

Destination:



PREPARATIONS are in the final stages for the third mammal survey expedition to be led by Mr. and Mrs. William S. Street in cooperation with Field Museum. The expedition will do field research in Turkey beginning in June.

Against the background of the usual scientific work in the Division of Mammals, two young mammalogists who will be members of the expedition have been involved for several weeks in the many details of obtaining and packing the necessary equipment and in the intense study required before the survey begins.

The expedition leaders, William S. and Janice K. Street, formerly of Chicago and now of Seattle, Wash., have previously made mammal surveys of Iran in 1962 and Afghanistan in 1965.

The mammalogists of the present expedition are Daniel R. Womochel, a graduate student from Texas Technological College, and Anthony F. DeBlase, a graduate student from Oklahoma State University.

Womochel has had two separate field work experiences in the past year, one involving summer field work on lemmings in Alaska in 1967 and the other in collecting ectoparasites from southern hemisphere seals and birds in Antarctica in the winter of 1967-68. He also participated in two summer expeditions to Mexico from Michigan State University in 1962 and 1963 and earned his master's degree from Texas Tech with a thesis on a field study of eight native species of Texas rodents.

Anthony DeBlase, a graduate of Earlham College in Richmond, Ind., has collected and banded bats in Indiana, Oklahoma and Texas and will use this experience to investigate the cave bats of Turkey.

On the Turkish mammal survey, DeBlase will specialize in study of the native predator species, including small shrews, moles and hedgehogs, which prey upon insects, and



William S. and Janice K. Street, leaders of the mammal survey of Turkey, have directed two previous expeditions. These photos were taken during their 1962 expedition to Iran, the most extensive mammal survey ever made in that country.

medium-sized foxes, jackals, wildcats and lynxes, which feed upon rodents, hares and birds.

Womochel will concentrate on the prey species of Turkish mammals. Among the rodent species he expects to study in the field and collect for further study in Chicago are hamsters and gerbils. He also hopes to make observations in Turkey on two hoofed species which also occur in Europe, the chamois and the wild sheep of the Mediterranean Islands, Corsica and Sardinia.

Both young scientists plan to work for doctorate degrees, with dissertations on the scientific results of the expedition.

Departure date for the expedition's mammalogists depends upon when the *S. S. Neptune*, the first ship from Chicago, reaches the eastern Mediterranean. Already aboard the *Neptune* are the Field Museum's two specially-outfitted International Harvester Travelalls. Forty wooden boxes full of camping gear and the scientific equipment for collection of mammal specimens and for recording data in the field are also on that ship.



On the Museum's top floor, expedition mammalogists Daniel Womochel (left) and Anthony DeBlase itemize and pack some of the hundreds of items included in the equipment for the Street mammal survey of Turkey. The equipment filled more than 40 wooden crates.

Mr. and Mrs. Street will be setting up expedition headquarters in Ankara the second week in May and will cable for their young scientists to emplane when the *Neptune* reaches port in Istanbul.

Lists of the expedition needs run into hundreds of items and a sampling of these gives an indication of the complexities involved in planning the survey. The items include two triple-beam balance scales, three animal predator calls, two camouflage nets, two alarm clocks, one collapsed cooking stove, one potato peeler, eight salad forks, two snake bite kits, three inflatable splints for legs, four cans of *Off* insect repellent, two cans of *Raid*, one 6 by 8-inch camp mirror, 24 harmonicas and 1,000 balloons. The last two groups of items are destined for youngsters living in the villages near which the expedition will camp.

The scientists who accompanied the Streets on the two previous mammal surveys to southwestern Asia have both contributed manuscripts now being published by the Field Museum Press.

"A Study of the Mammals of Iran, Resulting from the Street Expedition of 1962-63," by Douglas M. Lay, was published in October, 1967, as part of the scientific series, *Fieldiana: Zoology*. Lay and Mr. and Mrs. Street collected 1,728 specimens of mammals from all parts of Iran and provided the most comprehensive scientific study ever published on the mammals of Iran. Lay is now completing his doctorate research which grew out of discoveries he made during the investigation of Iranian mammals.

Jerry Hassinger left graduate studies at the University of California to accompany the Streets on their 1965 mammal survey in Afghanistan and his first 100-page work is scheduled for publication in *Fieldiana: Zoology* this year. He is currently completing another manuscript on the terrestrial mammals of Afghanistan.

MRS. A.W.F. FULLER GIVES CARVED LUBA BOWSTAND

A SCULPTURED bowstand from the Luba people of the Kinshasa Congo Republic is among miscellaneous objects from the collection of the late Captain A. W. F. Fuller recently acquired by Field Museum as a gift from Mrs. Fuller.

The bowstand, of carved wood except for a chisel-shaped ferrule at its base, has three prongs radiating from the handle. The figure of a woman, decorated with a pattern of body scars characteristic of the Luba, forms the body of the bowstand.

Among this people of the Upper Lualaba River, sculptured items, such as the bowstand, play more than a utilitarian role. Sculpture incorporating the human figure is believed to be associated with the Luba nobility.



Some objects closely associated with the Luba chiefs are regarded by the people as having supernatural qualities and are handed down as heirlooms to chiefs that follow. W. F. P. Burton, a missionary who spent 34 years among the Luba, commented that "Every chieftainship has certain objects of veneration, which may be considered as the expression of the very entity of the community." He said that these objects were beyond price and, in addition, any Luba would rather risk his life than let an heirloom fall into the hands of an enemy.

Limited information available on the use and social significance of the bowstand indicates it is set in the ground or wall near the bed, where bows, arrows and spears are held by resting them in between the prongs. Responsibility for the weapons and bowstand was given to one of the chief's first wives, who may also have carried his weapons when he went to war. Among peoples descended from the Luba, bowstands are also kept and transmitted as heirlooms of deceased chiefs.

The bow is the traditional Luba weapon for hunting and war and figures prominently in enthronement rituals. To receive one of the highly prized heirlooms is indicative of the highest esteem of the Luba nobility. Young men wishing to have a noble as a patron would present that person with an arrow.



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