

The hazards of museum expeditions sometimes include last minute changes and in the case of the 1968 mammal survey led by Field Associates Mr. and Mrs. William S. Street, the change was in the destination. At the eleventh hour, the Streets and the three young scientists who are accompanying them were heading for Iran instead of Turkey.

A complication came about when the Streets learned a Turkish mammalogist had planned a study similar to theirs. Hearing of this problem, an official of the Iran Game and Fish Department wrote the Streets, urging that they bring their expedition to Iran. The Streets had led one expedition to Iran in 1962. In 1968, they found not only the cooperation of friends there, but a co-sponsor for the expedition in the Iran Game and Fish Department. Mr. Eskander Firouz,

Secretary General of the department, confirmed this by cablegram and Mr. Street flew to Tehran to work out operational details.

Months of field work have been accomplished since then. This expedition concentrated on a survey of the mammals of the mountainous western provinces of Iran. The party has collected specimens and has studied the ecology of each place more intensively than was possible during the earlier, wider-ranging Street expedition.

One member of the Iran Game and Fish Department, who cooperated extensively in many areas of the expedition, is Jerry Hassinger, Leader of the Terrestrial Wildlife Unit and in 1965, a member of the Street expedition to Afghanistan. Hassinger worked on the expedition data at Field Museum after

returning to this country; preliminary results have been published in the Museum's series, *Fieldiana*. The game department arranged that a local department official meet the expedition at each new site to advise and help in the field work. It also provided a cook and a preparator of specimens. In Tehran, a game department warehouse served the expedition in storing extra supplies, spare parts and gear, and the headquarters office provided a mailing address and expedited services during provisioning visits. Extra vehicles were also loaned by the department at times.

Field Museum has provided the experienced expedition leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Street and a scientific team, mammalogists Daniel Womochel and Anthony DeBlase and parasitologist Richard Rust, in the cooperative venture. These

1968 Street Expedition: *Field Work in Iran*

Field Museum and the Iran Game and Fish Department cooperate in intensive mammal survey

Expedition campsite at Koorang in the Zagros Mountains, at an altitude of 8000 feet. In the foreground are Bakhtiari, who live in the area.
(Photos by Daniel Womochel, Expedition Mammalogist)





Sayed Shakrala of the Pasteur Institute of Tehran is one of several Iranians who worked with the Street expedition.



The ecology of each site is studied so that preparation of plant specimens is also important, here undertaken by Mr. and Mrs. Street.



Co-sponsor of the expedition is the Iran Game and Fish Department which supplied personnel and equipment. These expedition members include (from left) Hassein, a driver; a game Department hunter; Mr. Farhard Gosamie, a Game Department official, and Kamal, the cook.



Above: Parasitologist Richard Rust and Mrs. Street record data from the specimens. Left: Mr. Street and Iranian game department personnel buy specimens from two Baktiari shepherds.

people planned the field work and brought with them two specially-equipped International Travelalls, collecting equipment and recording supplies.

The Museum has the right and responsibility for scientific study of the collected specimens and scientific publication on the results of the expedition effort. After study at Field Museum, the mammal specimens will be preserved there as vouchers of the accuracy of the scientific publications, for future examination and

for any further study by qualified investigators. A synoptic series will be shipped to the Iran Game and Fish Department for use as an educational collection.

The Game and Fish Department has the privilege of presenting popular aspects of the expedition in Iranian newspapers and magazines.

Dispatches from the expedition in the field report very successful results from five campsites at localities distributed along the mountainous area of western

Iran. Working an average of 8 days in each locality, the expedition accumulated masses of recorded observations on the ecology, physiography, weather, plants and animals and collected many specimens. At the beginning of the last circuit afield, the specimen count includes more than 1,500 mammals, more than 10,000 ectoparasites, more than 400 reptiles and amphibians and 125 plants. The field work was scheduled to end on December 25.



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