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17 May 1994

From: Pierre Flament
To: John Sibert, Program Manager, Pelagic Fisheries Project
Subject: annual report
"Physical oceanography environment of pelagic fishes"
Cc: Dennis Moore, JIMAR
Bo Qui, Oceanography
Lorenz Magaard, SOEST
Peter Garrod, University Research Council

During the first 8 months of this project (1 September 1993 to 30 April 1994), we have performed the following activities:

- (a) in collaboration with WOCE-SVP scientists, we specified the drifting buoys, including modifications of the standard design to increase their resistance to fish attacks. We have selected Clearwater Instrumentation as the manufacturer of the buoys purchased during the first year through competitive bidding by 4 manufacturers, and finalized details regarding calibration, manufacture and packaging after a visit to their assembly plant in Mass.
- (b) we interacted with L. Magaard, B. Qiu and D. Koh regarding the modelling effort, which was to start with the second year of this project. It was decided to separate the observational component from the modelling component, for which funding will be requested through a separate proposal to be submitted in the near future.
- (c) with junior researcher June Firing, we have begun analyzing historical drifter data in the Hawaiian EEZ. About 75 buoy-years spanning 4 years were found in the WOCE/TOGA data base, yielding an average of 18 buoys active. The attached figures show the mean surface current and current variability inferred from these buoys. This data is presently being used to design an optimum deployment strategy maximizing the residence time in the Hawaiian EEZ. A seminar describing these

