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(mail.nstci.com [209.140.40.2])
by governor.state.ms.us; Sat, 08 Jul 2000 02:20:05 -0500
Received: from altenbach.nstci.com (unverified [209.140.43.2]) by netstartel.nstci.com
(Rockliffe SMTPRA 3.4.5) with SMTP id <B0001020140@netstartel.nstci.com>;
Sat, 8 Jul 2000 02:19:52 -0500
Message-ID: <004d01bfe8ac5c78eb2a05022b8cd1@nstci.com>
Reply-To: "Citizens Concerns" <az9999@earthlink.net>
From: "Citizens Concerns" <az9999@earthlink.net>
To: <Undisclosed-Recipient:;>
Subject: JAPAN BUY THE VOTES TO KILL WHALES !!!
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 2000 02:18:39 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2314.1300
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

Dear Honorable Legislator,

Each year, thousands of whales worldwide were killed in the hands of Japan, Norway, Denmark, Canada.... with the excuses of "scientific research" and "tradition". All whale meat were ended up in the commercial meat market.

The conservation groups condemned Japan manipulated the votes with "money" in South Pacific Whale Sanctuary proposal in the 52nd meeting of the IWC (International Whaling Commission) in Australia this week.

Minister for the Caribbean Nation of Dominica resigned on July 4 over his country's "NO" vote on the South Pacific Whale Sanctuary proposal. Fisheries Minister Athie Martin expected Dominica to abstain, and said Japanese aid was being used to manipulate the vote.

The following is the EXCERPTS from Atherton Martin's letter regarding his resignation as Minister of Planning, Environment, Agriculture and Fisheries for the Commonwealth of Dominica, dated July 4, 2000 :

". today I submitted my resignation as Minister of Government to the Prime Minister."

". although the Cabinet decided that the best approach to Dominica's participation at the 52nd IWC would be for our Commissioner to abstain on the voting." (Dominica's delegate voted with Japan against the South Pacific Whale Sanctuary proposal on Tuesday 4th July)

" Also considered in my decision is the need to protect our international image as the Nature Island and the opportunities for support for an integrated plan for the sustainable development of Dominica."

"Closely related to this is the fact that whale-watching is now one of the fastest growing segments of Dominica's unique ecotourism experience and the need to maintain a consistency of position and promotion regarding the international nature travel community."

" I am also alarmed that the Japanese seem to be using the SAME promise of aid that held the James Administration ransom, to manipulate this Government's voting at the IWC. This is undignified and unacceptable and must be resisted .There is absolutely no reason for us to be held ransom by Japan . in return for promises of aid."

"I am convinced that we will show our resilience as a people and a country

and come out of this unfortunate IWC episode much stronger as a nation with firm resolve for sustainable development."

(SOURCE: <http://www.greenpeace.org.au/affiliates/spws/excerpts.html>)

The United States tolerance on the Japanese killing the whales has led to its increasingly large scale of killing whales in the open sea even in the sanctuary area. Japan even uses its financial bait to get those tiny Caribbean nations to vote for killing and against whale sanctuary.

Dear Legislator, "tolerance" and "high level official contacts" (if it exists) has been proofing a complete failure. The "TRADE SANCTION" is the only way, the most effective and most peaceful way to lead to the peace and harmony with the sea.

We are sincerely asking all legislators to urge President and Congress to impose the TRADE SANCTION AGAINST JAPAN, URGENTLY .

There is no time to wait any more. Thousands of whales are murdered in excruciating pain and agony in the open sea where no one to regulate those killers..... The sea is filled with blood and haunting sound of death....

The United States must be the LEADER for all the conservation nations and must be the first one to take the strongest action to lead the world to the peace and harmony with the nature and whales.

We would be very grateful to you for your compassion, determination and urgent action on this most important global issue.

Very Truly Yours,

J. zehringer,
G. Lance,
E. Gonzales,
M. Wong,
A. Lanham.

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