

January 1, 2001

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to present our proposal on improving the conditions and life of your Military Macaw. As a rescue group dedicated to the welfare of parrots in captivity, we hope to offer an alternative view to the one now given by the pet trade. Parrots have been bought by many on impulse and without educating themselves about the nutritional and emotional needs of these intelligent creatures. The illusion offered by the pet trade has given the false impression to many that parrots are easy, neat and gentle pets that need only modest accommodations to be happy. The truth is far from this tidy image. Many parrots suffer great psychological and physical damage from improper care. Plucking, screaming, biting and self-mutilation are now commonly seen by bored birds kept in too small a cage.

Your establishment has this opportunity to present the public with the image of a happy, well-cared for parrot offered by your good example. We will be more than happy to offer our experience as consultants to this project free of charge. Our goal is to see your Macaw in a space that will serve to keep him happy and healthy, as well as inspire the guests who see him.

Our hopes are that you will address the following items as soon as possible.

1. Proper Housing

Within the next couple of weeks we hope to see this Macaw in a nice cage. Animal Environments (www.animalenvironments.com) has a nice cage for Macaws that could serve until a larger environment could be built in your pool/bar area. This cage, placed in a quiet and secure location away from the crowds, could serve as a place to retire the bird during the evening hours when the bar and entertainment are available to your guests.

2. Permanent Flight Cage

Within the next few months the building of a permanent and secure cage in the pool room where this bird would enjoy the freedom to at least fly from perch to perch. Toys, a swing perch and ample natural branches to chew would enrich the life of this bird, who now sits alone. This new enclosure would also allow you to consider the possibility for others birds to share this space and further enhance the lives of the inhabitants.

3. Nutrition

The last item that we feel is necessary for a quality life would be that of nutrition. Having a restaurant on the property offers the chance for an unequalled diet for your feathered friends and one offered to few other parrots. Fruits and vegetables along with a variety of other cooked foods like squash, sweet potatoes, pasta and rice could be set aside for dinner by your chef each day ensuring a well-balanced, as well as an interesting diet.

Given that so much effort has been made to make the pool/bar area so beautiful, it is really a shame to see your Macaw in such substandard conditions. I am sure that the effort made to bring the quality of his life up to those of the rest of your establishment will have the effect of impressing the guests and visitors with your love for animals and, thus, reflect well on the overall experience of such an impressive environment. As I mentioned, we will be happy to offer any assistance in this project without financial consideration.

I have enclosed some information on our efforts here at Foster Parrots, Ltd., and I hope to speak with you whenever you wish.

Thank you again,

Marc Johnson, Director
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