

NUMBER 237
JANUARY 19, 1973

A NEW BUTTERFLYFISH OF THE GENUS *CHAETODON* AND
A NEW ANGELFISH OF THE GENUS *CENTROPYGE*
FROM EASTER ISLAND

By JOHN E. RANDALL AND DAVID K. CALDWELL

CONTRIBUTIONS IN SCIENCE



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM • LOS ANGELES COUNTY

A NEW BUTTERFLYFISH OF THE GENUS *CHAETODON* AND
A NEW ANGELFISH OF THE GENUS *CENTROPYGE*
FROM EASTER ISLAND¹

By JOHN E. RANDALL² AND DAVID K. CALDWELL³

ABSTRACT: The chaetodontid fish *Chaetodon litus* Randall and Caldwell is described from Easter Island, the only known locality. It is brown with no dark markings; the dorsal and anal fins are narrowly edged with white except the spinous portion of the anal which is almost entirely white; the caudal is pale posteriorly. The pomacanthid *Centropyge hotumatua* Randall and Caldwell is also described from Easter Island. It is brown, with the head, nape, abdomen, and caudal peduncle orange-yellow; a black spot appears posteriorly on the opercle and a blue ring nearly encircles the eye; a blue margin is visible on the soft portion of the anal fin, with blue markings posteriorly in the dorsal and anal fins. This species was collected subsequently in the Pitcairn Group, Rapa, and the Austral Islands.

In his "Los Peces de la Isla de Pascua," de Buen (1963) listed the 40 species of fishes known from Easter Island at that time. Among them was one species of butterflyfish, *Forcipiger longirostris*, now recognized as *F. flavissimus* Jordan and McGregor (Randall and Caldwell, 1970). No angelfishes were listed.

Three large collections of fishes made in recent years at Easter Island have increased the number of species of fishes known from the island to 107. The first was a single large rotenone station made inshore at Anakena Cove by Ramsey Parks and the crew of the yacht "Chiriqui" on October 1, 1958. This collection was held at UCLA in the care of Boyd W. Walker until 1960 and was then transferred to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (LACM). Extensive collections were made during the Canadian Medical Expedition to Easter Island in 1964 and 1965 by Ian E. Efford, Jack A. Mathias and associates. These fishes are deposited mainly at the University of British Columbia (BC). The third collection was made by Randall, Gerald R. Allen, and Bruce A. Baker in January and February, 1969, with support of a grant from the National Geographic Society. Except for certain types, these specimens are at the Bernice P. Bishop Museum (BPBM), Honolulu. Thanks are due Robert J. Lavenberg and Norman J. Wilimovsky for the loan of LACM and BC specimens, respectively, and for field data.

These collections contained additional specimens of *Forcipiger flavissi-*

¹REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION

James Böhlke
William N. Eschmeyer
Robert J. Lavenberg
Camm C. Swift

²Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii

³Communication Sciences Laboratory, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida