

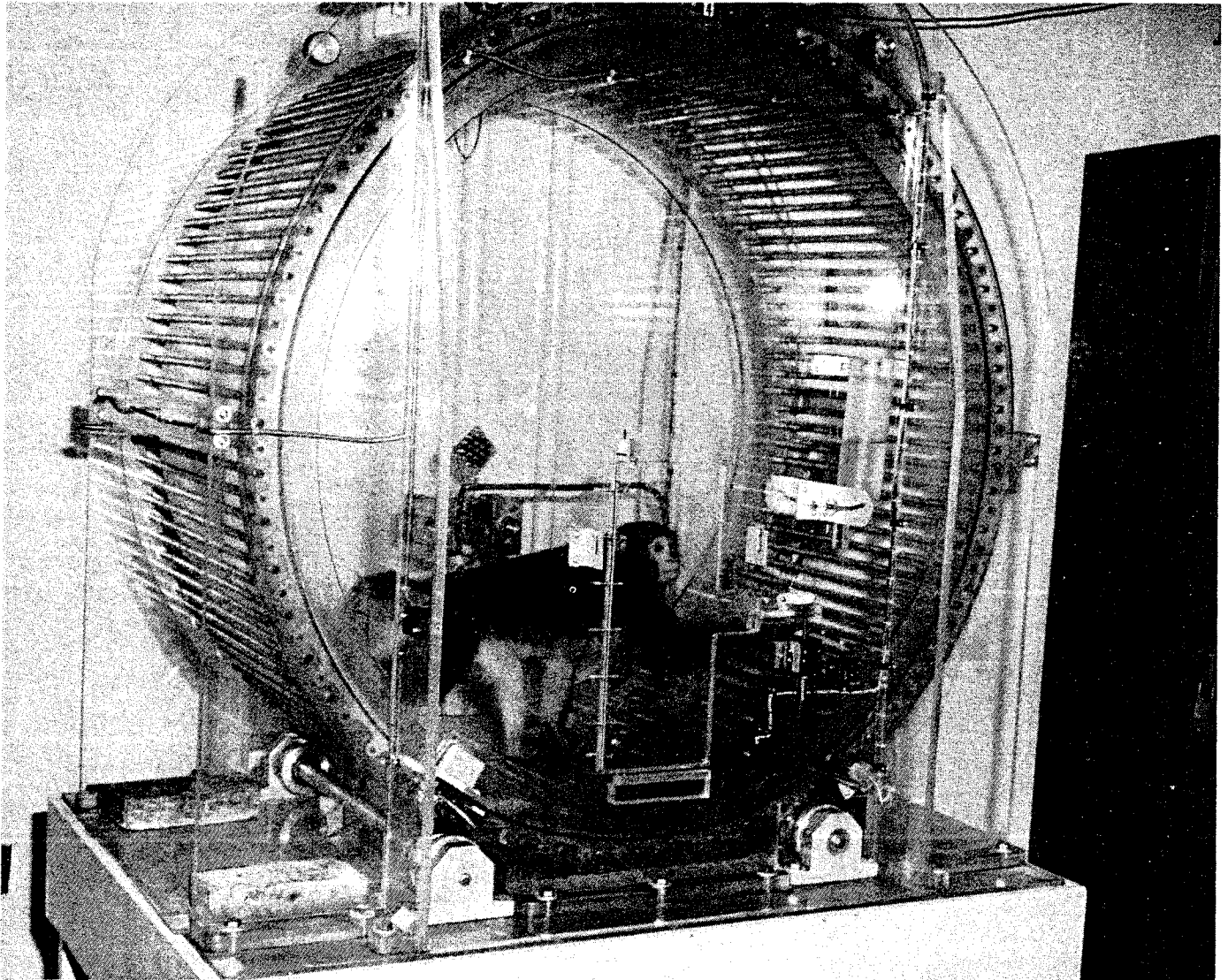
# NEWSLETTER



INTERNATIONAL  
PRIMATE  
PROTECTION  
LEAGUE

Vol. 6 No. 1

APRIL 1979



AFRRI Monkey in Treadwheel. Photo: AFRRI

**SPECIAL: BANGLA DESH CANCELS MONKEY  
EXPORT AGREEMENT TO PROTEST USE OF  
MONKEYS IN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS**

# ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE CONTINUES RADIATION EXPERIMENTS



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH  
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014

July 12, 1978

The U.S. Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI), Bethesda, Maryland, USA has killed over 2,000 Rhesus monkeys in radiation experiments in the last 10 years, as well as an unknown number of Crab-eating macaques. India's export ban on primates, which came into effect on 1 April 1978, was established partly as a protest against the cruelty of AFRRI's experiments, which involve training a monkey to perform a task such as running in a treadmill, exposing it to a fatal dose of radiation, and observing the animal's post-irradiation performance until it dies.

On receiving a tip that AFRRI's experiments, which had been suspended in the wake of the India ban, had been resumed using Bangla Desh Rhesus monkeys, Dr. Shirley McGreal, Co-Chairwoman of IPPL, arranged to visit AFRRI to learn more about the situation. The visit took place on 5 December 1978.

Ms. McGreal learned that AFRRI was indeed in possession of 30 Rhesus monkeys from Bangla Desh. The animals had been purchased from MOL Enterprises, a U.S. animal trading company which had succeeded in obtaining a monopoly on export of monkeys from Bangla Desh. Although AFRRI had ordered 30 male monkeys, it had received 18 females and 12 males from MOL. Since AFRRI uses only male monkeys in its military-oriented research, it was anxious to exchange the 18 females for males, and had arranged to make an exchange with the National Institutes of Health Division of Research Services, whose Director, Dr. Joseph Held, also serves as the Chairman of the U.S. Interagency Primate Steering Committee. IPPL contacted Dr. Held who stated that Bangla Desh had placed no restrictions on the use of the monkeys it exported, and confirmed the planned exchange of monkeys.

Transfer of Bangla Desh Rhesus monkeys by NIH to AFRRI appeared to IPPL to violate the "Certification" clause of Contract 263-78-C-0276 between MOL Enterprises and the National Institutes of Health, which states, "The U.S. Government certifies that the monkeys purchased under this agreement will be used only for medical research and that they will receive humane treatment under the care of the U.S. Government." IPPL therefore strongly protested Dr. Held's plan to transfer NIH-owned monkeys to AFRRI to Dr. Donald Frederickson, Director of the National Institutes of Health. In a letter to IPPL dated 5 February 1979 Dr. Frederickson informed IPPL that the planned transfer of animals to AFRRI had been cancelled.

IPPL also considered that sale of Bangla Desh Rhesus monkeys to AFRRI might violate Section 33 of the March 1977 agreement between MOL Enterprises and the Government of Bangla Desh which states that "this franchise and license is granted. . . on the express and sole condition that the primates. . . from Bangla Desh shall be used exclusively for the purpose of medical research performed. . . for the general benefit of all humanity all over the world." The possible violation of the agreement was reported by IPPL to Bangla Desh authorities and press. As a result, the Government of Bangla Desh informed MOL Enterprises on 3 January 1979 that the agreement between the company and the Government of Bangla Desh had been cancelled with immediate effect. The Government alleged that MOL had violated two clauses of the Agreement; the clause requiring the company to establish monkey breeding farms in Bangla Desh, as well as Section 33. In late January, attorneys for MOL Enterprises contacted the Bangla Desh Ambassador to the United States in an apparent effort to restore the company's profitable monopoly on export of Bangla Desh monkeys.

AFRRI was also in possession of a group of Rhesus monkeys obtained from an animal trafficker named George Thorsen in Fayville, Massachusetts, USA, who had obtained the monkeys from the TNO Laboratory in the Netherlands (the same

Dr. Th. C. van Schie  
Primate Center TNO  
Lange Kleiweg 151  
Rijswijk  
The Netherlands

Dear Dr. van Schie:

I understand from Dr. Clifford Roberts, Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI), that you have given priority to the National Institutes of Health breeding programs for Macaca mulatta you may have available. We appreciate this and are interested in any female breeders you may have. However, we would like to relinquish our interest in the 13 male, 5 to 11-year-old laboratory born animals listed in the June 12, 1978, issue of Primate Supply Information Clearinghouse to the AFRRI, if this would not interfere with other commitments you may have for these animals.

Thank you for aiding the NIH in meeting its requirements for rhesus monkeys.

Sincerely yours,

Joe R. Held, D.V.M.  
Director  
Division of Research Services

Primate Steering Committee Chairman  
"Steers" Primates to AFRRI

laboratory that had previously sent 2 chimpanzees to Dr. Barnard of South Africa for sacrifice in heart transplant operations).

In response to IPPL's enquiry, Dr. Hans Balner, Director of the TNO Laboratory, stated in a letter dated 15 January 1979:

After one of the major NIH institutes had placed an order for rhesus monkeys which we had put up for sale, Thorsen called about the availability of 12 male Rhesus monkeys which were to be sold to a research institute of the Armed Forces. Since the NIH institute in question had priority, (TNO) asked NIH whether they would consider relinquishing 12 males to the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute. . .

Neither van Schie (nor I) was aware of the fact that AFRRI was the institute whose experiments contributed to the Indian ban on exports of Rhesus monkeys. Thus, when we received a letter from NIH officials (signed by Dr. Joe Held) in which they relinquished these animals to the Armed Forces Institute, we thought to act in good faith by selling the animals to Thorsen Company. . .

The letter from Dr. Joe Held to Dr. Balner is reproduced in this article. It is surprising that, knowing the circumstances of the Indian ban on primate exportation, Dr. Held was actively helping AFRRI obtain primates.

George Thorsen has failed to answer an IPPL enquiry about the transaction. Thorsen has been advertising in the Primate Supply Clearinghouse for Rhesus monkeys, which he claims he will use for "breeding purposes." Institutions planning to sell monkeys to this trafficker would be well advised to be cautious in their dealings with him if they have ethical objections to providing monkeys for neutron radiation experiments.

Apr 1979

AFRRI was also holding a large group of Rhesus monkeys from India obtained prior to the ban. They were not being used in experiments due to India's objections to the research conducted at AFRRI. AFRRI was also in possession of a large group of Crab-eating macaques which had already been irradiated. AFRRI receives its monkeys from the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Washington, D.C., USA, which in turn obtains its monkeys from Malaysia. The monkeys are shipped on documents carrying the name of the U.S. Army Section, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In response to an IPPL enquiry, Dr. David Huxsoll, Commander of the Section, informed IPPL that 565 monkeys had been shipped to Walter Reed bet-

ween November 1974 and September 1978. However, the animals had been "conditioned" by a Malaysian animal trafficker, although the Institute was identified on all shipping documents as the exporter. Dr. Huxsoll stated that he had no idea how the monkeys were used by Walter Reed. It is likely that many of them were sent to AFRRI. The irradiated Crab-eating macaques were probably from the September 1978 shipment.

It appears that the United States Government places such a high priority on neutron bomb experimentation that it is willing to violate international agreements and contracts to secure monkeys for AFRRI. By doing so, it risks further export bans from countries concerned with what happens to the animals they export.

## ANIMAL WELFARE GROUPS' TELEGRAM TO INTERNATIONAL PRIMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONGRESS



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1 8033712280 MG% TDMT SUMMERVILLE SC 01-07 0238P EST

J MCGREAL  
261 HIGHLAND DR  
SUMMERVILLE SC 29483

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

LT TDMT SUMMERVILLE SC 01-04 0846P EST  
INT LT PROFESSOR N R MOUDGAL CARE INTERNATIONAL PRIMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONGRESS DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE  
BANGALORE560012 (INDIA)

DUPLICATE CORRECTED COPY

THE UNDERMENTIONED GROUPS REQUEST THAT INTERNATIONAL PRIMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONGRESS STRONGLY CONDEMN NEUTRON RADIATION EXPERIMENTS PERFORMED AT UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE. THESE CRUEL AND INHUMANE EXPERIMENTS VIOLATED UNITED STATES INDIA AGREEMENT OF 1955 REQUIRING THAT MONKEYS EXPORTED FROM INDIA BE TREATED HUMANELY AND NOT USED IN MILITARY RESEARCH. AFTER INDIAN BAN ON PRIMATE EXPORT, AMERICAN DEALER OBTAINED MONOPOLY ON EXPORT OF RHESUS FROM BANGLADESH AND SOLD FIRST MONKEYS TO RADIOBIOLOGY INSTITUTE TO CONTINUE RADIATION EXPERIMENTS INTERRUPTED BY INDIAN BAN. USE OF BANGLADESH RHESUS IN MILITARY RESEARCH APPEARS TO VIOLATE SECTION 33 OF GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN DEALER WHICH STATES THAT BANGLADESH MONKEYS MUST BE USED ONLY IN RESEARCH OF BENEFIT TO ALL HUMANITY. UNITED STATES NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH ENDORSE RADIATION EXPERIMENTS AND WILL SEND SURPLUS BANGLADESH MONKEYS TO RADIOBIOLOGY INSTITUTE. BY SENDING BANGLADESH MONKEYS TO RADIOBIOLOGY INSTITUTE U.S. GOVERNMENT SHOWS THAT IT APPARENTLY PLACES WARFARE PREPARATIONS ABOVE HEALTH OF ITS PEOPLE AND THAT IT IS PREPARED TO VIOLATE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN MONKEYS FOR NEUTRON BOMB EXPERIMENTS. WE REQUEST THAT CONGRESS STRONGLY CONDEMN CRUEL AND INHUMANE EXPERIMENTS ON PRIMATES AND ASK MEMBERS TO WORK TO MAKE SUCH RESEARCH ILLEGAL IN ALL COUNTRIES. WE ASK THAT CONGRESS CONDEMN IN PARTICULAR EXPERIMENTS AT RADIOBIOLOGY INSTITUTE AND REPEATED VIOLATIONS BY UNITED STATES OF 1955 AGREEMENT WITH INDIA. WE REQUEST THAT CONGRESS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR HOST COUNTRY INDIA'S BAN ON PRIMATE EXPORTATION

FRIENDS OF ANIMALS COMMITTEE FOR HUMANE LEGISLATION SIERRA CLUB HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES RHESUS RESCUE DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE FUND FOR ANIMALS INTERNATIONAL PRIMATE PROTECTION LEAGUE MONITOR INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION LET LIVE FRIENDS OF MONKEYS INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

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The Seventh Congress of the International Primatological Society took place in Bangalore, India, from 8-12 January 1979. Several U.S. and international animal welfare organizations sent a telegram (reproduced opposite) asking that the Congress take a firm position in opposition to use of primates in military and other cruel experimentation.

However, this telegram was never brought to the attention of Congress participants, as the Executive Committee of the International Primatological Society decided not to place it before the General Assembly.

In a letter to IPPL dated 14 February 1979, Dr. Allan Schrier, Secretary-General of the IPS, explained the "banning" of the telegram.

The resolution was not brought before the General Assembly and, hence, not voted on. . . The telegram was literally dropped (by the Indian scientists) in the lap of the Executive Committee. . . The Executive Committee may support, be against, or take no position on proposed resolutions that an individual or organization plans to bring before the General Assembly, but it has no obligation to do anything else about them. . . There was utterly no support for the resolution in question on the part of members of the Executive Committee. . . Furthermore, it was felt that the basic message of portions of the telegraphed resolution was the same as, or similar to, that in some of the other resolutions to be offered, but which were lacking the belligerency (sic) and stridency of tone and controversial character of the telegraphed resolution.

Dr. Schrier stated that he did not yet have copies of the resolutions that were passed by the assembly.

### RHESUS MONKEYS' "ANNOYING ATTRIBUTES" DISPEL RESEARCHERS' QUALMS

After describing the temper and habits of the Rhesus monkey in his book *Trial by Fury: the Polio Vaccine Controversy*, the author, A.E. Klein, M.D. comments:

Any qualms at the "inhumanity" of injecting viruses into the spinal cords of these "cute" creatures, who look so much like little people, is soon dispelled by their many annoying attributes.

# IPPL AND HSUS PROTEST AFRRRI'S USE OF RESTRAINT CHAIRS

The International Primate Protection League (IPPL) and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) have protested to the U.S. Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI), the U.S. Defense Nuclear Agency (AFRRI's parent agency), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (U.S.D.A.) about AFRRI'S practice of maintaining monkeys in restraint chairs for prolonged periods of time.

During the course of their 5 December 1978 visit to AFRRI, Ms. Margaret Morrison, Animal Welfare Act Coordinator of HSUS, Dr. Andrew Rowan, Associate Director of HSUS's Institute for the Study of Animal Problems, and Dr. Shirley McGreal, Co-Chairwoman of IPPL, observed several Rhesus monkeys confined to primate chairs. The chairs were in closets, with one animal in each closet. AFRRI veterinarians informed the visitors that the animals were not removed from the chairs at night. The lights were turned off and the closet doors closed.

According to the 1978 edition of the **Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals**, a U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare publication, the following guidelines apply to chairing of primates:

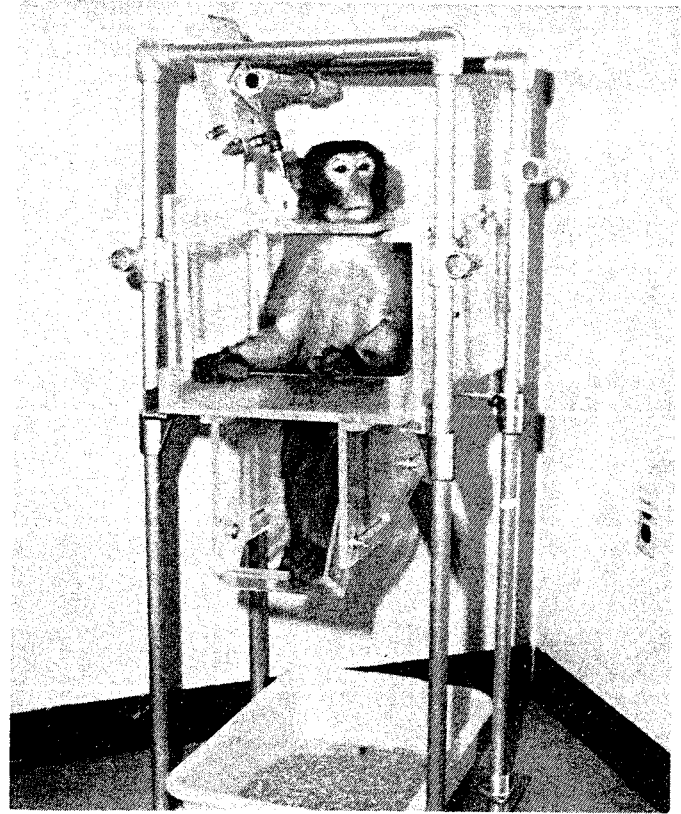
The use of restraint chairs or similar devices is sometimes necessary in research. The following considerations should guide investigators in the use of restraint equipment:

- The period of restraint should be the minimum required to accomplish the research objectives.
- Restraint in chairs or similar devices is not to be considered a "normal" method of laboratory housing, although it may be required for a specific research objective.
- Restraint chairs or similar devices should not be used simply as a convenience to the investigator in the handling or management of animals.
- When animals are restrained in chairs or similar devices, particular attention must be paid to the possible development of lesions or illnesses that may be associated with continuous restraint. For example, animals should be monitored for contusions, decubital ulcers, dependent edema, and weight loss. If any of these problems occur, the attending veterinarian may decide that local treatment or temporary or permanent removal of an animal from the restraint device is required.

In response to Ms. Morrison and Dr. Rowan's complaint, Admiral Robert Monroe, Director of the Defense Nuclear Agency, claimed in a 23 January 1979 letter that AFRRI's use of restraint chairs was justified since it was "necessary for the purpose of the research," Admiral Monroe admitted that the chaired monkeys might well exhibit "nervous behavior" but blamed this entirely on the presence of "strangers." Monroe also claimed that the monkeys were under "continuous and careful veterinary monitoring" and that the veterinarians would take "appropriate action" if the animals' behavior threatened their "well-being."

If, as Admiral Monroe asserts, it is essential to confine monkeys to restraint chairs for their entire course of training in order to relieve them of the "stress" of being handled daily, then AFRRI's practice of placing monkeys in its notorious treadmill for daily training periods and removing them to their home cages at night can be questioned, since moving monkeys from the treadmill to cages would be just as "stressful" as moving monkeys from their chairs to cages. AFRRI's logic appears inconsistent and self-serving, a possible rationalization of expedience and neglect.

In an 8 January 1979 letter to IPPL, Dr. Darrell McIndoe, Director of AFRRI, informed IPPL that AFRRI would remove primates from chairs if training were to be interrupted for more



AFRRI Monkey in Chair Photo: AFRRI

than 3 days (which implies that monkeys would be left in their chairs during weekends). Animals would also be moved if there were signs of injury. McIndoe pointed out that many monkeys would remain chaired for their entire training and experimental period. In other words, the monkeys, once confined in their chairs by the tight waist and neck stocks, would remain there till death.

IPPL also questions whether AFRRI may not be subjecting its monkeys to excessively severe electric shock in the course of training. One AFRRI veterinarian stated that he had accidentally received a shock from the monkey shocking device and had received a severe jolt as a result. A shock that would hurt a human would be extremely painful and unpleasant for a small monkey. AFRRI uses shock extensively: every spoke of its treadmill is electrified, and the chaired monkeys have shockers attached to their tails and backs.

## PRIMATES LOSE FRIEND

IPPL announces with sadness the death of Lee White in September 1978 after a valiant battle against cancer. Lee was a member of the Board of Directors of IPPL and had been active in the organization since its founding. She was a Lecturer in Psychology at San Francisco State University and was involved with the San Francisco Zoo and its Zoological Society as a docent, participant in the baby gorilla language project, Zoo Librarian, liaison person between the Zoo and both the Biology and Psychology Departments at San Francisco State University, prime mover on environmental enrichment projects at the Zoo, and initiator of a zoo research course offering for students at the university. Lee is survived by her husband Joe Doyle and their young son Carlo.

# SAFARI CLUB HUNTERS PLAN TO SHOOT ORANG-UTANS, GORILLAS, AND COLOBUS MONKEYS

In an Endangered Species permit application filed in August 1978, the Safari Club International, an organization based in Tucson, Arizona, USA, requested permission to import 1125 hunting trophies annually over an unspecified number of years. The application listed animals belonging to 40 endangered species. The Club's "hit list" included the following primates:

- 5 gorillas
- 5 orang-utans
- 18 Black colobus monkeys
- 5 Red colobus monkeys
- An unspecified number of Zanzibar red colobus monkeys

Also included were 10 cheetahs, 40 jaguars, 150 African leopards, 5 clouded leopards, 50 ocelots, 10 white rhinoceroses, 25 tigers, 100 mountain zebras, and many species of endangered antelopes.

The Safari Club claimed to have obtained hunting licenses for all species concerned from authorities in the habitat countries. However, specific countries were seldom identified, the applicant merely stating "Africa," "Southeast Asia," or some other vague description. In the case of the orang-utan, the Safari Club claimed to have permits from "Indonesia, Malasia (sic), and Bruner (sic)." Suspecting that the Club had not been in contact with government agencies in these countries, since it was unable to spell their names, IPPL contacted these authorities. All stated that no permits for trophy hunting of orang-utans had been issued to the Club or anyone else. IPPL also contacted the Club seeking copies of all permits obtained for trophy-hunting of gorillas, orang-utans, and colobus monkeys. The Club failed to answer IPPL's letter.

Should the Club have falsely claimed to be in possession of hunting trophies from foreign countries, it would be liable for criminal prosecution under U.S.C. 18 § 1001. IPPL has therefore requested the Division of Law Enforcement of the Department of the Interior to investigate the possibility that the Safari Club application contained false statements, and to take firm action should perjury have occurred.

Many animal protection organizations expressed their opposition to the Safari Club application to the Department of the Interior.

Henry Heymann, IPPL's Washington Representative, commented:

The gorillas, which have been the subject of observation by primatologists such as Dian Fossey, Adrian de Schruyver, and George Schaller, have lost their distrust of humans, particularly Caucasians,

and thus would be sitting ducks for the Safari Club hunters. Their killing, besides being a loss to science, would stimulate additional killing by poachers. The latter would reason that, if foreigners are allowed to kill gorillas or other species, why should they not be free to do so?

The Indonesian program carried on by Birute Galdikas Brindamour of restoring ex-pet orang-utans to the wild would be severely crippled if not destroyed. Ex-pets having lost their fear of man would be slaughtered by the Safari Club hunters.

Peter Pritchard, Vice-President for Science of the Florida Audubon Society, commented:

They want to kill what will look good hanging on the living-room wall, to provide a focus for dubious stories of bravery and machismo in wild places. . . It might be added that the Arabian oryx never suffered from a lack of interest on the part of the big game hunters. In fact, the hunters were so interested that they shot them all.

In regard to the proposed trophy hunting of primates, Pritchard commented:

Orang-utans are not game species: they are slow-breeding animals whose populations have already become seriously endangered by overcollecting by irresponsible zoos and collectors. Their populations will suffer in direct proportion to the number of individuals killed by trophy hunters- indeed, in more than direct proportion, since the removal of the mature males identified as targets by the Safari Club will have unknown but surely deleterious effects upon other individuals- females and juveniles: and hard-won efforts to persuade or require local people to protect the animals will be reversed overnight. The same argument refers to gorillas: anyone who wants to kill one of these magnificent anthropoids for a hunting trophy evinces a psychopathology that suggests that he would be dangerously maladapted for membership in human society.

The Environmental Defense Fund, in a statement co-signed by fifteen animal protection groups including IPPL, noted that the review process for the Safari Club's application was procedurally defective since the Department of the Interior had published it in the **Federal Register** before inspecting copies of the hunting licenses the Club claimed to possess. The EDF also stated that issuance of a permit to the Safari Club would violate both the Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

## RECOMMENDED READING AND LISTENING

**Animals and Their Legal Rights** (Animal Welfare Institute, 1978). This excellent reference work contains a survey of U.S. animal welfare legislation from 1641-1978. Both federal and state laws are presented in detail, as well as international restrictions on the wildlife traffic. The book also contains chapters on "Humane Education in the Public Schools", "Laws to Protect Wildlife", "The Law and the Nonhuman Primate Trade", and "International Animal Protection." **Animals and Their Legal Rights** is available for \$2.00 from the Animal Welfare Institute, P.O. Box 3650, Washington, D.C. 20007, USA.

**Animals** (February 1979). **Animals** is the bimonthly magazine of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Its February 1979 issue contains an excellent article by

Laurie Steller Rikleen on "The Myth of the Animal Welfare Act." Ms. Rikleen comments that an "unenforced law can be as bad as no law at all" and blames the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which is charged with enforcing the Act, for making "virtually ineffectual" what is potentially a valuable piece of legislation. **Animals** (February 1979) is available for \$1.25 from MSPCA, 350 South Huntington Av. Boston, MASS 02130, USA.

"**The Gibbons**". This phonographic recording made by Joe and Elsie Marshall presents the calls of all gibbon species recorded in the wild. The record is available for \$7.00 postpaid in the U.S., \$7.50 postpaid in Canada, and \$10.00 (airmail) to other countries. "The Gibbons" is available from ARA Records, 1615 NW 14th Av. Gainesville, FL 32605, USA

Apr 1979

# TEN CHIMPANZEES SEIZED AT AMSTERDAM AIRPORT

On 1 December, 1978, ten young chimpanzees arrived at Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam. The animals had been shipped from Freetown, Sierra Leone, by the well-known animal trafficker, Franz Sitter, who has exported over 600 chimpanzees from Sierra Leone since 1973. Eight of the animals were destined for a circus in Spain, and two for a Danish trafficker named Farss, who was apparently planning to send them to a zoo in Mexico.

The shipment of chimpanzees was accompanied by an export document for 8 chimpanzees issued to Herr Sitter by the Chief Conservator of Forests of Sierra Leone.

The chimpanzee is listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). However, Sierra Leone, Spain, and the Netherlands are not Convention members, although Denmark is. The Netherlands, however, does have its own Exotic Endangered Animals Act, which is more rigorous than the Convention and which is being strictly enforced. Under the terms of this Act, import permits are required for importation of chimpanzees to the Netherlands, and transit permits for animals transshipped via the Netherlands.

The chimpanzee shipment had no permit to transit the Netherlands. Further, the Sierra Leone export document only covered eight of the animals. Therefore, Netherlands authorities confiscated the entire shipment. According to Mr. F.H.J. von der Assen, Head of the Fauna and Flora Division of the Netherlands Ministry of Culture, several of the chimpanzees were in poor physical condition on arrival in Amsterdam. All the animals were initially placed in the Wassenaer Zoo, and six were later transferred to the Burgers Zoo in Arnhem. The two weakest chimpanzees died. Dutch authorities are considering transfer of the surviving animals to the Abuko Nature Reserve in the Gambia, West Africa.

Enquiries at the Sierra Leone end revealed that, although Sierra Leone had initiated a ban on chimpanzee export, the two exporters (Sitter and Mansaray) were being allowed to export the substantial number of chimpanzees still in their possession. Sitter had argued to the government that his customers had paid him for the animals, and that he was therefore entitled to export them. This argument appears questionable since most animals are shipped on a cash on delivery basis. The decision by government authorities to allow the export of the animals went contrary to the recommendation of the Sierra Leone Nature Conservation Association (SLNCA) that chimpanzees held by dealers at the time of the ban be confiscated and a rehabilitation program established.

The President of Sierra Leone informed SLNCA representatives that export of the remaining chimpanzees (Sitter had 49 in his possession at the end of January and Mansaray 30) would be carried out under strict police supervision to prevent illegalities, and that, once these animals had been shipped, further exportation would be banned. It is not clear yet whether Sitter will be prosecuted for exporting more animals than allowed on his permit.



Confiscated chimpanzees at Wassenaer Zoo

It is clear that the Sierra Leone chimpanzee dealers have, over the years, built up an advantageous relationship with some local government officials. Until recent months, the massive exportation of chimpanzees continued unchallenged. IPPL believes that it is essential that Sierra Leone ban all exportation of chimpanzees, not only to save its own populations, but to prevent Sierra Leone-based dealers from decimating chimpanzee populations all over West Africa. Readers are requested to write to Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of Sierra Leone, State House, Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, expressing their opinions on this matter.

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## NEW BOOKS

H.D. Rijksen, 1978, A Fieldstudy on Sumatran Orang Utans (*Pongo pygmaeus abelli* Lesson 1827): Ecology, Behavior and Conservation. H. Veenman and Zonen B.V., Wageningen, The Netherlands.

This monograph reports the results of a three-year (1971-1974) field study of a wild orang utan population in a tropical rainforest in the Ketambe area of the Gunung Leuser Reserve in north Sumatra. A rehabilitation project for confiscated orang utans was started at Ketambe in conjunction with the research on wild populations. "Part IV. Conservation" discusses how habitat destruction through slash and burn agriculture and commercial timbering activities threatens the survival of the endangered orang utan and the Indonesian tropical rainforest itself. "Selective logging" is identified as a term "being used to soothe public awareness of the destruction and land devastation resulting from commercial timber exploitation" and the trend to explain away the destructive influences of logging with the argument that certain species may benefit from the operation as an "inappropriate argument" based on a limited set of variables.

## CAPUCHIN MONKEYS HELP QUADRIPLÉGICS

Psychologists at the Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston USA have trained three Capuchin monkeys to serve as the arms and legs of quadriplegics. One of the monkeys, "Tish", a four-year old female, has learned to pick up objects from the floor, turn on the television set, push doorbells, and turn lights on and off.

Dr. Mary Joan Willard, the Tufts University psychologist who is training the monkeys, has tried to get U.S. government and private funds to expand her project. But she has been turned down. It appears that the U.S. government is very willing to finance experiments such as dropping of weights on monkeys' spines at the Medical University of South Carolina to turn them into cripples, but is not interested in helping make life more comfortable for already crippled citizens.



As for the orang-utans, I can only say that I am overjoyed that they have finally been saved from their tiny little cells where they did no good for anyone. **What a twisted expression of concern to think that they were better off in Bangkok than in a modern zoo.** (Emphasis added.)

The latter statement surprised Thai wildlife authorities and conservationists who, knowing of Boonsong's close friendship with Suphin, had queried him about the location of the animals. Dr. Boonsong had reportedly claimed ignorance of their whereabouts.

In the same letter, Boonsong commented that, "both hunting and wildlife trade, when done according to the law as passed by responsible authorities, **are legitimate expressions of wildlife conservation.**" (Emphasis added.) Boonsong, formerly Thailand's most notorious hunter, added, "I have many fond memories of great hunting expeditions in the past." He also expressed support for biomedical exploitation of gibbons, in spite of their status under Thai law as Totally Protected Mammals. Boonsong's friend, Suphin, had repeatedly circumvented the ban on exporting gibbons by shipping them out of Thailand on export documents for "Special monkeys *Hylobates lar*." (See illustrated import declaration).

In 1977, Thai conservationists were alarmed on hearing of proposals to build a dam in Khao Yai, Thailand's most famous national park, which is prime habitat for Pileated and White-handed gibbons. Because Thailand was governed by a military regime at that time, Thai conservationists had to act cautiously. Therefore Khun Pairote Suvannakorn, Director of Thailand's National Parks Division, requested the help of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in blocking the dam project. He confided to a visiting WWF expert full details of the plans and asked that IUCN and WWF intervene with Thai authorities to prevent their fruition.

Subsequently, IUCN and WWF expressed their own concern about the planned dam to Thai authorities. The IUCN/WWF letters appear to have infuriated Dr. Boonsong. In a 9 July 1977 let-

ter to the Director-General of IUCN, he protested the organizations' intervention, claiming that the extent of the damage the dam would cause to the park had been exaggerated and that the dam "will have no wide-reaching environmental effects. . . we should not begrudge the farmers a little drinking water during the dry season." Boonsong added ominously, "within the last month, some forestry officials have come under investigation for spreading [false] information [about the dam] and may lose their positions."

Dr. F. Vollmar, then Director-General of WWF, replied to Dr. Boonsong on 22 July 1977, informing him that IUCN had received an expression of concern about the then-secret dam plans from the Friends of Khao Yai Association as early as January 1977, and had sent Mr. Christoph Imboden, a WWF expert, to Bangkok to investigate the situation. Vollmar noted that, "On 10 February 1977, he [Imboden] submitted a confidential report to WWF and IUCN of which I am sending you a copy herewith FOR YOUR PRIVATE INFORMATION." This confidential memo notes that the Director of Thailand's National Parks Division had sought IUCN/WWF help in combatting the dam project. Vollmar commented: "If the information (we received) was not correct, then I'm afraid the Director of the National Parks Division must also have been insufficiently or ill-informed."

Shortly after WWF's release of the confidential memorandum to Dr. Boonsong, Khun Pairote, Thailand's courageous Director of National Parks, was removed from his position. Thai conservation groups, with the exception of the Association for the Conservation of Wildlife, fought on and eventually won the battle to prevent dam construction in Khao Yai Park.

While Dr. Boonsong has done much useful work, IPPL believes that improvements in the conservation situation in Thailand have been brought about by the combined efforts of many associations (including the Friends of Khao Yai Association, the Society to Preserve our National Treasure and Environment, and the now-defunct student conservation clubs), as well as several government agencies such as the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Divisions of the Royal Forestry Department. IPPL believes that, if a prize is to be awarded, all these groups should have shared it.

## Concern over missing apes

**TWO** orang-outangs held captive in Suphin & Pets farm in Soi Inthamara, Bangsue District, for about seven years have disappeared mysteriously and may have been sold overseas, visitors to the farm said yesterday.

They said that the two orang-outangs which were

last seen together with another two at the farm on June 23 were not in their cage when they visited the farm on Thursday. "One cage was empty and two of the orang-outangs missing," they remarked.

Whether the two orang-outangs are still alive or exported remains a mystery since the owner of the farm, Mr Suphin Patraporn, was not available for comment.

Orang-outangs are the

only remaining species of the great apes now living outside central Africa. The orang-outang is a large animal with remarkably human facial characteristics, the adult male being a little more than four feet tall, with long, shaggy russet-brown hair.

The orang-outang is found only in parts of Sumatra and Borneo. No population estimates of orang-outangs exist from before 1959, but it is known that their number has declined drastically during the last century. The best available estimate indicates that the total population is now not more than 8,000.

Suphin acquired the four orang-outangs — two males and two females — some seven years ago, according to Barbara Harrison, a noted orang-outang enthusiast. She said Dr Boonsong Lekhakul had once said Suphin wished to sell a pair at 30,000 baht. Dr

Boonsong also recommended that Suphin obtain a licence to export the animals. (The exporting of such animals is prohibited by the Government).

However, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources ruled that no sale should take place and that Dr Boonsong should seek introduction of legal clause that confiscation of the animals and subsequent rehabilitation could take place. Dr Boonsong didn't respond.

Early this year, some potential customers said that Suphin raised his price for the orang-outangs to about 100,000 baht for each in spite of Suphin's claim that the animals are for breeding purpose and not for business.

"Surprisingly only last week two orang-outangs disappeared mysteriously," a visitor to the farm said.



The two missing orang-outangs



## DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST NOISE EXPERIMENTS

A coalition of animal welfare organizations in Miami, Florida, USA, demonstrated on 27 January outside the Rosenthal Scientific Research Center in Miami, to protest noise experiments conducted on Rhesus monkeys.

The monkeys, who live in a padded cell on the University of Miami campus, are awakened at 7 a.m. by the recorded roar of rush-hour traffic. For the rest of the day, they are subjected to a barrage of sounds such as pile drivers, bulldozers, and diesel generators.

After three weeks of exposure to this regimen, the monkeys' blood pressure was reported to have increased 43%.

Spokespersons for the animal welfare organizations claimed that the research, which is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, duplicates studies already performed, generates no new knowledge, and constitutes cruel and inhumane treatment of the animals.

In a "Letter to the Editor" of the *Miami Herald* (29 January 1979), Dr. William George, a Miami physician, raised questions about the value of the noise experiments. Dr. George's letter is reproduced in full:

*The Herald's recent articles on the effect of noise on Rhesus monkeys' blood pressure, and the pathetic sight of the captive monkeys' subjection to the forced listening of a cacophony of loud and bizarre sounds, was enough to raise my own blood pressure.*

*I am critical of the experiment and its application to man. One of the researchers states that the noise had much more impact on the monkeys' heart and blood pressure than even they had expected.*

*The researchers are not measuring directly the stress of noise. They are ignoring the fright that the unfamiliar and unexplainable interjected noises are causing. It is this fright which alerts the body to danger and causes physiologic changes to deal with these signaled dangers.*

*I am sure that a human placed in a cage and set down in the middle of a dark jungle day and night and subjected to bizarre and strange piercing and thunderous noises of the unknown "demons" would show an increase of blood pressure of 43 per cent from sheer fright. The noises the Rhesus monkeys were subjected to are familiar ones to humans: How do you explain the noise of pile drivers and lunch-hour clatter of a cafeteria to a monkey?*

*Since scientists have known for years that sustained exposure to loud noise such as that from heavy machinery or amplified rock music can cause deafness, fatigue, and high blood pressure, I see no rationale in tormenting these monkeys. The noises people encounter in daily living are understandable to people and can be learned to be ignored. The noises forced on the monkeys make no sense to them.*

*Anyway, monkeys don't go disco dancing, and would just as soon be in their natural habitat.*

## LORD HOUGHTON DISPUTES CHARGE THAT ANIMAL ACTIVISTS DO NOT CARE ABOUT PEOPLE

Speaking before the British House of Lords in London on 19 June 1978, Lord Houghton, a long-term champion of animals, made the following comments on the allegation frequently made to animal activists that they do not care about the problems of sick children, starving individuals, etc. Lord Houghton's thoughtful comments may be useful in helping primate activists formulate an appropriate response when confronted with this irrational accusation.

With your Lordships' permission, I want to avail myself of the opportunity on this occasion to refute the suggestion which came my way in the course of the debate on the Child Protection Bill Second Reading stage last month: namely, that I probably care for animals more than I care for children. I am by no means alone in this experience because one frequently hears this kind of remark. I am not going to quote what was said or who said it; it is on the record. All I want to do for a moment or two is to reply to it on my own behalf and on behalf of many others who suffer, if I may say so, from this kind of insinuation.

I do not equate animals with children, nor do I make them alternatives in my affections, my concern, or my work. They are a different species each with their rights and claims upon the living world. It is not a matter of priorities...of "either/or", it is a

matter of the moral standards of human beings, and those to me are all embracing and all pervasive. They are all that justifies the continued existence of mankind. I am not called upon to apportion my deepest feelings between children and animals. I care about all living things—and for the weak and helpless most of all.

Moreover, I have no obsessions; I am not a fanatic; I am not crazy. I reject the proposition that fondness for animals implies some lack of concern for human beings. Do I have to prove a love of children by being cruel to animals? Is the person who is cruel to animals likely to love children all the more? Is that the proposition, or is cruelty an evil streak in the nature of some humans which makes selfless love, whether for humans or animals, impossible?

When Queen Victoria was urging Members of this House to support the Cruelty to Animals Bill of 1876 did any noble Lord suggest that Her Majesty (who had nine children) cared more for animals than for children? If not, how many children does one have to have to be exempt from this imputation? How can one disprove it? The more one analyses this taunt, the more unfair it becomes. With great respect, I ask that we should hear no more of it.

# INDIAN REACTIONS TO "MONKEYING WITH THE RHESUS"

Compiled by Lynn Dolwick

On 5 November 1978 the "Illustrated Weekly of India" published an article entitled "Monkeying with the Rhesus," by Shirley McGreal, co-chairwoman of IPPL. The article exposed the barbarous treatment of rhesus monkeys in U.S. laboratories by research scientists. The monkeys were obtained through an agreement between India and the U.S. made in 1955, which stated they would be used for biomedical research and would receive humane treatment. They were not to be used for military research. The agreement, however, was violated from the beginning and Indian monkeys have been used in neutron bomb and chemical warfare tests.

There was a great outpouring of anger and grief from the Indian people who read the article and it was expressed in hundreds of letters to Dr. McGreal commending her for the expose and supporting the efforts of IPPL to end questionable and unnecessary experimentation.

Reproduced below are excerpts from some of the letters which document the horror and revulsion felt by the Indians when they learned of the cruelties perpetrated on animals exported from their country. Dr. McGreal did not receive a single letter condoning the experiments described in her article.

"Your account of the Rhesus monkey torture in U.S.A. was heartrending. It only goes to prove what I have always believed, that Man wasn't in the plan when God decided to create the world... When cutting forests and banishing the animals from their homes without a single thought but for his own benefit, Man feels fully justified, but let an animal as much as enter his farm or come near his house and it is instantly shot...When they put a monkey's body in plaster for years or use terror devices on baby monkeys or put monkeys in strait-jackets and then make shock experiments on them, they aren't being inhuman at all. Instead, I would say, they are being human...Who else but a human being could think of such terrorizing and cruel methods? Who but a human would torture other lives yet flinch at even the thought of he himself being tortured? Oh yes! They are being human all right."

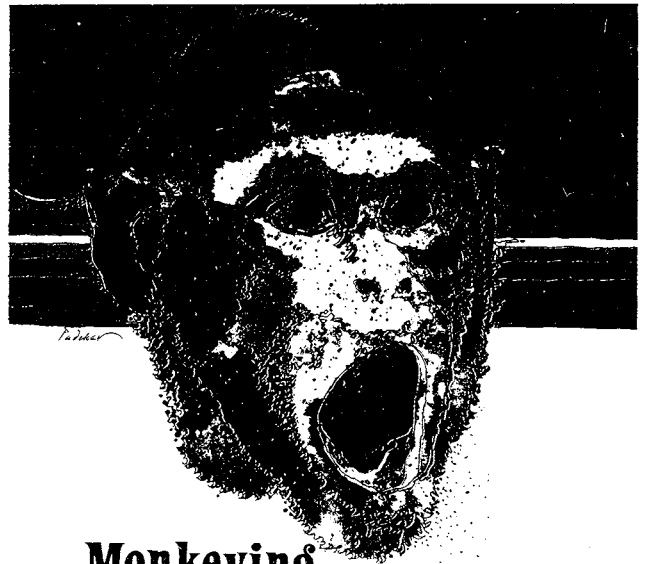
Anjali Kadekodi, age 16  
Poona, Maharashtra

"When I read your article I felt the same way I did when I read the Gulag, and the description of the Nazi concentration camps. They all reveal the same kind of degradation of the human soul. I suppose what upsets me most is the description of the torture on the baby animals - those porcupine mothers, wells of depression, and so on...I am still optimistic enough to believe that the outlook of our cruel and irresponsible race can yet be changed...I feel the best way will be to try to reach the children in school. I found that the attitude of children towards animals can be changed quite easily...while a grown up is almost incapable of changing his outlook. Another necessity is to stress and explain the fact that the primates can feel almost the same way as we do, repeatedly, because most people say and believe the animals cannot be capable of feeling like us - their nervous system is not so developed!"

Mrs. Susmita Bhattacharya  
Calcutta

"I was deeply touched by the shocking revelations made by you in the article...I agree with you wholeheartedly that mankind has an obligation to protect animal life. We cannot suffer the dignity of life, human or animal, to be compromised on the rather flimsy justification that such experiments enhance our scientific knowledge. As you have shown in your article most of the research carried out in the U.S. on rhesus monkeys is merely repetitive."

M. Venkata Raghobham, Research Fellow  
University of Delhi



## Monkeying With The Rhesus

Thousands of monkeys — most of them from India — are subjected to the most brutal torture. All this is done in the name of scientific research. Would anyone tolerate such savage experiments on a human being? Yet, monkeys, being our nearest evolutionary relatives, have almost the same feelings as we. The author is co-Chairwoman of the International Primate Protection League.

by SHIRLEY MCGREAL

Ten Indian monkeys die in agony after being dipped in boiling water.

Several Indian monkeys die as they are slammed in the side with a custom impactor in simulated car crashes.

Ten Indian monkeys are shot in the head on a truck from the skull with a rifle.

Hundreds of Indian monkeys are turned into hapless empires when urethra are dropped directly on to their spines.

Thousands of Indian monkeys receive sensory touch stimulation and then are forced by electric shock punishment to run on treadmills till they drop dead.

Do these sound like the diabolical fantasies of a madman? They are not. All these experiments took place in scientific laboratories in the United States. And the victims were Indian monkeys exported under the terms of an agreement in which the United States guaranteed that the monkeys would be treated humanely. How could this happen?

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY OF INDIA, NOVEMBER 5, 1978 21

"I do not understand the need of killing such harmless creatures for experimental purposes. Jesus was once questioned... 'Master tell us which is the second greatest commandment?' Jesus replied, 'Love your neighbor as much as you love yourself and God. This is the second greatest commandment.' Lord Buddha preached the same thing. Lord Mahavir also told his followers to love all created beings. Krishna also did the same thing. If we bring all the religions together, they tell all human beings to live like brother and sister. Monkeys are our neighbours and ancestors. We only want to kill all other beings for our own use...I now come to understand the saying, 'Man alone is ungrateful.' I think that no matter what happens, the Indian people must support the ban and should never export monkeys hereafter."

Nair Somanglow, High School student  
Bombay

"The way in which the guarantees given for the use of the rhesus monkeys have been flouted shows that the only way to prevent their misuse is to ban all exports...Your article should be translated and published in every periodical in India to open the eyes of the people and to invite them to lodge their protest with the Government."

H.A. Shah  
Government Servants Society  
Ahmedabad

"I read the article about our monkeys being slaughtered in the name of science. I and my family are very much sorry about all these. I, my wife and three children are very strongly opposing such scientific experiment. We, the humans, do not have any right to kill whoever we fancy."

Mr. and Mrs. Shukla and children  
Bhavnagar Para

Apr 1979

"I have just read your article...and was appalled. I think Moraji Desai did the right thing in boycotting the export of monkeys and hope he does **not** back down. Incidentally, I am an American myself and am neither an antivivisectionist nor a vegetarian. I am not calling for a moratorium on animal research...but the experiments you described...are beyond all humanity."

Dorothy Watson Brar  
Ludhiana

"You and your organization are indeed fighting a brave battle against the desperate civilization where life is nobody's concern and money and fame are the only goals. It requires real imagination to devise such tortures so that a few stupid and otherwise useless persons can boast themselves to be 'researchers' doing research that is damaging to the whole nature and is outright criminal...I am relieved to read that Mr. Morarji Desai has at last banned the export of these poor creatures and hope that our good Prime Minister and his people will be able...to withstand pressures to lift the ban."

Dr. P. Krishna Rao  
Professor  
Indian Institute of Technology  
Bombay

"Due to this article many people have come to know that what the monkeys have to suffer. The scientists argue in their defense that the monkeys do not feel any pain during the experiment. But how it can be possible because every animal has the feeling of pain, humor, death, etc. as that of mankind. I agree with you that the rule of prohibition of export of monkeys which was introduced from 1st April must continue. The cruel experiment on innocent animals should be stopped."

Nitin M. Amin  
Ahmedabad

"Your brilliant and impartial article...brings to light many of the unimaginable, barbaric atrocities committed on primates in the name of scientific research and experiments...Primates and man occupy almost the same place in the tree of human evolution...it is disheartening to note that the selfish motive in man has made him seek pleasure and protection at the cost of his surrounding nature, which is being gradually and systematically destroyed. To be very frank, I was almost in tears as I carefully read the paragraphs dealing with experiments on the Science of Depravity...Man has no right to ill treat any living being, more so when his thinking faculty has reached its zenith as it is today and is in a position to differentiate between good and bad."

Dr. V.C. Shunmuganandan, M.B., B.S.  
Nagpur

"I read with horror your article...with tears in my eyes I wrote the poem attached.

"The Rape of Justice" (excerpt)

"The brute in man invades the world itself  
And turns this earth a bleeding inferno.  
Murder let loose plucks light from sockets of  
Primates thro' tortures most inhuman and  
Revolting and the animal life bleeds on.  
Such horror chills the blood..."

M.V. Mohon  
Bombay

"I read with deep anguish your article...India should not export monkeys to any country if they are used for experiments of whatever nature. I fully support a ban on export of monkeys to any country for the purpose of experiments...Man has no right to torture or kill any animal for experiments, much less his fellow primates, who are almost human in intelligence, feelings and emotions."

M.K. Narayanaswamy  
Bangalore

"It is a shocking revelation that civilized people can treat baser animals with such carelessness. The conclusion of most of the cruel experiments performed on the rhesus are so obvious, that it makes one wonder that either these scientists are sadists or they lack in common sense. The very fact that these monkeys are being used to test the effect of neutron bombs should be sufficient enough to maintain a ban on the export of the rhesus."

Shirshak Kumar Dhali  
Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.  
Hyderabad

"...reading your article has really opened one's eyes and I am writing this letter to you wanting to know how I could be of any help to your organization... I feel that we are straying away from the laws of nature and thus creating an upset of the ecosystem balance. With so many of our fellow beings on this earth disappearing we may soon find ourselves on earth without nature."

V.V. Pandit, student  
Karnataka

"Please be assured that we in India will try all that is within our means to see that the ban on export of monkeys is not lifted...In Indian mythology, monkeys are referred to as Hanuman and we pray Him as the Lord of Power and Strength. It is a matter of shame that India has become a place for their slaughter and not protection."

Kamalesh Kumar Z  
Coimbatore

"We are delighted with the fact that people from your country have noticed the brutal tortured monkeys and are aware of the fact that monkeys, being our nearest evolutionary relatives and having almost human feelings, are meeting with such harsh treatment..."

Anil Morje and Arun Patkar  
Architects  
Bombay

"I...do feel strongly that the export of the rhesus monkeys be **totally and permanently** banned in future to prevent such types of death accompanied by horrors and cruelties on the live animals. I have also, therefore, expressed and conveyed my strong opinion...to the present Prime Minister of India, the Rt. Hon. Shri Morarjeebhai Desai - strongly urging and appealing him to do so on humanitarian and non-violent grounds...In India, a section of the populace - the Hindu - still respect and worship the 'Monkey-God' Hanuman, who is described as a human friend and helper and is also stated to have performed many heroic deeds of valour and righteousness to rescue and assist the human sufferings of his friend - a Man-God - from his adversaries...Any unnecessary abuse, torture and killing for any purpose of any animals including primates, must be totally and strongly condemned by all..."

S.K. Tuljapurkar  
Nagpur

"You were very correct in saying that Indian and Western views of what constitutes humane treatment of animals differ. But what is being done on Indian monkeys for research purposes in American cannot be claimed as 'humane' by any stretch of imagination whether it be Indian or Western...I, for one, have prepared myself to organize the youth of India to keep continuous pressure on our Government and to see that the Government does not submit to the pressures created by some interested quarters to lift the ban imposed on the export of monkeys."

G.P. Agarwal  
Agra

"I fully support views expressed by you in this article. I endorse the ban by Government of India on primate exports. Man should have respect for life in animal kingdom too. I heartily thank you for educating the public through your moving article."

Om Prakash Sharma  
Mwanza, Tanzania

"After reading your write-up, all I can say is that I am ashamed to be included in the same class of humans as these men of science who perpetrate those 'humane' experiments. To imagine the men standing around, watching intently as the monkeys are being dipped in boiling water, is to recall all the devilish experiments that S.S. doctors performed on the inmates of the Nazi concentration camps. While the traders in this business can be labelled as unscrupulous profit seekers, one wonders at the inhumaneness of the scientists, most of whom are from good families and have a decent upbringing in normal backgrounds. What streak in them makes them forget that they are handling beings that are like themselves in most respects, and not pieces of clay?"

Satyajit Chatterjee  
Nagpur

"Read with horror your article on the rhesus monkeys... Torturing and killing of these innocent beings in the name of scientific experiments should be stopped at any cost, whether it is in India, U.S.A., or any other country. Anyway, I am glad our Prime Minister has banned the export of these monkeys."

T. Shri Devi  
Advocate  
Chikmagalur

"With every word I read disclosing the sordid details, I could feel weights being dropped on my exposed spine, while being strapped to a 'primate chair.' Only a diabolical sadist would enjoy reading about such inhuman treatment without shedding a silent tear for these hapless creatures, that are ordinarily harmless and often beneficial to mankind. The problem of cruelty to primates has to be viewed in the broader framework of man's cruelty to all creatures sharing this earth with him from the inception of its creation. The record of human cruelty has been unsurpassed and shall remain so during the entire period of evolution of life on earth."

J.S. Balsara  
Bombay

"I read your article on the rhesus monkeys...and was simply shocked and furious at what I read. I never realized humans could be so cruel. Right now if humans were used for this kind of research people would be simply shocked. I don't see the use in proving theories that have already been proved...It's a shame to think how lowdown humans can get to inflict torture and pain on these animals."

Miss Shernaz Tarapore, age 14  
Chandigarh

"I am certainly against treating the rhesus monkeys so cruelly and especially when all this hardly serves any purpose. Even if it did, I am sure any experiment with any living creature should be carried out without causing any pain or any harm to the creature, especially the monkey which has an uncommon intelligence which is almost human! Furthermore I am sure that the common people of India would greatly object if they came to know how cruelly monkeys are being treated in the name of science, as the monkey is regarded as being a 'holy' animal by the Indian people."

Irina Nag, student  
Calcutta

"You have clearly established the fact that in the name of scientific research, savage experiments on living beings are conducted...Bhagwan Mahaveer Ahimsa Prachar Sangh Madras is devoted to the cause of living beings...Please indicate whether your organization and our organization could jointly work towards putting a halt for the slaughter that goes on in the name of science."

S. Champalal Golecha  
Bhagwan Mahaveer Ahimsa Prachar Sangh  
Madras

"Words fail me to express my horror at such brutality committed in the name of science, but in reality just a manifestation of crass commercialism. We Hindus regard the monkey as sacred and being possessed of intelligence only next to man, who, most shamelessly prostitutes it for mean and heartless ends...I have every hope that the Government will take effective steps to prevent such misuse or stop the supply altogether until and unless there is a foolproof system of certification of the genuineness of the demand."

Vidha Sagar Sharma, M.A., M. Ed.  
Rtd. Professor  
Nangli

"To say that your article ... moved me to tears is to say little and leaves much more unsaid...through your article you have done yeoman service to a cause very close to the heart of all right-thinking women and men...please let me know in what little way I could be of assistance...if need be by a battle royal with the powers that be."

J. Thiagarajan  
Advocate  
Madurai

"I very well understand the research which goes on in your country, but the methods used to obtain the results are I am sorry to say extremely inhuman. It is beyond my comprehension how any human in his **right sense** of mind can carry out any of those tests on the monkeys. I am sure that their sense of pain and feelings are **no less** than humans (if not more) and that goes for any living creature...When the export of monkeys started it was clearly stated that no inhuman treatment will be given. This goes to show that the Americans are cheats and very dishonest fake people, who think only of themselves."

Yasmeen Mehta  
Bombay

"The moment I finished the article an idea flashed through my mind. The idea was to translate your article in Hindi language and then send it for publication in some widely circulated Hindi magazine. The article is of national concern and I think that brutalities over such animals should be made known even to those people who know Hindi and don't know English...it will make a public opinion against such tortuous activities and will help in checking the export of monkeys if it is allowed in future under foreign pressure or under pretexts of better treatment."

Pramanshu  
Allahabad

"Your article...touched me to the core. Tears trickled down the eyes on going through the sensational observations and disclosures made by your good self to the most brutal tortures being made on the rhesus monkeys imported from India in the garb of 'Scientific Research' in the laboratories on USA."

Rajendra Bajpai, Ph.D.  
Kanpur

"I read your article...It was really horrible reading it. I could have cried when I read about all those awful things those poor monkeys have to go through...It's sheer cruelty treating monkeys in the way they are doing. Putting them in a straitjacket and making them walk on treadmills till they die, I sure would like to see them trying all that out on humans. The scientists would say that they are doing all this for our benefit, so why the complaints, but how long are they going to carry on? How can they bear to watch those poor helpless things cringing in fear and throw weights on their spines?...I really hope Mr. Desai sticks to his decision not to export monkeys."

Nita Nagaraj, student  
New Delhi

Apr 1979

# THE GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM FAILS TO RATIFY THE C.I.T.E.S. IN 1978

**SABENA** D.F.R. 01, Jo  
the world's airway

Brussels National Airport, September 18 1978

Received: 27.10.78

D.F.R. TO ALL STATIONS  
 cc. Z.MEP  
 Z.REP.ADJ  
 Z.BL.DF

On 15 August 1978, Ardith Eudey, co-chairperson of IPPL, discovered a consignment of 40 gibbons, 55 macaque monkeys, and one Malayan tapir from the Laotian Zoo, a commercial animal dealership in Vientiane, Laos, being held in transit at Don Muang Airport, Bangkok, Thailand for transhipment to Zoopark Cortenrene, an animal dealership operated by Rene Corten in Westerlo, Belgium. All available evidence suggests that the animals may have been captured in Thailand, where they are legally protected from commercial exploitation, rather than in Laos. SABENA transhipped the tapir to Brussels, Belgium on 15 August and the gibbons and macaques on 16 August. The shipment may have been one of a series since René Corten, in a circular dated February 1977, advertises the availability of gibbons (and chimpanzees) and encourages his customers to place orders soon, "before Belgium becomes a Party to the Washington Convention," that is, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S.), which regulates international traffic in endangered and threatened animals and plants. Neither Belgium nor Laos is a Party to the Convention. The details of this Laotian-Belgium traffic in protected wildlife are reported in the December 1978 issue of the IPPL Newsletter (Vol. 5, no.3).

Following an international and coordinated protest against this wildlife traffic by IPPL; the International Society for the Protection of Animals (ISPA); the Secretariat of the C.I.T.E.S., which is under the jurisdiction of the IUCN; and the Siam Society of Bangkok, SABENA ordered all of its stations to accept animal species specified in the C.I.T.E.S. on SABENA aircraft or under SABENA airway bill only for "Transport to Countries which have signed the Convention" if proper license or export permit is available and to refuse all other trade. The role of "International Animal Protection Organizations" in this decision is indicated in the SABENA communication dated 18 September 1978 which is reproduced here. However, in spite of assurances from Chancellor J. Mustin to IPPL and other organizations that the Government of Belgium would ratify the Convention during

Re: Acceptation of Live Animals

You are aware of the existence of an agreement, named "Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora" called also Washington Convention.

If many Countries have already signed this Convention, Belgium however has not yet done so.

Nevertheless, in order to stop all criticism by International Animal Protection Organizations and a bad reputation of our Company in the world Press, it has been decided that the animal species, as specified in this Convention, shall only be accepted for transport on SABENA aircraft or under SABENA AMB under following conditions:

- Transport to Countries which have signed the Convention: acceptable if proper licence or export permit is available
- Trade between other Countries: must be refused

Refer to the IATA Live Animals Regulations - Edition November 1977

- for the list of animals (pages 8 - 14)
- for the list of Countries (Attachment A - pages 138-139)

We suggest that adequate details should be given to your shippers/consignees and cargo agents involved in this kind of shipments.



G. LUYPAERT

**SABENA memorandum**

1978, as of 5 February 1979 the Secretariat of the C.I.T.E.S. reports that Belgium still has not undertaken ratification, claiming the delay to be only "temporary."

IPPL encourages concerned readers to contact the Belgian government urging immediate ratification of the C.I.T.E.S. In the United States letters may be addressed to the Belgian Embassy at the following address:

3330 Garfield Street N.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20008

## U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PLANS ACTION ON WILDLIFE CASES

On 12 February 1979 U.S. Attorney General Griffin B. Bell announced a major new effort by the Department of Justice to stop illegal trade in wildlife and plants.

The program will consolidate all the Department's civil and criminal jurisdiction over wildlife laws in the Land and Natural Resources Division, headed by Assistant Attorney General James W. Moorman. This increased centralization will enable the Department to use its resources more efficiently and to concentrate its efforts against this growing illegal trade, Mr. Bell said.

"Various government agencies are becoming increasingly concerned over the imminent threat of extinction facing much of the world's wildlife and plants," the Attorney General said. "For many species, this threat arises from illegal trade."

Recent figures show that, in 1975 alone, the world trade in birds totaled about 5.5 million and that, in 1976, the United States imported 91 million articles manufactured from wildlife.

The total trade of illegal wildlife is estimated to produce millions of dollars to those involved.

Mr. Moorman said the Justice Department effort will enable it to play a larger role in coordinating investigations among the various investigatory agencies and United States Attorneys' offices involved in wildlife cases. Such an effort is necessary, he said, because many wildlife dealers operate throughout the nation and must be investigated by many different entities.

He said some dealers in wildlife are illegally importing certain species of parrots, skins from cats like leopards, and many species of cactus.

"Working closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Customs Service, and the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce, the Justice Department will vigorously enforce all criminal and civil laws regulating trade in wildlife and plants," Mr. Moorman said. "I regard the new program as one of the principal initiatives that the Land Division will undertake in 1979."

Apr 1979



Sifakas by Kamol Komolphalin  
Apr 1979

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