



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

File

Peter T. Coleman, Governor
 Galea'i P. Pomele, Lt. Governor

Telephone (684) 633-4116
 Fax: (684) 633-2269

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 06-1992

**THREE YEAR BAN ON HUNTING OR KILLING
 OF BATS AND BIRDS**

By the authority vested in the Governor of American Samoa under the Revised Constitution and laws of American Samoa, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources has declared bird and bat population in serious danger.

The Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources has declared that their investigations of the wildlife of American Samoa after Hurricane Val have revealed that the bat and bird population have been reduced significantly to such low levels that if hunting of these animals is not stopped soon they may be in danger of extinction. The main reasons set forth by the Marine and Wildlife Resources department are: excessive hunting, devastation of the natural habitat of the animals due to hurricanes Tusi, Ofa and Val, and the very low birth rate among bats and birds, generally having only a single young per year, making recovery to safer numbers in their populations very difficult to achieve immediately.

Section 2. Impact of loss of bats and birds.

The impact of the loss of bats and birds would be very grievous. The ecological impact of these animals as a food source, a source for pollination and seed dispersal for the rainforest trees and shrubs cannot be emphasized enough. Without these animals the rainforest and people of American Samoa would suffer tremendously. Further, the role of bats and birds in Samoan folklore is very important because of the many Samoan stories, proverbs, and sayings originating from the hunting of these animals, especially the "lupe" pigeon.

Secretary General's Office
 Date Received: 3/31/92
 TIME: 3:28 PM
 BY: *Wena*
Arthur Pijale

ATTORNEY GENERAL

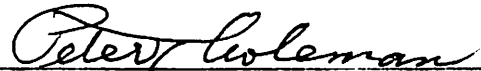
Section 3. Establish 3 year ban on hunting of bats and birds.

A three year ban on the hunting or killing of bats and birds in American Samoa is established to become effective starting April 1, 1992 and ending March 31, 1995. This ban should allow the population of bats and birds in American Samoa to recover to their historical, desirable numbers. The Marine and Wildlife Resources department will submit an annual report to the Governor the 1st of April of each year the ban is in effect starting on April 1, 1993 that will, among other things, give the approximate number of the various bats, and birds in American Samoa and make recommendations that will maintain the protection of these animals and determine whether the ban is achieving its purposes or should be lifted.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Executive Order will take effect April 1, 1992 and terminate March 31, 1995 or sooner terminated by written order.

Dated: March 30, 1992



PETER TALI COLEMAN
Governor of American Samoa