Government protection for 'Nessie' – NAS ref. HH1/588, p31

INVERNESS-SHIRE CONSTABULARY.

COUNTY CONDUCTUAL HEADQUARTERS:
THE CASTLE

INVERNESS - 17th August, 1953.

Mr.

THE LORD PRESIDENT,

I would like to refer you to your letter to me dated 29th Nov., 1953 (Ref. No. 506/51), with which you enclosed a copy letter dated 13th Nov., 1953 received from Sir Harold Harbord, M.P. for Inverness-shire.

In my reply to this correspondence, dated 31st Nov., 1953, I indicated the only step which the police could reasonably take, was to warn the people resident in the neighbourhood and as many as possible of the visiting public, that the preservation of the Monster was desired.

It has now come to my notice, that a Mr. Peter Kent and Miss Margaret Stirling, both from London, are determined to catch the Monster dead or alive.

Mr. Peter Kent visited Fort Augustus on Friday, 17th August, and was seen there by an officer stationed at Fort Augustus, to whom he stated that he was having a special harpoon gun made and that he was to return with some twenty experienced men on the 22nd of August for the purpose of hunting the Monster.

That there is some truth, even in Loch Ness seems now beyond doubt, but that the public have any power to protect is very doubtful. I have, however, caused Mr. Peter Kent to be warned of the desirability of killing the creature first, alone, but whether my warning will have the desired effect or not remains to be seen.

If you have any suggestions to make or can offer any guidance in the matter, I shall be grateful.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Chief Constable.

The Under Secretary of State,
Scottish Office,
WESTMINSTER, S.W.1.

Government protection for 'Nessie' – National Archives of Scotland
April 2010
http://www.nas.gov.uk/about/100408.asp
Transcript:

INVERNESS-SHIRE CONSTABULARY
COUNTY CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS
THE CASTLE
INVERNESS. 15th August, 1938

Sir,

The Loch Ness Monster.

I should like to refer you to your letter to me dated 21st Nov., 1933 (Ref. No. 36125/1) with which you enclosed a copy letter dated 13th Nov., 1933 received by you from Sir Murdoch Macdonald, M.P. for Inverness-shire.

In my reply to this correspondence, dated 23rd Nov., 1933, I indicated the only step which the Police could usefully take, was to warn the people resident in the neighbourhood and as many as possible of the visiting public, that the preservation of the Monster was desired.

It has now come to my notice, that a Mr. Peter Kent and Miss Marion Stirling, both of London, are determined to catch the Monster dead or alive.

Mr. Peter Kent visited Fort Augustus on Friday, 12th August, and was seen there by my Officer stationed at Fort Augustus, to whom he stated that he was having a special harpoon gun made and that he was to return with some twenty experienced men on the 22nd of August for the purpose of hunting the Monster down.

That there is some strange fish in Loch Ness seems now beyond doubt, but that the Police have any power to protect it is very doubtful. I have, however, caused Mr. Peter Kent to be warned of the desirability of having the creature left alone, but whether my warning will have the desired effect or not remains to be seen.

If you have any suggestion to make or can offer any guidance in the matter, I shall be grateful.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

William Fraser
Chief Constable.