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Interview of Harold J. Coolidge  
by Gyongyver Kitty Beuchert, Office Administrator of the Boone and Crockett Club  
June 27, 1978

Tape 1, Side A

KB: Mr. Coolidge, the first thing I'd like to cover is some biographical data about you. Could you tell me about your birthdate and your birthplace?

HC: I was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in our primary house at the corner of Ruge and Beacon Street and my family had the habit in the summertime of spending the summers at a farm we had at Beverley, Mass. Then during the month of August and sometimes part of July we would go up to Squam Lake where we have an island camp in Long Island, which is in the middle of this White Mountain Lake. It's about 10 miles long and eight miles wide. The exposure to living part of my summers almost all my life up in the islands of New Hampshire (and it's a relatively wild island; there are no camps on it except the ones we've built more recently belonging to my two sons and to my two nephews) gave me an opportunity to become familiar with the local wildlife, such as loons and otters and squirrels and muskrats and other animals that were found in the area. I had an opportunity to do a certain amount of fishing.

I was always keen about hunting and my cousin Joe Coolidge, who was a professional forester, arranged to take me out of school at Milton Academy for a two week hunting trip in Maine, where I had an opportunity to learn about white tail deer and shot my first deer. When I went back to school, having missed two weeks, my grades were greatly improved by having had this side trip. The result was that the following year, when the hunting season came in the middle of October, Mr. Field, the headmaster at Milton, was generous enough to let me go again. On my second hunting trip I got a much bigger buck. When I came back I did much better in my schoolwork, so I think this could be recommended as a form of therapy for certain specialized people.

KB: Would you give the name of your parents for the record?
HC: My father was Harold Jefferson Coolidge. We're direct descendants of Thomas Jefferson, whose granddaughter married my great-grandfather Joseph Coolidge. My mother's name was Edith Lawrence and she comes from a long line of Lawrences (Amos Lawrence, Emery Appleton Lawrence) and they were a family that was engaged particularly in connection with mills and also associated with Peabodys and Gardners in Far Eastern trade.

KB: Could you give a few details about your own personal family?

HC: My first wife, Helen Isaacs, and I had three children and there were two boys and one girl. My older son, Nicholas Coolidge, has done well in school and college and Harvard Law School and then worked with Sullivan Cromwell in New York and later became a vice president of Kidder-Peabody and Company and is now practicing as a banker consultant on his own. He was married to Sarah Gordon, whose father was head of Kidder-Peabody and Company and he has two children, my granddaughter Nicole and my grandson Peter Jefferson Coolidge, and they both are living in Hanover, New Hampshire, with their mother. My son is divorced and married again, Elicia Hassocs, who is of Czech origin and has been on the White House staff for more than 12 years in charge of Presidential messages. My second son, Thomas Richards Coolidge, did extremely well at Bratton. He then did two years of Army service as an officer with troops in Germany and I forgot to mention that his brother Nick did it two years before going to Harvard Law School with the Marines in Japan and Honolulu. Tommy did well at Harvard Law School and followed that by joining the firm of Karver Legend and Company on Wall Street and then about two years ago he switched to become a senior vice-president of the large international paper and pulp firm called Parsons and Whittimore that operates in over 40 different countries and has his headquarters also in New York. He has three children, two lovely daughters and a young son, and they spend their time when not in school at a farm in western Connecticut and also on an island adjoining our island at Squam Lake during the month of August. My daughter Belle got her schooling at Foxcroft and following that she had a year studying art in Italy, living in Florence, and then returned to go into interior decorating but got more interested in real estate and has in recent years been devoting her time and effort to selling real estate in connection with two or three leading firms in Washington, D.C. She's unmarried.
KB: Thank you. Could you explain which schools you attended? Your educational background?

HC: In elementary days I went to a school called Longwadav School and after that had my main schooling at Milton Academy. I had a problem with my digestion, which was such that the doctors thought that I should stay in school near Boston so that I could be taking specialized treatment for intestinal difficulties. My brother Larry, who's a year younger than me, went to Gratton School, and most of our family had previously gone to Gratton. But I particularly enjoyed being at Milton Academy. My housemaster used to let me climb down the fire escape at 5:00 in the morning and run a line of traps for muskrats up in Dunhill Swamp nearby and I would in the afternoons skin out the muskrats that I had caught and send them to St. Louis to the fur market, where I used to get a good price for them as a small supplementary dividend.

I spent my summers at our farm in Beverly and later on spent a summer working in a shipyard in Essex. Both my brother and I passed the admission exams for Harvard and my father said that he would like to take us on a winter trip to Europe but would not feel that he could go with us in the summertime. So we decided to take a year out before going to college and we actually did go to college. We went for half a year to the University of Arizona, which was a small Western college in Tucson at that time, where they had the habit of shaving the heads of the freshman class and painting them green and yellow. We had an Arizona cheer which went "Oski wowow, whiskey wee wee, oli mukia, University Arizona, wow." And another cheer that went "Ah men, ah women, ah hell." Then after the term, which we greatly enjoyed in Arizona, we motored in a stripped-down Ford to California, visited friends, and then joined our family and went to Europe and had a motor trip starting at Naples and going up through northern Italy and the southern part of France and then the chateau country and then Holland and England, returning to Beverly in the spring.

The following year I was a freshman at Harvard at I had an opportunity to make a summer trip to Alaska. My father said that he would give each of his sons $1,000 on their 21st birthday that could be spent in summer travel and we could go wherever we wanted to and do anything we could do with that amount of money, which seemed like a good deal in those days. I arranged to go to Alaska and spend a month with a classmate of mine named Charlie Day, living with an old hermit named Alan Hasselborg, who had a small cabin on Admiralty Island, which is the island where Charles Sheldon spent his honeymoon and which was a beautiful and wonderfully wild island with a great many bears on it. The
Biological Survey in Washington wanted specimens from Admiralty so we had a special mission to procure bear skins, skulls and skeletons for the Biological Survey. The following month I joined another college mate named Osgood Field and we spent a month in the Kenai Peninsula hunting mountain sheep and black bear and the very fine Kenai moose. I was lucky to get a splendid trophy head, which is now mounted in our camp in New Hampshire.

After returning to college I had the pleasure one evening of meeting Dr. Richard Strong, who had recently returned from Hamilton Rice's expedition up the Amazon, and Dr. Strong and his associate Dr. George Chaddock from Harvard Medical School informed me that they were planning the following year to take an expedition to west Africa and then cross central Africa and were going to make a study of diseases of the natives and also take along some scientists to make collections of plants and animals. My mouth watered at this because it had always been a childhood dream of mine to cross Africa and because of my experience in Alaska and the success of my collecting efforts there and the fact that my family were willing to pay for my basic travel expenses, I was invited to go on the Harvard African expedition as an assistant zoologist. This was the greatest adventure in my life. Having originally thought I might go into the diplomatic service, I changed my mind and got converted completely to science on the basis of spending almost a year with a group of six scientists, specialists in different fields and working first in Liberia and then in the Belgian Congo. On this expedition, one of my assignments was to collect a large mountain gorilla for the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard and to shoot a couple of elephants for their intestinal parasites and these and other collections are now in the MCZ. On my way home from that expedition, I came down with malaria in Nairobi but got over this in time to attend the graduation of my Harvard class of 1927, having previously completed my requirement for a B.S. degree in three years.

Shortly after that, I made arrangements to spend a year at Cambridge University in England studying zoology and anatomy and the basic subjects that I needed for a scientific career. I had the good fortune to run into Ted and Kermit Roosevelt, who were looking for someone to organize the Indochina division of an expedition that they were taking out for the Field Museum, being financed by William V. Kelly for the benefit of the museum in Chicago. I was offered a salary as well as all the expenses for the expedition and sufficient funding to take with me three other zoologists to help in making the first collections ever to be made of mammals and birds in northwest Tongking and northern Laos. I made arrangements while studying in England at Cambridge University to buy the supplies that we needed for the
Indochina expedition and dispatch them on their way. We subsequently caught up with them almost a year later when the expedition actually got out into the field.

KB: On this expedition, did Teddy Roosevelt accompany you?

HC: The plan for the expedition was that Ted and Kermit Roosevelt would go to China after the giant panda, for which they procured a group for the field museum in Chicago and then Ted would come down to Indochina and join forces with me and collect some big game groups for the Field Museum in Chicago. After we had spent several months in northwest Tongking and northern Laos in the mountain plateau in the interior and collected 5,000 birds and 3,000 mammals and other specimens, we had gone in over this very rugged, little-explored country on small China ponies, and established a series of camps not far from the China border. We came out over 1,000 miles by canoe and raft down a tributary of the Mekong River and then the main Mekong River and stopped at Luang Prabang, the capitol of Laos, and then later went on the Vienchan. On that expedition the arrangement was that we were to meet Ted Roosevelt near Saigon. We had as one of our scientists Russell Hendy, a very skillful mammalogist who sadly contracted cerebral malaria and died in a hospital in Vienchan. Both Dr. Ralph Wheeler and I came down with a serious case of vascillary dysentery and lost a great deal of weight and managed however to pull ourselves through but were more like skeletons out of a concentration camp when we came out than what we should have been. We nevertheless got our collections safely down the river and joined forces with Ted and his wife Eleanor Roosevelt in Saigon. He had already completed his shooting trip with DeFoss in the southern part of Indochina and we came back on a freighter together and brought with us the first family of breeding gibbons ever brought to Europe and America, some bears and monkeys, as well as our collections. The scientific collections were deposited in the Field Museum in Chicago and the animals in the Washington Zoo, where the gibbon subsequently bred and had the first baby every born in Europe or America to a gibbon family.

KB: As a result of this expedition, you collaborated in writing a book titled Three Kingdoms of Indochina, isn't that true?
HC: That expedition had been described in a popular book Ted and I wrote called *Three Kingdoms of Indochina*, which was published in 1931 by Thomas Y. Crowell and Company and went through two editions. Following the Indochina expedition I was given an appointment as assistant curator of mammals at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology and worked with the mammal collections cataloging new material, cleaning skeletons and doing general curatorial housekeeping work and also making an effort to obtain whenever possible the specimens from species that were not represented in our collection.

This was quite an exciting game and it was one where I was able to make a real contribution on my wedding trip in 1931, at which time I visited Japan and then Peking and then went to Europe via the Transiberian railroad and worked for several months measuring chimpanzee skills in museums from Sweden, Germany, Belgium and France as well as England and the Netherlands and finally returned to my appointment at the MCZ at Harvard.

KB: Can you relate a little bit about your wartime experience?

HC: That comes a little bit later. There's one more expedition. The Harvard Museum assignment also included being asked to head the Harvard Film Service at the time of the Teerson-Tinerv celebration and also to participate in a course on the evolution of animal sociology, which was organized by William Morton Wheeler, in which Dr. Hooten and I were asked to give some lectures on the social life of primates. In 1937 I organized the Asiatic primate expedition and in all our bags and boxes we had the initials A.P.E. This expedition was to make the first comprehensive study in depth of gibbons in their natural environment in southeast Asia. I was fortunate to have Dr. Ray Carpenter of Columbia and Art Shultz of Johns Hopkins, Sherwood Washburn, then associated with Harvard, plus Griswald from Harvard Museum, along with me. We spent several months in northern Siam making studies of films and collections of gibbons and then moved over to British North Borneo, where further primate studies were carried out as well as some general collecting.

I unfortunately came down with a staphylococcus septicemia which kept me in the hospital a good deal of the time. But Carpenter carried on his studies of the orangutan social life in Sumatra while Washburn and Shultz and Griswald worked up on the Kinahatanga River and made some highly valuable collections which were subsequently written up in extensive scientific publications after we returned. My septicemia kept me extremely anemic and in very poor condition.
until I was able to get to France by boat and then a French army doctor treated me with a drug called uvasol, which was the first use of a sulfa drug which had recently been introduced. This was a specific against the infection that I had.

Tape 1, Side B

HC: It was like a miracle, shedding a suit of armor that I'd worn for more than two months because it restored my blood condition and killed off the infection which had prevented me from completing the rest of the expedition as originally planned.

When I returned to the States, I again became active in the museum program and this was only interrupted when the war clouds gathered. At the time of Pearl Harbor I was looking for an assignment where my expedition experience in Indochina and my African experience might be useful and decided to join the Office of the Coordinator of Information, which later became the OSS. There I had my war service which included among other things organizing a special staff to handle emergency rescue equipment to be used to save downed aviators that ditched at sea. We had many interesting projects. One of them was involved with developing a chemical shark repellant to protect people in the water from being attacked by sharks. We also worked on various types of solar kits and permuted kits for converting salt water into fresh for life raft survivors. We interviewed many of the shipwrecked sailors whose ships had been sunk and who spent long periods of time under vary arduous conditions to find out ways of improving rescue equipment and we revised many of the survival manuals put out by different branches of the government service. Perhaps the most effective thing that was done was developing a special type of signaling mirror that could enable the holder of the mirror to flash a beam of sunlight to an airplane up to 12 miles away. One report indicated that this signalling mirror had been responsible for saving more than 1,000 lives during the war.

After this assignment, which was based in Washington, I was sent to London and worked with one of the OSS branches, which took me over to the continent and then to Belgium and later to Italy. I came home at Christmas time in 1945 and unfortunately there were top secret orders that had to be brought to Washington with great speed and [I] ended in Walter Reed Hospital with a massive case of hepatitis, which put me on continental limits and prevented my going on
a Far Eastern assignment where I was best qualified to be useful in the field.

While I had no more than one battle star in my overseas ribbons, nevertheless I was pleased to have been awarded the Legion of Merit for my work in developing various aspects of the special survival unit, which I headed directly under the Joint Chiefs of Staff in cooperation with the Department of the Navy.

KB: Mr. Coolidge, you were the Executive Director of the Pacific Science Board with the National Academy of Sciences and you were known as Mr. Science for Southeast Asia. Why were you given this title and could you tell a little about this work?

HC: I'd be very glad to do so. It happens that right after the war there was an absolute collapse of American scientific research in the Pacific area. This was of such concern to the National Research Council in Washington that they asked me to help them organize a Pacific Science Conference in 1946 to which they invited top scientists that were involved in various aspects of Pacific research from many parts of the United States and the Hawaiian Islands. At this conference, the whole plan for future Pacific research was gone over and developed to such a degree that it became clearly evident that strong measures should be taken to establish in the Academy a high level board of scientists in different disciplines to oversee the development of scientific projects, especially ones that were urgently needed in the Pacific area. This included a great deal of research in the islands of Micronesia, which the Navy had just taken over by conquest from Japan. I helped to organize the conference and subsequently was invited to be the paid Director General of this new Pacific Science Board. We received early financial report from the Office of Naval Research.

Our first project was to recruit and carefully select some 42 scientists in the field of anthropology and geography to send out to the islands of Micronesia to make studies that would be of value to the Navy administration that had the responsibility of running the islands at this time. This project, known as SEMA, coordinated investigation of Micronesian anthropology and was made up of teams from about eight of our leading universities and each scientist that went out on one of these teams had as his mission not only a specific assignment (if he was a linguist it was in connection with writing a dictionary of the language or if he was a social anthropologist he had to first learn the language and then study the local problems of administration) and all this information was transmitted to the governing authorities.
and also appeared later in final reports that were published in appropriate scientific journals.

Much of this work was of such interest that the Board was asked to organize further research in the field of insect studies and formed a high level committee called the ICCP (the Invertebrate Consultants Committee for the Pacific) that was asked to make studies of problems of introduced insects that were damaging food crops in the islands and also the giant African snail, which was devastating a lot of the local vegetable gardens. The snails had been introduced by the Japanese. The way that we were able to assist was by sending selected biological control scientists to Africa and other places where these snails are found in search of natural enemies and then introducing these natural enemies into the islands with the hope of establishing a biological control. Happily, we found a gonaxcés snail in Kenya which turned out to be an effective control when introduced onto one of the most populated snail islands in the Marinas.

In connection with our snail program, one of our researchers was Dr. F.X. Williams and one night a local policeman in an area adjoining a graveyard in Mambosa saw a little white light bobbing around in the graveyard. This intrigued him so he climbed over the wall and to his amazement he found a man on hands and knees with a flashlight following a snail. He put his hand on Williams' collar and said "You'd better come along with me because we have a place for people like you." And Williams said, "Don't interrupt me now. This is the wrong season. It's hard to find these. You see I'm following that little snail which feeds on other bigger snails." He said, "You help me now." So this fellow got down on his knees and they worked together and brought this gonaxcés back.

Well, another time some of these snails, which are both carnivorous and cannibalistic, were brought by one of our collectors into the cabin that he was living in and then he had to go off on a two day trip to try and find some more. To his sorrow, when he came home, he found that half his snails had disappeared or either been called because they're both carnivorous and cannibalistic and the snails running loose and getting hungry had eaten each other. So after that he learned that whenever he caught one of these snails he had to wrap them up in little twists of newspaper and put them in isolated cells so they couldn't get at each other to create this kind of mayhem. The zoologists who were doing this work were quite annoyed when somebody nicknamed them "My Traveling Snailsmen."

We also had an amusing time with our insect controls because we found that there are certain wasps that could be found in Zanzibar and some other places that preyed on some of the Prontispa and other insects that attack palm trees in islands of the Trus territory and we arranged with the airline to have some wasps transported to Guam and given VIP
treatment. That means Very Important Parasite. Well, as a result of this, when those planes came with other VIP's on board, the planes had to be sprayed with insecticide, but we were fortunate that our VIP's were allowed to go through without being sprayed because that would have killed them and spoiled the whole deal.

KB: What led you to become interested in and subsequently become a member of the Boone and Crockett Club?

HC: I became interested in the Boone and Crockett Club because I was interested in hunting and big game shooting and I particularly was involved with Charles Sheldon in connection with my bear collecting expedition on Admiralty Island for the Bureau of Biological Survey. And Dr. John Phillips, who is one of my closest friends, was a keen Boone and Crockettter. Between them they told me as soon as I had accomplished the hunting requirements that they would put me down for membership. I had no difficulty in being elected although I was only one year out of college.

KB: That would have meant you were about 22 or 23?

HC: Yes. I was in the class of '27 at Harvard and I was elected in '28.

KB: That's very young for the average new member. Do you remember what year you joined?

HC: Well that would've been the year -- 1928 -- and it's shown in that book too.

KB: Do you remember who proposed you?

HC: Yes. I mentioned that. I am quite confident that Charles Sheldon (Bill Sheldon's father) proposed me and that John Phillips was my seconder.

KB: I'd like to go a little bit into some of the people you knew because you're one of the few members left who
remember some of our very early members and the actual founders of the Club. So first, if you don't mind, I'd like to
start out with Theodore Roosevelt.

HC: I never had an opportunity to know President Roosevelt but I did meet him on a number of public occasions and
was very impressed with the purposes for which he established the Boone and Crockett Club.

KB: Now you've marked several people that you said you knew fairly well. What I will do is just mention their names
and maybe you can give some details about them.

HC: Childs Frick.

KB: Childs Frick was a strong supporter of the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection. He was
greatly interested in what we were doing and anonymously contributed almost every year to our operating budget. He
also was a loyal member of the Boone and Crockett Club and in the early days made a notable expedition among others
to Abyssinia as it was known as that time to collect a splendid group of mountain yalla for the Carnegie Museum in
Pittsburgh.

KB: DeForest Grant.

HC: DeForest Grant was keenly interested in my work in the field of international conservation and was a most loyal
brother to Madison. He supported him in all the actions that he recommended for Boone and Crockett Club objectives
and after Madison's death he undertook to carry the torch for many of Madison's ideas, some of which were quite
extreme and did not have universal support. I refer particularly to some of his attitudes towards race.

KB: Madison Grant.
HC: One of the things that impressed me about Madison was his early grasp of the important situation that has to be faced to try and save the last remnants of African game animals as presented to all of us by Major John Burnham when he returned from African and wrote his book called *Scouting on Two Continents*. Madison was really the person we should credit most with getting the American Committee in Wildlife Protection launched by the Boone and Crockett Club and he gave us a full measure of support as we gradually developed from a small group into a larger advisory committee.

KB: Dr. Fairfield Osborn.

HC: One of our strong supporters was Fairfield Osborn, who did to my mind a brilliant job of running the New York Zoological Society for many years and he arranged to have funding from the NYZS used to support many projects for conservation in Africa at a time when few other organization would spend any money abroad at all.

KB: Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn.

HC: That's the father. Professor Osborn, one of our most famous paleontologists, who wrote a magnum opus on the Provosidea, always took an interest in the international aspects of conservation. While he was tremendously busy with his own research, nevertheless I had several occasions to chat with him about conservation matters and found him most supportive and friendly.

KB: Kermit Roosevelt.

HC: To my mind, the personality for a period of at least 20 years that was most closely involved with the Boone and Crockett Club was my friend Kermit Roosevelt. He seemed to take our problems to bed with him at night and then he would write frequent letters about various ways in which he thought the Club could be useful. He entertained anyone coming through New York who might be interested or of interest in the field of conservation and particularly in...
problems of African conservation. Through his steamship company, direction, and the boards he was on, he was very
helpful in arranging for scientists going into the field to have free transportation on his boats and also transportation for
much of their equipment, which meant a great saving of money as far as they were concerned. I never knew Kermit to
say a cross word. He was one of the most sweet-tempered individuals that I have ever met. He not only had a beguiling
manner, but he was an extremely effective man in the field as witnessed by his experience in younger days with his father
on his South American expedition and also his field trips to Asia for the Field Museum when he and Ted and Suydam
Cutting went after the ovis dalli for the Field Museum. The constant joke that was told when they came home that Mr.
Cutting's aunt said that she heard that the Roosevelts had gone to Asia to collect two polinagris.

KB: Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

HC: Ted Roosevelt, whom I got to know quite well, was not only a wonderful friend, but also a good writer and an able
administrator. I had the pleasure of visiting him when he was governor of Puerto Rico and then he arranged for me to go
out to Asia to head the Indochina division of what was known as the "Kelly Roosevelt's Expedition" for the Field
Museum. At the termination of that expedition, he was to spend a month collecting big game animals for groups in the
Field Museum in the southern part of what was then called Anam with a local hunter named DeForest. He collected
these groups but did not have the assistance of the zoologist Russell Hendy, who had been with me in the northern part
of Indochina because Hendy had died of cerebral malaria at Vienchan. Upon our return from the Indochina expedition,
Ted and I collaborated in a book called Three Kingdoms of Indochina, which we were pleased went through at least two
editions and was listed by William Lyons Phelps as one of the best travel books of the year.

KB: Frederick C. Walcott.

HC: Senator Walcott carried a great deal of weight in Congress when it came to conservation legislation. He also had
various forms of wildlife at his farm in Connecticut and took a keen interest in the kinds of things that the Boone and
Crockett Club was supporting.
KB: The next person is Thomas Barber.

HC: Tom Barber was the director of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard and also an Agassiz professor there. He was not only a large person physically but also a true giant in his profession and a specialist on reptiles. He had a great deal to do with building up the collections of the Harvard Museum and spent his winters at Soledad Gardens in Cuba and also extensive collecting expeditions to the Far East and to Africa. He visited the parks and reserves in South Africa for the American Committee and wrote a report which was subsequently published by the American Committee, giving us the first outsider authoritative account of what was going on at that time in these parks as far as protection of endangered species was concerned. He also was most interested in the work of the American Committee and gave me a great deal of freedom to devote my time and effort as I wished to furthering the kind of conservation work in various countries all over the world.

KB: Elton Clark.

HC: Elton Clark was a good Boone and Crockett hunter who lived not far from Boston and he used to invite me to test out a rifle on a private range that he had on his property. He had also spent some time with the hermit Allen Hasselborg in Alaska and arranged for me to be able to go up and spend a month with Hasselborg when I was a freshman in college. He was particularly keen about trying to establish sensible game laws and control the illegal poaching of Alaskan game.

KB: James L. Clark.

HC: Jimmy Clark, who succeeded Carl Akeley in charge of taxidermy at the American Museum of Natural History, was a master sculptor when it came to mounting trophies and big game animals for the public exhibits of the American Museum and several other museums.
KB: The next person I'd like to ask you about is Francis T. Colby.

HC: Colonel Colby was a very keen Boone and Crockett and big game hunter. He had interesting official governmental assignments in Africa during the war and then went to Alaska and collected the magnificent Kodiak bears for the group, which now stand in the North American Hall of the American Museum of Natural History. He lived in a beautiful place in Hamilton, Massachusetts, and took a keen interest in local conservation activities in close association with John Phillips and other conservationists in the Essex County area.

KB: W. Redmond Cross.

HC: Redmond Cross had a magnificent presence about him that always reminded me of a British judge only he didn't happen to wear the decorative wig that they wear. He spoke in a very deep and forceful voice and seemed to take command of any situation in which he was involved. After Madison died, he played an important role in getting the New York Zoological Society pulled together and in dealing with various problems, particularly relating to finances.

KB: He was the Club treasurer for 27 years.

HC: Perhaps I should also say that he took extremely good care of the Boone and Crockett Club funds and made it particularly difficult for those of us who had to extract money from the Club for various worthy purposes.

KB: Philip K. Crowe.

HC: Phil Crowe was one of my very great friends who foresaw the value of informing government leaders in foreign countries about the need for conservation and he was an extremely keen sportsmen, not only a hunter but also a fisherman, and has left us a splendid legacy of books describing his various trips. He was a distinguished ambassador in several countries, including Salta and South Africa and finally in Denmark. He had a serious heart difficulty but this did
not slow him down from being extremely active and the results of his fieldwork I think will have an outstanding range
influence on many of the third world countries which he visited on his travels often with his wife.

KB: Charles P. Curtis.

HC: Charlie Curtis was a well-known Boston lawyer who made a trip to Angola and collected a fine specimen of the
giant sable antelope and took an active interest in the Boone and Crockett Club, although he did not attend many of the
dinners.

KB: Brooke Dolan.

HC: Brooke Dolan of Philadelphia was a keen sportsman and made the trip with Ilia Tolstoy to Tibet during the war.
He sadly died in Chuang King in China and before that he had made a couple of expeditions to Asia and collected
valuable specimens for the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.

KB: Alfred Ely.

HC: Alfred Ely was one of the kindest people that I have known and extremely loyal to the Boone and Crockett Club. I
bracket him in my mind with Kermit Roosevelt as one of the people most responsible for maintaining the fabric of the
Club against all the various pressures to which it was submitted from time to time.

KB: Prentiss N. Gray.

HC: Prentiss Gray, whom I came to know through my friends the Tiacs of Schroeder and Company in London. He
headed Schroeder's bank office in New York and made a valuable trip to Angola where he collected a splendid specimen
of the giant sable antelope, which is now in the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard. He took a keen interest in
the activities of the Boone and Crockett Club and it was a great sadness to all of us that he was killed in a boat accident in Florida while visiting Ruley Carpenter. His son Sherman Gray, however, is carrying out in his father's tradition.

KB: Joseph C. Grew.

HC: Few people realize that Joe Grew was a courageous sportsman in the early days and one of his most dramatic trips was his encounter with a tiger in the caves of northern Korea. He also was interested in the Boone and Crockett Club although his diplomatic service denied him the opportunity to attend many of our dinners.

KB: John K. Howard.

HC: K. Howard was a Boston lawyer who was keenly interested and helpful in the development of what's now called the Boston Museum of Science and he was instrumental in getting the support of the museum on an entirely new basis. He had a research interest in the study of marlins and fished for them in many parts of the world and came frequently to the Boone and Crockett Club dinners and was a loyal member of some of our committees.

KB: Edward Mallinckrodt.

HC: Ted Mallinckrodt was a particularly close friend of mine. I used to visit him on my way to and from the Pacific at Scottsdale, Arizona, where he used to go for the winter, and he was keenly interested in the conservation activities of the Boone and Crockett Club and when special funds were needed for any particular project he could be counted upon to send a generous check. He attended some of our meetings at Sagamore Hill and whenever I saw him he was always asking me about the Club and its various projects. He also helped to support the work of our American Committee.

KB: Dr. William H. Marrow.
HC: Dr. Marrow was the head of the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard and one of the greatest living American botanists and was not present at many of our meetings but I feel the Club benefited by having him included in its membership. He used to give letters of introduction to some of our people who were going overseas and he made a distinguished name of himself on his work on the plants in the Philippines.

KB: John C. Phillips.

HC: I feel that the best thing that I could do on that is I wrote a tribute to John Phillips for the Tavern Club, which characterizes him and his background and everything and if you wanted anything about him I think this would be very useful. I think you ought to put this with the things to be xeroxed tomorrow. I'd like to mention the fact that John Phillips was my mentor when it came to the field of international conservation and he was the prime mover in getting our American Committee established and served as its first chairman and helped to fund our basic expenses out of his own pocket. He represented our committee at the famous London convention in 1933 that drew up the Convention for the Protection of Fauna and Flora of the African countries and established the basis for the existing system of national parks that still exists there. He had traveled previously in Africa and in several other countries and I considered him almost a founder of the field of international conservation, along with his and my great friend Dr. P.G. Van Teenoven of Holland. The following tribute to John Phillips I prepared for a meeting of the Tavern Club in Boston and feel that it is relevant to the records of the Boone and Crockett Club on the personalities of their deceased members.

KB: The next person would be R. Stuyvesant Pierrepont.

HC: Stuyvesant Pierrepont was always a cheerful person to meet at the Boone and Crockett Club dinners and much interested in our various activities. As has been his Stuy. He attended important meetings and enlisted the support of several people in some of the projects which needed funding help.

KB: George D. Pratt.
HC: George Pratt was a dedicated, loyal member of the original Executive Committee for the American Committee and seemed vitally interested in our activities and was faithful about attending meetings.

KB: Dean Sage.

HC: Dean Sage did a splendid job as secretary of the Boone and Crockett Club and led a highly important expedition to the Hinterland of China for the study of the giant panda, on which he was accompanied by Bill Sheldon. He also was a keen sportsman and took a great interest in the Club until the time when he moved his residence to the West and sadly prematurely died.

KB: Ilya Tolstoy.

HC: Ilya Tolstoy had a continuing interest in the Boone and Crockett Club. He also carried out a courageous mission to Tibet for the government and the OSS during the war, along with Brook Dolan. After his return was chairman of a Conservation Committee of the Explorer's Club and we always felt that he was one of the people on whom we could most rely when we needed a firm and popular backer for our various projects.

KB: F. Carrington Weems.

HC: Carrington Weems was greatly interested in the Club and married to Katherine Lane, who was one of our most famous animal sculptresses. He was a splendid sportsman but suffered a long terminal illness and died prematurely.

KB: Oliver Wolcott.
HC: Oliver Wolcott was a good sportsman and strongly identified with New England and great friend of John Phillips and attended occasional Boone and Crockett dinners and was helpful when it came to conservation activities in the New England area.

KB: Carl E. Akeley

HC: Carl Akeley was the well-known head of the Taxidermy Department at the American Museum and made many trips to Africa and was instrumental in getting the Albert National Park established. He sadly died in 1927 of dysentery up in the Kivu Volcanoes where his grave is established in the habitat of the mountain gorilla. I feel that his influence and his presentation of African animals in the American Museum of Natural History has been of greatest possible educational value and books that he and his wives have written have also been of special interest.

KB: David A. Aylward.

HC: David Aylward was a moving spirit in the Massachusetts Fish and Game Society and a right-hand man for Dr. John Phillips. He established many important laws and regulations that have been given official status in the state of Massachusetts. He did not attend Boone and Crockett dinners to my knowledge, but he strongly supported many of our conservation activities.

KB: Vernon Bailey.

HC: Vernon Bailey was one of the most senior biologists of the Bureau of Biological Survey in Washington and had a great interest in the problem of keeping our country free from the introduction of foreign species. He also helped me when it came to reestablishing beavers in the Squam Lake region.

KB: John H. Baker.
HC: John Baker was a dedicated head of the National Audubon Society and was active in many conservation causes in
this country.

KB: W. Reid Blair.

HC: Dr. Blair, the former director of the New York Zoological Society, served for many years as the secretary of our
American Committee when it moved from Boston to New York because I myself moved to Washington. He took a keen
and active interest in keeping our committee not only active but very much on the job in many countries.

KB: Major Frederick R. Burnham.

HC: Major Burnham, perhaps more than any single person, was one who helped to spark the founding of the American
Committee. He made an African trip which showed him what a shocking condition the African game was in and wrote a
book called Scouting on Two Continents. Then he came to New York and held meetings with Madison Grant, John
Phillips and myself and told us how important it was that the United States should play a role in African game protection
and basically stimulated us to give support to the British Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, also
Van Teenoven's conservation committee in Holland. Out of these activities emerged many of the later projects of the
American Committee.

[Tape 2, Side B]

KB: Dr. Lee S. Crandall.

HC: Lee Crandall took over from Dr. Blair as Secretary of the American Committee and he was also for many years
running the zoo for the New York Zoological Society in the Bronx and had a highly valuable broad knowledge of
animals and how to look after them under zoo conditions. He made helpful suggestions in many of our activities.
HC: Suydam Cutting was a constant companion of Ted and Kermit Roosevelt on their trips to Tibet and took a lively interest in the Boone and Crockett Club and its various activities. He was always a delight to be with at the Club’s dinners and could be counted upon for a contribution whenever funds were urgently needed.

HC: "Gabe" as we called him was one of the most outstanding American ornithologists who had an active impact on the administrative arrangements for most of the states in the Union. He served as head of the Biological Survey under Secretary Ickes and was responsible for establishing much of the legislation out of which grew the regulations for the flyways and reservations for the protection of migratory birds, which are so vital to all those who are interested in duck hunting in this country. He also was a chairman of the American Committee of the American Appeal for the World Wildlife Fund and participated actively in conservation projects all over the world based on our headquarters in Switzerland. He was head of the U.S. delegation which participated in the Fontainebleau conference in 1948, at which the original constitution of the IUCN was drawn up, and played a leading role in getting support to the young union which helped very much to get it on its feet.

KB: Now I'd like to ask you a question about one of our honorary life members: Duncan Hodgson. You proposed him in 1940 and the records show that when he was put up for ballot there was several negative votes and I would just like clear up the record as to why this might have been and I figured maybe you would know.

HC: Well my recollection is somewhat hazy but I do recall that there were a number of members of the Club who raised the question about whether we ought to include in our membership non-American citizens and for this reason I believe there were some negative votes when Hodgson's name was first presented. But I think that at subsequent meetings when this subject may have been discussed that the opposition to a person on account of nationality was overcome and
when he finally did come into the Club he proved to be a greatly interested and highly valuable member. He led an important expedition for the Montreal Museum to Africa and obtained some rare specimens of pygmy chimpanzees and other important collections.

KB: My next question is sort of a two-fold one. First of all I was going to ask you if there are any members that I haven't mentioned that you would like to say anything about that are presently in the Club and also the other thing that I want to ask you is if you would mention any that you think of that would be particularly valuable to interview.

HC: I feel that in Kitty's search for information about former Club interests and activities that she should make an effort to have a talk with Vic Carlan, who lives near Albany, New York, because he has for five years been gathering material to write an authoritative history of the American Committee for International Conservation and what files I have have been put at his disposal. I also feel that one of the most important people who contributed significantly to the Club's activities in the early days and has a long range interest in it is my friend Douglas Burden, who lives in Charlotte, Vermont, and should also be interviewed. (Carlan died in 1947)

KB: Dr. Coolidge, why should the Boone and Crockett Club be involved in international conservation?

HC: There are a great many reasons why I feel it should be involved and in order to set the background for this reason I would like to read a brief quotation from a distinguished European scholar, Paul Sarasand, who says that "Every production by human hand, every product of civilization can be unique and of the highest value but at the destruction thereof, the consoling thought will remain that it is not impossible to create such a product of art, yes, even surpass it, but never in the  eons that lie before us can a curious, highly organized animal species retake its place on this world stage if once it has been exterminated." This is the basic credo for preserving endangered species from total extinction.

Now the perpetuation of the wildlife of the world is I feel a duty which nations in the forefront of civilization cannot ignore with due regard to the needs of mankind. It is an international obligation in the carrying out of which the spirit of humanitarianism so characteristic of our country can play a vital part. We have already answered the call within
our own boundaries by our splendid and ever increasing system of national parks, national forests and game preserves, to say nothing of state and federal laws and regulation. Calls of help have come from many directions and have been answered in the main by two agencies: first, the federal government and secondly, the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection.

The American Committee for International Wildlife Protection was founded in 1929 and its founding was due to the interest of many members of the Boone and Crockett and others who had hunted, photographed or made scientific collections in various parts of Africa and particularly the regions within the British Empire. This sentiment was crystallized into action by the visit of Mr. C. W. Hobley, Secretary of the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, who came to this country in 1930. He aroused so much interest in the work that this society was doing for protecting mammals in Africa that largely through the efforts of Mr. Madison Grant and Mr. Kermit Roosevelt, $9,550 was raised to help his society. An urgent need was felt for the creation of some organization in this country to crystallize and concentrate the sympathy and support expressed by many for the work being done by the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, which facetiously became known in some quarters as the Society of Repentant Butchers because it was made up of so many former big game hunters.

Now at the annual meeting of the Boone and Crockett Club in January 1930, Major F. R. Burnham, recently returned from Africa, gave a talk illustrating the changes that had taken place in Africa during the last 25 years and urging the necessity of America taking a hand in game preservation there. At the business meeting of the Club, a motion was drawn by Dr. John C. Phillips and Harold J. Coolidge and presented to the Club by Mr. Coolidge. The motion pointed out the work that was being done in Europe along these lines and suggested that a committee be appointed to represent the Club to handle all affairs dealing with international wildlife protection. This motion was adopted and a committee appointed by Mr. Madison Grant, not only to represent the Boone and Crockett Club, but also to represent American sympathy and interest in international wildlife protection. Each member of the committee was in turn to represent some important recognized institution interested in some phase of this work. Mr. Grant thereupon constituted the Executive Committee as follows: John C. Phillips, Chairman for the Boone and Crockett Club; Kermit Roosevelt for the New York Zoological Society; George Pratt for the American Museum of Natural History; and Harold J. Coolidge, Jr., secretary, also for the Boone and Crockett Club. This committee was vested with the power to add to its members
by electing one representative from each institution which is interested in zoology and conservation throughout the country. Also with the power to select a representative to cooperate with foreign powers and represent the United States at meetings abroad. In addition, this committee would guide the raising of funds for such organizations as the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the British Empire as far as this country was concerned.

Dr. Phillips of the Executive Committee called its first meeting for May 8 at the New York Harvard Club and at this meeting it was voted the following institutions in addition to those in the Executive Committee should be invited to be represented on the Advisory Committee: the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard, the Field Museum of Natural History, the Smithsonian Institution, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, the California Academy of Sciences, the American Society of Mammalogists, the Campfire Club of America, and the Wilderness Club.

KB: Could you tell me what the aims and purposes and some of the activities are of this committee?

HC: I'd be very glad to mention that this committee, which was greatly stimulated by the requests from the British Fauna Society, because by geographical accident, some 70 percent of the important large surviving land mammals of the world were found at that time within British territory. And the Fauna Society fully realized that it was too big a problem to handle alone. It was only natural that they should turn to this country and they did receive generous financial aid under the leadership of the Boone and Crockett Club. The need for a centralized American committee was to be organized to coordinate all matters of international wildlife protection arising in this country.

In the report of the first five years of the operation of the American Committee it should be noted that the reasons behind this organization, which are well known to many people, could help the cause of international conservation through cooperation with foreign governments and institutions working for wildlife protection. Besides this, we furthered the protection of much-depleted species, both directly by legislation and indirectly by reducing illegal hunting and eliminating the abuse of special permits granted often in a friendly spirit by governments to collect rare and protected species. We also promoted a better code of sportsmanship among Americans in contact with wildlife in foreign countries.

Our organization, which was made up of a small Executive Committee and larger Advisory Board, has
functioned effectively over its first five years of activity and produced a number of significant publications, some of the titles of which are *Range Conditions in a Canadian Wood Bison Park*, 1933; *A Large Report of Mumbwa Size on African Game Protection; Migratory Bird Protection in North America*, 1934; *Present Status of the Muskox*, 1934.

Besides this its many basic activities could be summarized somewhat as follows. The committee maintained an active clearinghouse and files of information that have to do with wildlife protection in all parts of the world. We've been developing outside of the United States the consciousness of the importance to all mankind of recreation as well as for scientific purposes of the need for the conservation of wildlife in its original habitat by means of national parks or sanctuaries to be established in all parts of the world before it is too late. Unfortunately in some areas, some living animals and birds can no longer be saved even if drastic action was taken today. We serve as a central bureau for interpreting American opinion to foreign governments in a way that most effectively can help them in facing their conservation problems. This can be handled often best through private channels, sometimes by influential newspapers or telegrams from a member organization. Under the terms of the new International Convention for African Wildlife Protection, provision is made for transmitting information by such a group as the Committee in the central London office of this convention, which was drawn up in 1933 by colonial governments who controlled various areas in Africa.

It should also be remembered that under a clause of our own tariff regulations, animals or birds or parts thereof protected thereof in the country of origin cannot be imported into this country without a special permit. This measure is very valuable for foreign wildlife protection because game laws governing protected species are frequently changing in many parts of the world and our office is the only center in the country receiving such information, aside from the State Department in Washington. With our cooperation a strict enforcement of this tariff can be made possible in spite of the changing conditions. We are urging a similar tariff be established in many foreign countries.

Another activity involves problems involving disease that need to be worked on. There are disease relationships between game and domestic animals and between animals and man that are a vital part of the African tsetse fly problem. There is a definite value in maintaining certain forms of wildlife for possible use in domestication for breeding disease resistant strains. It is important to maintain intact a sufficient stock of wild primates, not only because of their possible use in future medical studies, but also for scientific observation of their social habits in their natural surroundings. We know that so far primates breed very poorly if at all in captivity, which makes their protection in the
wild even more important. The extermination of certain seals has very much threatened the natural food supply of the Eskimos and measures may be instituted to preserve these species from commercial exploitation and help to solve this economic problem.

There is all the time also a need for great caution about upsetting the balance of nature through the introduction of foreign species of insect, plant or animal life. Flagrant examples of damage that can be done shown by the large number of starlings and English sparrows that drive away many of our native birds. The mongoose has done irreparable damage by exterminating certain ground nesting birds on islands in the West Indies where it was introduced. And domestic goats running wild have done much damage to certain Pacific Islands, destroying much of the endemic vegetation. This country now has strictly enforced laws controlling foreign introductions, but not a week goes by without our hearing about some foreign country where introductions are being tried out and little thought given to the possible disaster that may result. Besides this, foreign introductions often bring in diseases, which cause great damage to our wildlife which cannot be stamped out. Our committee can do more and more to disseminate knowledge of costly lessons that have been learned along these lines.

We are also over a period of time carrying out a wide range of research studies and publishing the results of these investigations and distributing them where they'll do the most good to further international wildlife protection. When necessary, we employ legal or medical experts to assist in research involving problems of disease and international law. The committee hopes to be able to participate in the most important international wildlife conferences wherever they take place and has already started to do so. Dr. John Phillips was our observer at the London convention meeting in 1933 that prepared the basic legislation for the protection of fauna and flora of Africa.

In spite of unofficial requests from foreign governments, we have not been able to send qualified observers out to investigate important problems of park and native reserve administration. As time goes on, we propose to do more and more of this and to stimulate research on the ecology of species that are gravely endangered and can best be protected by a park or reserve system in their country of origin.

I should also mention the fact that unlike many societies, the American Committee has a very small overhead and does not depend on a large popular membership. We are alone in a very large and unworked field as far as the
United States is concerned and all signs point to the ever increasing importance of international wildlife protection under the leadership of the English, Dutch, Belgian, French and ourselves.

I should add at this point that in the 50 years since the formation of our committee, there have been many changes in this conservation field and now there may be close to 2,000 organizations in the United States alone concerned with conservation, while in the international field the prime organization is the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources with present headquarters in Switzerland, which is backstopped by a sister organization, the World Wildlife Fund. In England, the British Fauna Society and in Holland the Netherland Conservation Society under the Van Teenoven Foundation and in several parts of the world the International Committee for the Protection of Birds are other international organizations supporting the kinds of activities in which we are engaged. Within the United States, it's gratifying that the New York Zoological Society and the Nature Conservancy and the Sierra Club in California and the National Audubon Society all are taking an increasing interest in funding special programs in foreign countries along conservation lines that are so greatly needed.

KB: You touched on many things that I have a few specific questions about. One of them was the American Committee published three volumes which are in effect are the real Bibles of the endangered species. Would you describe the contents of these volumes?

H C: In the development of the American Committee activities it early became clear that what was most needed as a baseline for international conservation was a compilation of the active and most available information on endangered and vanishing species of mammals, birds and plants that justified international action for their protection. Our committee decided that we would ask an eminent ecologist, Francis Harper, to develop a volume for us on recently extinct and endangered mammals of the world based on a review of existing literature and conferences with knowledgeable people. This study required the raising of special funds and extended over a period of more than three years and the Harper found the work so entrancing that it slowed down his production and we had to assign the
mammals of the New World to Dr. Glover Allen, curator of mammals at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology [MCZ], in order to complete the task. Dr. Allen also produced a report on the marine mammals, which were of course of interest to our committee. The problem of endangered species of birds was left to the well-known ornithologist Mr. James Greenway, who was working at that time in the Bird Department of the MCZ at Harvard and he produced the volume on threatened and vanishing species of birds for the world. Once these volumes became available then it was possible for the committee to zero in on the particular species that had to have something done about them in order to save them from threatened extinction. It was also possible for the newly formed international union, which then had headquarters in Brussels, to maintain a file of more recent information on endangered species.

Out of this activity, there developed as a result of the Conference at Lake Success the Survival Service Commission of the IUCN and I had the interesting assignment of being the first chairman of this commission. And we contacted governments that controlled the habitat of areas where endangered species problems were involved and also served as an informational base for reports coming in from all over the world dealing with endangered species. This Survival Service Commission later developed a group of advisory committees that were made up of top world experts on the particular species. These experts were called groups and we have a whale group and we have a rhinoceros group and we have a seal group and there are about 30 different groups which involved several hundred scientists working on a voluntary basis that met occasionally and dealt with specific problems relating to sea turtles, seals, whales, whatever the subject of their specialty was. Out of these reports the Executive Board of the Union was able to determine what action should be taken by the Union and its member organizations in trying to assure better measures for the protection of the species concerned.

One of the later developments when Sir Peter Scott became the chairman of this Survival Service Commission, was a gathering of documents known as the Red Book. This Red Book is a looseleaf volume which contains most up-to-date information about most gravely endangered species and classifies them in several groups depending on the degree of their endangerment and these Red Books serve as a basic Bible for reference by governments and scientific institutions who are concerned with establishing parks and reserves, game laws and other ways of protecting potentially threatened and actively threatened species.
KB: I'd like to clarify something for the record. You mentioned the Survival Service. Was that under the American Committee or was that under IUCN?

HC: That was an IUCN commission but I in my capacity of Chairman of the American Committee... The Survival Service Commission was actually a commission of the IUCN but in view of my chairmanship and the fact that I was also the chairman of the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection, I was in a sense working in both capacities. Therefore I felt there was a very close linkage between the American Committee's interests and activities and the Union's activities because the Union's activities rarely stemmed from the three volumes referred to (the Harper, Allen, Greenway reports, books) which gave the basic information about endangered species.

KB: Thank you. Now I have one other question I'd like to ask you about the American Committee, which I hope you'll remember. I found in my research that at one point the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection proposed the establishment of an Office of International Conservation within the State Department, for dissemination of information on matters pertaining to wildlife and vanishing species. I was wondering if this was the forerunner of the Special Advisor on Fisheries and Wildlife, which is now presently in the State Department?

HC: Wait a second. Now I'm trying to think of one thing. I'm trying to remember the name of that tariff, of that government legislation by which you can't bring into this country species that are protected in the country of origin. It was the Smith... Smith something Tariff Act, which is the one on which we depended until the most recent legislation and it led to... I mean our interest in getting it supported led to our feeling that the government should have at the State Department level a special office concerned with these matters. So I really think that it can be fairly stated that the American Committee had a definite involvement in organizing the support for the State Department to have a special office concerned with problems of endangered species in order to assure a better enforcement of this law that controlled the bringing of such species into the United States. Subsequently this office was established and became a focus for the development of the later International Convention on Endangered Species, which is now ratified by a large number of countries and is effectively in operation with the IUCN serving as its official secretariat.
KB: Now I would like to go way back a bit to the creation of the IUCN. I believe it was created in 1948 and I was wondering if the IUCN is in any way an offshoot of the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection and could you just give a little bit about its history?

HC: Yes. Several international conferences that took place at Brunnen in Switzerland where conservation organizations in Europe got together indicated the clear need for a centralized international conservation organization.

KB: If I could interrupt you just for one moment so that I could get this on the tape. Why was Switzerland picked as the base for international conservation activity? Because it’s referred to so often as the base.

HC: The reason that these activities originated in Switzerland was largely because of a most active leader, Paul Saracen, who was a Swiss who had a great interest in this subject and was a very well-known and distinguished biologist. He brought up at scientific union meetings the subject of the endangerment of species and the need for international action along these lines to such a degree that the local conservation organizations in Switzerland got together and decided that they would like to focus on this problem and invite other countries to send representatives to two successive meetings at Brunnen. At the Brunnen conferences, it was agreed that UNESCO should be asked to cooperate in setting up a world conference for establishing an international organization and UNESCO, in cooperation with the French government, set up a conference at Fontainebleau, in 1948. It was there that the Union was actually born and delegations went there from many different countries. The American group was headed by Dr. Gabrielson and the British Fauna Society played a large role in the British delegation and several members of the American delegation were active members of the American Committee and I was instrumental in dealing with many of the problems that arose in establishing the Union. Then when officers for the new union were selected, we had a drawing of straws for the terms of vice-presidents who had been chosen and I was lucky to get the longest term, which was six years, as vice-president of the new union, which led into a great many problems of funding and organization, which I enjoyed being able to help with.

KB: When the IUCN was first founded, it was actually called the IUPN, which was International Union for the
Protection of Nature. Now I have a question for you. Was the word protection used because at that time the word conservation was not commonly used?

HC: That's partly right, but another reason is that there is no such word as conservation in the French language and the word protection is well recognized. Therefore everything we did was in two language, French and English, so it seemed more logical to have the English terminology match the French terminology. But at the time of our Edinburgh assembly, several years after we had first become established, Dr. Ed Graham from the United States particularly called attention to the fact through our Ecology Commission, that the whole concept of preservation in the Anglo-Saxon world meant locking up of species that you wanted to protect and the larger problems dealing with pollution and dealing with threats to the biotic environment were very much part of the concern of the IUCN and therefore it would be more appropriate that our name should carry the broader connotation and we changed the word preservation to conservation. Also the activities of the Union in establishing special committees to deal with such subjects as the introduction of poisons into the environment and other special committees fitted well under the umbrella of IUCN, where they were not directly related to the preservation of endangered species.

KB: You have already mentioned and explained the Survival Service Commission, but along with that you were also instrumental in founding the International Commission on National Parks. I wonder if you could explain that?

HC: Sure. After several years as chairman of the Survival Service Commission, I became increasingly aware that aside from identifying the Endangered Species that needed protection, that by far the best way to save these species was to assure a permanent protection for their habitat in the country of origin and the best mechanism for doing this would be the establishment of national parks. I've had long interest in the development of national parks and at the time of the General Assembly of IUCN in Greece, I proposed a plan for the establishment and strengthening of a National Parks Commission for IUCN and agreed to serve as its chairman. The Survival Service Commission was then transferred to other leadership.

The National Park Commission was involved in an effort to make the UN countries around the world aware of
the importance of setting up a series of national park systems around the most important of their habitats and hopefully in many cases these habitats would include species that were of concern to the Survival Service Commission. At the General Assembly in Greece in the Temple of Delphi, I proposed that we should establish a world list of national parks and equivalent areas. In order to do this we discovered that it would have more influence if it could be done at the highest level of the United Nations and that meant be affiliated with the Economic and Social Council of the UN. I therefore later approached the authorities of the UN and was invited to attend their meeting in Mexico City where we proposed a resolution for the establishment of such a world list. A resolution of the Ecosaw Council at that meeting established the fact that they were prepared to put up this kind of a listing and would ask the IUCN to help them with it and also ask UNESCO and FAO to assist with it. Unfortunately, both UNESCO and FAO were rather anxious to have the list set up under their own aegis and because of this fact they were not as cooperative as we hoped they might be. The Ecosaw Council of the United Nations had no money appropriated that could be used for the purpose of the list so I had to raise private funds to finance the preparation of the first edition of the UN World List of National Parks and Equivalent Areas. This we succeeded in doing and had them officially distributed through UN channels to appropriate governments.

The value of having this list endorsed and sponsored at the highest level paid off in the long run because in the case of a number of countries that had not sent in the information in reply to the questionnaires that we sent them by a given date, they were left out of the list and they lost a prestige value in that way. In some cases there was a tendency to delay the replies until they could get a park system better established so that they could have a better image in the eyes of the UN countries that already had established park systems. I recall the fact that Indonesia was included in the list and listing the areas in Indonesia that had been decreed as parks and reserves was a very great help to one of the local rajahs. He told me that he had been trying to get government support and funding to support an area that should be set aside as a park or reserve and I said, “Have you looked at the United Nations World List where your area is already noted?” and he had known nothing of it. As soon as he found it in the UN List, this enabled him to go to his government and get the extra support that he had been looking for. This just one small example of how being included in this prestige list could be helpful to one of the developing countries.

Following the publication of this list we had the problem of revising it and we set up an arrangement under my
successor, which was Professor John Paul Howa, who was chairman of the International Parks Commission when I became President of IUCN. Howa corresponded with a great many countries and got criticism of the list and comments and we published a second edition of the World List and distributed it. Sir Hugh Eliot served as the editor of this second edition, which was printed a Belgian private firm known as Hias. Since then the list has been maintained for reference purposes and now I believe a third edition is under preparation, but in a somewhat modified form.

KB: Getting back one moment to the formation of the IUCN. I understand that immediately following the Second World War, you were responsible for starting a provisional International Union for the Protection of Nature and that this was the organizational beginning that led to the meeting held at Fontainebleau. Could you explain a little bit about that?

HC: Following the war I felt the need of having an international organization, but the plans for provisional international union stemmed entirely from the conservation organization in Switzerland. They recommended that if we could not get an international organization going, that a provisional one should be established just the same by those who were interested in supporting and belonging to it. But it never had to really be activated because we got the support of UNESCO, especially through Julian Huxley, who was then its director general, and we had the backing of the French government for holding the Fontainebleau conference and we were able to set up the union itself on a sound basis. It may have been provisional in our minds but it soon became permanent.

KB: You mentioned the Swiss organization. Was this the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature?

HC: That's right. And Dr. Beutikoff was very active in that and he even had a magazine which had elaborate colored pictures in it which he hoped might be a publication of the union, but unfortunately this could not be worked out because it was much too expensive.

KB: Now earlier in the interview, you mentioned several times the Society for the Protection of the Fauna of the Empire.
HC: Was long an admirer of and a corresponding member of the British Fauna Society and was pleased to be informed that the Council had nominated me recently as the office of being one of the vice-presidents.

KB: Okay. Now again getting back to IUCN for a moment... I'm sorry for this skipping around. That is officially a non-governmental organization. Is that correct and why?

HC: It may seem like an anomaly that IUCN should be a non-governmental organization, but it definitely is and it also has included in its membership at the present time 48 governments as governmental members and it also had agencies of governments. I don't know the figures, the numbers. We ought to get that. And you also ought to put in what we have in the number of member organizations. We ought to get those three things right because the great strength of the Union is the fact that it represents in a large measure the principal conservation organizations from countries all over the world. When their views are put together in this non-governmental context, it brings a great deal of international pressure on particular governments to support the resolutions that come out of the general assemblies of the Union where there is an elaborate voting structure which is apportioned between the various classifications of the existing members. The main strength of the Union lies in the fact that its General Assembly is the overriding body and it has a bureau which serves to handle the administrative problems as a sort of Executive Committee. It also has a Board of Governors called a Council which meets usually twice a year. But the final authority is the General Assembly, which meets every three years and which in the name of which all the principal actions are taken and which makes decisions as to what organizations will be added to the membership.

KB: You also helped to form for the IUCN an international network of conservation specialists who volunteer their time and service. Could you explain this a little bit?
HC: There are probably close to 500 volunteer scientists who have been working with the IUCN on a voluntary basis over a period of many years. In order to understand this, you should be aware of the fact that the Union has operated essentially through six commissions and these commissions are a Commission on National Parks, the Survival Service Commission, Landscape Planning Commission, Commission on Law and -- I forget the title on that --, the Commission on Education. Better stop a minute. And also the Ecology Commission. Various projects for the Union's support and funding are submitted to the appropriate commissions for comment and then referred back to the Executive Board with the recommendations. But the way the commissions operate, especially the Survival Service Commission and the National Parks Commission, is that they have organized groups of advisors and in the case of the Survival Service, there are a great many specialized groups that I mentioned earlier (like a whale group, a rhinoceros group, an elephant group) to devote their time and attention to those particular animals where we have problems to handle. We also have a few groups that are set up by nationality. We had an Indonesian group to handle overall support for some of the reserves in procurement of equipment for reserves and parks in Indonesia.

KB: You were one of the guiding spirits behind the Western Hemisphere Convention for the Protection of Nature, which was ratified by the United States in 1942. This was an extraordinary document which anticipated many of the activities which have since been accomplished, such as Endangered Species Parks, wilderness, migratory species, habitat plans, etc. Would you mind explaining this document?

HC: One of the most important international convention documents on which conservation plans for all of Africa was the London Convention in 1933. Ever since then there have been suggested that a similar convention should be set up for the New World. I was chairman of a Pan American Committee of the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection that took upon itself the organizing of such a convention for the New World. After careful inquiries and much correspondence with various governments, it was decided that the best organization to handle this would be the Pan American Union. Therefore it was proposed at one of their conferences, which I believe took place in Lima, a preliminary draft for a conservation convention was prepared and Dr. Alexander Whetmore and I, with Dr. Palmer in Washington, had a good deal to do with the wording of this convention, which was then brought to Washington and
submitted as an official document to the Board of the Pan American Union and was adopted. It was later submitted to the various member governments of the Union and I believe some 15 of them signed it and the Pan American Union was designated as the secretariat to help work out its implementation. This was particularly fortunate because William Vote was Conservation Officer in the Agricultural Section of the Pan American Union and he took a great interest in furthering this convention. We tried in the wording of the convention to establish a basic definition for future parks and reserves in all the American republics but at the time it was drawn up it was thought it unwise to include Canada and some of the colonial Caribbean Islands, and so it was really confined to the American republics and the United States.

KB: What part did you play in the 1933 London convention, which was an international convention for conservation in Africa?

HC: My role was really as a briefing officer for Dr. John Phillips, who was the chairman of our committee, and whose brother William Phillips was a very active and interested diplomat in the State Department. Dr. Phillips asked me to gather what information was publicly available that he could use as a basis for the discussions that were held in London at the time that convention was drawn up. I was pleased that some of these recommendations were included in the final document, which was established there. And that document, interestingly enough, was broad enough so it could quite easily have been extended to include countries in Asia, but the Asian countries, with the exception of India, never got together for a similar convention or to join this particular one. But I think that some of their internal development plans were quite influenced by the way that the African convention operated.

KB: There was a follow-up conference to this in Bukavu in the Belgian Congo in 1953. Can you explain what took place there?

HC: There were so many changes in Africa with the gradual disappearance of colonialism and the transfer of administration to various local governments that it was clearly necessary that there should be a review meeting of the countries that had banded together on the London African Convention. John Paul Howa of Belgium was the secretary.
general for a conference that was held at Bukavu to revise and bring up to date various matters in the convention so that they would be palatable and acceptable to the newly formed African governments and also added certain provisions to strengthen the significance of the convention.

KB: Since you were one of the founders, would you explain the purpose and activities of the World Heritage Trust, which you suggested at a White House Conference on International Cooperation in 1965?

HC: In 1955 UNESCO decided that they wanted to formulate plans for a year to be devoted to various aspects of scientific research that would be of benefit to the world and each country was asked to submit their suggestions and ideas. A small committee was formed to advise the UNESCO base commission in Washington to help develop the aspects of such a plan that would relate to conservation matters. On that committee there was Russell Train, Joe Fisher, Ed Graham and myself, as I recall. We were given the benefit of suggestions that were sent in to the government by various government agencies, including scientists working at the Smithsonian and working in various government bureaus and offices, as to possible programs or projects that could be of long range value and incorporated into the UNESCO's program.

But the subject that we particularly concentrated on was the thought that it would be highly desirable to establish a mechanism by which the most important archaeological, historical and environmental areas and monuments throughout the world could receive a high level protection through a World Heritage Trust that would be set up specifically for the purpose of pointing out the international interest in such areas. My interest in the establishment of such an arrangement arose from the fact that there was a great deal of fighting going on in Indochina. My friend Dr. Grollia, who was curator at Angkor and in charge of the reconstruction there, indicated that if there was such a recognition of the importance of the restored temples in the Angkor complex on a worldwide basis, that this might help to protect that area from being desecrated by the battles between local troops that were fighting in the region. It was thought that if we could have a World Heritage Trust that they might even have a possibility of individual wardens or specialized personnel that could be sent out to places which were truly trouble spots to help the local officials protect the monuments in question from the kind of desecration that would result if no effort was made to give them the special
treatment that they deserved. Therefore, it was thought also that in the developing countries, money needed to be made available to help in the restoration of some of the monuments, like the Bora Badoor in Indonesia and the Angkor complex and Machipechu in Peru and similar areas. Therefore, the idea of the World Heritage Trust, which was born in 1955, was slow in being developed, but fortunately it was finally adopted and now the convention has been signed by quite a number of countries and UNESCO has been given a responsibility for the monuments and archaeological areas whereas the IUCN was given responsibility for the parks, reserves and natural areas that might also come under the Heritage Trust. But the thought is that they should only be relatively few areas especially selected at first and that these should be of world significance. Therefore, taking the United States, the Yosemite, the Grand Canyon, Mount McKinley in Alaska might be the kinds of areas that would be chosen but they don't need extra funding but they could lend the prestige of being on the list to inspire other countries to have similar areas included, like Angkor and Cambogia and Mochipichu, etc.

KB: Would you give some background on the International Convention on Endangered Species, which is in effect now?

HC: Gratifying developments with regard to the protection of threatened species was the fact that this idea has taken hold very strongly in the United States. Therefore our government set up a special office to evaluate listings of endangered species and urge the cooperation of the states and others in enforcing their protection. An increasing problem, however, arose from the fact that many of the endangered species in Latin American countries and Africa, as well as Asia, were being marketed in this country and sold to zoos and also private persons and in this way their existence was being endangered in the country of origin. Therefore, it became necessary to develop a convention which would control the transportation of species that should not be brought from one country to another because laws of the country of origin gave them protection and it was essentially smugglers and others that bypassed the existing laws. There was a meeting called in Washington under the chairmanship of Chris Herder, who was head of the State Department's Office of Conservation Activities, and at this meeting specialists from many countries discussed for a long time the preparation of appropriate listings for species that had been identified by IUCN Survival Service as being endangered and these were put into various categories, annexes to the convention, that listed them by their scientific
names and put them into the text of the convention for special protective measures depending on which one of the lists
they were on, whether they were gravely endangered or whether they were just threatened species. The operation of this
convention was worked out by several of the countries who were most concerned with it and a secretariat established
under the management of IUCN with the personnel seconded in some cases by the U.S. government to help get the
proper enforcement of this convention.

Perhaps we should also mention the fact that -- you'd better get the numbers -- it's now been ratified by whether
it's 40 countries or whatever it is, and that we're hopeful that all the UN countries will eventually ratify it.

KB: Thank you. Now, Dr. Lee Talbot, who has worked closely with you in many things, said that he has worked in over
90 countries and in nation after nation he has found that you had been there before him, and that you were responsible
for much of the conservation activities and programs that are now in effect, such as training programs for those who are
now responsible for environmental issues in those countries or that you helped to draft their first conservation laws or to
help them found their first parks. Do you have any particular examples that come to your mind which you would like to
tell about?

HC: I feel that his statement is a definite exaggeration of any help that I've been able to give in this direction. But
through my membership on the Board of the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, where I worked with Russell
Train, we initiated the development of a training school at Arusha for wardens in English speaking areas. This has
turned out to be a very important development with funding coming from several of the African governments but
primary support from the government of Tanzania. Another school has since been established for French speaking
wardens and secondary personnel in park administration at Garoua in the Cameroons.

When Dr. Talbot carried out his missions in southeast Asia he visited many countries which I had visited over
and over again in my scientific work with the Pacific Science Board of the National Academy of Sciences, and these
were particularly in the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia and Vietnam and Korea and Taiwan and Japan,
and wherever I went I naturally did all I could to promote interest in the activities of IUCN and the development of parks
and reserves and appropriate game laws. To pin all this together, the IUCN organized an important regional conference.
It was held in Bangkok, which enabled these Asian countries to send their experts to listen to the recommendations of the Union specialists and develop a more healthy program for their own parks and reserves. This was followed by a special mission carried out by Dr. Talbot and his wife to the capitols of these countries, where they spent considerable time with the appropriate officials and prepared reports which were significant in the later development of conservation programs in these areas.

KB: I would like you to explain just a few of the many awards that you have received. One of them is the Gold Medal for the New York Zoological Society. Could you tell what it's given for and a little bit about the award?

HC: From time to time the New York Zoological Society gives what they consider their highest honor to someone who's been extremely active in the field of international conservation and I was very flattered to be chosen for this award, which was presented by my old friend Lawrence Rockefeller, who had succeeded Fairfield Osborn as president of the Zoological Society. I don't know . . . .

[Tape 4, Side A]

HC: On the Zoological Award I was particularly pleased by the citation that stated that I was an ardent and tireless defender of wildlife and all natural riches throughout the world. That I particularly value was given me by the prince of the Netherlands, Prince Bernard, at the time of our General Assembly of IUCN in Banff when I presented him with the John C. Phillips Memorial Medal from IUCN. He turned the tables on me as presented me with the Order of the Golden Ark, which is an order which he had created, and in his citation he said it was "bestowed upon Dr. Harold Jefferson Coolidge for long and devoted service to nature conservation, particularly through leadership in the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources." The medal, which he hung around my neck, is a very beautiful design of a golden arc in blue and white and he informed me that he was going to present a number of these in the field of conservation, but that mine was the first presentation that he had made.
KB: Dr. Coolidge, another one of your awards that I'd like you to explain a little bit about is the Silver Medal for the U.S. National Park Service Centennial.

HC: At the time of the Centennial of the U.S. National Parks, the IUCN held its meeting of the Commission on International Parks at the Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Medals were awarded to certain individuals who had played a role in international conservation activities by the National Parks Centennial Commission in recognition of outstanding contributions for international service to national parks. Mine is a silver medal with on one side and an American bison on the other side and carries on its inscription "An International Achievement Award to Harold J. Coolidge, 9-23-72, by Edmond B. Thornton, the Chairman of the Commission."

This might amuse you. Anybody you recognize there?

KB: This is you on the medal. It says "H.J. Coolidge, President," which in German means "of" right? "IUCN, 1966-1972."

HC: . . . . selecting outstanding international leaders and issuing a small commemorative medal with their likeness on one side of it and they honored me with such a medal in 1975.

KB: That's really an honor. It's beautiful.

HC: Another award which pleased me especially was that of the Horace Martin Albright Award given by the American Science and Historic Preservation Society that had been founded in 1895 and has a facsimile of Horace on one side and a beautiful landscape by Manship on the other side. This was given at a special meeting in Philadelphia in 1968.

KB: Now I understand that you will be receiving the John C. Phillips Medal, which is the highest award given by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. I understand also that you are one of the people who are responsible for the establishment of this award and I wonder if you would explain what it is and who are the

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people who have received it prior to this time.

HC: The IUCN had not been existence very long before it became evident that it would be a great encouragement if by any chance one could establish a medal that would have great meaning for international conservation statesmanship that could be awarded to outstanding individuals at the time of the general assemblies of the International Union. I felt that a prime mover in this whole field of international conservation was the first chairman of our American Committee, Dr. John C. Phillips, and that such an award in his memory would be highly appropriate and the concept was very acceptable to his family. Happily, one of his closest friends agreed to fund the creation of a Silver Medal with his facsimile on one side and the conservation message on the other, associated with IUCN. This award carries with it an honorarium for which an endowment fund had been raised that's administered by the Union and amounts to $500 to each recipient.

The first award was given to Dr. Max Nicholson, who was the leader and essentially founder of the British Nature Conservancy, and was extremely responsible for establishing the concept of the very existence of the World Wildlife Fund, which is a sister organization of IUCN and the prime contributor to its support and also for many years occupied the shared headquarters.

The second recipient of the Phillips Medal was Dr. Enrique Valtron, who was an outstanding conservation leader in Latin America. He was head of the Natural Resources Institute in Mexico and not only played a significant role in the establishment of the national parks in Mexico but had great influence in other countries of Latin America and while Nicholson was given the award at the Nairobi Assembly, Valtron's award was given at the Lucerne Assembly.

The next award was given at the General Assembly at New Delhi in India and Dr. Sala Malle, the leading ornithologist of India, who had done a great deal to further international bird protection all over the world, received that award.

The following award was given at the general Assembly in Banff, Canada, presented by myself to Prince Bernard of the Netherlands, who had been for more than 12 years the president of the World Wildlife Fund and had built that organization up to an imposing degree and raised many millions for conservation projects all over the world. The assembly of the Union in Kinshasa gave the award to Sir Frank Frazer Darling of Scotland, who was for many years a
vice-president of IUCN and a highly significant writer and leader in many conservation activities, not only in the United Kingdom but also here in the United States. He was a very active vice-president of the Conservation Foundation, which had been established by the New York Zoological Society.

The concept of this award was that the people who were most active in international conservation would probably be associated with the administration and the governing board of IUCN and for this reason, not to have a conflict of interest, it was established as a practice that no person who was on the board of the International Union in a voting capacity or on the staff of IUCN would be eligible for this medal. In my own case, I was associated with the Union in one capacity or another ever since its founding until the time of the General Assembly at Banff when I became honorary president of IUCN on a life appointment. For this reason, I became eligible for consideration for the award but I never had thought in my mind that this was an honor that would come my way and therefore I felt very happy when I learned at a meeting of the board that my name was to be suggested for consideration by the General Assembly to be held in Ashkhabad in September.

KB: You will be, then, the first American that received this award, is that correct?

HC: Yes. No other American had been nominated for this award and no other American had been nominated to serve as president of IUCN, which was my good fortune for a period of six years.

KB: Getting back to some of the business of the Boone and Crockett Club, there was a controversy several years ago about the Club continuing its affiliation with the records keeping program. How did you feel about this subject and why?

HC: I was one of the strong supporters of the establishment of the original record books for big game that was set up by the Boone and Crockett Club and I felt that the contests that they held on an annual basis with trophies carefully measured by top experts was a strong stimulus to the kind of sportsmanship development that was favored by the Club, especially in the field of North American big game. There's no question but what the largest specimens of the male species of wild game probably could be obtained as trophies without endangering in any significant way the genetic
stock of that particular species. But conditions have greatly changed over the past 50 years and no some of the species which were in the record book are increasingly endangered and some are practically gone, like the western grizzly and we have under threat the polar bear. I think that it is extremely unwise for the Club to identify itself with any sportsmen that are trying to get record trophies of species that are rapidly declining. This also applies to several races of the mountain sheep, the Roosevelt elk, etc.

I also feel that the use of the record book which is gotten out by the Boone and Crockett Club and all the work that goes into identifying the record trophies is being handled by some promoters and professional hunters in a rather unorthodox way and that some western guides have indicated that they will take their clients into an area where they can get Boone and Crockett list trophies. This type of commercialization of the hunting records is to my mind most unfortunate and it's also hard on the game that we're so interested in protecting. So I would favor discontinuing the contests for records with the exception of three or four of the most common species, like the white-tail deer for instance, that are so plentiful that there would be no harm in having people compete as to who was going to get the best head in a given year. But most of the other species should no longer be included.

KB: If you'll bear with me, I'm not quite sure how to ask this next question. If the Boone and Crockett Club totally withdrew its affiliation and the governing of the North American Big Game Awards Program, isn't there a danger that some other organization would pick it up and run it without the integrity and care associated with it now?

HC: I think you always have the possible danger of that sort but I do not feel that that's a strong enough justification for continuing it, so as to prevent somebody else taking it over who might abuse it. I think that it would lose its status that has been built up over so many years and this would be a way to help reduce its importance and significance.

KB: Could you explain how you feel about hunting as a conservation tool, about hunting in general today, and about present day trophy hunting? I'm sure you feel differently about the two I think.

HC: I am not one of those who feels that a person should be condemned because of his interest in the so-called blood
sports. I think that bird shooting and big game hunting, if it does not gravely endanger the species that we want to have protected, is a very healthy form of outdoor recreation, especially if it's carried out in the traditional sportsman-like way, such as has been laid down by the Boone and Crockett Club in some of its guidelines. On the other hand, there's an increasing number of people made up of members of animal rescue leagues and sentimental conservation groups that feel that no killing of wild animals can be justified. I realize that they are an important force in our efforts to promote conservation and the establishment of parks and reserves and sanctuaries for animals and I think it's important to arrange to work with them and numbers of those organizations that belong to our International Union. One of the organizations that is in sort of an in-between status is the National Audubon Society, which has many members who are against the idea of any kind of hunting and feel that it's very damaging to conservation practices. But let us realize that it was hunting that has probably done more to safeguard the species that now exist in the wilds in North America than any other single activity. The protection of what's left of the fauna and flora in Africa has been largely made possible by the international people who've hunted big game in African on organized safaris. They've killed so few animals that it hasn't affected the basic population, but nevertheless it has helped to justify the governments in setting aside areas where these animals have a chance to truly survive in their natural habitat. It's some of the most prominent hunters that have played the role in establishing the London Convention in 1933 and you get to sportsmen like John Phillips and Dick Borden and others in this country who have done and enjoy a great deal of hunting, usually with a gun, sometimes with a camera, that are the moving spirits behind the most prominent conservation activities. I believe that it's wrong to condemn hunters in general just because of your interest in conservation, as long as they abide by the rules.

KB: As a final question, how do you think personally the Boone and Crockett Club can best continue to carry out its original purposes in fostering conservation and retain its position of influence and prominence?

HC: In answering this question, it should be borne in mind that the country is very different from what it was at the time that the Club was founded and when there were a very few organizations made up of influential conservation leaders, Club pronouncements and activities could easily have significant impact, especially on those responsible for game laws and conservation administration in the various states. Since then, however, there's been an enormous proliferation of
conservation organizations. There might be as many as 2,000 established in the United States alone, and the membership of these organizations are usually devoted to special purposes. For this reason, the influence of any single group is tremendously diluted because of the wide diversity of subjects in which they may be particularly interested in being active. On the other hand, I feel that the Boone and Crockett Club could well consider raising the calibre of their membership by enlisting in their board and membership individuals who are outstanding leaders in various aspects of the field of conservation.

[Tape 4, Side B]

This comment is not meant to be critical of the present membership of the Club, but it does seem to me that among that membership those who are recognized as particular leaders could well be encouraged to play a more important role in carrying forward the Boone and Crockett Club general objectives and, thinking of personalities, I think in terms of someone like Nat Reed and Russell Train. I feel we are fortunate to have Lee Talbot, but there are also outstanding leaders in some of the western states who would never be thought of for membership in the Boone and Crockett Club and yet could be most important if the Club wishes to be influential along conservation lines. I would favor keeping away from all political connotations.

Now as far as future activities are concerned, I've always been greatly disappointed that the Boone and Crockett Club was not more active in the field of international conservation. One reason for this, perhaps, is that the American Committee has been carrying on this work as a surrogate for the Club and as you well know, we have been extremely active in many aspects. But when it came to basic support and funding, the vanishing mammals and vanishing bird books and other important publications of the American Committee, the Boone and Crockett Club has not been generous with contributions and they have not used their funds in any way to further international conservation other than by a $400 a year contribution to the IUCN, which only lasted for a few years. It seems to me that with the responsibilities and leadership of the United States in so many of these international activities, that the Boone and Crockett Club could occupy a far more significant place in the leadership and inspiration for those coming generations who are going to benefit by their activities and by the conservation developments that are in the wind and yet that need the strongest kind
I also feel that one of the most useful recent developments of the Boone and Crockett Club have been these meetings that they have established around the subject of various species. The conference that they had on mountain sheep was a good example of this (and also on bears) and I feel that they could well sponsor a series of such conferences on other mammals and possibly on various mammals that are found in foreign areas where a general meeting to consider problems relating to them, such as the ivory problem in Africa, could profit by a Boone and Crockett type of leadership. We know that the African elephant still exists in perhaps as many as a million animals but they are being rapidly decimated on account of the high cost of ivory. And yet we have not yet succeeded through our endangered species law in preventing the import and sale of that ivory in this country.

I feel that the Boone and Crockett Club should play a strong role in backing up the Office of Endangered Species in trying to get popular support for the International Union's activities in saving the threatened species from many parts of the world where the endangerment comes in large measure from the importation of these species to this country and often the smuggling of them in spite of our existing laws. We need to inform our custom inspectors of the ways they can identify these species. A booklet is needed to help them with this identification. If the Boone and Crockett Club could get out a series of such booklets written by authoritative people it would be of great help to the customs authorities in the enforcement of these laws.

There are many special types of projects where Boone and Crockett Club initiative and leadership could play an important role in developing the program that we're also in favor of.