park Hotel is the best known, and I am afraid that I do not know that city well enough to recommend you to a smaller one.

Regarding final payments in the case of the balance of the charter fee, our owner prefers dollars which he banks with the Bank of England in London and thereby he is allowed a certain quota of U.S.dollars when he visits the United States in connection with business activities there. Perhaps therefore you would pay by ordinary cheque or a dollar draft drawn in favour of the "North Marine and Industrial Consultants Ltd." so that we can forward it directly to London. As regards the cash for food and other incidental expenses of the voyage, this should be drawn in our favour, since it is entirely our business to deal with the catering and maintenance activities. Incidentally there is no need to pay us until the end of the cruise, though perhaps you would be kind enough to advance my son such sums as may be necessary from time to time, so that we do not have a lot of loose money around. Your personal cheque or travellers cheque will be acceptable, of course.

We have placed on board all the buckets, tubs, 3 fish pots etc. with the exception of the dipnets which we could not get in Antigua, but I am sure they will be obtainable in Trinidad.

Since you will be in Trinidad, I suggest that you contact the vessel as soon as she arrives there, and check up with my son that everything is O.K.

We can finish the cruise at either St.Thomas or St.Croix whichever is the most convenient for you.

Regarding the young Captain Nicholson, I am afraid that this does not apply to me, since we were blown in from the sea only in 1949, and the expedition referred to must have been a long time before that. My sons are young though I don't know about the handsome part, that is for others to decide, but perhaps they are inadvertently carrying on with some local tradition.

Very sincerely,

/s/ V.E.B. Nicholson
V.E.B. Nicholson

AIR MAIL

February 17, 1956

Capt. V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Capt. Nicholson:

Things are shaping up apace. Our outfit is about all packed. The first instalment, the insect collecting equipment, left today on its journey to Dominica. The balance will go via the ILE DE FRANCE and is due in Port of Spain, Trinidad on March 7, five days before you arrive. Drs. Chace, Smith, and Schmitt will be traveling on the same ship. The March 13 departure is agreeable to us all and we again appreciate your invitation to come aboard the day before for dinner. We have spoken of visiting the Grenadines but we can discuss itinerary more in detail when we see you.

Can you, by the way, recommend some good, modest hotel in Port of Spain? Meanwhile, I would appreciate a few figures as to costs. I do not have a copy of your contract form before me.

The overall charter fee, including the \$1,000 already paid over to you, will total \$.

Food cost per day per man
or per week per man

Fuel, how much do you think we may use; for this you estimate about

There will be 3, Trinidad to Dominica, 4 from Dominica to Antigua, and 6 from there to St. Thomas. We shall be catching an Alcoa boat out of St. Croix on the 21st. At this writing it is uncertain that they will let us board at St. Thomas due to number of passengers carried. Do you go home that way, and if so, could you drop us off there?

The above perhaps covers the major items of expense excepting the lobster traps, buckets, tubs and salt we have asked you to lay in for us. Unless we hear from Mr. Bredin to the contrary we shall endeavor to reach Antigua on or about April 1. What hotel or pension would you recommend if Mr. Bredin should have to await us there?

Friends of mine had a most wonderful time at English Harbor some years back, in the course of the Barbadoes-Antigua Expedition of the University of Iowa. I see in the account of that expedition that T.A.V. Best was governor, and with him in a picture in that report is a handsome, young Capt. Nicholson. Are you that Captain?

Last, but not least, do you wish the balance of the charter payment due in Port of Spain, in dollars or pounds sterling? For our ordinary expenses would not American Express Company Travelers Cheques suffice?

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLSchmitt:ek

Bredin-West Indies Exp.
Nicholson, V. E. B.

February 2, 1956

Mr. V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

Your letter of the 25th has just been laid on my desk. What you say about starting the cruise on Tuesday, March 13, is most agreeable to us. I feel that you would need time like that before you even mention it. We shall be happy to join the ship on the evening of the 12th. I know we are all anxious to board the "Freelance" and to become acquainted with you.

I do not know whether I mentioned to you or not that the only ship transportation we could get was on the cruise ship "Ile de France" which arrives in Port of Spain on the 7th. The five days that we will be there ahead of you we shall utilize in skirmishing about. One of our objectives will be to visit the tropical station of the New York Zoological Society where Dr. Beebe holds forth. We are acquainted with him and several of his staff.

By this time you will have received the guarantee from Dr. Carmichael in behalf of the Smithsonian. Mr. Bredin has not been heard from, so unless there is an opportunity for a change or an extension of time later than that, we will hold to the tentative schedule that you penciled into the contract and which the Smithsonian typed in.

Time is moving along, and I just hope we will all be ready to go when the "Ile de France" sails from New York on March 2.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLSchmitt:sek

Bredin-West Indies Exp.
Nicholson, V. E. B.

V. E. B. NICHOLSON & SONS

Nelson's Old Naval Dockyard

English Harbour

Antigua.

POSTAL ADDRESS
P.O. BOX 103
ST. JOHN'S,
ANTIGUA, B.W.I.

V. E. B. NICHOLSON
D. V. NICHOLSON
R. A. NICHOLSON

January 25th. 1956.

Waldo L. Schmitt Esq.,
Dept. of Zoology,
The U.S. National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Schmitt,

I have just noticed that March 12th. is on a Monday, therefore it would be more convenient for us to start the cruise on Tuesday, March 13th.. You would be welcome to join the ship on the evening of March 12th. in time for drinks and dinner, if you would care to do so.

The whole point being that we would like the Monday to get last minute stores and provisions, since if started on the Monday, we could do not provisioning the day before. This is just a suggestion when making your final plans.

Very sincerely,

V. E. B. Nicholson

V.E.B. Nicholson.

Ans. by me

Bredin Expedition - West Indies
Capt. V. E. B. Nicholson

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 27, 1956

Capt. V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, E. W. I.

Dear Captain Nicholson:

On behalf of the Smithsonian Institution, I have signed the enclosed Yacht Charter Agreement for Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, Mr. Bredin, and party, and remit herewith draft of \$1,000 as the initial deposit. The balance of the charter price will be paid you by Dr. Schmitt on or before March 12 in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Two members of the party will accompany Dr. Schmitt to Trinidad, one will await the FREELANCE in Dominica, and two, Mr. Bredin and friend, will join the cruise in Antigua, on or about April first, unless we hear shortly to the contrary from Mr. Bredin. Should Mr. Bredin wish to extend the cruise a few days beyond April 19, given as the closing date of the cruise in your agreement form, we shall endeavor to let you know at the earliest possible date. We expect to have his decision on this point any day now. I do not know if you can permit an extension beyond the closing date. Your advice on this score would be appreciated pending further word from Mr. Bredin.

Very truly yours,

Leonard Carmichael
Secretary

Bredin Exp. - West Indies
Capt. V.E.B. Nicholson

C O P Y

V. E. B. NICHOLSON & SONS

Nelson's Old Naval Dockyard
English Harbour
Antigua

January 25th. 1956.

Waldo L. Schmitt Esq.,
Dept. of Zoology,
The U.S. National Museum
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

I have just noticed that March 12th. is on a Monday, therefore it would be more convenient for us to start the cruise on Tuesday, March 13th. You would be welcome to join the ship on the evening of March 12th. in time for drinks and dinner, if you would care to do so.

The whole point being that we would like the Monday to get last minute stores and provisions, since if started on the Monday, we could do no provisioning the day before. This is just a suggestion when making your final plans.

Very sincerely,

/s/ V.E.B. Nicholson
V.E.B. Nicholson

Bredin Expedition - West Indies
Capt. V.E.B. Nicholson

V. E. B. NICHOLSON & SONS

Nelson's Old Naval Dockyard

English Harbour

Antigua.

POSTAL ADDRESS

P.O. BOX 103
ST. JOHN'S,
ANTIGUA, B.W.I.

V. E. B. NICHOLSON
D. V. NICHOLSON
R. A. NICHOLSON

January 18th. 1956.

Waldo Schmitt Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington 25, D.C..

Dear Mr. Schmitt,

Thank you very much for your letter of
January 12th. just received.

I have noted your requirements regarding
wash tubs and fishpots etc. and within the next few
days will attend to these details and have someone
local make the fishpots.

I have located a small light but old dinghy
which I am now patching up, which I hope will be useful.
I will see that it is shipped aboard FREELANCE, before your
cruise commences.

Most sincerely,

V. E. B. Nicholson

V.E.B. Nicholson.

P.S. Are you interested in shells?

Bredin Exped. W. I.
Capt. V.E.B. Nicholson

12 January 1956

Captain V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Capt. Nicholson:

Your letter of the 6th^{is} most welcome. In-as-much as Mr. Bredin expects to participate in the last two weeks of the cruise, I am submitting your tentative dates, March 12-April 19, to him. As soon as he responds, I shall forward the signed contract and \$1,000 deposit. We have been talking of getting to Antigua on April first, where Mr. Bredin and friend are to join up. If that is still his wish, we shall have to cut our stops further south a bit shorter, to offset the extra days among the Virgin Islands. But more about these details later.

With regard to the few purchases you offered to attend to for us: we would like to have 2 galvanized iron washtubs about 2 1/2 feet across top (3 ft. tubs are a little too large), 4 scrub-pails or buckets white enamel or galvanized about 9 inches high to rim and not over 10 1/2 inches in diameter at top; at least 3 lobster traps, with lines (would like to set these each day and night that we are at anchor; 2 dipnets, reasonably long handled, for picking up "things" over the side; perhaps you already are equipped with these as a matter of course? Also a sack of coarse salt. I have in mind a quantity bulking 10-12 gals; what would that amount to, 50 lbs, or so? This is for a porpoise skeleton or two if we should be fortunate enough to secure that many porpoises. We usually rough out the skeleton, air dry the bones, pack them in one of those oil-can (2-5 gal. can) wooden boxes and fill up with salt. One of these boxes usually holds one complete but dismembered skeleton. We'll be lucky to get one, but I like to count on two. I guess you have aboard a small crow- or pry-bar that could be used to dislodge a small coral head or break a piece out of a reef. Enough of this for now.

We are all looking forward to seeing you and the "Freelance" on March 12.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt

copy

November 16, 1955

Air Mail

Commander V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Commander Nicholson:

I have just heard from Mr. Bredin. He approves of your suggestion to begin at the "lower" end, Trinidad or Grenada, on or about March 7. We shall await further word from you regarding place and date.

At least one member of the party will arrive by steamer with our gear. We feel that it is better to handle it that way. ^① Is Grenada as convenient of access by steamer as Trinidad? If we start at Trinidad, we should want 2-3 days at Tobago to work the reef on west side of the island, if necessary going there by auto from the east side. ^② Can one anchor on west side to be nearer the reef? If the termination of your previous cruise is Grenada, we would skip Tobago. Barbados we could count out in either case. There is some feeling here that it is too out of the way and that too much time would be lost getting over to it and back. ^③ What is your opinion? ^④ What is the usual sailing time from Trinidad to Tobago to Grenada or from either of these last two to Barbados and return? From Grenada we could profitably work the Grenadines. We agree with you as to their interest; their reefs sound enticing. Thirty-four days or more might well be devoted to this group.

At Martinique we would like to spend 2-3 days, the same at Guadeloupe, then perhaps moving on to your home port, English Harbor, Antigua for a few days. This all tots up to between 14 (minimum) and 21 days (maximum) out of Trinidad to and including Antigua. Starting from Grenada and skipping Tobago would permit us to visit additional islands or spend more time at those mentioned above.

Now Mr. Bredin and his guest wish to participate in at least the last two weeks of the cruise, one week of which, as he indicated in his letter of Oct. 17 to you, to be spent in and about the American and British Virgins. While in this general area, I hope we can get to the great reef on the north side of St. Croix, on the one hand, and Barbuda, on the other. ^⑤ Other visits, time permitting, could be left to Mr. Bredin's wishes (after he arrives, preferably at Antigua?). I hope we can manage a brief landing at Redonda, but it is not imperative.

You will recall that out of St. Thomas a run over to Tortula and back is desired just before the termination of the cruise at St. Thomas on or about April 15. ^⑥ Can you give us some idea of the sailing time between the several islands named? ^⑦ Also have you any information regarding steamers and dates of arrival at either Grenada or Trinidad about March 7, or the date you finally

communicate to us for start of cruise? ^⑧ What opportunity is there of getting a ship or freighter from St. Thomas back to any United States east, or Gulf coast port about April 15 for the member of our party who prefers not to fly?

It is of interest that you have aqua-lung equipment. Our under water experience has been limited to the old shallow water diving hood with hose and pump on deck or in small boat. I shall bring along a harpoon in the hope of getting a porpoise or two for the skeleton for your Museum, as much as I hate to kill any of these beautiful and graceful creatures. The opportunity may not be vouchsafed us which would be better for the porpoises.

That you can manage our equipment or most of it on deck is encouraging and we shall certainly take all precautions necessary to protect deck and vessel from harm of any kind. That your son is an expert photographer is also good news but I would not want to say at this juncture whether or not he should come prepared to do any developing or printing on board. Thank you, though, for mentioning the matter. The photographs you have already sent, and those you enclosed with your last letter, are very wonderful. I can return these earlier or bring them along when we come.

^⑨ I take it that a deposit is next in order; how much should this be? The lower, below deck cabin is the better and more sumptuous one and should go to Mr. Bredin and his friend; however, should he on arrival prefer the upper one it should not be difficult to move the botanist below.

^⑩ ^{*} Have I asked too many questions? You may not be in a position to answer all of them, but whatever answers you can give us will be appreciated.

^{*} Ten questions!

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

P.S.

I almost overlooked your question regarding the fish, of which you sent me three photographs. These fishes are not common in museums, though perhaps not uncommon in the area in which they occur. We have, perhaps, a half dozen specimens of both the batfish and the snake mackerel, which you seem to have correctly identified. Recent records of the occurrence of this mackerel have been published in the journal, "Copeia," as follows: Frank J. Mather III and C. Godfrey Day (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute), Observations of pelagic fishes of the tropical Atlantic, COPEIA, July 29, 1954, No. 3, p. 179-188; J. T. Nichols (American Museum of Natural History, New York City), Records of the Snake Mackerel from the western Atlantic, COPEIA, Feb. 18, 1955, No. 1, p. 55. You may not have this journal available for consultation in any of your local libraries but you very probably could obtain reprints of the articles if you were to address the authors--Nichols in New York City and Mather at Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Dr. Schultz, who checked all these fishes for me, has given me 2 mimeographed circulars listing publications on fish, in case you might be interested. When we join your cruise I shall have with me Breder's "Field Book of Atlantic Fishes" and perhaps some other pertinent literature, though I am by no means an Ichthyologist.

Partial (rather complete) copy

Nicholsen reply of Nov. 28 1955
sent orig. to Bodin, 1/10/56

- (1) Grenada is a good harbor. Believe Alena
calls there en route Esplanade

Have never been Barbados. 15 mi. flight
from Trinidad.

- (2) Harbours in nearly all cases on west side.
East side is windward. & prob. impossible
to find anchorage

- (3) Actually, Barbados & Barbados are usually
best visited by air & we usually recommend
this course in order to save time. It will
certainly take several days to get there.

- (4) Trinidad Grenada Barbados or Barbados
Anything from 2-4 day ~~depending~~ weather

Trinidad Grenada. 20 hrs sail
Grenadines. Just go & stay visiting other
Grenada from time to time to get provisions
or Bequia or St. Vincent. also possible
to have things sent by motor or boat.

- (5) Antigua best place for Barbados, & then
visit to Barbados & other islands in
turn, but one would not be able to do so
back from St. Croix to Barbados as it would
be against trade winds & take too long

- (6) St. Thomas to Port of Spain 8 hrs. daylight

(7/8) Esplanade Ser. will give detail,

(9) Previous cruise ends on the 7th quite definitely either at Grenada or Trinidad. I will soon know ending port of previous cruise, and will then send you the Agreement Form for your deposit and signature.

Thank for info on snake market & list publ. on fishes. My son Desmond will be very interested. ~~Answer~~ an answer now back shortly.

V. E. N. Nicholson

SUBJECT:

FROM :

TO :

DATE:

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Nicholson, Comman. V.E.B.

Filed: Bredin Exped.B.W.I.

November 8, 1955

Air Letter

Commander V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box No. 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

I am very happy to have your letter of October 29. It is most reassuring that you feel as we do about our several activities aboard the FREELANCE and we shall take especial pains that any cracking of rock or coral will not be harmful to your vessel. So far as possible this "heavy" work will be done ashore and only the finer sorting, if need be, shall be done aboard.

Especially cheering is the news that you have ample room for our impedimenta. We shall be happy to ^{have you} purchase washing tubs and buckets down in the islands; it will save some bulky shipping. The local fish traps of which you speak undoubtedly will serve us as well as anything that we might bring from the States.

*More about
this later*

The matter of the reversal of our projected itinerary will have to be settled by Mr. Bredin inasmuch as he particularly mentioned the British and American Virgin Islands to us and in his early letter to you. If he is agreeable we will all be happy to start at the Trinidad end which would give us an opportunity of stopping for a brief time at Tobago.

The Grenadines sound most fascinating. Sombrero is not an absolute must but Barbuda has always intrigued me. Whether we get there or not will depend upon circumstances and time available, especially if the cruise starts in Trinidad. As soon as I have heard from Mr. Bredin on this score I will write you again. We want the trip and plan to go with you. The only things we need to settle now are the beginning and the end of the cruise and, of course, dates too, should Mr. Bredin wish to join you in St. Thomas instead of Trinidad.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Nicholson, Mrs. V. E. B.

Filed: West Indies Exped.

November 3, 1955

Air Letter

Mrs. V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Mrs. Nicholson:

Thank you for your encouraging letter of October 27. As soon as your husband has had the opportunity of passing on our tentative plans we can come to grips with the matter of chartering the FREELANCE for the cruise that Mr. Bredin outlined.

One member of our party is averse to traveling by air and therefore wishes to proceed to St. Thomas by ship, passenger or freighter. The Alcoa Line, calling at St. Thomas June 9, is sold out. However, there are a number of sailings to Puerto Rico; but our question is how and when can one get over from San Juan to St. Thomas. What can you folks tell us of vessel transportation from any east coast port,--from New York and New Orleans, to St. Thomas or some other island from which St. Thomas could be conveniently reached by water? Any reference to lines that we might approach for the desired service would be appreciated.

Last, but not least, what are the chances of getting home from Barbados to an east coast port after the cruise terminates in mid-April?

I hate to pose you so many questions but any help that you can give us would be most gratefully received.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

P. S.
On the basis of your letter, I would say that you should reserve the FREELANCE for our use (charter) for the period stated March 9-April 15, with perhaps some slight shift in dates should now unforeseen circumstance render
WLS:vb this necessary on the part of either of us.

WLS

V. E. B. NICHOLSON & SONS

Nelson's Old Naval Dockyard

English Harbour

Antigua.

POSTAL ADDRESS

P.O. BOX 103
ST. JOHN'S,
ANTIGUA, B.W.I.

V. E. B. NICHOLSON
D. V. NICHOLSON
R. A. NICHOLSON

Waldo L. Schmitt Esq.,
Head Curator,
Dept. of Zoology,
U.S. National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C.

October 27th. 1955.

Dear Mr. Schmitt,

Thank you very much for your draft letter
dated October 21st.

The FREELANCE is quite a large vessel having
wide and spacious teak decks with high bulwarks, and would
be very suitable for your purpose. I am quite sure that no
damage would result from any of your suggested activities.

We are pleased to Reserve Freelance for you
from the approximate dates you mention. However, my husband
is away from the office for a few days, and he will write to
you immediately after his return.

Sincerely,

V. E. B. Nicholson

Mrs. V. E. B. Nicholson.

Nicholson, V. E. B.
Filed: Bredin ~~Gaitt~~
W. Indies

V. E. B. NICHOLSON & SONS

Nelson's Old Naval Dockyard

English Harbour

Antigua.

POSTAL ADDRESS

P.O. BOX 103

ST. JOHN'S,

ANTIGUA, B.W.I.

V. E. B. NICHOLSON
D. V. NICHOLSON
R. A. NICHOLSON

29th Oct 1955.

The Smithsonian Institution.
United States National Museum.
Washington, 25. D.C.

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Dear Mr Schmitt

This is to amplify our letter of the 27th Oct, which was dispatched in a hurry since it was mail day and I had to be away from the office for a short time.

We would be very interested in your proposed cruise, and I will try and arrange that my son Desmond will take the vessel since although he has no qualifications in the scientific field, he is nevertheless deeply interested and would be most co-operative and hope to learn more, besides which he is a first class photographer and could bring sufficient apparatus from his dark room to be able to develop and print on the spot pictures.

There will be plenty of room for your equipment aboard FREELANCE as she is quite a large iron built vessel with spacious teak decks, and I am perfectly satisfied that none of the activities you suggest will be harmful provided the simple precaution in the matter of tubs for breaking shell and coral etc are taken. The 50ft seine, tanks, etc will not worry us in any way as there would be room for many such articles about the decks, and there is plenty of interior space for the more delicate items.

ands

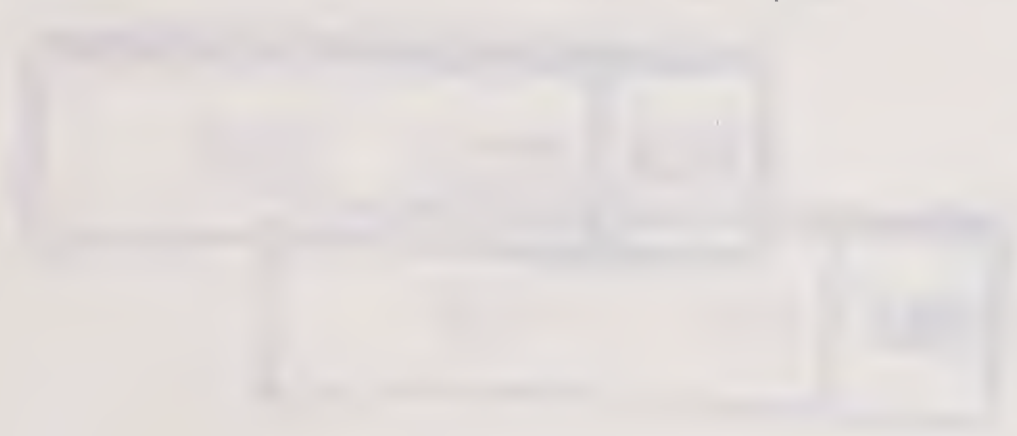
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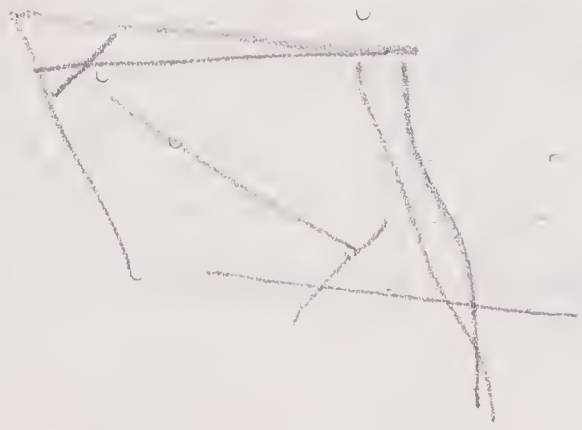
For the purpose of working on ships under-water fittings we have a simple diving equipment consisting of a small engine driven Air Compressor and bottles carrying about 150 lbs per sq inch, which pressure is fed by hose to an ordinary Aqualung demand valve and mask. If this would be useful we could bring the compressor unit for use with your own Aqualung equipment.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO
LIBRARY



I



11/10/50
April

Apr. 5

Apr. 15

In order to save you last minute trouble and possible delay I suggest that you ship your equipment to us here in Antigua just as soon as you like, for us to store until required to be placed aboard FREELANCE when the cruise before yours starts at Antigua. I suggest also that we purchase on your behalf such simple and ordinary things like Galv Iron Tubs etc. We could also purchase the local kind of fish trap and have a couple aboard.

Regarding Itinerary, I note that you have been thinking of starting at St Thomas and ending at Barbados or Trinidad. We are very willing to fall in with your wishes to the full, but if travelling in this direction you will all the time be fighting the prevailing Trade Wind and seas.

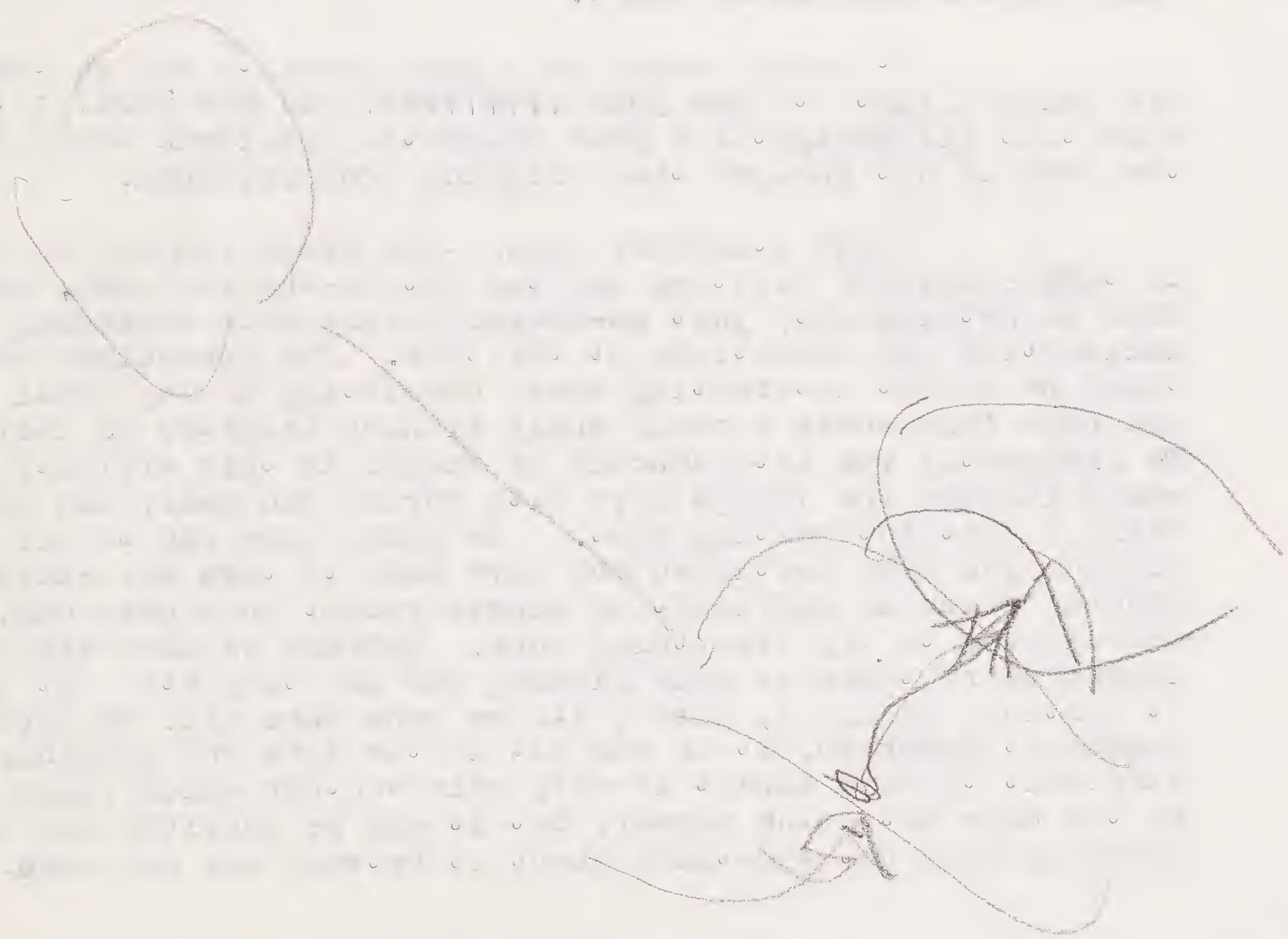
I feel sure that from every angle it would be best to reverse your direction and to start at Trinidad (Pan Am Stop) and follow the Trade winds rather than fight them, besides which you would have the wind gauge of all the Islands except Barbados and Tobago, and as a consequence have more time to visit more Islands and places. There is also another consideration, Freelance ends her previous cruise at either Grenada or Trinidad and it would take about 8 days to cover the distance to return her to St Thomas and before she could be ready for you, which would mean a much later start.

St Thomas would be a good place to end as there are daily flights to San Juan ~~from where~~ and New York. I think also that Air Freight for your collected specimens would be much the same if not cheaper than shipping from Trinidad.

Your itinerary would then bring you all up the Islands in turn, specially visiting all the out-of-the way ones, and there need be nothing set, just go-as-you please much depending on your inclination and conditions at the time. The Grenadines would I think be a most interesting area, consisting of many small Islands and cays from where a small whale fishing industry is carried on. We frequently run into schools of whales in this vicinity and would include the Tobago Cays with Worlds End Reef, and Horseshoe reefs, a most interesting spot. We could take you to all the Islands you have mentioned and have been to them all except Redonda which is difficult of access except on a calm day, but we are willing to try everything once. Barbuda we know very well indeed where there is much fishing and shooting etc. St Barts, St Martins, Anguilla, Saba, etc we know them all. We have never landed at Sombrero, it is way out in the open and probably difficult to land except in very calm weather which would not be the case until the summer, but it may be possible and we could probably find out something about it between now and then.

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Martingue
Soudage
Redona
Andigug



Regarding the previous cruise to yours I have not heard yet their exact ending date, only that it will be approximately the 7th March, I think final decision depends on air schedules, so I may have to say that we could not be ready at Trinidad until about the 12th or possibly several days sooner. However we should know quite soon as I have written to the previous client, and will be able to tell you in a next letter.

I do not think there is anything further I can say just now, perhaps you would give me your views.

I can assure you that our co-operation will be to the fullest extent.

very sincerely,

V. E. B. Nicholson

V.E.B. Nicholson.

c.c. to. J. Bruce. Bredin Esq.
P.O. Box 87.
Wilmington.
Delaware.

P.S. The upper deck cabin
could be used as a
laboratory.

The Engine room would be a
warm & convenient place to
hang and dry specimens.

110. Volt D.C. is the electrical
Voltage of the ship.

If it is desired to make use of air travel during the cruise the Pan Am stops
are :-

Martinique
Guadeloupe
Antigua.
St. Croix -
St. Thomas

*1/4
Showered to check*

Navy-Back

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JANUARY 1, 1900

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

RE: THE PROPOSED
CHANGE IN THE

ORGANIZATION OF THE
NAVY DEPARTMENT
AND THE
NAVY OFFICE

THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE
THE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER
OF THE 28TH INSTANT

AND IN RESPONSE TO ADVISE
THAT THE PROPOSED
CHANGE IN THE
ORGANIZATION OF THE
NAVY DEPARTMENT
AND THE
NAVY OFFICE
IS BEING CONSIDERED

BY THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
AND THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

AND THAT THE RESULTS OF
THEIR CONSIDERATION
WILL BE FURNISHED TO YOU
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

VERY RESPECTFULLY,
YOUR OBLIGED SERVANT,
J. M. SMITH

JOHN M. SMITH
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

BY APPOINTMENT
OF THE SENATE

AND BY LETTER OF
COMMISSION FROM THE
PRESIDENT

AND BY LETTER OF
COMMISSION FROM THE
PRESIDENT

AND BY LETTER OF
COMMISSION FROM THE
PRESIDENT

AND BY LETTER OF
COMMISSION FROM THE
PRESIDENT

AND BY LETTER OF
COMMISSION FROM THE
PRESIDENT

October 24, 1955

Air Letter

Commander V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box No. 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

As I indicated I did not have time for a proper letter, ^{so} I have rewritten the draft in letter form with some minor corrections for the record. The recopied draft will be in the next mail. I am sending this letter of today air mail the first thing this morning in the hopes of its reaching you before you undertake to reply to my draft of Friday. In thinking over things this week-end I fear that I may have sounded a bit arbitrary in my listing of islands that might be visited. Please feel that at all times we shall be guided by your advice. Certainly we do not want to undertake anything of which you may disapprove. In interpreting Mr. Bredin's indications I may have gone too far afield.

Within your regular and cruising range there are a number of islands which are seldom visited and which rarely, if ever, see the tourists for neither the planes nor the regular steamers call at them. One member of our party thought that the outer islands, such as Barbuda, might be too rough weather so early in the season. I will confess that ever since I read of Barbuda it is a place I have wanted to see. Furthermore, I am also hoping that, within the time limit set, our itinerary could be more or less flexible so that if Mr. Bredin wishes to make a change from what we may have arranged for him it can be done.

The matter of equipment that we may wish to bring with us might also be arranged otherwise in case you think we are asking for too much space for it. We could send part of it to St. Thomas, if that is the place from which we start, and part of it down the line to one of the other islands at which the regular steamers call,--perhaps Guadeloupe, if not farther north. But please feel that the itinerary is quite open for discussion. The two of us who collect along shore and in shallow water will be the wet ones. The botanist and entomologist of course are dry land operators and, except for "dust," would be reasonably clean folks.

My regards and respects to you.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

Would Sombrero fall within the British Virgins. Fossil tortoise shells have been found in guano deposits there, but these deposits I suppose have been cleaned out long ago. On Anguilla, there is a cave

or caves in phosphate rock from which bones of birds and rodents have been recovered. Would be interesting to see and to collect perhaps. From Redonda, I'd like to get a sample of the rock.

COPY

Nicholson, Commr. V. E. B.

~~Filed: Bredin to J. E. B.~~

October 21, 1955

Air Mail

Commander V. E. B. Nicholson
P. O. Box No. 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Commander Nicholson:

Mr. Bredin of Wilmington, Delaware, wrote you on October 17, asking that you tentatively reserve your yacht, FREELANCE for an approximately 5 and 1/2 week period from about March 9 through April 15 for himself, a guest, and a party of 4 Smithsonian scientists. Our plans call for collecting specimens of insect and plant life on the islands visited and the various forms of marine life encountered at sea, and about the various anchorages. The scientific group would consist of myself and a colleague for the marine forms of life and an entomologist and a botanist for insects and plants ashore.

Perhaps the first and most important question is to what extent we may indulge in these activities from and aboard your vessel. Collecting along shore, under rocks in shallow water, and over coral reefs (at low tide) is a wet but not too messy a job. Some of us would frequently be coming aboard wet to the waist or even to the neck with buckets of specimens and some muck. However, any mess that we might make could be hosed down very easily and the deck, if at all "delicate" could be covered with a piece of canvas over the area where we might sort out our gathered materials into bottles.

We may have occasion to use a galvanized iron wash tub or two, in which to crack open coral for its contained animal life, and for rinsing specimens. We shall have with us considerable impedimenta used in connection with our collecting forays, a 50 ft. seine, a small copper dredge or two, and several tanks in neat wooden chests for preserving larger specimens and a few dozen quart jars and a supply of small vials. We also would like to make use of a few lobster pots or fish traps at our overnight anchorages but these could be set from the launch.

May I digress here to say a few words about your 18 ft. launch? Judging from the type of craft that you are offering us it is probably a very trim little craft. Could not a rougher, more work-type launch be substituted, for this cruise at least?--Something that would be a little more serviceable for collecting and small dredging than a more dressy boat?

The insect man has few wants and little gear, I would think. The botanist, however, would need between 14 and 18 cubic feet of space for 3 to 4 fiber telescope cases, measuring about 18 by 12 by 36 inches. The wooden tank chests, referred to above, run a little more than 5 cubic feet apiece (av. about 100 lbs. each). They measure 24 by 20 by 19-1/2 inches high and space for 3 or 4 of these would be needed. What to do with this gear might be a problem in view of the admonition in your circular that luggage should be kept to a minimum. Could not the sofa cushions in the upper companionway be removed and the chests or fiber cases be stored on the wooden benches? If there is deck space enough the wooden chests, for greater part, at least, could be placed on blocks and lashed on deck. We have canvas covers for purposes of shedding water.

I want to emphasize that we are all gentlemen and do not expect to give your vessel any really rough treatment. We know a fine ship when we see one and so if you feel it would not be out of place for us to use your vessel as a base of operations or rather as the headquarters of our operations, we should be able to definitely sign up with you for the period indicated as soon as we hear from you.

Now, as regards itinerary, in very sketchy fashion: Mr. Bredin, in general would prefer to call at islands seldom visited or, at least, off the usual tourist track. As he indicated, he would like to spend at least a week in the American and British Virgin Islands, starting at St. Thomas, as there is a strong possibility that we may wish to take a guest from St. Thomas to Tortola and back for just a brief look-see (one day round trip?).

After that, what about Anguilla, St. Martin, St. Barts, Barbuda, and the great Reef on the north side of St. Croix, Saba, Statia, St. Kitts, and Nevis, Antigua, more or less? Where is that old native whale fishery carried on? Most of the scientific party are interested in several days in Guadeloupe and such hours ashore as there may be time for on the way to Barbados. Somewhere up the line is that phosphate rock that is being mined. Is it possible to stop there for a few hours?

If you can give me some idea of how much time we may have in port at how many islands within the time limit set it would be helpful. I do know that we would like to have 2 to 3 days in a place, at least, except in the small islands where there is no safe overnight anchorage

such as Saba, Barbuda, and others. A day ashore at Barbuda might suffice. It certainly will for Saba and if Barbuda proved to have rewarding collecting we could possibly return the next day, spending the night where?

One or two of the party would arrive in St. Thomas on March 9 steamer from New York with our gear. This would mean that we probably would have to put off departure for Tortula until the 10th or 11th.

If a member of the party should wish to return from Barbados by ship with our collections, how could he best return with least delay? How much more would it cost to run him or the party over to Tabago? From Tabago there used to be frequent small boat service to Trinidad and from there out one can get a weekly steamer to Mobile and be home faster than if he were to await a steamer home from Barbados. It is, I believe, Mr. Bredin's intention to fly the rest of the party home on the termination of the cruise at Barbados on or about April 15.

One last thought.--Would it be possible to use one of the double cabins as a work room, so to speak, for the botanist to lay out his driers and make up bundles of plants? He is a neat and orderly man. Any carpet could be taken up and the deck can, if you think best, be covered with a piece of canvas. Would it be possible to suspend bundles of plants above the engine so that the heat would hasten drying or is there enough current available to put a strong light bulb under such bundles in his cabin?

I fear that I can send you no more than this very rough draft tonight. To turn it into a proper letter would keep me from getting it off before Monday. If you will accept us in view of all that has been said above the trip is on.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:vb

Nicholson, V. E. B.
Filed: Bredin W.I.Exped

V. E. B. NICHOLSON & SONS

Nelson's Old Naval Dockyard

English Harbour

Antigua.

POSTAL ADDRESS
P.O. BOX 103
ST. JOHN'S,
ANTIGUA, B.W.I.

V. E. B. NICHOLSON
D. V. NICHOLSON
R. A. NICHOLSON

J. Bruce Bredin Esq.,
P.O. Box 87,
Wilmington,
Delaware.

October 17th. 1955.

Dear Mr. Bredin,

Thank you very much for your letter of October 17th. We will be very glad to reserve FREELANCE tentatively for you, from approximately March 9th. 1956, until April 15th.

We are now awaiting confirmation of this reservation from the Smithsonian ~~people~~ *Institute*.

I am sure you will find this vessel very comfortable indeed. Our elder son sailed her from Cannes at the end of last year, and had a fast and pleasant trip to Antigua with an amateur crew.

We will be pleased to answer any other questions.

Sincerely,

V. E. B. Nicholson

V. E. B. Nicholson.

ack. long hand
11/3/55

October 17, 1955

Mr. V. E. B. Nicholson & Sons
P. O. Box 103
St. John's
Antigua, B. W. I.

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

Thank you for your letter of October 13th. We definitely are interested in chartering the "Freelance" for a period of 5 or 6 weeks. I am sending a copy of the letter to the Smithsonian in Washington who will be handling the details of the trip and you will probably hear from them in the near future.

I believe that the March 9th date would be suitable as a starting time. We would like to spend about a week in the American and British Virgin Islands. Further information as to the itinerary can be worked up between you and the Smithsonian officials.

Please consider this letter a tentative reservation for the "Freelance" from March 9 until April 15, 1956. You will have a confirmation of this reservation direct from the Smithsonian people.

Sincerely yours,

Bredin

cc Dr. Carmichael

Mr. Oehser

May 15, 1957

Fenner A. Chace, Jr. *FAC*

"A Narrative of the Smithsonian-Bredin Caribbean Expedition, 1956."

It is earnestly hoped that Dr. Schmitt will be able to read page proof of this paper before final publication.

The appended figure legends merely reflect my reaction to the pictures; Dr. Schmitt may have very different ideas. I have tried to state the pertinent fact or facts about each one and hope that you will edit the statements as necessary.

If it is desirable to have the figures follow the general chronological order of the narrative, I would suggest rearranging them somewhat as follows:

<u>Suggested</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Pl. 1, fig. 1	(Pl. 1, fig. 1)	The <u>Freelance</u>
Pl. 1, fig. 2	(Pl. 3, fig. 1)	The crew
Pl. 2, fig. 1	(Pl. 2, fig. 1)	Tobago Cays
Pl. 2, fig. 2	(Pl. 6, fig. 1)	Marigot Bay
Pl. 3, fig. 1	(Pl. 2, fig. 2)	Pigeon Island
Pl. 3, fig. 2	(Pl. 3, fig. 2)	St. Pierre
Pl. 4, fig. 1	(Pl. 4, fig. 1)	Clarke and bromeliad
Pl. 4, fig. 2	(Pl. 5, fig. 2)	Miguel and cacti
Pl. 5, fig. 1	(Pl. 1, fig. 2)	The <u>Caribee</u>
Pl. 5, fig. 2	(Pl. 6, fig. 2)	Faggot fishing, Barbuda
Pl. 6, fig. 1	(Pl. 8, fig. 1)	Spiny lobster catch
Pl. 6, fig. 2	(Pl. 8, fig. 2)	Kennet and barracuda
Pl. 7, fig. 1	(Pl. 7, fig. 1)	Redonda
Pl. 7, fig. 2	(Pl. 7, fig. 2)	Gulley on Redonda
Pl. 8, fig. 1	(Pl. 4, fig. 2)	Clarke pinning
Pl. 8, fig. 2	(Pl. 5, fig. 1)	Smith and plant presses
Pl. 9, fig. 1	(Pl. 9, fig. 1)	Injecting fishes
Pl. 9, fig. 2	(Pl. 9, fig. 2)	Sorting the catch

The print of the crab larvae at Pigeon Island (your Pl. 2, fig. 2) has been carefully routed to eliminate all of the larvae. This should be re-engraved from an unretouched print, if possible. Otherwise the legend will have to be changed or the figure deleted.

I assume that the 18 figures now included will comprise one page more than a signature and that there will be one blank page. If it is necessary to eliminate one page, I would be in favor of dropping the street scene in St. Pierre and the shot of the Caribee, but this should certainly not be done without Dr. Schmitt's approval.

The original Pigeon Island print is returned herewith. The other original prints are being returned to Dr. Schmitt.

I have no way of knowing whether Dr. Schmitt desires extra reprints and I hope that this matter can wait until he returns.

Attachment

FACHacc:alb

cc: Dr. Schmitt

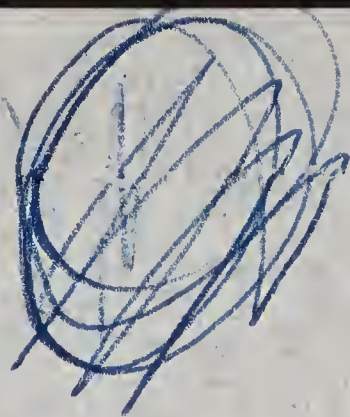


FIGURE LEGENDS

(Smithsonian-Bredin Caribbean Expedition)

Should have
good Bredin
Picture even
if extra plate

Pl. 1, fig. 1. The Freelance, the 86-foot auxiliary schooner which served the expedition as a floating laboratory during the 40-day cruise from Trinidad to St. Croix.

Pl. 1, fig. 2. The Caribee. This yacht, once owned by Ernest N. May, was encountered in Sir Francis Drake Channel while Mr. May was aboard the Freelance.

Pl. 2, fig. 1. ~~The Anchorage at Tobago Cays, Grenadines, from the summit of Petit Batteau. This was one of the most beautiful localities visited by the expedition. The reefs, where the surf is breaking in the background merit further investigation by marine biologists.~~

Pl. 2, fig. 2. Windrow of crab larvae on the beach at Pigeon Island, St. Lucia. ~~These larvae were conspicuously pink before~~ They are probably an undescribed stage of a raninid crab. a phenomenon that

Pl. 3, fig. 1. The crew of the Freelance: Thomas, Kennet [name to be supplied], Smith, Danny, Miguel, and Captain Nicholson. This picture was made at Basseterre, St. Kitts, where [name to be supplied] replaced Miguel who had injured his hand while Edmund destroyed in the eruption of Mt. Pelée in

Pl. 3, fig. 2. Street scene in ill-fated St. Pierre, Martinique. The remains of the church at the top of this hill ~~has only~~ recently been excavated.

In the street roadway, before the commemorative cross lies a great block of masonry that has

Pl. 4, fig. 1. Dr. Clarke collecting ~~in the forest~~ a bromeliad on Dominica. The boy on the left trudged 10 miles over the mountains to sell his bunch of bananas, only to have his crop rejected. dissecting (chopping up)

Pl. 4, fig. 2. Dr. Clarke pinning Microlepidoptera in the Freelance's saloon. ~~After a successful light-trap station, this operation sometimes lasted most of the following night in order to obtain good study specimens of each of the species caught.~~

Pl. 5, fig. 1. Dr. Smith stacked his plant presses around a lantern in the cabin. ~~Because of unpredictable drying conditions on deck, all of the botanical specimens had to be dried by this improvised method.~~ may yield several thousand specimens and unless pinned while fresh they do not

Pl. 5, fig. 2. Miguel among vegetation typical of the dry slopes of Antigua. ~~For so spiny character of this environment led to the conclusion that stout clothes and a forgiving disposition are prerequisites for collecting.~~ were unpredictable

Pl. 6, fig. 1. Hauling the seine in Marigot Bay, St. Lucia. It was ~~in this spot~~ that Captain Nicholson found the first of the ~~snapping~~ shrimps, Alpheus armatus, associated with the sea anemones, Bartholomea annulata, here

Pl. 6, fig. 2. ~~The he discovered were intimately living without harm under and among their otherwise deadly tentacles.~~

cede quite

before a sufficient series was prepared

material frequent showers

For so spiny character of this environment led to the conclusion that stout clothes and a forgiving disposition are prerequisites for collecting. this otherwise delightful island

may yield several thousand specimens and unless pinned while fresh they do not

were unpredictable

cannot serve as good study specimen

here

sought shelter ~~in the~~ ^{the} ~~at~~ ^{and}
pile of faggots set out
for the purpose

encircling net

(Figure Legends cont'd)

Aglingse of the Barbuda Faggot Fishery

Pl. 6, fig. 2. Faggot fishing in the Barbuda lagoon. The three fisherman are ~~moving~~ ^{over} the stack of waterlogged sticks ~~outside~~ ^{over} of the net before pursuing the latter and gathering the spiny lobsters trapped inside.

heaving

When finally

Pl. 7, fig. 1. The forbidding cliffs of Redonda Island and the sloping grassy plateau above. Phosphate mines were once located on this volcanic rock.

Chained from a vein running through this

Pl. 7, fig. 2. The landing place and gully on Redonda which gave Dr. Clarke access to the plateau and down which he descended more rapidly than planned.

of spiny lobster was so steep that

Pl. 8, fig. 1. The catch from the faggot pile at Barbuda. There were 26 ~~spiny lobsters~~ ^{lobsters} in the net after the sticks had been removed.

It was fished off in 3 weeks. The left undisturbed here for about 3 weeks.

Pl. 8, fig. 2. Kennet with a barracuda caught on the trolling wire. Most of the fishes obtained in this way ended up on the mess table.

Sorting and putting up the day's collection of invertebrates

Pl. 9, fig. 1. Picking the catch. One of the less pleasant chores of a marine biologist is injecting the larger fishes to insure proper preservation.

Pl. 9, fig. 2. After a good day on the reef. Dr. Chace and the author segregating the fragile and unusual invertebrates before preservation.

sorting

The invertebrate catch.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
EDITORIAL *and* PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

May 3

Waldo —

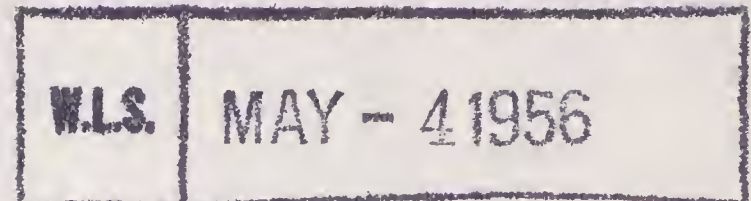
Welcome home!

What do you
think of this
proposal?

P 150

Smith, A. C.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



May 3, 1956

Mr. Paul H. Oehser
Chief, Editorial and
Publications Division
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Oehser:

In response to your request of May 1st for articles to be published in the annual report, it occurs to me that you may be interested in an account of the recently completed Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition. Probably Dr. Schmitt should prepare this as the leader of the expedition, but those of us who accompanied him may be able to contribute some sections and also photographs. I suggest that you discuss this matter with Dr. Schmitt who is probably now in Washington.

Very truly yours,

A. C. Smith

A. C. Smith
Curator
Division of Phanerogams

Mrs. Louise M. Pearson

Sept. 14, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Smithsonian-Bredin Exp.-West Indies--Letter of appreciation to State Dept.

Dear Mrs. Pearson:

Frankly, I do not know just how the letter should be written or how Dr. Carmichael would want it written, but can you not in your office have a letter written to the Secretary of State for Dr. Carmichael's signature, expressing our appreciation of the services rendered by the American Consul in Martinique, F.W.I. to the members of the Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition which spent March 22-25 at Fort de France? In this brief space of time much of value to the Institution was accomplished through introductions made by Mr. Cobb to the local naturalists and scientists and fishery representatives. These introductions also made it possible for the expedition to establish valuable contacts in Guadeloupe. I don't know what else is appropriate to say or whether the above suggestions can be abridged, but do lay before Dr. Carmichael something that he will sign and send on. Letters of this sort, as you realize, are the least we can do for the Consular offices who befriend us in our travels.

May I have a carbon of the letter that is sent?

Mrs. Louise M. Pearson

July 17, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt

Repair of camera used on Bredin Expedition

Please O.K. the attached requisition for \$51.73 representing cost of repair of Museum camera that went "bad" on the recent Caribbean trip. Mr. Wilding felt the matter could be most expeditiously handled if we charged it to the Bredin fund. The camera is now in the Eastman Kodak Co.'s hands.

Attach.

Bredin Exp. - West Indies

COPY

J. P. REISS CO.

19 HECTOR ST., NEW YORK 6, N. Y.
Phone BOWling Green 9-0808
XX

W.L.S.	JUN 8 - 1956
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XXXXXXXXXXXX

✓ Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt
United States National Museum
10th & Constitution Ave.
Washington 25, D. C.

June 6, 1956

1 roll Grass Mats
SS ALCOA PEGASUS,
arr. 6/2/56

not yet

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

June 7, 1956.

Just learned that U. S. Dispatch Office of New York is handling this shipment for you, and you will not need our services. Please disregard our letter of June 6th.

J. P. REISS CO.

J. P. Reiss

Alcoa Steamship Co. Inc.

P.S. As per copy of letter dated 6/4 from Alcoa Steamship Co. addressed to you, we shall be glad to clear the shipment. Will you kindly send us the bill of lading and paid bill. Did you acquire the mats on a trip abroad? If so, please send us certified copy of the declaration if you have it, otherwise kindly fill out the attached questionnaire and customs form #2320. Kindly rush these papers special delivery.

April 1/56^①

Dear Stummy / Have your letter of 19th plus and
Barbarras enclosed; got it here in Antigua this aft.
an arrival. That is too bad about Teals son,
can't believe that he stood that much in awe of me.
Guess our only hope is that enough people in the neigh-
borhood complain and that something will be done
about it; maybe he's dropped courses at school or
is only taking cinch courses; - Never can tell. // Well,
I haven't written for the fence post catalogue as
I intended, & I guess Sears will do it if we have to
buy them. // Re the road wherever they stick
the wood will have to be O.K. the higher up the hill or
nearer the house (they won't carry it very far, I
know the better). I would eventually expect to
put in somewhere behind or beside the little house,
I guess, - you permitting. I can't understand
the dirt; that there won't be any ^{or truck} wagon hauling.
If that is out, I don't see how we can get any
up on Highland. If Pelham can get them to
make little mound or hillock at top of large
slopes in back (along 3rd st) ^{at Pelham's} it will help solve
eventual drainage problem. With only a ball-
doser, I guess, Highland improvement or wider;

(2)

at Westmoreland is out. I shall abide by what-
ever you and Pelham work out. No use hiring
a truck to take bulldozer to Highland; in which
he could do there without dirt to dispose of.

I expect they will make two or three conveni-
ent piles of cut ~~wood~~ convenient to themselves
and that will be that; don't give yourself too
much concern over it. I'm sorry you still
feel so poorly. I think if you make your date
with Dr. for first week (or end of it) in May I'll
surely be home, unless I get chance to fly in Al's
place. He's due to go National Science Foundation
permanently, but also is not keen on flying, yet
has a conference there, he would like to attend.
It's terrible that you can't sleep and that pills no
longer help; at least go Dr. about that. I'm
sorry that you have put it all off so long.

Re Jan and her reports, you ~~can~~ ^{will} believe what
you will, I can't change any of it. What Jan told
Pettibone & McCain (as you say) can be just as ex-
aggerated in that direction as what she tried to
tell you, was in the other. — Wish you might
think better of me though. — That was

a nice idea to ask Jan and Mrs Smith ^{+ Mrs Chace} over to see ③
the pictures I sent home; had I realized that, I
would have ~~kept~~ ^{sent} some sort of record; I usually re-
member what I took & fit it in with such diary
as I keep; maybe the date I sent film and
corresponding date in diary will help you orient
yourself as to places photo'd. Re Jan, I did
not ask her to alibi me, she offered it. //

That newspaper carried Begler articles which
I tore out; have number at office, but haven't
had much time to read them. It makes little
difference whether outlined or not. Did it on
the spur of the moment one day. // Bredin
did not bring the Ori. Said he had ^{so} ~~too~~ many
operations that he couldn't leave; doubted if he
could bring him back. Bredin is to cable
me tomorrow whether he will rejoin us or not
or if Carmichael is coming or not. No, I did
not have much of a chance with Bredin, only
once when he asked me about Smith and Clarke
about whom he knew so little, & Clarke unless
he (Bredin) comes back, he may never meet.

That Nat'l Symphony deal sounds like highway
robbery. Did you talk to the Aehsers about it?

It makes no difference one way or other. I guess ⁽⁴⁾
we symphony goers are all in the same boat.

Well it was good to get so newsy a letter from Barb.
Sorry the two kids still wet at night. I do believe if
we get them home we (or) can get them straightened
out. Terrible about Bobs lack of orders. Maybe

they are just trying him out. He should just con-
tinue to do job best of his ability as he has been
doing, and show patience of Job, Barb too.
In due time he'll be taken care of. I do believe
the less he + Barb let on the situation frets or
worries them the better. For the present at least.

Sept + Oct are wonderful months in Wash + also
Nov. through Dec. with ^{these} late winter snows, we
may have a prolonged Fall. I'm with Barb
+ perfection of French with kids. Hope she can
get her own conversational French on high
social level too. Forget about Amer, hist etc.
I wish Chris and Eric could get some French
at kindergarten level, if available. Say, if
we can't get you in better health soon what
about your going over once more before Barb
comes home? What say, If orders come in
time you'll know better when + where you'll

⑤
want to visit them. We can afford another French
trip for you, if you can be persuaded to take it
as a rest cure. My legs are better; right one
is about normal & left headed that way; it's
my left knee, one on which I fell that is still
giving trouble, not so much trouble but it feels so
weak I'm afraid to trust it with weight or in
getting up off ground. Expect to consult a
Dr. here in Antigua day after tomorrow be-
fore we sail. Also think I should get some more
achromycin, in case any body else needs it
Dore I said we all shall try to get hair cuts here
too. Laundry our last chance, went off today
also, so much for news there's little else.
We keep pretty busy. I hardly have time to keep
my notes up as you have seen from their scrap-
py and rumbling nature; so friends will have
to do without; have bought a few postals but
have difficulty getting them off, or to post others
with them. Can't understand why notes
from Trinidad took so long to get to you. Did
you get any from Barbadoes? He
just got in here at Antigua this late afternoon
& have taken time off for letter home & getting

notes up today; And to go up to house of
Capt Nicholas's parents for visit, and they came
back with us to ship for dinner and stayed
a while, & this is being done after they left
for home. // Tomorrow we over haul & pack into
forenoon. We are about half way through &
need to get set for last half. In afternoon
we go collecting again, on falling tide. & so
it goes. After collecting stuff has to be sorted
& labeled pickled & bottled. It all takes time. I
can't keep off my feet as much as I should
but it will all soon be over. // Thank Pelham

for being so prompt in coming over to talk
to man about road & dirt. Don't worry
about me, you two work out what you
think best under circumstances. We certainly
are going to feel naked, losing so many things.

And yourself, why do you let things go so
long till you feel so badly and miserable. Those
days the doctors do wonders. ~~There~~ ^{But} no shots
of penicillin I got in Dominica, I might be
in bed now, right leg cleared up promptly
and left is very much on mend. Do go for
promptly and as often as necessary. They have
bite you. Since you don't love an old grandpa here I
will hold & then some.

April second 1956 ⁽⁷⁾

Dear Sammy,

This is probably my last letter but one from St. Croix before I take the steamer. It looks as though Al Smith will be flying and that I shall be "riding". Will explain when I see you. We should be in Balto I believe early 1st week in May, but about that you'll hear more after I see the agent in St Croix on the 19th of the month.

I do hope you can put up with the little extra delay that it will entail. But if you have to go to Dr. or hospital earlier (which I hope not for I don't want to think you are that ill while I'm so far away) I'm sure the house can look after itself. If a real emergency should arise I'll fly any way, steamer passage or none.

We had a good collecting day here and hope to repeat tomorrow. Mr. Bredin ^(wired that he) will not be back to join the expd. but his brother-in-law Mr. Ernest May who financed Kreiger and Morton

(8)

down here after his yacht could not make
the trip we'd planned in '37, will be taking
his place. (He gave us a thousand dollars
too as patron of our Systematic Society)
That's all the news.

I do hope you are
not feeling too miserable. It's too
bad Barb could not make it, to
be with you while I'm away. Coming
in September will give us chance to
get everything ready ~~to~~ receive them.
Kids and all. We do have wonder-
ful fall weather you know.

I'm holding a good thought
over you, believe it or not.

Love from the Old Man,
~~X L H~~

Guess I'll see Dr. tomorrow anyway to get
more achromycin & let him have another
look at my left leg and knee. It seems to
be improving, slowly and I hope surely.

Waldo L. Schmidt

Head Curator, Department of Zoology

X

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Washington

D. C.

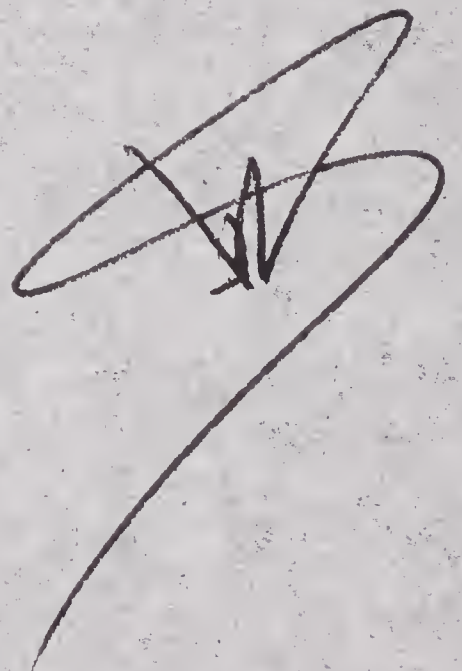
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

March 1, 1936

Trinidad and Lesser Antilles, north
to St. Thomas.

May 6, 1936

Collecting scientific specimens in connection
with the Smithsonian-Bredin-Caribbean Expedition to the British, French,
Dutch, and American West Indies.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page. The signature is composed of several loops and a long, sweeping underline.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Washington 25, D. C.
REQUEST FOR SPECIFIC (NOT GENERAL) TRAVEL AUTHORITY
(In triplicate)

Name Waldo L. Schmitt Title Head Curator, Department of Zoology

Authority is requested to travel via ☒ common carrier; ☐ commercial airline; ☐ private automobile @ _____ per mile (see justification); ☐ Government vehicle or plane; ☐ (Other, specify) _____ (see justification); on official business from ~~(temporary)~~ (official) station at Washington, D. C. ~~(residence)~~
on or about March 1, 1956 to: Trinidad and Lesser Antilles, north to St. Thomas.

and to such other points as may be found necessary, and in the order found to be most advantageous, revisiting any of said points as may be necessary; and to return to the (temporary, official, residence) station not later than May 4, 1956.

A per diem allowance of \$ _____ is requested.
The amount of \$ _____ is requested for procurement of supplies, materials, or equipment.

This travel is for the purpose of: Collecting scientific specimens in connection with the Smithsonian-Bredin-Caribbean Expedition to the British, French, Dutch, and American West Indies.

Estimated cost:

Transportation \$ _____; Per Diem \$ _____;

Other expenditures \$ _____; TOTAL COST OF TRIP \$ _____.

No. of transportation requestes desired _____.

Appropriation chargeable: _____

Approved by: Remington Kellogg

Travel Order No. 164
Date Feb 3, 1956

The foregoing travel requested is authorized except as follows:

T.R. A. 1,160,171. N.Y. to Trinidad (227.80)
I.R. A. 1,160,176. St. Croix to ? (215.00)
I.R. A. 1,160,177. Wn. to N.Y. {

Stam
Assistant Secretary

The Curators

Feb. 28, 1956

Waldo L. Schmitt 

West Indian cruise - March 1 to April 30, 1956

As you may have heard, I shall be absent from the office from March 1st to April 30th, inclusive, on a West Indian cruise, Trinidad to St. Thomas, sponsored by Mr. Bruce Bredin, who made possible our recent African expedition. During my absence Dr. David H. Johnson will be acting as Head Curator. All official business requiring his attention can be forwarded to my office, as heretofore, but prepared for his signature.

Seaman, George A.

AIR LETTER

August 7, 1956

Mr. George A. Seaman
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Christiansted
St. Croix, Virgin Islands

Dear Mr. Seaman:

I have been wanting to write you ever since my return from St. Croix. I did enjoy your visit, and I am sure profited by the various observations that you re-counted. I am sorry that our time was so limited that I did not get out to see you at your station for I was most anxious to get hold of those blind fish that you found in the cave on Barbuda. I can assure you that prompt identification and a description if they prove unusual or new will be forthcoming. Can you send them to me through official channels at your early convenience? We are trying to get all of our West Indian cruise material worked up.

Did you see Mr. Ashbrook when he passed through some weeks ago? He was on his way to a vacation in the Barbados. He is looking for a sunny spot to which to retire as he is grievously plagued with arthritis.

Don't fail to look us up when you next come to town. Dr. Chace and I would be very happy to have you as our guest for lunch.

With all good wishes to you and yours,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:EEK

Geo. A. Seaman

Sd. Ors. ix.

~~Amer. Virgin. Ids.~~

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OCT 30 1956

October 29, 1956

Mr. G. A. Seaman
Box 472, Christiansted
St. Croix, Virgin Islands

Dear Mr. Seaman:

The fairy shrimps from Barbuda, which were included in the collection sent to Dr. Schmitt under your letter of September 10, have now been identified by Dr. Ralph W. Dexter of Kent State University, Kent, Ohio. Dr. Dexter writes: "I thought for sure these would be Streptocephalus similis when I received the specimens, but actually they are S. texanus which, as far as I know, represents a new locality record." You can therefore take credit for another new record from this interesting island.

If we are able to obtain a name for the amphipods from the Barbuda cave, we will let you know. They should be of considerable interest.

Thank you for your hospitality during our stay in St. Croix. Because of people like you, we enjoyed our visit there fully as much as we did those to the other islands where we collected. Thank you also for sending the interesting material for our collections.

Sincerely yours,

FAC

Fenner A. Chace, Jr.
Curator
Division of Marine Invertebrates

FAChace:alb

cc: Dr. Schmitt

Seaman, G. A.

Seaman

AIR LETTER

October 31, 1956

Mr. G. A. Seaman
Box 472, Christiansted
St. Croix, Virgin Islands

Dear Mr. Seaman:

I should not be adding to the volume of your correspondence, but I do want to thank you again for the fairy shrimps from Barbuda. The fact that they constitute a new locality record for Streptocephalus
similis makes ^{me} all the more anxious to have you re-visit that island and get us some fish from that cave that you explored there. Do try to get back at an early date.

I join with Dr. Chace in thanking you for your kindnesses.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:cek

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Paul H. Oehser

DATE: Jan. 4, 1958

FROM : A. C. Smith

SUBJECT: Schmidt ms.

I made a few additions, which you can use as sentences or paragraphs as seems best, and a few other suggestions in the margins. You may have trouble fitting my remarks and those of Jack Clarke into the original ms. I'll try to select a few pictures from my kodachromes next week.

Please let me see a galley proof of this.

Al

*I didn't make any
dupl. of my additions!*

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

ALCOA S. S. CO.
RECEIVED
MAY 4 1956
PASS. DEPT.

April 26, 1956

Dear Waldo:

My return trip went very well and I got to Washington Saturday evening, the 21st. It seems good to be home again, but I am still looking over correspondence. I phoned Mrs. Schmitt and also Mrs. Chace and gave them glowing accounts of your and Fenner's activities (but of course I could not report on last Friday evening in Christiansted).

The Alcoa people here seem sure that you are due to arrive in New York on May 1, and so I am sending a duplicate of my customs declaration which, I was informed at San Juan, would permit you to bring in one gallon of our rum duty-free. Therefore I hope you will receive this before you enter the customs and that it will be all right.

I hope the trip has been pleasant. We will look forward to seeing you next week. Jack also had a good trip back.

Best regards,

al

A. C. Smith

Caribair 8/5/55

Long hand

N - 21787

Printed

No. 1414280

*Snd,
Dated.*

Wrightson

Apr. 20/1956

F B. Inspector

Place miter 4.00 scarf 1.50 | 5.50

gloves 10.00 art. flowers 2.00 12.08

roys belt beads 5.58

postage stamps PAID 7.00

perfume 8.00

38.46

5 bottles rum (1 gallon) 5.00

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1355



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OF WASHINGTON
R. H. HULL, MANAGER

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1435 G STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.
TELEPHONE DISTRICT 7-0921

Get draft ~~6~~ * *

Flash bulbs F.P. 26

Biol
abstract

February 28, 1956

Transportation requests

See Forman

Balance
charter
draft

Write
Carter
delemos

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Highland & Allegheny Ave.
Takoma Park, Maryland

Dear Mr. Schmitt:
Some carbon paper

Just a note to see if it is possible for
you to come in Wednesday, inasmuch as that is
the last day of our special double trade-
in allowance.

Hope to see you tomorrow.

White shoe
polish

180
500

Clarke

200
300
550 one's

RHH:a

Best regards,

Sonotone of Washington

RH Hull

R. H. Hull, Manager

Call Multhaupt
ask Schultz

Miss Joseph re Foshas?

Write Frank Weaver
strictly personal & confidential
one shown to Collins

Taylor, L. O.

June 4, 1957

Bredin
1956

AIR MAIL

Mr. L. O. Taylor
5 & 7 Lucas St., St. George's
Grenada, B.W.I.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Again I am most grateful to you for the information that you have supplied me in response to my various questions. You have actually given me a great deal more information than I knew existed regarding the occurrence of monkeys on Grenada.

Please never think that I have forgotten you folks and the very pleasant visit I had down through the islands, and, if I cannot cook up a trip for this next year, I shall endeavor to do it for the one or two following. Rather regrettably, my travels have taken me to the South Pacific, entailing a great deal of work in an area in which I was not particularly interested. North, South and Central America, the new world and its adjacent islands are my first love, and on their marine animal life I have spent most of my time. Here is hoping I may see you again before too many years elapse.

My best good wishes to you and yours.

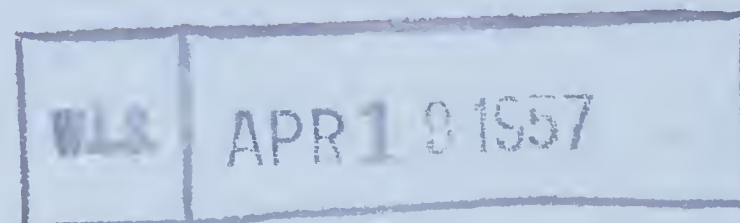
Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

5 & 7 Lucas Street
St. George's
Grenada B W I
April 12th, 1957

Mr Waldo S Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology
Smithsonian Institution
United States National Museum
Washington 25 D C



Dear Mr. Schmitt,

Thanks for your letter of March 12th and specially so for your kind remarks about our islands. I hope that I will have the pleasure of seeing you when next you visit although I trust that the visit will not be preceded by a hurricane as was the case when you were here last as well as on the occasion on which I met Dr. Busck.

Monkeys are still very plentiful in the island although they suffered severely during the hurricane and since, as a result of so much of the forests having been destroyed and with it many of their sources of food. They are as a result much bolder in their raids on crops. The only reference I can find about them is contained in the Grenada Handbook where they are described as MONA MONKEY (Cercopithecus Mona). An African species, now now naturalized in small numbers in the forests of the Grand Etang region. It was perhaps introduced by the slave traders from the West Coast of Africa. The hand book referred to was published in 1916 and the information taken from a work MAMMALS by Glover M Allen. Further reference is made in the same publication in

connection with the REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS of GRENADA by Thomas Barbour Ph.D Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. U S A to "Memoirs Musuem of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass. Volume No. 2, 1914 pp 209-347. Dr Barbour refers to Drs Allen and Brues of the above Museum as well as to Mr Garman also of the same Museum and maybe from their reports you may be able to get more detailed information on the subject. The hanbook contains also information on the Geography and Topo graphy, Geological Formation and History of the Island and should you be interested I could send you a copy.

yours sincerely

L O Taylor

 L O Taylor

First fold here

BY AIR MAIL
 PAR AVION
 AIR LETTER
 AEROGamme



Mr Waldo L Schmitt

Head Curator Department of Zoology

Smithsonian Institution

Washington 25 D C

U S A

Second fold here

Sender's name and address: L O Taylor

5 & 7 Lucas Street St. George's

Grenada B W I

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
 ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
 OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

To open cut here

Taylor, L. O.

March 12, 1957

AIR MAIL

Mr. L. O. Taylor
5 & 7 Lucas St.
St. George
Grenada, B.W.I.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I thank you very kindly for your letter of February 5 and all of the information that you supplied me.

I was very much interested in your beautiful island and its products. There is one other thing that I would like to have some word about and that is the presence or the acclimatization of the monkeys said to be in your forests. Back in 1910 a visitor remarked about seeing and hearing them.

All of us who were in St. George when we met you would like to come back to the West Indies, for despite the destructive hurricanes that do happen, there are no more beautiful islands in the world.

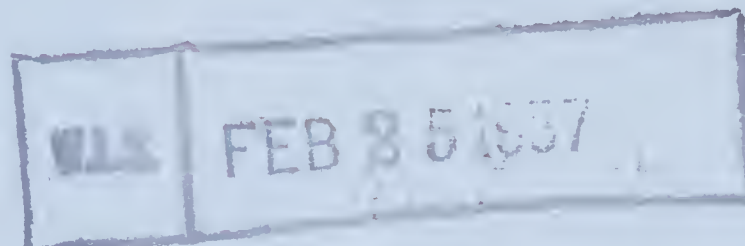
Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:ek

5 & 7 Lucas Street
St. George
Grenada B W I
February 5th, 1957

Dr. Waldo L Schmitt



Dear Dr. Schmitt,

I am quite pleased to see that you remembered the brief contact we had when you visited this island last spring. And I am more so in that you remembered my enquiry about the late Dr Busk. I must thank you for passing on the enquiry to his sons.

I hope that you had a successful trip through the islands and were able to secure specimens of what you were in search of. It is particularly pleasing to learn that our island has not lost much of its charm despite the severe beating it took from the recent hurricane. We are facing up to our problems fortified by all the help and sympathy we received throughout the hemisphere. It was a great shock to us as we had been deceiving ourselves with the thought "it cannot happen here".

There was a lot written about the destruction and I will try to secure some accounts of it. So far as the comparison of exports are concerned these are readily available from Government and I give you the figures below. Unfortunately these are only available for ~~the~~ 1956 up to September. The figures for cocoa further on are in bags of 200 lbs and were taken from a trade journal.

	cwt Cocoa \$		cwt Nuts \$		cwt Mace \$		other	spices
1951	48504	3576116	23152	1429964	5199	746654	9245	3866
52	54178	3537395	44607	1532810	6886	782679	13205	8005
53	61128	3852773	37082	1405445	7505	876599	68722	85761
54	51362	4959403	48881	1939203	7439	977881	9498	4583
55	47327	4158807	52887	2727051	6478	1172512	10405	5001
56	10946	619120	31432	2894043	808	304146	60	3787

Sep -

Dec 55 22553 1279062 2217 458091 39 1702

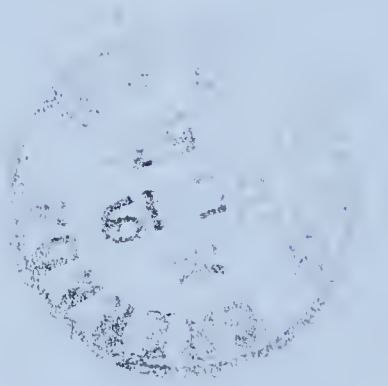
Cocoa

Sep 55 27,270 bags of 200 lbs net
56 6,600

I hope that the above is what you are looking for. If however there is any further information required don't be afraid to write as will be only too glad to supply.

yours sincerely


L O Taylor



Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt

Head Curator Department of Zoology

Smithsonian Institution

Washington D C 25

U S A

Second fold here

Sender's name and address : L O Taylor

5 & 7 Lucas Street

St. George's Grenada BWI

84
AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

First fold here

To open cut here

Taylor, L. O.

January 16, 1957

AIRLETTER

Mr. L. O. Taylor
Lucas St.
St. George
Grenada, B. W. I.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I have not forgotten your interest in our visit to Grenada this spring nor our great enjoyment of that beautiful island and the folks who live there.

What can you tell me of the exports of spices from Grenada both before and after the disastrous hurricane of 1955? Was there any published account of it and the destruction that it wrought? Also, what have been the exports of cocoa beans, cinnamon, and whatever other spices the Island produces? Mace I would tend to group with the nutmegs.

While we were in the harbor we saw a woman treading over some cocoa beans or cocoa pods drying on a tarpaulin on the quay side. Was she treading the beans out of the pods or just turning over the beans so that they would dry better? It is my belief that the former was the case, but one of my traveling companions said no, the beans were already out of the pods.

I have the address of only one of Dr. Busck's two sons: Paul G. Busck, 2135 Washington St., Allentown, Pa. I have conveyed to him your remembrances of his father. He will in turn write to his brother, Admiral V. K. Busck somewhere in North Carolina and to his sister, Sandra.

I would appreciate hearing from you at your convenience.
With kind regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:cek

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

1201

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Teague

CZA296 NL PD=CLEARWATER FLO 1=

1956 MAR 1 PM 6 20

DR WALDO L SCHMITT=

=SAILING MARCH SECOND PASSENGER S S 1LE DE FRANCE

PIER 91 NORTH RIVER NYK=

=BON VOYAGE TO YOU AND MRS SCHMITT STOP MAY YOU HAVE

PLEASANT AND SUCCESSFUL TRIP STOP REGARDS=

:GERARD=•••

Bredin Exp. - West Indies

Trinidad Distributors, Ltd.

AIR LETTER

February 21, 1956

Trinidad Distributors, Ltd.
6-8 George St.
Port-of-Spain
Trinidad, B. W. I.

Gentlemen:

The Smithsonian Institution is engaged in^a scientific collecting expedition leaving Port-of-Spain, Trinidad on March 13, for the Grenadines on the Schooner Yacht, "Freelance," Captain Nicholson. We have need for some 30 gallons of 95% undenatured alcohol for the preservation of museum specimens. One of our party, Dr. Femer A. Chace, Jr., has had some correspondence with Miss Jocelyn Crane of the New York Zoological Society's Trinidad Field Station, Simla, Arima Valley, about our needs, and it is possible she has already made some arrangements with local interests, or perhaps with you, to supply us.

Your name was given by Dr. Hans Kugler of the Trinidad Leaseholds, Ltd., and I am writing you about the alcohol in case Miss Crane or Dr. Beebe were not able to settle the matter of the desired alcohol. It is a most necessary part of our collecting equipment. Are there any legal formalities to be observed of which we need to have advance knowledge?

We depart from New York on March 2, on the "Ile de France," due in Trinidad on the morning of March 7.

We shall endeavor to communicate with you as soon as practicable after our arrival in Port-of-Spain.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLSchmitt:ckk

Ussery, Cleve

May 16, 1956

Mr. Cleve Ussery
S.S. ALCOA RUNNER
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Cleve:

Just a brief note to acknowledge your letter of May 8 and the fine photographs.

My wife wanted to know right away who was that handsome man, and the more I look at your picture the more I think you ought to try your hand at the movies. You are about as handsome a man I have ever met, and I'm not kidding either.

My kodachromes are just beginning to come through, and, as soon as I have them in hand and cataloged, I will get at least some black and white prints off, the pertinent ones, so that I can return your favor in kind.

One other word, I think you have two of the finest children I have ever laid eyes on. Take good care of them. The promise of the world to come is in the children you bear and raise.

Let's hope we will see you here in Washington one of these days between trips or otherwise. My best of wishes and best thanks to you and yours,

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLSchmitt:ek

RADIOMARINE CORPORATION OF AMERICA

A Service of Radio Corporation of America

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RADIO LOG

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S. S. _____

WLS

MAY - 9 1956

Call Signal

Bound for _____

from _____

noon position: _____

GMT	CALL LETTERS		PARTICULARS OF COMMUNICATIONS	FREQUENCY
	TO	FROM		
			<p>S. S. Alcon Runner Baltimore, Md. May 8, 1956</p> <p>Dear Dr. Schmitt,</p> <p>By now you have settled down into a familiar but pleasant activity. With so many good memories and associations life must really be worthwhile with a fullness few of us ever realize.</p> <p>As you have already noted, I have forwarded to you prints of those pictures you would be most interested in. Considering these were taken with a box camera, the results are adequate. I intend to have more printed from the negatives on hand and will send Dr. Chase those he might be interested in.</p> <p>I may be leaving the Runner when this voyage is terminated, possibly permanently, possibly for a leave of absence only. In any event, I am going to New Orleans, my home, and hope to stay with them (my family) at least three months during which time I will pick up a few courses.</p> <p>I would like to say it has been a great pleasure to me having met you and having become friends. Here is hoping we will see each other again one day. In the meantime, best of luck.</p>	

Please give my regards to
Dr. Chase. When in Washington
one day I will most certainly look
you up. Also, when you are in
New Orleans, I hope that you will
not hesitate to get in touch with
me, both you and Dr. Chase.

Sincerely yours,
Olive Querry

Van Teslaar, John

June 22, 1956

Mr. John D. Van Teslaar, Eng. Off.
s.s. Alcoa Runner
c/o Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
17 Battery Place
New York 4, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Van Teslaar:

I have had your letter of June 10 on my desk rather unduly long, but this is frankly my first chance to respond to it, and I find that you are due back in New York just about the time this reaches there.

I have written Miss Lanzisera, as you will see from the enclosed carbon, and I hope that she soon may be able to come to Washington, where you can rest assured I will do all that I can for her. Come down yourself some day. We can at least have lunch together and talk over old times as it were.

I certainly enjoyed my trip on the Runner, and I would like to do it again with my family. Maybe if I can stop collecting for the Museum long enough, I will do that very thing.

Best ever to you.

Sincerely,

Waldo L. Schmitt
Head Curator
Department of Zoology

WLS:EEK

<u>Port</u>	<u>Due</u>
ST. Thomas	15 June
Aguirre	18 June
San Juan	21 June
New York	25 June

Regards,

John D. Van Tieslar

John D. Van Teslaar, Eng. Off.
s.s. Alcoa **Runner**
Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
17 Battery Place
New York 4, N.Y.



AIR MAIL-POSTAL CARD

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Smithsonian Institute
10th St. + Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C.

On the High Seas
Sunday 10 June 1956

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
Smithsonian Institute
10th St. + Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C.

W.L.S.	JUN 14 1956
--------	-------------

Dear Dr. Schmitt;

In follow up of our Telephone chat the other day, the name + office address of the young lady under discussion follow:

Miss Frances Lanzisera
American Geographical Society
Broadway @ 156th Street
New York 32, N.Y.

As mentioned, Miss Frances is a medical geographer + has a research problem that may require a visit to Washington. Since she is not familiar with Washington there is an opportunity for her to be helped, possibly by some eligible, staunch, young defender of the "True Faith". She probably has no ideas whatever regarding accommodations at Washington.

Miss Frances is a poised + self-possessed young lady, considering the lack of formal social training for U.S. girls, but she is somewhat reticent about approaching people. She is a

purposeful young woman, but not aggressive according to my impressions to date.

Incidentally she is the only young woman I ever met aboard a ship ^{with} whom I have found it worthwhile pursuing acquaintance.

I think a note from you inviting her to outline her problem by letter, and reasonable follow-up according to developing circumstances, would work out satisfactorily all around.

Please let me know if there is anything I might do for you in the Islands.

Best regards to you + your associate.

Sincerely,

John Van Tieslar

P.S: With regard to the word "islands" I am intrigued by philological considerations of the true Seminole Indian word for their Tribe, "ISLE-SEMOLE", i.e: "island-people", as compared to more popular theories of Anglo-Saxon derivation of the word "island." I believe that there can be dual origin of words, just as there can be dual creation of similar mechanical inventions. But do you have any ideas about this? Or does it get into anthropology + out of your line?

WLS	JUN 14 1956
-----	-------------

John D. Van Teslaar, Eng. Off
S.S. Alcoa Runner

(main office) Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
17 Battery Place
New York 4, N. Y.

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
276 St. James Street, West
Montreal 1, P. Q.
CANADA

c/ Pickford & Black, Ltd.
51 Upper Water Street
Halifax, N. S.
CANADA

Boston , Mass.

Philadelphia , Penna.

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
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Baltimore 2, Maryland

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
610 Citizens Bank Building
Norfolk 10, Virginia

c/ Lykes Brothers S. S. Co., Inc.
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Tampa 1, Florida

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1568
Mobile 9, Alabama

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
#1 Canal Street
New Orleans 12, Louisiana

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 966
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1152
San Juan / PUERTO RICO

c/ Central Aguirre Sugar Company
Aguirre
PUERTO RICO

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 567
Charlotte Amalie / St. Thomas
VIRGIN ISLANDS

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 727
Fredriksted / St. Croix
VIRGIN ISLANDS

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
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JAMAICA

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Los Angeles 15, Calif.

c/ Pope & Talbot Steamship Co.
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Portland , Oregon

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Apartados 138-139
La Guaira
VENEZUELA

Alcoa Steamship Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 192
Paramaribo
DUTCH GUIANA

c/ Pope & Talbot Steamship Co.
320 California Street
San Francisco , Calif.

c/ Pope & Talbot Steamship Co.
Pier 48
Seattle 4, Washington