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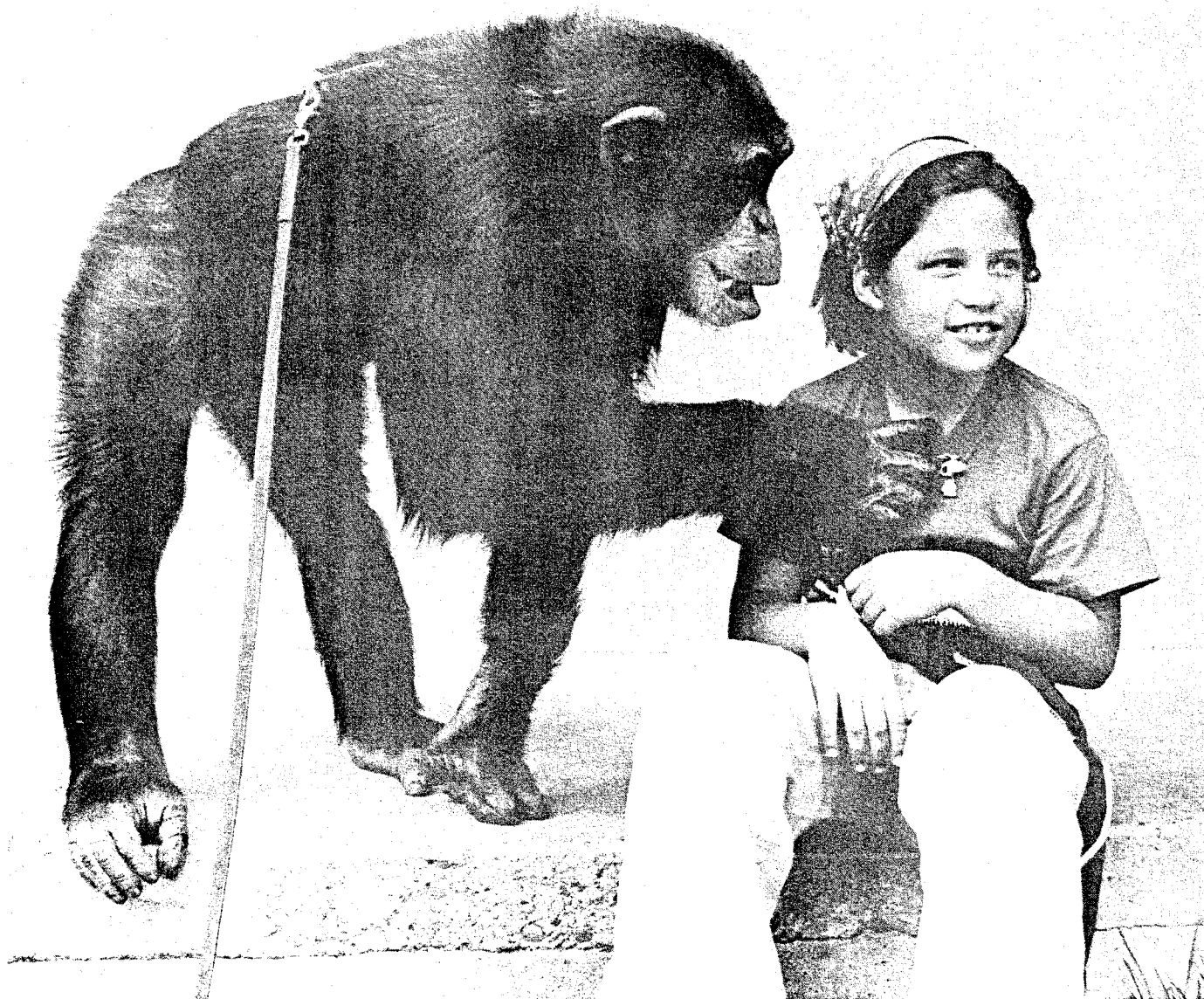
# NEWSLETTER



INTERNATIONAL  
PRIMATE  
PROTECTION  
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Charlie Chimpanzee, 9½, plays with Keeper's 8-year old daughter

## SPECIAL REPORT: PORTLAND ZOO ENRICHES LIFE FOR CHIMPANZEES

Dec 1979

# AN ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT PROJECT FOR CHIMPANZEES

By Marianne Yeutter

Chimpanzees are highly intelligent, social animals. In addition to good food and a clean, spacious living environment, they need congenial species companionship, sympathetic human care, and a variety of opportunities for work and play to keep their active minds stimulated. This is not a new idea; it was presented in 1925 in *Almost Human* by Robert M. Yerkes. But in 1979 meeting these needs for captive apes is still a challenge.

## THE PROJECT

Since June, 1972 the Washington Park Zoo in Portland, Oregon, has had a special Chimpanzee Enrichment Project whose purpose is to provide a variety of environmental experiences and activities to help alleviate the boredom commonly experienced by captive great apes.

Every day for the first 5½ years, and five days a week for the past two years, a group of specially trained volunteers have taken the chimps in the project out of their cage and interacted with them for at least three hours per day. The chimps live together in a social group when they are not interacting with their handlers, and even when they are with people they are usually all out together.

## THE CHIMPANZEES

The chimps in the project come from diverse backgrounds. **Charlie**, age approximately 9½ years, was wild born in Liberia. He was captured and sold as a pet when he was about two. **Bathsheba**, age approximately 9½ years, was also wild born in Liberia. She was captured at about age 2½-3 years and sent to a laboratory in New York, where she remained for only a few weeks before coming to this zoo. **Chloe**, age approximately 10½ years,

was a former pet and carnival chimp before being donated to the zoo at about 6 years of age. **Delilah**, age 6½ years, and her younger twin sisters, **Leah** and **Rachel**, age 5½ years, were born at the Washington Park Zoo. They were rejected by their mother shortly after birth and had to be hand raised.

## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

One of the activities the volunteers have engaged in with the chimps is teaching them to use American Sign Language (Ameslan). With Ameslan the chimps can make specific requests in a communication medium humans can clearly understand. However, many of the chimpanzees' natural gestures and facial expressions are quite explicit. We imitate their food grunts, breathy laughter, threat barks and other vocalizations to help keep two-way communication open.

With Ameslan the chimps can request "more sweet drink" (their name for fruit juice) or indicate their preference for oranges over apples. Charlie has walked over to the refrigerator and signed "you open more me eat."

Though their signing vocabularies are limited, the chimps use the signs they know in creative combinations to describe items for which they do not have a sign. For example, fresh grapes, cherries and blackberries are called "berries" by the chimps but dried fruits such as raisins and figs, they call "sweet berries." They are given yogurt in a cup with a spoon so they can either eat it or drink it. They call it "eat drink," "eat sweet drink" or "eat sweet berry drink" if it's berry flavored.

Besides using food signs the chimps also use signs such as "you," "me," "chase," "tickle," "open," "key," "up," "down," "listen," "look," "hat," "ball," "paper," "flower,"



Left to right: Bathsheba, Charlie, Tim Gillum, and Chloe. These friendly animals weight 100-110 pounds and have all their adult teeth

“ride,” “red,” and “blue.”

Sometimes the chimps sign to themselves. Delilah does this the most. One day she was not paying much attention while being tested on a number of object signs, so her handler decided to stop for the day. Delilah returned to the playroom where her sisters and two volunteers and I were playing. She climbed onto a table and gathered several objects around herself. She also got a clipboard, a pencil and some paper. She then proceeded to sign the name of each of the objects around her. She picked up a ball, signed “ball,” then scribbled on the piece of paper. She picked up a hat, signed “hat,” then scribbled on the paper again, etc. It looked like she was testing herself! (She has done this several times; we’re hoping to get it on video tape.)

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

There hasn’t been much emphasis on teaching sign language to the chimps in this project, so they haven’t learned as many signs as apes who are involved in intensive language research projects. Our main activity has been getting the chimps out of doors where they can experience normal chimpanzee behaviors that are often precluded in captivity.

The Washington Park Zoo is surrounded by a beautiful wooded area that contains both evergreen and deciduous trees. The chimps’ favorite activity seems to be going to the woods (in warm weather) where they can climb trees, eat leaves, forage for wild nuts and berries, somersault through tall grass, and play delightful tickle/chase games with each other and their handlers. They initiate these games by signing “you chase me” and “you tickle me more.”

When its too cold to go outside the chimps utilize two indoor playrooms that contain a variety of sturdy toys.



Chloe enjoys climbing a tree

### SOCIALIZATION MOST IMPORTANT

Our major concern with the chimps in the Enrichment Project when they were younger was acting as social facilitators to help them grow into a unified group. Normally, the adult chimps in a social group serve as role models and supervise the younger chimps; for example, they help inhibit aggression.

The project chimps were infants and juveniles from diverse backgrounds when they first met. Each chimp has a unique temperament and personality so conflicts do arise. It has taken the group a long time to become the somewhat cohesive unit they are today. We had to supervise their interactions outside of the cage for a couple of years before we could allow them to all live together.

The older juveniles were eager to interact with the infants, but their behavior was initially too unpredictable. They cuddled and carried the infants, but after a half hour or so they became too rambunctious and started dragging the infants around and play slapping hard enough to frighten the babies.

**Chloe** is the biggest individual success story for the chimp project. She came to the zoo in March, 1975 as a six year old former pet and carnival chimp. She was an unfortunate example of what happens to primates who are raised in species isolation and encouraged to behave like humans. When chimpanzees approach puberty they become increasingly more independent, as well as growing physically larger and stronger. Chloe began biting the people who cared for her, so they gave her to the zoo.

She did not seem to realize she was a chimpanzee when she met the other chimps. She seemed terrified of Charlie and Bathsbeba at first, even though she was physically larger than either of them. She recoiled from them and screamed whenever they tried to initiate any type of social interaction. It took months for her to learn how to respond to their social cues.

Today she is well integrated into her group. She initiates play with all of the other chimps, participates in quiet grooming sessions, and she behaves like a sexually mature adolescent.

### SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE

One of the functions of a zoo is serving as an educational facility. In good weather the chimps spend part of their time outdoors in areas where people can watch from a safe distance and ask questions.

Visitors are fascinated by the chimps and enjoy watching them manipulate objects, solve problems, use sign language, and interact with each other. People can more fully appreciate the chimpanzees’ intelligence and respect their strength when they have a chance to watch them being active.

We strongly stress that chimpanzees **DO NOT** make good pets. We believe that we have been successful working with these animals in the zoo largely because they have each other to rough-house with for 20 hours a day. They are more dependent on each other than on us and are therefore behaviorally “normal.”

It requires a great deal of experience to be able to read and understand the chimps’ facial expressions, gestures and moods, and an error in judgement can mean being bitten by an animal that is three to five times as strong as a man, pound for pound.

Our relationship with the chimps is based on mutual affection, respect and trust. We will continue to work with them as long as they enjoy our companionship and as long as it does not interfere with their social development.

### FUTURE PLANS

The zoo has a second group of adult chimpanzees who are not handled. The project chimps cannot live with this group at the present time because their enclosure is not large enough. The zoo is planning a new enclosure that will double the chimps’ current indoor area and add a new quarter-acre outdoor island. The island will be surrounded by a dry moat and will include: a variety of substrates such as grass and sand; large climbing structures; lots of room for running; heated shelters; and a small, simple waterfall for the chimps to play in. The projected completion date for this facility is Spring 1981. We will integrate the two groups at this time.

## ANIMAL MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

One of the advantages of the chimp project from an animal management point of view is that medical problems are detected earlier because the animals are handled. The animals are also easier to medicate because of our close relationship with them. On the other hand, we must be extremely careful not to expose the chimps to human diseases.

The Washington Park Zoo is fortunate to have keepers, volunteers and research people who are constantly trying to come up with ideas to improve the animals' exhibits. In the primate house we have put straw in most of the cages. The apes use it primarily for nest building; the monkeys spend a lot of time foraging through it for wheat. Sometimes we throw in handfuls of nuts or seeds which encourages foraging for both great apes and monkeys.

Some of the cages have branches from trees attached to the standard archaic metal pipes. The colobus monkeys especially enjoy leaping off these branches as the branches have more spring in them.

Fresh vegetation is a welcome addition to the primates' cages. They spend a lot of time manipulating the leaves as well as eating them.

Finding novel objects that are unbreakable and safe enough to leave in the cage is a real problem. The only "chimp-proof" objects we've found, now that the animals are older, are rubber tires and cardboard boxes. The orangutans also have large rubber dairy tubs and burlap sacks.

I hope this article will open up communication with other zoos and institutions who care for primates. We would appreciate your ideas for ways to make life more interesting for captive animals.



Signing: Charlie: "Chase:" :Tim "Who?": Charlie "Me"

*Ms. Yeutter can be reached at the Washington Park Zoo, 4001 SW Canyon Road, Portland, OR, 97221.*

## REMINDER

IPPL has closed its Berkeley Post Office Box. All mail should be addressed IPPL, P.O. Drawer X, Summerville, SC 29483.

## A SECOND SHIPMENT OF "LAOTIAN MAMMALS"

The December 1978 issue of the IPPL Newsletter reported the details of a shipment of mammals, consisting primarily of gibbons and macaque monkeys, which had been shipped by the Laotian Zoo, an animal dealership in Vientiane, Laos, to two animal dealers in Belgium, Jean de Coninck and René Corten. Belgium is not a party to the C.I.T.E.S. (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species), which attempts to regulate international shipments of animals. The shipment was discovered and photographed in August of last year while in transit at Don Muang Airport, Bangkok, Thailand by Ardith Eudey, co-chairwoman of IPPL. The crating of the animals did not conform to the standards established by IATA (International Air Transport Association). Based upon our knowledge of their distribution patterns, many of the animals seemed to be of Thai rather than Laotian origin. Thailand prohibits the export of these animals for commercial purposes. All available evidence suggests that Mr. Khampeng of Bangkok Wildlife, a Thai animal dealer, was responsible for arranging this shipment.

On 23 April 1979 a second shipment of mammals from the Laotian Zoo en route to three animal dealers in Japan was discovered and photographed while in transit at Don Muang Airport by two officers of the Wildlife Conservation Division of the Thai Royal Forest Department. Japan, like Belgium, is not a Party to the C.I.T.E.S. The shipment consisted of a total of 10 cages containing 8 gibbons, 12 macaque monkeys, 1 tapir, 6 bear, and 26 leopard cats. The officers described the cages as not conform-

ing to IATA standards, and the pictures which they took show that the cages were made to the same design as those used for the August 1978 shipment. The animals were flown from Vientiane to Bangkok on Laos Aviation flight 411 on 23 April and transshipped from Bangkok to Japan on Pakistan International Airlines flight 760 on 24 April. The three consignees or recipients of the animals in Japan were:

Aritake Chojuten Co., Ltd.  
6 Muromachi 4-Chome Nihonbashi  
Chuo-Ku, Tokyo

Endoh Pet Imports  
2-1-16 Shikahama  
Adachi-Ku, Tokyo 123

Mrs. Yuko Saito  
Messers A. Yoshikawa Co., Ltd.  
C/ Yamakazaki 202  
2-21-24 Nishi-Azabu  
Minatoku, Tokyo

All information relating to the April shipment has been forwarded to Mr. Peter Sand, Secretary General of the C.I.T.E.S., for further investigation.

## 480 MONKEYS DIE IN TRANSIT:

Only 145 of a shipment of 625 crab-eating macaques shipped from Indonesia to Sweden on 7 September 1979 survived the long journey. Many more monkeys died shortly after their arrival.

The animals were shipped by the Indonesian company PRIMACO, of Jakarta, Indonesia. They were shipped by way of the Netherlands, where the dealer van der Bijl reportedly served as broker, to Sweden, where their destination was the State Bacteriological Experimentation Unit in Stockholm.

Details of the shipment were provided to IPPL by Dick van Hoorn, a reporter for **De Telegraaf** of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

On 8 September, a shipment of several hundred monkeys (Java macaques) with destination Stockholm, Sweden, was held up for some hours at Amsterdam Airport while in transit. A controller of the Fauna Division of the Ministry of Culture inspected the cargo. He found there was a very strange smell around the monkeys' wooden cages, and he ordered that 2 cages be opened. What he saw was awful. In one cage were 15 macaques, nearly all wounded and in the other cage were 11 animals, of which 7 were dead. They had obviously been killed by lack of fresh air, their eyes were hanging out of their sockets, and they had bitten off their own tongues. The controller inspected the other cages with a lamp and found still more dead and injured monkeys.

The shipment created an uproar in Sweden. According to the British newspaper **The Daily Star**, (24 September, 1979), Sweden's animal "ombudsman" Ingrid Af Trolle, planned to prosecute both the airline and the importer. She complained that, "the monkeys were tightly packed in small wooden crates with no food or water. They were frightened out of their wits."

Swedish animal activist Birgitta Carlsson revealed that another 500 monkeys had arrived dead in Sweden during the first six months of 1979. She commented, "perhaps they were the lucky ones, the rest are destined to die anyway unless we can stop this macabre trade."

Indonesian animal exporter Chuck Darsono of CV Primates (Indonesia) expressed his disgust at the loss of the monkeys in a statement dated 18 October 1978. Darsono described the shipment as "just horrifying" and criticized Indonesian animal dealers for "not caring what they sell as long as they can make a quick dollar in their hit and run strategy." Darsono also attacked primate importers in user nations, saying, "there are still many importers with high intellect running sophisticated primate business facilities after cheap monkeys: even though the mortality rate is high, as long as the price is cheap, they can still be in the business."

Darsono also criticized users for not caring enough about the preservation of primate species.

Stating that "Indonesian animal exporters have never contributed or helped to preserve the species of wildlife they deal with but instead just keep extracting from the belly of nature," Darsono commented that this situation "cannot be tolerated any longer." He called for a thorough census of Indonesia's primate populations and for strict quotas on the numbers of macaques exported, as well as both oral and written qualifying examinations for animal dealers, and inspection of their premises by the Directorate of Nature Conservation and the Government Animal Health Service Department.

Darsono's statement contained an estimate of losses of monkeys at all stages from transshipment to foreign consignee. The estimated loss ratio added up to 71% of monkeys caught.

In addition, Darsono made the allegation that some primate exporters were cheating the Indonesian Treasury by claiming that they were selling monkeys for \$2.00 (U.S.) per head, while actually selling them for \$35.00 (U.S.). He suggested establishing a minimum price for monkeys and other wildlife exported from Indonesia.

Darsono provided IPPL with extremely valuable tables on the number of monkeys exported from Indonesia from 1 January to 17 September 1979. During this period the total number of Crab-eating macaques exported was 17,092, of which Primaco exported 13,316, Falcon 975, Inquatex 1,720, and C.V. Primates 575. A total of 815 Pigtail macaques were also exported. Countries receiving more than 1,000 primates were: U.S.A. 4,320, Taiwan, 4,300, Japan, 2,566, Sweden, 1,675, Netherlands, 1,320, United Kingdom, 1062.

The large number of primates exported to Taiwan is of especial concern. Taiwan has one major zoo and one safari park. To the best of IPPL's knowledge, the only laboratory in Taiwan using primates is the US Naval Medical Research Unit (NAMRU), which uses Taiwanese macaques as well as a relatively small number of imported animals. It therefore appears likely that most of the monkeys shipped to Taiwan ended up in food markets and restaurants. Some may have been served at ritual monkey dinners which continue in some areas where traditional Chinese culture prevails. In such meals, the monkey is held by the neck in a restraining device and its brain removed while it is still alive.

IPPL commends Mr. Darsono for his courageous call for a clean-up of Indonesia's massive monkey trade. This trade is likely to increase in the wake of Malaysia's new policy of legal protection for all primates. Summarizing his paper, Darsono stated that, "If something could be done and contributed towards better handling methods by *bona fide* characters in the primate export sector, this will undoubtedly save quite a lot of work for Dr. Shirley McGreal in general and unnecessary suffering for the macaques in particular."

IPPL members wishing to express their concern over the primate export situation in Indonesia should contact His Excellency Ambassador Ashari, Embassy of Indonesia, Washington D.C., U.S.A. or the Indonesian Ambassador in their country of residence. Letters may also be addressed to Dr. Emil Salim, Minister of the Environment, Jakarta, Indonesia, and Ir. Lukito Daryadi, Director, Directorate of Nature Conservation, Jalan Ir. H. Juanda 9, P.O. Box 133, Bogor, Indonesia.

Everyone is urged to take the time to write letters. The lives of thousands more monkeys are at stake.

(Copies of Mr. Darsono's statement and detailed statistical tables are available from IPPL for the copying cost of \$2.00.)



Crab-eating macaque

Dec 1979

## MONKEYS PLACED AT ATOMIC BOMB SITES IN NEVADA

In the course of a visit to the School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A. on 31 August 1979, Dr. Shirley McGreal, Co-Chairwoman of IPPL, learned that Rhesus monkeys had been placed at hydrogen bomb test sites in Nevada in 1957 and 1958. IPPL member Lois Jordan of San Antonio accompanied Dr. McGreal on her tour of the facilities.

Details of eye-burning experiments on monkeys conducted at the School of Aerospace Medicine were published in the August 1979 issue of the IPPL Newsletter.

Dr. D. Welch, director of the School of Aerospace Medicine, and several of the school's scientists and veterinarians provided the visitors with a lengthy briefing and answered questions. In addition, a tour of the facilities was provided. Dr. Welch asserted that the large-scale radiation and eye-burning experiments were a thing of the past, and that monkeys were used more cautiously, especially since the Indian and Bangladesh primate export bans.

Dr. J.E. Pickering, who has been involved in the School's research program for over 25 years, confirmed that, in 1957-58, Rhesus monkeys had been placed at the sites of aboveground hydrogen bomb tests in Nevada.

Ten tubes, each containing 8 monkeys, were placed at each test site, at varying distances from Ground Zero. Some monkeys survived the tests, and these animals were subsequently transferred to the Yerkes Primate Center Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A. Many of these animals have subsequently developed cancer. It is likely that the monkeys placed at the test sites originated in India. Usage in this research appears to IPPL to have been in clear violation of the U.S.-India Agreement of 1955 which stated specifically that Indian monkeys would **in no circumstances** be used in atomic blast experiments. It is clear that the United States knowingly violated this Agreement almost from the day it was made.

Another point of interest is that, even though these monkeys started developing cancer some years after exposure to radiation humans who had also been exposed received no warning from military or public health officials of the possibility they would develop leukemia or other cancers later in their lives. Even though many exposed military personnel and civilians are now developing diseases, the U.S. military is trying to deny responsibility. For further information, readers may be interested in Pickering, J.E. et al. "Biological Effects of Nuclear Radiation on the Monkey (*Macaca mulatta*): Two-Year Evaluation Report on Operation PLUMBBOB, Nevada Test Site, May-October 1957": Project 39.6, Suppl. 1, June 1959.

A group of 300 Rhesus monkeys was exposed to proton radiation in 1965, at sublethal doses. The work was sponsored by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration, reportedly in order to evaluate the possible effects of radiation that space travellers would encounter on their way to Mars. 200 of the exposed monkeys are still alive and are kept at Brooks Air Force Base in outdoor single caging.

Brooks is also studying certain types of therapy for chemical warfare agents such as nerve gases. However, Dr. Welch asserted that the monkeys were not exposed to the chemical agents. This had been done at other places (including Edgewood Arsenal) and some information was available from human accident situations. Brooks also uses baboons in studies of acceleration and centrifugal force. Rhesus monkeys are also used in studies of the effects of laser beams on the eyes.

The Commander of Brooks Air Force Base has provided IPPL with a bibliography of publications on radiation experiments conducted at the School of Aerospace Medicine between 1953-79. Copies are available from Headquarters at \$2.00 each.

## CRAB-EATING MONKEYS FREEZE TO DEATH IN EXPERIMENT

**Primate Supply**, a publication of the British animal trading company, Shamrock Farms, recently published an account of an "experiment" to find out whether crab-eating monkeys could survive the cold damp English winters without artificial heat. The purpose of the experiment was **to save operators of primate breeding facilities money**.

The article, written by A.E. Welburn, appeared in **Primate Supply** Vol. 4, no. 2. Mr. Welburn's qualifications and affiliation are not listed in the article, which describes the fate of a group of 26 imported crab-eating macaques. The animals were kept in a "kennel and run" for 2 years with "minimal heating in the living area." Eighteen of the monkeys were alive after two years. These animals were divided into 2 "experimental groups," each consisting of nine animals. One sub-group was placed in a corn-crib, with a dog-kennel and no heating of any kind. All the animals died once the night-time temperatures started to fall below freezing.

The other sub-group was placed in a unit with a kennel and run, again with no heating. However, the kennel was more solidly constructed and straw was placed inside. The animals survived the early mild frosts. However, as the consequence of one severe night frost, five monkeys died in a 14-hour period. At that point, an infra-red heater was placed in the unit and the 4 remaining animals survived the rest of the winter.

Mr. Welburn concludes that, in any future long-term breeding

scheme for crab-eating macaques:

it will not be necessary to expend large amounts of revenue on heating living areas, rather, it will only be necessary to provide background heating to prevent ambient temperatures falling below 32° F [0° C, freezing point..] This factor will undoubtedly make a tremendous difference to the revenue costs of such an operation.

IPPL considers this "experiment" to be senseless, unethical, and appallingly cruel. The "experimenters" seem concerned only with whether the monkeys survive or not, with no regard to whether they **suffer**. It is self-evident that the monkeys, huddled and shivering in their unheated dog-kennels, must have endured agonizing nights. It is possible that Mr. Welburn might survive a British winter if he spent his nights in an unheated dog-kennel. It is doubtful whether he would enjoy them.

There is no doubt that the easy availability of cheap crab-eating macaques from Indonesia and the Philippines (\$20-\$35 U.S. from the Indonesian exporter) encourages primate users to waste life in such an irresponsible way. If the monkeys had cost \$1000 (U.S.), it is very doubtful that they would have been subjected to such a barbaric "experiment."

IPPL requests its British members to send letters of protest about this mistreatment of crab-eating macaques to their Members of Parliament.

## STATE DEPARTMENT PAPERS SHOW HOW U.S. TRIED TO OVERTURN INDIA'S PRIMATE EXPORT BAN

The International Primate Protection League has obtained from the U.S. State Department a series of documents relating to U.S. efforts to overturn India's ban on primate exportation introduced in 1978. These documents show the length to which several U.S. government agencies as well as the World Health Organization (WHO) went in their as yet unsuccessful effort to sabotage the ban.

IPPL submitted its original request for documents pertaining to the Indian ban in April 1978. No documents were received until August 1979, sixteen months after the original request. Two-thirds of the relevant documents were denied to IPPL, and several documents released arrived with large sections blacked out. According to Ms. Jane Coon, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the State Department's Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, "despite the passage of time, their disclosure could reasonably be expected to cause at least identifiable damage to the national security."

IPPL has appealed this determination by the State Department. While release of the documents in question might embarrass the United States government, it is inconceivable that the release of documents related to primate intrigue could seriously damage the national security of the United States unless extreme actions such as trying to harm Indian Prime Minister Desai or bring down his government or seeking to corrupt Indian government officials had been contemplated or occurred. These possibilities seem remote.

The Indian export ban was precipitated by revelations of the use of Indian Rhesus monkeys in tests of the effects of various types of atomic weapons, including the neutron bomb.

Extracts from the documents provided to IPPL by the State Department follow.

**Priority State Department telegram to American Embassy, New Delhi dated July 1977.** In this telegram, drafted by the U.S. Interagency Primate Steering Committee, an "expression of concern" by Shri N. Jayal, Joint Secretary in India's Ministry of Agriculture, that Indian monkeys were being used for "purposes other than medical research" is discussed. The Embassy is informed that it "may assure Secretary Jayal that such reports are not factual." It is likely that Shri Jayal had read either or both of two articles 1) "Animal Army in Nuclear Tests" published in the British newspaper *The Guardian* on 18 May 1977, 2) "Monkeys Get Radiation in Neutron Bomb Tests" which appeared in the U.S. *Washington Post* (22 June 1977). Details of the radiation experiments had, in addition, been published and reported to the Smithsonian Science Exchange.

It appears ironical to IPPL that the Interagency Primate Steering Committee helped bring about India's ban on primate exportation through instructing the New Delhi Embassy to lie to Shri Jayal. If Mr. Jayal's complaint had been taken seriously and the neutron radiation experiments on monkeys stopped, the ban might well have been averted.

**Telegram from American Embassy, New Delhi to State Department dated December 1977.** This telegram announces that "Prime Minister Desai has ordered that all export of monkeys be banned. This action follows closely upon press reports here that the International Primate Protection League (IPPL) had appealed to the Prime Minister because of use by the U.S. Army of Rhesus monkeys exported from India for neutron irradiation tests. IPPL reportedly asked that the GOI either ban export of Rhesus or insist on strict enforcement by the U.S. of conditions under which the monkeys are used. The U.S.-India Agreement limits such use to medical research and testing."

**Action memorandum for the Assistant Administrator, Development Support Bureau, source unknown, dated 30 January 1978.** This memorandum discusses means to "ensure the continued availability of Rhesus monkeys for medical research." Since the U.S. had been embarrassed by the revelations of its use of monkeys in military experimentation, the United States chose

not to try to intervene directly in the situation even though the United States had received almost two-thirds of all Rhesus monkeys exported by India in recent years. The memorandum states that "it is important that the World Health Organization (WHO) should assume primary leadership of efforts to restore the availability of these experimental animals." However, it was added, "this position does not preclude independent U.S. action should any WHO effort prove inadequate."

In a postscript, the writer of the memorandum adds, "we have been informed by the Chairman of the Interagency Primate Steering Committee [Dr. Joe Held] that the Department of Defense has terminated the use of Rhesus monkeys from India in their nuclear radiation studies." This comment is of interest to IPPL because of the Primate Steering Committee's having instructed the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi to assure Shri Jayal that the neutron radiation experiments had not taken place.

**Telegram from American Embassy, New Delhi, to Department of State, January 1978.** The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi reports that the ban will not come into force until the end of India's 1977-78 fiscal year (31 March 1978). It adds that, "our best information is that the appeal by the IPPL to P.M. Desai was what prompted the ban: however, both the P.M.'s inclinations and the views of a great many Indians would tend to favor banning exports." "The telegram notes; "some sentiment in the Commerce Department for relaxing the ban because of foreign exchange earnings from monkey exports." Some Indian "scientific officials" also favored lifting the ban. However, "we do not have the impression that these views carry much weight within the Government, accordingly, we rate the prospects for securing a lifting of the embargo as poor."

**State Department telegram to U.S. Embassy, New Delhi, February 1978.** This telegram refers to a planned segment on the NBC television program "Weekend" about the Indian ban. The program would underline the "major impact" of the ban on world health and "is certain to produce a new avalanche of enquiries as to what we are doing about the matter: the issue could easily be linked to such congressionally sensitive matters as bilateral development assistance." The State Department recommended that direct intervention should be left to WHO, but suggested the Embassy continue "informal probing."

**State Department telegram to U.S. Embassy, New Delhi, April 1978.** The NBC television segment is described. "The segment begins with the narrator's statement, 'India has banned the export of Rhesus monkeys, so there may not be any polio vaccine next year.' Reporter in New Delhi, photographed in area showing numerous Rhesus monkeys scampering about, says, 'Here in New Delhi, Rhesus monkeys seem almost as numerous as pigeons in New York.' A long stream of primate procurement veterinarians (including both Benjamin Blood and Joe Held of the Primate Steering Committee) was interviewed. Shots followed of a "radiation monkey" at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute. The monkey was shown running in the AFRRRI treadmill, periodically collapsing, until he finally dropped dead. Lt. Col. Still of the Defense Department told the reporter that "I must admit that the primary interest of our research was to determine the effect that radiation from an atomic explosion could have on man." The segment ended with a scientist from Lederle Laboratories, the US's only producer of polio vaccine, asserting that, "there will be no polio vaccine in 1979 and there will be many crippled children and even deaths."

In retrospect, this segment appears to IPPL to be hysterical, propagandistic, and one-sided. 1979 has come and almost gone. India has not lifted its ban, and there has been no shortage of polio vaccine.

**State Department telegram to American Embassy, New Delhi, February 1978.** This telegram reports that the U.S. Mission Office in Geneva, Switzerland, headquarters of the World Health Organization (WHO), had held a meeting with Dr. Mahler,

Director-General of WHO, to discuss the Rhesus monkey situation. Dr. Mahler informed the Mission that he was going to India to meet personally with Prime Minister Desai in late February, in order "to try to work out arrangement for WHO to certify that exports of monkeys are for legitimate scientific purposes." However, according to the telegram, "WHO undertakes this role reluctantly." There is no mention of Dr. Mahler raising the question of the misuse of Rhesus monkeys in military experimentation in the United States. WHO has remained silent on this issue till this day.

**Telegram from American Embassy, New Delhi, to State Department, May 1978.** The telegram reproduces a story carried on the Indian wire service UNI. The story refers to U.S. efforts to meddle with the Indian primate census being carried out by the Zoological Survey of India. It also notes that, on Prime Minister Desai's orders, Dr. G. Gopalan, Director-General of the Indian Council on Medical Research, had sent a circular to all medical research institutes in India calling for restrictions on animal experiments. The article also alleged that the United States was presenting a somewhat bizarre argument to try to get India to renege exports.

The argument ran on these lines: the United States was importing monkeys from Bangladesh. Many of these monkeys had been smuggled from India to Bangladesh. Therefore, India should export the monkeys itself to earn the foreign exchange being "stolen" by Bangladesh.

**Telegram from American Embassy, New Delhi, to State Department, May 1978.** The Embassy reminds State Department strategists in Washington that "the monkey is considered a sacred animal all over India; this undoubtedly is one important basis for Prime Minister Desai's strong personal convictions about the monkey issue and those addressing the monkey issue with him should be aware of it."

**Confidential State Department telegram to U.S. Mission, Geneva, Switzerland, May 1978.** The State Department instructs the U.S. Mission to arrange for the U.S. Delegation to the WHO's World Health Assembly (WHA) to try to get a resolution expressing concern about the Rhesus monkey situation passed by the Assembly, and to inform the State Department of the results of its efforts, because "action or non-action in WHA will affect U.S. action during Indian Prime Minister Desai's June 13 and 14 official visit with the President [of the United States]."

**Telegram from U.S. Mission, Geneva, Switzerland to State Department, May 1978.** The first paragraph of this telegram states that "the U.S. delegation [to the World Health Assembly] called off its efforts to introduce resolution [on nonhuman primates] when faced with evidence that some African delegates intended to oppose strongly." Introduction of a resolution followed on the failure of WHO's Director-General to persuade India to lift the ban. Dr. Mahler, during his February visit to India, had been "sharply rebuffed" by Prime Minister Desai. The purpose of the draft resolution was stated to be "to build pressure for India's reconsideration of its decision." The telegram states that the draft resolution had been prepared in close conjunction with the Indian delegation so that it would be "strong enough to achieve our purpose while still being sufficiently general to permit Indian delegation to abstain rather than oppose." Once word was circulated among the delegates that India would abstain, the United States delegation recruited several co-sponsors for its resolution: Algeria, Belgium, Brazil, Egypt, Ghana, Iran, Kenya, the Netherlands, Nepal, and Tanzania. Several other countries promised support from the floor.

However, the anticipated smooth passage of the resolution did not occur. The telegram continues, "just before our draft resolution went to the printer on May 19, Indian delegate informed us in some alarm that Organization of African Unity (OAU) delegations had decided to oppose, and that they were prepared, among other things, to allege use of nonhuman primates for neutron bomb testing. Our own contacts had begun to suggest that African support was dropping away. The dropping away of African support was confirmed by WHO Deputy Director-General Lambo of Nigeria."

U.S. Chief of Delegation Bryant met with WHO Director-General Mahler to review the situation. The report states, "Mahler's conclusion was that risk of confrontation was sufficiently real to make it imprudent to proceed as planned."

**Telegram from U.S. Mission, Geneva to State Department, May 1978.** This telegram summarizes the events at the World Health Assembly, including the events leading to withdrawal of the primate resolution. The cooperation of the Indian delegation with U.S. efforts receives favorable comment.

**Confidential telegram from State Department to U.S. Embassy, New Delhi, June 1978.** With the failure of U.S. efforts to use WHO to overturn the Indian ban, the U.S. turned to direct intervention. Prime Minister Desai of India visited the United States in June 1978.

The first paragraph of the telegram was obliterated by State Department censors, but it is clear from the context that it refers to President Carter's raising of the question in a private meeting with Desai. The second paragraph tells how Desai was asked about the ban in a closed meeting with U.S. media on June 21, 1978. Desai replied that the issue was "resolved as far as I am concerned. I will not allow the export of monkeys." At a lunch meeting on the same day at the National Press Club, Desai was asked again about the ban. The telegram quotes Desai's response in full:

**Question:** Considering your deep concern for human needs, can you explain your stand against exporting Rhesus monkeys for research in the United States?

**Answer:** If we are real human beings, we ought not to inflict cruelty on any living being. Otherwise, you have no claim to being superior to the animals. That is the philosophy which India has always had. It is therefore that we do not want to subject any animals to cruelty and that is why we refuse to export them, but [research] is not the only answer to human welfare. Human welfare or human health can be achieved more by following natural laws: for this no medicines are required. No vaccinations, no inoculations are required. I have not taken them for years and years and I don't now."

In the final paragraph, the State Department reports in bewilderment and frustration, "Washington agencies are considering what our next step will be."

**State Department airgram to U.S. Embassies in Bangkok, Thailand, Jakarta, Indonesia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Manila, Philippines, and Rangoon, Burma, 19 July 1978.** This telegram reveals U.S. fears that other countries might follow India's example and ban primate exportation. It begins by noting that India, Thailand, and Burma ban primate exports and that, "we are anxious to avoid further bans in Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines." The airgram instructs the recipient embassies to "be alert to and report on possible changes in the monkey supply situation and National Export Regulations in host countries... If posts become aware of attempts to persuade host governments to reduce or ban the export of primates, please report the circumstances... in the case of Burma and Thailand, we would be interested in any potential changes in their policy."

Although IPPL received only a fraction of the requested documents, those received were nonetheless of great interest. It is clear that the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare was the only agency having any input into U.S. policy and intervention. No mention is made in any document of input from any agency such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, which might have introduced data on the conservation problems of India's monkey populations, leading to a more balanced approach. It is IPPL's opinion that the State Department should consult all concerned agencies before seeking to overturn legal protective measures for primates taken by habitat countries.

It is also clear that member nations of WHO should maintain closer supervision of their delegates to the World Health Assembly so that their actions should fit in with the national policies on wildlife protection. The Indian delegate is shown in the telegrams to have acted in a way likely to cause his country

Dec 1979



embarrassment and with a view to undermining his own country's position. Several of the countries whose delegates agreed to co-sponsor the U.S. draft resolution themselves ban or restrict primate exportation (Nepal, Brazil, Ghana, Tanzania).

The unwitting role played by the U.S. Primate Steering Committee in bringing about India's export ban is of great interest since the committee is dedicated to the goal of keeping primates flowing in international commerce. Confronted by valid charges of improper use of Indian monkeys by the U.S. military, the Steering Committee instructed the US Embassy in New Delhi to inform the Indian authorities that the reports were not factual

(i.e. they were fabricated). When the Indians finally learned details of the radiation experiments, the export ban was imposed. Indian monkeys, ironically, owe a debt of gratitude to the unwise and unethical conduct of the U.S. Primate Steering Committee!

Amidst all the sordid intriguing by petty men, one figure stands out. He is India's former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai. Desai, a man of principle, did what he thought was right for the monkeys of India. Invincible and incorruptible, he stood by his decision, confounding and exasperating those seeking to deviate him from his principles.

Copies of the State Department documents are available from IPPL Headquarters for the copying cost of \$5 (U.S.)

## MALAYSIA SUSPENDS MONKEY EXPORTS

The Government of West Malaysia has suspended trapping and export of Crab-eating macaques *Macaca fascicularis* and Pigtail macaques *Macaca nemestrina* for a 2-year period beginning on 15 June 1979.

In announcing the ban, Mr. Tan Sri Ong Kee Hui, Minister of Science and Environment in the Government of Malaysia, noted that macaque exports had increased from a three-year annual average of 5,000 for the years 1975-77 to 18,000 in 1978. The ban was therefore instituted to safeguard wild monkey populations.

## BABY GORILLA SEIZED AT LONDON AIRPORT

On 31 August 1979, British authorities seized a baby gorilla which arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, en route to a Japanese animal dealer.

The gorilla, a very young female estimated to be approximately three months of age, had been exported from the Cameroun by Heini Demmer, an Austrian animal dealer with an unsavory record as a gorilla trader, on 28 August 1979. She was detained by British authorities so that the legality of her export could be checked with Cameroun government wildlife officials.

According to a report in the *London Observer* (2 October 1979), the gorilla, dressed in a red sweater, leaped out of its crate as soon as it was opened and jumped into the arms of the nearest attendant. If left alone for even a few minutes during its London stay, the animal would scream.

Investigation by the British authorities apparently revealed that the Cameroun government had allowed Demmer to export the animal. She was accordingly shipped on to Japan. On her arrival, she was so weak that veterinary attention was required. According to the attending veterinarian, she weighed only 8½ pounds and was "literally skin and bones."

Demmer's operations are facilitated by the fact that Austria has failed to join the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. He operates out of Nairobi, Kenya, the Cameroun, and Italy, as well as from his headquarters in Vienna. IPPL has learned that the Japanese dealer paid \$16,000 (U.S.) for the gorilla, netting Demmer an immense profit. It is unfortunate that the Government of the Cameroun tolerates Demmer's activities.

Demmer had shipped two gorillas to Stanford University, California, U.S.A. in September 1976. The circumstances surrounding this transaction were suspicious (See "Gorillas Imported to U.S. Without Permits", IPPL Newsletter, September 1977). The animals had been purchased for use in a sign language project directed by Ms. Francine Patterson. Both animals were in poor condition on arrival and one subsequently died. Demmer reportedly received \$28,000 for the two animals.

Japan has, like Austria, failed to join the Convention. The gorillas were imported to Japan by the Keijin Choku Company, one of the country's largest importers of birds and mammals. The purchaser was the Shizuoka City Zoo. It is extremely unfortunate that Japan has failed to join the convention since the country has an extremely large number of zoos, including 70 major facilities. IPPL has learned that not only has Japan failed to ratify the Convention, but the Japanese Trade Ministry has exerted pressure on the Government of Singapore not to join.

# THE OBSERVER



Toto the gorilla finds a refuge

by GEOFFREY LEAN

BRITAIN is facing an international row, the Observer says, over the seizure of a baby gorilla from Cameroun which arrived at Heathrow on the way to Japan. The gorilla, a very young female estimated to be approximately three months of age, had been exported from the Cameroun by Heini Demmer, an Austrian animal dealer with an unsavory record as a gorilla trader, on 28 August 1979. She was detained by British authorities so that the legality of her export could be checked with Cameroun government wildlife officials. According to a report in the London Observer (2 October 1979), the gorilla, dressed in a red sweater, leaped out of its crate as soon as it was opened and jumped into the arms of the nearest attendant. If left alone for even a few minutes during its London stay, the animal would scream. Investigation by the British authorities apparently revealed that the Cameroun government had allowed Demmer to export the animal. She was accordingly shipped on to Japan. On her arrival, she was so weak that veterinary attention was required. According to the attending veterinarian, she weighed only 8½ pounds and was "literally skin and bones." Demmer's operations are facilitated by the fact that Austria has failed to join the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. He operates out of Nairobi, Kenya, the Cameroun, and Italy, as well as from his headquarters in Vienna. IPPL has learned that the Japanese dealer paid \$16,000 (U.S.) for the gorilla, netting Demmer an immense profit. It is unfortunate that the Government of the Cameroun tolerates Demmer's activities. Demmer had shipped two gorillas to Stanford University, California, U.S.A. in September 1976. The circumstances surrounding this transaction were suspicious (See "Gorillas Imported to U.S. Without Permits", IPPL Newsletter, September 1977). The animals had been purchased for use in a sign language project directed by Ms. Francine Patterson. Both animals were in poor condition on arrival and one subsequently died. Demmer reportedly received \$28,000 for the two animals. Japan has, like Austria, failed to join the Convention. The gorillas were imported to Japan by the Keijin Choku Company, one of the country's largest importers of birds and mammals. The purchaser was the Shizuoka City Zoo. It is extremely unfortunate that Japan has failed to join the convention since the country has an extremely large number of zoos, including 70 major facilities. IPPL has learned that not only has Japan failed to ratify the Convention, but the Japanese Trade Ministry has exerted pressure on the Government of Singapore not to join.

Foto: A baby gorilla from Cameroun who just wants her mother.

Toto Makes Headlines

Dec 1979

## RESEARCH MODERNIZATION ACT INTRODUCED

On 16 July 1979, a bill, H.R. 4805, the Research Modernization Act, was introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives. If enacted, the bill would establish a National Center for Alternative Research within the National Institutes of Health to promote the use of alternatives to live animals in research and testing. The bill was introduced by Congressmen Frederick Richmond, Richard Roe, Harold Hollenbeck, and Lester Wolff.

The bill provides that no less than 30 % and no more than 50% of funds currently spent on animal experimentation be directed to the National Center to promote the use of existing alternatives and to develop more. "Alternative methods of research and testing" were defined in the Act as including but not limited to "the use of mathematical models, isolated organs, tissue and cell cultures, chemical assays, anthropomorphic dummies, simulated tissues and body fluids, mechanical models, and lower organisms."

The National Center would train scientists in alternative research methods: it would also be charged with eliminating duplication of experiments on live animals, and disseminating information on alternatives to the national and international scientific community.

HR. 4805 has been referred for consideration to two House of Representatives committees, the Subcommittee on Science, Research and Technology of the Committee on Science and

Technology and the Committee on Health and the Environment of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

IPPL believes that better ways to solve human health problems than killing and harming our closest relatives must be found. Therefore, we support H.R. 4805. Many primate species are close to extinction, and many more species are severely depleted. They will therefore have to be replaced eventually. Alternative research methods are needed immediately, and H.R. 4805 would speed up progress.

U.S. members of IPPL are therefore requested to contact their Representative to the U.S. Congress expressing their support for H.R. 4805. Be sure to mention the name and number of the Bill.

In addition, please contact Rep. George Brown, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Science and Technology, and Rep. Henry Waxman, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Health and Environment, urging that they schedule early hearings on H.R. 4805. The address for all members of the House of Representatives is House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Hearings would provide animal protection organizations an opportunity to testify on use of primates in scientific research. Members interested in testifying should contact IPPL Headquarters.

## IPPL TESTIFIES FOR STRENGTHENED LACEY ACT

The Carter administration in the United States has proposed to the U.S. Congress that the Lacey Act be strengthened. The Lacey Act is a U.S. law which makes it illegal to import to the United States wildlife taken in violation of foreign laws. Few successful prosecutions have been attempted under the Act because the wording of the law requires proof that an importer knew the foreign law that he was violating. Knowledge is something almost impossible to prove and such proof is not required in most criminal proceedings (e.g. narcotics trafficking). The administration proposes a "strict liability" clause, which makes any violator of the Lacey Act liable to a fine up to \$500 (U.S.).

Most animal dealers conduct much of their business by telephone. Even in flagrant cases such as when an importer has brought in gibbons in snake crates, Interior has made no attempt to prosecute. Similarly, in cases where animals have been imported from countries where they do not occur (e.g. Proboscis monkeys from Singapore), prosecution has not occurred. In another case where a laboratory had imported gibbons from Thailand that were illegally exported, there was no prosecution, even though the laboratory director involved had visited Thailand and had written a memorandum stating that gibbons were protected animals in Thailand, and even though a laboratory employee had boasted to an IPPL official about how the gibbons were smuggled out of Bangkok Airport with bribes paid to airport officials.

Henry Heymann, IPPL's Washington Representative,

testified before both House and Senate subcommittees of the U.S. Congress. Mr. Heymann supported the "strict liability" clause but proposed that the maximum fine be increased to \$1000.

Mr. Heymann also called for strengthening the section of the Act which makes it illegal to import wildlife shipped in "inhumane or unhealthful conditions." The Act defines evidence of guilt as "the presence . . . of a substantial ratio of dead, crippled, diseased or starving wild animals." The Department of the Interior has failed to take action against inhumane shipments in most cases, claiming that cases attempted have foundered on the definition of "substantial ratio." Mr. Heymann proposed that this section of the Act be strengthened by adding the words, "lack of a substantial effort to ship the animal in a humane manner by providing sufficient space, ventilation, food and water shall be deemed *prima facie* evidence of violation."

Most witnesses testified in favor of strengthening the Lacey Act. However, the newly-formed Research Animal Alliance submitted testimony strongly opposing the amendments. This organization is sponsored by the Charles River Company, an animal dealership which owns Primate Imports of New York. It is not clear why the Research Animal Alliance would oppose amendments which would help end smuggling of primates.

IPPL's U.S. members are requested to write their congressman and both senators asking them to support the Lacey Act (18 U.S.C. §43) Amendments of 1979.

## CONVENTION NEWS

The People's Republic of China joined the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species on 23 September 1979. China, at the same time, signed an agreement with the World Wildlife Fund which may lead to projects to help ensure the survival of China's endangered species, which include the snub-nosed langur *Rhinopithecus roxellanae*.

Belgium, Austria, Italy and Japan continue to allow the importation of smuggled wildlife and wildlife products. All these countries are being encouraged to join the Convention. All have claimed for several years that they are about to join, but none has taken action yet. Until they join, the Convention cannot be truly effective.

# BABOONS

On 13 July 1979, Ardith Eudey, co-chairwoman of IPPL, discovered and photographed 40 African baboons being held in transit at Don Muang Airport, Bangkok, Thailand. On 9 July the baboons had been shipped by SAS (Scandinavian Airlines System), air waybill No. 117-49039233, from Nairobi, Kenya to Bangkok via Copenhagen, Denmark, with the final destination Taipei, Taiwan. The air waybill identifies the shipper as International Animal Exchange, Inc., Ferndale, Michigan, USA, although Animal Farm (K) Ltd., P.O. Box 50041, Nairobi, Kenya appears to have arranged the shipment and its name appears on the crates containing the baboons (see photo). The consignee or recipient is identified as Leo Foo Village Co., Ltd., Board Chairman Fu Chuang, 168 Chang Chun Road, Taipei, Taiwan.

The baboons were shipped five each in eight wooden crates (see photo). These containers did not conform to the standards for live animal shipments established by IATA (International Air Transport Association). There was no way to feed or water the baboons without unnauling a sliding wooden panel on the front of the individual slots in which the baboons were housed. Ardith Eudey was informed by cargo personnel of Thai International airlines that no feeding or watering instructions accompanied the shipment, contrary to the statement on the air waybill. There were no droppings trays in the crates, and the stench was so overpowering that these same cargo personnel assumed, erroneously, that several baboons had died.

The baboons arrived in Bangkok on 10 July 1979. Because the shipment did not conform to IATA standards, Thai International refused to carry it to Taipei and prepared to return it to Copenhagen. On 13 July a telex arrived from Copenhagen, awaiting confirmation from the shipper in Nairobi, with the instructions that the shipment should be "disposed of in Bangkok." At this point the cargo supervisor of Thai International contacted Mr. Khampeng of Bangkok Wildlife, a Thai animal dealer previously implicated in irregular and illegal shipments of primates (see for example the December 1978 issue of the IPPL Newsletter), to take care of the baboons. Employees of Bangkok Wildlife fed and watered the baboons on the evening of 13 July. However, on 14 July the baboons were flown as originally crated from Bangkok to Tokyo on Japan Air Lines flight 466, and on 15 July Japan-Asia Airway flight 201 transported the shipment to Taipei. On 6 August Mr. Khampeng informed Ardith Eudey that the baboons had been sent to a safari park on Taiwan.

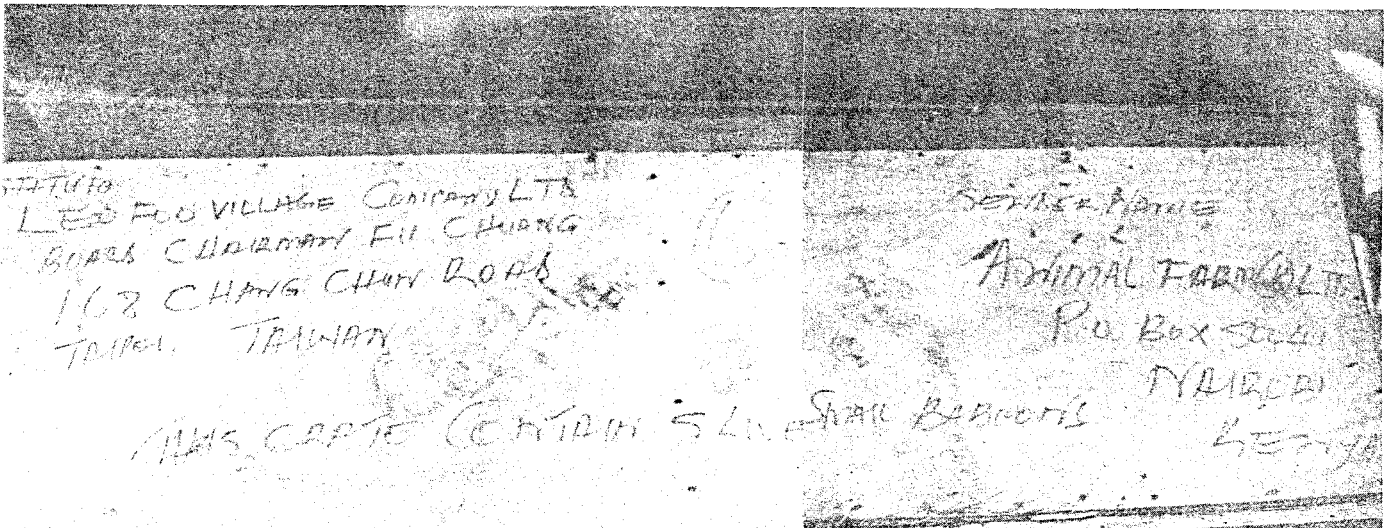
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Nairobi, Board Chairman, Leo Foo Village Co., Ltd., Nairobi		Taipei	SK 971	TG 600	11.7.79
1	014	SK	BKR BX 111	EG	Waybill
2	LEO FOO VILLAGE CO. LTD., BOARD CHAIRMAN FU CHUANG, 168 CHANG CHUN ROAD, TAIPEI, TAIWAN. TELEPHONE: 501-3111, TEL: (785) 1118		INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL EXCHANGE INC., 1409 EAST NINE MILE ROAD, FERNDALE, MICHIGAN 48220, USA. C/O ANIMAL FARM (K) LTD., NAIROBI		
3	INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL EXCHANGE INC., 1409 EAST NINE MILE ROAD, FERNDALE, MICHIGAN 48220, USA. C/O ANIMAL FARM (K) LTD., NAIROBI		INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL EXCHANGE INC., COPYRIGHT LTD., NAIROBI		
4	INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL EXCHANGE INC., COPYRIGHT LTD., NAIROBI		INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL EXCHANGE INC., COPYRIGHT LTD., NAIROBI		
5	KES 9600.00		PREPAID:		
6	8	270.0 K S 150	270.0	78.70	21249.00
40 LIVE BABOONS					
IMPORT DECLARATION NO. 6GUBL-014100					
7	21249.00		1528.50		22777.50
R	BOND FEE: 50.00		KAR HANDLING: 108		AGENCY FEE: 100.00
S	CABLE: 400.00		CENT OF ORIGIN: 60.00		AG DISH: 50.00
T	HANDLING: 40.50		REGISTRATION: 150.00		CUSTOMS ENTRY: 20.00
8	AGENCY FEE: 100.00		14 JUL 1979		
9	8 CRATES ADD & LABELLED, QUANTITIES CORRECT, CERT OF ORIGIN, PACKING LIST, FEED INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED TO AND DIS HAND OVER TO CREW UPON ARRIVAL.				

Air waybill for baboons



Shipping crate for baboons

All information concerning the shipment of baboons was communicated to Mr. Peter Sand, Secretary General of the C.I.T.E.S. (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species). Baboons appear on Appendix II of the C.I.T.E.S. as animals potentially threatened by trade. Kenya became a Party to the C.I.T.E.S. on 13 March 1979; therefore, a permit should have been issued for the export of the baboons. From a 19 September 1979 communication to Mr. Sand from D.M. Sindiyo, Director, Wildlife Conservation and Management Department, Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, Kenya, it appears that authorization had been obtained for the export of the baboons. Kenya considers baboons to be agricultural (farm) pests and permits their export, as well as that of vervet monkeys, as a "control measure" but "only to recognized Medical and Research Institutions." Whether the Leo Foo Village Co., Ltd. in Taipei is such an institution remains to be established. However, as a consequence of this incident, SAS (Scandinavian Airlines System) has placed an embargo on all consignments originating from the shipper.



Breaking open the crates to feed the animals

## PROBLEMS OF APE CONSERVATION IN GABON

IPPL member Gustavo Gandini of Milan, Italy, visited Gabon in August 1978. He was accompanied by Giuseppe Vassallo, President of Eco Turismo, Milan.

They report that Gabon covers an area of 103,348 square miles (256,000 square kilometers), of which 75% is still covered by equatorial rain forest. The Western lowland gorilla and chimpanzee are found in both primary and secondary forest, as well as in savannah areas bordering the forest.

According to Gandini and Vassallo, the human population of Gabon (which numbers approximately 600,000 people) varies in its attitude to apes. Some tribes kill them for meat or in defense of their crops, or, in the case of gorillas, because they consider them to be dangerous animals. Other tribes refuse to kill or eat them because of their similarity to Man.

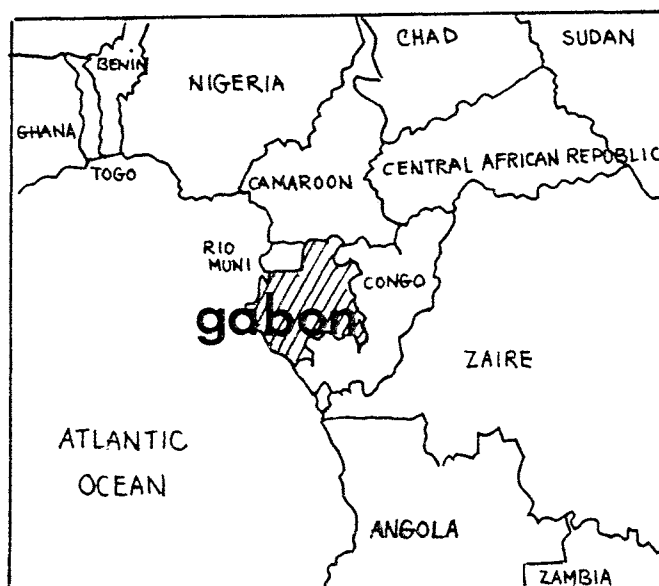
Gabon is in the middle of an economic boom resulting from recent development of the petroleum and mining industries. The timber industry is also important. Each year, Gabon produces 5 million square meters of valuable timber, including one million meters of "okoume," a wood used in the production of luxury furniture. A Trans-Gabon railroad is in the process of construction: this will facilitate exploitation of the primary forest of the interior.

Agricultural production being low, many necessities must be imported to Gabon. They are therefore very expensive. Hunting provides a cheap source of food not only for villagers and forestry workers but also for city-dwellers. Gandini and Vassallo saw monkey, wart-hog, and buffalo meat on sale in the markets of Libreville, the capital of Gabon.

The Italians visited several areas which had been subjected to timber exploitation some years previously. The extracted timber had been replaced by new low-level vegetation with rich foliage. This provided very good food for the apes. However, on the negative side, the timber-workers reportedly spend much of their leisure time hunting. In spite of official legal protection for elephants and gorillas, these animals are hunted by white residents and local people alike. There is also trade in gorilla skulls.

Gabon has 6 gazetted areas, 2 reserves (where hunting is banned) and 4 "domaines de chasse" (where hunting is regulated). However, the hunting laws are not enforced. The team visited the largest protected park the "Réserve de la Lopé - Parc de l'Okanda." They observed logging in progress within the reserve, and learned that hunting with guns and traps was widespread. Although the traps were set for other animals, gorillas and chimpanzees were frequently caught in them. There were several villages inside the park and the villagers offered baby gorillas and chimpanzees, and gorilla skulls, to the visitors.

Gandini and Vassallo consider that the status of the great apes of Gabon is extremely precarious and that urgent measures are required to save them from extinction.



## SIERRA LEONE AUTHORITIES SEIZE CHIMPANZEES

Two chimpanzees were seized at Lungi Airport, Sierra Leone, in April 1979.

An Austrian businessman, Alphonso Stary, arrived at the airport one morning with 2 chimpanzees in a cage. The airport Customs authorities demanded export documents for the animals. Mr. Stary was unable to produce any. He returned to

Freetown with the chimpanzees. Several hours later, he returned to the airport with the chimpanzees concealed in a sack over his shoulders. He was able to elude the Customs. However, a vigilant security guard stopped him as he was about to board the plane. Mr. Stary was fined 1800 leone by the Sierra Leone Customs and Excise Department.

## BABOONS AND VERVETS DIE AT ROME AIRPORT

According to an article which appeared in the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* (25 August 1979), 19 monkeys died, possibly of starvation, in a cargo shed at Fiumicino Airport, Rome, Italy, in August 1979. The animals were part of a shipment of 150 primates (100 vervets and 50 baboons) shipped from Addis Ababa on board Ethiopian Airlines Flight 702, which reached Rome on 20 August, 1979. The animals were consigned to an Italian animal dealer, Francesco Benedetti of the company "Zoo Nord Italia."

Italian health authorities refused to clear the shipment as it was accompanied by a photostatic copy of the Ethiopian health certificate: the officials insisted on receiving the original document. This did not arrive till 3 days later. Fiumicino has no hostel for travelling animals. It appears that inadequate care contributed

to the primates' suffering and death.

Just 2 weeks later, there were heavy fatalities among a shipment of zebra and antelope also refused clearance at Rome Airport by Italian health authorities.

It appears that the Italian government has an inconsistent approach to the wildlife traffic. Italy is notoriously "wide-open" for illegal shipments of rare and endangered wildlife and wildlife products. However, health regulations appear to be strictly enforced- even if it means letting animals suffer and die. In cases where shipments of wildlife are not released pending receipt of adequate documentation, it is essential that the animals receive proper care. All major airports should have hostels for travelling animals, wild or domestic.

## BIRTH DEFECTS APPEAR IN JAPANESE MONKEYS

Japanese photographer Hideyuki Otani first saw deformed baby Japanese macaques *Macaca fuscata* on a trip he took with his parents to the Takasakyama Mountain in 1971. In that year, 40 of 300 babies born in the area had deformities. Since that time, Otani has been taking pictures of deformed monkeys born in many parts of Japan.

Otani sees deformities as the result of pollution of food, air, and water by toxic chemicals, and warns that, "the monkeys' deformities should be a strong warning that the same thing may happen to humans and other living organisms on earth."

Most of the deformed monkeys are born in tourist areas where the monkeys are provided with food by humans. These areas are known as "wild monkey parks" or "natural zoos." The Awajishima Island Monkey Center in Hyogo Prefecture, Kansai District, had a disastrous birth year in 1973, with 12 of 14 babies being born deformed. Deformed animals were born in eight other areas in various parts of Japan. The problem continues to the present time.

Otani cites 3 cases of particular interest:

- 1) Japan's crop of mandarin oranges was so large in 1972 that much of it was discarded, with monkeys in the "natural areas" being fed large quantities. Many of the monkeys gave birth to deformed babies the next year. According to Otani, the fluorine-based insecticide used on Japanese mandarin oranges is so powerful that cows eating grass under trees sprayed with the chemical three months previously were seriously affected.
- 2) In the months of September and October, Japanese farmers spray apple-trees with a strong chemical to prevent the fruit falling off the trees in the windy season, before it is ripe. This is the monkeys' mating season. Monkeys eating sprayed apples gave birth to babies born with deformities similar to those occurring in human babies whose mothers had taken thalidomide in early pregnancy.
- 3) One of the "natural zoos" for monkeys has a polluted river running through it. An agricultural settle-



Deformed monkey

ment lies upstream. There are many deformed monkeys in this area. However, a traditional zoo just 3 miles away has reported no deformities in baby monkeys born there. Otani speculates that the polluted water caused the birth defects.

Hideyuki Otani has written a book entitled "Deformed Monkey Appeal- a Warning to Mankind." It is obtainable for \$9.00 plus \$3.00 postage from the Environmental Book Center, 1325 Kamoi-cho, Midori-ku, Yokohama, 226, Japan. Payment should be in the form of an International Postal Money Order.

## INTERNATIONAL PRIMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONGRESS

The VIIIth Congress of the International Primatological Society will take place in Florence, Italy, from 7-12 July 1980. All those interested in receiving detailed information are requested to contact Dr. Bruno Chiarelli, Institute of Anthropology, Via Accademia Albertina 17, 10123, Torino, Italy.

The Congress will be held at the Palazzo del Congressi. It will deal primarily with two topics, Primate Evolutionary Biology and Primate Sociobiology. Other topics will be covered in poster sessions.

## MOUNTAIN GORILLA UPDATE

Between 17 August and 17 September 1979, IPPL-assisted anti-poaching patrols in Rwanda destroyed a total of 168 traps: 66 wire antelope snares, 33 rope antelope snares, and 69 hyrax snares. Two poaching camps were destroyed. Many of the traps were in gorilla territory. A gorilla group had passed within 5 feet of one of them. However, none of the gorillas had been caught.

In a related development, the poacher Munyarukiko, who had been involved in every known gorilla-killing since 1968, and was being sought by Rwandan authorities in connection with the deaths of Digit, Uncle Bert, and Macho, died on 3 September 1979.

"His Name was Digit," Dian Fossey's moving article on the 1978 outbreak of poaching of mountain gorillas is available from IPPL Headquarters for \$1.00 per copy. This article appeared in the August 1978 issue of the IPPL Newsletter.



Juvenile Mountain Gorilla: Craig R. Sholley copyright National Geographic Society

## FOR SALE—"DORIS"

The **Primate Information Clearinghouse** (3 September 1979), carried the following announcement: "**Pongo pygmaeus abelii**-Sumatran orang. Available, female, aged...has been at San Diego Zoo since 1948." Would-be purchasers were invited to contact Mark Bogart, Zoologist at the Zoo.

The Primate Information Clearinghouse is a publication funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health. It offers "used" laboratory primates for sale to other institutions. IPPL therefore felt concerned about the future of the orang-utan, especially since the San Diego zoo was known to have sold a gibbon belonging to a highly endangered species (**Hylobates concolor**) to a laboratory performing terminal experimentation on gibbons. (See "Sale Completed," IPPL Newsletter, September 1976). It would, in any case, be very difficult for an animal which had lived 31 years at the same institution to adjust to a new home, especially a laboratory.

IPPL therefore contacted the City Editor of the **San Diego Union**, about the situation. Reporter Michael Lopez contacted the zoo and learned that the animal, whose name was Doris, had formerly been a "cover-girl" in zoo publicity material. Doris's keeper felt that she was quite happy living by herself in an off-exhibit cage at the zoo and noted that, in the wild, orang-utans are solitary animals. The keeper felt that the animal should be allowed to end her days at the zoo.

It appears that the San Diego public agreed with the keeper rather than with zoo officials. According to Mr. Lopez, the zoo's telephone lines rang constantly on the day his article, which featured a large photograph of Doris and a blow-up of the ad, appeared. Hundreds of callers begged the zoo to allow Doris to stay. To the best of IPPL's knowledge, Doris is still at the zoo.

## CHILLING NEWS FOR PRIMATES

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has delivered an icy Christmas gift to those primates unfortunate enough to be shipped during the bitter North American winter. The Department has decided to amend the Animal Welfare Act Regulations to allow primates to be shipped in freezing temperatures as long as a USDA - accredited veterinarian issues a certificate to the effect that they are "acclimated" to temperatures below 7.2° (45° F).

The new Regulations were published in the Federal Register on 2 November 1979. They state that carriers or intermediate handlers may accept for transportation any nonhuman primate from any source in any weather, as long as the shipment is accompanied by a certificate signed by an accredited veterinarian to the effect that "I hereby certify that the animal(s) in this shipment is (are) TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (emphasis added) acclimated to air temperatures lower than 7.2° C (45° F)."

No minimum temperature is mentioned in the Regulations: even a small primate, such as a marmoset or bushbaby, could be shipped at subzero temperatures- as long as the shipper has a certificate.

There are over 29,000 USDA accredited veterinarians, many with little or no knowledge of primates and many with expertise in large livestock. It is likely that a determined shipper would be able to locate a veterinarian willing to issue a certificate. The Regulations provide no penalty for a veterinarian whose error causes death or suffering to animals. The veterinarian has an "escape clause" in the expression "to the best of my knowledge" contained in the affidavit. He could claim that the owner of the animal(s) had misled him.

In issuing these Regulations, the USDA totally ignored com-

ments submitted by Dr. Russell Mittermeier on behalf of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Primate Specialist Group and Dr. Shirley McGreal on behalf of the International Primate Protection League. Both statements emphasized that the most commonly shipped primate species come from tropical habitats. It would be physiologically impossible for many primate species to get used to freezing temperatures (see "Crab-eating monkeys Freeze to Death," this issue). Dr. Mittermeier commented:

A mere certificate from a veterinarian, who may not even have any experience with primates, will not improve conditions for the primates but will only make things easier for irresponsible shippers and airlines- hardly the goal of the Animal Welfare Act...the proposal does not provide criteria for "acclimation"...the whole system is based on the very subjective opinion of a vet, who may not have any experience with the animals in question, and who is not held accountable for what, in effect, would constitute malpractice.

Both the IUCN Primate Group and IPPL stated that the minimum temperature for shipping of primates should be raised to 55° rather than lowered.

It appears to IPPL that USDA is more interested in the welfare of shippers than in the welfare of primates- even though the Department is charged with administering the "Animal Welfare" Act.



Mandrill mother and child

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