



The International Association for Falconry  
and Conservation of Birds of Prey

1988



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and Conservation of Birds of Prey

1968 - 1988

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The International Association of Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey  
Internationale Vereinigung für Falkneri und Greifvogelschutz

Zwanzig Jahre Internationale Vereinigung für Falkneri und Greifvogelschutz IAF

Vor zwanzig Jahren wurde die Internationale Vereinigung für Falkneri und Greifvogelschutz IAF gegründet. Dieser Anlaß ist wohl wert, einen Rückblick auf die Vorgeschichte dieser Vereinigung der bedeutentsten Falknerverbände zu richten.

Als der Österreichische Falknerbund unter seinem damaligen Präsidenten Dr. Eduard Tratnig-Frankl 1963 auf der Burg Hochosterwitz seine erste internationale Tagung abhielt, folgten Falkner aus dreizehn Nationen seiner Einladung. Auf dieser Tagung nahm der Gedanke eines internationalen Zusammenschlusses der großen Falknerorganisationen das erste Mal Gestalt an. Aufgrund mangelnder Initiative erfolgte daraufhin jedoch zunächst nichts. Mich ließ aber diese faszinierende Idee nicht los und deshalb versuchte ich durch Artikel in unserer Zeitschrift "Der Falkner" und durch Gespräche mit Funktionären befreundeter Falknerorganisationen Befürworter einer solchen Vereinigung zu finden. In einem Leitartikel schlug ich eine Tagung des Deutschen Falkenordens oder des Österreichischen Falknerbundes als geeignetsten Ort für entsprechende Beratungen vor. Im Oktober 1967 war es dann so weit, daß im Rahmen einer internationalen Falknertagung des Österreichischen Falknerbundes auf Schloß Petronell Vertreter einiger europäischer Falknerverbände für die Idee eines Zusammenschlusses gewonnen werden konnten. Die Tagungen des Österreichischen Falknerbundes sind für ihre herzliche, völkerverbindende Atmosphäre bei Jagd und Geselligkeit bekannt. So war es auch bei dieser Tagung, als nach erfolgreicher Jagd im Hof des Schlosses Petronell unseres Präsidenten Otto Graf Abensperg-Traun bei Fackelschein und Hörnerklang die Strecke gelegt wurde. Nach dem darauffolgenden Empfang im Freskensaal des Schlosses am 14. Oktober 1967 war die Stimmung unserer ausländischen Falknerfreunde gelöst und bereit zu Verhandlungen über die Art der gewünschten Vereinigung. In den folgenden Beratungen stellten die anwesenden Vertreter der europäischen Falknerverbände einstimmig die Notwendigkeit der Schaffung einer Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Falkneri und Greifvogelschutz fest und beauftragten mich, die nötigen Schritte zur Gründung derselben zu unternehmen.

Für die Gründungsversammlung war zunächst Wien vorgesehen, wegen der zentraleren Lage in Bezug auf den Anreiseweg wurde jedoch dann Düsseldorf gewählt. Nach umfangreichen Vorarbeiten war es dann am 6.4.1968 so weit, daß unter meinem Vorsitz in Düsseldorf die Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Falkneri und Greifvogelschutz gegründet werden konnte.

Auf der Gründungsversammlung waren folgende Organisationen durch die angeführten Delegierten vertreten:

Deutscher Falkenorden	Dr. Heinz Brüll, Dietrich Gutt, Gustl Eutermoser
British Falconers' Club	C.J. Morley
Schweizerische Falknervereinigung	Toni R. Lutz, Pierre Basset
Niederlands Valkeniersverbond	G.A. van Nie
Circolo dei Falconieri	Dott. Umberto Caproni di Taliedo
Österreichischer Falknerbund	Heinz Pils

Zum ersten Präsidenten der IAF wurde Jack Mavrogordato gewählt. In seine Amtszeit von 1968 bis 1972 fallen folgende wichtige Ergebnisse.

Beschluß der Grundsätze der IAF.

Aufnahme der IAF als Mitglied des Internationalen Jagdrates zur Erhaltung des Wildes CIC durch die Generalversammlung des CIC in Mamaia im Mai 1968.

Anerkennung der IAF als Repräsentant für Falknerei und Greifvogelschutz bei Konferenzen des Internationalen Rates für Vogelschutz I.C.B.P. im Jahre 1970.

Nächster Präsident der IAF von 1972 bis 1975 war Otto Graf Abensperg-Traun. Folgende Ereignisse prägen seine Amtszeit.

Im Juni 1973 vertrat der Präsident die IAF bei der Generalversammlung des CIC in Warschau. Im Verlauf dieser Versammlung wurde vom CIC eine Empfehlung zum vollständigen Schutz bzw. zur ganzjährigen Schonung aller Greifvögel gegeben.

Im Oktober 1973 beschloß die IAF in Petronell eine Resolution, welche die internationalen Jagd- und Naturschutzorganisationen auffordert für den Schutz der Greifvögel und die Erhaltung der Falknerei einzutreten. In dieser Resolution wurden auch die Grundsätze der IAF dargelegt.

Im April 1974 vertrat der Präsident die IAF bei der Generalversammlung des CIC in Teheran, bei der die Kommission für Zugvögel eine Resolution an die Regierungen gerichtet hat, die Falknerei zu erhalten, die Greifvögel zu schonen und für die Falknerei in erst er Linie gezüchtete Greifvögel zu verwenden. Bei dieser Sitzung des CIC wurde auch die Resolution der IAF von Petronell anerkannt und darauf hingewiesen, daß diese in den "President Letters" des Internationalen Rates für Vogelschutz vom Dezember 1973 veröffentlicht und damit auch vom I.C.B.P. gutgeheißen wurden.

Im Oktober 1975 fand in Wien die 1. Weltkonferenz des Internationalen Rates

für Vogelschutz ICBP über den Schutz der Greifvögel statt. Auf dieser Tagung war T.A.M. Jack, welcher seit 1972 die Interessen der IAF beim ICBP vertritt, Sprecher der IAF. Er konnte die Delegierten von der Stellung der Falknerei im Greifvogelschutz überzeugen, sodaß in der abschließenden Resolution die Berechtigung derselben durch den ICBP anerkannt wurde.

Vom Oktober 1975 bis Oktober 1978 leitete Toni Lutz die IAF. Innerhalb dieser Periode ist folgendes beachtenswert.

Herausgabe der Zeitschrift "Captive Breeding" und Vermittlung eines umfangreichen Erfahrungsaustausches zwischen den Zuchtgruppen durch Dr. R.E. Kenward.

Organisation der im Oktober 1977 in Oxford stattgefundenen "Conference on Bird of Prey Management Techniques" durch Dr.R.E. Kenward.

Entsendung von Dr. Basset als Vertreter der IAF zu der 1978 in Sofia abgehaltenen Generalversammlung des CIC. Auf Antrag von Dr. Basset wurde bei dieser Versammlung die Gründung einer Arbeitsgruppe für Falknerei innerhalb der Kommission "Zugvögel" des CIC beschlossen.

Vom Oktober 1978 bis Oktober 1984 war Comte Charles de Ganay Präsident der IAF. Für diesen Zeitraum sind folgende Aktivitäten hervorzuheben.

Im Mai 1979 tagte im Rahmen der Generalversammlung des CIC in Athen die neu gegründete Arbeitsgruppe für Falknerei des CIC unter dem Vorsitz von Comte Charles de Ganay.

Die Kommission "Zugvögel" des CIC gab in Athen aufgrund der Ausführungen der Arbeitsgruppe für Falknerei eine Empfehlung, in der die IAF als die Organisation anerkannt wurde, die am besten geeignet ist, die Interessen der Falknerei im CIC zu vertreten.

Leider war mit diesem einmaligen Auftreten die Tätigkeit der Arbeitsgruppe für Falknerei im CIC erschöpft und diese konnte erst fünf Jahre später durch mich wieder ins Leben gerufen werden.

Ausarbeitung und Genehmigung der Statuten der IAF.

Ausarbeitung und Genehmigung des Verhaltenskodex der IAF.

Organisation der im Oktober 1981 in Oxford stattgefundenen "Conference on Understanding the Goshawk" durch Dr.R.E. Kenward.

Im Mai 1984 wurde im Rahmen der Generalversammlung des CIC in Innsbruck die "Arbeitsgruppe für Falknerei und Erhaltung der Greifvögel" des CIC neu organisiert. Die Arbeitsgruppe untersteht nunmehr direkt dem Verwaltungsrat des CIC. Zum Präsidenten der Arbeitsgruppe wurde ich gewählt, die IAF ist in derselben durch ihren Präsidenten und drei Delegierte vertreten.

Vom Oktober 1984 bis heute ist Christian de Coune Präsident der IAF. Dieser Zeitraum gehört noch zu wenig der Geschichte an, als daß darüber ein bewertender Bericht abgegeben werden könnte. Seine bisherige Arbeit zeigt jedoch, daß sie durchaus den Erfolgen seiner Vorgänger gerecht wird.

Außer den angeführten Ergebnissen sind noch eine Anzahl anderer zu werten, welche Delegierte der IAF bei CIC, ICBP, CITES, IUCN und ähnlichen Organisationen für die Sache der Falknerei und des Greifvogelschutzes erzielen konnten, wenngleich diese auch nicht besonders erwähnt wurden.

Die wichtigsten Ziele der Internationalen Vereinigung für Falknerei und Greifvogelschutz IAF sind:

- die Beizjagd zu erhalten und die Ausbildung der Falkner zu fördern;
- die Greifvogelforschung und die Gefangenschaftszucht zu unterstützen;
- die nationalen Gesetzgebungen und Praktiken bezüglich der Falknerei und Greifvogelhaltung in Einklang zu bringen;
- das Verhalten der Falkner durch einen für alle Mitglieder gültigen Verhaltenskodex zu regeln;
- die Greifvögel durch Festlegung internationaler Regeln zu schützen;
- der Öffentlichkeit ein richtiges Bild von der Falknerei zu vermitteln.

Der IAF gehören die für ihr Land repräsentativen Falknerorganisationen von Belgien, Dänemark, Deutschland, Frankreich, Großbritannien, Irland, Italien, Japan, Niederlande, Österreich, Polen, Schweiz, Spanien, Südafrika, Tunesien und Ungarn an.

Der Internationalen Vereinigung für Falknerei und Greifvogelschutz IAF ist zu verdanken, daß die Beizjagd heute wieder den ihr gebührenden Platz im Jagdgeschehen einnimmt und daß die Falkner von den Vogel- und Naturschutzorganisationen als engagierte Greifvogelschützer anerkannt werden.

Heinz Pils

"Sir,  
In IAF Newsletter No. 1/1988, in a few words I wrote about my old friend J G Mavrogordato, I stated that he 'founded the International Association of Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey'. It has been brought to my attention that this is wrong. He was not the founder.

Would you be so good as to publish this letter of correction. I apologise for this mistake and for any offence I have given by making it.

Yours sincerely  
T A M Jack  
President, BFC  
July 1988".



1968 - 1988

XXth ANNIVERSARY

The International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey has been founded in Düsseldorf the 6th April 1968. Twenty years ago!

This XXth anniversary is the opportunity to glance at the past and summarize the main events which were the landmarks of IAF's life.

1967

14th October, at a reception given at Petronell Castle by Count Abensberg-Traun on the occasion of the meeting of the Österreichischer Falknerbund, representatives of the following association agreed unanimously on the creation of an international association: GERMANY: Gustl Eutermoser, Christian Saar, Otto Witt; GREAT BRITAIN: Cyril Morley, Ridley Mac Phain; FRANCE: Gilles Nortier; NETHERLANDS: Gerrit van Nie, Paul Corten; CZECHLOVAKIA: Jiri Svoboda, Jiri Herold; AUSTRIA: Heinz Pils, Theo Maiwald.  
Heinz Pils has been entrusted with preparing the constitution of an international association.

1968

9th April, in "Zweibrucken Hof", Düsseldorf, the constituent assembly took place under the chairmanship of Heinz Pils. It was attended by:

- GERMANY: Heinz Brüll, Dietrich Gutt, Gustl Eutermoser.
- GREAT BRITAIN: Cyril Morley.
- SWITZERLAND: Toni Lutz, Pierre Basset.
- NETHERLANDS: Gerrit van Nie.
- ITALY: Umberto Caproni di Taliedo.
- AUSTRIA: Heinz Pils.

The INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR FALCONRY AND CONSERVATION OF BIRDS OF PREY was born!

Jack Mavrogordato is elected first president of the IAF.

In May, the CIC admitted IAF as member.

Jack Mavrogordato attends, as president of the BFC, the Conference of the European Continental Section of ICBP, where falconry was the target of very severe attacks.

1970

The 15th World Conference of the ICBP, Texel, Holland, was attended by Jack Mavrogordato. IAF has been admitted as the representative of falconry at the ICBP conferences.

1972

Jack Mavro attends the 10th Conference of the European Continental Section of ICBP in Rumania. For the first time, IAF was accorded a separate and independent status amongst the other international associations like WWF, UNESCO etc... IAF was the only sporting organisation with such a status. Bitter attacks were made against falconry. A resolution was adopted concerning trade in birds of prey, full prohibition is requested except under licence for "approved purpose".

In October, Count Otto Abensperg-Traun is elected IAF president.

1973

At its general meeting in Petronell (Austria), IAF adopted a resolution on falconry and conservation of birds of prey; this resolution has been sent to all important organisations (CIC, ICBP, WWF, etc...). It laid down the principles of birds of prey protection and the practice of falconry, it called upon the great international organisations in order that they ensure the survival of falconry and support of captive breeding of hawks.

1974

Antony Jack attends the XVI ICBP World Congress in Canberra (Australia), he had to cope with severe oppositions to falconry. He succeeded in having ICBP accepting and sending to the national sections a text encouraging them to collaborate and exchange informations with hunting and falconry organisations. Count Abensperg-Traun represents falconry at the 21st general meeting of CIC in Theheran. A resolution on falconry is adopted and will be sent to all governments.

1975

In October, ICBP holds its First World Conference on Birds of Prey in Vienna.

IAF was one of the sponsors of the conference. Anthony Jack who represented IAF made a speech at the opening of the Conference. Robert Kenward gave a paper on the role of falconry in captive breeding.

IAF proposed a resolution on falconry and helped drafting another one, both were adopted.

Those resolutions must be considered as an historical event in favour of falconry. Those resolutions are the basis of the policy of the great conservation organisations, ICBP of course but also WWF, they are still now the main scientific argument in support of falconry.

Falconry was the target of severe oppositions which could have led to its abolition.

The "Vienna Resolutions" have saved the life of falconry!

Toni Lutz is elected IAF President.

1976

Anthony Jack represents IAF at the Conference of European Continental Section of ICBP at Radolfzell (W. Germany). He collaborated in the discussion about resolutions on the trade in wildlife.

1977

IAF together with the British Falconers Club hold a three days conference in Oxford under the title "Bird of Prey Management Techniques" organised by Robert Kenward.

It has been a great success: ornithologists, vets and falconers from 18 countries attended the conference.

At the general meeting of IAF in Oxford, the suggestion to create within the CIC a falconry commission was adopted.

Anthony Jack on his own initiative alerted the EEC falconry clubs within the IAF about a proposal for a EEC Directive on bird conservation.

If adopted as such, this text would have meant the end of falconry in the EEC.

Very few countries reacted on Anthony Jack's warning. The interventions which followed resulted in the Directive 79/409 which clearly allows falconry and permits to the governments to derogate in favour of falconry.

Once more falconry was saved!

1978

Anthony Jack represents IAF at the World Conference of ICBP in Ohrid (Yugoslavia).  
 Pierre Basset represents IAF at the CIC general meeting in Sofia at which the decision has been taken to create within CIC a working group on falconry and conservation of birds of prey.  
 The IAF general meeting in Leck (W.Germany) elects Count Charles de Ganay as its president. At the same meeting it is decided to work out statutes for the IAF.

1979

IAF general meeting in Paris. The draft statutes made by Charles de Ganay are discussed, amended and adopted. For the first time IAF has statutes of an international association.  
 General meeting of CIC in Athens, the newly founded Working Group on Falconry and Conservation of Birds of prey meets with Charles de Ganay as president. The CIC adopts a recommendation stating that IAF is best able to represent falconry in the CIC.

1980

Anthony Jack represents IAF at the European Continental Section of ICBP in Malta.  
 Dr del Mastro Calvetti represents IAF at the CIC meeting in Rome.

1981

IAF holds a three days conference in Oxford under the title: "Understanding the Goshawk" organised by Robert Kenward. This conference achieved a great success.  
 Roger Thacker (USA) represents IAF at the Conference of the Parties to the CITES in Delhi (India) and obtains the down listing to Appendix II of the North American population of the Gyr Falcon.  
 Anthony Jack represents IAF at the European Continental Section of ICBP in Holland.  
 Peter Sapara represents IAF at the meeting of CIC in Munich.

1982

Meeting of the World Working Group on Birds of Prey in Thessaloniki where Robert Kenward gives a paper on the role of falconry and hunting in raptor conservation.  
 Anthony Jack represents IAF at the ICBP World Congress in Cambridge.  
 Dr B.U. Meyburg attends IAF meeting and assists in revising the IAF Code of Conduct.

1983

Anthony Jack represents IAF at the European Continental Section of ICBP in France.

1984

IAF holds its general meeting in Sögel (W.Germany), a resolution is adopted on illegal traffic in birds of prey.  
 CIC working group holds its meeting in Sögel.  
 CIC general meeting in Innsbruck reorganises the Working group on falconry and conservation of birds of prey.  
 C. de Coune (Belgium) is elected IAF president.

1985

C. de Coune represents IAF at the conference of the European Continental Section of ICBP in Rapperswill (Switzerland).  
 C. de Coune represents IAF at the Conference of the Parties to the CITES in Buenos Aires in order to counter a proposal aiming at re-listing the North American Gyrfalcon to Appendix I, the proposal has been adopted.  
 C. de Coune represents IAF at the Raptor Research Foundation Conference in Sacramento (USA), the biggest raptor conference ever held with 900 participants, he had a resolution adopted recognising the role of falconers in bird of prey conservation.  
 RRF decides to draft a Falconry Position Statement.  
 IAF general meeting in Woodhall Spa (G-B), a recommendation is adopted on the compulsory ringing of all falconry birds.

1986

CIC working group meets in Steyr (Austria), a guideline for legislations on falconry and hawk keeping and a recommendation to the governments on falconry and taking birds of prey from the wild have been worked out.  
 IAF general meeting in Hambach (W. Germany); the Code of Conduct is slightly amended; a recommendation is adopted asking that the surplus of captive bred birds be given to reintroduction projects; a recommendation is made to the Danish government to adopt a favourable attitude towards falconry.  
 IAF is admitted as observer at the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention of the Council of Europe.  
 Robert Kenward represents IAF at the meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation in Gainesville (USA) where a Falconry Position Statement is being worked out.

1987

C. de Coune represents IAF at the Third World Conference on Birds of Prey in Eilat (Israel).

Anthony Jack represents IAF at the European Continental Section of ICBP in Visegrad (Hungary); ICBP recommends collaboration with bona fide falconry organisations.  
 C. de Coune attends the Planary Meeting of the "Intergroup Fieldsports, Woodland and Environment" of the European Parliament on the topic: "Should the Directive 79/409 be amended or Completed?".  
 IAF holds its general meeting in Perg (Austria).

R E P O R T  
on the  
G E N E R A L M E E T I N G  
1 9 8 7



(from left to right: Fentzloff, Caproni, Sapara, de Coune, Pils,  
Jack, Meijvogel, de Bruin)

PERG(Austria)

SATURDAY, 17th OCTOBER 1987

Attendance: C. de Bruin (NL), U. Caproni di Taliedo (I), C. de  
Coune (B), A. Jack (GB), G. Luke (IRL), J. Meijvogel  
(NL), H. Pils (A), P. Sapara (D).

Opening of the meeting.

The president thanks the Osterreichischer Falkerbund and Heinz Pils for having been kind enough to host our general meeting.

The president expresses his gratitude to the members who bothered to come to Perg, which for some of them meant a very long journey.

IAF must be grateful to the members who accept the invitation to attend the general meeting.

It is essential to the life of IAF that once a year, at least, the members sit around a table and exchange their views and take the important decisions which commit falconers associations of 16 countries.

Report on activities.

The IAF Newsletter N°1/87 had been distributed to the Participants, it contains the report on the activities since our last general meeting.

XVith Conference of the European Continental Section of ICBP. (Visegrad, Hungary, May 1987). IAF was represented by Anthony Jack.

Cees de Bruin congratulates and thanks Anthony for his excellent report.

J. Meijvogel wonders what part we could take in the struggle against illegal traffic in birds of prey and how we can prevent people from earning money with birds of prey.

C. de Coune replies that one must make the difference between birds taken from the wild and captive bred ones. IAF disapproves only the trade in birds taken from the wild. It is not illegitimate to sell captive bred birds.

Anthony Jack, about the illegal traffic, suggests that the members exchange their data in order to make up a "black list". C. de Coune says that IAF has asked more than once to the members to send informations on this subject, but nothing has been forwarded sofar.

If some form of collaboration is being created between ICBP and IAF, we could then give them the data that we would have been able to gather. The collaboration with ICBP must be based on a mutual exchange of informations.

There must be very strict criteria for the informations we would report: only proven facts may be taken into consideration.

We are still in the situation that what is being said or written of illegal traffic in birds of prey is essentially based on mere assumptions.

This attitude must change.

If falconry is said to cause illegal traffic in birds of prey, evidence of it must be given.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has organised a large scale inquiry about this traffic, the result has been poor compared to the enormous means which have been used.

The USFWS has admitted in a recent report that "the known illegal take is smaller (than the legal one) and does not alter the conclusions that falconry and raptor propagation have no impact on raptor resource".

It is a matter of fact that most of birds of prey are increasing.

We shall wait for the findings of the "International Enforcement Committee" which WEBS has decided in Hungary to set up.

IAF is determined to collaborate in the struggle against illegal traffic in birds of prey.

IAF insists upon all our members to receive every information concerning illegal activities involving birds of prey.

C. de Coune will keep trying to obtain similar informations from bird conservation organisations.

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Concerning the problem created by the Convention on Pet Animals, Umberto tells us that the problem has arisen in USA.

Cees de Bruin informs us that, in Holland, there is a list of the animals which may be kept as pets; it is not a law but a politic declaration; parrots are not even on the list.

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It is decided that IAF will protest against overprotective law on falconry in Germany unless DFO considers that it is not oportune.

Peter Sapara does not ask that we should protest. He explains that only falconers may keep protected birds of prey. In the future, the "falkenhofen" will no longer be allowed to get new protected birds, it remains possible to get non-indigenous birds as they are not regulated sofar; they might be in the future.

It is agreed that IAF should stand up in case unfavourable laws on falconry are to be adopted.

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About the situation in Italy, Umberto Caproni explains us that the Supreme Court has refused the referendum on field sports. The hunters would have let the falconers down in case the referendum would have been allowed. Now the conservationists try to organise local referendums; some regions have refused it. Umberto thinks that it will be refused everywhere. He asks IAF to keep good relations with the authorities.

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Anthony Jack has been told that the Environmental Assessment Falconry of the US Fish and Wildlife Service will eventually be adopted.

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Other Clubs

A. Jack considers that we may accept those clubs if they commit themselves to adhere to our Code of Conduct. Umberto Caproni says that those clubs are better known by the member club than by anybody else. He would resign from IAF if we trust unreliable people. If they were reliable they would be member of the Circolo.



C. de Coune replied him that our statutes provide for a right of veto for the member club of the country of the applicants; he confirms that IAF does not accept to correspond with non member club of a member country unless there would be a formal application for membership.

C. de Coune says that an Italian "other club" has proposed to limit falconry to captive bred birds. He calls on all the members in order that they try their best to avoid that non member clubs make statements which are contrary to the policy of IAF or contrary to the interests of falconry in general.

Peter Sapara explained us that people separated from DFO because it is too strict; the biggest of those clubs tries to contact DFO but it has always rejected those attempts. It would make no difference for DFO if it had more members. It is always DFO which is consulted by the officials.

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About non member countries, Peter Sapara tells us that DFO has no contacts with DDR except with past DFO members. This country has no falconers association.

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Concerning the official registration of our statutes, Anthony Jack says that it is not necessary as far as Great Britain is concerned.

C. de Bruin says that in Netherlands, ICBP has no registered statutes and that therefor it may not receive money but it has a foundation which may receive money.

C. de Coune says that he will consult the competent ministry in Belgium in order to make out if it is necessary to have our statutes registered as an official international association.

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As far as the finances of the IAF are concerned, Heinz Pils asks that the contribution to CIC should be paid prior to funding a trip to the RRF meeting in USA.

Anthony Jack and C. de Coune say that it is more urgent to send somebody to the RRF meeting than to pay the CIC contribution.

It is agreed that we pay one year contribution to CIC and that we fund a trip to USA.

Anthony Jack says that the British Falconers Club commits itself to cover exceptional expenses.

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C. de Coune closes the meeting by thanking the members who attended. If nobody attends, there would be no General Meeting and if there is no general meeting there would be no IAF at all. IAF owes its life to the participation of its members.

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REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

1988

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

I attended as an observer a meeting of the Intergroup on Animal Welfare of the European Parliament.

This Intergroup deals mainly with cruelty towards animals, like bullfights (they are against) and the like.

It has never dealt with falconry. They nevertheless could find that falconry is cruel or that we excite the agressivity of animals against each other. One never knows!

They have discussed about the proposal for resolution tabled by the Intergroup Field Sports, Woodland and Environment about the possibility of shooting corvids.

Some have spoken of proliferation of certain bird species (crows) likely to be harmful for other species. Some consider that it is opportune to control them but the majority advocates for a strict application of the Directive. They say that the nature has its own means of control; that it is not proven that there is any abnormal and dangerous proliferation, the censuses do not prove it. There may be local problems but they do not justify measures at the level of the whole Common Market. It is not proven that the intervention of hunters is necessary.

Contrary to my habit, I did not intervene because this intergroup is hostile to field sports, it could have led to a debate against falconry which would have been approved by the majority.

My presence will be mentionned on the report of the meeting; it is always good that one knows that IAF exists and that it attends the meetings.

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The EC Commission had published a book on "the state of the environment in the Community" where the Goshawk was shown as having become very rare in some countries and was extinct in Great Britain.

I protested against it and the Commission has promised me to correct those statements in their next issues.

They sent me the new issue where it appears that my remarks have been taken into consideration.

This shows that it is sometimes worthwhile to protest against adverse statements.

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The Committe of the Environment of the European Parliament has asked Mr Muntingh (MEP-NL) to make a report on the implementation in the EEC of the Directive 79/409, of the Bern Convention and of the CITES.

Although falconry was not quoted, the draft report contained statements which could prove detrimental to falconry.

Illegal trade in birds of prey is shown as one of the main items in illegal wildlife traffic. Germany was again pointed at as the center of that commerce. Great Britain is said to have banned trade in birds of prey with Germany (it was true but it lasted only 14 month and related to any wildlife). He says that the illegal trade is ten times bigger than the legal one!!! The officials are said to refrain from intervening in order to stop those illegal practices. ETC...

Eckart Schormair sent to the Committee a very thorough reply. I sent a counter report refuting Mr Muntingh's statements and calling upon the Committee to retain only those statements that are supported by strong evidence (as far as our interests are concerned, none were). I attached to my letter the RRF Resolution of Sacramento.

I attended two meetings of the Committee of the Environment at the European Parliament in Brussels.

Contrary to what happens at the Council of Europe, the observers were not given the possibility of intervening.

Outside the meeting hall, I had a conversation with Mr Muntingh. He was upset by my report and told me that I had no reason to complain because falconry was not dealt with, adding to this that he is not responsible for the interpretation that people may make of his texts.

I said that he has no proofs of what he says, he told me that NGO's had been consulted and that there are a lot of testimonies. He even said me that there are a lot of birds of prey attached to their nest with chains...

To conclude he said to me that he would change nothing to his text.

After that, I had a conversation with his assistant, Mr Romijn, who had taken an important part in Muntingh's report.

He told me that his work had been based on three different sources of information: 1) hearsays from NGO's (eg RSBP), 2) CITES statistics, 3) direct contacts with some countries.

I said that he does not prove that illegal traffic is of such a scale that it may be called one of the main items in the illegal trade. He replied that he did not say that it happens in great number and that it is not important that those transactions are numerous, a small number is enough to cause him to request a more stringent control.

He asked if I have proofs that the illegal trade is minimal; I said that my belief comes from the lack of proofs that a sizable traffic exists, in spite of my several requests for such proofs.

This issue proves that there are still a lot of misunderstanding and exaggeration about falconry to be coped with!

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The EC Commission is currently preparing a Directive on Fauna, Flora and Habitats (FFH).

The birds are not included in it because they have already their own directive.

It is nonetheless not impossible that this Directive might be extended to the birds in the future.

It is a very comprehensive document.

If applied as such to the birds, it could be very dangerous for us as the derogations are too limited. It is somewhat the same case as it was for the proposal of the present Directive 79/409. I gave my remarks to Yves Lecocq (FACE), he conveyed them, with his own ones to the Commission.

Some amendements have been made to the draft thanks to Dr Lecocq's intervention.

The provisions for derogations have been extended in such a way that we should no longer worry for the future.

I avail myself of this opportunity to point out that Dr Lecocq's collaboration is a most valuable one.

He worked his way into all the important circles and is the person who is very much listened to by all the influent people.

He has introduced me to a lot of such people. He himself does not miss an opportunity to defend our interests.

Last but not least, he informs me of the important issues.

I call on all our European members to take the necessary steps to join FACE (23-25 rue de la Science. 1040 Brussels).

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The EEC Court of Justice has made an important decision in the case against France.

Amongst others, it has given a definition of "small quantities" which is one of the main criteria for granting derogations according to art 9,1,c of the Directive.

It has also allowed certain devices like nets or lime sticks which are otherwise prohibited. We may conclude that falconry is all the more unquestionable.

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According to the Bird Directive, all the birds occurring in Europe must be protected. The birds which may be hunted are listed on an appendix; in fact it relates only to traditional game species.

The draft Directive had an appendix with a list of birds that could be hunted although not being traditional game species (amongst others, corvids).

This list has not been retained for the definitive text of the Directive.

Those birds must thus be protected. That's why Germany now protects the corvids.

By the circular 1/88, I suggested to the members to ask to their Ministry to file a request to the Commission to allow in their country to hunt corvids or other species which are not on the list of the birds that may be hunted.

The British Falconers Club has made such a request as well as myself.

I do not know if any other member club has done so.

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The Council has produced a "European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals"

The definition of a pet animal is: "any animal kept or intended to be kept by man in particular in his household for private enjoyment and companionship".

The provisions which worried me are:  
In the preamble: "Considering that the keeping of specimen of wild fauna as pet animals should not be encouraged".  
In the Convention itself: "the possible negative consequences for the health and well-being of wild animals if they were to be acquired or introduced as pet animals"

It would be very far fetched to use this convention against falconry, but one never knows...

I obtained an appointment with Mr Ausems who is the lawyer responsible for this convention.

My aim was to demonstrate that falconry birds are not pets.

In short my arguments were that the falconers do not keep hawks for pleasure but in order to have them perform a certain work, it is this work which is the source of enjoyment and not the fact of keeping hawks in captivity.

Unlike the dog, the hawk is not the companion of man but it is the necessary means for practising falconry.

Falconry is not contrary to the well-being of the hawks, otherwise there would be signs of their sufferings, quod non...

Our hawks do nothing else than what they would do in the wild, they only do it when and where we want.

He told me that he was aware of the problem of falconry. His problem had been to give a definition of "pet animal", he did not want to be too restrictive but without opening too many doors.

The definition is quite open to interpretations.

He admits some exceptions like for instance race horses or sleigh dogs because they are kept for performing a certain work. He asked whether our members keep raptors only to hunt with. I said that the birds which are not kept for hunting are for captive breeding in order to produce falconry birds.

The interpretation of the Convention does not belong to the Council but the signatory countries, the Council may only give orientations.

The same problem has arisen in USA; I asked NAFA what had been the official attitude towards falconry. Jim Weaver wrote me that whenever the problem arose, they always succeeded in having falconry kept away from laws on pet animals. This letter was not sufficient for Mr Ausems, he wanted official texts, which I asked again to NAFA but could get none. I should ask again.

As you may remember (see Newsletter 1/1987 p5), I applied for IAF's admission as observer at the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention.

If 1/3 of the parties oppose the candidature at least one month before the meeting, the application is rejected.

I was confident that I would be admitted like the previous year. 24 hours before the deadline for opposition, the Secretariat of the Council received objections from exactly 1/3 of the Parties. It is obvious that somebody has done some lobby against my candidature!

But who?

I am very fond of attending that meeting as it is a very good opportunity to meet very important people who would otherwise be very difficult to come across.

It is also very important to show that falconry is represented. Last but not least, it gives the possibility to intervene to defend the interests of falconry, if needed.

Thanks to Yves Lecocq, there was a solution!  
I have been admitted as a member of FACE's delegation.

To my eyes, the most interesting issue was the examination of the Biennial Reports (1985-86).

As explained in Newsletter 3/86 p7, those reports are a kind of questionnaire by which the Standing Committee can check to which extent the Bern Convention has been implemented in the signatory countries.

There was a question about the derogations given for falconry. I was really eager to learn what the different countries had declared about falconry.

I am very sorry to say that, as a whole, those reports were very disappointing: 13 countries out of 21 had replied to the inquiry; some of those reports were really rudimentary.

I expected to have an official and reliable source of information on falconry and other derogations of interest to us.

The Chairman believes that the Contracting Parties should make a greater effort to record exceptions systematically and that article 9 is not properly implemented.

Among the statements likely to interest us, I picked:  
Falconry is almost inexistant in Portugal.

Denmark has allowed the "capture" of 484 birds of prey (Buzzards, Goshawks, Sparrowhawks) with guns or traps, they were not necessary killed. About the impact on populations, the report says: some negative effects but not alarming. I have used this statement in my argumentation aiming at reauthorizing falconry.

Ireland has given a very detailed report on falconry; they have allowed the capture from the wild of 4 peregrines in 1986, 12 sparrowhawks in 1985 and 19 in 1986. 100% of the falconry birds are from wild origin.

Spain estimates the population of peregrine at 17.000 pairs(!). An average of 30 birds a year are being taken from the wild. They say that the main difficulty is to struggle against the illegal traffic of eggs or birds, joungs and adults.

Falconry is not authorized in Norway; the government gives permits to kill Goshawks, Sparrowhawks and Golden Eagles which can cause damage.

Holland: the Goshawk population is said to be of 500 pairs (the official figures of 1987 are 1300-1700 pairs)

It has to be noted that falconry is not quoted by the Convention, art 9 mentions "wise use" as a reason for granting derogations. The fact that falconry appears on the Biennial Reports means that the Council considers that falconry is a "wise use".

The Council has reproached that none of the Contracting parties have laws protecting non-native species.

This is rather worrying as falconry uses exotic species in some countries, amongst others because they are not protected and so no licences are requested to keep them. This phenomenon is in fact a consequence of overprotecting laws.

Such countries should be prepared to changes in this situation in the future.

Unlike the EEC Directive, the Bern Convention is not limited to the species occurring in Europe.

Outside the conference hall, I had the opportunity to talk to some people -this is in fact one of the reasons why I like to attend this meeting--.

EEC.

The Commission will issue a report where it will be confirmed that falconry is a reason for granting derogations.

TURKEY.

For the first time, they have a system of licences for falconry, falconers must declare their birds. The aim of this is to have a census of the raptors captured and of the quails caught.

The hawking season lasts 2-3 weeks. Falconry poses no problems to the quails because there are many of them in the region near the Black Sea where hawking is practised. A lot of quails are killed by all sort of means, but falconers do not kill a lot.

The officials do not want to stop falconry as it is a traditional activity, they just want to make a census.

PORTUGAL.

Falconry is not prohibited but very few people practise it. He believes that there happen sometimes illegal things. I said that, better than anyone, a well organized falconry association is able to control and to care that the members follow the laws and ethic.

FINLAND.

They gave up exporting goshawks because one chap has taken more gosses than allowed and exported them illegally to USA (California) and Germany.

I said that if it were reauthorized, it would make no difference for those who do not care for laws: prohibited or not, the poachers do not mind.

I recommended not to issue permits for a large number of birds to one person as they would most probably be sold, which is contrary to IAF's policy which disapprove selling wild caught birds.

I said that he should be reassured by the controls exerted by CITES which makes it far too dangerous to acquire a bird which is not covered by a CITES certificate. No falconer would be silly enough to take the risk of keeping a hawk for which he does not have the proper CITES documents. He would risk his hobby.

AUSTRIA

Falconers pass illegal birds as having been bred in captivity.

I asked how he can be so sure of something which cannot be proven. He told me that the falconers have infomed about it against each other. He said that falconers themselves damage their own reputation. According to my interlocutor, it is very easy to get round the CITES..

Germany.

The assistant to the manager of TRAFFIC-GERMANY told me that they had no problems with falconry.

Norway.

The possibility of getting rid of goshawks which can be noxious to aviculture exists, but there are actually very few cases where it is being done and in any case, the gosses are not killed but translocated. He thinks it would not be politically acceptable to export goshawks for falconry. The Goshawk is declining in one area where they have been monitored. The Peregrine is nicely rebuilding.

Eurogroup for Animal Welfare.

I had a conversation with an observer from that organisation. He beleives that falconry birds are to be considered as pet animals because they are kept for pleasure. He was more moderate about falconry birds used on the airfields. I told him that we do not consider that activity as 100% falconry but that, as far as pets are concerned, I see no difference in those two types of hawking.

I said that it is not the keeping of the bird which gives the pleasure but the work they do. I proposed myself for the dialog and for exposing our point of view whenever it would appear useful. He agreed.

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Denmark.

In order to support our attempts to have falconry reauthorized, I asked to the Council of Europe to send a letter to the Danish authorities in order to confirm that the Bern Convention admits falconry.

They sent a letter stating that falconry is not among the prohibited means of hunting.

My aim was not to have the Council of Europe convincing the Danish Minister but to show that IAF has been able to involve the Council in this matter. It should increase our prestige there.

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ICBP.

I have once more proposed IAF's co-operation for combatting the illegal traffic in birds of prey but provided that they enable me to convince our members of the existance of the traffic and of its size. I also asked them to suggest me what steps IAF can take in order to materialize my proposal.

They replied me that all this is of the competence of the national sections.

In fact I am readily prepared to collaborate but I want to avoid that my proposal could be interpreted as a confirmation of the existance of such a traffic.

It is of course essential that the member clubs crate or maintain close contacts with their national sections of ICBP.

I call on all of you to propose your collaboration to your national section of ICBP but under the same conditions I myself laid down.

The World Working Group on Birds of Prey of the ICBP has published a report of a Pakistani professor concerning "serious threats against falcons in Pakistan". It deals with the trade with Arabs. He also expresses his worries about the alarming situation of the Houbara. He claims that one falconer can catch 25-30 Gazelles a day!! He mistakes the Saker for the Lanner in his summary of the situation of the falcons in Pakistan; it appears from it that there is a lack of data on the situation of most falcon species. He concludes that it is urgent to have the Recommendation made in Peshawar in 1983 for a total ban on capture and export of falcons implemented. I am trying my best to get informations enabling me to reply to that report.

#### RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Robert Kenward attended on behalf of IAF the general meeting of RRF in Boise (USA). The issue of interest for us is still the Falconry Position Statement which is being worked out since two years ago. This document is very important to us because it would be practically the first official statement on falconry made by a well-known scientific organisation. The final draft of this document is rather favourable to us although a bit weaker than the first ones. If adopted without being further weakened, this document could be used as a scientific support of falconry and especially of the possibility to take hawks from the wild. This document is now handed by Robert. He has to cope with some opposition against the principle of RRF issuing a statement about falconry.

#### B.U.N.D.

The German association for the Protection of Nature and Environment (BUND) together with the Committee against Bird Murder has organized a symposium on "the dangers for conservation of captive breeding". I have been most alarmed by this symposium. I felt that it was a "scientific" part of a strategy against falconry. I alerted several people and tried to get a maximum of elements to counter the possible arguments "proving" that captive breeding is noxious. Christian Saar, Peter Sapara and myself attended the symposium. Christian made a very good intervention during the meeting. Contrary to my fears, nothing very serious has been said that could be used against our captive breeding.

This symposium shows at least that the opponents to falconry are very active and well organized.

#### CITES

The Conference of the Parties will take place in 1989. It was planned to be in Bali (Indonesia) but they recently changed their mind, the place is not yet announced. It is not yet known if any issue of interest for us will be on the agenda. I remain watchful.

#### BENELUX

The Committee of the Ministers of the Benelux is working out a decision on falconry. I have drafted a proposal which seems to have good chances to be taken over. I am actively following the work of the committee and so does Adriaan Mollen. If we succeed, it will be another international legal text in favour of falconry. It could be used in other countries as an argument in our favour.

#### FACE

I am in constant contact with Yves Lecocq. As I mentioned herein before, Dr Lecocq is helping me a lot for my contacts with the EEC and the Council of Europe. In theory, IAF cannot be member of FACE as international associations are not admitted but national ones are. The British Falconers Club is a member of FACE, as far as I know it is the only falconers association in that case. It would be of great benefit if, like BFC, your association would join FACE.

#### C.I.C.

I attach the report of the Working Group for Falconry and Conservation of birds of Prey. At its general meeting, CIC has adopted a recommendation to the governments in favour of falconry. CIC's recommendations carry a lot of weight on the international level. Those recommendations are useful only if they are being given a maximum of publicity. I enclose this recommendation in order that you take the necessary steps to have it published in the hunters magazines of your country. Please do it.

NON MEMBER COUNTRIES

U.S.A.

Operation Falcon is now far behind us. It is almost the only hard data on traffic in birds of prey. I read in a report on the Operation that 14 people have been confirmed to be directly involved in the international traffic, 200 raptors have been illegally taken, sold, imported etc.. by them.

Taking into account birds which obviously were counted twice, I reckoned 90 birds (instead of 200). It happened that one person had been caught for importing Y birds, another chap had been condemned for having purchased those Y birds. Those birds were counted twice, 2x Y birds.

150 US Fish and Wildlife Service agents have taken part in the Operation during 3 years. That makes, according to my calculation, 1/5 bird per year per agent.

Some of those birds had been taken from the wild by USFWS agents and proposed at a throw away price to falconers or others; the natural weakness of some people made them accept the deal and they were caught. (in Europe, the agent would also have been sentenced!).

U.S.S.R.

A conference on falconry has been held in october 1987 in Georgia. I have been trying to get information about that conference but sofar I could not get any. The proceedings of the conference are in Russian.

I wrote to a Russian biologist, whom I met in Brussels a few years ago, about it and about other things but I got no reply. I very recently succeeded in contacting this gentleman thanks to the intervention of the Belgian Embassy in Moskow.

There are a good many of falconers in USSR, it would then be of great interest if IAF succeeds in creating contacts with that part of the world.

TURKEY

ICBP has published informations about falconry in Turkey. They say that thousands of birds of prey are shot to feed the sparrowhawks and that over 10,000 sparrowhawks were caught during autumn 1987, the majority of which died in captivity or after having been released, they say.

I contacted the author of that report to get more precisions but he gave me only delaying replies.

I also wrote to the Turkish delegate to the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention whom I know but he did not reply nor did the Turkish correspondent of CIC.

It is very difficult to know what happens in that country. It is to be hoped that such informations do not risk to pose serious problems to the local falconers.

I do not lose sight of this matter.

If any member knows anything about what happens in Turkey, I would be grateful to him to contact me.

It is for the sake of international solidarity with falconers that I ask you this.

MEXICO

Mr Federico Medrano, president of the Association Mexicana de Cetreria expressed his wish that Mexico would become member of IAF.

I do not have any information about falconry in Mexico but I hope to get some. If anybody of you can help our members to make an opinion, I would be grateful to inform me.

There is a rather important market of birds of prey in Mexico. The most traded birds are: Harris hawks, Red Tailed Buzzards, American Kestrels.

It seems that this market is decreasing as keeping birds of prey is becoming less in fashion than some years ago.

The risk remains nevertheless that the Mexican authorities take too far reaching measures of protection, leaving no possibility for falconry.

Miscellaneous countries.

I received letters from Brazil, Taiwan and Argentina.

MEMBER COUNTRIES

DENMARK

Niels Tottrup, Thorstrupvej 15 DK-8881 THORSO, has been appointed president of the Dansk Falkonerselskab. I wish to express him my sincerest congratulations.

At our general meeting of 1986, we adopted a recommendation to the Danish government asking to reauthorize falconry which was banned since 1967.

In September 1987, the Danish authorities invited two falconers (Eckart Schormair and Patrick Morel) to make a demonstration, which they did marvellously. I was also invited. We strongly pleaded for falconry. Although our point of view was approved by the majority of the Wildlife Committee, the decision was negative. There was nevertheless a possibility of appealing against this decision. I sent an additional report to the authorities. The day before the Committee was to meet for taking a decision, the government fell and the meeting was cancelled.

Some months later, the Minister of Agriculture wrote me that he did not feel to be in a position which would justify his revoking his decision. I sent again a report with an additional argument: the resolution of the Economic and Social Committee of the EEC approving falconry. The Ministry replied (10/08/88) that my letter had been forwarded to the Hunting and Wildlife Administration for comments and that the Minister will answer my letter as soon as possible.

Of course our Danish friends are very active in this matter, a very tough job for the newly appointed president.

Our Danish friends ask all the members to obtain from managers of Zoologic parks a statement by which they would declare that falconry offers the best way of keeping birds of prey in the best physical and mental conditions. Please try your best... The manager of the Copenhagen Zoo is claiming against falconry saying that it is cruel towards our hawks!!

GREAT BRITAIN

I have an abundant correspondance with Anthony Jack and with Robert Kenward; I wish to thank them for their valuable co-operation, and for their support to IAF's activities.

I received a letter from the British Falconers Club asking me informations about a Belgian falconer who applied for membership. I take this opportunity to call on all of our member clubs in order that they systematically consult the national association when they have an application for membership from a national of a foreign country.

I attended the dinner given by the British Falconers Club on the occasion of their 60th anniversary, I wish to thank them and to congratulate them for the beautiful reception and for their anniversary.

A conference has been organized by the Hawk Board at the University of Birmingham with the title: "The Goshawk Workshop".

FRANCE

Charles de Ganay has been awarded the Personality of the Year in recognition of the services he has rendered. We must all be happy that this award has been given to a falconer. I wish to express to Charles my most sincere congratulations.

The French authorities are currently working out a new law on falconry. The taking of eyasses from the wild is allowed for the Goshawk and the Sparrowhawk, the birds must be ringed, a falconers examination is organised. It is only a draft.

NETHERLANDS

This country is also working out a new legislation. The existing law is the most restrictive law of all the countries where falconry is practised: only two species may be used for hawking: the Goshawk and the Peregrine Falcon; although goshawks have a very large population (1300-1700 pairs) the possibility of taking even a small number from the wild is refused. It is to be hoped that the new legislation will give to falconers more freedom.

A conference will be held in January 89 on the topic : "future prospects of falconry" (Valkerij in Perspecief). This conference is a very important event at the moment that the authorities are preparing a new legislation on falconry. I have been asked to give a paper on legislations. I appreciate very much the honour to have been asked to speak at that conference. I need that all our members send me the legislation of their country. It is absolutely necessary that I am in possession of those texts very soon in order to enable me to prepare my lecture. I sent a circular about it but I must say that the result of it is awefully disappointing. I will be able to give this lecture only if you send me those texts. Otherwise..

ITALY

Italy is threatened for several years by a referendum about fieldsports. A referendum may be authorised only if the application is supported by 500,000 signatures. Six years ago, such a project obtained 600,000 signatures but the government did refuse it because the questions were not properly drafted. The opponents to field sports have filed a new request backed by 800,000 signatures, it has been again refused. Now they try to organise regional referendums but it is not sure that it is legally possible. In the meantime a law proposal has been drafted, it follows exactly the requirements of the EEC, it does not ban falconry. This draft law has not yet been proposed to the Parliament, they wait for the results of the referendum. When the draft will be tabled before the Parliament it is not impossible that the "green" will try to introduce in it a prohibition of falconry. All this can still last quite long. The Circolo follows this matter very actively.

Anything that happens in a country is always likely to have international impact. There are no national issues. We must all feel concerned.

SPAIN

ICBP had sent to its members a petition asking to the Governemnt to cancel a project of establishing a military camp in an area of biological interest especially rich in rare birds of prey. I sent this petition in the name of IAF. I received a reply stating that the necessary steps had been taken to have this area declared protected.

The President of the Asociacion Espanola de Cetreria had proposed to hold the XXth anniversary meeting in Spain; I had already accepted DFO's invitation so I could not accept the Spanish proposal. I wish in any case to thank the AEC for its kind invitation.

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I shall end this report on IAF's activities by calling on all our members' collaboration. In order to fulfill its mission of representing and defending falconry, IAF needs sometimes the collaboration of its members, amongst others by supplying me with some informations pertaining to their country or to their membership. I am sorry to say that it is sometimes very difficult if not impossible to get those informations. I sent last year a questionnaire and a reminder this year to our 17 member clubs; I received only 6! You will understand that it is essential to me to know what is going on in the member countries. When I am obliged to reply "sorry I am not aware of that", the representativeness of IAF suffers a lot! It would be very useful, in this respect, to send your publications to IAF. It is a very good source of informations.

Please collaborate.



CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DE LA CHASSE  
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DU GIBIER

(INTERNATIONALER JAGDRAT  
ZUR ERHALTUNG DES WILDES)  
(INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GAME  
AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION)

GROUPE DE TRAVAIL DE LA FAUCONNERIE  
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DES OISEAUX DE PROIE  
ARBEITSGRUPPE FÜR FALKNEREI UND ERHALTUNG DER GREIFVÖGEL  
WORKING GROUP FOR FALCONRY AND BIRD OF PREY CONSERVATION

E M P F E H L U N G

DER INTERNATIONALE JAGDRAT ZUR ERHALTUNG DES WILDES (CIC)

empfiehlt den Regierungen und den für Jagd und Naturschutz  
zuständigen Behörden im Hinblick darauf

daß die Beizjagd eine erhaltenswerte Jagdart ist;

daß für die Ausübung der Beizjagd geschützte Greifvögel der Natur  
entnommen und nachgezüchtet werden müssen;

damit unter streng überwachten Bedingungen selektiv der Fang und  
die Haltung bestimmter Greifvogelarten in geringen Mengen  
ermöglicht werden kann;

eine den Richtlinien des CIC entsprechende gesetzliche Regelung  
der Falknerei und der Greifvogelhaltung zu erlassen.



Sitzung vom 16.10.1987  
der Arbeitsgruppe für Falknerei und Erhaltung der Greifvögel.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Der Verwaltungsrat wird ersucht, die im Protokoll der Generalversammlung 1987 des CIC versehentlich nicht veröffentlichte Empfehlung der Arbeitsgruppe für eine gesetzliche Regelung der Falknerei und der Greifvogelhaltung in das Protokoll der Generalversammlung 1988 aufzunehmen.

Für den Kassabericht wurde die Entlastung erteilt.

Ein Projekt zur Rettung des Madagaskarseeadlers wird dem Verwaltungsrat des CIC mit dem Ersuchen vorgelegt, es der Internationalen Stiftung zur Erhaltung des Wildes I.G.F. zur Finanzierung zu empfehlen. Mit der Projektleitung wurde Claus Fentzloff beauftragt.

Von der Arbeitsgruppe wurden Richtlinien und eine Empfehlung für die Zucht von Greifvögeln, sowie Richtlinien für die Abhaltung von Falknerprüfungen beschlossen.

T.A.M. Jack wurde als Vertreter der Arbeitsgruppe beim Internationalen Rat für Vogelschutz ICBP nominiert.

Christian de Coune wurde beauftragt Kontakt mit der Vereinigung der Jagdverbände der EG-Länder FACE aufzunehmen.

Die Arbeitsgruppe wird bei der Generalversammlung 1988 in Florenz einen Film von Claus Fentzloff "Adler an Europas Küsten" vorführen und das Projekt zur Rettung des Madagaskarseeadlers vorstellen.

Die Arbeitsgruppe ersucht den Verwaltungsrat bei Bestellung von Experten für Falknerei darauf zu achten, daß Falknerei Jagd ist und dieser Aufgabe nur ein Jäger gerecht werden kann. Vor allem sollte vermieden werden Falknerei mit kommerziellen Falkenhöfen in Zusammenhang zu bringen.

Die nächste Sitzung der Arbeitsgruppe wird im Rahmen der vom 19.10.-23.10. 1988 in Stadtlohn, Westfalen, BRD, stattfindenden Tagung des Deutschen Falkenordens abgehalten.



CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DE LA CHASSE  
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DU GIBIER

(INTERNATIONALER JAGDRAT  
ZUR ERHALTUNG DES WILDES)  
(INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GAME  
AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION)

GROUPE DE TRAVAIL DE LA FAUCONNERIE  
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DES OISEAUX DE PROIE  
ARBEITSGRUPPE FÜR FALKNEREI UND ERHALTUNG DER GREIFVÖGEL  
WORKING GROUP FOR FALCONRY AND BIRD OF PREY CONSERVATION

RICHTLINIEN FÜR DIE ZUCHT VON GREIFVÖGELN

I. Grundsätze

1. Die Zucht von Greifvögeln sollen nur Personen oder Institutionen, welche die erforderliche Zuverlässigkeit und ausreichende Kenntnisse über Haltung und Pflege nachweisen können, vornehmen.
2. Greifvögel sollen nur gezüchtet werden
  - 2.1. um Auswilderungen zur Unterstützung von Restpopulationen, bzw. Neubesiedelung verwaister, noch intakter, Biotope vornehmen zu können;
  - 2.2. um unmittelbar vom Aussterben bedrohte Arten für eine Zeit zu erhalten, in der ihnen ein Überleben in freier Natur wieder möglich ist;
  - 2.3. um wissenschaftliche Forschungen zu ermöglichen, die der Klärung biologischer Fragen oder der Grundlage für Artenschutzprogramme dienen;
  - 2.4. um den Bedarf an Beizvögeln für die Ausübung der Beizjagd zu decken;
  - 2.5. um den Bedarf von zoologischen Gärten, Vogelparks, genehmigten Falkenhöfen und Greifvogelwarten - welche der Information über Art, Lebensweise und Schutzbedürftigkeit der Greifvögel dienen - zu decken

II. Zucht

1. Die Zucht von Greifvögeln erfolgt
  - 1.1. durch natürliche Reproduktion bei speziell für die Zucht in Volieren gehaltenen Paaren;
  - 1.2. durch künstliche Insemination (Besamung).

2. Bei Auswahl der Zuchtvögel für Auswilderungsvorhaben ist auf regionale und artspezifische Zugehörigkeit der Partner zu achten, um eine Reinhaltung der Arten zu gewährleisten und eine Verfälschung der Fauna auszuschließen.

### III. Kontrolle

1. Der Verlauf der Zucht soll kontrollierbar sein, um Mißbrauch durch vorge-täuschte Zuchten ausschließen zu können. Deshalb müssen Züchter ein Zuchtbuch oder eine Zuchtdatei zur Aufzeichnung folgender Angaben führen:

Art und Alter der Brutvögel;

Legetermin des 1. Eies;

Brutbeginn;

Anzahl der Eier des vollständigen Geleges;

Schlupftermin des 1. Kückens;

Anzahl der aufgezogenen Jungen.

2. Die gezüchteten Jungvögel sind im entsprechenden Alter mit geschlossenen Zuchtringen zu beringen.



## CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DE LA CHASSE ET DE LA CONSERVATION DU GIBIER

(INTERNATIONALER JAGDRAT  
ZUR ERHALTUNG DES WILDES)  
(INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GAME  
AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION)

GRUPE DE TRAVAIL DE LA FAUCONNERIE  
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DES OISEAU DE PROIE  
ARBEITSGRUPPE FÜR FALKNEREI UND ERHALTUNG DER GREIFVÖGEL  
WORKING GROUP FOR FALCONRY AND BIRD OF PREY CONSERVATION

### Richtlinien für die Abhaltung von Falknerprüfungen

Durch Abhaltung einer Falknerprüfung sollte gewährleistet sein, daß alle Falkner die für Ausübung der Falknerei und für die Greifvogelhaltung erforderliche besondere Sachkenntnis besitzen. Nur dadurch kann erreicht werden, daß sie nicht unwissentlich gegen die Gesetze ihres Landes und gegen ihre moralische Verpflichtung dem Beizwild und den Beizvögeln gegenüber verstoßen. Von Falknern wird außerdem erwartet, daß sie Kenner der heimischen Greifvögel sind und für deren Schutz eintreten. Diesen Voraussetzungen entsprechen die Richtlinien des CIC für die Abhaltung von Falknerprüfungen.

Bei Falknerprüfungen sollen ausreichende Kenntnisse über die im folgenden angeführten Sachgebiete gefordert werden.

#### I. Gesetzliche Regelung der Falknerei und der Greifvogelhaltung

1. Rechtliche Stellung der Falknerei
2. Beschaffung von Greifvögeln für die Falknerei
3. Haltung von Greifvögeln
4. Abtragen von Beizvögeln
5. Die Beizjagd
6. Der verstoßene Beizvogel
7. Fund von fluguntüchtigen Greifvögeln
8. Das Auswildern von Greifvögeln

#### II. Gesetzliche Regelung des Greifvogelschutzes

### III. Greifvogelkunde

1. Allgemeine Merkmale der verschiedenen Greifvogelfamilien
2. Kennzeichen, Verbreitung, Lebensraum, Ernährung, Fortpflanzung und Gefährdung der einzelnen Greifvogelarten

### IV. Greifvogelschutz

1. Ursachen des Rückganges der Greifvogelpopulationen
2. Mögliche Maßnahmen zur Erhaltung von in ihrem Bestand bedrohten Greifvogelarten

### V. Voraussetzungen für die Haltung von Greifvögeln und die Ausübung der Beizjagd

1. Zeitaufwand und Unterbringungsmöglichkeit
2. Revierzugang für Übungsflüge und Jagd

### VI. Beschaffung von Greifvögeln für die Falknerei

1. Fang oder Aushorstung im Rahmen der gesetzlichen Regelungen
  - 1.1. Nestlinge
  - 1.2. Ästlinge
  - 1.3. Wildfänge
2. Zucht

### VII. Aufzucht von Nestlingen

### VIII. Sachgemäße Greifvogelhaltung

1. Allgemeine Grundsätze
2. Falknerische Haltung von Greifvögeln
  - 2.1. Das Geschirr
  - 2.2. Die Haltung am Block oder Sprenkel
  - 2.3. Die Flugdrahtanlage
  - 2.4. Die Haltung am hohen Reck
  - 2.5. Die Haltung am Rundreck
  - 2.6. Volierenhaltung
3. Anfertigung und praktische Handhabung von Falknereigeräten

### IX. Allgemeine Kenntnisse über die Mauser

### X. Die richtige Jagdform des Beizvogels

### XI. Die zur Beizjagd verwendeten Greifvogelarten

1. Vögel vom Hohen Flug
2. Vögel vom Niederen Flug

### XII. Das Abtragen von Beizvögeln

1. Die Ausrüstung des Falkners
2. Allgemeine Kenntnisse über das Abtragen
  - 2.1. Richtige Kondition
  - 2.2. Locke machen
  - 2.3. Verhauben
  - 2.4. Beireiten
  - 2.5. Federspielarbeit
  - 2.6. Einfliegen auf den Balg
3. Das Abtragen der Vögel vom Niederen Flug
4. Das Abtragen der Vögel vom Hohen Flug
  - 4.1. Der Faustfalke
  - 4.2. Der Anwartefalke

### XIII. Die Beizjagd

1. Jagd mit Vögeln vom Niederen Flug
2. Jagd mit Vögeln vom Hohen Flug
  - 2.1. Der Faustfalke
  - 2.2. Der Anwartefalke

### XIV. Helfer des Beizvogels

1. Der Jagdhund
  - 1.1. Haltung und Führung von Jagdhunden für die Beizjagd
  - 1.2. Der Vorstehhund
  - 1.3. Der Stöberhund
2. Das Frettchen
  - 2.1. Haltung und Verwendung des Frettchen für die Beizjagd

### XV. Das Beizwild

1. Die wichtigsten Beizwildarten

- 1.1. Der Hase
- 1.2. Das Kaninchen
- 1.3. Der Fuchs
- 1.4. Der Fasan
- 1.5. Rebhuhn, Rothuhn, Moorschneehuhn
- 1.6. Enten
- 1.7. Rabenvögel

2. Das Versagen des Beizwildes

XVI. Verstoßen von Beizvögeln

- 1. Regeln um die Gefahr einen Beizvogel durch Verstoßen zu verlieren möglichst klein zu halten
- 2. Maßnahmen zur Wiedererlangung eines verstoßenen Beizvogels

XVII. Der kranke Greifvogel

- 1. Allgemeines Aussehen des gesunden und des kranken Greifvogels
- 2. Federkleid
- 3. Erkrankungen der Haut
- 4. Erkrankungen der Hände
- 5. Erkrankungen der Schnabelhöhle und des Rachenraumes
- 6. Erkrankungen von Kropf, Magen und Darm
- 7. Erkrankungen der Atmungsorgane
- 8. Krampfanfälle, Lähmungen der Hände und Schwingen
- 9. Knochenbrüche
- 10. Vergiftungen
- 11. Vitamin- und Mineralstoffmangel
- 12. Verabreichung von Medikamenten
- 13. Behandlung von geschwächten Greifvögeln

XVIII. Die Falknersprache

XIX. Geschichtlicher Überblick der Falknerei

MEETING

of the Working Group for Falconry and the Conservation of Birds of Prey  
on October 10, 1987

S U M M A R Y

The Administration Council is asked to include in the minutes of the General Assembly of 1988 the recommendation of the Working Group for a lawful regulation of falconry and the keeping of birds of prey, which inadvertently has not been published in the minutes of the General Assembly of 1987 of the CIC.

The treasurer's report is approved.

The Administration Council is asked to recommend to the International Foundation the financing of a project for the conservation of the M a d a g a s c a r S e a - e a g l e. The direction of the project has been assigned to Claus Fentzloff.

The Working Group decided upon guidelines and a recommendation for the breeding of birds of prey, as well as guidelines for the organization of falconer examinations.

T.A.M. Jack was nominated representative of the Working Group at the International Council for the Protection of Birds ( I C B P ).

Christian de Coune was commissioned to contact the Union of Hunting Associations of the EC-Countries ( U H A E C ).

At the General Assembly 1988 in Florence, the Working Group will present a film by Claus Fentzloff with the title "Eagles on the Coasts of Europe " and the project for the conservation of the Madagascar Sea-Eagle.

When nominating experts of falconry, the Administration Council is asked by the Working Group to keep in mind that falconry is hunting and this task can only be done by a hunter. There should be a clear separation between falconry and the commercial falconries.

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held from October 19 - 23 at Stadtlohn in Westphalia, West Germany, within the session of the Deutscher Falkenorden.

RECOMMENDATION

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GAME CONSERVATION ( CIC )

wants to stress that

- an essential contribution to the conservation of endangered species is made by the release of captive bred birds of prey;
- by breeding birds of prey highly endangered species can be preserved until a time when their survival in nature becomes possible again;
- the falconers' need for hawking birds can be sufficed to a large extent by captive breeding;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GAME CONSERVATION expects from governments and authorities responsible for nature and game conservation that

- appropriate laws and orders will not impede using best the breeding of birds of prey with the goal of conserving endangered species and guarantee the falconers' supply of falcons;
- the state subvents and supports the breeding of birds of prey in order to conserve the species.

The CIC recommends the acceptance and obedience of the CIC's principles for the breeding of birds of prey.

GUIDELINES FOR THE BREEDING OF BIRDS OF PREY

I. Principles

1. The breeding of birds of prey should only be undertaken by persons and institutions who make proof of the necessary reliability and sufficient knowledge about keeping and care.
2. Birds of prey shall only be bred
  - 2.1. in order to supply for the releasing and support of rest populations or repopulation of abandoned but intact biotopes;
  - 2.2. in order to conserve endangered species until the time when their survival in free nature becomes possible again;
  - 2.3. in order to facilitate scientific research projects , which help to solve biological questions or serve as basis for conservation programmes of species;
  - 2.4. in order to supply the necessary hawking birds for hunting;
  - 2.5. in order to serve as supply for zoos, bird sanctuaries, approved falconries and birds of prey stations appropriate to give information about the species ,the way of life and the necessity of protection of birds of prey.

II. Breeding

1. The breeding of birds of prey is done
  - 1.1. by natural reproduction of breeding pairs held in aviaries especially for that purpose;
  - 1.2. by artificial insemination.
2. When chosing breeding birds for releasing projects special attention must be paid to regional and generically related partners in order to guarantee the purity of species and exclude a falsification of the fauna.

III. Control

1. The breeding process must be controlled in order to exclude a misuse by faked breeding. Therefore breeders must keep a breeding book or data file with the following indications:
  - species and age of the breeding birds;
  - date of lay of the first egg;
  - start of breeding;
  - number of eggs of the complete clutch;
  - date of hatching of the first hatchling;
  - number of reared birdlings.
  
2. At a certain age the young birds are to be ringed with closed breeding rings.

Guidelines for the examination of falconers

The purpose of holding falconers' examinations is to ensure that they acquire the necessary, special knowledge for falconry and the keeping of birds of prey. Thus only it can be assured that they do not offend unknowingly against the laws of their country and against their moral obligations towards the quarry and the hawking birds.

Furthermore, falconers are expected to know the indigenous birds of prey and stand up for their preservation.

Sufficient knowledge in the following special fields are indispensable.

I. Laws for falconry and the keeping of birds of prey

1. Legal position of falconry
2. How to obtain birds of prey for falconry
3. Keeping birds of prey
4. Taming of hawking birds
5. Hawking
6. Recovery of hawking birds
7. Finding birds of prey unable to fly
8. Releasing birds of prey.

II. Legal controls for the conservation of birds of prey

III. Special knowledge about birds of prey

1. General marks of the different families of birds of prey
2. Distinctive marks, distribution, biotope, nutrition, reproduction and endangering of the different species of birds of prey.

IV. The conservation of birds of prey

1. Causes for the decline of birds of prey populations
2. Possible measures for the conservation of endangered species of birds of prey.

V. Requirements of the keeping of birds of prey and hawking

1. Time and facilities necessary for the keeping of birds of prey
2. Access to hunting grounds for the training and hunting.

VI. Procurement of birds of prey for falconry

1. Catching and taking from the nest within legal controls
  - 1.1. Nestlings
  - 1.2. branchers
  - 1.3. passage hawks
2. Breeding.

VII. Rearing of nestlings

VIII. Proper keeping of birds of prey

1. General principles
2. Keeping birds of prey in the manner of falconers
  - 2.1. The furniture
  - 2.2. Keeping at perch/ block
  - 2.3. Keeping at the "Flugdrahtanlage" / trolley
  - 2.4. Keeping at the screen perch
  - 2.5. Keeping at the round perch
  - 2.6. Keeping in the aviary
3. Production and practical use of falconry equipment.

IX. General knowledge about moulting

X. The correct hunting form of the hawking bird

XI. The species of birds of prey used for hawking

1. Birds of the high flight
2. Birds of the low flight.

XII. Training of birds of prey

1. The equipment of the falconer
2. General knowledge of the training
  - 2.1. Correct condition
  - 2.2. Taming/ reclaiming
  - 2.3. Hooding
  - 2.4. Coming to the falconer's fist
  - 2.5. Working with the lure

- 2.6. Training on the pelt
3. Training of the birds of the low flight
4. Training of the birds of the high flight
  - 4.1. The fist falcon
  - 4.2. The falcon waiting on.

XIII. Hawking

1. Hunting with the birds of the low flight
2. Hunting with the birds of the high flight
  - 2.1. The fist falcon
  - 2.2. The falcon waiting on.

XIV. Helpers of the falcon

1. The hunting dog
  - 1.1. Keeping and training of hunting dogs for hawking
  - 1.2. The pointer
  - 1.3. The flusher
2. The ferret
  - 2.1. Keeping and use of the ferret for hawking.

XV. The quarry

1. The most important species of hawking game
  - 1.1. the hare
  - 1.2. the rabbit
  - 1.3. the fox
  - 1.4. the pheasant
  - 1.5. the common partridge / red-legged partridge / willow grouse
  - 1.6. ducks
  - 1.7. raven birds
2. Taking care of the quarry

XVI. Lost hawks

1. How to minimize the danger of losing a hawking bird
2. How to recover a lost hawking bird.



XVII. The sick bird of prey

1. General appearance of a healthy and a sick bird of prey
2. feather coat
3. illness of skin
4. illness of feet
5. illness of inner bill and pharyngeal cavity
6. illness of the crop, stomach and intestines
7. illness of the respiratory tract
8. epileptiform fits, paralysis of feet and wings
9. bone fractures
10. cases of poisoning
11. lack of vitamins and minerals
12. administering medicine
13. treatment of weakened birds of prey.

XVIII. The language of falconry

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XIX. Historical survey of falconry

GRUPE DE TRAVAIL DE LA FAUCONNERIE  
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DES OISEAUX DE PROIE  
ARBEITSGRUPPE FÜR FALKNEREI UND ERHALTUNG DER GREIFVÖGEL  
WORKING GROUP FOR FALCONRY AND BIRD OF PREY CONSERVATION

E M P F E H L U N G

DER INTERNATIONALE JAGDRAT ZUR ERHALTUNG DES WILDES (CIC)

weist darauf hin

daß durch Auswilderung von gezüchteten Greifvögeln in geeigneten Biotopen ein wesentlicher Beitrag zur Erhaltung gefährdeter Arten geleistet wird;

daß durch Zucht von Greifvögeln unmittelbar vom Aussterben bedrohte Arten für eine Zeit erhalten werden können, in der ihnen ein Überleben in freier Natur wieder möglich ist;

daß der Bedarf der Falkner an Beizvögeln zu einem großen Teil durch Zucht gedeckt wird.

erwartet von den Regierungen und den für Jagd und Naturschutz zuständigen Behörden

daß einschlägige Gesetze und Verordnungen die optimale Ausnutzung der Zucht von Greifvögeln zum Zwecke der Erhaltung bedrohter Arten und der Deckung des Bedarfes der Falkner an Beizvögeln nicht behindern;

daß die Zucht von Greifvögeln zum Zwecke der Arterhaltung staatliche Unterstützung findet.

empfiehlt die Einhaltung der Richtlinien des CIC für die Zucht von Greifvögeln.



RECOMMENDATION

Le Conseil International de la Chasse et de la Conservation du Gibier ( CIC )  
déclare que:

- une contribution importante à la conservation des espèces en voie de disparition est effectuée grâce à la réintroduction d'oiseaux de proie nés en captivité dans des biotopes appropriés;
- grâce à la reproduction des espèces en voie de disparition, ceux-ci peuvent être conservés pour le temps où leur survie dans la nature sera à nouveau possible;
- la reproduction en captivité couvre en grande partie le besoin des fauconniers en oiseaux de proie de chasse.

Le CIC attend des gouvernements et des autorités responsables de la chasse et de la protection de la nature que:

- des lois et des arrêtés compétents ne mettent pas des obstacles à une exploitation optimale de la reproduction des oiseaux de proie dans la but de la conservation des espèces menacées et du besoin total des fauconniers en ce qui concerne les oiseaux de chasse;
- la reproduction des oiseaux de proie dans le but de conserver les espèces en voie d'extinction trouve un soutien gouvernemental.

Il recommande le maintien des directives du CIC en ce qui concerne la reproduction des oiseaux de proie..

RECOMMENDATION

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wants to stress that

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- the state subvents and supports the breeding of birds of prey in order to conserve the species.

The CIC recommends the acceptance and obedience of the CIC's principles for the breeding of birds of prey.



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and Conservation of Birds of Prey

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