

and you tend to feel that you're just doing your business, obeying orders," he says.

A desire for revenge is the second factor that Dr. Spiegel cites. When the two are present in sufficient strength, the conditions are set for the perpetration of an atrocity. Paul Meadlo, an Army veteran who was present at Pinkville, mentioned both factors when he told a CBS television interviewer last week that he had killed 10 or 15 men, women and children. "Why did I do it? Because I felt like I was ordered to do it," Meadlo said, and then added, "Because . . . I lost buddies. I lost a damn good buddy, Bobby Wilson, and it was on my conscience."

There are, perhaps, special circumstances in the Vietnamese war that increase the likelihood of atrocities. The fundamental nature of guerrilla war-

fare, or what Mao-Tse-Tung called the "fish in the sea" syndrome, makes it extremely difficult for soldiers to distinguish their friends from their foes. Dr. Charles Moskos Jr., a sociologist at Northwestern University, reports that the American soldier in Vietnam considers "virtually all indigenous people . . . as actual or potential threats to his physical safety."

As a result, Dr. Moskos says, in a study published in the November TRANSACTION, the average soldier "thinks South Vietnam is a worthless country, and its people contemptible." Most of the soldiers whom Moskos interviewed were vague about the reasons why the war was being fought: "Maybe we're supposed to be here and maybe not," one soldier told him. "You worry about getting zapped and dry socks tomorrow. The other stuff is a joke." □

Asia and Africa to augment a fur trade in Europe and the United States.

This may be the last chance for Nieman-Marcus and the fur dealer to make capital of the American trade in exotic animals.

President Nixon has on his desk, and is expected to sign next week, an act curtailing international and domestic traffic in endangered species. The act has passed both houses of Congress. Following executive approval it would go into effect in 180 days.

During the interim, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service researchers are working with international and U.S. state specialists to establish worldwide and domestic lists of endangered species based on:

- The destruction of a habitat.
- The overutilization of the species for commercial and sporting purposes.
- The effect on the species of disease or predation.
- Other natural or man-made factors affecting its continued existence.

Under the provisions of the act, anyone importing an endangered species could be fined up to \$5,000 for each offense. Persons willfully violating provisions of the act could be fined up to \$10,000 or face a prison term of up to a year.

Domestically, the new measure would expand the existing 1900 law to include any mammal, fish, wild bird, amphibian, mollusk, crustacean and reptile, without regard to the health question. It would also expand the Black Bass Act of 1926 to embrace all endangered domestic species of fish in interstate commerce.

In addition, Federal agents would oversee the taking of native species in the 50 states, ranging from the transport of state-forbidden alligator hides over the Florida state line to regulating the volume of lobster removal in the fishery industry under Maine jurisdiction.

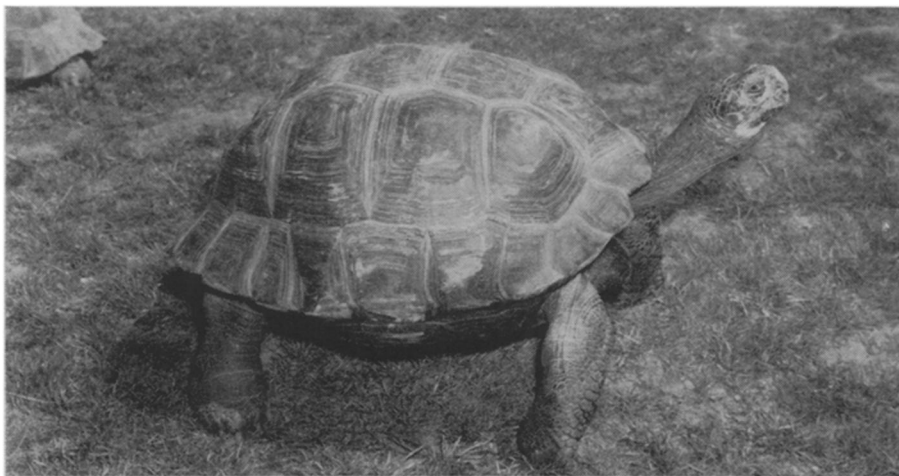
An embargo placed on any species by a foreign Government would be enforced by the U.S. and the proposed bill will increase to \$2.5 million the allowable expenditure for the acquisition of any area earmarked for the protection of endangered species.

Although pet dealers, skin processors, furriers, and others with an investment in the commercial use of animals are being introduced to the substance of the proposed bill by U.S. Fish and Wildlife agents, the sale and shipment of endangered species is likely to proceed unabated this Christmas.

But, says Dan Saults, of the Office of Conservation Education, "The Galapagos tortoise will simply be unavailable next Christmas."

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Tortoises, Christmas and the law



Philadelphia Zoo

Galapagos tortoise: Help is on the way for a member of an endangered species.

Charles Darwin heard male and female tortoises emit a roar during coitus as he examined unobstructed areas of the Galapagos Islands during a Pacific expedition. Later in "On the Origin of Species," he wrote: "A grain in the balance can determine which individuals shall live and which shall die."

The Galapagos tortoise has endured a history of slaughter by whalers. Rats and dogs introduced by seafarers still subsist on their eggs and young. After a century of decimation five species of the tortoise indigenous to the Galapagos Islands have become extinct, five are verging on extinction, and five remaining known species maintained in two observable populations are considered stable. They are regarded as an endangered species, and the Ecuadorian Government placed an embargo

on their export this year.

There is no provision in current United States law to help enforce such a ban unless public health is endangered, and the legal sale of representatives of endangered species is still possible.

Nieman-Marcus, the Dallas department store, is offering a pair of Galapagos tortoises in the store's 1969 Christmas sales promotion. Donald Chipman, Nieman-Marcus's director of mail order sales, regards the offer as "a publicity thing," and will deliver, on order. He also claims access to rare leopards, snakes, a baby elephant, a camel. "There's no restriction," he says.

A more serious threat than a department store's promotion of an endangered reptile is the poaching of the leopard, cheetah and tiger common to