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Dear Sirs:

This is an application for further assistance in the field of photography.

Supplementary Statement 1

Since 1946, when I moved to Santa Fe, I have been working as a full time free-lance photographer. During the spring and summer seasons I devoted most of my time to bird photography while at other times of year to more general photography of natural subjects, focusing on the details of nature more than on its general aspects. Gradually, I concentrated almost exclusively on color until at present ninety percent of my work is in this medium and ten percent in black and white.

From the time of my first Guggenheim Fellowship I had hoped to publish a book on birds in color but owing to the negative attitude of publishers this goal was not realized until 1972. However, simultaneously I worked on two other projects: the first, a book on the island in Maine where I have spent many summers since childhood; the second, suggested to me by my wife, a book on Henry David Thoreau using quotations from his journals to complement photographs, and conversely. The latter work, after years of rejection by publishers was finally accepted by the Sierra Club, published in 1962, and became an immediate success. Publication of Summer Island followed soon after in 1966.

Many of Thoreau's observations dealt with the fine structure of nature, which was precisely the point of view, neglected by other photographers, I had always tried to emphasize. Not only were these aspects of nature ignored, but there existed in the photographic fraternity an emotional opposition to color photography as too literal a medium for creative expression.

Nevertheless, during this period between 1946 and 1962 I did enjoy some success in having my photographs published in various anthologies of nature photographs such as Land Birds of America, Living Birds of the World, and The Continent We Live On.