

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON NATIONAL PARKS

2144 P STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON 7, D. C., U.S.A.
PARK SYSTEM PLANNING PROJECT
2000 P ST., N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C., U.S.A.

F. Carlos Lehmann
Apartado Nacional, 680 Cali
International Forum
Cali,
Colombia

WASHINGTON
11 30 PM
25 MAR
1963

VIA AIR MAIL

COL

0502

4
0502

International Union for the Conservation of Nature

Commission on National Parks

PARK PLANNING NEWSLETTER

No. 1

Washington, D. C.

March, 1963

PARK OFFICE ESTABLISHED

The Park Planning Project got underway on 20th February.

A small operation was established at 2000 P Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C., shared by the Secretary of the Commission. Within a few days the office was doing business and a round of consultations began with Drs. Harold Coolidge, Joseph Fisher and Edward Graham to map out the first steps to be taken.

The North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Detroit, USA., provided a ready means of meeting a number of international conservationists. It was good to visit with Dr. Enrique Beltran about the huge task confronting all conservationists in South America; to learn of the judgments made by Dr. George Petrides in his African wildlife studies; and see a clear statement of wildlife management policy for U.S. national parks generally accepted.

The Wilderness Conference provided an opportunity to talk to a number of conservationists with somewhat different views. Especially helpful was a long session with Lee Talbot -- who produced the fine report on vanishing species.

OFFICIAL INVITATION EXTENDED BY TURKEY ➡

His Excellency, Turgut Menemencioglu, Turkish Ambassador

-2-

to the United States, extended an invitation from the Government of Turkey for a one month visit looking toward an increase in the Union's ability to render effective conservation assistance to Turkey in the future.

The Turkish situation seems well suited to our purposes. Turkey is neither a poor country, nor a rich one (per capital income is \$183/annum). Its recreation resource base is varied. There are the beautiful ruins of old civilizations, remnant virgin forests, seacoasts, desert, rugged mountain terrain ranging up to 17,000 feet, free flowing trout streams, and varied climate. The social characteristics of the population are rapidly shifting: rural to urban; urban unemployment and rural underemployment. There is reasonable literacy. The population growth is 3% per annum. There is a brand new, ambitious five year plan calling for a 7% annual growth of net national product. Most important, there is a competent Forest Service capable of implementing new ideas and policies through a well organized field structure including 4 National Parks. The Ministry of Agriculture has offered to pay all interior travel expenses during the course of the investigation.

Some of the questions that will be asked are: who is planning for the park needs of the Turkish nation? for the people of the urban centers? who decides how much of the national budget will be devoted to park establishment, development and administration? what kinds of argument will be most useful in encouraging the fiscal managers and the Grand National Assembly to lend active support to a vigorous park program at the municipal,

provincial and national levels?

Another interesting point is that there is a massive FAO planning effort being carried out in the region surrounding Antalya on the Mediterranean. The climate is superb, the antiquities numerous, and the landscape beautiful. It will be interesting to see to what degree the park and conservation viewpoint has been considered in preparing for the, "...balanced social and economic growth of the region." We are led to think that a German firm is planning the development scheme for luxurious visitor's facilities but no one seems to know who the firm is or its reputation. Any information would be welcome.