



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized item.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

Statement on harmful and offensive content

The Hunt Institute Archives contains hundreds of thousands of pages of historical content, writing and images, created by thousands of individuals connected to the botanical sciences. Due to the wide range of time and social context in which these materials were created, some of the collections contain material that reflect outdated, biased, offensive and possibly violent views, opinions and actions. The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation does not endorse the views expressed in these materials, which are inconsistent with our dedication to creating an inclusive, accessible and anti-discriminatory research environment. Archival records are historical documents, and the Hunt Institute keeps such records unaltered to maintain their integrity and to foster accountability for the actions and views of the collections' creators.

Many of the historical collections in the Hunt Institute Archives contain personal correspondence, notes, recollections and opinions, which may contain language, ideas or stereotypes that are offensive or harmful to others. These collections are maintained as records of the individuals involved and do not reflect the views or values of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or those of Carnegie Mellon University.

About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

HAROLD H. MOLDENKE
303 PARKSIDE ROAD
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07061



Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive,
Weialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791

© USPS 1978

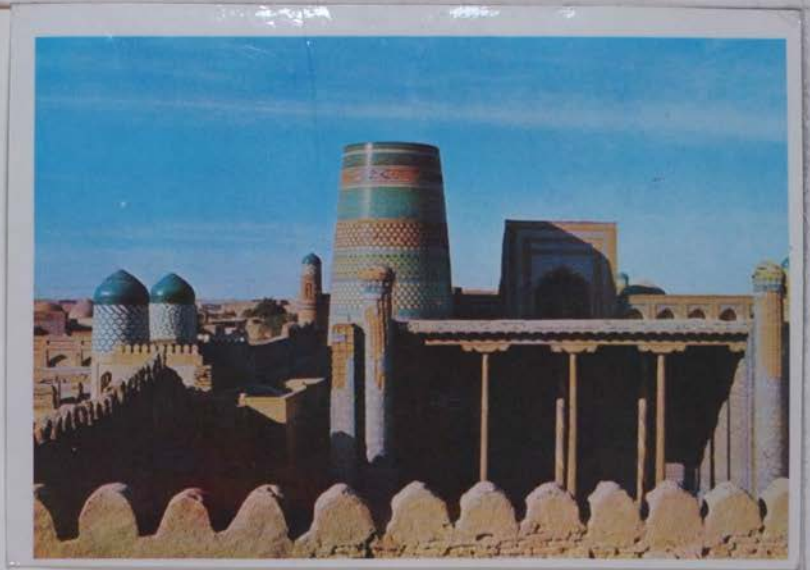
PHYTODORA 41:307.1979

January 8, 1979

Dear Otto & Iss:

Just a note to let you know that your latest paper went off to the printer today. To save you a bit of cost, I appended it to the last page of another paper, where there was room for it. If all goes well it should be in the mails to subscribers 4 weeks from today and if the printer send me the usual number of copies you can expect 2 copies of the issue from me free and I will tear out 100 copies of the page from the copies that go to other authors so that you can send them to Russia although they will have the end of another man's paper on top. If you do not want this PLEASE WRITE ME AT ONCE TO TELL me so and then you will have to order 100 copies of JUST your paper direct from Mr. Bradley R. Maxey, Braun-Brumfield, Inc., P. O. Box 1203, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106 and I will not deface any copies here. We went to Calif for Xmas to be with the kids and ogle Kelsey, but had to leave a week early because we both took sick and did NOT want to burden them with sick parents on their hands. We are pretty much under the weather still. All best wishes,

as ever Harold

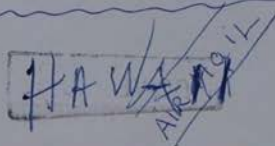




Best greetings from ^{an} ~~excursion~~
excursion to Central Asia ¹⁹⁷⁸ ~~1978~~
picture is from Khiva). Many
thanks for plants, stamps and
offprints! In the article about you, ^{cur-}
culm ^{in the} (etc) must be true error - you
cannot be 40 - you have 60 years and
not more! With love from ^{the shaded}

P 05134. Зак. № 4201. Тираж 200000 Цена 5 коп.
©Издательство ЦК КП Узбекистана, 1979 г.
E. Hadzi. Hotel Uzbekistan, Tashkent

CWA ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~to~~
USA - Hawaii - Volcano
Dr. Otto Isa Degener



(To be made in _____ copies)

THE SENATE

TENTH LEGISLATURE, 1979

STATE OF HAWAII

S.R. NO. 294

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING DR. OTTO DEGENER.

WHEREAS, the flora and fauna of Hawaii's unique island ecosystem are a most treasured natural resource; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of our wildlife resources, which have adapted and evolved in our isolated oceanic environment over many thousands of years, has become a paramount concern in the recent years of Hawaii's rapid urbanization; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Otto Degener, botanist, taxonomist, conservationist, author, and advocate, has devoted well over a half-century toward a better understanding of our invaluable yet highly sensitive natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Degener's many works, including Plants of Hawaii National Park and the seven-volume Flora Hawaiiensis, comprise an unparalleled collection of information on plant-life in Hawaii, and stand as a remarkable resource in itself to students, teachers, scientists, and laymen alike, both locally and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Degener has been an inspiration to countless others in teaching the values of native ecosystems, in encouraging study of Hawaiian plants, and in recruiting new workers for protection of native wildlife and plants; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Degener stood alone for most of the past fifty years as a voice in the wilderness, steadily appealing year after year for recognition of Hawaii's botanical wonders and conservation of their habitats, having no peer in his unshakeable, deep commitment to Hawaii's natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Degener has been tireless in his forthright, fearless efforts to educate and influence government officials, developers, journalists, other conservationists, and the general public to seek protection of native habitats from the bulldozer, feral mammals, introduced game, and introduced weeds that naturalize in our native forests; and

S.R. NO. 274

WHEREAS, Dr. Degener has influenced and inspired many people in Hawaii and throughout the world with his deep love of fauna, flora, and the land which is Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, all of us who care about the natural beauty and special qualities of these islands that set Hawaii apart in the work of nature, owe a bottom-line debt of gratitude to Dr. Degener for his lifetime perseverance in relating humankind to the natural environment upon which we ultimately depend for survival as a species; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Degener, who will be eighty this year, continues to demonstrate his remarkable stamina, good humor, and zest to get on with research and writing projects--and initiate new ones; and

WHEREAS, this outstanding service of Dr. Otto Degener in fostering the preservation of our community's precious wildlife resources is worthy of our recognition and commendation; and

WHEREAS, it is particularly fitting that his five and one-half decades of generous service to Hawaii be extolled by the State Legislature; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Tenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1979, that it commend Dr. Otto Degener for his contribution to the preservation and enhancement of Hawaii's wildlife resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Degener.

OFFERED BY

[Handwritten signatures and names follow, including:]
 J. S. Canall
 Pat Saiti
 Ray George
 W. Bussell Jones
 Nudger
 Ralph L. Liff
 Henry Taketau
 T. C. Yim
 Peter K. Young
 Joe Kuroda
 Paul Cobb
 Ben Capetano
 Charles A. Campbell
 3/22/79



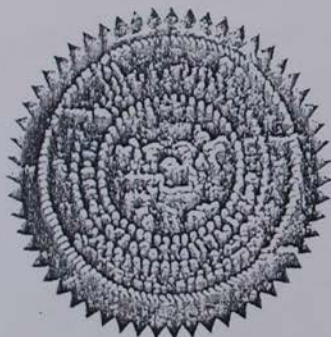
The Senate of the State of Hawaii
hereby presents to:

DR. OTTO DEGENER

Senate Resolution No. 294
entitled:

COMMENDING DR. OTTO DEGENER

adopted this 22nd day of MARCH 1979



Richard L. H. King
President of the Senate

Samuel V. Verrill
Clerk of the Senate

The TENTH Legislature



Dr Otto Degener,
Volcano,
Hawaii 96785,
U.S.A.

68-617 Craigian Dr.
Waialeale, HI 96791

AUCKLAND INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

DIRECTOR:
E. G. TURBOTT, M.Sc.



PRIVATE BAG, AUCKLAND, 1,
NEW ZEALAND
TELEPHONE 30-443

AUCKLAND INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM.

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.

9 January 1979

Dr O. Degener,
Volcano,
Hawaii 96785,
U.S.A.

Dear Dr Degener,

Many thanks for the package of 29 dried specimens which arrived today. We are grateful that you remember the AK herbarium in this way and value the plant specimens you send us.

Yours sincerely,

Jeanne H. Goulding
Botanist

2232 Halekoa Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821
January, 1979

Dear Friends:

It is obviously too late to wish you a happy holiday season, and all that, but we hope that you will receive this brief "annual report" as a wish for a very happy and successful 1979.

The reasons for our procrastination toward the end of 1978 are too obvious to us. First, retirement has brought no extra time, but on the contrary we seem to find less and less time since 1976 for personal matters. 1978 was especially busy, as the first volume of Flora Vitiensis Nova: A New Flora of Fiji was going through the press and is now being issued (as of January 10) by the Pacific Tropical Botanical Garden. The manuscript and illustrations for the second volume are now being assembled, and we are aiming for the issue of this by early 1981 at the latest. Other editorial duties for the "PTBG" seem to occupy the rest of our time, and we increasingly realize the delusion that retirement is a time for leisure and relaxation, a realization that certainly does not make us unhappy. However, an inevitable casualty of this kind of life is sociability, and as our social activities dwindle toward zero we do have regrets, and we hope that friends will understand and will be willing to accept this report (and even the typed envelope) as a sincere thought for their happiness and well-being.

The ills attendant upon advancing years do not need to be emphasized, but on the whole we have been reasonably fortunate during the past year and have not wasted too much time that can be put to better use. It is our wish for all of you that you are keeping pleasantly busy in whatever activities most satisfy you.

And with that, a belated Happy New Year,

Al and Emma Smith

As you see, we are getting on, but slowly. Haven't been outside of Honolulu for over a year. I am working on the dicots now and hopefully will get out vol. 2 on schedule, but it is more interesting to me and probably I am going even slower as a result. The work would go faster if I didn't have to spend a few hours a week keeping our "garden" (i. e. back yard) under control. Best wishes to you both,

Al

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 154 -
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

May 3, 1979.

Lieber Herr Dr. Wagenitz:

Mein Briefschreiben ist nicht immer sehr prompt, da Frau D. (née Isa Ingeborg Hansen von Berlin-Dahlem bis wir in 1955 heirateten) und ich auf zwei verschiedenen Inseln leben: Winters meistens am Strand auf Oahu; Sommer meistens im Regenwald bei 1,200 Meter auf Hawaii. Eben jetzt in einem kleinen Kaufhaus Pflanzen für Gras, finde ich endlich eine 34,857a Etiquette. Hier ist die Kopie die Sie wünschen.

Komisch, für Jahre haben wir per Zeitungsbriefe & Bt. Artikel unsere Haw. Politiker ausgeschimpft wegen Vandalismus. Jetzt Ehren wie sich dafür!!! Eigentlich sollten wir beide dafür gemeint sein. Schade.

Bitte nicht über mich schreiben, aber wenn Sie so denken, könnten Sie Paar Briefe schreiben wie interessant Haw. Endemiten sind die Sie für Ihre Universität bekommen. Würden Sie & Kollegen die Inseln so gerne besuchen wenn die Wälder umgeben werden von Endemiten zu Eucalyptus & Pinus? Zucker & Ananas Industrien sind beinahe Bankrott. Nichts viel bleibt als die Touristen-Industrie. Diese kann ruiniert werden wenn Hawaii nicht hawaiisch bleibt.

Vielleicht werden wir nach Oahu fliegen werden um Pflanze für Göttingen sein für noch ein dünnes Paket. Aber in einem Alter können Sie nicht viel gutes erwarten.

Aloha,

Mit vielen guten Wünschen für 1979
und herrlichen Erleben, auch an Ihre Frau,

Ihr

(Prof. Dr. G. Wagenitz)

D-3400 Göttingen, 8- 1-1979

Herrn
Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791
USA

Lieber Herr Dr. Degener,

für die uns zum Jahresbeginn übersandten 20 Herbarexemplare
danke ich herzlich. In einem Fall fehlt das Etikett, auf
einer beigelegten Karte steht die Nummer 34.837a. Die Pflanze
erinnert mich an ein *Vaccinium* (ist aber vielleicht etwas ganz
anderes!). Wenn Sie uns dazu noch das Etikett senden könnten,
wäre es schön.

Mit vielen guten Wünschen für 1979
und herzlichen Grüßen, auch an Ihre Frau,

Ihr

G. Wagenitz

(Prof. Dr. G. Wagenitz)

V. calycinum
V. lauriei
(herb.) Skottel

700 Akolea Rd
Hilo 96720
Jan: 9- '79

Hello! My friends.

Wie gehts?

I was very happy to get your
Christmas Card with those lovely
stamps enclosed.

I needed them all for my
collection and they are now safely
ensconced in my albums.

I have over 24,000 stamps now,
all different. I started to collect
when I was twelve years of age.

Perhaps you'll make your Akolea
home the new Terminal Bldg. for
the proposed Airport out your way,
and be back to live up at the Volcano!
We have had .15 inches of rain in

the past 19 days, I don't remember
such a spell of glorious days.

I have had to water some of
our plants.

My wife and Madam Pele
have cooked up a plan to
block the new Chain of Craters
road which is due to be paved
soon; these two Wahines don't
want all the Tourists gawping
in their domain!!! Ha-ha,
we'll see!

Thanks again for the stamps.

Aloha to you both,

[Richard Northwood Dick & Louise
(two botanists), Will Bush (botanist), D. L.
Topping (amateur fernidologist, and
A Happy New Year also
O.D. missed Sundays on Oahu for several
years.]

Jardin Botanique National de Belgique

Domaine de Bouchout
B.-1860 MEISE (Belgique)

SP/02172

Le 12 Janvier 1979

Le Jardin Botanique National de Belgique a l'honneur d'accuser réception de 1 colis contenant 17 spécimens d'herbier que vous avez bien voulu lui envoyer :

~~prêt n°~~ ~~retour de prêt n°~~

échange - don pour détermination

et vous en remercie très! vivement.

LE CHEF DU DEPARTEMENT
SPERMATOPHYTES-PTERIDOPHYTES,

André Lavalrie

A Monsieur Dr. Otto Degener

68 - 617 Crozier Drive

Waiālua Oahu,

HAWAII 96791

U.S.A.

17 spécimens d'herbier de Hawai en échange.

BOTANISCHE STAATSSAMMLUNG
MÜNCHEN

Direktor: Prof. Dr. H. Merxmüller

Menzinger Strasse 67 12.1.1979
Telefon 089/1792-1 - 252-

D-8000 München 19

Tageb.Nr.: 743/q

Drs. Otto & Isa D e g e n e r
P.O.Box 154

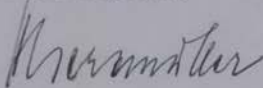
V O K A N O, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

Sehr verehrter Herr Dr. Degener!

Ihre Sendung mit Endemiten aus Hawaii ist gut bei uns eingetroffen. Die Botanische Staatssammlung schätzt sich glücklich über diesen so wertvollen Zugang für das Herbar, und ich darf mich aufrichtig dafür bedanken, daß Sie uns mit diesen Besonderheiten bedacht haben!

Für das eben erst so richtig anlaufende Jahr 1979 darf ich Ihnen und Ihrer verehrten Frau Gemahlin beste Wünsche und Grüße übermitteln.

Ihr sehr ergebener



Prof. Dr. H. Merxmüller

Jan. 13, 1979.

Dear Dr. Theobald:

Mrs. D., & I are delighted that Al has finally completed the first volume of his Flora. Please mail us a copy with discount as book dealers with a State License. I just mailed you a batch of paperbacks as ordered with an overdue bill with the current one, in which I grant your Garden a trade discount of 1/3. I don't know what the shipping charge will be on your volume. Just credit the Smith book cost against my bill.

As the Pac. Trop. Bot. Garden is publisher of the volume, postal regulations allow you to mail shipments (even herbarium specimens!) via "Library Rate" within the U.S. It comes to 14 cents for the first pound and 5 cents additional for each add. pound. If your postman tries to rail the book "Book Post", have him check his postal Bible.

My wholesale collection of Fijian Plants in 1940-41 was very widely distributed. I wrote out master labels, Al identified the material, and scads of duplicate labels were written by two secretaries Dr. Merrill kindly assigned to me for about two years during my stay in New York. I then mailed sets widely to institutions in Europe, North America, New Zealand & Australia. Perhaps your book store should mail advertisements to herbaria existing in those areas. I get my precise names & addresses from Holmgren & Keuken's "Index Herbariorum."

By the way, I have been scattering herbarium specimens throughout the World to about 85 institutions (including some in Russia & China). I don't bother with Hawaiian ones as it would be too much like shipping coals to Newcastle. Only "outside" institutions prize even our most common plants as gifts. Such gifts stimulate our book sales. Our Flora Haw., seems better known outside the Islands than within.

Congratulations in getting Al's book finally published. We just wish he had added year date of collection of taxa - it would at a glance give immediately a rough idea if the taxon is common, getting rare, or has probably become extinct. We were greatly upset during our last trip to Fiji to see the wholesale devastation. I guess Joh Archbold helped finance publication.

If you wish & have plenty to spare, we will be glad to lay an advertisement in each of the 85 pigeon holes & boxes of herb. specimen recipients. When enough specimens accumulate, we rush the boxes out of the house to save them from a possible tsunami & to give us more room to turn around.

I hope you can help stem the tide of destruction, but for an individual to become unpopular and remain employed is difficult. We free lances don't care much about whether the destroyers love us or not.

Aloha,

Jan. 14, 1979.

Dear Mr. Long:

It is indeed kind of you to help us so efficiently in our predicament regarding the original ms., particularly concerning *Argyroxiphium*, the silver- & greenswords. The letters help a little bit, but the completed ms., is still lost. Living on two separate islands, Isa & I kept two separate ms., copies of the entire paperback, and had sent one of the copies to Hunt. I have written its new director with the hope that ms., may be in Pittsburgh. This loss, if it really proves to be one, we consider in excess of \$1,000 if valued in cash. We spent so much time on it, and established new species thanks to Haw. Volc. Nat. Park Ranger Don Reeser.

Reeser grew Island of Hawaii & island of Maui -swords in the same greenhouse at Volcano under identical conditions. We based our conclusions on such material rather than on herb. specimens collected under various conditions in the wild. Not wishing to have contamination of Haw., taxa with Maui "blood" following the criticism of Mae Mull & us Degeners, the foreign collections were destroyed rather than being planted in the Park (on the wrong island). In fact, a score or more years ago the East Maui silversword was wrecklessly planted out of the Island of Hawaii. As a result we are not sure what we have. Is such a plant we now find in the vicinity the true *A. sandwicense* D/C., of Hawaii, the true *macrocephalum* A. Gray of East Maui, or a hybrid between the two? In an attempt to reduce such mischief, we prevailed upon the Nat. Park personnel to rip out the Maui specimens planted in the scrub around 7,000 feet elevation.

Unable to publish the new edition of our paperback, we ordered a new printing of the current edition. It is dangerous to get College orders that we cannot fill, as then the instructor may change to some other author's work and forget us forever.

A previous costly debacle wasting about three months' of our time was caused by John Archbold, a pleasant man probably close to 70 by this time. His mother Anne was so efficient and had such a powerful personality that she eclipsed her children, of whom I have met three. John, some years back, retained his former History Professor Austin Moore, then retired (for \$10,000 - ~~20,000~~) to write a book about his mother and about the Cheng Ho (including my ownership of the vessel & beyond). I furnished one editor after another (chosen by vacillating John) with notes, documents, photos & editing. Grateful to his mother for the Fiji trip, my time & effort was of course free. The book has not yet appeared, and I imagine the son is no longer interested in publishing what probably would have been essentially a biography of his fearless mother. I know she kidnapped her children by boat from her divorced husband living in a castle in Ireland. She was one of the early woman big game hunters in Africa. In fact, when a rhinoceros threatened to attack her, she coolly stood her ground and opened & closed her parasol in its face until it got bewildered and trotted off.

After Mrs. A., quarrelled with Mrs. (& David) Fairchild on the Moluccan Expedition, I took the latter's place as botanist on the Cheng Ho. Years ago I gave original correspondence & documents to Hunt at Pittsburgh and a box of Fiji photos to the Bishop Museum library. Please eventually return the enclosures or their xeroxes.

9. Before surrendering the premises, the Tenant will give the Landlord written notice of intent to vacate at least 25 days before the next rent payment date, and if the Tenant shall fail to give the required notice, he will be responsible for paying for the full month's rent.
10. The Landlord will give like notice to the Tenant to vacate for any cause except for Tenant's failure to observe or perform any covenants or conditions of this agreement, and for that if upon demand by the Landlord referred Agent, conditions attending coverage of this agreement are not observed by the Tenant, the Tenant will peaceably surrender to the Landlord possession of the premises;
11. Upon default, if the Tenant will not surrender the premises, the Landlord or his Agent may re-enter the premises and terminate this agreement, and may expel the Tenant and bring summary possession and other legal proceedings against the Tenant;
12. The Landlord or his Agent may, upon reasonable notice during business hours enter upon the premises and examine the condition thereof or to offer for rent or for sale;
13. The Landlord will pay for water used on the premises and the Tenant will pay for all other utilities and services;
14. The provisions of this agreement shall benefit and bind the Landlord and the Tenant and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns;
15. The Tenant may not keep pets on the premises;
16. A deposit of \$ _____ has been made by the Tenant to secure the return of keys, payment of rent, adjustment of furnishings lost or damaged, damage to premises, proper checking of inventory at the termination of tenancy, proper cleaning of premises and honoring this lease until its proper termination. The Landlord will refund the unused portion of the deposit.

No alterations such as painting, carpentry nor plumbing work etc., no exchange of furnishings, nor any commercial enterprises such as car repair and sales, surfboard repairs, and no waterbeds without Landlord's written consent.

EXECUTED in duplicate the day and year first above written.

BY: _____

(Landlord)

(Tenant)

28 Jan. 1979.

Lieber Herr Degener:

Ihr Brief ist so sehr interessant! Ich dachte meine Verwandten waren meistens in Ersten Weltkrieg ungekommen.

Da ich Amerikaner bin müssen Sie erwarten dass mein ~~XXXX~~ Deutsch sehr schlecht ist. Ich schicke Ihnen per Schiffspost Antworten IN ENGLISCH zu Ihren Fragen.

Mein Vater war 23 Mai 1844 in Braunschweig geboren und starb 22 Sept. 1916; meine Mutter in Mantua, zur Zeit oesterreich, 23 Juni 1863, starb 11 Sept. 1920; Bruder Herbert 1886 - 16 Juni 1958; Schwester Irma 5 Nov. 1881 - 20 Juni 1964; Bruder Armin ? - 14 Sept. 1972; mein ältester Bruder William Degener, Jr., 14. Über 95 und lebt noch. Seine Adresse ist 35 Magnolia Drive, Dobbs Ferry, New York, USA. Er ist Textilauffmann, wie mein Vater war. Da wir ungefähr ein viertel der Welt entfernt leben haben wir uns lange nicht gesehen. Wir schreiben vielleicht fünf mal per Jahr, Weihnachten, etc.

Ich habe Briefe von meinem Vater die er seinen Eltern von Singapore nach Braunschweig als junger Mann schrieb. Könnte jemand Sie auf der Schreibmaschine gut abschreiben und dann vielleicht 50 Kopien per Xeroxmaschine machen lassen für Otto & andere Degeners? Vielleicht sollten die originale Brief mit den 100+ Jahre alten Marken Herrn Dr. Israel fuer die Bibliothek gegeben werden. Er war sehr hilfsbar und liebenswürdig. Die Brief sind schwer zu lesen weil die Tinte etwas verblichen ist.

Es wäre ausserordentlich interessant Sie und andere Degeners in Gütersloh zu treffen aber 13 Mai werde ich 80 sein, und ich trage jetzt schon ein Herzschrittmesser. Ich kann nicht mehr viel reisen. Ich bin gesund für meinem Alter; aber um nicht beinahe einzuschlafen am Nachmittag, nehme ich eine Siesta für 30 Minuten nach dem Mittagessen. Wahrscheinlich wird dann mein durstiges Gehirn besser durchblutet wenn ich lang liege.

Aloha,

Otto Degener

Internationaler Degener-Kreis · Postfach 1451 · 4830 Gütersloh 1

Familie
Otto Degener

Volcano / Hawai



Internationaler
Degener-Kreis

14. Januar 1979 -Sonntag-

Sehr geehrte Frau Degener,
sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Degener,

am 19. April 1980 -Sonabend- veranstalte ich in
der Stadthalle Gütersloh

das erste internationale Degener-Treffen.

Hierzu möchte ich Sie und Ihre Angehörigen schon
heute herzlich einladen.

Beginn: 10.00 Uhr - Ende 18.00 Uhr

Die Stadt Braunschweig teilte mir Ihre Anschrift
mit und freue ich mich, wenn ich Sie am dem Fest-
tag begrüßen dürfte.

Geben Sie mir bitte auch die Redaktionen Ihrer
Tageszeitungen bekannt.

Mit freundlichem Gruß

Heinrich Degener

Internationaler Degener-Kreis Heinrich Degener
Postfach 1451 · Rhedaer Straße 39 · 4830 Gütersloh 1 · Telefon 05241/51654

ALLERTON FOUNDERS

ROBERT ALLERTON
JOHN GREGG ALLERTON

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MRS. WM. WALLACE MEIN
CHAIRMAN
JOHN GREGG ALLERTON
HON. VICE-CHAIRMAN
JOHN D. ARCHBOLD
ISAAC ARROLD, JR.
MRS. JOHN W. BLEAKIE
DORR W. CABLESMITH
HARRISON CHANDLER
JOHN C. ELLIOTT
RALPH FALK II
MRS. RICHARD W. FREEMAN
MRS. PETER W. B. FRELINGHUYSEN
REUEL D. HARMON
MRS. EDWARD T. HARRISON
MRS. L. W. LANE, JR.
MRS. WILLIAM WOOD MCCARTHY
CORDELIA S. MAY
CHARLES PAGE
H. BRUCE PALMER
WILEY R. REYNOLDS
MRS. S. DILLON RIPLEY
FREDERIC ROSENGARTEN, JR.
MRS. EDWARD C. SWEENEY
MRS. GARDINER SYMONDS
MRS. S. EBERLY THOMPSON
J. T. WATERHOUSE
JULIET RICE WICHMAN

PRESIDENT

MATEO LETTUNICH

DIRECTOR

WILLIAM L. THEOBALD

GENERAL COUNSEL

MICHAEL J. SHEA

PACIFIC TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS TO CREATE A NATIONAL RESOURCE IN TROPICAL BOTANY

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

DEANE W. MALOTT

TRUSTEES EMERITUS

NORACE H. ALBRIGHT
ROBERT O. ANDERSON
HAROLD J. COOLIDGE
LOWELL S. DILLINGHAM
MRS. NICHOLAS R. DU PONT
MRS. ROBERT A. MADONAN
MRS. A. LESTER MANN
MILTON MC GREEVE
W. W. S. MOIR
S. DILLON RIPLEY
EDWARD H. RYNEARSON
PAUL H. SEARS

March 30, 1979

Dear Colleagues:

The Robert Allerton Medal, a biennially award for excellence in the fields of tropical botany or horticulture, will again be given in 1979. The first two recipients were Dr. R. E. Holttum in 1975 and Dr. C. G. G. J. van Steenis in 1977.

In addition to the medal, an honorarium of one thousand dollars is presented and the awardee is asked to attend one of our board meetings for a special event in his honor. Each recipient is also requested to submit a paper for publication in our Allertonia Series of Occasional Papers. I am enclosing a brief resume of the origin and intent of this award.

It is hoped that the recipient in 1979 will be in the area of botany, while in 1981 and at possible future dates awards will be made in the area of horticulture. As in the past, nominations are being sought from members of the Garden's Scientific Advisory Committee and from a representative panel of botanists and horticulturists from throughout the world.

Those who have been most prominently mentioned in previous years have included: Dr. Albert C. Smith, Dr. E. J. H. Corner, Dr. Harold St. John and Dr. F. Raymond Fosberg. However, please feel free to nominate any individual you think worthy of such an award.

I am enclosing a nomination form, which I hope you will use and return as soon as convenient.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Theobald

William L. Theobald
Director

WLT:hko
Enclosures

POST OFFICE BOX 340, LAWAII, KAUAI, HAWAII 96765 • (808) 332-8131

THE ROBERT ALLERTON MEDAL

To honor Robert Allerton, who was one of the founding benefactors of the Pacific Tropical Botanical Garden, the Trustees of the Garden were pleased to announce the inauguration of the Robert Allerton Medal in 1975. The medal is to be awarded biennially for excellence in the fields of tropical botany or horticulture.

It is most fitting that this award, which can be given either for a specific achievement or to reflect an entire career in science, should be presented in the name of a man who did so much to further the causes of botany and horticulture. Robert Allerton's life-long interest in tropical plants is reflected today in two living monuments: the lovely landscaped gardens at Lawai-Kai and the Pacific Garden, a project which might never have materialized had Robert Allerton not given generously of his encouragement and financial support.

The Robert Allerton Medal is accompanied by an honorarium of \$1,000, and was first presented in 1975. Recipients are asked to present at the presentation ceremony, which will be scheduled to coincide with a meeting of the trustees, and they are asked to prepare a paper which will subsequently be published by the Pacific Garden as one of its series of Occasional Papers.

Members of the Pacific Garden's International Scientific Advisory Committee, comprising a representative panel of distinguished botanists and horticulturists, are asked to make recommendations for the award of the Medal. Nominations are requested from the heads of botanical gardens and arboreta, and from other scientists. The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Pacific Garden will act as a jury in selecting the person to be honored.

Dr A.C. Smith

Speaking horticulturally, we nominate the above as no stigma of moral turpitude is in any way connected with his character. To do otherwise might in the eyes of many botanists we have met in Int. Bot. Congresses reflect upon the judgment of us voters and upon that of the Pac. Trop. Bot. Garden. We want the fragrance of Lonicera rather than ^{that} of Symplocarpus.



The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220 8700

March 29, 1979

Dear Otto and Isa,

I was pleased to receive your letter and copy of "Rainbow Falls Hospital for Hilo." Don't let a few aches and pains depress you. I am sure that you will continue to live a gratifying and productive life as long as you keep your marvelous sense of humor.

Dr. Nair is leaving tonight. He will be consulting in San Diego with Dr. Trevor McMorris, who identified the steroidal sex hormone from Achlya. This was the first steroid ^{isolated} isolated from a plant. Remember Alma Barksdale worked on these hormones from her water molds. It was a beautiful piece of work. Poor Alma is very ill -- a disintegration of the cerebellum. She is flat on her back and helpless, but her mind is keen. I saw her two weeks ago. You are in excellent shape in comparison, so NO COMPLAINTS.

Dr. Nair and Trevor are great natural products chemists. Trevor is Professor of Chemistry at University of California, San Diego, at La Jolla. They are lots of fun and you would enjoy meeting them. Nair's wife, Valeria, is an organic chemist in Dr. Nakanishi's department at Columbia University. By the way, she is Hungarian, and a delightful girl. Trevor was recently widowed. Our beloved Helen died New Year's eve after a brief bout with cancer. She was 49. Trevor is chairman of a session at the American Chemical Society meetings, and we are pleased he did not follow his impulse to cancel out. I do hope you all get to meet one another.

Take care. If you don't like the doctors there, try a trip to New York. We'll keep you busy, happy and away from all things medicinal.

With best wishes to you both,

Affectionately,

Annette Hervey

Mr. & Mrs. Otto Degener
68617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

Missouri
Botanical
Garden



27 March 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waiialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

I am writing in response to your letter of 7 Feb. 1979, asking us to help locate one of your Rubus of Russia collections in order to label such a specimen received at Bailey Hortorium. Upon looking through our undetermined Rosaceae and in the Rubus of Russia in our Herbarium, I did not locate any of your collections that looked like Rubus. Perhaps we did not get this collection.

It would have been helpful if Ms. had sent your collection number for this specimen. Nevertheless, I wanted you to know that I had looked for a Rubus and had found none at this point.

Perhaps the sheet is stored in one of several of our other undetermined material areas. I will continue to look for it in the next months.

Sincerely,

Sheri Murphy
Sheri G. Murphy
Herbarium Supervisor

2345 Tower Grove Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63110
314 772 7600

*Mailed xerox to
Connell, & thanked Miss Murphy. C.D. 4/7/79*

3/26/79

Dear Dr. Degener -

Thank you for your patience in waiting for my check. I am working on the book & have hopes of its being published - a slow process, as you must know.

Today I took out the "Nat'l Parks" book, but do not find an entry for *Emelia flammica*; can it be in one of your later volumes? Your botanical illustrations are so excellent - I would like to use the structure of this plant, commonly known as Floras paint brush, to do a color illustration - it can be used as a wild edible plant, altho' I gather is not commonly used this way.

I certainly appreciate all the
information in your books,
historical, as well as botanical.
I can't thank you enough for
sending them to me.

Perhaps we will meet one day;
I do hope to return to Hawaii
in the near future. I hope
you will keep in touch.

Thank you again,

Phoenix Reid

MP 1.54 Smith Cripe Rd.

Washougal WA 98671

RICHARD S. H. WONG
PRESIDENT

DUKE T. KAWASAKI
VICE PRESIDENT

JOSEPH T. KURODA
MAJORITY LEADER

ANSON CHONG
GEORGE H. TOYOFUKU
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADERS

NORMAN MIZUGUCHI
MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

DANTE K. CARPENTER
MAMORU YAMASAKI
PATSY K. YOUNG
ASST. MAJORITY FLOOR LEADERS

CHARLES M. CAMPBELL
MAJORITY POLICY LEADER

JOHN T. USHJIMA
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

FIRST DISTRICT
DANTE K. CARPENTER
STANLEY F. HARA
JOHN T. USHJIMA

SECOND DISTRICT
HENRY TAKITANI
MAMORU YAMASAKI

THIRD DISTRICT
RALPH K. AJIFU
D. G. ANDERSON
MARY GEORGE

FOURTH DISTRICT
BENJAMIN J. JAYETANO
JOSEPH T. KURODA
NORMAN MIZUGUCHI
PATSY K. YOUNG

FIFTH DISTRICT
CHARLES M. CAMPBELL
DUKE T. KAWASAKI
RICHARD S. H. WONG
T. C. YIM

SIXTH DISTRICT
NEIL ABERCROMBIE
JOHN S. CARROLL
ANSON CHONG
WADSWORTH YEE

SEVENTH DISTRICT
STEVE COBB
DENNIS O'CONNOR
PATRICIA SAIKI
W. BUDDY SOARES

EIGHTH DISTRICT
GEORGE H. TOYOFUKU

The Senate
The Tenth Legislature
of the
State of Hawaii

HONOLULU, HAWAII

March 22, 1979



Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Wailua, Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

I transmit herewith a certificate and
a copy of Senate Resolution No. 294, which
was this day adopted by the Senate of the
Tenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii,
Regular Session of 1979.

Respectfully,

Seichi Hirai
Seichi Hirai
Clerk of the Senate

Dear friends,

I got at last the offprints of our *Cuscuta* - many thanks! When it came, I was just reading your excellent narrative of your expedition to Viti-Islands (reading for the third time) and enjoyed your discussion on plants and racism.

We are now preparing with some colleagues an excursion with Inturist to some places in the Central Asian desert region - we hope that in April the vegetation could be at its best there. I would like to compare the Iraqi desert communities with the Central Asian ones, and most of the colleagues have not seen any desert yet - so it will be extremely interesting for all of us. Some colleagues brought from there an interesting *Ephedra*, which seems to be quite new and the most primitive type of all *Ephedras*; this would confirm my theory of the center of origin of this genus in Central Asia and not in the Mediterranean, as some scientists think.

We are trying to find a possibility to join an Russian excursion to the Pacific, concerning the Conservation of Oceanic Islands - the probability is not high but we hope none the less. It would be fine to use you Flora of Hawaii in tropical islands!

Meantime I prepare a survey of plant communities of springs in Czechoslovakia - it is interesting how different are plant communities in this group in the Carpathians and Sudetic regions, especially in flowering plants. Moss synusia are more similar - they had twice as much time to migrate if compared with flowering plants, and easier way of dissemination. The vegetation history is very fascinating.

Do you know any method how to make the day to last at least 30 hours? There are so many problems one would like to peep in - and there is also the family, my two grandchildren and my youngest son in gymnasium - it is difficult to decide what to do first.

Many thanks for the *Cuscuta*-paper! Best wishes to you both!

Prague 22.3.79

Yours

Emil Maďač
Inst. of Landscape Ecology,
Malá Plynárna
170 00 Praha-Velešovice
Czechoslovakia

Dear Mr. Chapman: I noted you had
signed the Environmental Draft concerning
Haleakala. I mailed the original with
exhibits to Supt. Huntsinger. Here is a
carbon.
Aloha, Dr. Otto Degener

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.
March 20, 1979.

Dear Supt. Huntsinger: *Naturalist, Haw. Nat. Park, 1929.*

As an addition to my reply to your letter of February 80, 1979 (D-18),
I herewith review my actions regarding the flora of East Maui during more than half a Century:

After botanizing in Bermuda during the summer of 1921 with Cornell's Plant Pathologist Dr.
Herbert H. Wetsel, I became enamored with plants of warm climes. So on graduation from the
University of Massachusetts, I drove across the Continent, embarked with my Dodge sedan on the
SS. "Wilhelmina" for Honolulu, and collected my first Territory of Hawaii plants August 10,
1922 on Punchbowl, mauka of the Young Hotel where my sister and I resided. August 29 I botan-
ized in Iao Valley, Maui; the following day, I on Kula mainly about Ulupalakua. This was my first
sampling of the vegetation of the lower slope of Haleakala.

Enrolling at the University of Hawaii, I received my M. Sc., the following year, my thesis
being about "The Gametophyte of Lycopodium Cernuum in Hawaii." Bot Gaz. 80:26-47. 1925. The
plant is the waeiole common to Haleakala and elsewhere. I then returned to my alma mater in
Massachusetts to teach for a year; study Botany, Geology and Zoology for a doctorate; and fur-
ther identify my Hawaiian collection. Thereafter I enrolled at Columbia University as a candi-
date for a doctorate, working full time at its affiliate the famed New York Botanical Garden
under Drs. Britton, Rydberg and Barnhart. My Hawaiian collection pretty well identified by the
end of the school year, I returned to the Islands to teach Botany at the University of Hawaii
and to amass additional material for the Flora. Renting Idlewild cottage at Olinda from Worth
Aiken, from which tourists with saddle horses and pack train set out for the summit of Halea-
kala, I botanized with two hired assistants most of the time about and in Haleakala from June
11 to November 5, 1927.

I had already met with Director Stephen Mather in the Moana Hotel, Waikiki, during the
First Pan Pacific Conference on Education, Reclamation and Recreation as the proceedings pub-
lished in 1927 state on pages 440-441. I likewise had corresponded with Assistant Director
Arno B. Camerer who, for instance in his letter of January 30, 1926, stated his desire to
further "explorations in the national parks on the islands along botanical lines. I have
shown Mr. Rose's letters, to me and to you, to Supt. Boles who is anxious to cooperate with
you in every way possible. You will afford us a great pleasure to do so, for we are most in-
terested in this phase of educational and scientific work. - - - ." Needless to say, I re-
acted by concentrating on the most famous plant and its relatives in the eyes of tourists,
residents and scientists alike; the silversword of the endemic Maui and Hawaii genus Argyrox-
iphium.

With five pack horses and a sagacious mule to transport equipment including a drier, kero-
sene and lanterns, corrugations, blotters, old newspapers, etc., the owner of the animals and
the two permanent assistants struggled up from Idlewild and then down the zigzag flanking
Koolau Gap to the Holua Cave area. Here, thanks to the foresight of veteran, free lance,
Guide Anthony Tam of Makawao, building a concrete basin to catch drip from the overhanging
cliffs, we were provided with ample potable water. Since then, a cabin equipped for about
twenty five visitors, has been constructed in the vicinity.

Koolau Gap, with the trade winds blowing clouds up Keanae Valley, was the most interesting
and productive spot. Endemic Plantago species with hybrids and back crosses were everywhere.
The slender, graceful tree Neurophyllodes ovatifolius var. superbum Deg., & Greene
well, Debutia and Railliardia species with with their distant relative Argyroxiphium vires-
cens Hillebr., and Fragaria chiloensis var. sandwicensis (Decn.) Deg. & Deg. Flanking the
Gap cliffs were various taxa of the Hawaiian Metrosideros polymorpha Gaill., at times con-
fused with the Tahitian M. collina (J.R. & G. Forst.) A. Gray. Here and there were claret
red, blooming Santalum haleakalae Hillebr. The area was simply gorgeous. Not far makai be-
low the aa that discouraged the Herefords pastured there from injuring these plant treas-
ures was their wooden watering trough. East-mauka, moreover, is the entrance to a fascinat-
ing, branched tube in all shrinking immodesty christened the "Degener Lava Tube." To walk
part of its length upright with torch, or better electric light, is a "must" for visitors to
this cone-filled rift valley just as soon as an expert maintenance crew can secure the

murderous part of the ceiling that resembles the keystone of an arch. Though it has remained in place for thousands of years in spite of quakes, we rushed past under it apprehensively thinking of the Sword of Damocles.

A later visit to Koolau Gap disclosed the endemic flora all but gone - extinct! The plants had not been exterminated by herds of feral goats - at night we could hear packs of wild, baying dogs chasing them for food above the cliffs - but by the naturalised sweet vernal-grass, *Anthoxanthum odoratum* L., forming a thick, stifling growth. The one native species still barely surviving here was, true to its name, ~~the~~ the endemic, red fruited strawberry strewn among the fragrant straw.

My official report about the endemic Haleakala silversword (*Argyroxiphium macrocephalum* A. Gray) - specifically distinct from the Hawaii *A. sandwicense* DC. - and the sombre *A. virescens* Hillebr., was mailed to Hawaii National Park headquarters. At that time it was still located on the rim of Kilauea Crater; and Haleakala consisted merely of a detached Section established by Act of Congress August 1, 1916 until it became the separate entity "Haleakala National Park" on Sept. 13, 1960. Mrs. Degener and I attended the ceremonies near the summit warmly dressed, while most Mainland Park officials shivered in what they had expected to be balmy, tropical weather. Whether my report is still extant in the old files of the National Park Service or whether a copy survives in the library of the once prestigious Sugar Planters' Experiment Station I do not presently know. I remember that the silversword, or ahinahina, was surviving only in small numbers, perhaps less than a hundred, chiefly along the southwest side of the "Crater" on the cinder cones. There they were drenched, not so much by rain, as by the clouds that started drifting past them through Koolau Gap around ten o'clock mornings. Ever so many mature plants were dying after goats had eaten out their juicy, cabbage-like hearts.

Flowering silverswords had their sticky heads, or capitula, badly infested with the curious maggot of a fly. As the fly is endemic, it is certain under normal conditions enough silversword achenes ("seeds") would escape destruction. Were it not so, silverswords would have disappeared from the face of the Earth, and the fly commit racial suicide for lack of food during the maggot stage. A leaf hopper likewise lived on the plants, its eggs parasitized by a wasp so small as to be nigh invisible. My report and the collection of such specimens apparently new to Science and merely identified to the genus prompted my giving a talk before the local entomological society, a brief summary appearing in their proceedings.

Rebuffed by some local museum and university heads for daring to work according to my unusual plan on a Hawaiian Flora under the auspices of a "foreign" New York City institution, I accepted the position of Naturalist of Hawaii National Park under Supt. Allen in 1929. Both Hawaii and Maui Park Sections were my beat. Living along the Belt Road at what was then called "27 Miles" as it was at that time with its curves that distance from Hilo, I engaged for the summer for \$200 and keep three former students of mine and an outsider with drawing ability to illustrate Park plants. When some youngsters finally struck for higher pay, I peacefully drove them to the interisland steamer in Hilo for their departure back home to Oahu. After about a week their parents, who may have been laboring on a sugar plantation for a dollar per day, wrote me letters of apology for their children's action.

My Park duties at a salary of \$180 per month entailed giving an hour's lecture to tourists that swarmed to the Park with the arrival of each steamer from the Mainland. I had one of my assistants run a gasoline engine in a privy-like outhouse to produce enough electricity to run the machine. Day after day, giving at times three, one hour lectures to boat loads of tourists was deadly monotonous as fundamental explanations had to accompany the one single set of reels. The little museum display at Uwekahuna next to the lecture hall was spic and span with plate glass cases enclosing such exhibits as seismograph, lava specimens, fossil footprints, etc. The disgusting duty after almost every lecture was bending down to clean away finger- and especially greasy noseprints of enthusiastic little children from the panes.

Giving twenty minute, fireside talks in the hotel lobby after supper was, in contrast, to the Uwekahuna lecture interesting and fun as I could select any subject in Anthropology, Botany, Geology and Zoology of my choice, often having specimens to pass around.

With the departure of my loyal assistants for classes at the University on Oahu, I resigned my position in favor of the late Everitt Brum, whose father was the American Marine Brum-migheim of German ancestry and whose mother was a Hawaiian of Hilo. I moved into the Volcano House, concentrating on writing what I intended to be an illustrated pamphlet for tourists' visitors to both Kilauea and Haleakala regions. A waiter at the hotel, a born artist, made further necessary drawings. Thinking the ms., of my pamphlet complete enough after two years of work, I resolved to return to my home near the University of Hawaii. Learning of my imminent departure, my Volcano House artist entreated me to take him to Honolulu with me and to employ him there. Agreeing to do so, I was asked to visit the young man's retired parents in a neighboring plantation village. I thought it pathetic that the elderly couple should be worried about having their son leave Hawaii for the possible unknown dangers of Oahu. So on the appointed day of my visit I was mentally prepared to console and reassure them. Nothing of the kind was needed. To permit his departure I merely was to agree in his presence that I regularly mail his monthly cheque to them instead of giving it to him. When in Honolulu, I visited the Honolulu Star-Bulletin office to plunk the ms., of my pamphlet on Mr. (later Senator) Farrington's desk. Replying that what I had written would not be a mere pamphlet but a book, I agreed to be the publisher who would pay the newspaper to print my "Plants of Hawaii National Park" with a colored frontispiece, and bound in boards. This was in 1930. This work is still available, with some modern additions and corrections as a paperback.

The Flora of the Hawaiian Islands is most complex, few native Flowering Plants (Phanerogams) consist of the same taxa on more than one island and even often few occur on more than two mountain ranges on the same island (examples are East vs., West Maui; Koolau Range vs., Waianae Range of Oahu). As this fact was not adequately realized in local scientific circles, Degener collections of the presumed identical taxa were not appreciated. Hence best Degener collections of Maui (and other) plants are available for monographers, not at local institutions but at the New York Botanical Garden and at the University of Massachusetts. Location and dates of collection are listed in the Flora Hawaiiensis, D. Degener, Sheets 3-7. June 20, 1969, Jan. 20, 1970. Such collections, often representing Maui plants now extinct, have been monographed with usually Dr. Isa Degener and my cooperation and help by usually World acknowledged foreign specialists. The results of some of such studies are listed in the Flora Hawaiiensis D. Degener, Sheets 8-12. Nov. 15, 1973. July 7, 1978. The works are for the most part unknown in the Hawaiian Islands, but not in many botanical centers abroad. To find the rarest and often extinct plants of Haleakala and elsewhere, the monographer must seek them out in the herbarium cabinets under the proper genus in the insertae sedis folders.

It fosters efficiency for Superintendents to be transferred from one Park to another after a period of years. But this custom, evidently inherited from the Dept. of the Interior's close, early connection with the Army is disastrous for most Naturalists. These unfortunate individuals may have become specialists in the biota of Yosemite or Yellowstone and then arrive as biological ignoramus carpetbaggers to a Paradise in the Pacific. It is actually unfair to the Naturalist and an imposition to the Visitor to expect the blind to lead the blind. To be sure Naturalists after some years in one area become capable, but then they may be whisked off to interpret perhaps the biota of Paradise Valley near Tacoma.

To adequately know the Botany of Haleakala, the Park requires a long-resident botanist to delve through all the books and pamphlets existing, noting pertinent data on loose-leaf sheets as occurring in our Flora Hawaiiensis. Such books and pamphlets are mostly long out of print and unavailable. But for study purposes the Park can build up a library of xerox and other duplications. One good source we Degeners use is the USDA Library in Beltsville, Md. Reading the botanical part of the report submitted, the author or authors evidently lacked such knowledge as incorrect determinations alone seem to indicate.

Mrs. Degener & I, both botanists with doctorates, are by nature and training Conservationists. Hence the following suggestions for your serious study, Supt. Huntsinger, may appear paradoxical:

1. I am not in favor of reducing the number of visitors provided they are the type that enjoy and profit intellectually from their stay. Charging different fees for different areas at different seasons may act as a safe control against harmful "over population."
2. I favor a large lecture hall in the direction of Science City perhaps, already an eyesore with its buildings; and a second one in the general Oheo area. Visitors who have invested a small fortune to reach Haleakala should have the opportunity to leave far better and permanently educated in geology, biology, conservation, and "Hawaiiana" in general. If feasible, depending on the Season perhaps, most lectures should of course be presented in English; certain days or hours, however, should have them presented by an educated nisei in Japanese. Lectures in the two different elevations in strikingly different terrain must not be repetitive of one another, but as different as the environment surrounding the lecture hall. **DO NOT IGNORE THE OCEAN!!!!!!**
3. A large part of the population is elderly and physically limited to living at lower and middle elevations. Having visited numerous places in the U.S., and foreign countries catering to tourists, I have noticed the existence of ski-lifts that are unobtrusive and no mar to the beauty of the landscape. I should like to see a moderately hidden skilift between the base and the summit of the cliff flanking Koolau Gap for visitors who are prepared to pay handsomely to reach Haleakala's floor and partake of a properly graded Nature Trail similar to those in Kipuka Puauulu and the footprint area about Kilauea. An elevator from top to bottom would be preferable if engineers can discover an economically feasible method. The Nature Trail should have a branch dipping makai to include the magnificent grove of the giant apt herb Gunnera. This area, if not under jurisdiction of the Park now, should be purchased while land values are still low. The charges for reaching the Nature Trail and, the Degener's Lava Tube should be graduated from season to season lest too many visitors harm the area.
4. An access road, with sides fenced to prevent visitors from straying away from it into near virgin rainforest MAY be of value were it to extend from the Belt Road up Keanae Valley to Koolau Gap. Why preach about the danger of man being a vector for exotic weeds in a retail way when the State and Park Service tolerates one feral pig, which is a vector for exotic weeds in a wholesale way? The attitude expressed in the Bulletins submitted that such herbivores are to be "controlled" is psychologically wrong! The attitude is to expect and work toward "extermination", an aim that may get merely as far as control.
5. The botanical discussions are faulty with misidentifications. Furthermore, they seem to involve only Flowering Plants. What about all the endemic lichens, mosses, fungi, slimemolds, limu, etc.? Remember that a boulder, just because of its great size, is not more valuable than a small diamond.

IN SUMMARY: I wish to emphasize that a goodly number of rare, endangered and extinct taxa of Flowering Plants (Phanerogams) and Ferns (Pteridophytes) growing on the western slope and within Haleakala during the '20s are available for study as properly labeled herbarium specimens. These are preserved in the Museum cabinets of the New York Botanical Garden, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and scattered here and there in perhaps fifty other institutions throughout the World in small numbers. Some have been studied by monographers of past years with methods modern for the monographer's time (but not necessarily later), and published in diverse scattered pamphlets apparently unknown to Maui workers.

SECONDLY, I believe the potential for visitor enjoyment and study of what Haleakala National Park can teach is but fragmentary at this time. Two lecture halls are imperative, Nature Trails are needed, and emphasis put on a study of the ocean physically and biologically washing the land surface of the Park and logically part of it.

Dr. Otto Degener
Dr Otto Degener, Naturalist Hawaii National Park, 1929; Author "Plants Haw.

March 16, 1979.

Dear Annette:

I was saddened to learn of Dr. Robbins' passing from a previous copy of our Newsletter. I was under the impression that Mrs. Robbins had predeceased him and that only one son, whom I had met casually many years ago, survived.

Confidentially, being only eight years Dr. Robbins' junior and having died last year, death does not seem so horrible as survivors usually imagine. To be sure, present life and to live in the enigmatic future are both interesting, but not particularly joyful. Dr. Robbins, I feel sure, would not approve of grief; in fact, he would be saddened were he to have caused it by his departure.

Just about a year ago I dined between Isa & her mother in our National Park. Suddenly, with the appetizing entree before me, I felt myself drifting into a most pleasing sleep. In fact, I was truly irritated when Isa & mother strenuously aroused me in midst of a crowd of diners. They maintain that I suddenly stretched my arms upward and stiffened to almost upset my chair backward. Born, apparently without birth defects, having lived 79 years actively & really sensibly, why should I not die by simple heart arrest uncomplicated by death defects? Luckily, a physician was dining at a neighboring table and an ambulance was garaged in the next building. A rush to the Hilo Hospital thirty miles distant is giving me presumably another few years thanks to a pace-maker.

Do, please, edit or reject the following:

As Dr. Robbins' accomplishments in the field of Science are too well known to require repeating, I wish to express how my sister, and after my marriage to her, Isa, enjoyed our Sunday dinner invitations to the Robbins home in Bronxville. The conversation was stimulating, at times interrupted by pertinent remarks by darling, somewhat mischievous Mother Robbins. Though his field was not Taxonomy, Dr. Robbins envisioned the Garden's greater participation in matters African. He suggested I join an expedition to that Continent and, after my return, to concentrate on African plants. Enamoured with the Hawaiian flora, I had to decline the opportunity he was giving me.

Regarding Robbins relics you mention,, I feel it is primarily the duty of a trained archivist to decide the disposals. To us some little scrap may seem worthless yet, the possible cancellation may give a clue as to whether a voucher specimen in a collection had been collected on the Island of Hawaii or of Kauai. My affiliation, almost from birth with "Bronx Park", forces me to mail what I consider of bot. interest to Mr. Long. Christmas cards & clippings according to my opinion not deserving of retention as a xerox copy in our own library, we mail to the Hunt Bot. Library, Carnegie-Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh. Whether Isa & I throw such material away into our own wastepaper basket or Archivist Karg does so in Pittsburgh is rather unimportant. The bundle goes by mail at "Library Rate" for 14 cents for the first pound and 5 cents for each additional one. Who knows what bibliographic treasures Mrs. Karg may unearth - remember, too, even a Christmas card signed by an author has money value to a bibliophile owning one of his books.

Regarding Dr. & Mrs. Nair, Isa & I do not know what to suggest. We are both presently not too well. We are really scheduled to be living at our mountain home near the National Park on the Island of Hawaii, but are tarrying on Oahu because of medical checks & treatments. It is nothing deadly. Isa has been tortured by tendinitis (arthritis) &

Botanischer Garten
und Botanisches Museum
Berlin-Dahlem

BERLIN

25

Hunt

Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem
Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8, D-1000 Berlin 33

Telefon: 8 31 40 41 App.
intern: (95) 4258

Herrn
Dr. Otto Degener
P.O. Box 154

Volcano
Hawaii

Berlin, den 15. März 1979

Lieber Herr Degener!

Anläßlich der 300-Jahr-Feier des Berliner Botanischen Gartens wird die Willdenow-Medaille einigen Botanikern verliehen werden, die entweder persönlich oder durch das von ihnen geleitete Institut zum Wiederaufbau der Sammlungen und zum Ansehen des Botanischen Gartens und Botanischen Museums Berlin-Dahlem beigetragen haben.

Wie Sie sicher wissen, wurde unsere gesamte Bibliothek und der größte Teil des Herbars durch einen Luftangriff im März 1943 zerstört. Dank der großzügigen Hilfe vieler Institute und Einzelpersonen konnte ein großer Teil dieser Verluste seither wieder ausgeglichen werden, so daß unser Museum aufgrund seiner Bestände (2 Millionen Herbarexemplare, 50.000 Bände und 100.000 Sonderdrucke) wieder das wichtigste Institut seiner Art in Deutschland ist.

Andererseits haben die erfolgreichen Aktivitäten Berliner Botaniker in der ganzen Welt das Ansehen Berlins als eines der traditionellen Zentren der botanischen Forschung neu gefestigt. Sie haben dazu beigetragen, unser Museum vor dem Abgleiten in den Provinzialismus zu bewahren, zu dem es nach den Ereignissen des Krieges verurteilt zu sein schien.

Wir freuen uns sehr, Ihnen mitteilen zu können, daß Sie als Empfänger einer Willdenow-Medaille auserwählt worden sind. Damit wollen wir Ihnen für die großzügigen Beiträge zum Wiederaufbau unserer Sammlungen danken.

Die Willdenow-Medaille wird am 10. September 1979 während des offiziellen Jubiläums-Festaktes überreicht werden, der im Auditorium Maximum der Freien Universität Berlin stattfinden wird. Wir hoffen sehr, daß es Ihnen möglich sein wird, an diesem Festakt teilzunehmen. Sollten Sie an der Teilnahme verhindert sein, so möchten wir Sie bitten, einen Vertreter zu benennen, dem wir die Medaille anvertrauen können.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Prof. Dr. W. Greuter
Leitender Direktor

N.B. Weitere Informationen über die 300-Jahr-Feier und die Zimmer-Reservierung für diese Zeit sind beigelegt. Hotelzimmer sind in Berlin - insbesondere in der Touristensaison - immer frühzeitig ausgebucht. Es ist deshalb unbedingt notwendig, die Reservierung sofort vorzunehmen.

Hunt
Botanischer Garten
und Botanisches Museum
Berlin-Dahlem

BERLIN

Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem
Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8, D-1000 Berlin 33

Telefon: 8 31 40 41 App.
intern: (95) 4258

Herrn
Dr. Otto Degener
P.O. Box 154

Volcano
Hawaii

Berlin, den 15. März 1979

Lieber Herr Degener!

Anlässlich der 300-Jahr-Feier des Berliner Botanischen Gartens wird die Willdenow-Medaille einigen Botanikern verliehen werden, die entweder persönlich oder durch das von ihnen geleitete Institut zum Wiederaufbau der Sammlungen und zum Ansehen des Botanischen Gartens und Botanischen Museums Berlin-Dahlem beigetragen haben.

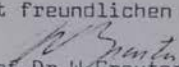
Wie Sie sicher wissen, wurde unsere gesamte Bibliothek und der größte Teil des Herbars durch einen Luftangriff im März 1943 zerstört. Dank der großzügigen Hilfe vieler Institute und Einzelpersonen konnte ein großer Teil dieser Verluste seither wieder ausgeglichen werden, so daß unser Museum aufgrund seiner Bestände (2 Millionen Herbarexemplare, 50.000 Bände und 100.000 Sonderdrucke) wieder das wichtigste Institut seiner Art in Deutschland ist.

Andererseits haben die erfolgreichen Aktivitäten Berliner Botaniker in der ganzen Welt das Ansehen Berlins als eines der traditionellen Zentren der botanischen Forschung neu gefestigt. Sie haben dazu beigetragen, unser Museum vor dem Abgleiten in den Provinzialismus zu bewahren, zu dem es nach den Ereignissen des Krieges verurteilt zu sein schien.

Wir freuen uns sehr, Ihnen mitteilen zu können, daß Sie als Empfänger einer Willdenow-Medaille auserwählt worden sind. Damit wollen wir Ihnen für die großzügigen Beiträge zum Wiederaufbau unserer Sammlungen danken.

Die Willdenow-Medaille wird am 10. September 1979 während des offiziellen Jubiläums-Festaktes überreicht werden, der im Auditorium Maximum der Freien Universität Berlin stattfinden wird. Wir hoffen sehr, daß es Ihnen möglich sein wird, an diesem Festakt teilzunehmen. Sollten Sie an der Teilnahme verhindert sein, so möchten wir Sie bitten, einen Vertreter zu benennen, dem wir die Medaille anvertrauen können.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen


Prof. Dr. W. Greuter
Leitender Direktor

N.B. Weitere Informationen über die 300-Jahr-Feier und die Zimmer-Reservierung für diese Zeit sind beigelegt. Hotelzimmer sind in Berlin - insbesondere in der Touristensaison - immer frühzeitig ausgebucht. Es ist deshalb unbedingt notwendig, die Reservierung sofort vorzunehmen.

2

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P. O. Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii 96785, U.S.A.

March 14, 1979

[Reeser]

Dear Don:

It goes without saying that a herbarium with well pressed plants is wonderful to have; but that should not hide the fact that the prime purpose of an herbarium is not for show. IT IS A SCIENTIFIC TOOL. Each sheet requires primarily 1.) geographical place of collection, 2.) ecological information, 3.) date of collection, 4.) the actual collector, and of course 5.) any other information thought to be significant. Curiously enough, identification (I enclose a field label) is not as important as professional botanists can write the scientific name of their choice on the label from studying the plant itself. Herbaria of the World are accustomed to discard any specimens lacking place of collection, date & name of actual collector as not worth time of mounting nor space in the cabinets. Moreover, as Botany is a progressive Science involving capable scientists often holding diverse views, curators welcome any seriously considered views. Diverse identifications by diverse critics, for example, are to be written IN PENCIL by the critics on the herbarium sheet, signed and dated. For anyone to erase such a note comes close to forgery!

Dr. E.D. Merrill - truly the Linnaeus of the Pacific - long in the Philippines and my former Director at the New York Botanical Garden, increased the value of the herbaria under his charge as research tools still more. He saved the valuable time of experts by "including the Library in the Herbarium." This "inclusion" needs explaining: He did not have botanical books removed from the library shelves & stuck in herbarium cases with plants. The library remained the library. But whenever the library possessed inexpensive duplicate books or pamphlets, these would be carefully dismembered and pages with descriptions of genera represented in the herbarium would then be pasted on the proper genus cover; and species, on proper species cover. If the labor force happened to be out of worthwhile work, (these were War depression gears with assigned free labor) the employees might type important analyses and descriptions for pasting on folders.

The busy scientist, looking through the herbarium, would so often be saved hours of hunting in the library for the desired information (or clue to information) as it was at his fingertips on the table with the specimen.

About fifteen years ago the Park herbarium had been so mauled and the historical collectors defamed by theft & pilfering of original voucher specimens then under the supervision of a "naturalist" that we no longer felt we should waste our time consulting it. With You, Mrs. Dixon & others now at the Park, such vandalism evidently has stopped; but by now Mrs. D., & I are busy trying to complete projects already begun that we are curtailing herb., work. Hence, while clearing out our cabinets, Mrs. D., & I found a few specimens we had reserved for the Park. Here they are.

Isa joins me in aloha to Mrs. Reeser & yourself living in your most interesting house in a most interesting environment.

Otto Degener



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

HAWAII FIELD RESEARCH CENTER
HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
HAWAII 96718

13 March 1979

Dear Seminar Participant:

We have been quite fortunate recently to have had at Volcanoes National Park an influx of outstanding scientists, from diverse specialities. This good fortune continues!! Dr. R. Barrett from the University of California Berkeley has agreed to give this month's seminar entitled: "Ecology and Management of Wild Pigs Around the World." Dr. Barrett completed his doctorate in 1971 on the feral hog of California, and is recognized as a world authority on management of feral pigs.

Because of the short time that Dr. Barrett will be at the park, we will have to move the seminar time to 3:00-4:00 PM on the 28th of March (Wednesday afternoon). The meeting place will be the lounge area of the Research Center Dormitory. Dr. Barrett has agreed to remain for a short time following his presentation to discuss feral pig management problems in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Research Center on the afternoon on March 28th.

Sincerely,

Charles van Riper III
University of Hawaii CPSU



The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220 8700

March 12, 1979

Mr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Otto,

You probably know that our beloved Dr. Robbins died of a massive cerebral hemorrhage last October. It was my privilege to have been associated with him for over 36 years. Indeed, we were working in his laboratory at The Rockefeller University until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 30th. We had planned to return to the lab Sunday morning, and when I called for him at his apartment (two blocks away from the lab) I found him on the floor, struggling to get up. We got him to the New York Hospital by ambulance, but he lapsed into a coma about noontime and never regained consciousness. He died on October 5th.

There is a void in our lives without him, but we hope to keep him alive by continuing the research programs he initiated and in which he was so actively interested. I must apologize for not sending you sooner a copy of the enclosed article which I wrote for the Garden Newsletter. The photograph is exceptionally good, and I thought you might like to have it. Dr. Robbins always spoke so highly of you and your delightful wife. You know how personally pleased he was when you were married! He spread the good news.

I have been asked to prepare an extensive biography for the Bulletin of The Torrey Botanical Club. Fred Kavanagh is working with me on this. Dr. David Goddard, who is writing the Memoir for the National Academy of Sciences has asked me for materials. In addition to summarizing Dr. Robbins scientific activities (over 250 publications), I want to include his influence on and relationships with other institutions and botanists. Very few people fully appreciate all he did for so many persons quietly behind the scenes. If you have any personal recollections of Dr. Robbins which you think might be of interest or significance, I would be pleased to have them.

I am also going through files, record books, reprints, etc. at The Rockefeller University and here at The Garden to decide what should go in our Archives. I can really get carried away reading about his activities, but I must restrain myself as, in addition to all of the above, I am still trying to continue several research projects.

March 12, 1979

Among other things, we are expanding our tissue culture program. In this connection, I would like to introduce you to my colleague, Dr. Ramachandran Nair, Acting Administrator of the Harding Research Laboratory. Dr. Nair, a natural products chemist, who has been with us for 15 years, has been supported by NIH funds for studies on physiologically active metabolites from plants. He is collaborating with me on the metabolites from fungi cultivated from plants [a most fascinating problem]. We would like to start tissue culture studies using medicinal plants. Why not some plants from Hawaii? Any suggestions from you would be appreciated. Dr. Nair will be attending the American Chemical Society-Japanese Chemical Society Joint Congress at the Hawaii Hilton, April 1-6, 1979. Would it be possible for him to visit with you sometime during that period? He and his wife, Valeria, will be staying at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, arriving March 30th.

I would be most grateful for any advice. With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Annette

ANNETTE HERVEY

ah/bw
Enc.

needs six weeks treatment before a decision whether to have some bone chipped off her shoulder or not. It would be delightful if the Nairs could visit us at our beach home in a U-Drive, but we can't tell whether we shall be at home or in an M.D. office. We do know a little about Haw., med. plants. Much improvement in health I fear is due more in faith in the kahuna than in the plants themselves IN MANY CASES: psychosomatic, we suppose. Our very good part-Hawaiian friend Mrs. Albert Lincoln is an expert; but the Haw., proverb "Do not expose the bones of your ancestors" keeps her rather silent. We are convinced the Hawaiians are of prehistoric Dravidian origin, intermixed with such Malay blood and a couple of drops of Oceanic Negro. It would be interesting & perhaps useful if the Nairs were to meet the Lincolns, and thrash this out.

Aloha,

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
OVERSIGHT

CECIL "CEC" HEFTTEL

1ST DISTRICT, HAWAII

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
322 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2728

DISTRICT OFFICE:
300 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD
ROOM 4104
P.O. Box 50143
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96850
(808) 546-8997

March 6, 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
P.O. Box 154
Volcano, HI 96785

Dear Otto:

As promised, I am sending you a copy of the response I have received on your case from the U.S. Postal Service. In view of recent reports of poor adhesive qualities of postage stamps, a new gum with greater adhesion was developed. A few drawbacks were discovered which the Postal Service is now trying to remedy.

The new adhesive is opaque and nearly invisible on the stamp. This has given rise to many customers believing there is no gum on the stamp or that the stamp requires extra moisture. Stamps only need a slight amount of moisture and too much moisture removes the adhesive qualities of the gum.

When it is apparent that the stamp has fallen off while the mail is en route, the Postal procedures provide for the delivery of the mail without additional charge. It has been suggested that if you should experience similar difficulties in the future, you should bring the envelope to the attention of your local postmaster for a refund of postage.

The inconvenience you experienced as a result of poor mail service is regrettable and I am hopeful that my efforts have been of some help in resolving your problem. If you have any further questions or problems you would like to bring to my attention, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

With best wishes and aloha,

Sincerely,



Cec Hefttel
Member of Congress

I don't remember complaining. I may have casually mentioned that CH: ammd mail sent him had been returned because stamps had chipped off in transit because of defective glue.
C.D.I.



OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

Washington, D.C. 20260

March 2, 1979

Honorable Cecil Heftel
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Heftel:

This is in response to your inquiry of February 14 on behalf of Dr. Otto Degener of Volcano, concerning poor adhesive on postage stamps.

In view of recent reports of poor adhesive qualities, a new gum with greater adhesion was developed. A few drawbacks, however, were discovered as the new gum caused curling of the paper, and some customers complained of an unpleasant taste.

Additives have been developed to eliminate the curling, and we are working closely with the Food and Drug Administration to overcome any taste unpleasantness while maintaining the purity as well as the non-allergenic qualities of the adhesives used on our products.

The new adhesive is opaque and nearly invisible on the stamp. This has given rise to many customers believing there is no gum on the stamp; however, I can assure you this is not the case.

Because of the opaque qualities of the gum, many customers apparently believe the stamp requires extra moisture. Stamps need only a slight amount of moisture, and too much will remove the adhesive qualities of the gum. We recommend slight moistening and a very light pressing onto the envelope for a few seconds to ensure greater adhesion.

- 2 -

When it is apparent that the stamp has fallen off while the mail is en route, our procedures provide for the delivery of the mail without additional charge. If Dr. Degener should experience similar difficulties in the future, he should bring the envelope to the attention of his local postmaster for a refund of postage.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

M. Bruce Downey
Senior Representative
Government Relations Department

Dr. William Hatheway

Not Car
Rentals

7615 East Mercer Way
Mercer Island, Wa 98040

March 6, 1979

Friday Laniolo Lodge

Friday & Sat

Dear Otto and Isa:

nights

Phone 93508611

Our plans have progressed this far. We will arrive at Hilo airport about 2:30 on Monday, March 19. We have reserved a rent-a-car, which we will pick up at the airport.

We have a reservation at the Hilo Bay Hotel, about which I know nothing except that it seems relatively inexpensive. Volcano House is full and has been for some time, months I believe. We can't seem to find out anything about the A-frames you mention, but we would prefer to move to one from Hilo if that could be worked out.

Merilyn just handed mead for "Uncle Billy's Hilo Bay Hotel," 87 Banyan Drive, Hilo 96720. Telephone 531-1994. "One nite prepayment required within 10 days of confirmation. 72 hours cancellation notice needed for refund."

We will telephone you soon after we check in, and of course if you have any special instructions, why not leave them at the hotel. There certainly is no reason to come to the airport. We will drive up to Volcano after we have talked on the telephone.

Best regards,

W. Mull 9677352

Bill

Namapani Camper Cabins

(grounds)
near Cabins

967-7937

Kuilima Hotel

293 8811

(Hatt Hotel)
Chairman

\$46-62 per day
Nothing till Wed. March 25

Isa's illness prevents our
meeting on Island of Hawaii
Monday, the nineteenth
~~Letter follows.~~

We have a reservation at the Hilo Bay Hotel, about
which I know nothing except that it seems relatively
luxurious. You know that I have been for
some time looking for a place to stay, but we
could not find one that we liked. You mention, but we
would have to move to one that we like if that could
be worked out.

Dr. Otto Degener
Wailuku, Oahu
Hawaii 96791
Bay Hotel, 87 Banyan Drive, Hilo 96720. Telephone
531-1934. One nice prepayment required within 10 days
of confirmation. 72 hours cancellation notice needed
for refund.

We will telephone you soon after we check in, and
of course if you have any special instructions, why
not leave them at the hotel. There certainly is no
reason to come to the airport. We will drive up to
Volcano after we have talked on the telephone.

Best regards,

Bill

Wm. W. W. 947353

Wm. W. W. 947353

Wm. W. W. 947353



Hale Pogeson

3/4/79

WAILUA, OAHU, HAWAII

Dear Mr. Long:

Many thanks for the xeroxes, which I am filing away. Names of genera in the Islands, IF anything important is disclosed about them in the letters we list on our filing cards. This prompts the following effusion:

Pres. Lincoln had five or six male relatives, all brothers. Whether they were the President's brothers or cousins is too personal a question for me to ask. Anyway, any genealogy would give the facts.

When Iaa & I worked on Canton Atoll (not named for the city but for the vessel shipwrecked there) on the Equator, we became firm friends of Albert & Dorothy Lincoln. He was in charge of CAA's elaborate distillation plant to gain potable water from the ocean for the Island population. He is now still with "CAA," changed in name to "Federal Aviation Administration, with headquarters in Diamond Head.

The five or six brothers Lincoln, according to Albert, shipped on the very same whaler and one of these married a Hawaiian chiefess on the Island of Hawaii. This chiefess was somehow related to King ~~Kamehameha~~ Kamehameha I who, in Capt. Cook's time, united all islands (except Kauai) by conquest under his rule. Albert, as you have guessed, is the product of a Lincoln & alii (or Haw. aristocrat).

Dorothy's father was a South Korean who had owned a village. He left, I guess, because of Japanese conquest & mistreatment, for the Island of Hawaii. He married a chiefess, also related to the Kamehameha line. Dorothy is brilliant, and owns the heiau, or temple, in Kohala, where Kamehameha was born. Avaricious politicians seem to be scheming to use an appropriation around \$1,000,000 or so to develop the place (with sticky fingers, she believes, intended to touch the appropriation). Being an idealist & a partial believer in the Hawaiian religion, D.L., won't sell this sacred area; but, instead, intends to donate it to the State on condition that certain requirements shall be met & a stalemate is present-a bit.

Dorothy, by the way, is a very serious malacologist, with a magnificent collection of shells thanks to the Lincoln's being stationed on various atolls & other islands in the Pacific. She is most provoking: She is an expert in Haw., lore & a high ranking kahuna in the good sense. Yet all this ancient history is locked in her mind to die with her because of the silly Haw., admonition that no one is to "expose the bones of the ancestors." Namely no one is to divulge lore to strangers or commoners, but only to proper initiates. We have so often scolded her that the Caucasians consider the Hawaiians stupid because they never divulged their great knowledge. She merely smiles gracefully, and says nothing. We do gather a few crumbs of ancient lore occasionally. By the way, she nor her ancestors have ever eaten the tasty opihī, a local limpet, because it is a minor family god. Nor will she enter certain heiaus that were forbidden to women.

Now here is where the Degeners & Longs are involved with the Lincolns: Isa & I have a series of about 30, black, loose leaf notebooks containing newspaper & other clippings concerning plants in the Haw. Islands. & Hawaiiana in general. The Lincoln's are going through these notebooks for possible lore unknown to them. They have finished with "Notebook M" and find "Notebook I" missing.

I mailed Black Notebook I a few years ago to New York as a sample so one of your staff would let me know whether the Garden wanted the series or not. In that case, of course, I would need a xerox copy of everything. I received the reply that the Garden did not want the notebooks. In spite of a SECOND request to have the notebook returned, I still fail to have gotten it. It comprises clippings mostly cleaned in the late '50s. The Lincolns need it, and so do Isa & I. We are working on the Lycopods with Dr. Löve in San Jose, and want to look through the notebook for pertinent references.

The Lincoln's drew my attention to J.F. Rock's references in one of my notebooks. Here are the pages. I MUST have the originals returned or xeroxes of every word. We need this information in toto as we have not yet written Rock's biography for our Flora Haw.

Cheer & Spring is just around the corner.

1961 1962 1963

Aloha,



Molly Pitcher, Monmouth, 1778

Dr. Otto Degener
Crozier Drive
Waiialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791

© USPS 1978

March 3, 1979

Dear Otto,

A very curt statement from Dr. L. B. Smith at the U.S. Nat/Herb. received today refuses pointblank to tear out your paper from his copies of PHYTOLOGIA. He says the folks he sends copies to want complete copies, not damaged ones. Sorry. As I said before, I think you will just have to order your copies direct from the printer in the future. Smith says he will xerox copies for you (at your expense, I assume) if you cannot do the same in Hawaii.

All best wishes,

Harold

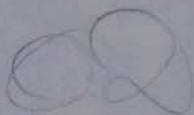
3/1/79
(move to N.Y.)

March 1, 1979

Dear Editor:

I just mailed you a letter concerning "wretches & vetches." Please add a postscript to it:

P.S. A 'phone call to the Big Island discloses that further exploration of the little-known slopes of Mauna Loa by botanist Warshauer and others has unearthed additional plants worthy of inclusion under the U.S., Federal Endangered Species Act. Moreover, the center of distribution for the endemic vetch is not the Kilauea Forest Reserve, but the Keauhou region adjoining it. We are happy to record that more than five plants survive of this beautiful creeper which all can admire when issued June 7 as a commemorative postage stamp.



Dupl. to Herbar. now to you.

NEW ILLUSTRATED FLORA OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

Family : 169c

Genus : *Vicia*

Species : *Menziesii*

LEGUMINOSAE
LEGUME FAMILY



VICIA MENZIESII Spreng.

(Original)
(Described on preceding page)

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
OVERSIGHT

CECIL "CEC" HEFTTEL
1ST DISTRICT, HAWAII

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
322 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2726

DISTRICT OFFICE:
300 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD
ROOM 4104
P.O. Box 50143
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96850
(808) 548-8997

February 27, 1979

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Otto and Isa:

Mahalo for your letter detailing the possible danger to Hawaii's native flora by the encroaching development in the islands. I especially appreciate all the information you provided me about the indigenous vegetation abounding in the islands.


I am also concerned about the preservation of the natural beauty that makes Hawaii an island paradise. In the past my environmental concerns have included an active role in passing legislation regarding the protection of endangered species. As you probably know, the Endangered Species Act was the first major law recognizing the existence of the ecological balance and the necessity of maintaining that delicate balance.

You can be assured that my intentions are to provide a workable environment for future generations; a world that will be beautiful, liveable and self-sufficient.

I greatly appreciate your concern. If you have any further comments or problems regarding this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes and aloha,

Sincerely,



Cec Heftel
Member of Congress

CH:amf

Dec. 3/28/77



Hale Orogeno

WAIALUA, OAHU, HAWAII

Feb. 27, 1979.

Dear Mrs. Kare;

Many thanks for your 2/22 letter & the certified check, which arrived a few days ago.

After "fighting" to try to preserve more of our endemic forest from slashing, printing another fascicle with Dr. Howe of San José and paying for it, we shall wait with the printing of our new Nat. Park paperback edition until we can afford to do so without starving. We are our own publishers;

Braun-Brumfield, Inc., of Ann Arbor merely being the printer.

We have the sheets of *Sl. How.* Book 7 properly arranged & collating at our Volcano home where we recently had two weeks of rainy weather & flooding. The bulk of each printing is safe in plastic bags, and about half an inch of pages unsafely lying on top. Many of these last pages, because of dampness,

have glued together. I guess it is the starch
(?) with which the stock has been
made glossy. So our good edition should
be less than 1,400. As good copies get
sold over the years, we or Trustees
probably will sell defective copies
containing some xerox sheets.

We just came across some material
in our newspaper clipping etc, note-
books that may be of interest to you
about J. E. Rock. I am replacing
the sheets in the folder with xeroxes
I really should keep the originals after all
I have again.

J. Otto Degener

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P. O. Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii 96785, U.S.A.

Feb. 26, 1979.

Dear Editor:

Who are the wretches who may exterminate the vetches in the Kilauea Forest Reserve by harvesting the hagu'u treefern logs in defiance of revised Regulation 8 (Also see Dept. Land & Natural Resources File No.: HA-5/12/2054)? Only five plants survive in the entire World. Watch for a colored picture of Vicia nanzisei on our newly ¹⁴issued US. postage stamp!

What wonderful Creations God, or Nature, hath wrought in a former Paradise of the Pacific for themselves, for us residents and for lucrative tourists to enjoy. We modern savages in the Sandwich Islands are not merely polluting them superficially; we are actually the pollutants with our huge biomass of human skin, flesh, bone and blood. The Hawaiian Islands are a test tube example showing us how overpopulation and ineffective birth control can exterminate a fascinating native biota. Two dreadful World Wars retarded the holocaust in the past. Will a Third in the near future save fascinating Creations for wise, humane use by chastised Man, or exterminate the few remaining by his cruel exploitation?

Aloha,

Feb. 26, 1979.

Dear Mr. Jackson:

I have your Feb. 20 letter, and am interested in learning of your coming Journal. Is the enclosed paper too far removed from your aims? It is unpublished and still in the local public eye. Road surveying has been done, but no construction as yet. +

The paper is our protest against contamination of our coral reef biologically, the death of crabs wholesale indicating that something is decidedly wrong, as you can see from our text. We ascribe it to increasing sewage contamination. If crabs are killed, it seems pretty certain to us that plants are killed as well though not as strikingly evident.

our protest thus far against still greater contamination has gone unheeded. The reason we believe, but cannot prove, is that realtors and the plantation intend to construct about 100 20-acre homes between beach and main road (Farrington Highway), all of course with cesspools as no sewage plant thus far has been planned.

Whether you use the ms., or not, I must have the colored photo returned - have no other nor the negative. I want no fee, but I should like reprints to mail to interested conservationists. Cut the cut be reproduced in color, or would that be impracticable.

Botanical articles can be so dry; even when it involves a beach.

Aloha,





Drs. Otto & Isa Degener

68-617 Crozier Drive

Waiialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

HAROLD N. MOLDENKE
305 PARKSIDE ROAD
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

Please substitute "Lyman Smith" for "Woodcock"

PHYTOLOGIA

Designed to expedite botanical publication

An international, cooperative botanical journal published since 1933

Social Security No. 135-30-5136

Volumes limited to 512 pages,
not calendar years; numbers
published upon demand.

Payment required in advance in
U. S. currency; no discounts; no
ordering through agents; foreign
subscriptions 50c extra.

Billed to

□ Drs. Otto & Isa Degener, □
68-617 Crozier Drive,
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Date February 22, 1979

└

└

For 3/4 page occupied by you in Vol. 41, no. 5, or 1 percent of total space in
the issue: 1 percent of \$672.85 cost of the issue \$ 6.73

postage, xeroxing, 58 tear sheets 3.43

10.16

recd. on deposit 15.00

credit \$ 4.84

I have sent you 2 copies of the issue
or 1 percent of the 200 copies left after
subscriptions were filled. I have asked Dr.
Wurdack to send you 42 tear sheets from his
copies and hope he will do so. Sorry I could not

~~payable to publisher and co-editor?~~ supply the full 100 myself.

DR. HAROLD N. MOLDENKE
303 Parkside Road
Plainfield, New Jersey 07060, U.S.A.

check enclosed

Final number of current volume
with index now in press.

Probably 2 vols. per year



Feb. 22, 1979

Hale Degener

WAILUA, OAHU, HAWAII

Dear Senator Inouye:

Mrs. Degener & I, botanists in the Hawaiian Islands since 1953 and 1922 respectively, want to let you know that we (and others) have been opposing the gradual extermination of our native plants and the native animals depending on them for food and shelter.

We want to alert you, and Senator Matsunaga as well, that the Dept. Land & Natural Resources, illegally according to our opinion, is flirting with "nixonism." The Dept., is permitting the chopping & bulldozing of 300 acres of irreplaceable treefern forest in the Kilauea Forest Reserve. The pieces of tree trunks are then used for the raising of orchids, all introduced kinds, for the flower trade. These same orchids are raised in many tropical countries, where treeferns don't exist, on coconut or other fibers successfully.

So why must we destroy any International Treasure for OUR florists? They should have our University Exp. Station give them proper advice.

The illegal action, as I see it and as Chairman Susumu Ono evidently can reluctantly explain to you, goes contrary to "Information Copy, File No.: HA-5/12/1054 180-Day Exp. Date: 11/8/78." On page 1, "Subzone: General Use" may allow this vandalism, although the NEW REGULATION 4, establishing the Protective Subzone and other subzones, was signed by the Governor on May 25, 1978. The filing date for this CDDA was May 12, 1978. The BLNR must take action on a CDDA within 180 days. However, the BLNR chose to allow the applicant additional time for completion of the EIS process. More than two-thirds of the 300 acres is within the Protective Subzone where logging is not a permitted use. The BLNR was informed prior to Feb. 9 that three plant species on the Federal Register list for endangered status occur on the site.

What is so lolo about this especially is that the area on which destruction is already going on is the center of occurrence of the LAST FIVE vines known in the entire World of the Hawaiian vetch (Vicia mensiesii) especially listed by the Federal Government as rare & endangered. In fact, it is such an International Treasure of which we are proud that our next US postage stamp is showing it!!!!

As things are going now, the Civilized World will think we are still ax-happy Savages in the Savage Islands. Perhaps they are right.

Sandwich We are taking the liberty of mailing xeroxes of articles, letters & reports to leading scientific institutions of the World. The letters that are not urgent are waiting for the vetch stamps to be pasted on the envelopes. Perhaps they can all chip in and buy the area for international policing as we evidently are not capable of doing it ourselves. We need more Joans of Aie like Mrs. Bornhorst among our public servants within the State and fewer Nixons. Should she run for elective office, she has the Degener Family Votes.

Aloha,

Hale Degener

Herbarium Universitatis
Jagellonicae Cracoviensis
KRA
Institute of Botany
ul. Lubicz 46
31-512 Kraków, Poland

Kraków, 21.2.1979.

Dr. Otto Degener
Volcano, Hawaii 96785
U. S. A.

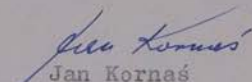
Dear Dr. Degener,

Thank you very much for the parcel with 21 Hawaiian plants which you have sent so kindly to this herbarium. I very much appreciate this generous gift. Your specimens will be kept safely in our collection and they will be available for future taxonomic study.

I should like to thank you also for your previous parcels with plant specimens and publications which arrived to this Institute.

With kind regards

very sincerely Yours



Jan Kornaś

Professor of Botany

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

ARBEITSGRUPPE SPEZIELLE BOTANIK

Dr. W. Bennert
RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM
ARBEITSGRUPPE SPEZIELLE BOTANIK
POSTFACH 10 21 48 - 4630 BOCHUM 1

Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu
Hawaii, 96791
U S A

4630 BOCHUM 1
UNIVERSITÄTSSTRASSE 150
POSTFACH 10 21 48
TELEFON (02 34) 7 00 - 44 91
TELEX 08 25 860
DEN 21. Februar 1979
AZ.

Sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Degener,

haben Sie vielen Dank für Ihr Paket mit Herbarmaterial von Hawaii-Pflanzen, das im Januar gut erhalten bei uns ankam. Wir haben uns über diese Kostbarkeiten für das hiesige Herbar sehr gefreut.

Für mich persönlich waren die beiden Farnbelege (auch eine Toppingia) von großem Interesse; ich wäre auch in Zukunft gerade an Pteridophyten sehr interessiert.

Ihren letzten Brief vom 8.2.1979 habe ich gerade erhalten. Ich werde sofort, wenn wir von unserer 3-wöchigen Exkursion nach Teneriffa, die morgen beginnen soll, zurückgekehrt sind, an die angegebenen Adressen Briefe schreiben und versuchen, klar zu machen, daß auch für den ausländischen Botaniker die Erhaltung letzter Refugien für die hawaiianische Flora und Vegetation ein echtes Anliegen darstellt. Ich werde mich bemühen, auch Kollegen sowohl von der hiesigen als auch von anderen Universitäten zu mobilisieren, um eine größere Anzahl von Protestbriefen zustande zu bringen.

Mit den besten Grüßen

W. Bennert

Hunt

ОТДЕЛ ВЫСШИХ РАСТЕНИЙ
БОТАНИЧЕСКИЙ ИНСТИТУТ им. В. Л. КОМАРОВА
АКАДЕМИИ НАУК СССР
197022 Ленинград П-22, ул. проф. Попова 2

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER PLANTS,
V. L. KOMAROV BOTANICAL INSTITUTE,
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE U. S. S. R.
197022 Prof. Popov Street 2, Leningrad, P-22

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
P.O.Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii, U.S.A.

Feb. 21, 1979

Dear Drs. Otto & Isa Degener:

On behalf of Acad. A.L.Takhtajan and myself let me
thank you very much for a nice set of Hawaiian plants kindly
sent by you to our Herbarium. What plants of our country are
you interested in?

With kind regards

Sincerely yours
Dr. V.I.Grubov
Head Curator of the
Herbarium.

V. Grubov

7615 East Mercer Way
Mercer Island, WA 98040

February 20, 1979

Dear Otto and Isa:

This note will let you know our present travel plans. Merilyn, who handles these things for us through a very reliable travel agent who is a close personal friend of hers, tells me that she had made reservations to arrive in Hilo at about 2:30 pm on Monday, March 19th. We will rent a car and drive to the Park. I'm not sure where Volcano is, so we'll plan to phone from Hilo, probably shortly after 3 pm, hoping that this won't interfere with your afternoon nap. We will stay in the islands, presumably on the big island, although I think Merilyn would like to go to Maui and we may do that, until Sunday afternoon, March 25, when we will catch a plane connecting at Honolulu to one going to San Francisco. We will arrive in Seattle on Monday, March 26, in time I hope for classes I am scheduled to meet that day.

Please let me know if these plans conflict in any way with your own. Obviously, it would be silly to go to Volcano if you expect to be in Mokuleia. And of course we understand that what you do will depend on what your doctor allows.

We will have two principal objectives: to see you and to see as many birds as we can. Merilyn is a bit of a bird freak, with a fair-sized life list that she started in Costa Rica and has developed here. She still teaches bird classes in the Arboretum twice a year for amateurs -- regular University "Continuing Education" courses every Saturday morning in the winters and springs complete with a high-powered telescope that enables her to distinguish a female mallard from a blue-winged teal a half a mile away. If it's not too expensive, we will bring the telescope along to see what we can near the ocean. But of course we will want to see apapane and iiwis and elepaio and whatever else still lives on Hawaii and is at all accessible. I'll see what I can in the way of plants along the way, but since I've already done it once, I don't see too much point in doing it again. I tend to get depressed seeing favorite collecting places disappear. I must say, however, that I was very impressed with the state of

preservation of Makaleha Valley, on Oahu, when I came through a few years ago.

I'm sending this letter both to Volcano and Moku, since I'm not quite sure where you will be when it reaches the Islands.

All the best,

Bill

LETTER-GRAM

FROM

DR. OTTO DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waiialua, HI 96791

DATE

02/20/79

SUBJECT

RE: RETURN POLICY

MESSAGE:

We have recently ordered books from you, please send us a copy of your return policy.

Thank-you for your cooperation.

Sold outright with out returns. Other methods involve too much book keeping, checking copies if shop worn, unwrapping & wrapping or general red tape for an action like we do with the paper books without profit. Perhaps the wholesalers; Mid Pacific Book

TO

Distributors, Ltd.,
HONOLULU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

874 DILLINGHAM BLVD

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

Sincerely, 150 Haili Street
Hilo, are equipped

SIGNATURE

KATKAYLENE MASON

ORIGINATOR: DO NOT WRITE BELOW HEAVY LINE

REPLY

to sell differently. They buy from me outright.

O.D.

DATE

SIGNATURE

RETURN THIS COPY TO SENDER

THE BOTANICAL MUSEUM
UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

GOTHERSGADE 130 . DK-1123 COPENHAGEN . DENMARK

Telephone 01-11 17 44

18 February
hl 5,8-4.7

Dr. Otto Degener
P.O. Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Degener,

Thank you very much for the 13 specimens of Phanerogams and
Sphagnum from Hawaii, which you have been so kind to send us as a gift.

Yours sincerely,

Bent Fredskild
Bent Fredskild
Keeper

- 2.) Regarding our flower trade, the orchids (none of which are native) are cultivated like wise for the cut-flower trade elsewhere in the World where treefern logs are not found nor imported to be used for potting material. Instead of wrecking native, endemic hapu'u jungles of permanent value for the Tourist Trade, why not be akamai and learn from foreign expert competitors how to use expendible fiber such as coconut husk sennit. This problem would be an excellent project for our University Experiment Station to solve. In my opinion, if the present decision to chop-chop-chop more treefern forest for orchids in A FOREST RESERVE had been the decision of a judge, I would consider it either due to incompetence so prevalent here or an evil miscarriage of justice.
- 3.) Military income for the Islands is assured, but the amount depends greatly upon international commitments or on fears engendered by jingoists like the late William Randolph Hearst and his "Yellow Peril" of World War II and before.
- 4.) Pure and Applied Science in the Islands is Big Business with grants-in-aid consisting annually of millions from Federal Bureaus, this and Mainland States and private foundations. Moreover, many foreign scientists with cash likewise come here because of the Islands' natural wonders. I know, as I have guided them around; the last, a moss specialist accompanied by his wife, hailed from Nagoya University. The quickest way to dry this income up is the chop-chop-chop-bulldozer-herbicide- syndrome encouraged by new playthings of destruction perfected by mechanical engineers and chemists.
- 5.) With aviation in the fore, Tourism is our safest and most lucrative industry for all time provided the Hawaiian Islands remain distinctly Hawaiian and do not degenerate into a second, somewhat despised Miami, and the countryside not look like the one the tourist had so willingly left at home. Our present neglect and even active destruction of our once distinctive surroundings spells disaster.

Being mainly of German ancestry as the 1966 book explains, we have entrés to West Berlin colleagues (Mrs. Degener was staff member of the Bot. Garden & Bot. Museum there until our marriage in 1953). We have already suggested the Museum stage an exhibit to coincide with the German tourist drive this March for visiting Hawaii, Nei. They should exhibit Haw., ferns and other Hawaiian plants from their collections, plants that have become as extinct here as the dodo. We have contacted also the Völkerkunde (Folk or Anthropology) Museum in Berlin to exhibit Hawaiian artifacts. This is the Museum that owns the magnificent lava rock sculpture of a Spanish grandee dug up on Oahu. It verifies mele or chants regarding the coming of the Spaniards to the Islands Centuries before Captain Cook rediscovered them in 1778. That he discovered them is a hoax believed by most English-speaking peoples. We are suggesting that Hawaiian hotels built in a Hawaiian setting (like the Volcano House) be selected for tourists in preference to those located in artificial gardens that had been bulldozed of their native flora and replaced by (Mainland carpetbagger?) landscape architects with foreign cultigens that ever German tourist has seen nearer home. Such plants are oleander from Greece, plumeria & cacti from Mexico, "tuliptree" and date palm from Africa, bougainvillea & wiliwili (not the Haw., kind) from Brazil, etc., etc. No one seems to tour isolated Madagascar now that the French and Negroes have just about exterminated their fascinating lemurs and native plants. Are we not good lolo imitators, or are we short-sighted, avaricious Shylocks? I don't know.

If enough Germans elect to visit the Islands, it might be expedient for Mr. Schuster of Hilo at Haw. Visitors Bureau expense, to have the extension of Wright Road resurfaced so buses can safely bring the visitors to admire the remaining unspoiled hapu'u treefern forest before its permanent destruction. Kodak of Hawaii would profit with all the clicking of cameras.

In conclusion, it just occurred to me that a paradox exists. Idi Amin and probably the political leaders of Iran, China, Russia and the United States will be the most horribly efficient Conservationists after they have embroiled the human animal in World War III. The dogfight seems to be just around the corner. After the wholesale slaughter, surviving plants & animals can joyfully continue relatively peacefully in their fascinating struggles for existence and evolutionary development. We should realize that Man is no longer simply the cause of pollution. He is actually the pollutant, considering that his biomass of skin, flesh, bone & blood if piled up would amount to a couple of cubic miles.

Life may not be pleasant, but it IS fascinating. It is a pity, however, that our youngsters as the increased crime rate shows, are learning their oldsters in the highest places can flirt with equivocations promoting near-anarchy - if they can "watergate" and can tear up Thin Wan and Kilauea Forest Reserve treaties, laws, regulations or what have you, why can't youngsters follow their leadership? Thus far it pays to be tricky. Isn't it so Dicky?

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

Feb. 12, 1979.

Dear Mr. Ono:

Many thanks for your encouraging Jan. 4 letter GPO-12, HA-1054. We read yesterday's newspaper article of the debacle. It is too bad other Board members have not profited by being graduates like us two of the University in "Green Manoa Valley."

Please read about Mrs. Degener in Men & Women of Hawaii, 1966 edition. Mrs. D., is a professional botanist with a doctorate employed at the Bot. Garden & Museum until we married in 1953. I was at the museum studying Haw., ferns that presumably had been exterminated in the Islands. With this background, we last week advised the Berlin Bot. Garden & Museum and the famed Berlin Volkerkunde (Folk Museum) Museum to prepare exhibits about the Haw. Islands. Whether they will do so or not, is another thing. The former has a good collection of Haw., plants; the latter the original 16th Century lava rock idol dug up on Oahu of a Spanish grandee. That Capt. Cook is the first White man to discover the Islands is a hoax we locals have been fed by early missionary and other English speaking (not Spanish) writers.

Perhaps you studied German under Mrs. Hoermann at the U.: Wir haben auch rekommandiert dass die Deutschen Touristen die Hotels (so wie das Volcano House in National Park) besuchen die in Mitten von endemischen Pflanzen & Tieren, ~~sind~~ and to avoid those that have bulldozed their former true Hawaiian surroundings to make them colorful with pretty but inane ~~with~~ introduced "rubbish" plants that every German tourist knows from having visited the Mediterranean Coast, Canary Islands, Cuba, etc.. Such boring junk, mostly planted by carpetbagger landscape "experts" from the Mainland, consist of "Tulip trees" & date palms from Africa, oleander from Greece, cacti ~~from Mexico~~ & plumeria from Mexico, willow (not from Haw., Nei) from every place else, Bougainvillea from Brasil, Hibiscus (not from Haw) from China, etc., etc. To fly half way around the World to see a second Miami at Waikiki and a counterfeit Haw., landscape hacked & bulldozed ~~away~~ is a waste of money/ The Mediterranean coast is about just as good to visit and far cheaper.

Please contact Mr. Schuster, our State Road Planner, to properly macadanize at Visitor's Bureau Expense the extension of Wright Road to the magnificent Hapu'u Forest in the Ki. For. Reserve so that tourist busses can go & park there before this International Treasure is gone for ever. We have given essentially the same general advice to numerous leading bot. Gardens & Museums in Germany & Austria (I am an Austro-German nisel) and elsewhere. These mostly have greatly prized Haw. plants not mostly extinct & not even in the Bishop Museum because collected before the latter's founding.

Of course we Degeners as HUMANS deplore that lack of birth control is the prime factor of destruction. We realize that Idi Amin, and the political leader of us savages in China, Iran, Russia & the US are really the very best Conservationists. Amin is slaughtering off his surplus population & making more room for African plants & animals to survive; while the others will clean up the rest of the World. We are pretty much convinced World War III is just about around the corner and, after having travelled extensively around the World (a month in Russia), we as a Nation may have great trouble to survive. Please don't make the mistake of thinking that we humans are polluting the World; that is Ancient History. We humans are actually the pollutant with a biomass of several cubic miles of skin, flesh, bone & blood. Mrs. D., & I, thank God, are sincere atheists and believe Nature (as deified I suppose by many as "god") will tend to repair some of the damage. The coming of WW III will probably interrupt much further destruction of the Hapu'u Grove & similar native treasures of the World. As humans we abhor this wholesale grief, but as thinking machines we fear it is very close to us.

So many have the childish idea that a big tree is more important than a fern or herb. I wonder if they think a lava rock is worth more than a diamond.

By the way, we xeroxed our letter of Dec. 26 to you about a hundred times (without mention of your name) and distributed it with the Haw. Tribune-Herald article & an adv., for our books to 50 to a 100 bot. centers of the World by this time. My paperback sells wholesale for \$3.00 and the Flora Haw., of course for more.

May God have Mercy on the Souls of those who exterminate his Creations; ohana will probably influence the Hawaiians, while conscience for opposing extermination will ed individuals like the Degeners & the Halls.

Aloha,



National Museum of Natural History · Smithsonian Institution

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560 · TEL. 202-

10 February 1979

Dr. and Mrs. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Drs. Degener:

I will be in Hawaii this coming week on my way to P.N.G. I would like to come and see you during that time. Allow me to suggest either the 14 (Wednesday) or 16 (Friday). I would come over in the morning and my visit would be shbrt so that I will not impose on you. I hope that you will be able to get this letter before I arrive on the 13th but I will try to call you after I arrive.

With best regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

S. H. Sohmer

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Wailua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.

4/9/79
Dear Dr. Theobald:

Did you see the Garden
mail the U.C. Smith
Hiji volume to me
Volcano, HI, address. We
are here at Waialeale.
Nothing has come. I am
waiting the copy or I am
waiting for some acquaintance
as to precise date of publi-
cation. In new taxo-
nomy combinations.
We like to cite exact date
for the archivists at
Braun and Huntington
Pittsburgh. We would
mail Kawai post
office cancellation
version of it to both
places.

I guess you see
the volume & read our
April Fool's Day
article which is
not fooling

Alto Bo,
C.D.

Moku

Feb. 4, 1979.

Dear Jim:

Our neighbor, on west side of our Moku-
lia property, against my wishes,
about a year ago, moved a massive wooden
shed about 18 feet long x 9 ft. high about
a foot from our common property
line. It stands about 5 feet from the
neighbor's home.

I complained to our Halema Fire
Station chief. The man came & explained
he had no jurisdiction to have the fire-
traps removed.

We are building a new lanai to our
home & the building inspector came &
passed it. At the time I drew his attention
to the shed violation. Nothing has hap-
pened thus far - almost a month has
elapsed.

The recently prevalent South wind &
neighborhood youngsters who seem to
have been playing with matches dur-
ing our absence in Volcano in our

tangle of banana plants & pears on
if presumable gas, for a lawnmower &
paint kept in the shed shed should
ignite, flames would hit just our neigh-
bor's home & easily spread to ours. As
you are selling us fire insurance
I am warning you of the extra
risk. I expect you not to raise my
rates but to conduct the proper
authority to follow regulations. I do
not to complain about my can-
gered neighbor - complaints
can always act as a boomerang.
But, really, I am upset as in-
surance can't replace our scientific
accumulations.

Alto to the claw,

OTD





Dr. Otto Degener

P.O. Box 154

Volcano, Hawaii

96785 U.S.A.

1. Febr. 1979

Dear Dr. Degener

Thank you very much
for the consignment of
25 planerogams from
Hawaii sent to us as
a gift. - With the best
wishes

Yours sincerely

Dr. Bertel Hansen
Curator of Planerogams
Botanisk Museum
Copenhagen, Denmark

Kubenhavns Universitets Botaniske Have:
Mesquites trifolius L. Blakelid.
Gennem et år inde 541; 10. bind af
Phon. Danica udgivet 1777.



1979
LIEBE FREUNDE WELTUM !
Expeditionen sind spannend,
wenn sie abenteuerlich sind,
und sie sind um so ERGIEBIGER,
je weniger Abenteuer sie mit
sich bringen. Unser Jahr 1979
war ein ERGIEBIGES Jahr! Die
Flaschenpost wird daher wohl et-
was kurzatmig und nüchtern
geraten. Wir berichten von einem

Jahr der Freiheit, in dem wir ungehemmt dem Laster der Arbeit gefrönt haben. In diesem Jahr erschien: "Pflanzen zwischen Meer und Land" und "Plantas entre mar y tierra" - eine nach Art meines alten Erstlings ("Der Berg blüht") gestaltete karibische Strandflora mit kleinen Geschichten und Zeichnungen von mir und Aquarellen von Yvonne Minder (Rapperswil). Auch wurde nach fünf Jahren heuer mein 'opusculum magnum', die "Vegetationsökologie der Tropen" fertig. Die Korrekturfahnen sind schon geschwenkt - sie kommt Anfang 1980 bei Eugen Ulmer (Stuttgart) ans Licht der kritischen Fachwelt. Für die Ausstellung "El Territorio Amazonas" hatte ich die Abteilungen "Tafelberge" - "Flussgabelungen" - und "Tropische Schwarzwasser" in Texten und Wandbildern aufzubauen. (Bei der feierlichen Einweihung wollte Lotte dem uns befreundeten Museumsdirektor die Hand schütteln, landete dabei jedoch unvermutet in der Hand des Präsidenten von Venezuela Luis Herrera-Campins.) Für die Urbanisation Palma Sola (Staat Carabobo) wurden Reforestationsprobleme gewälzt. Auch die Vortragstätigkeit ging weiter: "Indonesien, Erinnerung und Reflexion"; "Präkolumbianische Kunst, Beobachtung und Hypothese" u.a.m. Zu dem allen kam die Arbeit an dem Euch längst bekannten, unbekannten und sogenannten "Z"-buch, das mit seiner Manuskriptseite 300 wohl das erste Drittel hinter sich haben dürfte. Da man Bretter nicht streicheln soll ehe sie gehobelt sind, muss ich leider immer noch Sinn und Hintersinn dieser Arbeit für mich behalten.

So wie ich, hatte auch Lotte heuer "frei": Ich als Emeritus sowieso, sie als Geniesserin des wohl verdienten "Año sabatico". Im November gab sie die letzten Vorlesungen, mit den Bibliotheksgesprächen hielt sie bis März 1979 durch. Das Sabatjahr widmete sie ihren germanistischen Problemen: Hier und in München wurden Studien für das in Arbeit befindliche Buch "Der Einfluss der Romantik auf die moderne deutsche Literatur" gemacht. Dazu kam ein Essay über Thomas Mann, das z. Zt. im 'Anuario de Letras' der Universidad Central de Venezuela im Druck ist. Schliesslich war ihr Hauptvortrag für den Latein-Amerikanischen Germanistenkongress in Cordoba (Argentinien) zu gestalten. Er ist jetzt dort im Druck. - All das, trotzdem ihr für einen Grossteil des Jah-

res die Haushaltshilfe fehlte und sie als leitende "Freimaurerin" auch heuer leise vor sich hinbaute: Atelier-Anbau an ^{Peters} ~~sein~~ Häuschen, Fotolabor für Peter, Umgestaltung der Waschküche und Anbau eines 'Katalogzimmers' für meine überbordende Separatabibliothek.

Freilich war ihre Europareise ausser dem wissenschaftlichen Umblick noch mit Rückblenden in alte Erlebnis- und Freundschaftsgärten verbunden. Was ist schon Zeit? Sie war, als der Lindenduft des Hofgartens in München 30 Tropenjahre versinken liess, nur noch eine imponderable Dimension! Auch gab es Wiedersehen mit Harro, Ekkehard und Angeli, Klemp, Mägdefrau, Motekat, Schleucher, Stigler, Stocker, Wirth, wobei leider andere noch ersehnte Kontakte, wie die mit Grossfamilie Albrecht, Maenns (deren Tochter Sabine uns dafür besuchte), Lamprecht, Schors und Truckenbrodt in den Maschen unerfüllbarer Vorsätze hängen blieben. Lotte traf sich in München erst mit Evi und Werner Eisenbeiss, dann mit Christine und ihren Ruben, mit denen sie schöne und interessante Tage bei Jürgens Verwandten Gierke (Tante Christiane und Onkel Max) am Starnberger See erlebte. Und sie genoss die kurze Bleibe in Saarbrücken mit ihrer Mutter und der Grossfamilie Eisenbeiss. Mir passte die Abwesenheit Lottes (55 Tage und 9 Stunden in Europa, 8 Tage und vier Stunden in Argentinien) überhaupt nicht. - jedwedes Talent zum Strohwitwer scheint mir abzugehen!

Peter hat sein erstes Designer-Studium-Jahr trotz dramatischer Zwischenfälle gut absolviert. Er hat sich mit einem seiner Lehrer, einem temperamentvollen und genialen Künstler (Heinz Rose) angefreundet und freut sich, wenn er nicht gerade über den Zeitdruck stöhnt - an seiner von Monat zu Monat immer interessanteren Arbeit am Zeichentisch und hinter der Mattscheibe.

Vom 20. Jänner bis 15. Feber war Ekkehard hier und hat in Yutajé (Terr. Amazonas) Unterwasserfilme gedreht. Auch über Wasser war "er" leistungsfähig; Seine Angela bescherte mir mit Merrit Vareschi am 22.2. ein nagelneues Enkelmädchen.

Lebhaft war Besuch und Gegenbesuch mit Ursula und Siegfried in Valencia. Beide Eltern stehen tüchtig im Leben, das ihnen die wirtschaftlichen Eskapaden der venezolanischen Autoindustrie und allerhand Krisenhaftes in Valencia selber abverlangt. Dabei bleibt Siegfried unerschütterlich effektiv, während Ursula im charmanten und menschlichen Bereich ebenso unerschütterlich weitermacht. Tochter Esmeralda (5) macht ihrem exquisiten Namen Ehre und der unbändige Sohn "Agú" (Nikolaus, 2) wird vor lauter Temperament nach den laufenden obligaten Unfällen ärztlich immer wieder zusammengeknäht. Er erobert alle Herzen im (bei ihm allerdings wörtlich zunehmenden) Sturm.

Von Christine und Jürgen - ebenso wie von ihren Söhnen Ingo (10) und Benno (8) ist nur Gutes zu berichten. Jürgen hat jetzt ein grösseres und ihm auf den Leib geschriebenes (bitte nicht wörtlich nehmen!) Arbeitsfeld im Grossbuchhandel. Christine hat ihr Firmenluftschiff IVI (I-diomias VI-vos)

glücklich durch das erste Jahr gesteuert. Dabei flog sie zweimal nach Europa und in die Staaten. Beide versuchten trotz Stress und Erfolg, trotz Engagement und Zeitdruck die Menschen zu bleiben, die wir so gern haben. Die beiden Enkel bewähren sich in ihrer neuen Schule und auf der Karate-Matte als tapfere Zinnsoldaten.

Vor lauter Arbeit (tirolerisch: Vor lauter Händ voller Prätzen) konnten wir in diesem Jahr kaum einladen, ^{aber} erinnern uns dafür umso dankbarer an Festliches bei: Bergold, Berkheimer, Bönnemann, Dorn, Götz, Günther, Gunz, Heinz, Jaffe, Köffler, Maekelt, Molnar, Petersen, Riehl, Ries, Rötger, Scanzoni, Volkenborn, Westerholt und Wotawa (alle in Caracas); sowie Schreier (in Valencia und Tovar) und Schwarzkopf (in Chachopo). - Auch als Gast auf dem Fest des Goethe-Instituts auf der historischen Hacienda Caraballeda bei Macuto, bei dem Peter sich als Photoreporter bewährte, erinnern wir unvergessliche Stunden mit den Direktoren und Bot~~sch~~aftern von ganz Lateinamerika (inklusive Mexiko, Panama, Cuba, etc.etc.)

Die Begegnung mit dem deutschen Architekten Henning Lautz brachte uns eine neue Freundschaft.

Für Künftiges steht ein Reisewagen VW-Bus (Im Umtausch gegen meinen Dodge-Dart) im Stall. Er ist mit Schreibtisch und Schlafstellen ausgestattet und verlockt für 1980, die "ERGIEBIGE" Leistungswelt zu hause wieder einmal auf abenteuerlicher Landfahrrerei zu vergessen. (Auf einer Probefahrt nach Guyagua (Hinter Cata, K~~o~~stenkordillere) hat er sich, dank Jürgens technischer Nothilfe, bereits bewährt!)

Die einzige richtige Erholung des Jahres: Eine Reise nach der Karibikinsel ARUBA, wo wir alle Fünfe grad sein liessen und im aquamarinblauen Wasser badeten, während in gebührendem Abstand der "Haifisch vom Dienst" vorbeistrich und die Steelband vom Palmstrohbungalow her die unwahrscheinlichste Musik der Welt aufs Meer hinaus schickte.

Vom 7. September bis 15 Oktober war unser Neffe Martin Eisenbeiss aus Saarbrücken bei uns. Wir machten mit ihm allerhand kleine Reisen, auch eine grössere in die Anden. Es ist für uns immer wieder faszinierend, wie verschieden immer wieder andere Menschen diese unsere Wahlheimat Venezuela sehen und deuten. Martin jedenfalls war überall hundert-prozentig dabei und uns allen ein lieber Gast. -- Jetzt - am Ende des Jahres, holte ich aus der Hacienda von Schreiers ausser einer Horde von Zecken (die mich eben jetzt noch zum Verzweifeln jucken) auch noch einen neuen Hausgenossen: Er heisst GURU, ist aber kein hindischer Fakir, überhaupt keiner der in Mode kommenden Seelenkneiter, sondern "nur" ein Hundsviech: Ein "Boxweiler" (Laut Pedigree beglaubigte Kreuzung von Boxer und Rottweiler). Es ist derselbe, der auf dem Briefkopf die heuer zum Medizinpfflaschenformat geschrumpfte Flaschenpost rapportiert...

WIR GRÜSSEN EUCH ALLE !

Andreas Schreier



The
VOLCANO ART CENTER

Post Office Box 318, Volcano, Hawaii, 96785

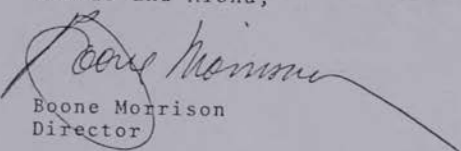
Dear Dr. Degener, 179

Enclosed you will find a "Blanket Waiver" form for your signature and return to us. This is a requirement which we ask of all exhibiting artists.

While we do ask that you file a signed form with us whenever your work is in the Gallery, we do want you to know that we take every possible caution against damage or loss of your work. A sophisticated intrusion and fire alarm system gives 24 hour security and our newly expanded and improved store-room will make storage more flexible and damage-free.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for sharing your work in our Gallery, for it is the fine work we are able to present that is at the core of our mutual success.

Mahalo and Aloha,


Boone Morrison
Director

A non-profit locus for the visual and performing arts at the
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.



ADELAIDE
 10 SEP 1979
 1341000



Drs Otto & Isa Degener,
 P.O. Box 164,
 V O L C A N O ,
 HAWAII 96785
 United States of America

COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

Dr J.P. Jessop,
 Chief Botanist,
 State Herbarium of South Australia,
 Botanic Gardens, North Terrace,
 ADELAIDE, POSTCODE 5000
 South Australia

M. FOR
 SECONDS.
 ATTACHED,
 MAIL LETTERS.

THIS

H 3536/1979

State Herbarium of South Australia, Botanic Gardens,
North Terrace, ADELAIDE, South Australia 5000

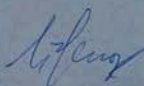
31st January, 1979

Drs Otto & Isa Degener,
P.O. Box 164,
VOLCANO, Hawaii 96785,
United States of America

Dear Drs Degener,

Many thanks for the 11 phanerogams from Hawaii which arrived safely on
23rd January. We are, indeed, very grateful to you for sending these valuable
specimens to add to our collections.

Yours sincerely,



J. P. Jessop,
Chief Botanist,

for Director.

NATURHISTORISCHES MUSEUM WIEN

BOTANISCHE ABTEILUNG

BURGRING 7, POSTFACH 417, A - WIEN
ÖSTERREICH AUSTRIA

Journal Nr: / 197

Wien, 26.1.1979

Empfänger / addressee:

Prof. O. Degener
Waialua, Oahu

Hawaii

USA

Bitte adressieren Sie unpersönlich: An den Direktor
Please address to: The Director

Wir senden Ihnen / We are sending you

☐

Wir haben empfangen / We have received

☒

durch / by:

Post / mail

☒

Persönliche Übernahme

☐

in / in:

Paket / parcel

☐

Päckchen / small parcel

☐

des unten angeführte Material / the material indicated below:

Entlehnung / loan

☐

Rückgestellte Entlehnung / return of loan

☐

Teiltrücksendung / return of loan in part

☐

Tausch / exchange

☐

Geschenk / gift

☒

Verzeichnis des Materials / Description of specimens

Gesamtzahl der Belege / Total number of sheets / specimens:

Vielen Dank für

55 Bogen, Phanerogamen aus Hawaii.

NATURHISTORISCHES MUSEUM
BOTANISCHE ABTEILUNG
BURGRING 7 - POSTFACH 417
A-1014 WIEN

! Für Ihre Ablage / for your records !

Sendung übernommen / specimens received:

Datum / date:

Unterschrift / signature:

BOTANISK MUSEUM
UNIVERSITETET I OSLO

BOTANICAL MUSEUM
UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

Oslo 23 January 19 79

Correspondence and specimens should be addressed to:
Botanical Museum, University of Oslo
Trondheimsveien 23 B
N-OSLO 5, Norway

TO Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Walalua, Oahu
H A W A I I
U. S. A. 96791

have been received from

The specimens mentioned below ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ by mail in 1 packages as

EXCHANGE ☐

GIFT ☐

LOAN ☐

RETURN OF LOAN ☐

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIMENS

- 41 Nos. vascular plants from Hawaii
1 No. Podocarpus sp. from New Zealand
1 " Ceratodon purpureus from Hawaii
43 herbarium specimens
+ some reprints and copies of letters.

The material arrived safely some time ago. Please excuse that other herbarium work and other duties had to be given priority.

Please annotate every sheet (sample) by a separate label.
~~A copy of any publication based on this material would be appreciated.~~

Specimens received in good order. **!**
~~To be returned within~~ months

Sincerely yours,

(Date)

~~Please sign and return the coloured form.~~

Anders Danielsen
Anders Danielsen
Head Curator
(Signature)

Dear Ian and Otto;

[1/23/79]

It was good to hear from you today. I am very neglectful in my corresponding. Jeanne is the faithful one keeping me out of trouble with my friends by writing when I should. We think of you often as we get the urge to visit Hawaii. As Jeanne wrote at Christmas, the belly Protestant Garden trip was cancelled due to the lack of subscribers. We are trying to get another group interested. If this one falls through Jeanne + I will have to make it ourselves. I know the trouble you must have had with the lawyers. I have been having a little trouble with one myself. October 25 I was in an auto ~~crash~~ crash that totally wrecked my car. The outcome is far from settled. All my injuries amounted to one six stitch in the back and a dislocated first finger. I was very lucky. Of course I lost a new car. I would be pleased to look over your will for you but at no-charge. I would rather do it as a friend. So in the next week or so I'll give it some real scrutiny and offer my advice as best I can. I hope you both are well and enjoying the climate which sounds

BERNARD SHAW

*"Be like the sun and the meadows,
which are not in the least concerned
about the coming winter."*



ideal at 75°. We get much colder in Sarasota.

Best wishes from both of us.

*Alison
Lee.*

CURRENT® REFLECTIONS™

Current®

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80941

©CURRENT, INC.

FIRST FOLD HERE

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

Mr I C Hedge

Royal Botanic Garden

Edinburgh EH3 5LR

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN
ANY ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT MAY BE
SURCHARGED OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

The 'APSLEY' Air Letter

A Dickinson Robinson Group Product

Form approved by the Post Office (United Kingdom) No. 1.

SECOND FOLD HERE

BY AIRMAIL
AIR LETTER
PAR AVION
AEROGRAMME



Dr O Degener

PO Box 154

Volcano

HAWAII

96785 USA



Royal Botanic Garden
Edinburgh EH3 5LR
Telephone 031-552 7171

23 January 1979

Dr O Degener
PO Box 154
Volcano
HAWAII
96785 USA

Dear Dr Degener

I acknowledge the arrival of your parcel containing c 45
Hawaiian duplicates.

The specimens arrived in good order and will be a useful
addition to the collection here.

With many thanks for your gift and all good wishes to you
both for 1979.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Lamond

Pf. I C Hedge
Curator of the Herbarium

Missouri
Botanical
Garden



January 20, 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waiialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

Many thanks indeed for your letter. I am glad to know things are being sorted out and if there is anything whatever that I can do to help just let me know.

With all good wishes,

Cordially,

Peter H. Raven
Director

PHR:fg

Office of the Director

2345 Tower Grove Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63110
314 772 7600



"Volcano Views"

by Virginia Dicks

Contributions to this column can be made by calling Virginia at 767-7331 or by writing to P.O. Box 116, Volcano, HI, 96785.



VOLCANO—Members and friends of the Volcano Art Center gathered at the Art Center last Friday evening as guests of all those who keep the Center running. As it was nicely said by Marsha Anne Morrison, co-director of the Art Center, "It was to be a party to renew old friendships and express our appreciation for all your support." More than 100 members came to the party and I am sure all who attended would agree that it was an evening that gave one a warm felling, one of friends and acquaintances just enjoying each other's company as small groups gathered here and there throughout the galleries to talk "story."

There were Christmas goodies to nibble on and a tree that somehow got trimmed during the evening. It turned out to be quite beautiful. Ellen Scandalis played Christmas music throughout the evening on a recorder (an early ancestor of the flute) and late blended her sweet mellow tones with the piano. . . .

The artists that contribute their works to the Art Center seem to have really outdone themselves for the holiday season, for never has there been such a varied selection of pretty, practical and useful items in the ceramic, porcelain and pottery realm, plus pretty woods and lots of prints and paintings.

The December issue of Natural History, which is the publication of the American Museum of Natural History, has an outstanding cover in beautiful color of a real native of Hawaii—the Hawaiian Tree Snail. In addition to the cover, there is a center double page spread, plus three other pages of this endemic snail, showing it in all its many hued beautiful cylindrical cones. All these pictures enhance an article "The Onslaught against Hawaiian Tree Snails on Oahu" written by Alan D. Hart who was formerly with the Bishop Museum. The beautiful photography (with front page credits) is all by Bill Mull, photographer par excellence when it comes to the world of "little creepy crawly things." The magazine had just arrived that day and Mae Mull was just beaming with pride as she showed the pictures. She exclaimed that it was the best possible Christmas present for husband Bill to have such recognition by such an illustrious publication.

These interesting tree snails are now found only on Oahu in the higher elevations of the Koolau and Waianae mountain ranges. At one time they were known to be on the Big Island but none have been sighted in recent years. The Hawaiian name is Kahuli and the snail dates back to the pre-Cook era in the Islands. "They are living jewels, gems of the forest" says Bill Mull. They evolved here in the Islands and are found no other place. They don't lay eggs, they hatch their young live, a unique group biologically. The Hawaiians used to collect the snails, drown them and clean them and then string the shells into colorful leis. The colors are so beautiful and the shells are just one to one-and-one-half inches in size. Leis made of these shells can be seen in our museums. The Tree Snails are definitely one of Hawaii's endangered species now. . . .

got it yet

Our holidays were wonderful with Lindy

see
ed.
"id"
to
ash
ile.
yore
was
sweet
not

January 16, 1979

Dear Otto and Isa,

Many thanks for your greetings, letter and bounty of enclosures before year's end. your postcard pastup was a delightful surprise for me had missed the "cover girl" item. We're just tickled that you wrote to DLNR on the happy logging raising fresh issues in the inimitable Degenerian style. your paints on the Degener EIS and survey are stunning! I wonder if your letter has held up the Final EIS since it was supposed to have been released in early January, but we not got it yet.

Our holidays were wonderful with Lindy



KOKI'S 'ULA'ULA

TAEO CAES - HONOLULU

and Barb's home. Barb's doing fine, even jogging every day. Linda, urges us to visit her again in SF this spring, so were thinking about it. She still has the M.A. on the back burner.

In between heavy rain periods, we had two weeks of marvelous weather - even going to the Mauna Kea summit to experience the snow, ice, 0° chill factor and frozen-over Waiace. Now it's heavy rain and wind again. Yesterday the power was off for (12) hours.

We look forward to some good KMC meals with you soon. All good wishes to you and Isa's mother for a new year and comfortable New Year's - with lanais yet!
Aloha, Mae and Bill

ON HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SERVICE

By air mail
Par avion



DR OTTO DEGENER.
P.O. Box 154,
VOLCANO,
HAWAII, 96785,
U.S.A.

68-617 Crozier Dr.
Waialua, HI 96791

THE HERBARIUM
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS
KEW RICHMOND
SURREY TW9 3AE
ENGLAND

YOUR REF: Parcel 24-5-78

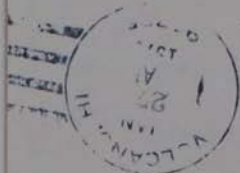
16-1-79

OUR REF: H245179

We acknowledge receipt of your

Parcel

A further communication will
follow in due course.



J. Rosvall for
DIRECTOR

BOTANISCHER GARTEN
UND
BOTANISCHES MUSEUM
BERLIN-DAHLEM

Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8
D-1 Berlin 33
Germany

den 15.1.1979

Es wird gebeten, alle Antworten und Sendungen zu adressieren:
"An die Direktion des Botanischen Gartens und Museums"

Dr. Otto Degener
P.O.Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii 96785
U.S.A.

Sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Degener !

Heute kam ein weiteres Paket mit Herbarmaterial von Ihnen
in Berlin an, es enthielt 27 No. Dr. Butzin hat das Material
bereits gesichtet und läßt herzlichen Dank für diese
Übersendung sagen.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Brigitte Schilling
(Techn. Herbar-Assistentin)