DATE CHANGED FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE — The 6th Annual Conference and Workshop of the IAAAM will be held in Amsterdam April 19-24, 1975. The conference will be held in Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky at the Dam, the very center of Amsterdam and within walking distance of the main attractions. It will be springtime in Holland and in the theme of "Tulips of Amsterdam" an appropriate ladies program has been provided for. A block of 50 seats on a scheduled airlines, non-stop, New York to Amsterdam have been reserved at the group rate of $356.00 per person, round trip. For more information contact Dr. Jay D. Hyman, 37 Montebello Rd., Suffern, N.Y. 10907 (914-357-7819).


THE ANNUAL FUR SEAL HARVEST in the Pribilof Islands surprised many in charge of the program this year by exceeding the forecasts by more than 20%. An unusually good survival of the 1970 year class was the reason, but no one knows why this was so. Government scientists have recognized that mortality of pups on land has shown a cyclical peak every three years since 1965. The 1971 year class, whose members would appear in the harvest as 3 year olds last summer, experienced heavy postnatal mortality and correspondingly did not show strongly in 1974 although survival at sea often overshadows effects of death rates of pups on land.

This past season 33,009 seals, mostly 3 and 4 year old males, were taken from June 24 to July 27. This in spite of the fact that no harvest was conducted on St. George Island which, for the second year, has been set aside as a research preserve. The harvest would have been even larger except many more males were permitted to escape, partly because of reduced size limits to increase the population of breeding bulls, and because the harvest stopped several days short of the traditional stopping point, a time when returns are the heaviest.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BALLOTS NEEDED — According to our Secretary, as of November 18, only 38 of 61 ballots had been returned. A number of amendments, including those pertaining to tax exempt status, are vital to the association, but must be approved by a two-thirds vote. Therefore, to clearly see if the proposed amendments have association approval, we must have near 100% participation by the voting members. It should be kept in mind that these amendments were adopted by members at the Orlando meeting.

SPECIAL MEMO TO MEMBERS OF THE IAAAM — In September, 1974 a mass stranding of Atlantic white-sided dolphins (L. acutus) occurred along the coast of Maine. Scientists from the New England Aquarium are now engaged in a detailed study of the 51 dolphins in cooperation with investigators from a number of other institutions. The study includes general biology, anatomy, reproduction, pathology, toxicology, and parasitology. All qualified investigators are invited to participate in these studies and may acquire special tissues from any of the 51 frozen cadavers by submitting a request to: Mr. Salvatore Testeverde, Biologist, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, Mass. 02110. Requests must be received before February 15, 1975 and include the nature of the study to be undertaken. The foregoing notice was submitted by Joseph R. Geraci, V.M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Wildlife Diseases, University of Guelph. Dr. Geraci is the principal investigator and permit holder on this project.

IAAAM 5th Annual Conference Proceedings, 1974, Orlando, Florida
THE PRIBILOF ISLANDS PROGRAM is seeking a new Director. The duties include the full range of functions necessary for the administration of the Pribilof Islands including management of the fur seal herds. Responsibilities include coordination of management of whales, porpoises, sea lions, and seals in the waters of Oregon and Washington, and all other mammal or non-mammal marine species of fish, wildlife, and plants endangered or threatened. The salary for this GS-15 position is approximately $30,000.00 per year. Interested parties may apply to: Northwest Administrative Service Office, 1700 Westlake Avenue North, Seattle, Wash. 98109 (206-442-7564) Applicants not already employed by D of Commerce should submit a completed Standard Form 171, available at any Post Office or federal agency. Send applications via Attn: ADE92-D.R. Porter.

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