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Dr. F. Carlos Lehmann V.  
Apartado Nacional 680  
CALI, Colombia

VIA AIR MAIL

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GHANA BEGINS REAPPRAISAL OF WILDLIFE LAWS

Mr. E. O. A. Asibey reports that the government of Ghana is hard at work establishing new policies governing wildlife management. As Game Officer he will play a material role in this undertaking.

Mr. Asibey was enthusiastic in his comments about the park and recreation system distributed in draft form by the National Parks Branch of Canada. Other classification systems prepared by the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (USA), Professor Jean-Paul Harroy (Belgium) -- which is being used as criteria for judging the inclusion of parks and equivalent reserves in the U.N. List, and by Dr. Marion Clawson of Resources for the Future, Inc. (USA).

The experience and final system adopted by Ghana will be of interest to all park men. It is certain that Mr. Asibey will give each classification system a stern and fair test.

NEWS FROM E. P. GEE

Mr. E. P. Gee relates this encouraging development in India:

"The main problem concerning the creation and development of national parks in India is that the subject can only be dealt with by the States of the Indian Union, as wild life and nature conservation etc. are State Subjects, and not Central or Concurrent ones. The question of how to maintain a high national status and standard for parks to be created by State Governments has at last been solved: at the recent session of the Indian Board for Wild Life the National Parks Policy and Standards for National Parks in India (drafted by me at the request of the Government of India) were finally approved. Also certain wild life sanctuaries in India were recommended as attaining the standards of a national park and therefore recommended for up-grading into national parks by the State Governments concerned. This is a big step forward, and now about seven or eight national parks will be created by States, in addition to the four already in existence."

N.B. Use of central standards to control actions within a confederation may not be limited to one country. Pakistan will have the same problem of co-ordination between the two wings. Dr. F. C. Lehmann (member of ICNP from Colombia) has wondered about the effect of increasing the responsibility of department (province or state) officers for wildlife and nature conservation.

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LUIS BOLIN TO MOROCCO

Park Systems Advisory Committee member Luis Bolin (Spain) has accepted an assignment to Morocco by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). Mr. Bolin is to advise a Bank mission in the niceties of using tourist income as a development device. He is scheduled to leave for Morocco on 1 February and return to Washington, USA around 1 May.

KOREAN SCIENTISTS FORM NATURE CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

Twenty three Korean scientists have become the founders of the Korean Scientific Research Committee for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Professor Cho, Pok-Sung is Chairman.

The avowed intent of the Committee is to carry out research projects which will provide guidance for the establishment and management of national reserves. An active program of research has been proposed. One project is directed at uncovering further information about the "Chindo-dog which" . . . is believed to be the only pure race of aboriginal dogs extant today in Korea."

The President is an entomologist. Zoologists, ichthyologists, botanists, geographers, mammalogists and ornithologists are among the represented disciplines.

A committee of scientists was recommended in the Korean Country Report of the Park Systems Planning Project. It is hoped that the work will result in a strong report supporting the activities of the Korean Bureau of Forestry and its efforts to establish a system of nature parks for the nation.