

ADDENDA TO LETTER SENT KENNETH C. BROWN,
inserted Apr 28, 1955

I do not believe that a permit is required to capture small mammals and birds in Guatemala but it would be a diplomatic gesture to make application to conduct research from the Director of the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural in Guatemala City. The Director, in turn, will issue to you a letter which is useful in dealing with the authorities of the various departments of the Republic. The most important thing is to let the Director know of your plans and objectives. More than likely you will benefit considerably more from the contact with this official than the time it requires to acquire the permit.

If collecting privileges for Mexico are desired, and I am sure they will be, a permit is required from the Fish and Game Department. (Two photographs of yourself must accompany the request for permit.)

A permit to own and carry a gun is required in Guatemala, and is issued and renewed by the Ministerio de la Defensa Nacional, Palacio Nacional in Guatemala City. Depending on the prevailing emergency of the country the acquisition of this permit can be difficult or impossible but never routine. I would advise you to allow at least one month for the transaction of your business with the Ministerio.

In Mexico a gun permit can be acquired from the General of the military district in which you are working. Always remember that only an authorized official of the Mexican Government can confiscate your gun.

A certification of police record is important when entering a foreign country and while I did not have occasion to use mine beyond the need for acquiring a gun permit, I could conceivably see that if one were to get in trouble with the police or unfortunately get involved in an active revolt, or revolution, that the letter certifying your police record would talk.

A certification letter of intentions and objectives should be issued, providing the expedition is sponsored by an institution. This letter holds considerable weight when applying for permits, shipping or carrying specimens across the international borders.

I add the short form bill of lading of the shipment of my car to and from Guatemala. Travel service bureaus or freight forwarders will quote you the price for shipping your car from the states to Guatemala but seldom do they let you understand that the return shipment back to the states will be considerably higher. Note the increase rate of from \$253.00 to \$352.02, the latter figure of which I paid for the return trip.

In 1954 the charges were 40 cents per cubic foot plus New Orleans tollage of 15 cents per 2000 lbs. All charges must be fully prepaid. Expect delays all along the way as schedules are being continually changed.

A letter to the Custom Houses should be issued by the Director of the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural or the Ministerio de Agricultura to the effect that your specimens have been properly fumigated or preserved. The customs at the border, especially the U.S. Customs will demand such a certification. Many collections have been quarantined because, for example, unsterilized cotton or foreign cotton was used in preparing the specimens.