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# NEWSLETTER



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Photo: Canadian Federation of Humane Societies

Madame Jeanne Marchig (right) presents Marchig Award to Shirley McGreal.

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**DIAN FOSSEY LETTERS, PART 2**





## The Marchig Animal Welfare Award ~ 1987/88

*Category B - For practical work in the field of animal welfare by a society or individual deserving of support anywhere in the world.*

*Presented to :*

*Dr. Shirley McGreal*

*Founder and Chairwoman  
International Primate Protection League*

*For her efforts on behalf of the International Primate Protection League through which she has, since inaugurating the League, striven ceaselessly to bring about a more humane and compassionate attitude towards non-human primates.*

*Dr McGreal set up an effective international network to monitor the primate trade, including experimental purposes, laboratory care, shipping requirements, illegal trading or use and the conservation status of wild populations. The network is testimony to the esteem in which she is held, not only within the international animal welfare movement, but by scientists and government officials throughout Africa and Asia.*

*Her valiant and courageous efforts on behalf of the world's primates without thought of personal cost, makes her a worthy recipient of the first Marchig prize in this category.*

*Sadrudin Aga Khan*

*Prince Sadrudin Aga Khan*

*Jeanne Marchig*

*Madame Jeanne Marchig*

*Geneva  
May 1988*



# SHIRLEY McGREAL WINS MARCHIG AWARD

In late 1987, the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) announced the establishment of a new award: the Marchig Animal Award for "Practical Work in Animal Protection by a Society or Individual deserving of support anywhere in the World."

The award was made possible through the generosity of Madame Jeanne Marchig of Switzerland, and honors her late husband, the distinguished artist Giannino Marchig.

WSPA organized a jury presided over by Clive Hollands of the St. Andrew Animal Fund in Scotland, and nominations were requested.

Totally unknown to Ms. McGreal, Marjorie Doggett, who has represented IPPL in Singapore since 1975, contacted animal-lovers telling them about the award and suggesting that Ms. McGreal was a good candidate.

Among those who wrote in were IPPL officers Cyril Rosen, William McGrew, Roland Corluy, Colin Groves, S. M. Mohnot, Barbara Harrison and Vernon Reynolds.

Among organizational letters of support were those from Christine Stevens of the Animal Welfare Institute, Ingrid Newkirk of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, John Hoyt of the Humane Society of the United States, Nick Carter of the Environmental Investigation Agency, the Maharaja of Baroda of World Wildlife Fund (India) and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, President of the World Wildlife Fund. Several wildlife chiefs wrote in, including Eddie Brewer of The Gambia.

In April 1988, Shirley McGreal received a phone-call from Barry Gilbert-Miguet, who works with Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, Patron of the Marchig Award, telling her that the jury had unanimously chosen her to be the first recipient of the new award. Mr. Gilbert-Miguet read the citation reproduced opposite to an amazed Ms. McGreal.

Congratulatory letters and telegrams poured into IPPL Headquarters from all over the world.

It was especially exciting to get a letter from Chief Mohammed

Khan, Director-General for Wildlife and National Parks of Malaysia. Mr. Khan told Ms. McGreal:

*Having known you for so many years and the difficult and often dangerous work that you have to do, the award is most fitting. The problems and plight of primates are well known today largely due to your dedicated efforts. Primate conservation is more successful as a result. Please keep up the excellent work. All of us here appreciate greatly what you are doing. Our work is much easier.*

Shirley McGreal went to Toronto on 14 May 1988 to receive the Marchig Award at the gala dinner ending the WSPA Biennial Conference. Madame Marchig flew in from Toronto to make the presentation in person. She is a wonderful lady who runs the Committee for the Defense of Animals in Peril, an organization that fights trapping in Switzerland.

Madame Marchig made an impressive speech, the full text of which follows this article. Ms. McGreal received a standing ovation from the audience of animal-lovers from around the world. She was extremely pleased that her twin sister Jean Martin, Jean's husband Peter, and their daughter Michelle, along with Michelle's boy-friend Rich, were able to attend the exciting event.

1988 marks IPPL's 15th year of existence. Since it was founded by Shirley McGreal in 1973, IPPL has challenged Primate Predators of every stripe: be they heartless primate hunters, ruthless traffickers, or callous users. IPPL has persuaded several countries to ban exportation of primates, has exposed many smuggling networks, has found homes for many unwanted primates, and has established a sanctuary specializing in the care of ex-research gibbons. We have infuriated primate smugglers, and irresponsible owners and users of primates. We have never played politics with primate lives. We never will.

We hope that our members will be encouraged to continue and expand their support for our organization now that it has been internationally recognised as courageous and effective.

## MADAME JEANNE MARCHIG'S SPEECH ON PRESENTING THE MARCHIG AWARD TO SHIRLEY McGREAL

I was particularly anxious to be in Toronto today in front of conservationists and animal welfare workers from around the world, to present the first Marchig Animal Welfare Award for practical work in the field of animal welfare to Dr. Shirley McGreal, founder and Chairwoman of the International Primate Protection League.

The round trip of a few thousand miles is the least I could do to pay personal tribute to the far more difficult and perilous road travelled by Shirley on behalf of primates and conservation in general.

The Award that I am truly privileged to present this evening is a token recompense for the many personal sacrifices made by Shirley. More importantly than the cash, I truly hope that the Award will serve to stimulate more interest and support for her inspirational work at the helm of the International Primate Protection League.

Dr. McGreal founded the IPPL in Bangkok in 1973. Since then she has been actively involved in protecting indigenous wild populations of primates in Asia and Africa.

Through the International Primate Protection League, she has established a worldwide communications network which is a testimony to the esteem in which she is held by government depart-

ments, primatologists and the international animal welfare movement.

But her chimpanzee protection work led to a \$4 million dollar personal liability lawsuit against her from a multinational drug company.

The process of defending oneself against a lawsuit launched by a wealthy corporation can be both exhaustive and profoundly destructive. Shirley has been battered like that for 4 years.

In the face of intimidation that would have driven most of us to total despair, she has shown forcefully that individual commitment can achieve against all odds. In so doing, she has upheld the basic freedoms on which our democracies are based.

Never as the victim of a long war of legal attrition has she lost faith in the belief that justice will ultimately be done.

Shirley's "David and Goliath" stand is not only an example for us all, it is also important for us all. In protecting endangered primates without regard to personal cost – or even for her health – she is at the same time safeguarding the rights of concerned individuals and small organizations to speak out freely on issues of conscience – be they for human or animal rights.

One of the saddest aspects of Shirley's personal crusade to pre-



vent illegal trade in endangered primates has been that the media – with only a few notable exceptions – has been reluctant to emulate the courage displayed by Shirley McGreal in exposing the dealings of animal traffickers.

I want this award to be a vindication of Shirley's relentless and uncompromising dedication on behalf of primates and other wildlife and also an absolute refutation of efforts to destroy Shirley's reputation and her ability to help endangered primates around the world.

Shirley's nomination for this Award has been supported by eminent people all over the world and I can do no better than quote from some of their letters.

Barbara Harrison, art historian from the Netherlands says:

*"During the many years I have known Dr. McGreal, she has given her entire time and energy to primates, be they native to Africa, Asia or America. As her success grew, those involved with illegal or inhumane treatment of primates reacted. She was attacked viciously, suffered undeterred and remained determined"*

Nick Carter, Environmental Investigation Agency in London:

*"I am able to testify to her constant readiness to sacrifice her own welfare and interests on behalf of animals"*

Eddie Brewer, Director, Wildlife Conservation in The Gambia says of the IPPL that the standing and respect which it now enjoys:

*"Is in no small measure due to Shirley's personal input and to her splendid personal example of hard work, tenacity, courage and unflagging dedication to better primate protection everywhere"*

Finally His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh:

*"My colleagues and I in WWF-International have witnessed the extraordinarily devoted manner in which Dr. McGreal has been fighting for the survival and welfare of primates in the wild"*

In spite of many other entries for the Marchig Competition in Category 3, from as far apart as Peru to Portugal, Argentina to Australia, the USA to the UK as well as Sri Lanka, South Africa, Malaysia, Japan, Israel, India and many others, the Judging Panel decided without hesitation that the Award should go to our guest this evening, Dr. Shirley McGreal.

## CHIMP LAB PLANNED FOR CHINA

The 22 May 1988 issue of the **Alamagordo Daily News** carried an article entitled "Local Research Firm to Develop Chimp Facility in China."

According to the article, the White Sands Research Center of Alamagordo, New Mexico, USA, has entered into a "joint venture" with the Chinese Government to establish a chimpanzee breeding colony at an endangered species compound close to Beijing.

Three Chinese representatives were present in Alamagordo to announce the arrangement: Wen He, President of Beijing Agriculture, Industry and Commerce Trading Company in Beijing, Wen Ding, Chairman of Sino-Tech, a company that deals in Chinese products in North America, and Ken Zou, President of Sino-Tech.

Dr. Frederick Coulston, founder of the White Sands Research Center, told the **Daily News** that the chimpanzee project would be "a great step forward in **medical research** (emphasis added) that will benefit the world."

The Endangered Animals Facility outside Beijing was set up for the captive breeding of endangered **Chinese animals for conservation purposes**. Species held at the Center include pandas and Rhesus monkeys.

A photograph accompanying the article showed Dr. Coulston and the three Chinese representatives drinking a toast to the success of their project.

The International Primate Protection League has strong reservations about the project. White Sands is a private commercial research center which, a few years ago, advertised the availability of "Chimpanzees and other non-human primates" for the "full development of new drugs, **insecticides** (emphasis added), **cosmetics** (emphasis added), medical devices, etc." The advertisement is reproduced on this page.

IPPL contacted Dr. Coulston on 4 June 1988, seeking information about where the chimpanzees would come from and for what purposes they would be used. Chimpanzees are listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and are in theory banned from commercial trade, or any trade at all that could harm their status in the wild. Most U.S. colonies with captive chimpanzees are holding on to their animals. IPPL there-

fore requested from Dr. Coulston an assurance that no wild-caught chimpanzees would be obtained from Africa for the project. As of 8 July 1988, we have received no reply.

### CHIMPANZEES

and other non-human primates  
available for biomedical research

A fully integrated research facility is available for the full development of new drugs, insecticides, cosmetics, medical devices, etc. from the basic pharmacology and toxicology, to clinical evaluation and registration. This facility has a large primate center (over 500 monkeys and 70 chimpanzees), a fully-equipped biochemical laboratory (radioisotopes, mass spectrographs, etc) and registration specialists worldwide. The research laboratories are located in Alamogordo and in Munich, and other offices are in Albany and in Tokyo.

We are interested in new products to develop, alone or on a co-operative venture basis.

If you have a product ready for worldwide development and are looking for a partner or licensee, please write or call:

M. S. Amer, Ph.D., MBA  
White Sands Research Center  
1092 Madison Avenue  
Albany, New York 12208

Telephone: Office – (518) 489 8346,  
Home – (203) 661 0595



## ELIZABETH TAYLOR GETS PET GIBBON

In April 1988, U.S. multi-millionaire publisher Malcolm Forbes and multi-millionaire movie star Elizabeth Taylor flew to Asia on Forbes' private jet called "Capitalist Tool." On arrival in Singapore, they boarded Forbes' 171 foot long luxury yacht "The Highlander," for a cruise. Other millionaires joining the couple included Roger Smith, President of General Motors, and John Sculley, President of Apple Computer.

The couple sailed to Bangkok, Thailand. According to press reports, Forbes purchased an \$8,000 pair of diamond and ruby earrings and an \$80,000 diamond necklace for the jewellery-loving Ms. Taylor.

In addition, Forbes purchased a baby gibbon for Ms. Taylor. Press photos show Ms. Taylor with a tiny black White-handed gibbon draped around her neck. The little animal appeared to be only about 6 months old.

Mr. Forbes presented the gibbon to Ms. Taylor at a Bangkok press conference. On receiving her baby gibbon, Ms. Taylor reportedly commented, "This is my child! I'll name it Malcolm." Later, Ms. Taylor reportedly "squealed in fright" when the tiny gibbon nipped her!

The gibbon purchase outraged Thai conservationists. Gibbons are caught by the shooting from the treetops of mother animals carrying babies. Often both mother and baby die but sometimes a dead mother falls from the trees with a live clinging baby. The hunter will take away the baby. If the animal survives, he/she is likely to turn up for sale on Bangkok's Weekend Market.

Both hunting and sale of baby gibbons are illegal in Thailand. But gibbon trading continues. Some of the dealers are reportedly "protected" by well-placed government officials.

The Wildlife Fund of Thailand protested the Forbes-Taylor gibbon acquisition as did Thai wildlife officials. Forbes and Taylor left the gibbon behind, reportedly in the care of a hotel employee. IPPL's efforts to track down the hapless gibbon have failed so far. We suspect he may be dead as he was clearly extremely young and in need of specialized care.

Later, Forbes told a reporter that, "Everyone on the boat had fallen in love with the gibbon."

IPPL wondered whether the baby gibbon was just another discarded toy of two super-rich people or whether Forbes and Taylor would care enough to do something for the gibbon (who was, in IPPL's view, more precious than any of Ms. Taylor's highly publicised diamonds).

We therefore wrote Mr. Forbes describing the sordid gibbon trade. We told him how lack of shelter for confiscated animals deterred Thai officials from confiscating baby gibbons offered for sale on Bangkok's markets. A Thai wildlife official had earlier informed IPPL that gibbons, when confiscated, are sent to a wildlife reserve south of Bangkok, where they inevitably die. Yet it is known that orphaned baby gibbons can be kept alive if given proper tender care in an appropriate environment and fed clean and nutritious food. What is needed to save these gibbons is money to set up a proper system of care.

Our hope that Forbes' and Taylor's wealth and professed love for one gibbon could be combined to help all gibbons was what led us to contact Forbes.

Three weeks later, a Forbes associate sent a flat refusal of IPPL's suggestion that Forbes do something for gibbons, **incredibly claiming lack of money.**

We were totally amazed at this reply. We wrote back at once to point out that the gibbon had been purchased in violation of Thai law and that it seemed to us like Mr. Forbes and Ms. Taylor were treating the gibbon like a "throwaway toy." We suggested that Mr. Forbes sell his yacht to raise funds for gibbon protection.

If you share IPPL's outrage at this gibbon acquisition, and at Forbes' refusal to do anything to help protect gibbons, please write him and Ms. Taylor.

Address: Malcolm Forbes and Elizabeth Taylor  
c/o Forbes Magazine  
60 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10011

Mr. Forbes sometimes appears on TV "talk shows" during which viewers can call in. If you get the opportunity, please call in and ask him about the current location of the baby gibbon and ask him to help fund the much-needed gibbon sanctuary in Thailand.





## SAN FRANCISCO ZOO BREAKS UP ORANG-UTAN COUPLE

Over two decades ago, Carroll and Violet Soo-Hoo of California donated two young orang-utans to the San Francisco Zoo. The animals received the names of Denny and Josephine.

The Soo-Hoos watched the animals grow up, mate, and produce a lovely baby named Violet.

The happy threesome were a great attraction with visitors to the zoo.

Now, Josephine is in quarantine at the Philadelphia Zoo while her mate Denny, left behind in San Francisco, sits roaring with grief in his indoor enclosure. Young Violet appears totally bewildered.

How could it happen that a contented family was torn apart?

The answer lies in the ongoing efforts of zoos to "aryanize" the captive orang-utan population.

Orangs live on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra and there are small differences between Bornean and Sumatran orangs. In the past, zoos placed animals together without consideration of the origin of the animals. Usually they wouldn't have known anyway as few orang-utans were legally traded since orang-utan habitat countries banned export of the animals before World War II. Those reaching the United States and other parts of the world had usually been smuggled by traffickers based in Singapore or Bangkok.

At the present time, the captive orang-utan population contains some "pure" Bornean orangs, some "pure" Sumatran orangs, and a group of mixed animals.

Zoos are now taking steps to "purify" the captive population by sterilizing "impure" orangs and splitting up mixed pairs so that new "hybrid" animals are not produced.

Even though Denny and Josephine had been living happily together for 20 years, San Francisco Zoo Director Saul Kitchener decided to split them up because Denny was of Sumatran and Josephine of Bornean origin.

Once Kitchener's decision became public, there was a public outcry in San Francisco. Animal lovers young and old were outraged and called for the family to be kept together. They pointed out that it was cruel and inhumane to separate the happy family unit. Zoo officials claimed that orang-utans are unsociable animals and that Denny, Josephine and Violet would not miss each other.

While this is partially true of wild orang-utans, captive animals housed together develop bonds they might not develop in nature.

Animal activists, suspecting that Mr. Kitchener would spirit Josephine out secretly so that protesters would be presented with a **fait accompli**, and have nothing left to protest, kept an eye on



Denny, Violet and Josephine

the zoo. However, Kitchener was able to get Josephine off the premises and loaded on to a cargo plane flying to Charlotte, North Carolina, for onward shipment to Philadelphia.

Several zoo-goers have contacted IPPL reporting that, contrary to Kitchener's prediction, Denny has become depressed and gone into hiding, even uttering roars of misery. Clearly, a strong bond existed between him and Josephine. Surely such bonds between animals should be respected and not violently shattered. The average zoo-goer neither knows nor cares whether the orang-utan he/she is looking at is "pure" or not. Separation of Denny and Josephine is totally irrelevant to orang-utan conservation, which depends on the protection of the species' rapidly dwindling habitat to which the captive population can be, at best, a supplement.

There is no point writing Mr. Kitchener. The San Francisco Zoo's public relations staff have a form letter ready and waiting to send you! Instead, please contact:

Mayor Art Agnos  
City Hall  
San Francisco, CA 94102

## ATTENTION - CANADIAN MEMBERS

Representatives of the Experimental Animals Committee of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies have performed several inspections of the primate breeding colony in Ottawa, Ontario, in recent years. The Center houses 1100 crab-eating macaques which are bred to produce young animals for use in fatal testing of polio vaccine.

The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies described the living conditions for the monkeys as "unacceptable, inhumane, and intolerable." Most of the animals are housed in stacked, steel-barred cages and never see the sun. Exercise facilities are absent. The Federation called for a new modern building to be built, and made its demands to Jake Epp, Canada's Minister of Health and Wel-

fare. Epp responded that establishment of such a facility was "neither tenable in today's economic climate nor necessary."

Further information about the facility may be obtained from Stephanie Brown, Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, Suite 102, 30 Concourse Gate, Nepean, Ontario K2E 7V7, Canada.

A new Canadian organization called Zoo Check has made a detailed study of the conditions of zoos in Ontario, Canada, and uncovered some atrocious care of primates and other animals. Zoo Check is fighting for legislation to set minimum standards of care. Zoo Check is run by Rob Laidlaw, who can be reached at Zoo Check Coalition Canada, 5334 Yonge Street, Suite 1830, Toronto, Ontario, M2N 6M2, Canada.



# PRIMATES IN ROADSIDE ZOO GO TO SANCTUARY

by Heather McGiffin

*Ms. McGiffin is a member of IPPL's Advisory Board.*

During the May 19-21 annual Summit for the Animals, a national meeting on animal protection issues, held in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, IPPL organized a special evening meeting to discuss primate issues with members of Louisiana's Animal Peace organization. Concern was expressed that a roadside menagerie at La Place, locally known as the "Snake Farm," had not only a large collection of snakes (and alligators) but also several primates in small cage exhibits.

A May 21 visit to the site, located on Airport Highway about 50 miles north of New Orleans, revealed that the menagerie was a relic from the 1950s, when roadside animal acts and private exhibits were popular tourist stops. Inside a dimly illuminated building were rows of small wooden and glass boxes holding snakes of various origin. Outside, connected by a narrow walkway, were three cages enclosed in separate sheds overlooking concrete alligator pens.

In one 8 x 6 x 4 ft. cage, Charlie, a capuchin, and, Mickey, a spider monkey, sat together; in another two stump-tail macaques, Bugger and Missy. An adult male chimpanzee lived alone in another cage measuring 8 x 8 x 5.2 ft. A former circus performer, billed as "Gorilla", and "Jungle Killer", but called Joe by his owner, he has been behind these metal bars, for 20 years, on a bare concrete floor, with nothing but a swing for exercise. Able only to look out at the highway traffic or tourists who filed past on a daily basis, he waited for bubblegum handouts (purchased by visitors from a vending machine) and for contact with his owner. Though

emotionally attached to Joe and the monkeys, the owner had nonetheless remained uneducated and uninterested in learning about their basic physical and behavioral needs. This menagerie, like so many others, catered to the freak show mentality by promoting the bizarre or making the animals appear bizarre as attractions in the billboards.

Despite these conditions of social and physical deprivation, Joe had somehow escaped the stereotypic malaise of solitary confinement. He not only survived but also maintained his sanity and retained a gentle disposition. Indeed, his cage provided more space than a laboratory caged chimpanzee receives, as federal regulations currently require a mere 5' x 5' x 7'. He also had a more "stimulating" captive environment due to the semi-outdoor setting where seasonal fluctuations provided some relief from boredom and the daily human activities at least did not involve painful or stressful manipulations. In discussing the overall condition of the primates as well as apparent deficiencies under the Animal Welfare Act with the Snake Farm's owner, we learned that he was prepared to relinquish the primates inasmuch as they had become too great a burden. He worried that zoos would not take in such old animals and he would have to take measures to euthanize them. We proposed transferring them to a sanctuary that would provide adequate social and environmental enrichment. An agreement was reached and a contract drafted, transferring title of the primates to Friends of Animals, a New York based animal protection organization led by Priscilla Feral.





Arrangements were made to relocate them to Primarily Primates, a private sanctuary located at San Antonio, Texas, whose owner, Wally Swett, and staff are devoted to providing the individual care and social context necessary for orphaned and other unwanted captive primates. Without such a facility there would be little hope of salvaging neglected or abused individuals such as Joe. Since its opening in 1980, the sanctuary has accepted over 200 primates as well as 35 exotic birds and other species, often bearing the financial burden as well as the daily care required by such salvage efforts.

The Audubon Zoological Park in New Orleans contributed manpower and equipment to help transfer the primates from Snake Farm to the New Orleans Airport. Experienced with handling and tranquilizing primates, their first practical problem – opening the cage doors – proved daunting. None of the primates had been let out in approximately two decades and the rusted doors had to be hammered and pried open with a crowbar and winch.

Joe's cage was opened first to minimize the stress from all the commotion of transfer. Throughout the uproar, Joe remained calm but curious. Once his transport cage was affixed to the opening, he was coaxed in by offers of his most familiar fare: Bubblegum. The capuchin and spider monkey were then captured by hand-nets. The macaques, too fast and agitated to be caught in nets, were sedated with a tranquilizer. The individual transport cages were provided with hay and fresh fruit, then loaded into a horse trailer for the trip to the airport. Within a few hours they were airborne to San Antonio – just four days after our initial visit to Snake Farm.

Joe completed his first trip in 20 years without mishap and with characteristic good nature, playfully putting his fingers through the air holes when he was being unloaded. Remarkably, after a few



"Joe"

weeks at Primarily Primates, he was forming friendships with the other chimpanzees and now shares a large complex enclosure with 7 other males from 4½ to 36 years of age. Charlie, Missy, Bugger, and Mickey are also in social groups and live in large corncrib cages with multiple swinging devices, natural browse and toys.

No longer young and now showing the signs of deterioration from two decades of cage confinement, they may have a limited time left, but are thoroughly enjoying their new found freedoms.

## IPPL LOSES A FRIEND

Long-time IPPL member Victoria Selmier died on 22 March 1988, after a long and valiant battle against the odds of cancer.

Ms. Selmier was an expert on wild pigs and peccaries and was a member of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. She was also active in women's causes and was one of the Past Presidents of the San Francisco chapter of the National Organization for Women.

Ms. Selmier's studies took her to Australia and Indonesia and, most recently, Nigeria, where she went to Cross River State in search of the elusive Red River hog. A real fighter, Victoria took off for Nigeria even after her cancer was diagnosed.

While in Nigeria, she received reports of the presence of gorillas in this remote area and informed international conservation groups. Although there was initial scepticism about her reports, Drs. Sandy Harcourt and Kelly Stewart went to Nigeria to investigate the situation and confirmed the presence of gorillas. Efforts are now under way to protect this population.

Ms. Selmier was a close friend of Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of IPPL. She was deeply concerned about the lawsuit against IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal by the Austrian multinational Immuno A. G. and the virulent way in which it was conducted. On learning that the filthy-minded New York lawyer for the company had asked Ms. McGreal during a 4-day interrogation session, the demeaning and sexist question, "When you attend wildlife conferences, do you perform sexual acts with foreign wildlife chiefs for votes?" "Ms. Selmier immediately volunteered to do a deposition



Victoria Selmier in Nigeria

stating that she had attended a wildlife conference with Ms. McGreal and that, as far as she was concerned, the allegations behind the question were a pack of lies. Friends like Victoria are indeed hard to find and harder to replace. She is really missed.

A Marine Corps veteran of World War II, Ms. Selmier was commemorated in a service with full military honors at the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, California.

## IPPL WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

IPPL extends a warm welcome to everyone who has joined our organization recently. We hope you will find our Newsletter interesting. Please send us your comments and suggestions.



## IPPL CHECKS CUBAN ZOOS



**Lone Gorilla in Havana Municipal Zoo**

In 1987, the International Primate Protection League received a copy of a memorandum issued by Denis Legon, Director of the Zoological Gardens of Havana, Cuba.

The memorandum was addressed to authorities implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in Europe, Canada, and Japan.

Mr. Legon certified that all chimpanzees "exported from Cuba during 1987, and which might be exported during 1988" were born in captivity in Cuba. He claimed that Cuban zoos owned a total of 35 chimpanzees, and stated that none of the chimpanzees exported from Cuba had been removed from the wild.

Legon requested "fellow zoo directors to give full cooperation to Mr. W. Janssens" who "has got our full confidence." Janssens runs the Dutch animal dealership Squamata.

Netherlands import records show that 9 chimpanzees were exported from Cuba in 1987, and that 13 chimpanzees supposedly from Cuba were re-exported, ten of them to Japan and three to the Soviet Union, all reportedly captive-born. To be breeding so many animals would require a very large chimpanzee colony indeed. Another possibility was that the animals exported could include some wild-caught chimps brought in from Africa, where Cuba has a strong presence, with Cubana Airlines flying regularly to Angola and Guinea-Bissau.

Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of IPPL, visited Cuba in May 1988 to evaluate the situation. She visited both the Municipal Zoological Gardens in the city of Havana and the new National Zoo in Lenin Park. Investigation of the situation was made very difficult by heavy tropical rains.



**Chimpanzee in Unattractive Cage**

The Municipal Zoo of Havana is located in a public park which anyone could enter. The zoo had a large collection of primates, including a lone gorilla and a lone orang-utan whose mate had recently died. There was a total of 19 chimpanzees, including one infant animal. The facilities were dreary, with dark gloomy back rooms. Food was scattered all over the cage floors. There was also a large collection of monkeys, all housed in totally inadequate cages.



**Gentle Caretaker**



The new National Zoo has one open area in which non-predatory African animals, including rhino, are exhibited. The master-plan posted at the entrance to the zoo, which is still under construction, included a large area for gorillas, although there is only one gorilla in Cuba. Angola has a small population of gorillas, and one hopes that Cuba will not attempt to import wild-caught gorillas from Angola.

There were six chimpanzees at the National Zoo, one young animal being placed with a baboon in the Children's Zoo. The remaining 5 animals were caged as no open area had yet been constructed for them. A zoo official informed IPPL that 3 zoo-born chimpanzees were at a medical laboratory undergoing experiments.

Thus, the current number of chimpanzees in Cuba appears to be 28. Other Cuban zoos, according to zoo officials, were smaller and did not have chimpanzees. The export of at least 9 chimpanzees in one year is a cause for concern and raises questions impossible to answer without more detailed information.

One of the first major colonies of captive chimpanzees was established in Cuba in the 1920s by Mrs. Rosalia Abreu who, by

1924, was keeping 18 chimpanzees (as well as orang-utans, gibbons, and a wide variety of monkeys) at her home in Quinta Palatino Park in Havana. A religious woman, Señora Abreu believed that chimpanzees had souls and she set up a private chapel where the apes attended Mass. Señora Abreu died in 1930. There is a long tradition of interest in apes in Cuba, and, in spite of the poor conditions, zoo staff were very gentle with the animals and there was no evidence of public harassment.

Cuba has not yet joined the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). This is unfortunate because Cuba has many endemic species (species that live nowhere else), as do many islands. Cuba is a long narrow island with a very long coastline and smuggling would be relatively easy.

Clearly, it would be to Cuba's advantage to join CITES.

Readers wishing to encourage Cuba to join CITES should address courteous letters to:

President Fidel Castro  
Office of the President  
Havana, Cuba

## VENDETTA AGAINST CALIFORNIA ANIMAL SHELTER

On 25 April 1988, the **San Francisco Chronicle** ran an investigative report on "How Hollywood Influences Department of Fish and Game's Animal Patrols."

The article stated that the Department of Fish and Game was supposed to monitor the condition of exotic animal compounds throughout the State of California including those involved in the movie and entertainment industries.

While failing to inspect many of the large compounds at all, Fish and Game officials were making repeated "raids" on the small sanctuary run by the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS). This sanctuary is run by Ms. Pat Darby and is home to many former performing animals. Ms. Darby is a very vocal critic of the way in which animals are abused by movie trainers, and is hated by many animal trainers.

The **Chronicle's** investigative team discovered a possible reason for the harassment of Ms. Darby. It turned out that the Fish and Game Department's official in charge of the inspection of animal facilities, Captain James P. Zobel, was planning to become a

paid consultant for an exotic animal trainers' association in late 1988, possibly working to help trainers get permits for various activities such as helping them acquire animals. Zobel told the **Chronicle** that he was considering becoming a "facilitator" for exotic animal owners (see "The Revolving Door," this issue).

The **Chronicle** studied computer print-outs of inspections of California animal facilities over several years. It found out that, in 1987, only 47 of 593 facilities were inspected at all. Yet PAWS was hit by a two-warden team **no less than six times** during the year. Of the 47 facilities inspected, 17 inspections were of places housing **just one animal!** Not one of the major Hollywood exotic animal compounds was inspected.

The **Chronicle** concluded that the PAWS shelter had been targeted for "selective attention," because of Captain Zobel's "chummy relationship" with the animal trainers for whom he hoped to work one day. The newspaper suggested that the State Legislature and Attorney-General investigate Zobel's activities.

## HUMANE SHIPMENT LAWSUIT

The 1981 Amendments to the U.S. Lacey Act called on the Secretary of the Interior to prescribe regulations "for the transportation of wild animals and birds under humane and healthful conditions."

It was not till 10 November 1987, **six years later**, that the Secretary of the Interior finally published "Final Regulations" in the **Federal Register**.

These regulations were to become effective on 8 February 1988.

Needless to say, the animal dealers were furious, as were the airlines. They might get prosecuted for sub-standard shipments.

IPPL has learned that a group of U.S. animal dealers held a secret meeting with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials to try to abort the new rules. The Fish and Wildlife Service kow-towed to the dealers, announcing that it would delay implementation of the rules.

As a result, the Animal Welfare Institute, the Humane Society

of the United States, Friends of Animals, The International Primate Protection League and several other organizations filed suit to force the Fish and Wildlife Service to reinstate the regulations. Shirley McGreal of IPPL filed an affidavit citing deaths of primates in shipment and Sue Lieberman of HSUS filed an affidavit about the atrocious mortality of birds in shipment.

Judge Pratt held a hearing on the suit on 15 April 1988. Animal dealers predictably joined the case on the Fish and Wildlife Service's side. However, the judge ruled in favor of the animal protection groups and ordered the immediate reinstatement of the rules. Whether the Fish and Wildlife Service will enforce them remains to be seen.

Ray Bolze of the Washington law firm of Howrey and Simon represented the plaintiffs at no cost. We would like to thank him for his excellent representation of our, and the animals', case.

## SMUGGLED MANDRILLS SENT TO ZOO

In 1987, a shipment of primates from a dealer in Equatorial Guinea, Africa, was shipped to Matthew Block of Worldwide Primates in Miami, Florida. Block is an animal dealer.

The shipment of primates included two mandrills, a species listed in the category "Endangered" on the U.S. Endangered Species List. It is not clear who was to be the final recipient of the animals.

The two mandrills were confiscated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Agent P. Rogers and placed at Miami Metrozoo, which later shipped them to Gladys Porter Zoo, Brownsville, Texas.

To the best of IPPL's knowledge, no legal action was taken against the importer of the mandrills. The Division of Law Enforcement of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service did not publicize the shipment.



# MONKEY TRAFFICKER CAUGHT IN COCAINE BUST

Mike Tsalickis of Tarpon Springs, Florida, USA, moved to Leticia, Colombia in 1953 to set up an animal exporting business. In 1988, Tsalickis was arrested after a huge stash of cocaine was found in a property he owned.

After settling in Leticia, Tsalickis became the major exporter of South American monkeys. Leticia is close to the borders of Brazil and Peru, so Tsalickis had access to large numbers of primates, including squirrel monkeys. He used to operate monkey charter flights to the United States. One of his principal customers was the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). The U.S. Government thought so well of Tsalickis that he was named U.S. Consular Agent in Leticia!

In a raid on the Tsalickis-owned Tarpon Springs Financial Center in May 1988, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Authority (DEA) confiscated one of the largest amounts of cocaine ever seized in the United States. The DEA investigation was initiated after a suspicious bomb was found near Tsalickis' home (drug dealers tend to bump each other off). DEA tracked a shipment of ether (a material used in the production of cocaine) to Colombia. The ether was carried on board a ship owned by Tsalickis.

According to DEA, Tsalickis was linked to the Cali Cartel, an international drug smuggling ring based in Cali, Colombia (the Medellin Cartel is another famous Colombian drug-peddling operation).

Residents of Tarpon Springs were amazed at the quantity of cocaine seized in the raid, but some told the press that they had long been suspicious of Tsalickis because of his frequent trips to South America.

Tsalickis employed large numbers of hunters to supply monkeys for his ignoble traffic, causing massive losses to the primate populations around Leticia.

According to former animal dealer Jean-Yves Domalain, many animal dealers also traffic drugs. It is easy to hide drugs in snake crates or in hidden compartments of shipping crates. An unprofitable animal dealership could easily serve as a "cover" for hugely profitable drug trafficking.

Currently, only a very small percentage of wildlife shipments to the United States are ever viewed by an inspector.

IPPL believes that every primate shipment should be checked by both wildlife officials and drug enforcement officials.

## "THE REVOLVING DOOR"

In the United States, there is currently a major scandal involving defense contractors. This has focused public attention on "The Revolving Door." This is the name for the way in which executives of defense contractors take positions in the Department of Defense and later leave to take highly-paid positions in the defense business or set up independent consulting firms where they use their government contacts to acquire information which they resell to defense contractors. This information sometimes helps a firm make the lowest bid on a multi-million dollar contract with the Defense Department.

The ex-government officials find work as consultants because they know their way around the departments where they used to work and how to get information, and, even, occasionally, which officials are subject to bribes.

At least one former senior official of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service "revolved" out of the Service's door to become a lobbyist

for animal dealers, big game hunters, ivory traders, and furriers.

Mr. Richard Parsons was formerly Director of the Federal Wildlife Permit Office, which is supposed to regulate the importation of endangered wildlife to the United States. This work includes regulating the activities of animal dealers, big game hunters, ivory traders and fur dealers.

In 1983, Parsons quit this position and turned up at the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species as a **representative of an animal dealers' lobby**. At subsequent meetings, Mr. Parsons has represented the trigger-happy big game hunters of the Safari Club International (who had applied in 1981 to import to the United States "trophies" of gorillas, orang-utans, and over 50 other endangered species), and a U.S. fur industry lobby.

Recently, Mr. Parsons met with Department of Justice officials to discuss the "criminal activities" of animal activists.

## BOWDEN QUESTIONS WHETHER PRIMATES NEED EXERCISE AND INTELLECTUAL STIMULATION

In a letter published in *Science* (April 1988), Douglas Bowden, a psychiatrist who performs experiments on monkeys at the Washington Regional Primate Center in Seattle, Washington, expressed his concern about proposed regulations to improve the "psychological well-being of laboratory primates."

Bowden expressed his concern at proposals to increase cage sizes for singly-housed primates (the current federal minimum cage size for adult Rhesus monkeys is a measly 0.4 m<sup>2</sup>, 76.2 cm high — about 2 by 2 feet, 30 inches high). Bowden stated that, "Even minor changes in U.S. cage sizes would translate into millions of

dollars of investment in new and renovated structures." (Emphasis added). It appears to IPPL that Dr. Bowden is more interested in the financial well-being of primate research facilities than about the comfort of the monkeys.

Bowden expressed doubts as to "whether exercise and cognitive stimulation reduce stress in adult laboratory primates."

As a psychiatrist working with primates, **because of their alleged similarity to humans**, Bowden should consider locking himself up alone in a tiny cage for some weeks or years with nothing to do and nowhere to go.

## PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE

Let IPPL know if you move or plan to move. If you don't let us know, you will be inconvenienced by not receiving your IPPL Newsletter and we will be inconvenienced by having to try to track you down! All the time and effort could be better spent on helping primates.

DON'T YOU AGREE?



As many readers will know, IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal was hit in 1984 with a 4 million dollar personal lawsuit after writing a Letter to the Editor raising questions about an Austrian multinational blood products company's plans to set up a laboratory in West Africa, using wild-caught endangered chimpanzees. This lawsuit was recently mentioned in an article in US NEWS & WORLD REPORT, which gave us permission to reproduce it for our readers.

# A chilling flurry of lawsuits

Companies and public officials have a new way to answer criticism: Sue

■ It's an old American tradition: You don't like a candidate for a judgeship, you're dissatisfied with the performance of your child's teacher, you're opposed to U.S. policy in Central America—so you fire off a nasty letter or organize a demonstration. The complaints may fall on deaf ears, but at least you know that the First Amendment will protect your exercise of free speech. Right?

Shirley McGreal, Jackie Sommer and James Clymer would disagree. They're among hundreds who have been hit by what they charge are "intimidation" suits when they've spoken out on public issues. Few cases end in verdicts against the defendants. But experts who have watched the trend warn that those who file the suits often achieve their purpose even without a legal victory. Says George Pring of the University of Denver College of Law, who has studied 100 of these cases: "Their success comes from fear, protraction and the high costs of defense."

Consider Shirley McGreal, who heads the South Carolina-based International Primate Protection League. In 1983, she wrote to the *Journal of Medical Primatology*—circulation 300—protesting plans of the Austrian firm Immuno AG to use chimpanzees in hepatitis research in Sierra Leone—a scheme she argued could spread the disease "among wild chimpanzees over large parts of Africa." Nearly a year later, and after turning down the journal's offer to respond to McGreal's charges, the company sued for \$4 million, accusing McGreal of harming its "standing, prestige, reputation and credibility." Says McGreal: "I'm an unpaid volunteer who never had even a traffic ticket. Suddenly, I could have lost my home." Eventually, McGreal's insurer settled the case for \$100,000 over her objection, leaving her to bear \$35,000 in legal fees.

**The big chill.** Those filing the cases insist they are merely protecting their rights or fighting back against unfair accusations. But there's no doubt the suits have a chilling effect. In the southern Missouri town of Bunker, high-school English teacher Jackie Sommer complained to a weekly newspaper that an incinerator burning hospital waste was a health hazard. The incinerator operator slapped her with a \$1 million libel suit that remains pending even though officials closed the facility. When a woman from a Nevada town where the firm planned a similar plant asked Bunker residents about their experiences, Sommer reports, "Every-



**SUED:** Delores and David Friedlander were hit with libel and slander suits by their landlord after they complained to fellow tenants and a building inspector

body clammed up because they didn't want to risk being sued."

Legal experts are particularly troubled by the growing tendency to sue persons who file complaints with public agencies. The First Amendment guarantees the right to "petition the government for a redress of grievances." But that doesn't equal blanket protection. In 1985, the Supreme Court upheld a suit against Robert McDonald, who had written President Reagan contending that David Smith should not be appointed federal prosecutor in North Carolina because he had committed fraud and other offenses. Smith didn't get the job—and slapped a libel action on McDonald. The Court said "the right to commit libel with impunity" is not constitutionally guaranteed. "Speech is not free any more," counters Bruce Ennis, McDonald's attorney. "Even if a 'small' speaker can prove the truth of what he says, it could cost him hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees." McDonald won't talk about the case. "He has been chilled, iced and frozen," reports Ennis.

Even teachers have taken the offensive, going after critical parents. In Red Lion, Pa., 900 persons filed objections to a health and physical-education instructor they said forced girls to swim in the nude and extolled homosexuality. The teacher turned around and sued 115 petition signers. "Parents should be able to speak out



**SUED:** Shirley McGreal was forced to settle a libel case for \$100,000 after she criticized an Austrian firm's plan to build a chimpanzee-research facility

about their children's education," says defendant James Clymer. "People are very reluctant to sign petitions now." In Northglenn, Colo., teacher Jan Cole won a \$110,500 verdict last year against three conservative Christian parents who complained that she talked to students favorably about "occultic religious practices" such as walking on hot coals. Cole's lawyer retorts that she was subjected to "ex-





**SUED:** Brian Willson lost his legs when a munitions train ran over him as he protested arms shipments. Now, the train crew is suing him for mental anguish

treme and reckless" charges about "innocuous" classroom remarks.

**Protecting property.** As much as multimillion-dollar damage suits frighten their targets, those who file them maintain that they have the right to preserve their reputations or protect their property. Shee Atika, Inc., for example, claimed damages that could have totaled \$40 million from the Sierra Club when the environmental group backed a drive by an Indian village to block logging on its traditional Alaska hunting land. Sierra Club attorney Durwood Zaelke calls the suit, dismissed this year by a federal court, "a very mean-spirited one that could have put us out of business." Shee Atika lawyer Pierre LaForce sees it differently: "They tied up the

firm's sole asset for two years—it was one step away from bankruptcy."

A similar argument was raised by workers at the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant, who filed a multimillion-dollar lawsuit against the Abalone Alliance—an antinuclear group that had staged nonviolent blockades of the controversial plant in Southern California. John Findley of the conservative Pacific Legal Foundation, which handled the case against the alliance, argues that the protesters crossed the line between freedom of speech and trespassing: "Just because someone styles himself a protester doesn't authorize him to break the law, no matter how well motivated he is." Because the alliance actually committed an "invasion

of property," he maintains, it could properly be sued—though courts disagreed after a six-year battle.

But suits against those who speak out are likely to increase as individuals and companies under fire realize that they can use the ever more complex legal system to divert their opponents—even without winning damages. In New York City, Delores and David Friedlander face suits from the owner of their apartment building over a letter they wrote to tenants and a remark to a housing inspector. "These cases are aimed at forcing us to spend our time and money defending ourselves instead of organizing tenants," says Delores Friedlander.

Experts such as Pring argue that a principal aim of the suits is "political repression," made all the more pernicious by its being carried out under the aegis of the judicial system. "When people ask me whether they might be sued for demonstrating, I say, 'There's always a chance—it's a reality in America,'" laments Joyce Howerton of the Abalone Alliance. A bizarre example: S. Brian Willson, a Vietnam vet who lost his legs last year when he lay in front of a munitions train in protest against U.S. arms shipments to Central America, is now being sued by three train crewmen for "mental anguish and emotional and physical distress" they suffered when their train ran over him.

**Fighting back.** Defendants in some cases could file counterclaims for legal harassment, but for many, the time and expense involved in pursuing such recourse would only compound the frustration the original suit had caused. Judges already have the power to take steps that would allow legitimate suits to proceed while closing off frivolous actions. Among them: Placing "intimidation" cases on a fast track to prevent unjust charges from languishing, requiring suit filers to prove that their detractors were acting illegally and fining those who file frivolous cases. Such measures would "place an effective 'reverse chill' on future intimidation suits," says Denver's Professor Pring. Some courts are beginning to give harassment cases such treatment.

In the meantime, "many people will be too timid to speak out—it's scary," observes Peter Farina, a biochemist now facing a \$14.5 million suit by a Westchester County, N.Y., developer whose hotel he opposes. Henry Kaufman of the New York-based Libel Defense Resource Center, who plans to study the trend, agrees: "Private citizens may think they have the right to express their opinions on issues of concern, but that exercise can carry a high price tag." ■

by Ted Gest

**If you feel that "intimidation lawsuits" are a threat to American democracy, please send a copy of this article to your Senators (Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510) and Representative (House Office Building, Washington DC 20515) asking that they investigate the problem and develop legislation to prevent misuse of our judicial system. Controversial issues should be resolved in the market place of ideas not through the civil judicial system, where the rich have all the advantages.**



# MONKEY HEAD TRANSPLANTER PICKETED

In March 1988, Dr. Robert White wrote an article for the **Readers' Digest** glorifying animal experimentation, thereby reviving public interest in White's own gruesome experiments.

In some of the most bizarre experiments ever performed on primates, White severed monkeys' heads from their bodies and kept them "alive" for up to 4 days. The "heads" were able to track observing scientists' movements.

In **Look** magazine, Nov. 28, 1967, journalist Oriana Fallaci described watching White remove the brain of Libby, a little 3-year-old Rhesus monkey:

*At 8 in the morning, Dr. Albin came to anesthetize Libby. In a cage near hers, a big monkey screamed ferociously, shaking the bars. Libby struggled powerfully, and it took time to immobilize her. . . . It was a big needle, and Libby cried, looking at it with surprise in her eyes. But she fell asleep very quickly, her little hands open as if to ask for mercy. . . . Jim Austin began to shave her abdomen and her head. On her head, you would now see the electrodes that Dr. Leo Massopust, the neurophysiologist, had placed there six months before. . . . The top of the skull, which had been removed, had been replaced with a kind of cement. . . . Professor White incised the skin of Libby's neck, uncovered the tissues and began to get rid of them, using a cautery that cut and burned at the same time. . . . The first five hours of the operation would be spent like this, in demolishing Libby's head: muscle after muscle, nerve after nerve, vessel after vessel. . . . until all would disappear like garbage among the dirty pads, and what would remain of Libby would be a body attached to a skull. He worked while smoking his pipe, chatting. . . . Professor White attacked Libby's jaws, Libby's mouth. . . . those fingers were stealing her nose, her left eye, her right eye, and her features no longer existed. In their place was a smell of burnt flesh. . . . no one paid attention to Libby's body, which was lying lifeless, forgotten, until Paul untied it and put it down on the floor. It was nothing now. All that Libby had been, her joys and her fears, her reactions and her memories, the jungle where she had been born, the net in which she had been captured, the cage in which she had been imprisoned, her last meal, the last flashing of her eyes when Dr. Albin had hurt her with the needle, everything was still living inside that brain without flesh, connected with wires, with tubes. . . .*

On 20 April 1988, White had a surprise when he attended a dinner at which he was to be awarded the title of "National Health Professional of the Year," by the Visiting Nurse Association of Cleveland at the Lander Haven Country Club.



Sherry Hamilton and Dave Sickles with gift-wrapped "head"



Graduate Boycotts Ceremony

Daring Network for Ohio Animal Action activists Sherry Hamilton and David Sickles purchased two \$125 tickets for the banquet. As 60 demonstrators carrying signs protesting White's monkey head transplant experiments marched outside the Country Club, Ms. Hamilton and Mr. Sickles, dressed in evening clothes, entered the hall bearing their "gift" for Dr. White — a gift-wrapped plastic model of a severed human head. They felt uncomfortable amidst the fur-coated "elite" of Cleveland, and listened as others at their tables made sneering comments about animals and animal rights.

As soon as everyone had received their dinners, Ms. Hamilton went to the podium and took over the microphone and made her own "Awards Speech," saying:

*We speak for those who cannot so that they are not forgotten. . . . We present this award on behalf of your be-headed victim Libby, our trusting pets senselessly tortured and the millions of other animals killed in agony in research laboratories around the world without reason.*

Then Ms. Hamilton unwrapped the "severed head" and held it up high. Security men and bodyguards dragged her from the platform.

Because they had purchased tickets for the event, Hamilton and Sickles were legally at the event and were not charged with trespassing.

Demonstrators were present on 25 June 1988 when White was commencement speaker at the Cuyahoga Community College's Western campus.

Explaining the protest, Sickles stated that, "This man reminds me of Frankenstein," and Ms. Hamilton said that, "Dr. White is the epitomé of what we stand against: he is not somebody who the graduates should look up to."

Seven students boycotted their own graduation ceremony to protest White's appearance. One of them, Tim Layman, stated:

*Robert White totally disgusts me. He makes me ashamed to be part of the human race. I've worked for a long time for this degree, and what they're telling me is that it's more important to have White here than to have me there.*

The graduation ceremony was moved indoors at the last minute, possibly because the Network for Ohio Animal Action had hired an airplane message service to fly over the outdoor arena during the ceremony with a streamer critical of White.



# IPPL MEMBER'S BOLIVIA PROTEST PRODUCES INFORMATION

IPPL member Nancy Alexander of Florida was so outraged on reading in the April 1988 IPPL Newsletter about how the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) engineered the January 1986 export of 361 monkeys from Bolivia that she immediately contacted her Congressman, Representative Dante Fascell, who serves as Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The 20 owl monkeys and 341 squirrel monkeys were imported by Miami animal trafficker Matthew Block who sold them into experimentation.

J. Edward Fox, the State Department's Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, drafted the official "whitewash" of these black events.

According to Fox, USAID admittedly engineered the export, but "required that all arrangements for exportation of the animals be legal and proper." Since Bolivia had a total ban on all wildlife exports at the time, making the export "legal and proper" was certainly a challenge to USAID!

To procure the monkeys, USAID entered into a contract with "The American Institute of Biological Sciences" which in turn subcontracted with primate trafficker Matthew Block to arrange the exportation (Block had a long history of dealing in Bolivian mammals and birds). Thus, USAID and the State Department were two steps removed from whatever was done to "legalise" export of the banned-from-export monkeys, or, as Mr. Fox put it "to promote the exception to the Bolivian ban on the export of live wildlife that was issued by Bolivian authorities for this export." Mr. Fox added that:

*Although there have been accusations by private individuals in Bolivia that Mr. Block falsified documents used in connection with the importation of these monkeys, we have no information that would enable us to confirm or deny these allegations.*

Readers may recall that Bolivian authorities seized Block's passport and that the U.S. Consular agent in Santa Cruz issued him an identity paper and also reportedly obtained his luggage from his hotel room, enabling him to cross the Paraguayan border and return safely to Miami. Fox admitted that the Consular Agent had indeed provided an identity document, but said that "The consular agent . . . did not abet either Mr. Block's departure from Bolivia or any subversion of Bolivian laws."

Fox confirmed that in May 1986, the Bolivian Embassy in the United States requested that the monkeys be returned to Bolivia for release into the wild. However, the State Department stated that there was a "consensus" among "wildlife biologists" (whom it failed to identify) that the monkeys would not survive in the wild.

Fox admitted that in this case, the State Department and USAID's intention was "to facilitate access to animals." He added that "We have worked with USAID to ensure that the problems and misunderstandings (emphasis added . . . are not repeated."

As far as IPPL was concerned, there were no misunderstandings. It is clear that the U.S. Government set out deliberately to procure animals fully protected under Bolivian law.

The current location of the monkeys has been treated as a "state secret" by USAID. We do not know whether they are alive or dead.

During the initial series of events, dynamic Reginald Hardy of the Bolivian Wildlife Society (PRODENA) rushed between Bolivia, the United States, and his home in Wales, pleading for the return of the monkeys and begging the U.S. not to subvert Bolivian wildlife laws which were partly instituted as the result of his Society's courageous efforts in a land where drug traffickers wield enormous power. Hardy was met with lies, evasion, and deceit about which he was extremely bitter and which left him exhausted and discouraged.

Within months, Reginald Hardy was felled by a paralyzing stroke. The viciousness of the U.S. government primate procurement bureaucracy has destroyed many wild primates' lives. **Now it appears that it may have taken its first human victim.**

IPPL had learned that Dr. Benjamin Blood (sic), former Executive Director of the U.S. Interagency Primate Steering (sic) Committee, was a consultant to USAID in the Bolivian monkey affair (Blood was earlier active in breaking the Peruvian monkey export ban, and the failed attempts to force Thailand and Indonesia to export gibbons for research). IPPL had placed an FOIA with USAID for material about the Bolivian monkey scandal but received nothing.

The response to Ms. Alexander's letter has opened up a whole new line of exploration of this disgraceful situation. IPPL has submitted a Freedom of Information Act request to USAID for material related to the American Institute of Biological Sciences contract. We intend to protest strongly to the Institute. Biologists should support Bolivia's attempts to protect its wildlife not subvert them.

Please remember to write letters as requested in the IPPL Newsletter. As you can see, they can be effective.

We think it would be very nice for US members to send cards to Reginald Hardy to let him know that lots of us admire his work and are disgusted at our government's role in the Bolivian monkey scandal. Please contact:

Reginald Hardy  
Tan-yr Allt  
Llantilio  
Croesenny  
Abergavenny, Gwent NP7 8TH  
Wales, United Kingdom

The new cost of air mail letters from the United States to overseas destinations is 45 cents per half-ounce. We are sure that Mr. Hardy would be pleased to receive messages of support from all over the world, too!

## "I SHOULD OF PUNCHED HER IN THE MOUTH!"

On 27 April 1988, the Oprah Winfrey television talk show featured a team of animal activists and a team of rabid supporters of animal experimentation. A lively debate followed.

One of the pro-experimentalists was Jana Koch, of Tampa, Florida, whose daughter had a pacemaker installed at an early age. Towards the end of the program, Ms. Winfrey, in a clearly pre-planned move, went over to the cute little girl who recited a statement that, "I would give my cat to save my 3 year old friend Natalie who has cystic fibrosis." At that point Ms. Winfrey interjected in

an outraged tone, "It's a child, please let her speak," even though there was nobody interrupting her, and the child went on to say, "I want live animal research to continue 'cos it saved my life."

Feeling that this was a prepared speech, Ingrid Newkirk of People for Ethical Treatment of Animals commented, "I thought child exploitation was illegal in the United States!"

Writing to fellow-members of an experimentalist lobby, Ms. Koch commented, "I should of (sic) punched her in the mouth, but that would be sinking to her level . . . maybe next time."



# FEMALE GORILLA JOINS NEW GROUP

by Alan Goodall

*Dr. Goodall serves as Director of the Karisoke Research Center in Rwanda.*

If a male has one female, and she decides to leave him for another male there may be little he can do about it. If she is one of TEN females in his harem should he even be concerned? In mountain gorillas at least the answer, emphatically, is YES!

Female transfer between groups of mountain gorillas has been observed only rarely. Researchers at Karisoke were therefore excited to witness such an event recently. After being within earshot of each other for several days, two of the research groups finally met and interacted quite violently. One of the groups was "Group 5"; 27 animals led by mature silverback "ZIZ", aided by a younger silverback "PABLO". The other, much smaller group of ten was "BEETSME'S", led by Beetsme himself, again with the help of a young silverback, "TITUS".

On first sight of each other the silverbacks gave typical 'displays' by walking in a stylised "strutting" fashion, and thrashing nearby vegetation. Then Pablo, followed by Ziz, charged directly at Beetsme who retreated with the others following him closely. All three then faced each other with typical 'head shaking', and avoiding direct eye contact. Beetsme then grabbed at Pablo, but retreated quickly once again. He was then pursued by Ziz, aided now by 'Shinda', a young male whose coat has yet to become silver coloured. Meanwhile, Pablo remained with the females of his group.

It is during such interactions that females may transfer from one group to another. This may take her out of her 'natal' group and among unrelated animals. Given the density of the vegetation it is obviously not an easy task for males to prevent females from transferring, even more so if there are lots of females! Nevertheless Pablo, several times actively prevented 'Maggie' (a young female) from approaching the interaction area.

However, another adult female 'Tuck' managed to transfer, and took her three year old infant "Ndatwa" with her! This seems to be the oldest infant transfer ever seen. Most previous transfers of very young infants (less than one year old) resulted in their being killed soon after the transfer by the resident males. Since this caused the female to come into estrus, and therefore available for mating, one can see the biological reason for such 'infanticide'. Future offspring would then be the dominant male's, and therefore carry 'his genes'. We were therefore very concerned to see if "Ndatwa" would be able to survive the transfer.

Despite the onset of heavy rain Ziz did not accept the loss of one of his ten females easily. Leaving the rest of his family in the charge of Pablo he pursued the retreating Beetsme relentlessly. Both Beetsme and Titus stayed as rear guards while the rest of their group, and their new additions quickly left the area. The adult males gave 'hootseries' vocalisations, followed by loud chest beats. Each then flattened lots of the nearby vegetation in impressive charging displays. It was fortunate that they chose to completely ignore the human observer!

Ziz's pursuit took him several kilometres away from the rest of his group, and lasted for over six hours, at least two in total darkness. The vast areas of flattened vegetation seen the following morning told their own vivid tale of the night time battle. Trail signs showed that Ziz eventually gave up and made his way, on a pitch black night, back to his own group. They were so disorientated that they did not construct proper 'night nests'. Many of them just slept where they finished up as darkness fell. Beetsme's group also did

the same, presumably thankful to at least get some rest and sleep!

The next day the silverbacks led their groups away from each other. They both travelled so quickly, and so far that they hardly paused to feed until later in the day. Beetsme took his group very high into the zone of giant senecios eleven and a half thousand feet up the slopes of Mount Visoke. Ziz led his group far into the 'saddle' area between Visoke and Mount Karisimbi. Both silverbacks had small wounds on their hands, and Beetsme had obvious scratches on his nose. They literally spent considerable time 'licking their wounds'! Ziz was also heard to give an unusual, baby like whimper, for no apparent reason, and on several occasions over the following few days.

Meanwhile, Tuck and Ndatwa were having a very rough time in their new family. Both Beetsme and Titus gave frequent display charges at Tuck. Poor Ndatwa wisely kept well out of the way, but was often whimpering as he tried to get close to his mother. At first she pushed him away, even when he tried to suckle, although later she groomed him. It is fortunate that he is almost weaned and can forage for himself. Tuck spent most of the morning of her first day on the periphery of her new group. Beetsme and Titus often seemed to be trying to out display each other in trying to be nearest to her! Finally, during a rest period, other group members approached her and Ndatwa and sat near to them. Although both silverbacks continued to give displays to her over the following days, Tuck largely ignored them. Ndatwa again kept out of the way. He seems to be learning quickly!

Both groups then spent a lot of time catching up on missed feeding time, and took a lot of rests. Neither group moved far during each day's foraging. This pattern however, changed suddenly, and dramatically ten days later. It was Ziz who took the initiative and headed back towards the slopes of Mount Visoke. Although it seemed possible that he was heading towards Beetsme's group, his speed, and eventual directness took us all by surprise. He was back in two days, and, by the time the researchers found the groups early one morning a large area of flattened vegetation indicated that another interaction had taken place just after dawn.

Careful checks on both groups showed that no further changes had taken place. Tuck and Ndatwa were still safe and well in their new group. No new injuries were seen on any animals. Over the next few days both groups then proceeded to move in opposite directions to the extremes of their range areas, and then beyond into new regions.

Two weeks after the transfer both Beetsme and Titus have mated several times with Tuck. Ndatwa has been playing with the other infant in his new group and, although not his usual extrovert self, seems to be settling into his new role. His degree of independence will probably be the key to his survival. Meanwhile Ziz no longer gives his little whimpers. Has he decided that Tuck is a lost cause? But, why did she transfer? She left the security of her natal group for the relative insecurity of a group of strangers, thereby taking her infant into considerable danger.

Whilst Karisoke researchers ponder the gathering data it may be that, like their human cousins, gorilla females are just fickle too!

*Note: Dr. Goodall has informed IPPL that Tuck and Ndatwa have now settled happily into their new family.*

## WHERE THERE'S A WILL

Members making wills are requested to consider making a bequest, large or small, to the International Primate Protection League.

The needs of primates for protection will continue long after any of us living today have left the scene. Any bequest made to the International Primate Protection League will be used on activities aimed at ensuring the survival of primate species and protecting individual primates from mistreatment at human hands.



# DIAN FOSSEY'S LETTERS TO IPPL, PART 2

The April 1988 issue of the **IPPL Newsletter** contained extracts from letters written to IPPL by the late Dian Fossey prior to her departure from Rwanda to Cornell University, Ithaca, in March 1980. Dian returned to Karisoke for a brief visit in July 1980 and permanently in December 1983. The letters presented here include those written from Ithaca, and her final letters from Rwanda.

Ithaca, New York  
August 9, 1980

*I spoke with the Africans while I was in camp. They aren't too happy about the current situation as they want to work more than they are working but obviously can't go out on their own unless paid and authorized to do so. Incidentally, Mutarukwa told me there was another infant gorilla being held in Zaire that he believes came from Mt. Mikenko. Rather than conduct a patrol during the short time I was there, I asked him to take his Zairois friends and start searching for it. I told him that he would be paid for his time spent simply to sort out the story and, if possible, bring back the baby. He hadn't returned by the time I left, so he might have been onto something. At least the boys at camp know that they might become foster parents again.*

*• • • At any rate, I'm glad I went to try and cheer up the men simply to let them know they haven't been forgotten. Emotionally, it was a traumatic trip especially since I found out that my monkey, Kima, had died of neglect. I then took one look at my old dog, Cindy, and immediately asked her if she'd like to take a long stroll. Cindy is now sitting at my feet here in Ithaca after one of the most venturesome strolls she's ever taken!*

During her years in Ithaca, Dian took a great interest in Arun Rangsi, a young gibbon who reached IPPL Headquarters in August 1981. Arun Rangsi had been born at the Comparative Oncology Laboratory, University of California at Davis, in 1979, and had failed to grow and thrive, weighing half the normal weight of an animal his size and having developed several neurotic habits such as constant head-banging. The little gibbon recovered rapidly in IPPL's care, and Dian would phone regularly for news of him. She loved all primates, and, indeed, all animals.

Ithaca, New York  
October 5, 1981

*I delighted in the story of your gibbon's near-recuperation from his previous trauma. It is such a pleasure to hear a story with a good ending for a change.*

*Please take care of yourself and keep up with your excellent work.*

Ithaca, New York  
Unknown date, 1982

*I so enjoyed talking to you today - it meant a lot because I am getting to the point where life in this country is absolutely becoming meaningless. It will always be encouraging to me to know, once I am back home, at camp, that there are people such as yourself who care about primates who cannot speak for themselves. More important you speak along with action yet without self-accolades. This is what active conservation is all about.*

Ithaca, New York  
November 22, 1982

*Many thanks for the photo of you and Arun Rangsi and your letter of November 6. He appears to be one very contented fellow now, and I am pleased that he is able to get along with Peppy and Metta [Peppy and Metta, also former laboratory gibbons, reached IPPL headquarters in mid-1982] which is really the stepping stone to success. Of course, you have stated the entire wrong of theoretic conservation in your single sentence, "Why do animals always have to meet us on our terms?"*

*• • • In press just now is a Digit Fund brochure which speaks of active vs theoretical conservation. Of equal importance are the opportunities I've been given to compare the expediency of the first method with the procrastination and expense of the second. I do believe that a one page letter should be done on this topic without reference to any single species, individuals, or countries. A very solid statement is needed for sure.*

In September 1982, IPPL exposed a ring that was smuggling chimpanzees and Pygmy chimps from Zaire to Belgium and we kept Dian abreast of developments. Dr. Roland Corluy, IPPL's Belgian Representative, worked hard at ending "The Belgian Connection."

*Shirley, I am wondering what kind of links you might be able to connect with the head of Sabena Airlines - there is where much of the trouble lies. Might you ask Dr. Corluy about this since he is located in Belgium? I reckon if you take care of Sabena you take care of the majority of the smuggling difficulties.*

Ithaca, New York  
January 18, 1983

*Before I try to catch up on my shameful backlog of correspondence to you, I want to tell you that your Christmas card is so beautiful and certainly will be treasured forever. I deeply appreciate having been on your mailing list.*

Dian was concerned to learn that an Austrian drug company was trying to set up a chimpanzee laboratory in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

*Among your many enclosures I found myself amazed at the Sierra Leone project only in that it is better the chimpanzees be maintained in their own country rather than illegally exported, however, he doesn't say how many they want nor could he possibly guarantee that they will be able to be released after a three year period. It will be interesting to know if the project ever gets off the ground. I definitely hope not but I'll bet the alternative will be to sneak the chimps out.*



• • • Enclosed are a few samples of the Digit brochure. It cost amazingly little to do mainly because Stacey Coil [Dian's assistant at Cornell University] did all of the layout work and the word processing for nothing. All I can say is, it is high time I got around to it and will feel much better about it all once I get back.

Thank you so much for your letters. It is always reassuring to know that there are people such as yourself and Roland Corluy in the world. I do hope the gibbons are continuing to do well.

**Ithaca, New York  
February 10, 1983**

I would like to know when you sleep! First things first. I do want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for nominating myself, Jane [Goodall] and Birute [Galdikas] for the seventh J. Paul Getty Wildlife Conservation Prize. That really means more to me than you will ever know. If there were even the most remote chance of "winning", every cent of my third would be pledged toward Karisoke. Shirley, as you might know, I was nominated last year but there was a strong South American influence on the committee last year, so . . . well, you can't win everything. I think that, unconsciously, I had already budgeted the prize, however, what really was more important was that the loss taught me very emphatically that you really have to believe in yourself, even if others do not. Again, I thank you so much and will keep my 'Trimate' fingers crossed. [Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey and Birute Galdikas, the three women whose careers in primate field research were sponsored by the late Louis Leakey, are sometimes referred to as "The Trimates."]

• • • I am pleased and yet, as you understand, dismayed, that you went to pick up a female gibbon. How sad that there was another available waif and loss; how wonderful that she has you and Arun to go to. The timing seems good, for now he has undoubtedly recovered from much of his previous traumatic experiences and is far more likely, I would guess, to be able to relate to a new female. I surely hope so both for his sake and hers.

• • • Recent news from camp - one of Group 5's infants got snared by a wire trap and was on the downhill until darted and the wire removed. Infant doing fine now though it was nearly totalled when the other group members subjected it to "violent" abuse as happened in the case of Marchessa and another young female who died of natural causes. I tried so hard to change the inference of "murder" when Icarus and others stomped around on Marchessa's corpse. This is simply the animals' way of trying to evoke a response from a weakened or abnormal individual and should never be misinterpreted as aggression. At any rate, the infant was fine the day following the darting, and I think the kids at camp did a great job in taking on the challenge. More news later from camp as well as certain aspects of fund-raising. I must stop for now but can't thank you enough for your letters and for just being you.

Dian returned to Karisoke on 5 December 1983. Apart from brief trips, she would never leave Rwanda again.

**Karisoke, January 6, 1984**

Many, many thanks on behalf of Karisoke's staff which currently consists of myself and the ever-loyal Africans, for your Christmas card as well as the August 1983 Newsletter.

Returned to camp on December 5th to find that the two students who had been entrusted with the place had quit and had left NO reports since September. The Africans were doing their best to keep things going, but they were no match for the Europeans who wish to consider Karisoke as a tourists' camp. If I had not returned when I did, I don't know what would have happened.

Patrols were resumed immediately and are working ever so effectively just like before, except that the students have swiped all of the real guns and the men have to work, or feel secure with, only little starter pistols which I bought in America with Digit Fund money. [name omitted] the last student who quit, claims he threw my Walther into the forest because it was "illegal" in Rwanda to have a pistol.

In my dotage I have learned not to criticize the inability of stu-

dents to cope with the isolation, terrain, weather and food boredom available at Karisoke. Some, like Ian Redmond, can cope and others can't. Simultaneously I can only give thanks for the Africans, most of whom have been with me since 1968, who have turned down softer jobs at higher salaries with the Mt. Gorilla Project.

On December 24 I gave these men and their families a BIG Christmas party just as we used to do in the past. 81 climbed up to camp and 82 descended! In between passing out the food and the gifts, I had to deliver a baby, a premature male fathered by one of my best trackers and named Karisoke. I've never delivered a baby before but the lady did most of the work. The next morning the husband returned to get her, and I reckon she was hoeing potatoes that same evening.

Must reinstate absolutely positive impressions of the new ORTPN Park Director in Kigali as well as the Conservator in Kinigi, a section fairly close to the park. All of the previous, not mentioned by name in the book, have been fired. I have excellent rapport with their replacements and correspond with them on a weekly basis.

Poaching is substantially reduced and I worry only about my physical ability to keep up with the work in the field. It seems increasingly harder but may be that is because I am once again the only white person here. Gorillas are all fine though, sadly, no new births.

• • • Camp goes splendidly though there is only myself and the Africans here, thus behavioural observations, when the gorillas are far, simply are not accomplished. Thanks to the Digit Fund, I am running patrols six days a week; three weekly with the same men I have used for years and years, and three weekly with Park Guards. It is, in a way, a training program for the Park Guards who have been assigned, in addition to their other duties, distant fringe groups of gorillas for whom I have made them feel entirely responsible. They plot the groups' ranges on maps, plot the distribution of the night nest dung in the nests, and return the dung to camp so that all animals may be accounted for. 'Guardians for Gorilla Groups' is the theme behind the work for the guards in the hopes of giving them more individual motivation.

In February 1984, three U.S. zoos sought permission to obtain seven wild-caught gorillas being held by a French animal-dealing couple, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roy, at Sangmelima in the Cameroun. The U.S. animal dealer involved in the shipment (Matthew Block of Miami) and the zoos retained Richard Parsons, former Director of the Federal Wildlife Permit Office, to (they hoped) expedite the shipment. IPPL organized opposition to issuance of an import permit for the animals, who were eventually sent on a non-commercial basis to a Netherlands zoo, to the disappointment of those who thought that a Gorilla Survival Center should be established in Africa for these, and other "orphaned" gorillas. Dian suggested that IPPL contact Camerounian tennis star Yannick Noah for help.

Might it not be possible to find Peace Corps workers in the area of Sangmelima who might be able to oversee the construction of temporary lodging for the gorillas and, as well, train Africans to stay with the animals (for salary) on a 24 hour a day basis, perhaps, in time, going out with them in the adjacent forest? It is a small beginning but, nonetheless, a beginning.

Lastly, why don't you try and get Yannick Noah interested in the project, even if only to contact airlines flying in and out of Yaounde? Export permits are only pieces of paper while airlines are usually the means by which they become viable.

I deeply hope the matter is resolved as you would have it which is in the best interests of the gorillas.

**Karisoke, April 11, 1984**

Many thanks for your letter of March 25, which arrived today. I don't know where you find the time to do so much, but am certain your good helpers, such as Kathy, must seem like 10 extra hands, at least, whenever the need arises. Before I go onto that letter, I'd like to hand out another suggestion, for what it is worth, though you've probably already thought of it.





**Dian Fossey with Young Poacher Captured by Digit Fund Patrol. Photo: Ian Redmond**

Am off the mountain right now (bloody pneumonia again) so don't have your correspondence with me, but U.S. zoos wanting the Cameroon 7 include Columbus, San Diego, and Florida????? [in fact the zoos were Memphis, North Carolina and Columbus] Where ever, why don't you write to the schools, the mayors, the Rotary clubs, etc. (with emphasis on schools) of these cities and ask them to flood the 'Letter to the Editor' columns of their local newspapers with protests over the planned importations coupled with possible boycotting of the respective zoos if the gorillas are received at these respective zoos?

In my mind this is an active means of conservation in that each of these U.S. zoos feels threatened at a distance just now, yet none feel antipathy in their own backyard which is where it really hurts. It is all well and good for known conservationists to write to the Africans involved with the exportations (I indeed shall write to the two new names suggested), in fact it is essential, but that won't make the local zoo director/board quite as uncomfortable as, say, a newspaper petition signed by the entire tenth grade of the St. Hilary's Junior High School (obviously, fictional name), in San Diego/Oklahoma or whatever cities are planning the acquisition of the Cameroon 7.

In suggesting this petition, however, you must NOT leave the zoo the excuse that it is "saving the proposed gorilla from the pot", for that is absolutely the first excuse that the local zoos give for their new exhibits, a sterile pacification if ever there was one.

Follow the lines of the excellent article by Barry Kent MacKay: a) "... was rescued from mistreatment in some village." b) ... "zoo collectors shoot the mothers to capture the babies." c) ... "The money spent by zoos on gorillas should go toward the creation of a gorilla reacclimatization facility in an appropriate African environment."

In today's society, it is not uncommon for the children to educate the adults, and certainly they exert a tremendous pressure since they are, generally speaking, far more conservation-minded. Please try soliciting their aid in the respective cities intent upon receiving members of the Cameroon 7. A threatened boycott might well be as harmful as an actual one, but needs to occur, obviously, before the animals are transferred/exported.

Hey, have you tried to contact Yannick? I bet he has more clout than the President of the Cameroun's!

• • • Still rolling out patrols with both authorized Park Guards and my own people, all done with accolades from the new, super Rwandese park officials. Have only encountered one, out of fourteen park guard patrol combinations (old and new guards) which has proven absolutely 'bure' – an African word meaning worthless. One of the two men was involved in the Tsundura slayings of some 8 gorillas when he served as the Conservator in 1971. Why he was kept on as a guard, I don't know. All else going fine (Nunkie has sired 2 more!)



• • • Well, in a few days I hope to get my lungs glued back together down here in Ruhengeri so I can get back to the mountains, though my idea of recovery is somewhat different than that of the local doctor! In closing I do want to wish you all of the best of success in your battle against the exportation of the 'Cameroun 7' and, please, don't take your deserved holiday until the battle is over and won.

**Karisoke, May 6, 1984**

I wish I were wealthy enough to send you and your colleagues a huge, fat congratulatory cable on what you have accomplished, not only for the Cameroon Seven but, as well, for all potential captured gorillas.

By not compromising your goals and the goals of the IPPL, you have given the Lowland Gorilla a chance for survival in the wild and have reinforced the real meaning and application of the CITES [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species] text. Compromisers/fence-sitters will gain tremendously from the stand taken by the IPPL, and only because of your unrelenting, factual presentation of all involved in the too-easy importation of the Cameroon Seven.

• • • You added that Cyril Rosen was thinking of asking Ian to go to the Cameroon simply for photographic purposes. Now, Ian is a real worker. Give him about \$5,000, a vocabulary book for the region, and a tin of water-proof boot wax and he will, if given permission by the government, somehow manage to secure their future until he can be replaced. It takes someone of Ian's caliber on the scene to accomplish what seems impossible from the other side of the ocean.

Dian was saddened by most zoo gorilla exhibits; however, she did like the exhibit at Howlett's, in England, one of two facilities owned by British gambling multi-millionaire John Aspinall.

Aspinall is a very shy man, believe it or not, and also a very self-educated person. He doesn't give a hoot what the public thinks about him, but he is not wealthy enough to maintain the animals he has collected over the years without the financial support of the public. [Aspinall sold his casino holdings in 1987, for £90 million (\$180 million U.S.)]

Shirley, I have never seen gorillas like those at Howlett's. Their contented belch vocalizations, their constant activity, interactions – in a group of 14 and 16 – intra-group interaction were non-ending. Ian and I went one day when Aspinall was out of the country. We both saw gorillas just like we knew them in the wild. The second day we went, Aspinall was there. He went into their enclosure; I was prepared for a big "show." Once that man was with his animals, the public ceased to exist, honestly, and the same held true with his tigers, elephants, rhinos, etc. In my life I have witnessed very few people who, knew, instinctively, how to relate to animals; Aspinall is one of them. I also reckon that he will be killed by a tiger eventually simply because he gives them too much trust.

The gorillas' enclosure, nothing more than a HUGE steel cage with optimal use of vertical and horizontal space, cost in the neighborhood of \$250,000. This sum is peanuts compared to the multi-million dollar structures seen in so many zoos. If a facsimile of that structure could be built in the Cameroon, it would serve as an ideal holding area for several dozen gorillas until they could be released into a secured portion of the wild.

I honestly feel the solution is to get Ian Redmond over there, appraise the situation, including the reserve location most suitable for such an undertaking, and have him submit a report to the WWF. Ian is extremely practical: i.e., how did Karisoke obtain a tremendously expensive microscope for free; he found it, torn apart and rusting, in a storage area of the Ruhengeri hospital. He could probably find all the building materials for an enclosure in a Yaounde shipyard and end up being paid to haul everything away!

Also, keep after (first find) Yannick Noah whose father's half of the family still live in Yaounde. Don't try to contact him at a tennis match. Try to contact him through the mail and persist. I have very positive vibes about this guy.

Like yourself, I certainly don't believe the Roys should be compensated for whatever expenditures they have incurred in the care of the captives. That suggestion is too ludicrous to even take seriously.

Again, Shirley, please accept my deepest and most sincere congratulations for what you and your colleagues have achieved. Your battle will always remain as an outstanding example of what integrity, coupled by perseverance, can accomplish against the odds. I am very, very proud of you.

All at Karisoke continues to go very well with regard to both research and patrols. The Digit Fund is dealing with all of the expenses of the latter while my book proceeds continue to support camp and one research assistant. Let's face it, the book wasn't that great a seller, but I still have my gold fillings to fall back on. I don't know who to ask for money since the Mountain Gorilla Project appears to be sponging in all available contributions from the major funding agencies and the public at large. Most people with whom I have spoken while in America, South Africa and U.K. seem to think they are donating to Karisoke when they give to the MGP, but that will never be enough to make me change the name of 'The Digit Fund.' In essence, the MGP owes its very existence to Digit, Uncle Bert, Macho and Kweli, the latter three their scapegoats.

• • • Dear Shirley, I am not "killing myself by neglect!" In 1963 a lung specialist in Louisville warned me that it would be suicidal to climb to Kabara on that first memorable safari to Africa (he subsequently died of lung cancer). At any rate, I take extremely good care of myself in full realization that I live at 10,000' in a rain forest, and in a cabin whose fire-places smoke more than I. I take vitamin pills, bought a small O<sub>2</sub> machine, eat a couple of bananas a day to avoid potassium deficiency, and thrive on potatoes and eggs because of budget problems. In other words, I spoil myself. Only regrets are that I cannot go to the gorillas on a daily basis anymore, but Karisoke trackers and 2 research students can do so. As long as I can function to train park guards and new Africans in duties related toward the active conservation of gorillas and other inhabitants of the Virungas, then I happily exist. Your function is virtually the same as mine, and look what you have accomplished!

**Karisoke, August 10, 1984**

A number of people came to Karisoke following the conference. [The International Primatological Society Conference held in Nairobi in July 1984]. I only wish it had been possible for you to visit as well. You owe it to yourself to see the great ape you have/are worked/working so hard to protect in the wild. Perhaps another time I hope.

I've written to as many people as possible but my letters aren't so hot since most of my time is spent running patrols, writing to people for the Digit Fund, and administering to camp. At any rate, you should never feel that you failed with The Cameroon Seven. You have alerted a world to their cause and have undoubtedly properly terrified numerous potential dealers in gorilla traffic, particularly those in America. Perhaps the Cameroon Seven may have served as victims for saving numerous other gorillas captured for quick sale but never sold, instead reintroduced. That's a beginning goal at any rate, one in the process of being made possible by your own efforts. It will be a long struggle, but you know Shirley, when you are right, you ultimately win.

Karisoke is up to its eyeballs in patrol work all paid for out of The Digit Fund. Thus far this year alone: 212 working days for patrols; 5,546.95 working patrol-man hours; 1,587 traps cut down and 16 antelope, hyrax released unharmed, but only two poachers caught and imprisoned. Am very pleased with the effectiveness of the Digit Fund patrols but I will be even more pleased this time next year if I can say that only 50 traps were cut down in the same number of patrol hours.

The gorillas themselves all doing well except for some 11-15 who have been undergoing an on-and-off 2 month interaction with a lone silverback. Thus far, another infanticide occurred, quite a bit of wounding, but, amazingly enough, females and infants scattered in lone travel all over Visoke. An animal dealer's dream!!!



Today, the hootseries and chestbeats continue not far from camp, and one more infant reappeared to rejoin her group though her mom is now mucking around with the lone sb [silver-back]. I say, leave it to the animals. They will work it all out without human intervention with the sole exception of poacher capture and trap cutting. In this respect only can I help them and even that work has expanded because of Digit.

So, Digit Fund is carrying the patrols and I am running Karisoke out of my own pocket from book proceeds. That just isn't going to work for much longer.

**Karisoke, December 5, 1984**

I had to go to Holland from camp on a book tour of only 3 days.

The brief visit to Apenheul was tainted by the presence of the press which strongly encouraged physical proximity with the gorillas, at least six of them, though I do not believe strangers, especially those with lung diseases, should be allowed to share the same air as gorillas.

The individuals I met were extremely docile and apparently quite contented in their 2-hectare grassy island, but their attention was focused on treat foods given in abundance because of the presence of the press. The good nature of all of the animals, however, would have to be attributed to two very fine young keepers whose disgust at the "press-show" could not be disguised. Their integrity was absolutely sincere and genuine; neither any type of "me-itis" or "macho-man" kind of behavior. Both of these boys would make excellent field workers, but the Apenheul gorillas need them more.

The Burgers Zoo was next on the itinerary, and, of course, the Cameroun Seven. Shirley, I cannot currently find your correspondence on same since I have only been back at camp for a week and most everything remains in storage. BUT, I do recall your saying that Burgers had rapidly built a new enclosure for the Cameroun Seven. This is not the case for they have simply put them into a second room that used to belong to the chimps and have sound-sealed the enclosures between the two spaces.



**Ndume, Silverback Gorilla. Photo: Ian Redmond**

• • • All work goes well here, still with constant patrols. On the positive side, Effie had a baby on Oct. 20th which I believe was sired by Old Beethoven. Her youngest daughter, Poppy, gave birth on Dec. 1st to a stillborn and is still carrying it around. Tiger has a mate, his half-sister, Simba, who should probably give birth around April 20th give or take a couple of days. Nunkie has fled to another mt., Karisimbi, to avoid interactions with Tiger. In the meanwhile I am picking up a lot of newly formed groups who seemed to have been waiting for a "vacated" mountain.

All of the very best love and wishes to you and yours during the Holiday season. You are a very special person. Your integrity will always serve as an example for others.

Letter addressed to W. Mager, Director of Apenheul, Netherlands, copied to IPPL.

**Karisoke, December 5, 1984**

Work continues well here what with nearly daily patrols and daily monitoring of the four main study groups, both activities carried out by the Karisoke Research Centre sponsored by The Digit Fund. To a certain degree I have a situation here somewhat similar to your own. You have undoubtedly heard of The Mountain Gorilla Project, a relatively recent organization formed to develop tourism, educate the locals to their "heritage", and, to a lesser extent, run patrols on the Rwandan side of the Virungas. The Mountain Gorilla Project freely uses my name and that of Digit (a young silverback slain on Dec. 31, 1977) in the solicitation of their own funding, thus duping the public quite thoroughly. Well, for a long, long time this sham really upset me as my life-long work is now being deprived of funding it badly needs. Then one evening earlier this year while I was sitting on the living room floor with my African trackers and patrol workers counting the traps (snares) they had brought back to camp that day, I realized fully that this was what active conservation was all about and if others want to emulate our efforts, lots of luck to them; the gorillas will ultimately profit by it. In the meanwhile the African staff and myself wake up each morning with our integrity intact knowing that our day will be fully utilized for the benefit of the gorillas. Integrity is the name of the game. If you have it, don't worry about what your next-door neighbors are doing - maybe it will rub off in time.

**Karisoke, January 20, 1985**

Many thanks for your letter of January 1st, and, yes, the Ithaca/Hickory farms thought came from me; I'm glad it reached you but sorry they lost the note that was to have gone along with it. Although I used to think I was pretty clever to arrange for the holidays in June, or early in the year when in Ithaca, it sure does confuse people as to my whereabouts.

In 1984 the last of four gorillas imported to Singapore Zoo died of a bacterial pathogen. IPPL informed Dian about this tragedy, as well as about the plight of a gorilla living alone in Mysore Zoo, India. Around the same time, the oldest known gorilla in captivity, Massa, died at around the age of 50 at Philadelphia Zoo.

I do not recall how long the last of the 4 gorillas at the Singapore Zoo was alone. No lone gorilla, certainly in captivity, is ever a contented gorilla, but rather a maladjusted, depressed, introverted skin specimen of its species. Most likely the individual in Mysore Zoo is approaching the same state and, of course, should be exported to join at least one other individual, if not a group. Yes Shirley, I'll write to "several concerned parties" about that individual animal, but, currently, I do not have an updated idea on where it should go for the least amount of trauma subjected to a transition, nor do I know its age/sex. Actually, to kill two birds with one stone, and I don't mean that flippantly at all, it could be most ideal to cite another lone individual of the opposite sex within 5 years of age (plus or minus) since most groups are already living in over-crowded conditions, and an individual who has been alone for any length of time is going to have difficulties being accepted by an established group. As you say, poor Massa. I hope the old



man died in his sleep without having had to suffer the indignities of puerile old age.

There was an awfully nice student at camp the day your letter arrived about Massa; he had received the news in the same mail. The young man's name is Jan Rafert, one of the senior gorilla keepers at Brookfield; he's been here about 5½ months but has just left to return to Brookfield. He is one of those type of keepers who endeavor to put the needs of his animals over the needs of the public and zoo policies; his sensitivity and conscientiousness were very obvious during the time he spent with the wild gorillas.

• • • If I am correct, the 2 men in your photograph taken at the IUCN meeting in Madrid are Athanase NYAMACUMU who is the Chef de le Section des Parcs Nationaux and the Park Director, Laurent HABUYAREMYE. The former has always been a good friend; the latter used to be, but I don't think he is so keen on me right now because of a recent event.

Sabator PI of the Barcelona Zoo has somehow managed to convince the Director that 2 of his students should have an unlimited stay here for "research purposes." I don't like the fact that I wasn't told they were coming and I was ordered by the Director to give them a cabin to stay in. I've made my feelings known in no uncertain terms thus am on the \*\*\*\*-list now with ORTPN.

Their attitude won't last for long, I don't think, since they receive weekly reports of the patrols I run thanks to The Digit Fund and they know how hard I've been working on that. During 1984 we cut down 2,264 traps in 347 working days covering 3,031.12 patrol hours or 9,378.06 man hours of patrols. During the same time period, no single one of the 76 animals monitored from Karisoke was harmed by poachers' activities. However, on 89% of all working days, poachers' sign was seen and dogs' tracks on 63% of all working days which is certainly a grim finding since poachers are so difficult to capture (we only got 8 this year). I still continue the guard training which is rewarding for the most part but can be most frustrating with some of them.

Poor Tiger has lost Simba to Ziz of Group 5 and remains very seriously wounded following their encounter. It is rather sad to see him once again wandering alone, and I fear it will take a long time for him to recover fully. Ziz, to my amazement, has also managed to get 3 other females from 1 or 2 other groups and I'm not certain that he and his new harem will remain with Beethoven and Group 5 females since much squabbling goes on among them. Old Nunkie is no longer a "macho man" and remains far away on Mt. Karisimbi trying to stay out of the way of all other groups.

In 1985, IPPL learned of a French woman living in the Congo Republic who was obtaining baby gorillas and raising them at her home in Brazzaville.

Dian felt that such animals should not be exported from Africa.

#### Karisoke, October 17, 1985

• • • You sent me the very real and alarming news about the Brazzaville 5, really heartbreaking.

There aren't any dates in this notice, but I assume that you know that the woman in Brazzaville still has the gorillas. Am wondering also if the pictures are up to date - they are certainly young babies.

You really hit the nail on the head about the very real possibilities of "assembly-line" orphans. How much more appealing, both from a monetary and emotional point of view, is the "rescue" of a cage or crib full of gorillas than a solitary individual. If this particular woman has nothing to hide, she shouldn't be adverse in letting you know how she acquired the lot.

I concur with you totally concerning the need for a Gorilla Survival Center in West Africa, not the "upgrading of African zoos." Africa needs first to tend to the morals and corruptions within her park system before considering her few poorly maintained zoos.

• • • Work going fairly well, particularly the patrols. As of the end of September, the Digit Fund patrols working from Karisoke spent 5½% more time in the field yet cut down 75% fewer traps than as of the end of September last year. The months of Sept./October combined might change that ratio slightly as the PNV had a big 60th Anniversary fête (one day only) but it cost a lot of working days on patrols. Poachers got sloppy in the meanwhile and my people were able to pick up 4 in the last 3 weeks. All but one of these is in prison. The first was released upon payment of a \$200 fine, just like the old days. An impressive journalistic assistance from the Rwandese reporters themselves has changed, at least for the time-being, has taken control out of the Mt. Gorilla Project's hands, and perhaps out of the hands of the park director whom you liked so well at one time. So did I, but wow, has he changed. Money, money, money will do it every time. I remain extremely grateful to Rwanda's President, who really cares about the gorillas as much as he can over his other problems.

This year have lost 2 silverbacks [Nunkie and Beethoven] from death via natural causes (a tourists' group on Visoke also lost one from natural causes) and 4 infants from infanticide. There is no way I can be optimistic about the species' survival, albeit the poachers don't roam like buffalo anymore, nor are traps easy to find now. It is the human pressure that is certainly intervening with their privacy and preservation.

• • • I end this with the note that we are continuing to function on a near daily basis thanks to The Digit Fund which pays the men/patrollers, not the park dept. or the various members of the gov. Let me know please how you are getting along, and about the Brazzaville 5. I know you will never give up your integrity, but please never give up your aims. What ever would the primates of the world do without you!

Love, Dian

This was the last letter IPPL would receive from Dian Fossey. In November, we wrote to let her know that Arun Rangsi, the young gibbon in whom she had taken so much interest, had, at 6 years of age, fathered a son by his mate Shanti; both parents were taking fine care of their son. We don't know if this letter was received. Dian was killed during the night of 26-27 December 1985, and lies buried in the "gorilla graveyard" at Karisoke, along with Digit, Uncle Bert, Macho, Kweli, Lee and so many other mountain gorillas, some murdered like Dian, some dying of human-caused injuries, and others dying peacefully.

Due to the large number of requests for IPPL's April 1986 special Newsletter "Dian Fossey, 1932-1985," IPPL has had this issue reprinted. It contains tributes from Jane Goodall, Colin Groves, Stacey Coil, and many others, as well as Dian's article "His Name was Digit." We have also done a reprinting of the April 1988 IPPL Newsletter containing Part I of the Fossey letters to IPPL. Extra copies of either of these issues are available for \$2 per copy, post-paid.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Electric Crematories Being Built In India

Traditional Hindu cremation practises involve burning human bodies on open wood fires. However, the Indian Government considers this to be an inefficient and wasteful use of much-needed wood in a nation whose forests are disappearing rapidly.

Accordingly, the Government is installing electric crematoria along the Ganges River and in the State of Gujarat.

### Mali Fights Deforestation by Regulating Stoves

The country of Mali lies in sub-Saharan Africa and has suffered in recent years from deforestation which has led to desertification.

Tree-planting projects have been initiated. Because much of the cut wood is used for open cooking fires, the Government of Mali has passed a law requiring the use of energy efficient wood-burning stoves. A National Stove Police was established to enforce the law.

Fatou Coulibaly, head of a Malian women's organization, stated that, "The women here move to wood stoves because they use a quarter of the amount of wood and save the children from burns."

André Charette, Project Director of the North American based Volunteers in Technology team in Mali, drives around Bamako (Mali's capital) wearing a T-shirt bearing the slogan, "Joy of Cooking with my improved stove" - written in the Bambara language.

Similar projects have been started in Niger and Burkina Faso.

### Amerindians Not Won Over By Coca Cola And Barbecue

In January 1988, a delegation of 75 Amazonian Indians was given a tour of Brazil's Samuel Hydroelectric Project. They were given a feast of barbecued meat and lots of Coca Cola.

The Sao Paulo based National Consortium of Construction Engineers is planning to start a dam similar to the Samuel Dam near the Indians' home as part of the Ji-Parana project. The Ji-Parana project would flood part of the Lourdes Indian Reserve and the Jaru Biological Reserve which protect around 957 square kilometers of primary rain-forest.

Ironically, the Lourdes and Jaru Reserves had been set aside as part of another development project, the notoriously destructive Polonoreste project. Nonetheless, the Government of Brazil has decided to flood much of the set-aside area.

The Indians were not impressed by their tour of the Samuel Dam and the lavish hospitality, and left saying that they didn't want to lose their land and trees.

### Amerindians Fight For Amazonia

Brazilian Indians have long lived in harmony with nature and away from politics and international greed and intrigue. However, outsiders have come to Amazonia, bringing their politics, greed and intrigue.

So the Indians have been forced to adopt modern lobbying techniques to fight for their homes.

In March 1988, two Kayapo Indian leaders, Paulinho Paiakan Kayapo and Kube-i-Kayapo, flew to Washington to request the World Bank to take Indian concerns into consideration before making development loans for projects in their homeland.

The two Indians were especially concerned about two proposed dams on the Rio Xingu in northeastern Brazil, which they claimed would devastate thousands of acres of their as-yet untouched 7 million acre preserve.

### Monkeys Attack Garden Visitors

After a young man visiting Penang Botanical Gardens stoned a baby monkey to death, irate survivors attacked visitors to the gardens. Because the visitor who had taunted the monkeys and killed the baby was wearing a yellow shirt, the monkeys concentrated their attacks on people wearing yellow.

### Chimpanzee Bodies Found Near Albuquerque Airport

According to **USA Today** (25 March 1988), the bodies of 3 chimpanzees were found in cages near Albuquerque Airport, New Mexico, USA. An unidentified professor informed the press that the bodies were left outside "as part of an experiment to help coroners determine how fast human bodies decay in arid weather."

The origin of the chimpanzees is unknown to IPPL.

### New National Park Established In Madagascar

In 1986, Dr. Patricia Wright of Duke University, North Carolina, USA, located groups of golden and greater bamboo lemurs in the southeastern rain forest of Madagascar. Both species had been feared extinct.

Concerned at the rapid deforestation of the area by slash and burn agriculturists and at the hunting of lemurs by local tribespeople, Dr. Wright pushed for protection of the animals and their habitat.

As a result, the Government of Madagascar has designated part of the area as a national park. Dr. Wright and Malagasy officials visited all villages around the park to introduce the villages to the project and gain their much-needed support and cooperation.

### Indians Rally To Protect Animals

Six thousand Indian schoolchildren paraded through the streets of New Delhi on 10 April 1988. The parade started at India Gate and ended at the Boat Club, where Justice V. N. Bachawat lit the lamp to start the program.

Speakers told the children that they should treat animals as family members.

The parade was organized by Dr. D. C. Jain of the New Delhi Animal Welfare Society (address: N-15, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016, India).

### TB in Zoo Primates

Four workers at the San Diego Zoo tested positive for tuberculosis after being exposed to a group of Tibetan macaques imported to San Diego from the Chengdu Zoo, China, in March 1987. Three of the macaques died: the three survivors were returned to exhibit after testing negative.

Two Saddleback tamarins died of TB at the Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, Rhode Island, USA. Four other animals in the group tested negative.

Two Spider monkeys tested positive for TB and were killed. An offer by a Rhode Island resident to adopt the monkeys and treat them was rejected by zoo authorities. TB in primates can be treated with isoniazid, however, the medicine is difficult to administer.

### Artificial Mouth Will Save Primate Lives

Dr. William Douglas of the Artificial Resynthesis Technology Study at the University of Minnesota has developed an artificial mouth to test new dental products and perform other mouth and jaw research.

Currently, new materials for fillings and crowns are frequently tested in primates. A common protocol is to fill a group of monkeys' teeth with a newly developed substance, leave it in place for several weeks or months, and kill the monkeys at intervals to examine the mouth and internal organs.

The mechanical mouth is able to replicate the effects of a year's chewing on a filling in one day, an excellent test for durability. The mouth even contains artificial saliva. A computer imaging system has been developed to evaluate the dental materials used.



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